OPINION 6

MURDER MOST FOUL

THE KILLING OF A PUPPY:

WORLD 9

INVALIDATES SHARIA LAWS

MALAYSIA'S TOP COURT

SEEK BANK LICENCES: RBI

RANCHI RAIPUR CHANDIGARH

DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL BHUBANESWAR

*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

IYER UNLIKELY TO BE PICKED FOR LAST THREE TESTS 12 SPORTS

NEW DELHI, SATURDAY FEBRUARY 10, 2024; PAGES 12 ₹3

the pioneer

www.dailypioneer.com

BHARAT HONOURS ITS RATNAS

After Advani, now former PMs Charan Singh and PV Narasimha Rao, Science legend MS Swaminathan

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

he Narendra Modi Government on Friday added three other national luminaries — former Ministers Narasimha Rao, Chaudhary Charan Singh, and agriculture scientist MS Swaminathan to the list of recipients of the Ratna Bharat awards, bringing the total number of announcements for the nation's highest civilian honour to five within a span of 15 days.

The awards have been conferred upon distinguished personalities, including LK Advani and Karpoori Thakur, which has also changed political alignments ahead of the Lok Sabha polls as the NDA Government is betting on for a hat-trick.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that former Prime Ministers Narasimha Rao Chaudhary Charan Singh, as well as agriculture scientist MS Swaminathan, will be honoured with the Bharat

Ratna. who took Modi, microblogging platform X to make the announcement, lauded the contributions made by the three awardees. Later, the Rashtrapati Bhavan in a press communique said the President has been

Ratna to the three eminent

persons. The Modi Government's move to recognise two stalwart politicians who came from non-BJP backgrounds is resonant with political and social messaging. It is expected to boost the BJP's efforts to present itself as a party that represents pan-India interests and aspirations and recognises leading people in different fields.

Making the announcements for Rao, whose liberalisation

pleased to award Bharat policies revolutionised the economy, Singh, a champion of farmer causes, globally Swaminathan, a renowned agricultural scientist, Modi lauded their contributions to the country. The conferring of the highest civilian award to Singh, Rao, and Swaminathan is likely to make a big impact in the upcoming Lok Sabha polls, particularly among farmers and Telangana. Today, the politically powerful Jats have the

potential of influencing

results in nearly 40 Lok Sabha seats and around 160 Assembly seats, spread across UP, Haryana, Rajasthan, and Delhi.

Rao was the Prime Minister from 1991 to 1996 and is known to be the man who heralded the economic liberalisation of India. Singh, a champion of workers and farmers' rights, briefly served as the Prime Minister in 1979. Swaminathan, a renowned scientist, is known as the architect of India's green The decision stirred a range of reactions from political figures across party lines, including former Congress president Sonia Gandhi, who said she "welcomes" the announcement of giving the

Bharat Ratna to Rao. The Government had earlier named former Bihar Chief Minister Karpoori Thakur, a champion of backward empowerment, and LK Advani, a founding BJP member credited with charting the course of its rise through the 1990s, for the this year are posthumous.

country's highest civilian honour.

Modi has also sought to send out the message that the ruling BJP, unlike its predecessors at the helm, is not guided by parochial politics in recognising contributions in public life, as the party looks to break new ground during the polls.

At five, one more than the four announced in 1999, this is the maximum number of Bharat Ratnas announced for Advani, 96, is the only one alive.

"Narasimha Rao steered India through critical transformations and also enriched its cultural and intellectual heritage," Modi said in his social media posts. Rao's visionary leadership, Modi said, was instrumental in making India economically advanced and laid a solid foundation for its prosperity and growth. "Bharat Ratna to Charan Singh is dedicated to incomparable monumental contributions to the country in agriculture and farmers' welfare," Modi said He played a pivotal role in helping India achieve selfreliance in agriculture and made outstanding efforts in modernising it, the Prime Minister said.

Singh, a Jat leader from western Uttar Pradesh who

was Prime Minister in 1979-

the Prime Minister said. 'Swaminathan

80, was one of the pioneers of anti-Congress politics at a time when the party was a hegemonic political force. Congress leader Rao, a Telugu, who was Prime Minister for a full five-year

term during 1991-96, is widely recognised for ushering in economic reforms. "It is our Government's fortune that Singh is being

honoured with the Bharat Ratna, and it is dedicated to incomparable contributions to the country,

Modi said. Be it as an MLA, as Uttai Pradesh Chief Minister, or the country's Home Minister, he always sped up the nationbuilding exercise and also stood strongly against the Emergency, he added. Then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi had imposed the Emergency

Continued on Page 2

Haldwani remains tense

PTI ■ HALDWANI/NEW DELHI

Six rioters were killed in the violence that broke an illegally built madrasa, officials said Friday as curfew remained enforced in Uttarakhand's Haldwani

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami visited Haldwani, meeting some of the injured. He termed the violence a "planned attack", and said the stockpiling of arms, stones and petrol bombs suggested this.

More than 60 people were hurt Thursday as local residents hurled stones and petrol bombs at municipal workers and the police, forcing many police personnel to seek refuge in a police station which the mob then set on fire.

Seven people, including a journalist, were under treatment Friday at three different hospitals. Three of them were said to be in a serious condition. Others

had been discharged. Altogether, six "rioters" were killed, Superintendent of Police (City) Harbans Singh told PTI. Uttarakhand DGP Abhinav

Kumar on Friday said action under the stringent National Security Act will be taken against those who attacked police personnel and indulged in arson and vandalism in Haldwani. Haldwani's Banbhoolpura area looked deserted even

on Friday.

Indians, are enrolled to exercise their franchise to choose the next government at the Centre in the forthcoming general election. "The largest electorate in the world 96.88 crore are registered to vote for the forthcoming general elections in India," the Election Commission (EC) said.

Uttar Pradesh has the maximum number of voters 15.30 crore, while Lakshadweep has over 57,000 registered voters. Of the total voters, 49.72 crore are male and 47.15 crore are female. Over 10.64 lakh advance applications were received from those above 17 years of age for enrollment in the voters' list. People who are not vet 18 will automatically receive their voter identity cards once they attain the age of voting if they apply in

advance The poll body reported that gender ratio also the increased from 940 in 2023 to 948 in 2024. The number of third-gender voters increased from 39.68 thousand in 2014 to a little over 48,000. Simultaneously, more than two crore young electors, spanning the 18-19 and 20-29 year age groups, have been added to the electoral roll. The number of third-gender

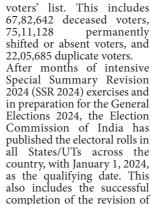
According to EC data, during the verification process, 1,65,76,654 names of deceased, permanently shifted, and duplicate electors

75 11 128 22,05,685 duplicate voters. After months of intens completion of the revision of electoral rolls in Jammu & Kashmir and Assam, following the delimitation of

constituencies. "Over 2.63 crore new electors have been included in the electoral roll, out of which around 1.41 crore are female electors, surpassing the newly enrolled male voters (1.22 crore) by over 15 per cent. The Electoral Roll gender ratio has surged positively, indicating the growing role of women in shaping the democratic fabric of the nation," said the EC. 'Special Assistant Electoral

Registration Officers (AEROs) were appointed at the constituency level to facilitate youth enrollment directly from educational institutions, fostering greater civic engagement among the younger populace," it said.

"A commendable effort has been made to support Persons with Disabilities (PwD) by flagging around 88.35 lakh PwD electors in the electoral roll database, ensuring accessibility and inclusivity on polling day," it added.



Continued on Page 2

Global record of voters in Lok Sabha 2024 have been deleted from the voters' list. This includes 67,82,642 deceased voters,



RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Three times the population of the United States, which means 96.88 crore the Election

Over 2.63 crore new electors have been included in the electoral roll, with about 1.41 being women, surpassing the newly-enrolled male voters (1.22 crore) by over 15 per cent, according to the EC. There has been a six per cent increase in registered voters since 2019, when the last Lok Sabha polls were held. According to data shared by the EC, 1.85 crore voters have been identified as above 80 years of age, while the total number of "centenarians" stood at 2.38 lakh. The poll body considers those who are 80 years and above as senior citizens. As of February 8,

Pakistan in turmoil

PTI ■ LAHORE

voters is 48,044.

Pakistan former premier Nawaz Sharif on Friday urged rival political parties to join hands to form a stable coalition Government to rebuild Pakistan, saying all institutions should together play a positive role in bringing the cash-strapped country out of its difficulties.

Addressing the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) supporters at the party's central secretariat here, 74-year-old Sharif said his party respects the mandate of all parties, including the independent candidates backed by jailed former premier Imran Khan's

Continued on Page 2



PATANJALI



The Gifts for Holistic Wellness Research-based Patanjali Ayurvedic Medicines

िंदवा

MADHUNASHINI

VATI

EXTRAPOWER

दिट्य

MADHUGRIT















All our medicines are available at Patanjali Stores, leading medical, ayurvedic and other stores across India The usage of the medicine mentioned above is suggestive in nature and it is the choice of the treatment in the management of above-mentioned diseases. Avoid self-medication and always take the medicines under medical supervision

Murder in Mumbai TN RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI killer Mauris Noronha alias Mauris Bhai with top leaders, Hours after Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Abhishek

Ghosalkar was shot dead during a Facebook live interaction with people in Mumbai, the Opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) targeted the BJP-led Government on Friday by going to town with the photographs of the alleged

including Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and former Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari. Amid appeals by Government

not to politicise the murder of Abhishek Ghosalkar, the Opposition MVA charged that there was a breakdown of law and order in the State.

Continued on Page 2

Sandeshkhali villagers up in arms in WB | Concerns over

SANDESHKHALI/NORTH 24 **PARGANAS**

Sahib we have nothing left with us ... they have taken our lands — forcing our men to migrate to Chennai as migrant labourers, our Ijjat (honour) and our money, everything," complains a housewife who has fled with her young children to her brother's house at adjacent Dhamakhali.

"We have to work on their lands and fisheries — which once belonged to us before their gunmen forcibly occupied them - for days on end without being paid ... and if we ask for our wages our men are lifted away and return with broken limbs or nose," says Purnima Malik one of those hundreds of women who have gheraoed the Sandeshkhali police station in demand of

Sample a third and more horrible a story. "Many of us have no honour left the TMC goons have divided us in groups based on physical features ... then they suddenly take us away on gunpoint to their bosses' houses ... you can't speak a word ... your husband will not protest lest being shot dead," says another housewife refusing to lend her name for

That is not all. The men of Shahjahan and his henchmen Shiboprosad alias Shibu Hajra and Uttam Sardar have forcefully taken out lands, converted them into fisheries without a single penny being paid to them, the locals complain.

"When asked for payment they

call us for meeting ... and when our men go to meet them they are beaten up... if you go to the police they simply will look the other way .. the Barobabu (inspector) will ask you to settle things out with the tormentors," said Anima another woman adding how one of the villagers who dared to file a complaint with the police was taken away I the

"The next day their men came with his body claiming he had died in an accident and asked us to do the last rites and leave the village without delay after transferring all our properties since then we have not returned to the village, informed another farmer whose father was murdered by the TMC goons.

"In 2006 Mamata Banerjee fought for 1000 acres of land at Singur where an industry was to come up but here they have forcibly occupied 1250 acres of land and converted their character and there is no adminis-



no court order no nothing ... we brought Mamata to power and she is now sucking us dry ... the lands were given to our ancestors by Jyoti Basu government as patta and now the TMC jotdars (landlords) are snatching them back," said Saheb Dolui a local farmer and activist.

True, if Nandigram had degenerated into a killing field in the closing years of the Marxist rule the nondescript boondocks of Sandeshkhali in North 24 Parganas bordering Sunderbans and Bangladesh has been reduced to a veritable anarchy. The hapless villagers here have been fighting with their backs against the wall with their fight for right culminating into a revolt against the local Trinamool Congress chieftains like Sahjahan, Shibu Hajra and

Uttam Sardar

strongman has often been described as a "tiger" by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's Cabinet colleagues Hajra and Sardar are his henchmen and important district level leaders. Though infamously known in the State circuit for the past several years the trio's name shot into prominence in the first week of January when hundreds of armed people allegedly at their behest attacked team Enforcement Directorate officials and the central forces escorting them when they were raiding Shahjahan's house in conection with the Rs 10,000 crore ration scam that has led to the arrest of senior Bengal Minister Jyotipriya Mallick and a TMC municipal chair-

While Shahjahan a district

board member and local

Shahjahan, Hajra and Sardar have been at large ever since with the police "trying to locate them." This, whereas the locals inform "all the three are roaming free in the area ... now slipping into the Sunderbans and then resurfacing again."
Cut to Sandeshkhali. The

embers burning over the past few days blew up into a violent protest movement on Friday with hundreds of women and men laying a siege of the Sandeshkhali police station after Hajra's men attacked Zeliakhali village --- another river island in the vicinity of Sanedshkhali --- with muskets and one-shotters, sources said. They beat up our men who had to be hospitalized ... after that the angry villagers assembled from a number of islands and torched the farmhouses, poultry farms and other properties of Shibu Hajra," a local said adding "women armed with sticks, hansua and kitchen tools gheraoed the police station a la Nandigram struggle even as large contingent of police force led by AD (Law and Order) Manoj Verma and Superintendent of Police Hossain Mehedi Rahaman rushed to the area.

"We are investigating the matter as complaints have been filed against Shahjahan and asking the villagers to retreat. Rahaman said "a search for accused is on."

Verma said, "Investigation is underway into all complaints that have been lodged, and action will be taken. At the same time, if someone takes up the law into their hands, the law will take its own course. The situation is at present under control.

Meanwhile, the TMC leadership in Kolkata blamed the BJP and the CPI(M) for inciting the local villagers "so as to fish in the troubled waters ... but the government will not allow to do this." Bengal Minister Partha Bhowmick said "there could be discontentment against one or two people but that does not mean that everyone is bad ... people's grievances will be addressed. He further said that "if the BJP thinks that they will divert the attention from the MNREGA

movement of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee who is raising her voice against the central deprivation of the State by non-payment of workers' wages in 100-days work scheme, non-payment of funds for rural housing, roads etc then they are living in a fools' paradise ... they cannot divert the attention from the main

196 jailed women getting pregnant

SAUGAR SENGUPTA

¬he Bengal Government has taken "seriously" the reports of 196 women inmates of State run penitentiaries delivering babies during incarceration.

Bengal Minister for prisons Akhil Giri on Friday said he had no information of such incidents taking place but assured, "I will immediately get my department to find out the matter as there are only a couple of common correctional homes where both men and women can stay while in most others they are separate reformatories ... even in that case the women are getting pregnant then we will definitely have to inquire into things.

Earlier the Calcutta High Court on Thursday took cognizance of reports rising serious concerns over the issue. According to the amicus curiae (impartial advisor or friend of the court), about 196 chil-

dren had born at various reformatories in the State despite the fact that men are not allowed to enter into women jails.

The amicus curate told the court about a first-hand observation "of a pregnant woman and 15 children born within a visited correctional home, underscoring the urgency of addressing the systemic challenges faced by incarcerated women," All the respective District

Judges should (who are exofficio Chairman of the Board of Visitors) be allowed to visit the jails within their jurisdiction to inquire into the number of women prisoners who had become pregnant during their stay in the correctional homes.

Requesting the Court for orders to ensure regular pregnancy tests and visiting of jailed inmates to save them from sexual exploitation the amicus curae said that the issue demanded immediate

COVID will persist but its current variants not deadly: Minister

PNS NEW DELHI

ovid-19 virus has mutated C223 times worldwide, with its harmful effects diminishing over time. Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya stated in Lok Sabha on Friday. He compared COVID-19 to influenza, noting that it will persist but its current variants are not deadly.

"When a virus mutates more than 100 times, its harmful effects get reduced. Covid also got mutated. So far, the Covid virus has mutated 223 times," he said during the Question Hour. He said that like influenza, which hits people once or twice every year, "Covid is with us and it will remain".

"Covid sub-variants are not that deadly and there are no negative effects," he said.

Mandaviya said health is such an issue where all stakeholders and countries should come together and work. "We have seen the positive results during the pandemic when we all worked together," he said.

infrastructure and the world has recognised this. "We are now the producer of 70 per cent of HIV/AIDS medicines in the world. Similarly, we produce many medicines which the world considers as good," Speaker Om Birla also com-

mented that when he was travelling in Africa, he had witnessed the demands of Indian medicines and people's admiration for it due to its

Replying to another query, he said that to enhance disease surveillance, the health ministry has strengthened the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), which allows for a decentralised system of response to institute requisite public health control and containment measures. In order to better prepare against future pandemics and public health emergencies in the country, the Ministry of Health provides the requisite support to the states and Union territories

10 years of dedicated efforts by Modi regime put economy back on track: FM

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday said ten years of dedicated efforts by the Modi regime have put economy back on rails and "we corrected all misgovernance." She also said big ticket corruptions during UPA tenure averaged one each year and common people were disillu-

Making these assertions in here reply to a debate in the Lok Sabha on the 'White Paper on Indian Economy and its impact on the lives of people of India, she also said national security was compromised, environment clearances delayed and leadership failed during UPA period of 10 years.

Sitharaman also said the Modi government more than doubled defence budget to Rs 6.22 lakh crore for FY25 from Rs 2.53 lakh crore in 2013-14.

She said the UPA government indulged in "glaring mismanagement" of the defence sector and its highlight was the Rs 3,600 "Critical shortage of ammunition mismanagement during the Sitharaman said.

and defence equipment was the main feature of 2014 when we inherited the economy. Bullet proof jackets were not available for our soldiers. Night vision goggles were not available,' Sitharaman said.

She said 'Jayanti Tax' during the UPA tenure delayed environment clearances for projects up to a year. The average time to clear projects increased to 316 days from 86 days between 2011 and 2014. The finance minister said 10 years of dedicated efforts of the Modi government have put the economy back on rails. We corrected all misgovernance, and focussed on reforms," Sitharaman said.

The minister said big ticket corruptions during the UPA tenure averaged one each year and common people were disillusioned.

The Modi government more than doubled defence budget to Rs 6.22 lakh crore for fiscal 2024-25, from Rs 2.53 lakh crore in 2013-14, she added.

Earlier, while initiating the debate, the finance minister 2008 global financial crisis and said the Congress put the "first family first" and brought the economy down to 'fragile five.' Sitharaman said the Common Wealth Games (CWG), held during the UPA regime, brought "bad name" to the country, but India's G20 presidency under the Narendra Modi government earned India global respect. Substitute motions were moved by opposition members Saugata (TMC) and NK Premchandran disapproving the White Paper.

Sitharaman said the Modi government worked with sincerity and pulled the economy out of 'fragile five' and sent it to top five globally. It is now on the verge of becoming one of the top three global economies, she said.

Ten years of one government with some crisis and 10 years of a different government with different crisis. The comparison shown in this 'White Paper clearly says how if the government handles it with true sincerity, transparency and putting the nation first, the results are

Jayant praises Modi; another brick of INDIA Block falls

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI/LUCKNOW

The conferment of Bharat A Ratna on the county's tallest Jat leader, former PM Chaudhary Charan Singh, also confirmed the further disintegration of the Congress led Opposition bloc INDIA as the constituent Jayant Chaudhary led RLD was playing truant so far between BJP and opposition bloc. Jayant, grandson of Charan

Singh, who heads the RLD signalled that he would be switching over to the NDA ahead of the Lok Sabha polls as he hailed Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his government's decision to confer Bharat Ratna on his grandfather and former prime minister Chaudhary Charan Singh. "Koi kasar rehti hai? Aaj main kis munh se inkaar karoon aapke sawalon ko? (Is there anything left now? How can I refute your queries today?"



governments had been able to take has been taken with the vision and dedication of the prime minister. Asked about the award being linked to contesting the upcoming Lok Sabha elections with the

BJP, he said, "We win elections or lose, I am going in the coalition or not, that is not the question, today's decision is one that will be remembered for generations. If this is the Congress party's statement, I criticise it." On previous Congress-led governments not honouring Charan Singh with Bharat Ratna, Chaudhary said, "India's power has been restricted to only certain people who were he was ready to join hands with why decisions were taken Chaudhary told reporters.

these things are changing." He said his father and former minister Ajit Singh made a lot of effort after which a decision was taken during the UPA-II that the Lucknow Airport would be named after Charan Singh. Pressed further on the seat-sharing understanding with the BJP, Chaudhary said, "It would be belittling to talk about elections on such a day...I have made no announcement. I just said 'Koi kasar rehti hai?" Earlier, Chaudhary said the

through them. In new India, all

Modi government had won his heart with the announcement of Bharat Ratna to former prime minister Chaudhary Charan Singh. "Dil Jeet Liya," he posted on X. "It is a big day for the country. It is an emotional moment for me, it is memorable. I would like to thank President Droupadi Murmu, the Government of India and especially Prime Minister Narendra Modi as this is a part of his vision that he took this decision and conferred (Chaudhary Charan Singh) with

ORS not prescribed in India despite 1.2 lakh child deaths: Study

robust medicine production Mandaviya said.

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

Despite being a simple, easily available and costeffective remedy recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO) for decades, ORS, a simple drink to combat life-threatening diarrhea, is not prescribed widely in India where roughly 120,000 children succumb to the disease. It becomes deadly when excretions exacerbate severe dehydration and loss of electrolytes This has been revealed by a

study conducted across 253 towns in Bihar and Karnataka, which notes that health providers often avoid recommending ORS due to misconceptions about parental pref-This should serve as a wake-up

call for healthcare systems to prioritize evidence-based practices and align provider perceptions with patient needs, particularly in resource-constrained settings where simple interventions like ORS can make a profound difference in child health outcomes.

ORS Solution, a drink mix of 6 level teaspoons of sugar and 1/2 level teaspoon of salt dissolved in 1 litre of clean water can be made at home and save millions of children from fatal diarrhea.

Led by senior author Neerai Sood from the University of Southern California, the study published in journal Science notes that enrolled over 2,000 healthcare providers across 253 medium-sized towns in the two States, offering a diverse socioeconomic demo-

graphics and varying healthcare accessibility to ensure the findings' broad applicability. In the study, 'standardized patients' were trained to simulate caregivers seeking treat-ment for a 2-year-old child with viral diarrhea, a condition for which antibiotics are ineffective. These patients visited doctors' offices unannounced, expressing preferences for ORS, antibiotics, or indicating no preference. Additionally, some patients informed providers they would purchase medication elsewhere to control for profit-driven prescribing practices. Bihar is one of

while Karnataka has aboveaverage per capita income and above-average ORS use, they Surprisingly, the study found that healthcare providers' perception of patient preferences was the primary obstacle to ORS prescription, accounting for 42% of underprescribing. Stockouts and financial incen-

tives explained only a fraction

of the issue, emphasizing the

the poorest states in India

with below-average ORS use,

need to bridge the gap between provider assumptions and actual patient preferences. The findings underscore the urgent need for targeted interventions to educate healthcare providers about the efficacy and acceptability of ORS among caregivers. Addressing these misconceptions could potentially save hundreds of thousands of lives annually and reduce unnecessary antibiotic usage, offering a costeffective solution to a signifi-

cant public health challenge.

Parliament passes Bill to curb malpractices in examinations

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

 $P_{\text{passed a bill that aims to}}^{\text{arliament}} \, \, \text{on Friday}$ curb malpractices and irregularities in competitive examinations, and entails provisions for a maximum jail term of 10 years and a fine up to Rs 1 crore for offences. The bill was passed through a voice vote in the Rajya Sabha, after amendments proposed by some opposition members were rejected. The bill was passed by the Lok Sabha on February 6. Replying to a discussion on

the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Bill, 2024 in the Rajya Sabha, Union minister Jitendra Singh said the youth power of the country is "vital" and asserted that the bill is meant to deter those who are playing with their future.

He asserted that merit cannot allowed to be hijacked by non-merit.

'We can't allow vital youth power of this country to be surrendered or sacrificed in the hands of a handful few...Very cautiously, we have kept the bona fide candidate out of purview of the law, be it a job aspirant or a student. "So the message does not go that this new legislation is meant to harass the youth of this country. It is only meant to deter those who are playing with their future, and thereby the future of the nation," Singh, the Union Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions said.

Global record of...

From Page 1
A total of over 10.64 lakh advance applications have been received with reference to three subsequent qualifying dates of the year, i.e., April 1, July 1, and October 1. These advance applications shall be disposed of in the relevant quarters. 'Special endeavors have been undertaken to achieve 100 per

cent registration of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG), making the electoral rolls the most inclusive to date," According to a 2023 letter sent by the EC to political parties, India had 17.32 crore registered voters in 1951, which rose to

19.37 crore in 1957 In the first Lok Sabha elections, the voter turnout was recorded

at 45 percent. It was 67 per cent in the last parliamentary polls in 2019.

The Commission has placed special emphasis on the purity and health of the electoral roll, along with disclosures and transparency in the revision of electoral rolls, an official

Murder in...

It rooted for the resignation of Fadnavis and imposition of the President's Rule in Maharashtra. A former corporator of the

Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), 41year-old Abhishek Ghosalkar was the son of former MLA Vinod Ghosalkar, a close confidant of former chief minister and Shiv Sena (UBT) president Uddhav Thackeray.

The daring murder of Ghosalkar has sent shock through waves metropolis, given that Mauris Bhai pumped at least three bullets into Shiv Sena (UBT) leader during his Facebook live interaction with people in Borivali (west) in north Mumbai on

Thursday night. shootout, After the Ghosalkar collapsed and succumbed bullet injuries, while Mauris later shot himself in his office at nearby IC Colony Ghosalkar and his

wife Tejasvee Ghosalkar had till recently represented Ward 1 of BMC On the other hand, Mauris

Noronha who had criminal antecedents, too had the ambition to contest the BMC elections from Ward No 1. Coming as it did just a week after the ruling BJP MLA Ganpat Gaikwad shot at and critically injured an Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena leader Mahesh Gaikwad

Ulhasnagar's Hill Lines Police Station in Thane district, Ghosalkar's murder gave a handle to the Opposition MVA to take on the BJP-led Maha Yuti government. Putting out a photo of Mauris Bhai with Chief Minister

Shinde, Shiv Sena (UBT) Rajya Sabha member Sanjay Raut wore on X: "Mauris Noronha, who shot Abhishek Ghosalkar, was in Varsha, the Chief Minister's official bungalow, four days ago. Mauris was offered to join the Shinde Sena.'

Pakistan in...

Sharif, the three-time former premier, said there is a need for all the political parties to sit together and form a government to pull Pakistan out of its difficulties.

"We can't hold elections again and again," he said. "We were all sitting together yesterday but didn't address you because the results were not in."

'We are inviting everyone today to rebuild this injured Pakistan and sit with us," he said as the country appeared heading towards a hung parliament.

the institutions should together play a positive role in bringing Pakistan out of this crisis. 'Everyone should sit in harmony and bring Pakistan out of the difficulties," he added.

Our agenda is only a happy Pakistan and you know what we have done before." He said all

Sharif announced that he has tasked his

Shehbaz Sharif to reach out to the Pakistan

coalition government. The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) data shows that results of 139 constituencies have been declared, which include 55 independents (mostly supported by PTI),

Peoples' Party's Asif Ali Zardari, Jamiat

Ulema-e-Islam (F) chief Fazlur Rehman and

Muttahida Qaumi Movement's Khalid

Maqbool Siddiqui for the formation of a

PML-N 43, PPP 35 and other seats going to smaller parties. Votes are still being counted after Thursday's general election which was marred by allegations of rigging, sporadic violence and a

countrywide mobile phone shutdown. To form a Government, a party must win 133 seats out of 265 in the National Assembly. Election to one seat was postponed after the death of a candidate. Overall, 169 seats are

needed to secure a simple majority out of its younger brother and PML-N president total 336 seats, which include the reserved slots for women and minorities.

BHARAT HONOURS.

Singh's dedication to farmers commitment democracy during Emergency inspires country, the Prime Minister said. The honour for Singh comes at a time when the RLD, led by his grandson Jayant Singh, is believed to be in talks with the BJP for an alliance for the Lok Sabha polls, expected in April-May. Singh died in 1987. Paying rich tributes to Rao, who passed away in 2004, Modi said he served the country extensively in various capacities as a distinguished scholar and statesman.

He said Rao is equally remembered for the work he did as the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, a Union Minister, and as a lawmaker in Parliament and the Assembly for many years.

instrumental in making India economically laying a solid foundation for the country's prosperity and growth," Modi said.

"Rao's tenure as Prime Minister was marked by significant measures that opened India to global markets, fostering a new era of economic development," he added. Modi said Rao's contributions to India's foreign policy, language, and education sectors underscore his multifaceted legacy as a leader who not only steered India through critical transformations but also enriched its cultural and intellectual heritage.

Rao's admirers have long argued that he has not been given his due by the Congress due to his less than warm relations with the Nehrumade by BJP leaders too. As the country's first and only full-term Prime Minister from South India, Rao occupies a special place in the region. Modi said it is a matter of immense joy that his Government is conferring Bharat Ratna on the Swaminathan in recognition his monumental contributions to the nation in agriculture and farmers' welfare. "He played a pivotal role in helping India achieve self-

challenging times and made outstanding efforts towards modernising Indian agriculture. We also recognise his invaluable work as an innovator and mentor and encouraging learning and research among students," he said.

reliance in agriculture during

One time settlement scheme for faulty water bills soon: AAP

In order to bring relief to more than 10 lakh consumers receiving inflated water bills, the Delhi Government will soon bring a 'One Time Settlement' Scheme for recasting faulty water bills in the national capital, which will help in unlocking Rs 1,400 crore revenue for the Delhi Jal Board. Once the proposal receives a green signal from the Cabinet, this scheme is expected to benefit almost 40 percent of consumers in Delhi who are currently facing the issue of

The AAP government said that under this scheme, a new bill with re-casted amount will be generated and

inflated water bills.

one-time settlement and pay the new bill thereby clearing all previous arrears in one go. The water bill will be waived off for those consumers who have a consuming pattern of less than 20 KL.

Addressing a press conference, Delhi Finance Minister Atishi said the problem of faulty water bills is huge with people raising the issue even at public events in front of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind The faulty water bills of con-

sumers will be re-casted as per median reading of the past years. Bills will be recasted on the basis of two "OK readings" in the previous

For those consumers who are unable to produce two "OK



reading will be calculated on the basis of the last 5 years.

If the problem of faulty meters or bills exceeds 5 years then the bill will be re-casted on the basis of consumption pattern of the neighborhood of the consumer.

"There are many reasons for

the issue. It could be that the meter reader did not go for meter reading or he could not

get the correct reading. It could be that one building has 12 flats and he could not gauge which meter is for which flat," she said. She also highlighted that meter readings were not taken during

consumers have not been paying their bills. This is also impacting revenue of the DJB. The one-time settlement scheme is expected to earn a revenue of around Rs 1,400 crore to DJB. For availing the scheme, each consumer would require a functional meter. The scheme has been passed by the Delhi Jal Board in its board meeting," she

Urban Development Minister Saurabh Bharadwaj has directed that this scheme should be presented before the Cabinet for approval soon.
"It is expected to bring the scheme before the Cabinet within 10 days.

After Cabinet approval, con-

to pay their dues," she said. In the last two days, the problem of faulty water bills was raised at two events where Kejriwal was present. He had assured people that the gov-ernment was working to address the issue and come up with a scheme to settle the bills. Past arrears and Late Payment Surcharge (LPSC) added to the current bills was one of the main reasons for the high water bills. This resulted in more than 10,000 complaints during October -November 2022 in the Delhi Jal Board portal itself.

All these have resulted in faulty water bills due to which many consumers have stopped paying their water

Benefit of schemes Kejriwal brings never reach public: BJP

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva on Friday said here due to the fast running meters and corruption of offi-cials of the Delhi Jal Board, lakhs of water consumers have been burdened with pending bills for many years. Sachdeva said Delhiites have seen that for the past few years, the Arvind Kejriwal government brings a scheme for the settlement of water bills before every election, but the benefits never reach the

The BJP chief said most of these bills belong to properties whose

now it is a disputed amount that new property owners do not want to pay. Similarly, there are disputes over bills of many industrial consumers who have closed down their industries. When ministers of the Keiriwal government hold press conferences, they show dreams of set-tling a bill of 1 lakh in a lump sum for 7-8 thousand, but when consumers go to the offices of the Water Department, they are asked for amounts ranging from 40,000 to 60,000, which discourages consumers from set-

LG sanctions CBI probe against Tihar former officer for aiding Jain in extortion

Delhi Lt Governor(LG)Vinai Kumar Saxena has sanctioned a CBI Inquiry under Prevention of Corruption (POC) Act, 1988, against Raj Kumar, the then Superintendent of Jail No. 4, Tihar Jail, for aiding former Delhi Minister and AAP Leader, Satvendar Iain in allegedly extorting Rs. 10 crore from Sukash Chandrashekhar, who was then also lodged in Tihar Jail.

Raj Kumar allegedly helped the high profile extortion racket being run from Tihar Jail, which extorted and received money from Chandrashekhar, as protection money, so as to enable him to live peacefully and comfortably in Jail.

The matter is being investigated by the CBI and the request for prosecution sanction had come to the LG, who is the competent authority in the matter, through the Directorate of Vigilance (DoV),

Jain and ex-Jail Superintendent Raj Kumar have been accused of extorting a large sum of money from "high profile prisoners", including conman



Sukash Chandrashekhar in exchange for protection in jails. The Tihar jail is under the AAP government's jurisdiction. CBI probing the charges made by Sukash that Jain had extorted and received Rs 10 crore from Sukash Chandrashekhar in various tranches during 2018-21 either personally or through his accomplices, including Raj Kumar, as protection money so as to enable Sukash 'to live peacefully and comfortably in different jails of Delhi (Tihar, Rohini and Mandoli)'.

Raj Kumar was a close associate of Sandeep Goel and aided him in extorting money from Chandrashekhar and even himself tried to extort money from the conman through

PayTM mode. Goel and Mukesh Prasad are also accused of receiving Rs 12.50 crore in various tranches during 2019-22 from Sukash Chandrashekhar.

Jain, Goel, Prasad and Kumar are accused of misusing their official positions as public servants in extending undue favour to Sukash Chandrashekhar and other Sukash high-profile inmates in Delhi Jails in lieu valuable consider-

The CBI claimed that it had proof that Satyendar Jain allegedly 'extorted' and received money from Chandrashekar in various tranches to enable the alleged conman to live a peaceful and comfortable life in jail.

Farmers back to sit in protest after failed march to Parliament

Aday after an unsuccessful bid to march to the Parliament, protesting farmers were Friday back outside offices of local authorities in Noida and Greater Noida for a sit-in. The protestors, led by the Bharatiya Kisan Parishad (BKP), said they will continue the protest as before and once again attempt to march to Delhi after the Budget Session of Parliament is over. Their decision came after a meeting with police and the district administration, which, they said, did not yield any outcome. The meeting, however, yielded no result.

Bracing for another agitation by farmers, police are fortifying the Delĥi-Uttar Pradesh and Delhi-Haryana borders with barricades and deploying more than 5,000 security personnel, a senior police officer said here on Friday.

On Thursday, thousands of farmers from around 100 villages of Noida and Greater Noida on Thursday took to the streets seeking hiked compensation for lands acquired by the government, bringing traffic to a standstill in several parts of



Delhi-NCR as they made an unsuccessful bid to march towards Parliament.

Several farmer associations, mostly from Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Punjab, have called for another protest on February 13 to demand a law guaranteeing a minimum support price (MSP), one of the conditions they had set when they agreed to withdraw their agitation against the now repealed farm laws in 2021. Besides a legal guarantee for an

MSP, the farmers are also demanding implementation of Swaminathan Commission's recommendations, pensions for farmers and farm labourers, farm debt waiver, withdrawal of police cases and "justice" for victims of the Lakhimpur Kheri violence.

counterparts in Haryana, Punjab, and Uttar Pradesh to know how many farmer organisations will join the protest and the number of expected people. After a proper review, we will chalk out a plan to ensure law and order situa-tion," said another senior police officer. Farmer leader Rakesh Tikait

on Thursday joined the protesters in Greater Noida where his Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) members have been protesting outside the local authority office.

Traffic advisory issued for routes to be affected by World Book Fair

The Delhi Police on Friday Lissued a traffic advisory on the routes likely to be affected due to the World Book Fair at Pragati Maidan in central Delhi, officials said.

New Delhi World Book Fair 2024 is being organised at Pragati Maidan from February 10-18. The book fair is likely to attract around 25,000 to 30,000 visitors on each day and on weekends, it could rise to around 40,000 per day, it said. Traffic congestion is expected due to the fair at Mathura Road, Bhairon Marg, Ring Road, Shershah Road and Purana Quila Road, the traffic advisory said. Motorists are requested to avoid these roads to ensure hassle-free journey accordingly, it stated.

The traffic police said that entry of visitors will be from gate number 4 and 10. There would be no entry of visitors from gate number 5-B, 6, 7, 8 and 9. Entry for exhibitors will be from gate number 1, 5B and 10. Entry for ITPO officials will be from gate number 9, 10 and 1, they said. To ensure smooth traffic mangement in the area of Pragati Maidan, no vehicle will be allowed to halt or park anywhere on Mathura Road and Bhairon Marg, and no vehicle of visitors will be allowed to be parked on Shershah Road, Purana Quila Road, Bhagwan Das Road and Tilak Marg, the advisory said.

Vehicles found parked on the above roads shall be towed away and prosecuted as per Motor Vehicle Act. Towed vehicles would be parked in traffic pit in front of Bhairon Mandir, Bhairon Marg, it said.

People are requested to avail public transport to reach Pragati Maidan. Those travelling by metro may get down at Supreme Court Metro Station and enter through gate number 10. People may also deboard at Mandi House Metro Station and walk, the advisory stated. Visitors are advised to park their vehicles in basement parking number 1, Bhairon Mandir parking, Bhairon Road, Delhi Zoo Parking, ITPO and exit near gate number 8, ITPO,

DMRC orders inspection of all elevated stations along Pink Line

Delhi Metro Rail Corporation's managing director on Friday issued directions to inspect the parapets installed at all elevated stations on the Pink Line, officials said on Friday. The development came a day after a portion of a wall of the elevated Gokulpuri Metro Station in northeast Delhi collapsed killing a person and injuring four others.

DMRC's Managing Director Vikas Kumar on Friday held a detailed review meeting regarding the Gokulpuri incident with the heads of concerned departments.

"The MD issued directions that the parapets installed on the Pink Line of the DMRC at all the elevated stations should be inspected in detail to avoid such incidents," said Anuj Dayal, principal executive Corporate director, Communications, DMRC. "In case, any corrective action

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI is required at any station, the after making a detailed method statement depending upon the situation at the concerned sites," Dayal said. Any fixes required at the stations should cause minimum inconvenience to the passengers and the general public, Dayal said, adding that all necessary safety precautions should be adequately An internal review has already

been initiated by the DMRĆ. The MD also visited the Gokulpuri Metro Station last evening with other senior officials to personally take stock of the situation, he added.

The DMRC on Thursday announced a compensation of Rs 25 lakh for the family of the 53-year-old man who died in the Gokulpuri incident. The department declared Rs 5 lakh compensation for the grievously injured and Rs 1 lakh for those who received minor

Pension amount of retired DTC employees deposited: Kejriwal

DKejriwal on Friday announced that the pension amount of retired DTC employees, pending for nearly one-and-a-half years, has been deposited in their accounts. The move is likely to impact over 20,000 retired employees of the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC).

The chief minister acknowledged that the pensioners were experiencing problems in getting their pension, and rued about how the BJP-led centre interferes in the working of the Delhi government.

"I know that many of you are annoyed. Anger arises only from those close to us, and your anger is justified. From the last one to one-and-a-half years, you are facing troubles in receiving your pensions," Kejriwal said in a video message on X. The Chief Minister stated that he holds himself responsible for all the griev-



ances of retired DTC employ-

In 2015, our government was formed, he said, and recalled how even before that the retired employees had to face a lot of hardships to get their pension.

"The previous government said that if the DTC employees want a pension, then the DTC should generate its funds. The DTC could not generate funds since it didn't have funds,' Kejriwal said.

"Since we assumed power, we started giving you pension from the Delhi Government's budget. And since the DTC employees were receiving their pensions each month without any interruptions. For the last one to one and a half-years, you are facing troubles and I seek your apology," he added. Kejriwal said that they called

a special assembly session to increase the budget for pen-

"Keep faith in me. As long as Kejriwal is there, he'll not let your pensions stall. He will ensure you receive your entire pension. It may be delayed by a month or two since we do not have complete power," Kejriwal

Gaon Chalo Abhiyan will prove to be milestone in boosting vote share: BJP

 ■ Gaon Chalo Abhiyan will prove to be a "milestone" in increasing its vote share, with lakhs of party workers reaching out to the voters across all villages in the country under the campaign seeking their support in the forthcoming Lok Sabha elections.

Addressing a press conference here, BJP national general secretary Dushyant Gautam said the party has formed 12 lakh 'tolis' (teams) of its workers to drive the campaign across all villages falling under 12 lakh units created by the party in rural India to achieve its goal. The BJP has also appointed 12 lakh workers as its convenors to ensure proper implementation of the party's poll strategy in their respective units, he said. As many as 12 lakh party workers have been assigned to monitor and oversee the implementation of the party's campaign in coordination with

NDMC to hold two days Tulip Festival from today



their respective teams, Gautam said, adding they will camp in their respective units to ensure effective implementation of the party's poll strategy under the campaign.

"During their 'pravaas', these party workers will reach every voter, every household," he told reporters at the BJP headquarters here sharing details of the campaign.
Gautam said the party's Gaon

Chalo Abhiyan, which started on February 4 to conclude on February 11, will continue till

President's

Bungalow, 11

Shanti Path

underscoring

NDMC's

commitment

to enhancing

New Delhi's

beauty, posi-

overall expe-

The tulips are

showcasing its

and

tivity,

rience.

held. BJP president JP Nadda had launched a workshop of the party workers last month ahead of the launch of the party's 'Gaon Chalo Abhiyan'.

"This Abhiyan will prove to be

a milestone with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP president JP Nadda setting the target of increasing the party's vote share to 10 per cent in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections," Gautam said. "With this campaign, we will reach at least 36 crore voters," he added

Will open as many schools in city as number of summons sent: Kejriwal

against him. Kejriwal has

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Friday said providing quality education is his government's goal and asserted that he will open as many schools in the city as the number of summons sent to him by probe agencies.

After laying the foundation stone of a government school building in Mayur Vihar Phase III, Kejriwal alleged that the BJP-led Centre has unleashed all its probe agencies against him as though he was the "biggest terrorist" of the coun-

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader has been asked to appear before a city court on February 17 in connection with a com plaint case filed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED)

skipped five summonses issued against him by the federal agency for questioning in a money-laundering case linked to the alleged excise policy scam. The chief minister asserted that providing quality edu-cation to all children will eradicate poverty within a generation and said his government is opening schools after schools in Delhi to achieve that goal. The condition of the government schools in the national capital and education was hopeless earlier and the children of poor people had no future, he claimed.

"We have opened so many magnificent schools since the AAP government was formed in Delhi. Several new schools have been inaugurated recently, including in Burari, Rohini

and Palam, in which 1.5 lakh children will get education," he

Everyone will get free and quality education in Delhi, the chief minister said, adding that new school buildings are being built replacing the old ones. The new schools will have the best infrastructure, including laboratories, libraries, elevators and activity rooms, he said 'We are fulfilling Dr (BR) Ambedkar's dream of providing education to all children, Kejriwal said.

He said two years ago, his government proposed a scheme for doorstep delivery of ration but the Centre did not allow it. "They obstructed it through the LG. But we are going to do doorstep delivery of ration in Punjab from Saturday," the AAP leader said.

The New Delhi Municipal L Council(NDMC) is organising 2nd Edition of its Tulip Festival this year from February 10-21 in the lawns of Shanti Path, Chanakyapuri here after the success and appreciation from the large public of different walks of life last year. The Tulip festival will include

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

a series of events like Tulip Walk to witness an exhibition on Tulips for the general public and flower lovers, Photo Competition for the actively engaged with the beauty of flowers and a Music Event for the music lovers in the background of flowers, officials said here on Friday. The Tulip Walk will be held on the Lawns of the Shantipath on Saturday. The NDMC is also

planted tulips and participate in the Photography Contest. The Rules and Regulation for the photography competition is available at NDMC website. The NDMC will judge the three best pictures everyday

and upload the three best photos of the day on its social media platforms. At the conclusion of the photography competition, the best judged organising a photography comphotograph will be awarded. petition on the Tulip beautifi-The NDMC will also organize cation and invites photography Tulip Indo-Dutch Music event



attraction around the Tulip Festival at Nehru Park, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi in which Indo-Dutch artists will perform.

The concept of the music event is based on the Song of Water, Sea in the Music and Hear the

beauty in eight The NDMC is blooming with distinct colors different varieties and colour of white, yelthe 2 lakh Tulips sourced from low, red, pink, orange, pur-ple, black and Holland. The cultivation of Tulip Bulbs started in the mid December, 2023 at major parks yellow-red

Headquarters, Windsor Place roundabout, the vicinity of the

NDMC transforming these spaces into captivating visual spectacles in the NDMC area.



AFFILIATED TO CCS UNIVERSITY MEERUT INVITE APPLICATIONS FOR THE POSTS OF

PRINCIPAL & ASST, PROFESSORS FOR B.A. (HINDI, ENGLISH, POLITICAL SCIENCE, PSYCHOLOGY, EDUCATION, HISTORY, ECONOMICS).

B.C.A., B.B.A, B.Sc (BIOTECHNOLOGY), LIBRARIAN & COMPUTER OPERATOR. **ELIGIBILITY AS PER UGC/UP GOVT.**

NORMS/UNIVERSITY **ELIGBLE CANDIDATES CAN APPLY** WITHEN 7 DAYS 6, KNOWLEDGE PARK-2, GREATER NOIDA, U.P.

MOB.: 8800200051 Email: innovativeiiet@gmail.com

SECRETARY

BJP hails Centre for giving Bharat Ratna to three icons

 $T^{
m he}$ BJP on Friday hailed the Centre's decision to confer the Bharat Ratna on former Prime Ministers PV Narasimha Rao and Chaudhary Charan Singh as well as agriculture scientist MS Swaminathan, saying it shows that the Narendra Modi Government appreciates people's contributions rising above party lines.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah said it is a testament to the nation's profound sense of gratitude towards the great souls. "Bharat Ratna to Former Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao Garu is a befitting tribute to the legendary statesman who shaped the history of our nation with an iconoclastic vision, intellect, and statesmanship. The contributions of PV Narasimha Rao Ji in navigating our economy safely through one of the most turbulent times to an era of inclusive progress will always be remembered.

"As we celebrate the versatile leadership of PV Narasimha Rao Ji, I also express my heart-

sion to honour the political and intellectual giant with the most prestigious award," Shah wrote on X. He also said he was extremely happy that Charan Singh is being honoured with Bharat Ratna.

He said Singh, who was dedi-

cated to farmers throughout his life, did many works for the welfare of farmers. "Chaudhary Saheb remained dedicated to preserving democratic values ??throughout his life and he fought the Emergency boldly. Through his decisions, he told the entire country that a farmer's son can take decisions ranging from the country's livelihood to policy. I express my gratitude to the Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi ji for honouring crores of farmers and hardworking people of the country through the honour of Chaudhary Saheb," he said in another post in Hindi. On Swaminathan, Shah said an academician par excellence, his quests not only led to ground breaking research works but also shaped numerous brilliant minds to contin-



low countrymen in celebrating

the inspiring leadership and legacy of P V Narasimha Rao

Garu as he is being conferred the Bharat Ratna. I offer my

sincere gratitude to PM Narendra Modi ji for this deci-

sion." He said Rao had deftly

anchored the Indian economy

through one of its worst crises

and opened the doors for rapid

economic progress. He was a

visionary statesman who pos-

sessed profound intellect and

"contributed immensely

towards securing our national

The BJP chief congratulated

ue the legacy. "Honouring the illustrious Dr MS Swaminathan Ii with the Bharat Ratna is a testament to our nation's profound sense of gratitude towards the great souls who laid the foundation of its progress. Our history remembers Swaminathan Ji as a rare genius whose scientific prowess accomplished the Herculean task of leading our nation from an era of food crisis to food security... On this momentous occasion, I thank PM Shri @narendramodi Ji for the historic decision to adorn our icon with the highest civilian award," he said in another post.

the government for its decision In a post on X, BJP president to honour Chaudhary Charan J P Nadda said, "I join our fel-Singh with the Bharat Ratna,

by the former prime minister for the all-round progress of farmers and the agricultural sector is "unforgettable".

"...He is a true representative of our social and cultural values. He fought to protect democracy during the Emergency. Many political parties created from his political parties created from map political legacy are today strengthening and enriching our democracy," Nadda said. He expressed his gratitude to Modi for "this historic decision dedicated to his contribution in nation building and salute Chaudhary Charan Singh ji." Nadda said the decision to confer the Bharat Ratna on Swaminathan is a "fitting tribute to his legacy".
"His monumental efforts in the

field of agricultural research helped millions of people escape the clutches of hunger and poverty. His contribution to furthering the scope of innovation for the betterment of the people is an inspiration to our scientific community," the BJP chief said, expressing gratitude to Modi for "bestowing" the honour on him.

Leaders cutting across party lines welcome announcement

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Leaders cutting across party lines welcomed the announcement of Bharat Ratna for P V Narasimha Rao, Chaudhary Charan Singh and M S Swaminathan on Friday and said they deserved the honour.

The Congress too welcomed the decision to confer Bharat Ratna on former prime ministers P V Narasimha Rao and Charan Singh and Green Revolution pioneer M S Swaminathan, saying they were, are and will always be "Bharat ke Ratna" as their contribution was unprece-

Congress leader Rajeev Shukla, however, said the BJPled Centre is honouring Rao, while it has also brought a 'white paper" on the economy

during the Government of Manmohan Singh, who was the Finance Minister under

"We welcome the announcement, they deserve it. P V Narasimha Rao has made an immense contribution in improving the country's economy. Manmohan Singhji was in his cabinet.

On one hand, they are giving Bharat Ratna to Narasimha Rao, on the other, they are bringing a white paper against the government of Manmohan Singh, who had implemented the economic reforms brought by Rao," Shukla said.

Baghpat MP Satya Pal Singh called Chaudhary Charan Singh a "messiah" for farmers. "Chaudhary Charan Singh was a messiah for farmers. I thank Prime Minister Modi on behalf of the karmabhoomi of Singh. I also welcome the honour given to P V Narasimha Rao and M S Swaminathan. This government is giving recognition to those who were ignored by the previous governments," he

Janata Dal (United) MP Rajeev Ranjan Singh described the recipients of the country's highest civilian honour as "gems" of India.

They are gems of India who have been given Bharat Ratna. Not just the three names announced today, Karpuri Thakur and L K Advani, whose names were announced some days ago, all of them are gems," he said.

However, the Opposition party also attacked the BJP-led government, saying it is "silent" on giving a legal status to a minimum support price on crops to farmers based on the Swaminathan formula.

PM for recognition

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Former Prime Minister P V Narasimha Rao's daughter and BRS MLC Vani Devi on Thursday appreciated Prime Minister Narendra Modi for seeing beyond party lines in recognising the late Congress leader with the Bharat Ratna, and said that although the award has come "slightly" late, it's ok because it is the highest civilian honour.

Narasimha Rao belongs to the whole nation, she said. "Everyone is happy. He is not only a son of Telugu soil but he belongs to the whole nation," she said.

Narasimha Rao, who became Prime Minister when the country was facing tough times, implemented reforms that were recognised by the whole world, she said.

The Prime Minister from the Congress had initiated reforms and found permanent solutions to problems in sectors as varied as economy and external affairs, she said. Commending Prime Minister Modi's gesture of awarding the Bharat Ratna to a stalwart of an opposition party, Vani Devi said "Beyond parties, Bharat Ratna shows the good



Minister.

She, however, pointed out that the award could have come sooner. "Though there is a slight delay, it's ok. Bharat Ratna is the highest civilian honour. Telangana people are very happy over Bharat Ratna being conferred upon Narasimha Rao.

'The family members are overwhelmed. We are very excited," she added.

The BRS MLC also lauded the previous government of her party led by former Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao, for having celebrated the birth centenary of Narasimha Rao on a grand scale. Narasimha Rao was the first leader from the southern states to become Prime Minister, she recalled. She said she was getting calls from Maharashtra as a Member of Parliament values, manners of our Prime from those States.

PV's daughter hails | Dhankhar takes serious note of TMC MP raising voice in House

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar on Friday took serious note of TMC member Saket Gokhale's raising his voice in the House and warned him against repeating the "indecorous" behaviour. The Chairman fell short of naming the TMC member when he kept raising his voice in the house during question hour and asked TMC floor leader Sukhendu Sekhar Ray to see him in his chamber during

Gokhale had asked a supplementary question on overcrowding of trains and steps taken by the government to increase the capacity of trains. However, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw told him that his supplementary question did not pertain to the question since it was related to the implementation of Kotipalli-Narasapur railway project, and asked him to take an orientation course instead.

"I request your kind self to have an orientation course for the honourable member because when a supplementary question has to be asked, that tions," the minister said. Gokhale took offence to these



remarks of Vaishnaw and started raising his voice.

'Mr Gokhale, your conduct is ignoble, indecorous, against rules. Your party leaders need to enlighten you," the chairman said, asking Sukhendu Sekhar Ray to speak.

"I am extremely pained. It is expected of the floor leader to enlighten the young member. If he makes it a habit day in and day out, force my hands. This is not a mileage matter.

"Mr Ray, I strongly appeal to you to take up the matter in your parliamentary party, take up the matter with your lead-ership. I have the highest regard for all political parties. I want this house to make the government accountable but you brigade and that is also getting into an absolutely irrational

approach," the chairman said. Ray in his response said the question raised by his party member may not be related to the main question, but the minister could have said that since it is not related to the question he is not answering. "Instead, he in his excitement said he should take an orientation course. I am not supporting what my member has

The Chairman said, "I would urge Mr Sukhendu Sekhar Ray to make it convenient to see me in the chamber today. I take a very serious view of the matter." Dhankhar said such conduct should not be repeated so that the public time for which the public pays up is not mis-

Centre was "imposing" Hindi the Hindi language.

over English and other regional languages in government business, holding that this was against the federal structure.
Raising the issue during the
Zero Hour, Gokhale demanded that English must be used for government business. The TMC member pointed out that, at the start of the current Budget session of the Meghalaya assembly, it was announced that the Governor would deliver his address to the House in Hindi. The BJP leaders in Meghalaya supported this announcement, saying Hindi is our national language, he said. Gokhale said the official language of the state of Meghalaya is English.

Gokhale said the government has recently passed three new criminal laws in Parliament and these laws have been given very complicated Hindi names. He urged that English must be used for government business that extends to all of India, including non-Hindi speaking

After his remarks, Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar told Gokhale that he has taken oath under the Constitution. The Chairman said Article 351 of the Constitution provides that Meanwhile, Gokhale said the Union to promote the spread of

PM Modi surprises MPs with impromptu lunch at Parliament canteen

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

 $P_{\text{Modi on Friday made an}}^{\text{rime Minister Narendra}}$ unexpected gesture that pleasantly surprised his fellow Members of Parliament. During a seemingly ordinary day at the Parliament canteen, PM Modi invited some MPs belonging to different parties to join him for an impromptu lunch at the Parliament canteen, creating an atmosphere of camaraderie and informality rarely seen in the halls of power.

The menu was a testament to Modi's preference for simple, vegetarian fare—a preference he has maintained even during his travels, as evidenced by his choice of dishes like Harees (wheat) and dates salad during his visit to the UAE. At the Parliament canteen, the spread included wholesome Indian staples such as rice, daal, khichdi, and til ka laddoo, all served at a modest cost of Rs

The lunch was not just about food; it was an opportunity for



"Am not going to punish you at all, come with me," PM Modi was quoted as saying to

PM Modi also discussed the significance of the Abu Dhabi temple project, for which he laid the foundation stone in 2018, highlighting India's soft power. The casual and cordial nature of the meeting left a last-ing impression on the MPs, with one remarking on the good gesture and another expressing how it didn't feel like sitting with the Prime Minister, but rather a more relaxed and approachable figure. BJD leader Sasmit Patra, RSP leader N K Premachandran, TDP's K Ram Mohan Naidu, BSP's Ritesh Pandey and some BJP leaders, including Union minister L were with Modi as they had

iPhone attack issue: Submit phone, cooperate in investigation, Vaishnaw tells Opposition

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Union Minister Electronics Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw on Friday urged the Opposition to submit their phones and cooperate in investigation to find the truth over Apple allegedly sending a message to them about "statesponsored hackers" trying to attack their iPhones. Making this assertion in the

Rajya Šabha, he also said the government is bringing laws and is taking other steps to make social media platforms more accountable for any slanderous content posted on their platforms. Replying to supplementaries

during the Question Hour in the Upper House, Vaishnaw asserted that only making allegations regarding alleged hacking will not work and there must be cooperation with the law enforcement agencies. He was responding to Priyanka

Chaturvedi (Shiv Sena UBT) who said that on October 30 last year, she along with other Opposition MPs had received an SMS and email from Apple with a message that said "statesponsored attackers may be attacking your iPhone".

"In relation to that, I had written a letter to the minister on the same day on the issue. It has been nearly four months, but there has been no reply," Chaturvedi said.

Vaishnaw said if anyone feels that there is a problem in their phone, India has a very robust institutional mechanism through CERT-In, which is a highly technical organisation,



absolutely purely technical organisation for technical examination.

'You please give your phone. I have said openly, in public through a press conference that if any honourable member or any honourable citizen of the country has any issue related to any hacking of their phone or something, kindly submit your phone, kindly share that information, kindly share the details, we will get it technically examined," the minister said.

"It can't be that only allegations are made. If allegations are made, then you have to cooperate with the law enforcement agencies, the structure and the system. One way doesn't work," he further said.

The minister reiterated that he has requested the same through a press conference and in the Upper House itself when the Post Office Bill was discussed. The government is bringing laws and is taking other steps to make social media platforms more accountable for any slanderous content posted on their platforms, he said.

The minister, who was responding to supplementaries during question hour, said the government is amending intermediary rules for social media to tackle the menace of misin-

'Yes, we are amending the

formation and deep fake.

intermediary rules. The reason for that is the deep fake issues have come up in a very big way," the minister told the house. He added, "With the spread of misinformation and deep fakes, we must take strict and urgent action to ensure that this menace is removed. So we are amending the intermediary rules. We are coming up with provisions where there is a significant responsibility bestowed on the social media platforms so that they can detect deep fakes, they can detect misinformation and take early action." He said most of the social media platforms are already moderating a lot of content and these sites are no longer a pure platform they

Entire global regulatory body is reaching a kind of a consensus on the matter, Vaishnaw said, and urged the members of the house too to develop some sort of consensus on the need for more responsibility from social media portals for what they allow on their platforms. "We are creating an institu-

were 30 years back.

tional framework for the digital economy. That institutional framework has three parts first is having a new set of legislations. The Telecom bill has been passed by this house, the personal digital data protection bill has been passed by this house, and another bill is in the works.

"The rules and regulations and the entire implementation mechanism is being converted to a totally digital mechanism. We are also working very closely with almost every stakeholder to make sure that our internet is safe, it is trusted and it is delivering what is intended," the minister said.

In reply to another supplementary by Rajeev Shukla (Congress) on the misuse of social media and the difficulty one faces in getting removed slanderous posts, Vaishnaw reiterated that the social media platforms will have to take responsibility. Shukla had earlier said gangs were duping people through social media, freedom of expression was being curtailed there, and there was no accountability for slanderous posts.

The minister said there needs to be a consensus in the Upper House as well on forging a mechanism to force social media platforms to remove fake or slanderous material. He also acknowledged the positive impact social media has on the society. "This cannot happen. Social media platforms have a lot of value in society. It has a positive value and it is our collective responsibility to solve its negative issue," he said, adding, "we need to frame stricter

Parliament clears historic J&K ST quota and two other Bills

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Parliament on Friday cleared a Bill to add four groups including Paddari and Pahari in the list of Scheduled Tribes in Jammu and Kashmir with

the Rajya Sabha passing it.
The House approved the
Constitution (Jammu and
Kashmir) Scheduled Tribes Order (Amendment) Bill, 2024, which adds two other communities — Gadda Brahmin and Koli — to the Gadda Scheduled Tribes list.

The Upper House also cleared The Jammu and Kashmir Local Bodies Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024 and the Constitution (Jammu and Kashmir) Scheduled Castes Order (Amendment) Bill, 2024 by voice vote.

The Lok Sabha had cleared the bills earlier this week.

The Jammu and Kashmir Bodies (Amendment) Bill-2024 seeks to provide reservation to Other Backward Classes in panchayats and municipalities in Jammu and Kashmir and bring consistency in the local body laws of the Union territory with the provisions of the Constitution. Currently, there is no provision for reservation of seats for OBCs in panchayats and municipalities in Jammu and Kashmir.
The Constitution (Scheduled

Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2024, adds Valmiki community as a synonym of Chura, Balmiki, Bhangi, and Mehtar communities in the list of Scheduled Castes in Jammu and Kashmir.

The bill seeks to amend the



Constitution (Jammu and Kashmir) Scheduled Castes Order of 1956, which lists the castes deemed to be Scheduled Castes in Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.

The three bills were taken simultaneously for discussion and passage in the Upper

Replying to the discussion on the Constitution (Jammu and Kashmir) Scheduled Tribes Order (Amendment) Bill, 2024, Minister of Tribal Affairs Arjun Munda said the bill seeks to give justice to the communities who were demanding ST status for long. "The scrapping of Article 370 has allowed us to bring these laws," he noted.

Replying to the Jammu and Kashmir Local Bodies laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024, Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityananda Rai said the government has taken several steps for the welfare of the OBCs in the Union territory and this amendment is another step in that direction.

There are three main amendments to the bill. Firstly, the bill ensures reservation for OBCs in panchayats and municipal bodies in Jammu and Kashmir. Secondly, the state election commission will be in-charge of conducting elections to panchayats and municipalities, he

Thirdly, the removal process of state election commissioner will be according to the constitutional provisions and can only be removed under circumstances similar to those of a judge of a high court, Rai

He also listed out the devel-

opment works undertaken after removal of Article 370 in the union territory and said Jammu and Kashmir is now peaceful and on the path of development. Rai said incidents of terrorist activities and stone pelting have come down.
Replying to the discussion on
the The Constitution
(Scheduled Castes) Order
(Amendment) Bill, 2024,
Minister for Social Justice and

Empowerment Virendra Kumar said the communities will get the benefits of so many schemes with the passing of the bills. "We do not do vote bank politics but try to strengthen the weaker section of the society," he stated.

White Paper on economy white lie paper, alleges Congress



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELH**

The Congress on Friday alleged that the Modi Government's white paper on the economy was a "white lie paper", and asserted that it should have come out with such a document on issues such as unemployment, demonetisation, border tensions and Manipur.

Former Union Minister and Congress Lok Sabha MP Manish Tewari called the White Paper brought by the government a 'political manifesto", adding that he UPA enacted Acts like the Right to Information, Right to Education, Right to Food and MGNREGA that strengthened the social, political and economic foundation of the coun-

Participating in a debate on the White Paper presented by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman comparing the UPA and NDA regimes, Tewari said she should talk about the achievements of her government instead.

Tewari called the White Paper a "political manifesto", and said that was proved by its timing ahead of the Lok Sabha polls.



Protest in Delhi not against Centre: CPM | Panel suggests ways to improve

7ithin 24 hours of staging a "massive demonstration" at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi against the Center, the CPI (M) made a turn-around by Friday and said the agitation was not against the BJP Government but was to highlight the plight of Kerala's financial position.

Saji Cherian, the CPI(M) youth affairs, who is Vijayan, told media persons the Jantar Mantar sit-in was to protest against the discrimination shown by the Center towards Kerala.

"The Kerala economy is in was not at all a political agitation," said Cherian. said the

N.I.T. No. 32-A&B-2023-24-WV

of ADEN/HNZM



Government was finding it the minister. impossible to disburse welfare pension to the aged and infirm due to shortage of "There are many staging sit-in demonstrations across the we get the funds, we will disburse the pension," said

the Center and escape from the charges of poor financial management. Corruption, nepotism and showering party cadres with cash and kind are the reasons for the current economic ills of Kerala," said Satheeshan.

Satheeshan does not know anything about economy and financial management. "You need not give any importance to his allegations," said Cherian. The minister reiterated that there was no politics behind

speech at New Delhi had said that only a collective of opposition parties could the BIP dislodge Government at the Centre. "All of us should come together and fight unitedly Modi

administration to save federalism and pluralism," the chief minister had said. Saji Cherian also lambasted finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman for her statement in Rajya Sabha on Thursday. does not know economics and is telling wrong details," charged Cherian. The finance minister has said in the House that the Government at the Centre had disbursed 224 per cent more than what was given to Kerala by the previous UPA Government (2004-2024). While the UPA Government had reimbursed to Kerala Rs 46,303 crore as tax revenue during its decde long regime, BJP the Government reimbursed Rs 1,50, 140 crore during 2014-2024, Sitharaman had said while speaking on the union budget 2024-2025.

CGHS for better medical facilities

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

In a country where equitable healthcare access is vital, the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) set-ups across the country face a daunting challenge: Staffing shortages and operational hurdles as revealed by a Parliamentary panel in its report which was tabled in Parliament on Thursday.

Led by MP Bhubaneswar Kalita, it has suggested an array of recommendations to improve functioning of the CGHS for better medical facilities to the beneficiaries which include government and serving/retired Central Government employees, their dependents,

and such other beneficiaries as notified by the Government. The panel noted that due to the deficit of doctors, paramedics, and administrative staff was leading to long waits and compromised care at the centres, Committee. therefore,

recommends that the Ministry expedite the recruitment process and fill up all vacant positions. To ensure an adequate doctor-to-patient sitting and former Members of day may be fixed and strictly

Parliament, freedom fighters, adhered to," said the panel It said distribution of wellness centers (340) is heavily skewed. with the Delhi NCR region claiming a disproportionate share at 26 per cent. Further, only six states (excluding the Delhi NCR region) have more than 10 CGHS centres while Arunachal Pradesh and the UTs of Ladakh, Andaman and Nicobar islands and Lakshadweep have no CGHS

wellness centres. adequate doctor-to-patient ratio in all CGHS wellness centres, the recommendations of SIU may be implemented expeditiously." "Based on the total number of beneficiaries being served by a Wellness centre, minimum criteria for doctors to see the patients per day may be fixed and strictly

Beit known to all that LS unita Kalira, D/O R. S., Kalra, Flat No. 456, Second Floor, Pocket-7, CAI -D, Phase-I, Narirpur, New Delhi. have applied copies in DDA. The original Documents No. Original Demand Letter, Possession Letter & Site Possession. have been lost An. FIR/NCR to this effect has lodged documents, maining any right, interest, having any objection or found in possession of original documents, may write/contact with above named person at above address/phone No. 8178746766 within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. Any person claiming

NOTICE is hereby given that M/S Sam Project Developers Pvt. Ltd. having CIN No. U70100MH1988PTC046835 has agreed to sell us, the commercial property measuring 323 sq.ft. at 212, Second Floor, Bhanot Corner 1 & 2, Pamposh Enclave, GK-1, New Delhi- 110048 2, Pamposh Enclave, GK-1, New Delhi- 110048 free from all encumbrances. Any person having any right, title, interest, claim or demand of any nature whatsoever in respect of the said property, is hereby required to make the same known in writing along with the documentary proof thereof, to the under signed at D-58, 1st Floor, Gulmohar Park, New Delhi- 110049 within twenty one (21)) days from the date of publication hereof, falling which the negotiations shall be completed, without any reference to such claims and the claims if any shall be deemed to have been given up or vavived. deemed to have been given up or waived. Sd,

Indronil Mohan, Advocate Enroll. No.: JH-289/19, D-58,1st Floor,

Place: New Delhi Date: 10.02.2024

NORTHERN RAILWAY OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

The Sr. Divisional Engineer-III, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-Tender for he following work.

	Work	circ	ating area of ANVT for one year under Sr.DEN-III/NDLS.				
2.	Approx. C of work	Approx. Cost Rs. 50,00,267.58/- (Rupees Fifty Lakh Two Hundred Sixty Seven and Fifty Eight paise only)					
3.	Earnest Money to be Deposited Rs. 1,00,000/- (One Lakh Rupees)						
4.	Cost of tender document R			Rs. 0.0	Rs. 0.00/-		
5.			f submission of I opening of tender	01.03.2024 at 15:00 Hrs.			
6.	3. Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be			e e seen	www.ireps.gov.in		
Т	The tenderer/s must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procurement						

1. Name of Repair and maintenance of landscaping and Horticulture work in

system (IREPS) site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for participating in the e-tender system. • For all terms and conditions please refer tender document. • No manual offers are acceptable. • Cost of tender document and Earnest money will be acceptable through net banking or payment gateway only. No. 128-W/280/e Tender Notice/NIT/74/2023-24/W-3

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

PUBLIC NOTICE

KOVALAM INVESTMENT AND TRADING CO. LIMITED Regd. Office: Premises Oswal Woollen Mills Limited G.T. Road, Sherpur, Ludhiana-141003 PB CIN:L65910PB1981PLC023058, Ph.: +91-161-5066605,

Statement of Unaudited Financial Results for the Quarter/Nine Months Ended 31/12/2023

	(Rs in Lakhs, unless otherwise stated) Sr. Particulars Quarter Ended Nine Months Ended Year Ended											
Sr.	Particulars	G	Quarter Ended			Nine Months Ended						
No.					31.12.2023 (Unudited)							
1	Total Income from operations (net)	108.65	86.82	14.03	286.52	120.19	215.53					
2	Net profit/(Loss) for the period (before tax)	105.22	83.07	11.09	276.33	110.59	158.60					
3	Net profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax)	94.68	75.31	7.78	250.02	109.97	102.23					
4	Total Comprehensive Income/(Loss) for the period {Comprising Profit /(Loss) for the period (after tax) and other Comprehensive Income/ (Loss) (after tax)}	-949.15	932.11	176.24	2,184.95	-2,578.92	-3,911.40					
5	Equity equity share capital (Face value : Rs.10/- per share)	222.39	222.39	222.39	222.39	222.39	222.39					
6	Reserves (excluding revaluation reserve as shown in the per audited balance sheet of previous year)						7,019.67					
7	Earning per share (EPS) (Rs.)											

Basic and Diluted EPS 4.26 3.39 0.35 11.24 4.94 4.60 otes: 1. The Unaudited financial results of the Company for the Quarter and Nine months ended 31st seember, 2023 have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and subsequently approved by the Board of sections that the position below 5. Change 1.0.20.4 The financial most the beautiful provided in the control of the contro

Directors in their meeting held on February 9, 2024. The financial results have been subjected to Limited Review by Statutory Auditors of the Company. 2. The above is the extract of the detailed format of Unaudited Financial Results for the quarter and nine months ended December 31, 2023 filed with the Stock Exchanges under regulations 33 of the SEBI (Listing and other disclosures Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of Unaudited Financial Results for the quarter and ine months ended December 31, 2023 are available' on the Stock Exchange website i.e. www.bseindia.com

Navdeep Sharma

APPENDIX IV-A Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Property

Date: 09.02.2024

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) and Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Guarantor(s) that the below described Immovable Property mortgaged to Indiabulls Housing Finance Limited [CIN : L65922DL2005PLC136029] and Indiabulls Asset Reconstruction Company Limited [CIN: U67110MH2006PLC305312] acting as a Trustee of Indiabulls ARC- XXXI Trust (both IHFL and IARCL) are jointly and severally referred to as ("Secured Creditor"), the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "as is where is", "as is what is" and "whatever there is" basis on 29.02.2024 from 02.00 P.M. to 04.00 P.M., for recovery of the following amounts due to IHFL and IARCL: DUES OF INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED :

S. No.	Loan Account Number	Outstanding Amounts (in Rs.) as on 05.02.2024
1.	HHLDCP00210364	Rs. 16,83,293/- (Rupees Sixteen Lakh Eighty Three Thousand Two Hundred Ninety Three only)
DUE	S OF INDIABULLS ASSET REC	ONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED:

S. No.	Loan Account Number	Outstanding Amounts (in Rs.) as on 05.02.2024
1.	P008XXXI (Old Loan Account No. HHEDCP00210362)	Rs. 8,89,439/- (Rupees Eight Lakh Eighty Nine Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Nine only)

The Loan Account No. HHEDCP00210362, along with all right(s), title(s), interest(s), underlying security(ies), pledge(s) and / or guarantee(s) including the Immovabl Property, has been assigned by IHFL to and in favour of Indiabulls Asse Reconstruction Company Limited ("IARCL") vide Assignment Agreement dated 21.08.2023, and the same has been renumbered by IARCL and bears new Loan Account No. P008XXXI. Consequently, IARCL has also become a Secured Creditor for the said assigned Loan Account. IARCL has given its consent to IHFL to issue this

The amounts mentioned in both the tables given above are pending towards the respective Loan Accounts of IHFL and IARCL, by way of outstanding principal, arrears (including accrued late charges) and interest till 05.02.2024 with applicable future interest in terms of the Loan Agreement(s) and other related loan document(s) w.e.f. 06.02.2024 along with legal expenses and other charges, due to the Secured Credito from PRAHLAD VISHWAKARMA and APARNA VISHWAKARMA

The Reserve Price for the Immovable Property will be Rs. 6,50,000/- (Rupees Six Lakh Fifty Thousand only) and the Earnest Money Deposit ("EMD") will be Rs. 65,000/- (Rupees Sixty Five Thousand only) i.e. equivalent to 10% of the

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL FLAT NO. G-4, GROUND FLOOR, REAR SIDE MIDDLE (LIG WITHOUT ROOF RIGHTS) COMPRISED IN 1 BEDROOM, 1 DRAWING ROOM CUM DINING ROOM, 1 KITCHEN, TOILET AND BALCONY, HAVING SUPER COVERED AREA OF 400 SQUARE FEET I. E. 37.16 SQUARE METER BUILT ON PLOT NUMBER C - 1/99 SITUATED IN RESIDENTIAL COLONY DLF DILSHAD EXT. - 2, VILLAGE BRAHMPUR URF BHOPURA, PARGANA LONI TEHSIL AND DISTRICT GHAZIABAD, GHAZIABAD - 201005, UTTAR PRADESH. OGETHER WITH PROPORTIONATE UNDIVIDED RIGHTS AND SHARE IN THE LAND UNDERNEATH.

THE PLOT IS BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS:-EAST : PLOT NUMBER C-1/98 WEST : PLOT NUMBER C-1/100 NORTH: ROAD 30 FEET

SOUTH : OTHER'S PLOT For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided on the website of the Secured Creditor i.e. www.indiabullshomeloans.com. For bidding, log

Date: 07.02.2024 Place: GHAZIABAD

INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

Shahnaz Co-operative Group Housing Society Ltd.,H.No. 22/2, Narela Road, Near Trishul Soap Factory, Vijay Nagar, Bawana, Delhi-110039 In pursuance to rule 19(2) of DCS rules,

2007, applications are invited from genera public of Delhi who fulfill the conditions laid down in rule-19 & 20 of DCS Rules, 2007 for filling up one vacancy in Shahnaz CGHS Ltd. (Regd. No.746-GH) for, which has arisen due to resignation of one member Interested persons can collect the office i.e. H. No. 22/2.Narela Road.Near Trisul Soap Factory, Vijay Nagar, Bawana Delhi-110039 between 11.00am to 4.00pm along with the amount of Rs. 3,00,110/ Land money) through Pay order/ Demand in favour of Shahnaz Co-operative Group Housing Society Ltd. This is a CBI scanne society. (Equalization will be charged as pe DCS Act & Rules)
Sd/- Secretary Shahnaz CGHS Ltd.

· CHANGE OF NAME ·

I, Shahana Salmani W/o Jareef Salmani R/o F-20, 3rd Floor, Parwana Road Jagatpuri, Krishna Nagar, East Delhi, Delhi-110051, hereby declare that my daughter's class 10th Marksheet my name has been mentioned Shahana and my correct name is shahana Salmani and same my daughter's class 10th Marksheet has been mentioned Aliya and her correct name is Aliya Salmani

PD(271)A

I, hereto known as Sunil Jindal S/o. Late Radhey Shyam Jindal, R/o. D-1/54B, 1st Floor, Near Radhika Mandir, Budh Vihar, Ph-1, Pooth Kalan, North West Delhi- 110086 changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Sunil Kumar for all future purpose.

PD(269)A I. hereto known as

Muskan D/o. Sunil Kumar, R/o. D-1/54B, 1st Floor, Near Radhika Mandir, Budh Vihar, Ph-1, Pooth Kalan, North West Delhi-110086 changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Muskan Jindal for all future purpose.

PD(268)A

I Arvinder Singh Auluck S/o S. Arjan Singh R/o H No 136 B, Sector 11 Block C Faridabad 121006 have changed my name to Arvinder Singh for all purposes.

PD(270)A

minister for culture and described as the loud speaker of Chief Minister Pinarayi at Thiruvananthapuram that

ruins as the Centre is throttling the avenues of the State's financial resources. It

TENDER NOTICE

Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

Name of A) Cess Cleaning, Jungle Cleaning & Shallow Screening in the section

Earnest (It should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway Only Note:- FDR will not be accepted as FMD, for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter no 201025//CE-1/CT/ 5/1 dated 31.08.2016)

Date and time for submission of Upto 15:00 hrs on 05.03.2024 Opening of tender

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY

e-OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr. Divisional Engineer-I/Northern Railway, New Delhi for and on behalf of President of

Rs.179700/- Earnest Money should be in the form of net banking or

payment gateway only. Note: FDR or Demand Draft will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards

Any work involving manpower supply of artisan/Mali & helper khalls etc. for maintenance of Assets other than track work.

Tender for "Supply and application of Exteriar Paint with

Fleet Graphic Film for all Type of LHB Coaches as per

01.03.2024 Opening of tender at

Fourteen Thousand Three Hundred Forty Three Only)

IREPS site i.e.

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

FINAL AUCTION CUM SALE NOTICE FOR GOLD ORNAMENTS

The borrower(s) (whose details are provided in the table herein below), in particular, and the

public, in general, are hereby informed that the below mentioned accounts are overdue, an

the borrowers/account holders have not responded /complied with the communication, and

notice send by HDB Financial Services Limited (the "Company") requesting the borrower to

clear his/her/their dues as per the documents in respect of the below mentioned loan signed

accepted by the borrower(s) (such documents, collectively "loan agreeement") and therefo defaulted in terms thereof. The Company has in excercise of its rights as a pledgee, decided

enforce the pledge and therefore hold a public auction of the gold ornaments pledged to the

15-02-2024 at the below mentioned local branch of HDB Financial Services Limited from 11.00

Date of Loan Overdue

24/11/2022 9322

31/07/2023 16334

14/04/2023 14187

14/04/2023 14289

14/04/2023 14992

18/07/2023 6360

15/09/2023 36300 29/05/2022 13283

17/12/2022 10224 30/03/2023 17311

16/09/2023 5794

17/06/2022 21208

Delhi NCR-Burari Delhi NCR-Burari

Delhi-Badarpur

Delhi-Badarpur

Delhi-Gandhi Nagar

Delhi-Jagatpuri

Delhi-Jagatpuri

ompany as security for the loan for the purpose of selling the same and realizing/reco the dues owned by the borrower(s) to the company. The auction will be conducted or

am onwards on the date and branches mentioned in the below table;

38262224 Surender So Shivkumar 24/08/2023 10588

www.ireps.gov.in

Ground Floor, Zenith House, Keshavrao Khadye Marg,

Mahalaymi Mumhai - 400034 Tel No.: +91 22 49116300

NOTE: All attachments must be self attested by the tenderers and the affidavit should

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

Approx. Cost Rs.72,14,343/- including GST (Rs. Seven Two Lacs

cope of work at RCNK_SNP

Completion period of Work 12 months of date of execution of work

Website particulars notice board Above tender available on

Upto 15.00 hrs on 01.03.2024 opening of e-tender at 15.00 hrs on 01.03.2024

24 Months

Name of work | Deployment of technical artisan staff and artisan khalasi staff on

Approx. Cost of work A) Rs. 3499999.10 B) Rs. 4499998.09

A) Rs. 70000.00 B) Rs. 90000.00

Website particular notice board location complete

No: -128-W/280/Tender Notice/23-24/W-I (NIT-56)

Rs . 8984556.58/-

Date and time of submission of

ender and opening of tender Website particulars, published-tender

the tender form can be downloaded

Earnest Money | Rs. 1,44.300.00/-

Date and Time for submission

of tender and opening of tender

No. Tender No219933RTI Dated 08/02/2024

location complete details of

HDB SERVICES

29464658 Ashish Sharma

37306437 Akshav Batra

33370558 Sunil Kumar

33371090 Sunil Kumar

33370238 Sunil Kumar

39066173 Ajay Singh

24494261 Vijay Kumar

30010820 Noori Begum 32960333 Shubham Sai

39102794 Ishu Rastogi

17624086 | Kishan Shau

28728703 Sangita Do Mang

25019829 | Baidhnath Kumar

17192941 Beeru Bhardwa

Cost of Tender document on cash/by post NIL

Approx. Cost

N.I.T. No.

Name of work

and its location

Completion period of work A) 04 Months B) 04 Months

tender and opening of tender at 15:00 hrs. On 05:03:2024

ndia invites e-tender on the prescribed form for the under noted work

ADEN/PNP under Sr.DEN-I/DLI.

details of tender can be seen and address of the office on IREPS site i.e. from where the tender form can be purchased etc. www.ireps.gov.in
No. 128-W/280/OET/2023-24/W-V/NIT-32- A & B Dated : 09.02.2024

B) Cess Cleaning, Jungle Cleaning & Shallow Screening in the section

Meanwhile, Leader of the Opposition V D Satheeshan and senior Congress Leader Ramesh Chennithala termed Thursday's Jantar Mantar sit-in by Vijayan and his ministers as at attempt to trick the people. "You cannot dump all the blame for the

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring in common notice that I

eema Gupta W/o Manish Gupta is owne perna Gupta w/o Manish Gupta is owner property having details - Two Shops Nos 5 & 86 Part of Property No. X/3470 Out o

Chasra No. 248 New Jain Market, Raghubarpura No. 2, Gandhi Nagar, Delhi-

10031 have purchased this property vide sale Deed Reg. No. 14733 Vol. No. 4828 lated 29/07/2010. I have lost Sale Deed of

Kajal Aggarwal W/o Shyam Sunder Aggarwal in favour of Sonika Jain, Shops No. 86, Part of Property No. 3470 Out of Khasra no. 248, New Jain Market, Raghubarpura No. 2, Gandhi Nagar, Delhi-

110031 dated 29/07/2010 Reg. 14734 Vol No. 4828. This is to confirm that we are the absolute owner. If anyone has any disputes, please inform within 15 days to Mr. Manish

PUBLIC NOTICE
otice is hereby given on behalf of Mr. Naresh
thand to general public that the some GPA,
TS and Will, dated 18.05.2004, Sale Deed

ted 06.03.2007. Sale Deed 05.05.2008 8

ale Deed dated 20.06.2011 related to the

iny person dealing with the aforesaid locuments would do so at their own risk and

esponsibility. Owner shall not be liable in an esponsionity. Owner shall not be liable in any nanner whatsoever for any loss incurred by uch persons. If anybody found these ocuments OR notice any misuse of these ocuments, Concerned Person is required to ommunicate at the address given below.

communicate at the address given below.

Juris NextGen LLP
E-56, LGF, Greater Kailash Enclave Part-

w Delhi-48 #011-42662177.78.79

demonstration. But Pinarayi Vijayan, in his

NOTICE is hereby given that M/S Sam Exim Ltd. having CIN No. U51900MH1987PLC042267 has agreed to sell us, the commercial property measuring 553 sq.ft at 211, Second Floor, Bhanot Corner 1 & 2, Pamposh Enclave, GK-1, New Delhi- 110048 free from all encumbrances. Any person having any right, title, interest, claim or demand of any nature whatsoever in respect of the said property, is hereby required to make the same known in writing along with the documentary proof thereof, to the under signed at D-58, 1st proof thereof, to the under signed at U-58, 1st Floor, Gulmohar Park, New Delhi-110049 within twenty one (21) days from the date of publication hereof, falling which the negotiations shall be completed, without any reference to such claims and the claims if any shall be

Indronil Mohan, Advocate
Enroll. No.: JH-289/19, D-58,1st Floor Gulmohar ParK, New Delhi -110049

APPENDIX IV-A

E-Auction Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Housing Finance Ltd. [CIN: L65922DL2005PLC136029] ("Secured Creditor") the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "as is where is", "as is what is" and "whatever there is" basis on 19.03.2024 from 02.00 P.M. to 04.00 P.M., for recovery or Rs. 70,03,995/- (Rupees Seventy Lakh Three Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Five only) pending towards Loan Account No. HHLKUN00271795, by way of outstanding principal, arrears (including accrued late charges) and interest till 07.02.2024 with applicable future interest in terms of the Loan Agreement and other related loan document(s) w.e.f. 08.02.2024 along with legal expenses and other charges due to the Secured Creditor from PRASHANT KUMAR ASTIR, VANDANA ASTIR. PARVEEN KUMAR ASTIR, MODERN LACE HOUSE (THROUGH ITS PARTNERS) and MODERN KNIT WORKS (THROUGH ITS PARTNERS).

The Reserve Price of the Immovable Property will be Rs. 54,00,000/- (Rupees Fifty

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

WATER SIDE FLOORS, LAKE DRIVE CITY, SITUATED IN KUNDLI, SONIPAT 131001, HARYANA, HAVING FOUR BEDROOMS.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided

Indiabulls Housing Finance Limited

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER. PWD. BUILDING,

No. T.B-II/38/2024/

PRESS NOTICE

The Spl. Chief Engineer, P.W.D. (Health & Education), Assam, on behalf of the Governor of Assam invited bids from eligible contractor having experience in similar nature of work, for the following work.

Sl No	Name of work	Bid Value	Time of completion	Bid Security	Cost of RFP Cocument
	"Construction of Training Centre Cum Accommodation for In Service Teachers Training at DIET, Kamrup, Mirza (G+3storied provision)" under the Directorate of SCERT, Assam"	3, 83,30, 500.00	18 (eighteen) months	(2% of Bid value for General, and 1% of Bid value for Reserved category	7,700.00

Press Notice will be a part of the Bidding Document.

(Health & Education) Assam, Chandmari. Guwahati-3

Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited, Pushpamangalam Estate, NH Bye

PUBLIC NOTICE-TENDER CUM E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET

[See proviso to rule 8(6)]
Notice for sale of immovable assets

below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **Physical Possession** of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Ltd. will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what

Sr. Name of Borrower(s)/Co-Borrowers/Guarantors/Loan Account N		Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Earnest	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of E-Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
	Mr. Subhash (Borrower) Mrs. Vineetha B (Co- Borrower) Loan Account No. LBKOL00005114435	4.65 Ares (11.49 Cents) Block No. 27, Re Sy No. 211/ 13/2/1, Enadimangalam Village, Adoor Taluk, Pathanamthitta. Property is A Vacant Land Area 5005 Sq.ft. North: Property of Suresh South: Road East: Road West: Property of Geetha	Rs. 29,08,954/- (As on February 05, 2024)	Rs. 13,40,000/- Rs. 1,34,000/-	February 26, 2024 from 02:00 PM to 04:00 PM	March 12, 2024 from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM

(URL Link-- https://www.disposalhub.com). The Mortgagors/ notice are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till March, 11 2024 before 04:00 PM failing which, this/these secured asset/s will be sold as per schedule The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column

before March, 11 2024 before 05:00 PM and thereafter they need to submit their offer through the above mentioned website only on or before March, 11 2024 before 05:00 PM along with scan image of Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. Kindly note, in case prospective bidder(s) are unable to submit their offer through the website then signed copy of tender documents may be submitted at **ICICI Bank** Limited, Pushpamangalam Estate, NH Bye pass road, Edapally, Cochin- 682024 on or before March, 11 2024 before 05:00 PM. Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/ Scheduled Bank in favour of "ICICI Bank Limited" payable at Cochin. For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the e-auction or submission o

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit www.icicibank.com/n4p4s Date: February 09, 2024 Authorized Officer Place: Gurgaon **ICICI Bank Limited**

or all the bids or offer without assigning any reason for the same. Place : DELHI (HDB Financial Services Ltd)

24539139 Mahesh Kumar 30/05/2022 25984 The auction shall be conducted on an "AS IS WHERE" and "AS IS WHAT IT" basis and the Company is not making and shall not make any representation or warranties as regar the quality, purity, caratage, weight or valuation of the said gold ornaments. It shall be the sole and absolute responsibility of the potential purchaser to verify, examine an satisfy themselves about the quality, purity, caratage, weight or valuation of the said gold ornaments prior to placing their bid and for such purpose it shall be open to potentia purchasers to examine, at their sole cost and expense, and at the address set out hereig above, the gold ornaments whether with or without expert advice 45 minutes prior to the time stipulated for the conduct of the auction. All the bid shall be subjected to such

minimum reserve price as the company may deem fit to fix in this regards. The auction

process and sale (if any) pursuant to such auction shall be subjected to such further te

and condition as the company may at sole discretion deem fit to impose.

If the borrower(s) mentioned above pays the amount due to the Company in terms the loan agreement in his individual loan account in full before the auction as mentione auction without further notice. Please note the it is the absolute discretionary power of th undersigned authorized officer of the company, either to postpone or to cancel the auctio proceeding without prior notice and without assigning any reason thereof and to reject an

State because they are not getting their pension. All I could tell them is to stop this gimmick and go home. When

But Cherian said that

PUBLIC NOTICE **PUBLIC NOTICE**

free from all encumbrances. Any person having any right, title, interest, claim or demand of any nature whatsoever in respect of the said property, is hereby required to make the same property, is nerely required to make the same known in writing along with the documentary proof thereof, to the under signed at D-58, 1st Floor, Guimohar Park, New Delhi: 110049 within twenty one (21) days from the date of publication hereof, falling which the negotiations shall be completed, without any reference to such claims and the claims if any shall be deemed to have been given up or waived. Sd/ Enroll. No.: JH-289/19, D-58,1st Floor, Gulmohar Park, New Delhi -110049

Date: 10.02.2024

Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Property

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 to Indiabulls

Four Lakh only) and the Earnest Money Deposit ("EMD") will be Rs. 5,40,000/(Rupees Five Lakh Forty Thousand only) i.e. equivalent to 10% of the Reserve

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF UNIT BEARING NO - WF - 51, HAVING BUILT

bidding, log on to www.auctionfocus.in

Date: 07.02.2024

ASSAM: CHANDMARI: GUWAHATI-3

	Details of the bid may be seen at e-procurement portal website i.e. www.assamtenders.gov.in The bidde nust be enrolled in www.assamtenders.gov.in										
Sl No		Bid Value	Time of completion	Bid Security	Cost of RFP Cocument						
	"Construction of Training		18	(2% of Bid	7,700.00						
	Centre Cum Accommodation for	3, 83,30, 500.00	(eighteen)	value for							
	In Service Teachers Training at		months	General, and							
	DIET, Kamrup, Mirza			1% of Bid value							
	l			for Reserved							

N.B.:- Value of work may vary during uploading of DNIT for which no claim would be entertained. The

Spl. Chief Engineer, P.W D. (Bldg.)

Janasanyog/C/16058/23/09-Feb-24 Pass road, Edapally, Cochin- 682024

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Asset under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financia Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the

Sr. Name of No. Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No.		ower(s)/ orrowers/ rantors/ Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any		Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of E-Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Mr. Subhash (Borrower) Mrs. Vineetha B (Co- Borrower) Loan Account No. LBKOL00005114435	4.65 Ares (11.49 Cents) Block No. 27, Re Sy No. 211/ 13/2/1, Enadimangalam Village, Adoor Taluk, Pathanamthitta. Property is A Vacant Land Area 5005 Sq.ft. North: Property of Suresh South: Road East: Road West: Property of Geetha		Rs. 13,40,000/- Rs. 1,34,000/-	February 26, 2024 from 02:00 PM to 04:00 PM	March 12, 2024 from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM

E) at <mark>ICICI Bank Limited, Pushpamangalam Estate, NH Bye pass road, Edapally, Cochin-682024</mark> on o

tenders, kindly contact ICICI Bank Limited on 8138023587/9004474395. The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. www.dailypioneer.com

facebook.com/dailypioneer | @TheDailyPioneer | instagram.com/dailypioneer/

-PAPER WITH PASSION-

In black and white

The Centre's White Paper calls the UPA regime a 'lost decade' over its economic mismanagement

s promised, the Modi Government is out with a White Paper on the fiscal mismanagement in the UPA era, labelling it a "lost decade". It points to various policy lapses, including economic imprudence, red tape and sluggish reforms, which purportedly stunted economic growth and left a legacy of unresolved structural challenges. With statistical analyses and historical comparisons, the paper paints a picture of the contrast between the perceived stagnation under the UPA rule and the strides made under the current administration. Indeed, the incumbent Government has done well on many counts. The Modi Government's economic achievements include significant reforms such as the implementation of GST, initiatives to improve ease of doing business, and financial inclusion programmes like Jan Dhan Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana. Infrastructure development schemes like Bharatmala and Sagarmala, along with digital initiatives under Digital India, have aimed to modernise and connect the nation. Efforts



to attract foreign investment, promote startups and focus on rural development through schemes like PMAY and PMKSY have also been notable. These measures collectively reflect the Government's commitment to fostering inclusive economic growth, innovation and development, although challenges such as unemployment and agrarian distress persist. However, the Opposition Congress swiftly responded with a 'black paper', countering the Government's claims and highlighting what it deems as the failures of the incumbent regime. The 'black paper' accuses the Government of exacerbating economic inequalities, neglecting social welfare programmes and presiding over a period of

economic downturn characterised by job losses, agrarian distress and inflationary pressures. It seeks to challenge the narrative of economic prosperity propagated by the ruling party, emphasising instead the lived hardships of ordinary citizens. Indeed, economic distress has been palpable across various segments of society during the Modi regime. While the Government touts ambitious initiatives such as 'Make in India' and 'Digital India', the ground reality for many remains one of job scarcity, underemployment and wage stagnation. The agrarian sector, often hailed as the backbone of the Indian economy, continues to face challenges ranging from being rain-dependent to mounting debt burdens, driving many farmers to despair and destitution. Despite the Government stimulus packages, the impact of the recent pandemic lingers, with many struggling to rebuild their livelihoods. This being an election year, such allegations and counter-allegations were expected and, in fact, would become more scathing in the coming weeks. The sad part is that each side would amplify the other's follies while overstating one's achievements. In this cacophony, it is imperative for policymakers to listen to people's concerns, address their grievances and chart a path towards inclusive and sustainable development. Meanwhile, the voters are well advised to use their discretion.



Devotees take a holy dip in the Ganga river during the annual religious 'Magh Mela' festival, in Prayagraj

The killing of a puppy: Murder most foul



The heartless and brutal killing of a puppy by a child in Greater NOIDA must cause serious concern and introspection

he Pioneer reported on February 5, 2024, a shocking act of cruelty in which a child living in a high-rise building in Gaur City in Greater NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh, threw a puppy down from a height, killing it. Neither the adult who was allegedly with him, nor any of the passers-by, stopped him. A People for Animals (PFA) volunteer, Surabhi Rawat, has filed a FIR against unknown persons perpetrating the horrendous act. Registered by the Greater NOIDA police, it calls for the child's appearance before a juvenile court and an assessment of his mental State.

The Pioneer report quotes PFA trustee, Ambika Shukla, expressing concern about the child's lack of feeling, and saying, "It reveals a psychopathic tendency that must be dealt with urgently lest we find a monster in our midst. Those who hurt and abuse animals set a dangerous example that can lead to tragic consequences...." She is right, and it is not just a dangerous example but a very dangerous indication.

In their paper titled "Childhood Cruelty to Animals and Subsequent Violence against Humans," published in The International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology in 2001, Linda Merz-Perez, Kathleen M Heide and Ira Silverman, who had interviewed 45 violent and 45 non-violent offenders in a maximumsecurity facility in Sumter County, Florida, in the United States. wrote, "The overall results of the [their] study support previous research efforts indicating a relationship between cruelty to animals committed during childhood and later violence perpetuated against humans. The findings indicate that offenders who committed violent crimes as adults were significantly more likely than adult nonviolent offenders as children to have committed acts of cruelty against animals in general and pet and stray animals in particular."

in their paper, From Animai Cruelty to Serial Murder: The child, who murdered the Applying the Gradation Hypothesis" in the same journal in 2003, Jeremy Wright and hatred. The Pioneer report

Christopher Hensley write, Since the late 1970s, the FBI has considered animal cruelty to be a possible indicator of future serial murder. The FBI documented the connection between cruelty to animals and serial murder following a study of 35 imprisoned serial murderers. The convicted murderers were asked questions regarding their childhood cruelty toward animals. More than half of the serial murderers admitted to hurting or torturing animals as children or

adolescents." One tortures or hurts animals or humans out of cruelty, the primary cause of which is hatred, conscious or subconscious. Hatred can be directed against individual human beings or animals, the latter in general or particular species thereof. Hatred can target groups of people because of their ethnicity, religion, ideological or political beliefs or caste. Hatred causes not only crimes like murder or assault against individuals but rioting against groups of people or, in the worst instance, genocide, as by Pakistan in Bangladesh during the latter's struggle for liberation from Islamabad's colonial rule in 19/1.

puppy, seems to be growing up in an environment awash with



A SOCIETY, WHERE HATRED AND ANGER ARE WIDESPREAD, CAN BE THE SEEDBED OF A SINISTER IDEOLOGY LIKE NAZISM **BESIDES PRODUCING** A LEADER LIKE HITLER AND A PEOPLE READY TO RESPOND TO HIS **FULMINATIONS**

quotes Surabhi Rawat as saying, "In the same society, just days ago, a person intentionally crushed a puppy under his vehicle. Another puppy was found dead in suspicious circumstances, possibly poisoned. An autopsy will be conducted. The reason for such brutal actions against puppies is the hatred spewed on the society's WhatsApp group. Kids nowadays have phones and get easily influenced by adults who indulge in fear-mongering and spread hatred towards stray animals throughout the day.

The child here may not turn into a serial killer or a criminal of any other kind. It is, however, not just a question of what he becomes. The conduct of the passers-by, who did nothing to stop him or perhaps even tacitly approved of his action, is worrying. It reflects an insensitivity to cruelty and a disinclination to face the consequences of intervening or even undergoing the exertion involved in the process. All this is a part of a mindset that has prevented action that, at global and national levels, might have aborted the rise of dictators like Hitler and Mussolini. It would be worthwhile here to recan astor Martin Neimoller's famous words. "First they came for the Communists/ And I did not

Because I was not a Communist.

"Then they came for the Socialists/ And I did not speak out /Because I was not a Socialist

"Then they came for the trade unionists/ And I did not speak out/ Because I was not a trade unionist.

"Then they came for the Jews// And I did not speak out/ Because I was not a Jew 'Then they came for me/ And there was no one left/ To speak out for me."

One needs to speak out against cruelty to animals which is rooted in hatred. A society, where hatred and anger are widespread, can be the seedbed of a sinister ideology like Nazism besides producing a leader like Hitler and a people ready to respond to his fulminations. The result in Germany was a political order like the Third Reich marked by concentration camps and genocide of Jews. Hence, one needs to remember the words of the German philosopher Theodor Adorno, "Auschwitz begins wherever someone looks at a slaughterhouse and thinks: they're only

> Editor, The Pioneer. The views expressed are personal)

(The author is Consulting

I-T Act clause triggers a row in MSME sector



The recent addition of clause 'h' to Section 43B of the Income Tax Act has stirred up considerable debate within India's MSME sector

¬he latest insertion of the new clause 'h' to Section 43B of the Income Tax Act is making quite some feathers in the MSME sector in India. According to this clause, an MSME enterprise needs to be paid for the goods bought from it within 15-45 days of the purchase to claim a deduction in the assessment year 2024-25.

This means that the rule of Section 43B of allowing certain deductions on actual payments has been extended to payments due to MSMEs and the period for these MSME payments is as specified in Section 15 of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006 (MSME Act). As of now, the applicability of this new clause will be effective from April 1st, 2024. In case of non-payment by 31st March 2023, the unpaid sum will be added to the income of FY 2023-24.

The MSME sector has metamorphosed itself into a prominent sector contributing significantly to the country's economic growth in many ways including,



integrating itself into the overall industrial development by associating with large industries as their auxiliary partners. According to the 73rd round of the National Sample Survey conducted by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation during 2015-16, India has 633.88 lakh MSMEs involved in various economic activities and generating a sizable 11.10 crore

One of the long-plaguing problems of MSMEs has been untimely payments leading to choked cashflows. With the insertion of this new clause, the Government hopes to resolve this perplexing problem. One estimation suggests that the annual total delayed payments to the MSME sector stand somewhere between Rs. 10.5-11.0

lakh crore. Applicability 43B(h) applies only to enterprises, i.e., to entities engaged in either Manufacturing or Service sector.

Period - This section is applicable from the FY 2023-24 or the assessment year 2024-25 onwards. It is, however, not applicable to any payment outstanding to MSMEs as of 31.03.2023.

Type of expenses - Section 43B(h) is not applicable for the outstanding payments to suppliers of raw materials as the purchase of raw materials is not considered as a business expenditure for this sec-

Deductions - By incorporating the new clause 'h' in Section 43B, business expenses will be allowed as deductions only in the year of payment.

This is a departure from this section where the expenses are allowed as deductions on payment on or before the filing of the income tax return. So as long as the payments are made to MSME suppliers within the financial year, i.e., before 31st March, the deductions will be allowed in that financial year.

Impact on Business employment generation and Type of enterprises - Section This will surely make their

cash flow healthier. However, there may be adverse impacts as well. Companies may not want to be in an unavoidable situation of adhering to the 15-45 days payment cycle and may start switching from MSMEs to medium to large corporations as their suppliers. There is still a large grey area as to how these transactions would work

The way forward

The government may want to consider allowing time to buyers to make payments to MSMEs till the time of filing returns as it is permitted in other clauses of Section 43B. Extension of the payment time from 15 or 45 days to at least 60 days will give a breath of relief to a lot of busi-

Additionally, it would be a tedious task for both business owners and auditors to identify MSME suppliers and scrutinise the actual payment dates. The Government should consider extending the implementation date by one year to facilitate better understanding and smoother implementation.

(The writer is a business consultant: views are personal)

AYURVEDA IN JAN AUSHADHI SCHEME Sir — The Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi

Yojana has benefitted millions of people in search of quality alternative medicines at a reasonably low price. However, These generic medicines available at the Jan Aushadhi stores belong only to the Allopathic group and the patients opting for Ayurvedic treatment have to purchase the medicines from retail outlets mostly at a high price which either costs heavily or the patient shifts to allopathy unwillingly.

The Union Government which has shown its intent to promote Ayurveda must add Ayurvedic medicines to the ambit of the Jan Aushadhi scheme. The medicines manufactured may also be consumed at Government Hospitals and dispensaries in addition to their availability at Jan Aushadhi stores. The Ayurvedic consultants at the Ministry of AYUSH can suggest a list of commonly used medicines which can be produced under strict quality control and cover all important classical formulations.

Jai Prakash Gupta | Ambala

TARGET KILLING IN KASHMIR

Sir — Two migrant workers from Amritsar were shot dead in Srinagar on 7 February despite the claim by the ruling dispensation that there is a marvellous improvement in the terrorist activities in the state. As usual, political leaders condemned the killings calling it 'barbaric' and a 'dastardly attack'. The government has been making tall claims daily that peace, progress and development prevailed in J&K as also in the Naxalite-affected areas of Chhattisgarh where three CRPF personnel were killed and 15 injured in an encounter with Maoists in the Bastar region of Chhattisgarh on 30 January. Besides, Manipur has still been boiling since May

The government should urgently enforce confidence-building measures and start a political process in J&K through dialogue with all stakeholders as soon as

Report on malnourished children



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

s per the report, more than 5.70 lakh chil-Adren in Gujarat are malnourished, the Gujarat assembly was informed on Wednesday, by the government. In the set of questions raised by Congress MLAs during question hour, women and child development

minister Bhanuben Babariya said of the 5.70 lakh malnourished children in the state, nearly 4.38 lakh children are underweight, while 1.31 lakh fell in the 'severely underweight' category. The highly urbanised district of Ahmedabad accounted for the highest number of malnourished children (56.941), followed by tribal-dominated Dahod (51,321), Banaskantha (48,866), Panchmahal (31,512), Kheda (28,800), Surat (26,682) and Bhavnagar (26,128), Babariya stated in written replies, providing data until end-2023. In one year, as many as 9,634 malnourished children were added in Kheda district, which was the highest in Gujarat. Kheda was followed by Ahmedabad (3,516 children), Bharuch (1,584) and Valsad (1,335). With this Gujarat government has failed to save its children who are dying of hunger.

Bhagwan Thadani Mumbai

SK Khosla | Chandigarh

possible which can mitigate the terror-

ism in the union territory of India.

POWER SHORTAGE IN MAHARASHTRA

Sir — This year the seasonal rainfall in Maharashtra is less than the average, and many dams and lakes in Maharashtra have not been able to fill their full capacity. The capacity of the Koyana dam is 105 TMC, but only 90 TMC of water was stored in that dam, out of which 67. 50. TMC of water is used for power generation. This year, due to the lack of water in the dam, 9 to 10 TMC of water will be reduced for power generation, as a result of which, there are signs of a reduction in power generation of about 250 to 300 Megawatts. In other parts of the state, there are hydropower plants also, due to lack of water, power generation will be reduced.

The total electricity generation in the state is 13 thousand 152 MW, of which 9540 MW is thermal, 3688 MW is hydroelectric, and 672 MW is wind energy, considering the electricity demand of the state, it is 17 to 23 thousand Megawatts. The state gets about 4 to 10 thousand megawatts of electricity from other states or the National Grid. Looking at all these statistics, there is still a huge scope for solar energy. You get this electricity from the heat of the sun. But to achieve this, a large amount of expenditure is required, even today, solar energy is being used on a large scale in many hospitals, hotels, schools, offices, municipal corporations and municipalities, and village panchayats. If it is manufactured at a low cost, it is likely to be used on a large scale. At present, a large amount of electricity is generated on coal in the country. But this stock also has limits day by day. Therefore, when its use will not be permanent, emphasis should be placed on increasing the use of solar energy in the future. For this, there is a need to reduce its production cost at the government level

Shantaram Wagh | Pune

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneér@gmail.com www.dailypioneer.com

facebook.com/dailypioneer | @TheDailyPioneer | instagram.com/dailypioneer/

FIRST COLUMN

CONFLUENCE OF SOCIAL SERVICE WITH SPIRITUALITY

Spirituality, culture and social service converge with the right people at helm



arely do we witness a convergence of spirituality, service, and culture for the betterment of humanity. However, as they say, there is always a time for everything. Such a convergence of spiritual heads on a single platform is even rarer. The Geet Bhakti Amrit Mahotsave, a spiritual extravaganza, saw the esteemed presence of spiritual gurus and intellectuals like Swami Shri Govind Dev Giriji Maharaj, Sri Sri Ravishankar, Sudhanshuji Maharaj, Shrimati Rajshreeji Birla, Sadhvi Ritambharaji, Respected Shri Chinna Jiyar Swamiji Maharaj, and Baba Satyanarayanji Maurya. Notably, Baba Ramdev and Yogi Adityanath are to grace the occasion.

Geeta Bhakti Amrit Mahotsava stands as a unique amalgamation of spirituality, rich Indian culture, patriotism, and devotion. The event witnessed the divine spectacle of an 81 Kundiya Mahayagya performed by 2500 Vedic acharyas, alongside Harikirtan, constant chanting of sacred scriptures, and Bhagwat Katha. Over 450 artists showcased Mahanatya performances on the epic Ramayana and the tradition of Indian saints. This spiritual festival pays tribute to the divine Vedic heritage, rich Indian culture, and devotion.

What distinguishes this event is its strong emphasis on social causes. The Geeta Pariwar organised the Matrishakti Conference to underscore the significance of women in society and our fundamental responsibility to respect and empower them. The conference witnessed insightful deliberations on women's empowerment. The Baghwad Katha commenced with the resonating chants of "Shri Ram Jai Ram, Jai Jai Ram," uniting all present at the Geeta Bhakti Amrit Mahotsava in Devachi Alandi. Twelve women achievers from diverse fields, dedicated to the social upliftment and empowerment of society, were honored during the event. Govind Girji Maharaj remarked, "Today, as we honor these twelve remarkable women, let us recognise their valuable efforts and unwavering commitment to the welfare of society, reflecting the essence of our cultural legacy.



Sharing his thoughts, Sri Sri Ravishankar stated, "You have united the saint community of Bharat through knowledge, and this knowledge is none other than that of the divine Lord Krishna. Your celebration, the Geeta Bhakti Amrit Mahotsav, is not a coincidence but a divine arrangement." Devotees immersed themselves in the soul-stirring chants of the Bhagwad Gita path which was a essential part of the Geet Bhakti Amrit Mahotsav. An enlightening Dnyaneshwaropasna session took place, where Govind Girji Maharaj imparted profound knowledge to his disciples by venerating Jnaneshwar Mauli and reflecting upon his teachings. A positive atmosphere enveloped the event as the rich Guru-shishya tradition was revived through Vedshastra Samvad. Vedic scholars from across the nation emphasized the significance of spreading wisdom through this age-old

The spiritual event was graced by the esteemed presence of revered spiritual guides and intellectuals, including luminaries such as Jagadguru Shankaracharya, Swami Vijayendra Saraswati Ji Maharaj and Anandamurti Guru Ma. Govind Girji Maharaj expressed, "The Geeta Bhakti Amrit Mahotsava has been a journey of spiritual awakening and enlightenment. It's an honor to witness the divine teachings of Shrimad Bhagwad Gita in the land of Alandi." He further noted the intellectual wisdom of Shri Dhirendrakrishna Shastri Ji Maharaj and the universal appeal of such spiritual knowledge among the youth, evident in the enthusiastic following

(The author writes on issues of social issues and development, views are personal)

Iranian Revolution's success secrets



ILANGAMUWA

How did western intelligence agencies pave the way for Iranians to stand irreversibly against the pro-western leader?

he Iranian Revolution is complet-ing 45 years this week. The Western alliance remained oblivious to the profound resentment brewing among the Iranian populace towards their final monarch,
Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. Embracing an illusion of unshakeable authority, Pahlavi championed his "White Revolution" as a symbol of progress, positioning Iran as an inspiration of Western liberalism and economic advancement. However, beneath the facade of prosperity, discontent festered, unbeknownst to many outside observers. Ascending to power at the youthful age of 21, Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi inherited a legacy shaped by his father, Reza Shah Pahlavi, the founder of the Pahlavi dynasty. Presenting himself as a contemporary incarnation of Cyrus the Great, Pahlavi orchestrated a grand spectacle in 1970 at the ancient ruins of Persepolis, aiming to impress global leaders and assert his dynastic legitimacy. Yet, as he revelled in adulation, the populace endured poverty and repression, obscured by the tactics of the Iranian secret police and the support of the US-backed intelligence apparatus, SAVAK, highlighting the growing chasm between perception and reality. Despite the Shah's efforts to bolster his legitimacy through lavish displays of power, the elaborate festivities only served to underscore the decadence and detachment of his regime, hastening its eventual downfall.

In the mid-1970s, however, mounting public discontent reached a tipping point, compelling the Shah to offer apologies for his regime's excesses. Yet, these gestures failed to appease the swelling tide of mass protests, culminating in the seismic upheaval of the Islamic Revolution. The revolution's aftermath witnessed the swift collapse of the Shah's reign, marking the end of a monarchy that had endured for millennia. This monumental event exposed the limitations of Western intelligence and intervention, reshaping the geopolitical terrain of the 20th century.

In August 1978, despite the escalating unrest, the CIA infamously concluded that "Iran is not in a revolutionary or even a pre-revolutionary situation." Figures like Alan Dulles and Richard Bissell grappled with the moral ambiguity of clandestine operations, revealing the intricate power dynamics at play in global affairs. In reality, the animosity directed towards Iran stems not from any genuine political ide-ology, but rather from the relentless pur-suit of control over the oil industry. The concocted narrative surrounding this issue is often branded by the CIA as 'Black Propaganda'.

The 1953 coup, orchestrated by Western powers including the United States and the United Kingdom against Iran's democratically elected Prime Minister Mohammad Mossadegh, exemplifies manipulative tactics employed to safeguard Western interests. Operation Ajax, as it was known, set a precedent for similar interventions in other countries, including Guatemala, Chile, Brazil, and Greece. However, this successful coup, aimed at preserving Western dominance in the region, sparked wide-spread opposition and laid the groundwork for Iran's subsequent revolutionary fervour under Ayatollah Khomeini's leadership. It underscores the deceptive facade of Western foreign policy, which often masks imperial ambitions with the rhetoric of democracy and liberty, perpetuating cycles of exploitation and subjugation.







ASCENDING TO POWER AT THE YOUTHFUL AGE OF 21, MOHAMMAD **REZA SHAH** PAHLAVI

INHERITED A LEGACY SHAPED BY HIS FATHER, **REZA SHAH** PAHLAVI, THE FOUNDER OF THE PAHLAVI DYNASTY

Iran's oil industry was firmly under British control through the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's monopoly. The nationalization of this asset in 1951 significantly weakened British interests in the region, revealing strategic miscalculations. Rohan Butler's suppressed analysis offers crucial insights into the complex blend of political, economic, and strategic factors behind the crisis. The fervent political milieu preceding the po ing the nationalization and the subsequent coup in 1953 has made it one of the most scrutinized events in Iranian-Western relations. Mossadegh, central to this narrative, symbolizes resistance against autocracy and foreign intervention, his collapse was seen as the moment when Iran's democratic aspirations were thwarted, paving the way for the reinstatement of autocratic rule under Western patronage.

In this context, the Iranian Revolution marks a pivotal moment not only in Iran's modern history but also in the geopolitics of West Asia, as it overthrew the monarchy and established the Islamic Republic. While its broad contours are well-documented, exploring esser-known aspects of the revolution reveals its complexity and last-ing significance. A diverse coalition of secularists, nationalists, liberals, and leftists united to express longsuppressed grievances against the Shah's despotic rule, culminating in widespread discontent and his eventual ousting. Despite its success, the revolution left lingering resentment towards Western powers, particularly the United States and the United Kingdom, perceived as backers of the Shah's regime. This suspicion of foreign interference continues to shape Iranian attitudes, while the revolution's influence extended beyond Iran's borders, inspiring Islamic movements and revolutions in neighbouring countries and reshaping the Middle East's geopolitical dynamics.

The charismatic leadership and religious authority of Ayatollah Khomeini played a pivotal role in galvanizing popular support for

the revolution, while the participation of bazaar traders, a powerful economic class, amplified its momentum. The Iranian Revolution serves as a nuanced case study, highlighting the complex socio-political dynamics inherent in revolutionary movements. Religious ideology played a central role in mobilizing and legitimizing political dissent, underscoring its potent influence in effecting societal change. The revolution's aftermath underscores the importance of inclusive governance, warning against the marginalization of dissenting voices, which can lead to authoritarianism and sectarian strife. Its far-reaching repercussions underscore the interconnectedness of global politics and the imperative of respecting national sovereignty to avoid unintended consequences.

Decades after the Iranian Revolution, Iran continues to grapple with its profound and multifaceted legacy, both internally and externally. This pivotal event serves as a poignant reminder of the enduring impact of revolutionary fervour on the socio-political structure, showcasing its transformative potential alongside its enduring complexities. Iran's foreign policy is deeply rooted in its cultural and psychological heritage, characterized by a complex blend of pride, victimization, and a steadfast commitment to

independence. Iranians draw upon their rich cultural legacy, tracing their heritage back to ancient civilizations like Zoroastrianism, which shaped major world religions. Yet, they also harbour collective memories of centuries of foreign oppression and exploitation, including imperialistic endeavours by the West that overthrew Iran's democracy. This historical backdrop profoundly influences Iran's perception of foreign powers, particularly the United States, which is often viewed through the lens of economic and strategic interests rather than genuine support for democratic principles. In navigating Iran's foreign relations, it's imperative to undertural, historical, and geopolitical factors that shape its policies. Iran's complex relationship with the Western world, spanning centuries of engagement and confrontation, underscores the nuanced nature of its foreign policy decisions. From the Safavid dynasty's establishment of Twelver Shiism to European powers' economic and strategic interests during the Qajar dynasty, Iran's historical legacy continues to inform its interactions with the international community, highlighting the importance of historical context in understanding contemporary foreign relations.

nuanced study of power dynamics in history, where victories can sow the seeds of future resistance. Despite facing formidable challenges, Iran has experienced remarkable advancements across various sectors over time. Statistics from UNESCO demonstrate significant improvements in literacy rates and life expectancy, showcasing the nation's commitment to education and healthcare. Additionally, Iran's economic panorama has undergone substantial growth, with the nation ascending in global rankings and witnessing remarkable expansion in sectors like space technology.
The revolution's triumph over

The Iranian Revolution offers a

Western-backed forces not only reshaped Iran's domestic political structure but also reverberated across the globe, inspiring similar movements and challenging Western dominance. Unfortunately, many Western strategists and policymakers are quick to jump to conclusions with their preconceived notions, potentially contributing to the turmoil in the Red Sea and the chronic disasters in West Asia, spanning from Palestine to Syria and beyond. The essence of revolution, however, as emphasized by Lu Xun in his writings, lies in its purpose: to ensure people can live, rather than face death.

(The writer is a Sri Lankan journalist and worked as a communications consultant for the Government of Sri Lanka.

Women's participation is vital for effective peace-building

The perilous circumstances faced by women in conflict zones cannot be overstated, especially during the ongoing Gaza turmoil

nce a UN P e a c e k e e p i n g Commander observed that 'it has probably become more dangerous to be a woman than a soldier in an armed conflict. The current situation in Gaza amply proves it, as the death toll rises above 25,000, and more than 17,000 women and children lost their lives (January 24). Almost two mothers die every hour. It is indeed a place where 'womanhood is denied', rued a Palestine-based civil society organisation (MIFTAH). The UNICEF, called it the 'most dangerous place to be a child, when over 1.1 million children are threatened by conflict, malnutrition, and diseases.

While, the prolonged war in Ukraine since 2022, has raised the number of refugees to 5.6



million, and internal displacement (IDP) to about 7.7 million, 60% of whom are women (UN). Many studies on peace and warfare contend that any conflict, civil or armed, is 'gendered', which affects women and men in starkly different ways. Researchers have said that in a situation of unrest when political structures and economic systems break down, it heightens women's vulnerability, rein- Even in post-war situations,

forces existing inequalities and places women and girls at high risk for gender-based violence (GBV) (Oxfam, Bushra and Lopez 1994 et al). The Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Denis Mukwege, lamented that 'we are far away from drawing a red line against the use of sexual violence in war and conflict, and GBV is still a weapon of war'.

While, social scientists expressed concern that in conflict zones, sexual offences against women are often 'trivialised, and a heinous crime like rape is normalised as an 'inevitable outcome of war'. The UN's 2022 report on sexual violence in conflict zones said that 'sexual violence is used as a tactic to dehumanise and displace populations'. when there is the apparent absence of violence or negative security, the culture of violence against women doesn't end or bring in positive peace, and 'it continues and even increases after men return from the battlefield' (Turshen and Twagiramariya 1998). A threecountry study in post-conflict Iraq, in conflict-ridden Occupied Palestinian Territory, and Yemen, an area of open conflict, found that women and girls, in all such calamitous situations, face 'deep gender inequalities and all-out adverse impacts'.

Women also bear the brunt of huge internal displacement ((IDP) in the wake of conflict and violence. In 2020, at least 21 million women and girls were uprooted within their countries, two-thirds of them were from Africa and the Middle East. In South Asia, women make up 42 to 52 per cent of refugees. Nearly one million women have been displaced since the war began in

October in Gaza. In the post-conflict situation, women experience greater impoverishment, being the first to be laid off in wage employment in the public sector, which has led to the feminisation of the informal sector', disclosed a study. The lack of essential services such as health care, including sexual and reproductive health services, also makes them more vulnerable to unplanned pregnancy, maternal mortality and morbidity, sexual and reproductive injuries and sexually transmitted infections. While

education.

The UN's 'women, peace and security', report, 2023, said that 'more than 600 million women and girls lived in conflict-affected countries in 2022, a 50 per cent increase since 2017. Even, the political violence targeting women increased by 50 per cent in conflict-affected countries (2020 - 2022). While, civil conflicts have more than doubled, from 30 in 2001 to 70 in 2016, mostly in least developed countries. When the world needs greater humanitarian aid more than ever before, the global military spending rose to USD 2.2 trillion in 2022, and this diversification of priorities 'is setting back both gender equality and global peace, rued the UN Women.

must be integrated into the reconstruction and redevelopment plans. So far, 'male norms and behaviours have been taken as the human norm' (Skelsbaek and Smith 2001:1). The application of international humanitarian law also requires an understanding of the gendered harms caused by armed conflict.In terms of the longevity of a peace agreement, women's participation increases it to at least two years (20%), and 15 years (35%), and also makes it 64% less likely to fail. Yet, women's participation in formal peace processes (1992-2019), on average, was just 13 per cent as negotiators, 6 per cent as mediators, and 6 per girls face obstacles in accessing Many feminists argued that in cent as signatories in major

conflict and post-conflict sce-

narios, a gender perspective

peace processes. In active United Nations-led or co-led peace processes, in 2022, it was 16%, going down from 19 per cent in 2021 and 23 per cent in 2020. While, in 2022, only 6 out of 18 peace agreements (33 per cent) included provisions referencing women, girls, and gender, and they are plateauing between 20 to 35 per cent each year. Now, when the world is on the verge of more turmoil and discord, greater and meaningful participation of women is critical for broadening the per-spective on conflict management, more inclusive political resolutions, and effective peace-building strategies.

(The author is former Director General, Doordarshan and All India Radio, views are personal)

ORIENTAL NAGPUR BETUL HIGHWAY LIMITED

Regd. Off.: Unit No 307A, 3rd Floor, Worldmark 2 Asset Area No 8, Hospitality Dist. Delhi Aerocity New Delhi - 110037

E-mail: onbhlinvestors.relations@orientalinfratrust.com; CIN: U45400DL2010PLC203649

FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

			(Amour	it in Millions
SI. No.	Particulars	Quarter Ended 31.12.2023 (Unaudited)	Quarter Ended 31.12.2022 (unaudited)	Year Ended 31.03.2023 (Audited)
1	Total income from operations (net)	952.42	1,003.19	4,165.33
2	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before Tax and Exceptional items)	497.03	603.56	2,251.97
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional items)	497.03	603.56	2,251.97
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional items)	495.83	1,080.76	2,131.94
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	495.87	1,080.76	2,131.94
6	Paid up Equity Share Capital	181.35	181.35	181.35
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve and debenture redemption reserve)	7,692.75	10,770.63	10,922.90
8	Securities Premium	3,443.66	3,443.66	3,443.66
9	Net Worth	9,479.21	12,772.67	12,818.07
10	Paid up Debt Capital/Outstanding Debt	20,098.18	22,235.29	21,171.39
11	Outstanding Redeemable Preference Shares	-	-	
12	Debt Equity Ratio	2.12:1	1.94:1	1.84:1
13	Earnings Per Share (of Rs 10/- each)			
	1. Basic:	27.34	59.60	117.56
	2. Diluted:	27.34	59.60	117.56
14	Capital Redemption Reserve	-	-	
15	Debenture Redemption Reserve	1605.12	1,820.70	1,713.82
16	Debt Service Coverage Ratio	1.10:1	1.07:1	1.18:1
17	Interest Service Coverage Ratio	2.01:1	2.11:1	2.03:1

- The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulations 52 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the quarterly Un-audited Financial Results are available on the websites of the National Stock Exchange (NSE) and the listed entity (http://www.nagpurbetulhighway.in).
- For the other line items referred to in Regulation 52(4) of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements), Regulations, 2015, required disclosures have been made to the NSE and are available on the websites of the NSE and the listed entity (http://www.nagpurbetulhighway.in).
- These quarterly Un-audited Financial Results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors of the Company at its meeting held on February 09, 2024. The Statutory Auditors ha carried out Limited Review of the aforesaid Financial Results.
- The Financial Results of the Company have been prepared in accordance with Indian Accounting Standard prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013.

For and on behalf of Board of Directors of Oriental Nagpur Betul Highway Limited

Abhishek Sehgal Director

Place: New Delhi DIN: 09771954 Date: February 09, 2024

ReNew Fazilka Solar Power Private Limited CIN No.: U40108HR2015PTC055470 Regd. Office: ReNew Hub, Commercial Block-1, Zone-6, Golf Course Road

DLF City Phase-V, Gurugram 122009, Haryana, India

Corporate Office: ReNew Hub, Commercial Block-1, Zone-6, Golf Course Road, DLF City Phase-V, Gurugram 122009, Haryana, India Phone No.: 124 489 6670/80

Standalone Unaudited Financial Resu (Amounts in INR millio						
Particulars		For the quarter ende	4	For th months	For the year ende	
	31 December	30 September	31 December	31 December	31 December	31 March
	(Unaudited)	(Upaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	2022 (Unaudited)	2023 (Audited
Income :	(Ollaudited)	(Ollaudited)	(Olladulted)	(Ollaudited)	(Ollaudited)	(Audited
Revenue from operations	40	35	40	122	118	164
Other income	80	56	9	186	71	128
Total Income	120	91	49	308	189	292
Expenses :	120	"		300	103	252
Other expenses	6	7	6	18	14	19
Total expenses	6	7	6	18	14	liš
Earning before interest, tax,		· '	"	"	'~	13
depreciation and amortization (EBITDA)	114	84	43	290	175	273
Depreciation expense	6	6	6	18	18	24
Finance costs	76	49	21	143	67	85
Profit before tax	32	29	16	129	90	164
Tax expense :	32	23	10	123	"	104
Deferred tax expense	9	7	15	33	34	52
Profit after tax	23	22	i	96	56	112
Other comprehensive income, net of tax	23		l :	50	"	112
Total comprehensive income, net of tax	23	22	1	96	56	112
Earnings per share	23			30	30	''2
(face value per share INR 10/-) :						
Basic* (INR)	5.67	5.31	0.22	23.46	13.64	27.45
Diluted* (INR)	5.67	5.31	0.22	23.46	13.64	18.43
Additional disclosures pursuant to Re						
Obligations and Disclosure Requiremen				Aciialige D	oaru or mu	ia (Listili
Debt Equity Ratio	0.50	0.50	0.15	0.50	0.15	0.14
Debt Service Coverage Ratio*	1.57	111.16	34.73	3.88	124.76	274.60
Interest Service Coverage Ratio*	1.49	1.71	2.02	2.02	2.60	3.20
Current Ratio	4.51	4.46	1.68	4.51	1.68	1.74
Long Term Debt to Working Capital	0.73	0.74	NA	0.73	NA.	NA NA
Bad debts to Account receivable Ratio*	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Current Liability Ratio	0.27	0.27	0.94	0.27	0.94	0.92
Total Debts to Total Assets Ratio	0.25	0.25	NA	0.25	NA.	NA NA
Debtors Turnover Ratio*	1.06	0.62	0.22	1.44	0.64	0.97
Inventory Turnover Ratio	NA	NA.	NA	NA.	NA.	NA NA
Operating margin (%)	69%	64%	70%	70%	73%	74%
Net profit margin (%)	57%	62%	2%	78%	47%	68%
Outstanding redeemable preference shares	NA	NA.	NA	NA.	NA	NA.
Capital Redemption Reserve	NA	NA.	NA	NA.	NA.	NA NA
Debenture Redemption Reserve						
(INR in million)	33	12	NA	33	NA.	NA.
Mot worth (IMD in million)	6 407	6 470	6 2 4 7	6 407	6 2 4 7	6 400

Net worth (INR in million) 6,497 6,472 6,347 6,497 6,347 6,402 *not annualized for quarter and nine months period values of ammalized for quarter and filme fronting period values of the quarter and nine months ended December 31, 2023 The Board of Directors in their meeting held on August 11, 2023 had approved allotment of 25,000 unsecured, redeemable, listed, rated fully paid non-convertible debentures (NCD) of INR 100,000 each, having a face value of INR 100,000 (absolute amount) each, aggregating to INR 2,500 million for cash at par on private placement basis to Barclays Bank PLC. The Company has listed its NCD on Bombay Stock Exchange on 17 August 2023. As part of its growth strategy, the Company has utilized the proceeds from allotment of NCD for bank eligible end use(s) or any other purpose permitted under Applicable Law Accordingly, the unaudited financial results for the quarter and nine months ended 31 December 2023 have been drawn up for the first time, in compliance with Regulation 52 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, as amended.

Notes:

(i) The listed 9.55% Non-Convertible Debentures ('NCD's') of the Company aggregating to INR 2,500 million as on 31 December 2023 are secured against following collaterals, which consist of:

(a) a first ranking exclusive pledge over the 30% of the Company's share certificates representing 30% of equity share capital of the Company held by Renew Solar Power Private Limited ('Pledged Shares').

(b) a first ranking exclusive charge on all the current assets and investments of the Company (other than

excluded assets).

(c) a corporate guarantee provided by ReNew Private Limited (formerly known as "Renew Power Private Limited" "Guarantor"), secured by a first ranking pari passu floating charge on all the current assets (comprising of loans, advances, trade receivables, inventory, cash and cash equivalents) of the Guarantor and a first ranking pari passu charge over moveable fixed assets (comprising of furniture and fixtures) of the Guarantor, other than project assets and a first ranking pari passu charge on the accounts of the Guarantor, including in each case, all monies lying credited/deposited into such accounts (excluding accounts charged to project-specific lenders as reflected in the Guarantor's books of accounts)

mption Reserves is created by the Company proportionately over the tenure of NCD, to the extent of available profits during the quarter/period.

(iii) NCD's of the Company have been rated "CARE A+ (CE)/Stable by CARE Limited vide letter dated 11 August 2023.

(iii) The NCD's are repayable within three years from date of allotment (i.e. 11 August 2023). Interest of 9.55 % percent per annum is payable quarterly. The next due date of interest payment is 29 February 2024.

2. The above unaudited standalone financial results of the Company for the quarter and for the nine months ended 31 December 2023 have been approved by the Board of Directors of the Company at the meeting held on 8 February 2024. The statutory auditors of the Company have carried out the limited review of the above unaudited standalone financial results of the Company for the quarter and nine months ended 31 December 2023.

3. The Statement has been prepared in accordance with recognition and measurement principles laid down in

The Statement has been prepared in accordance with recognition and measurement principles laid down in accordance with the Indian Accounting Standard 34 "Interim Financial Reporting" ("Ind AS 34") as prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 ("the Act") read with Rule 3 of the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 and relevant rules issued thereunder and other recognized accounting practices and policies.

The Company is carrying out business activities relating to generation of power through non-conventional and renewable energy sources in the state of Telangana. There is only one segment (business and/or geographical) in accordance with the requirements of IND AS - 108 "Operating Segments".

Ratios have been computed as follows:

- Earning per share = Profit after Tax / Weighted average number of equity shares

- Debt Equity Ratio = Total Debt (Long-term borrowings + Short-term borrowings) / Shareholder's Equity

- Debt Service Coverage Ratio = (Net Profit after taxes + non-cash operating expenses + interest + tax expense) (Interest payment + Long Term Debt Principal repayments)

- Interest Service Coverage Ratio = Profit before interest, tax, depreciation / Total Interest Expense Curront Pation - Curront Liabilities

Current Ratio = Current Assets / Current Liabilities

- Current Ratio = Current Assets / Current Labilities
- Long Term Debt to Working Capital = Non- Current borrowing including current maturities of Non-current bor (Current Assets - Current Liabilities excluding current maturities of Non-Current borrowings)
- Bad debts to Accounts Receivable ratio = Bad debts / Average Trade receivables
- Current Liability Ratio = Current Liabilities/ Total Liabilities
- Total Debts to Total Assets = Total long term outstanding debts/ Total Assets
- Debts - Turneyer - Bespecie from posterior / Aureach Hod assets
- Debts - Turneyer - Bespecie from posterior / Aureach Hod assets
- Control Control - Control - Current Liabilities
- Total Debts to Total Assets
- Total Opens - Control - Current Liabilities
- Total Debts - Current Liabilities - Control - Current Liabilities
- Total Debts - Current Liabilities - Control - Current Liabilities
- Total Debts - Current Liabilities - Curren

- Debtors Turnover = Revenue from operation/ Average trade receivables
 - Inventory Turnover- The Company does not generate revenue from selling of inventory, hence this ratio is

Oberating margin(%) = (Profit before tax + Finance costs - Other income)/ Revenue from operations - Net Profit Margin (%) = Net profit after Tax/ Revenue from Operations - Outstanding redeemable preference shares (Quantity and Value): Not Applicable

Capital Redemption Reserve: Not Applicable

- Net worth: Issued subscribed and paid up capital + instrument entirely equity in nature + reserves and surplus. Reserves and Surplus includes General reserve, Debenture redemption reserve, Securities premium account and Profit and loss account balance.

 The figures for the quarter and nine months ended December 31, 2023 were neither subjected to audit or review.
- However, the management has exercised necessary due diligence to ensure that the standalone financial results for these periods provide true and fair view of the Company's affairs.

 Absolute amounts less than INR 500,000 are appearing in the unaudited standalone financial results as "0" due to

presentation in millions.

Previous period/year figures have been re-grouped / re-classified wherever necessary, to conform to current process. For and on behalf of the ReNew Fazilka Solar Power Private Limited

'Biden willfully kept classified materials'

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

In a damaging report ahead of the November 5 polls, a special US counsel has said that President Joe Biden "willfully" mishandled classified documents as a private citizen but concluded that it would be difficult to convict him as he comes across as an "elderly man with a poor memory".

The special counsel report said he had kept secret documents related to military and foreign policy in Afghanistan after serving as vice president until 2017.

The comment by Special Counsel Robert Hur in his 345-page report described Biden, 81, as "an elderly man with poor memory", prompting a furious response from the president who held an impromptu press conference at the White House during which he asserted that his "memory is fine." The report was released after an

investigation that lasted more than a year and related to classified files found at Biden's home and former private office from 2022-23

The report revealed for the first time that the documents were classified as Top Secret - the highest level of classification, and related to Afghanistan.

The files included notebooks containing Biden's entries about national security and foreign policy matters "implicating sensitive intelligence sources and methods". The report criticised Biden for

sharing some of the sensitive material in those notebooks with a ghostwriter for his memoir. Hur said: "We conclude that the

evidence does not establish Mr Biden's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt." "Prosecution of Mr Biden is also

unwarranted based on our consideration of the aggravating and mitigating

Biden's memory was significantly limited, both during his recorded interviews with the ghostwriter in 2017, and in his interview with the Special Counsel's office in 2023, he said. "And his cooperation with our

investigation, including by reporting to the government that the Afghanistan documents were in his Delaware garage, will likely convince some jurors

that he made an innocent mistake, rather than acting willfully-that is, with intent to break the law as the statute requires," Hur wrote.

The special counsel's report said that it would be difficult to convict the president of improper handling of files because "Mr Biden would likely present himself to a jury, as he did during our interview of him, as a sympathetic, well-meaning, elderly man with poor memory.

"In his interview with our office, Mr. Biden's memory was worse. He did not remember when he was vice president, forgetting on the first day of the interview when his term ended ("if it was 2013 - when did I stop being Vice President?"), and forgetting on the second day of the interview when his term began ("in 2009, am I still Vice President?")," Hur said.

He did not remember, even within several years when his son Beau died. And his memory appeared hazy when describing the Afghanistan debate that was once so important to him, Hur

Among other things, he mistakenly said he "had a real difference" of opinion with General Karl Eikenberry when, in fact, Eikenberry was an ally whom Mr. Biden cited approvingly in his Thanksgiving memo to President (Barack) Obama," said the report. Responding to reporters' ques-

tions, Biden expressed his anger and displeasure at the counsel's report on his memory.

There's even a reference that I don't remember when my son died. How in the hell dare he raise that. It wasn't any of their damn business... don't need anyone to remind me when he passed away," a furious Biden told reporters at the White House. "Frankly, when I was asked the

question, I thought to myself, was it any of their damn business...The simple truth is that I sat for five hours, two days, over events going back 40 years. At the same time, I was managing a national crisis," Biden asserted.

"I've seen headlines since the report was released about my willful retention of documents. This assertion is not only misleading, it's just plain wrong," he said.

Israeli bombs target in Rafah

Israel bombed targets in over-crowded Rafah early Friday, hours after Biden administration officials warned Israel against expanding its Gaza ground offensive to the southern city where more than half of the territory's 2.3 million people have sought refuge. Airstrikes overnight and into Friday hit two residential buildings in Rafah, killing eight Palestinians, and a third strike targeted a kindergarten-turned-shelter for the displaced in central Gaza, killing at least four people, according to hospital officials and AP journalists who saw bodies arriving at hospitals. US President Joe Biden said Thursday that Israel's conduct in the war, ignited by a deadly Oct. 7 Hamas attack, is "over the top," the harshest U.S. criticism yet of its close ally and an expression of concern about a soaring civilian death toll in Gaza.

Israel's stated intentions to expand its ground offensive to Rafah also prompted an unusual public backlash in Washington. "We have yet to see any evidence of serious planning for such an operation," Vedant Patel, a State Department spokesman, said Thursday. Going ahead with such an offensive now, "with no planning and little thought in an area where there is sheltering of a million people would be a disaster."John Kirby, the National Security Council spokesperson, said an Israel ground offensive in Rafah is "not something we would support." The comments signaled intensifying US friction with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who pushed a message of "total victory" in the war this week, at a time when U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken was in Israel to press for a cease-fire deal in exchange for the release of dozens of Hamasheld hostages.

Prince Harry settles phone hacking claims with Mirror Group

London (PTI): Britain's Prince Harry will receive a "substantial" payout after he settled the remainder of his phone hacking claims against the Mirror Group Network (MGN) of newspapers, it emerged at a hearing in the High Court in London on Friday. The lawyer for Duke of Sussex, who is now based in the US with wife Meghan and kids Archie and Lilibet, said at the costs hearing that the newspaper publisher had now accepted it would pay "a substantial additional sum" by way of damages and Harry's legal costs.

It follows a High Court ruling in December last year that phone hacking was carried out at MGN from 1996 and 2011 and was "widespread and habitual" from 1998.

In a statement read on behalf of Prince Harry outside court, his lawyer said: "Everything we said was happening at Mirror Group was in fact happening, and indeed far worse as the court ruled in its extremely damning judgment."In light of all this, we call again for the authorities to uphold the rule of law and to prove that no one is above it."

Singling out former 'Mirror' tabloid editor Piers Morgan, who Harry said "knew perfectly well" what was going on, the statement added: "Even his own employer realised it simply could not call him as a witness of truth.

Netanyahu orders population of Rafah evacuated

Rafah (Gaza Strip): Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu says he has ordered the military to prepare a plan to evacuate the population of Rafah ahead of an expected Israeli invasion of the southern Gaza town, rrNetanyahu made the announcement Friday following international criticism of Israel's plan to invade the crowded town on Egypt's bor-

Israel says Rafah is the last remaining Ĥamas stronghold and it needs to send in troops to complete its war plan against the Islamic militant group. But an estimated 1.5 million Palestinians have crammed into the town after fleeing fighting elsewhere in Gaza.

Netanyahu said a "massive operation" is needed in Rafah. He said he asked security officials to present a "double plan" that would include the evacuation of civilians and a military operation to "collapse" remaining Hamas militant units.

Earlier Friday, Israel bombed targets in Rafah. The attack took place hours after Biden administration officials and aid agencies warned Israel against expanding its Gaza ground offensive to the town where more than half of the territory's 2.3 million people have sought refuge. Airstrikes overnight and

into Friday hit two residential buildings in Rafah, while two other sites were bombed in central Gaza, including one that damaged a kindergartenturned-shelter for displaced Palestinians.

Twenty-two people were killed, according to AP journalists who saw the bodies arriving at hospitals.

INR in million:

ReNew Wind Energy (Jath) Limited CIN No. U40101DL2012PLC236227

Regd. Office: 138, Ansal Chambers II, Bikaji Cama Place, Delhi-110066 India Corporate Office: ReNew Hub, Commercial Block-1, Zone-6, Golf Course Road, DLF City Phase-V, Gurugram 122009, Haryana, India Phone No.: 124 489 6670/80 Statement of Unaudited Financial Results for the quarter and nine months ended December 31, 2023 (Amounts in INR millions, except share and per share data, unless otherwise stat

Particulars	Quarter ended 31 December 2023	Quarter ended 30 September 2023	Quarter ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 March 2023
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Total Income from Operations	74	350	85	719
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax,				
Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(32)	164	(42)	223
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax				
(after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(32)	164	(42)	223
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after				
Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(17)	110	(10)	149
Total Comprehensive Income for the period			, ,	
[Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period				
(after tax) and Other Comprehensive				
Încome (after tax)]	(17)	110	(10)	149
Paid up Equity Share Capital	153	153	153	153
Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	1,871	1,888	1,822	1,726
Secuirties premium	1,366	1,366	1,366	1,366
Net worth '	2,024	2,041	1,975	1,879
Paid up Debt Capital / Outstanding Debt	2,468	2,641	2,826	2,639
Debt Equity Ratio	1.64	1.43	1.66	1.54
Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each)				
(for continuing and discontinued operations)				
1. Basic :	(1.07)	7.06	(0.63)	9.73
2. Diluted :	(1.07)	7.06	(0.63)	9.73
Debenture Redemption Reserve	174	168	` 278	151
Debt Service Coverage Ratio*	5.11	0.38	1.49	1.84
Interest Service Coverage Ratio*	1.12	3.70	0.92	2.26
Current ratio*	2.67	2.49	2.87	2.55
Long Term Debt to Working Capital*	1.41	1.57	1.68	1.76
Current Liability Ratio*	0.24	0.25	0.21	0.18
Total Debts to Total Assets Ratio*	0.45	0.48	0.54	0.52
Debtors Turnover Ratio*	0.23	0.93	0.12	1.41
Inventory Turnover Ratio*	15.84	88.01	134.04	781.73
Operating margin (%)	25%	65%	(382%)	51%
Net profit margin (%)	(22%)	31%	(11%)	21%

Ratios have been computed as follows:

- Earning per share = Profit after Tax / Weighted average number of equity shares
- Debt Equity Ratio* = Debt (Amount due to Debenture Holders) / Equity (Equity share capital, share

loan from Related party and excluding un-amortized fees) Interest Service Coverage Ratio* = Profit before interest, tax and depreciation / Total Interest

Current Ratio = Current Assets/ Current Liabilities

Long Term Debt to Working Capital = Non-Current borrowing including current maturities of Non-current borrowings/(Current Assets - Current Liabilities excluding current maturities of Non-Current borrowings)

Bad debts to Accounts Receivable ratio = Bad debts / Average Trade receivables and Average unbilled Revenue

Current Liability Ratio = Current Liabilities/ Total Liabilities Total Debts to total Assets = Total outstanding debts/ Total Assets

Debtors turnover = Revenue from operation/ Average trade receivables and Average unbilled Revenue

Inventory Turnover = Revenue from operation/ Average Inventories

- Operating margin (%) = (Profit before tax + Finance costs - Other income + Carbon credit (net of expenses))/ Revenue from operations + Income from carbon credits

 Net Profit Margin (%) = Net profit after Tax/ Revenue from Operations
 Debt Service Coverage Ratio* = (PAT based on Project Revenues realised (excluding non-cash adjustments, if any)**+Depreciation+ Interest (Interest, Guarantee Fees, other financing costs payable under Debenture and Project Documents)) / (Interest + Principa

Repayment + Guarantee fee). Net worth represents issued subscribed and paid up capital plus reserves and surplus The above is an extract of the detailed forms of quarterly financial results filed with the Stock Exchange(s) under regulation 52 of the Listing Regulations. The full format of the quarterly financial

results is available on the website of National Stock Exchange of India Limited For the other line items referred in Regulation 52 (4) of the SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015, the pertinent disclosures have been made to the National Stock Exchange of India Limited.

The statement has been prepared in accordance with recognition and measurement principles laid down in accordance with the Indian Accounting Standard 34 "Interim Financial Reporting" ("Ind AS 34") as prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 ('the Act') read with Rule 3 of the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 and relevant rules issued thereunder and other recognized accounting practices and policies.

The company is in the business of development and operation of wind power. There is only one segment (business and/or geographical) in accordance with the requirements of IND AS - 108 "Operating Segments".

The financial results for the quarter & nine months ended 31 December, 2023 have been approve

by the Board of Directors in their meeting held on 9 February, 2024. India Ratings and Care Ratings has assigned long term issuer rating and rating for the outstanding non-convertible debentures of the Company to "IND AA (CE)" with negative outlook and "CARE AA (CE)" with stable outlook, respectively.

Previous period figures have been re-grouped / re-classified wherever necessary, to conform to

current period's classification in order to comply with the requirements of the amended Schedule III to the Companies Act, 2013 effective from 1 April 2021. For and on behalf of the

ReNew Akshay Urja Limited

CIN: U40300DL2015PLC275651 Regd. Office: 138, Ansal Chambers II, Bikaji Cama Place, Delhi-110066 Corporate Office: ReNew.Hub, Commercial Block-1, Zone 6, Golf Course Road, DLF City Phase-V, Gurugram, 122009, Haryana Statement of Un-audited Financial Results for the period ended 31 December 2023

Quarter ended 31 December 2022 Quarter ended 30 September 2023 Quarter ended 2023 31 March 2023 Total Income from Operations Net Profit for the period (before Tax. Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items) 125 124 509 Net Profit for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items) 509 185 125 124 Net Profit for the period after tax
(after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items) 93 Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax) and Other Comprehensive 93 133 3,061 Paid up Equity Share Capital Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve) 3.538 2.909 3.429 Equity component of compulsory convertible debentures 1.144 1.144 1.144 Net worth** Paid up Debt Capital* 5.507 5 508 5.892 5.699 Debt Equity Ratio Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations) 4.87 4.87 2. Diluted 4.09 4.08 16.61 311 2.77 Debenture Redemption Reserve * 299 239 3.57 Debt Service Coverage Ratio 4.41 3.31 Interest Service Coverage Ratio 3.27 1.56 Current ratio* 2.98 3.10 2.95 Long Term Debt to Working Capital* 0.51 0.19 Total Debts to Total Assets Ratio 0.43 0.53 0.44 Current Liability Ratio 0.20

Debtor Turnover Ratio* 1.05 0.21 0.64 Disclosures pursuant to Regulations 52(4) Securites and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015.

Credit Rating: IND AA+ (CE)

Date: 9 February, 2024

Change in credit rating: No Asset Coverage Ratio: 195% (31 March, 2023: 181%)

Debt Equity ratio: mentioned above Debt Service Coverage Ratio: mentioned above

Interest Service Coverage Ratio: mentioned above

Outstanding redeemable preference shares (Quantity and Value): Not Applicable Net Worth ** (31 December, 2023): INR 4,815 (31 March, 2023: INR 4,338)

Net profit after tax: mentioned above Earning per share: mentioned above

Debenture Redemption Reserve (31 December, 2023): INR 311 (31 March, 2023: INR 239)
There are no material deviation in the use of proceeds of issue of Non Convertible Debentures from

the objects stated in the offer document (Regulations 52(7))

Notes :

Ratios have been computed as follows :
- Earning per share (Basic & Diluted) = Profit after Tax / Weighted average number of equity shares

- Debt Equity Ratio* = Debt (Amount due to Debenture Holders) / Equity (Equity share capital share premium + quasi equity i.e. Short term borrowing but excluding unamortize fees) - Interest Service Coverage Ratio = Profit before interest, prior period items, tax, extraordinary items and depreciation / (Total Interest Expense).

- Debt Service Coverage Ratio* = ((PAT based on Project Revenues realised (excluding non-cast adjustment, if any) + Depreciation + Interest (Interest, Guarantee Fees, other financing costs payable under Debenture and Project Documents)) / (Interest + Principal Repayment Guarantee fee).

Asset Coverage Ratio = (Total Assets) / Debt (Amount due to Debenture Holders)

- Current ratio = Current Assets / Current Liabilities Current Liability Ratio = Current Liabilities/ Total Liabilities

 Long Term Debt to Working Capital = Non-Current borrowing including current maturities of Non-current borrowings/ (Current Assets - Current Liabilities (excluding current maturities of Non-Current borrowings))

Total Debts to Total Assets Ratio = Total outstanding debts/ Total Assets - Debtors Turnover Ratio = Revenue from operations /Average Trade Receivables

*As per Debenture Trust Deed dated 20 September, 2017. Networth represents issued subscribed and paid up capital plus reserves and surplus. Reserves and Surplus includes Capital reserve, General reserve, Debenture redemption reserve, Securities premium account and Profit and loss account balance.

The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly financial results filed with the National

Stock Exchange under regulation 52 of the Listing Regulations. The full format of the quarterly financial results is available on the website of the Stock Exchange.

The company is in the business of development and operation of solar power. There is only one segment (business and/or geographical) in accordance with the requirements of

IND AS - 108 "Operating Segments".

For the other line items referred in regulation 52(4) of the Listing Regulations, pertinent disclosures have been made to the National Stock Exchange (NSE) and can be accessed on URL - https://www.nseindia.com/companies-listing/corporate-filings-announcements. The above financial results of the Company for the quarter and nine months ended 31 December 2023 has been reviewed by audit committee and has been approved by the Board

of Directors of the Company at the meeting held on 9 February 2024. The statutory auditors of the company have carried the limited review for financial results of the Company. For and on behalf of ReNew Akshay Urja Limited

(Sd./-) Parul Agrawal Managing Director, DIN: 08452687

Place : Gurugram

Date: 9 February, 2024

ReNew Wind Energy (Jath) Limited (Sd./-) Balram Mehta Managing Director, DIN: 06902711

Maldives key partner in ensuring secure Indo-Pacific region: US

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

Describing the Maldives as a key partner in ensuring a free, open, secure, and prosperous Indo-Pacific region, the United States has said it is committed to strengthening cooperation with the Indian Ocean archipelagic nation. US Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asia Donald Lu was in the Maldives recently for talks with its new leadership and the civil society, months after President Mohamed Muizzu, considered a pro-China leader, assumed office. "The United States is committed to strengthening cooperation with the Maldives, a key partner in ensuring a free, open, secure, and prosperous Indo-Pacific region," a State Department spokesperson told PTI on Thursday when asked about the assistant secretary's visit from January 29-31. The spokesperson's remarks come at a time when there is an ongoing diplomatic row between the Maldives and

President Muizzu to withdraw all 88 Indian military personnel from his country. There have been growing global concerns over China's increasing military muscle-flexing in the

Indo-Pacific region.
While in Male, Lu met with Mohamed Muizzu and other senior officials to discuss shared priorities, including defence cooperation, economic growth, and democratic governance. "They also discussed progress on establishing the US Embassy in Maldives that will further strengthen our partnership and people-to-people ties," the okesperson said.

Lu also met with members civil society and higher education officials to discuss democratic governance and transparency in the Maldives, said the spokesperson.

Soon after taking oath as the President of Maldives on November 17, Muizzu formally requested India to withdraw 88 military personnel

harbouring plans to attack

Poland or other NATO coun-

tries. It was Putin's first inter-

view with a Western media fig-

ure since his full-scale invasion

security spokesman John Kirby

tried to minimize the impact of

Carlson's interview ahead of its

release: "Remember, you're lis-

tening to Vladimir Putin. And

you shouldn't take at face value

his contact with international

media since he launched the

war in Ukraine in February

2022. Russian authorities have cracked down on indepen-

dent media, forcing some Russian outlets to close, block-

ing others and ordering a

number of foreign reporters to

leave the country. Two journalists working for US news orga-

nizations - The Wall Street

Journal's Gershkovich and

Radio Free Europe/Radio

Liberty's Alsu Kurmasheva -

Russia would release

Gershkovich, Putin said

Moscow is open to talks but

repeated that the reporter was

charged with espionage, an

accusation Gershkovich has

denied. "He was caught red-

handed when he was secretly

getting classified informa-

Gershkovich, adding that he

doesn't exclude that the

reporter could return home.

There is no taboo on settling

this issue," Putin said. "We are

ready to solve it but there are

certain conditions that are

being discussed between spe-

cial services. I believe an

military top brass caused some

Kyiv, the country's capital.

apprehension on the streets of

she had been "generally satis-

fied" with Syrskyi's popular

predecessor, Gen. Valerii

Zaluzhnyi. "We hope that our

government has not made a big

mistake" by replacing him, she

there was "some discontent,

some dissatisfaction" about the

changes at the top. That may be

a reference to previous criti-

cism of Syrskyi's strategy of

holding on for nine months to

the city of Bakhmut, which

brought the war's longest and

bloodiest battle and which cost

Ukraine dearly in troop losses.

But it served the purpose of sapping Russia's forces. Syrskyi

takes charge at an overall dif-

ficult time for Ukraine's war

effort. With the fighting about

to enter its third year, Kyiv is

largely dependent on support

from Western countries where

signs of war fatigue have

Oleksandr Azimov, 61, said

told The Associated Press.

Alisa Riazantseva, 35, said

agreement

Ukraine's new army

chief spells out goals

Kyiv (AP): Ukraine's new mil- might. The shake-up of the

Putin said of

can

Asked by Carlson whether

are in jail.

Putin has heavily limited

anything he has to say."

White House national

of Ukraine two years ago.

Putin urges US to push

Ukraine to talks, hints at

swap of WSJ reporter

AP ■ WASHINGTON

 $R^{ussian\; President\; Vladimir}_{Putin\; used\; an\; interview}$

with former Fox News host

Tucker Carlson to urge

Washington to recognise

Moscow's interests and per-

suade Ukraine to sit down for

talks. Putin also said that

Russia stands ready to negoti-

ate a potential prisoner

exchange that would free Wall

Street Journal reporter Evan

Gershkovich, who was detained last March on espi-

onage charges he denies, and

hinted that Moscow wants the

release of its agent impris-

released on Thursday, focused

on Ukraine, where the war is

nearing the two-year mark.

Putin repeated his claim that

his invasion of Ukraine, which

Kviv and its allies described as

an unprovoked act of aggres-

sion, was necessary to protect

Russian speakers in Ukraine

and prevent the country from

Zelenskyy's refusal to conduct

talks with the Kremlin. He

argued that it's up to

Washington to stop supplying

Ukraine with weapons and

convince Kyiv, which he called

a US "satellite," to sit down for

negotiations," Putin said. "You

should tell the current

Ukrainian leadership to stop

and come to a negotiating table." Putin warned that the

West will never succeed in

inflicting a "strategic defeat" on

Russia in Ukraine and reject-

ed allegations that Russia was

itary chief said on Friday his

immediate goals are to improve

the rotation of troops out of the

front lines and harness the

power of new technology in the

fight against Russia's invasion.

Syrskyi, who previously was the

commander of Ukraine's

ground forces, spoke a day

after President Volodymyr

Zelenskyy put him in charge of

the battlefield campaign against

agenda," Syrskyi said on his

Telegram channel. Though he

provided little detail, his

remarks appeared to align with

Zelenskyy's stated aim of bring-

ing "renewal" to the armed

forces in Thursday's shake-up

and adopting a fresh approach

won't solve some of Ukraine's

biggest problems: a shortage of

manpower that has helped sap

morale and may require a mass

mobilization, and the inade-

quate supply of Western

weapons to take on Russia's

But the changes at the top

"New tasks are on the

Russia's invasion.

to the fight.

Col Gen Oleksandr

"We have never refused

Putin pointed at Ukrainian

Volodymyr

Most of the interview.

oned in Germany.

joining NATO.

negotiations.

saying the Maldivian people have given him a "strong mandate" to make this request to New Delhi. Following talks between the two countries. India on Thursday said it will

replace its military personnel operating three aviation platforms in the Maldives with "competent" Indian technical personnel. "I would like to say that

the present personnel will be replaced by competent Indian technical personnel," External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said at his weekly media briefing in New Delhi. Muizzu on Monday said the first group of Indian military personnel will be sent back before March 10 and the remaining manning ones will be withdrawn before May 10.

Meanwhile, International Monetary Fund (IMF) after completing its Article IV Mission to the Maldives said that the South Asian nation's post-pandemic growth has been strong, but

Growth is projected at 5.2 per cent in 2024, as tourist arrivals are expected to rise further. Nevertheless, fiscal and external vulnerabilities have increased, calling for urgent policy adjustment, it

An IMF mission led by economist Piyaporn Sodsriwiboon visited Male from January 23 to February 6 to discuss recent economic developments, the outlook and the country's policy priorities in the context of the 2024 Article IV consultation.

"Following the pandemic-induced contraction, the Maldivian economy expanded by 13.9 per cent in 2022 and is estimated to grow by 4.4 per cent in 2023. As tourist arrivals are expected to rise further, growth is projected at 5.2 per cent in 2024.

The Velana airport terminal expansion and associated increase in hotel accommodation capacities is projected to boost growth potential.

Malaysia's top court invalidates Sharia laws

Kuala Lumpur (AP): Malaysia's top court Friday struck down over a dozen Shariah-based state laws, saying they encroached on federal authority, a decision denounced by Islamists who fear it could undermine religious courts across the country.

In an 8-1 ruling, the ninemember Federal Čourt panel invalidated 16 laws made by the opposition-run Kelantan state government, which imposed punishments for offenses from sodomy, sexual harassment, incest, and cross dressing to giving false evidence.

The court said that the state could not make Islamic laws on those topics because they are covered by Malaysian federal law.

Malaysia has a dual-track legal system, with Shariah covering personal and family matters for Muslims, alongside civil laws.

about a direct military provo-

cation have grown as the

Japanese conductor Seiji Ozawa dies at 88

Tokyo (AP): Seiji Ozawa, the Japanese conductor who amazed audiences with the lithe physicality of his performances during three decades at the helm of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, has died, his management office said Friday. He was 88. The internationally acclaimed maestro, with his trademark mop of salt-and-pepper hair, led the BSO from 1973 to 2002, longer than any other conductor in the orchestra's history. From 2002 to 2010, he was the music director of the Vienna State Opera. He died of heart failure on Tuesday at his home in Tokyo, according to his office, Veroza

He remained active in his later years, particularly in his native land. He was the artistic director and founder of the Seiji Ozawa Matsumoto and the Saito Kinen Orchestra, which he co-founded in 1984, won the Grammy for best opera recording in 2016 for Ravel's "L'Enfant et Les Sortileges' The Child and the Spells"). In 2022, he conducted his Seiji Ozawa Matsumoto Festival for the first time in three years to mark its 30th anniversary. That turned out to be his last public performance.

Ozawa exerted enormous influence over the BSO during his tenure. He appointed 74 of its 104 musicians and his celebrity attracted famous performers including Yo-Yo Ma and Itzhak Perlman. He also helped the symphony become the biggestbudget orchestra in the world, with an endowment that grew from less than USD 10 million in the early 1970s to more than USD 200 million in 2002.

GOLDEDGE ESTATE AND INVESTMENTS LIMITED

115,Ground Floor, Mansoravar Garde CIN: L70101DL1992PLC047541

					Rs. in I	akhs except p	er share data		
		STANDALONE							
S.	Bud at		Quarter Ended	i	Nine Mon	ths Ended	Year Ended		
No.	Particulars	31-Dec-23	30-Sep-23	31-Dec-22	31-Dec-23	31-Dec-22	31-Mar-23		
	,	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)		
1	Total income from operations (gross)	7.37	7.03	6.76	21.26	19.07	25.87		
2	Total income from operations (net)	7.37	7.03	6.76	21.26	19.07	25.87		
3	Net Profit for the period (before tax and exceptional items)	3.27	0.47	3.37	7.13	7,97	9.83		
4	Net Profit for the period before tax (after exceptional items)	3.27	0.47	3.37	7.13	7.97	9.83		
5	Net Profit for the period after tax (after exceptional items)	2.45	0.35	(1.15)	5.34	2.29	3.69		
6	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]		0.35	(1.15)	5.34	2.29	3.69		
7	Equity Share Capital (Face Value of Rs. 10/- each)	512.24	512.24	512.24	512.24	512.24	512.24		
8	Other Equity	-					70.87		
9	Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each)			9					
	Basic :	0.05	0.01	(0.02)	0.10	0.04	0.07		
	Diluted:	0.05	0.01	(0.02)	0.10	0.04	0.07		

Nine Mo 31-Dec-23 30-Sep-23 31-Dec-22 31-Dec-23 31-Dec-22 31-Mar-23 Total income from operations (gross) 2 Total income from operations (ne 7.37 6.76 19.07 3 Net Profit for the period (before tax and exceptional items) 3.27 3.37 7.97 4 Net Profit for the period before tax (after exceptional items) 3.37 2.89 4.84 2.51 0.90 6.23 7 Equity Share Capital (Face Value of Rs. 10/- each) 512.24 512.24 512.24 512.24 512.24 78.76 Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each)

(0.01)Note: The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial results filed with Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing obligations and other disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015. The full format of the Quarterly results are available on the stock exchange websites i.e.

Sd/ Nikhil Bansa

INTEGRATED INDUSTRIES LIMITED (Formerly Integrated Technologies Limited) CIN: L10719DL1995PLC277176 it AGCR Enclave East Delhi Shahdara Shahdara DL 110092 IN

10.42

10.42

2.06

2.85

Ph: 011-45511351, Email: info@integratedindustries.in STATEMENT OF UNAUDITED STANDALONE FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 31ST DECEM

Quarter Ended Nine Month Ended Year Ended Total Income from Operations 20.09 14.28 Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before Tax. 0.92 0.65 -0.03 4.98 exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items) 1.70 Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before Tax (after exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items) 0.92 0.65 -0.031.70 4.98 Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax -0.03 1.24 4.98 Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) 0.69 -0.03 1.24 5.01 and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax) 6 Equity Share Capital 8.20 8.10 4.78 8.20 4.78 4.83 7 Reserves (Excluding Revaluation Reserves) 0.00 8 Earnings per Share (of Rs. 10 each) (for continuing and discontinued operations)

Diluted (in Rs.)

Basic (in Rs.)

These above unaudited standalone financial results for the quarter & nine months ended 31 December 2023 ('the results') of the Integrated Industries Ltd ('the Company') (formerly Integrated Technologies Ltd), were reviewed and recommended by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting held on 9th February, 2024.

0.89

(0.07)

The same have been subjected to limited review by Statutory Auditors of the Company in terms of regulation 33 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, as amended.

0.85

The unaudited standalone financial results for the quarter & nine months ended 31 December 2023 ('the results') of the Integrated Industries Ltd ('the Company') (formerly Integrated Technologies Ltd) have been prepared in accordance with Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS) prescribed under Section 133 of Companies Act, 2013 (The Act) read with the relevant rules thereunder and in terms of Regulation 33 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India ('SEBI') (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, as amended.

The unaudited standalone financial results have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement principles laid

- down in Indian Accounting Standard('Ind AS') 34 'Interim Financial Reporting', notified under section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015, as amended from time to time, and other accounting principles In the context of reporting business / geographical segment as required by Ind AS 108 - ""Operating Segments"", the Company's
- operations comprise of mainly one business segment -Trading in Food Products . Hence, there is no reportable segment as per Ind The name of the company has been changed from Integrated Technologies Limited to ""Integrated Industries Limited"" vide MCA
- order dated 25th May, 2023 and the same has been approved by Bombay Stock Exchange. The company has commenced new line of business consisting of trading of food products and these financial results comprises o
- revenue from the the said new line of business.
- During the Nine months ended 31 December 2023, the Company has acquired 100% stake in M/s Nurture Well Foods Private Limited. This Subsidiary Company (Nurture Well Foods Private Limited), acquired a running biscuit manufacturing plant with a capacity of 34000 MT per annum at Neemrana, Rajasthan during the quarter & nine months ended 31 December 2023.
- During the Nine months ended 31 December 2023, the company has acquired a Wholly Owned Subsidiary-Nurture Well LLC in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates and registered with Sharjah Media City-Free Zone Authority on 30th May, 2023. This company is part of Consolidated Financials for the quarter & nine months ended 31 December 2023.
- Pursuant to the approval from the Board vide resolution dated 11th August 2023 and shareholders vide resolution passed at the EGM held on 9th September 2023 the company has increased its existing authorised share capital of the company from Rs. 18,00,00,000/ (Rupees Eighteen Crore Only) divided into 1,80,00,000 (One Crore Eighty Lakh) Equity Shares of face value of Rs. 10/- (Rupees Ten Only) each to Rs. 20,00,00,000/- (Rupees Twenty Crore Only) divided into 2,00,00,000 (Two Crore) Equity Shares of face value of Rs. 10/- (Rupees Ten Only) by creation of 20,00,000 (Twenty Lakh) Equity Shares of face value of Rs. 10/- (Rupees Ten Only)
- 10. Pursuant to the resolutions passed by the Board of Directors on 19th September, 2023 and In compliance of applicable laws, rules and regulations, the 'Committee of the Board of Directors for Operations' of the Company made the following allotment of securities
- 33,22,441 (Thirty Three Lakh Twenty Two Thousand Four Hundred Forty One Only) equity shares of the face value of Rs. 10 (Rupees Ten only) each of the Company ('Equity Shares"') at a price of Rs. 170- (Rupees One Hundred Seventy Only) per Equity Share (including a premium of Rs. 160- (Rupees One Hundred Sixty only) per Equity Share, to Promoter Group (12,00,000 Equity shares) & Non Promoter Group (21,22,441 Equity shares), on a preferential issue basis, for cash consideration in accordance with the provisions of the Act and SEBI ICDR Regulations, other applicable laws and the agreements executed between the Company and Proposed Allottee in relation to the same.

During the nine months ended 31st December, 2023 the company has issued 24,43,000 Warrants convertible into equity shares at a issue price Rs. 170/- to the proposed allottes on Preferential Basis to the Promoter/Non Promoter Group. Out of this 1,00,000 warrants have been converted into fully paid up equity shares on 27th December, 2023.

Post the above allotments, the Paid-up Equity Capital of the Company now stands Increased to Rs. 8,24,89,960/- (Rupees Eight

Previous period figures have been regrouped/recast/reclassified, wherever necessary to correspond with the current period's classification / disclosure.

> For INTEGRATED INDUSTRIES LIMITED (Formerly Integrated Technologies Limited)

naging Director) DIN: 01094455

Kim repeats threat to destroy S Korea if ovoked engage in a war, concerns

Seoul (AP): North Korean leader Kim Jong Un restated he has no desire for diplomacy with South Korea and that the North would annihilate its rival if provoked, state media said Friday, in the latest of his belligerent statements that are raising tensions in the region.

During a visit to North Korea's Defence Ministry on Thursday, Kim said his recent moves to cut ties with South Korea allow his military to take on a more aggressive

posture "by securing lawfulness to strike and destroy (the South) whenever triggered." Tensions on the Korean

recent months, with Kim elevating his weapons demonstrations and threats and the United States, South Korea and Japan strengthening their combined military exercises in response. While most South Korean officials and experts have downplayed the possibility that Kim has real intent to

North may try to ramp up Peninsula have increased in pressure in an election year in South Korea and the United States. The North's official Korean Central News Agency reported Kim said he took the initiative to "shake off the unrealistic pretense of dialogue and cooperation with the (South) Korean puppets who sought the collapse of our

(Formerly Integrated Technologies Limited) CIN: L10719DL1995PLC277176 AGCR Enclave East Delhi Shahdara Shahdara DL 110092 IN Ph: 011-45511351, Email: info@integratedindustries.in

STATEMENT OF UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 2023

INTEGRATED INDUSTRIES LIMITED

(Rs. in crores except EPS **Ouarter Ended** Nine Month Ended Year Ender 31/12/2023 30/09/2023 31/12/2022 31/12/2023 31/12/2022 31/03/2023 Total Income from Operations 0.00 Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before Tax 9.66 1.86 -0.0313.03 4.98 4.99 exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items) Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before Tax 9.66 1.86 -0.03 13.03 4.98 4.99 (after exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items) Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items) 1.30 4.98 9.19 11.66 Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) 1.30 -0.03 4.98 and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax) **Equity Share Capital** 8.20 8.10 4.78 8.20 4.78 4.83 Reserves (Excluding Revaluation Reserves) Earnings per Share (of Rs. 10 each) (for continuing and discontinued operations) (not annualized) Basic (in Rs.) 10.42 2.85 Diluted (in Rs.) 2.38 (0.07)

- These above unaudited consolidated financial results for the quarter & nine months ended 31 December 2023 ('the results') of the Integrated Industries Ltd ('the Company') (formerly Integrated Technologies Ltd), were reviewed and recommended by the Audit nmittee and approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting held on 9th February, 2024. The same have been subjected to limited review by Statutory Auditors of the Company in terms of regulation 33 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements Regulations, 2015, as amended.
- The unaudited consolidated financial results for the quarter & nine months ended 31 December 2023 ('the results') of the Integrater Industries Ltd ('the Company') (formerly Integrated Technologies Ltd) have been prepared in accordance with Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS) prescribed under Section 133 of Companies Act, 2013 (The Act) read with the relevant rules thereunder and in terms of Regulation 33 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India ('SEBI') (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements)
- The unaudited Consolidated financial results have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement principles laid down in Indian Accounting Standard('Ind AS') 34 'Interim Financial Reporting', notified under section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015, as amended from time to time, and other accounting principle
- The unaudited consolidated financial results for the quarter & nine months ended 31 December 2023 includes the limited review
- In the context of reporting business / geographical segment as required by Ind AS 108 ""Operating Segments", the Company's operations comprise of mainly two business segment -Trading in Food Products and Manufacturing of Food Products. Unaudited Consolidated segement Information for the quarter & nine months ended 31 December 2023 has been attached as per Annexure
- The name of the company has been changed from Integrated Technologies Limited to ""Integrated Industries Limited"" vide MCA order dated 25th May, 2023 and the same has been approved by Bombay Stock Exchange
- The company has commenced new line of business consisting of trading of food products and these financial results comprises o revenue from the the said new line of business.
- During the nine months ended 31 December, 2023, the Company has acquired 100% stake in M/s Nurture Well Foods Private Limited. This Subsidiary Company (Nurture Well Foods Private Limited), acquired a running biscuit manufacturing plant with a capacity of 34000 MT per annum at Neemrana, Rajasthan during the nine months ended 31 December, 2023. Accordingly the results for the Quarter ended 30th September, 2023 and Quarter & Nine month ended 31st December, 2023 are not comparable with other
- During the nine months ended 31 December, 2023, the company has acquired a Wholly Owned Subsidiary-Nurture Well LLC in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates and registered with Sharjah Media City-Free Zone Authority on 30th May, 2023. This company is part of Consolidated Financials for the quarter & nine months ended 31 December 2023. Accordingly the results for the Quarter ended 30th September, 2023 and Quarter & Nine month ended 31st December, 2023 are not comparable with other periods presented
- 10. Pursuant to the approval from the Board vide resolution dated 11th August 2023 and shareholders vide resolution passed at the EGM held on 9th September 2023 the company has increased its existing authorised share capital of the company from Rs. 18,00,00,000 (Rupees Eighteen Crore Only) divided into 1,80,00,000 (One Crore Eighty Lakh) Equity Shares of face value of Rs. 10/- (Rupee Ten Only) each to Rs. 20.00.00.000/- (Rupees Twenty Crore Only) divided into 2.00.00.000 (Two Crore) Equity Shares of face value of Rs. 10/- (Rupees Ten Only) by creation of 20,00,000 (Twenty Lakh) Equity Shares of face value of Rs. 10/- (Rupees Ten Only)
- 11. Pursuant to the resolutions passed by the Board of Directors on 19th September, 2023 and In compliance of applicable laws, rules and regulations, the 'Committee of the Board of Directors for Operations' of the Company made the following allotment of securities
- 33,22,441 (Thirty Three Lakh Twenty Two Thousand Four Hundred Forty One Only) equity shares of the face value of Rs. 10 (Rupees Ten only) each of the Company ('Equity Shares'") at a price of Rs. 170- (Rupees One Hundred Seventy Only) per Equity Share (including a premium of Rs. 160- (Rupees One Hundred Sixty only) per Equity Share, to Promoter Group (12,00,000 Equity shares) & Non Promoter Group (21,22,441 Equity shares), on a preferential issue basis, for cash consideration in accordance with the provisions of the Act and SEBI ICDR Regulations, other applicable laws and the agreements executed between the Company and Proposed Allottee in relation to the same.

During the nine months ended 31st December, 2023 the company has issued 24,43,000 Warrants convertible into equity shares at a issue price Rs. 170/- to the proposed allottes on Preferential Basis to the Promoter/Non Promoter Group. Out of this 1,00,000 warrants have been converted in fully paid up equity shares on 27th December, 2023.

Post the above allotments, the Paid-up Equity Capital of the Company now stands Increased to Rs. 8,24,89,960/- (Rupees Eigh Crore Twenty Four Lakh Eighty Nine Thousand Nine Hundered Sixty only) and on fully diluted basis stands at Rs. 9,95,77,500/-(Rupees Nine Crore Ninety Five Lakh Seventy Seven Thousand and Five Hundred only) 12. Previous period figures have been regrouped/recast/reclassified, wherever necessary to correspond with the current period

For INTEGRATED INDUSTRIES LIMITED

Place : Delhi Date: 09th February, 2024 Saurabh Goya

Crore Twenty Four Lakh Eighty Nine Thousand Nine Hundered Sixty only) and on fully diluted basis stands at Rs. 10,59,19,960/

(Rupees Ten Crore Fifty Nine Lakh Nineteen Thousand Nne Hundred Sixty only).

Saurabh Goyal naging Director) DIN: 01094455

Place : Delhi Date: 09th February, 2024

Uncharacteristic of NBFCs to seek bank licences: RBI

Reserve Bank Deputy Governor M Rajeshwar Rao on Friday said it is uncharacteristic of non-bank lenders to seek bank licences when they are already enjoying some regulatory advantages.

Addressing a conference on non-bank finance companies (NBFCs) organized by CII, Rao also hit out at certain microlenders for "misusing" the liberty offered by the regulator on interest rates, and charging high rates.

Rao also expressed displeasure at certain peer-to-peer lending platforms for following business practices which are not in line with the licensing guidelines, and made it clear that such breaches were not acceptable.

He also spoke about the constant demand from NBFCs to convert into banks, and made it clear that regulations for even entities in the topmost tier of NBFCs are not at

par with universal banks, and NBFCs enjoy

advantages. "NBFCs have evolved as niche companies serving specific economic functions, and it is uncharacteristic of them to demand becoming like a bank," Rao said.

Interestingly, the remarks came right after the speech of Bajaj Finserv's Chairman and Managing Director Sanjiv Bajaj in which he said NBFCs have grown and become more "solid" courtesy the stronger regulation and supervision by

'Why not think of bank licences for at least a few of them, especially these NBFCs who have spent ten years, met the compliance requirements, have proved themselves," Bajaj explained using an analogy that an NBFC licence is like a learner's licence before an entity graduates on to become a universal bank which can access the cheap deposits. Specifically responding to this request, Rao said universal



RBI has given a slew of

advantages to NBFCs like

easier or no entry and exit

barriers, lower initial capital

requirement at only Rs 10

crore versus Rs 1,000 crore for

a universal bank and also no

restrictions on the operations

front whereas a bank has to get

branch authorizations, he said.

"What I would like to

for NBFCs,

emphasize is that the

regulations

bank licences were made ontap by the regulator few years ago but conceded that no entity has received the nod to operate as one.

He said RBI is very clear in not allowing more NBFCs to accept deposits, and pointed out that not a single new licence has been granted, and the number of depositaccepting NBFCs has reduced from over 200 to only 26 now.

especially in the upper layer, are much more calibrated, but are not certainly at par with the regulations applicable to banks," Rao said. he Meanwhile,

highlighted the regulator's disenchantment with the microfinance companies for charging high interest rates, stating that RBI is "not oblivious" to such practices. "Some of the MFIs have increased their margins disproportionately under the new regime. We are not oblivious to the misuse of the freedom provided to the microfinance sector and some of the irresponsible practices, some of these entities (are

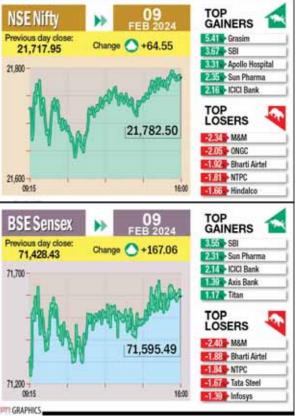
practising) and more such instances do put pressure to act on these entities," Rao said. He added that there have been a lot of comments from the government officials as well on the issue of high interest rates asked "introspection" by the sector participants.

În 2021, RBI had given full

freedom to entities on interest rates to be charged for microloans by lifting the interest rate cap of 24 per cent put earlier.

Rao also asked NBFCs to reduce the reliance on bank loans for their funding requirements by undertaking a diversification of their base to other market instruments. He also said the high growth of

over 33 per cent on a compounded annual growth basis in the personal loan segments over the past five years for NBFCs, as against a 15 per cent growth in the overall assets management was among the reasons due to which RBI increased the risk weights on unsecured loans late last year. Bajaj also requested for a liquidity line at par with a bank which can help an NBFC in situations of stress and also harmonization in regulations for entities which might be overseen by watchdogs like RBI, Irdai and



Paytm shares fall over per cent in 2 days

 $S_{\text{Communications}}^{\text{hares}} \quad \text{of} \quad$ Ltd, which owns the Paytm brand, tanked over 15 per cent in two days as investors again turned to dump the stock.

Extending its previous day's decline, the stock tanked 6.09 per cent to settle at Rs 419.85 on the BSE. During the day, it dived 8.67 per cent to Rs 408.30.

Shares of the company dropped 6.15 per cent to Rs 419.15 on the NSE. During the day, the stock tumbled 8.20 per cent to Rs 410.

In two days, the stock fell 15.48 per cent, eroding Rs 4,870.96 crore from its market valuation on the BSE.

One97 Shares Communications Ltd fell 10 per cent to hit lower circuit limit on Thursday, after a twoday rally in the stock fizzled

One97 Communications stock price had climbed 10 per cent on Wednesday and rebounded over 3 per cent on Tuesday after three days of sharp fall. From February 1-5 (three days of trading), the company's stock tumbled over 42 per cent, wiping out Rs 20,471.25

crore from valuation, following the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) crackdown.

On January 31, the RBI ordered Paytm Payments Bank Ltd, a restricted bank that can take deposits but cannot lend, to not take any further deposits or conduct credit transactions or carry out topon any customers accounts, prepaid instruments, wallets, and cards for paying road tolls after February 29. RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das

on Thursday said there are no systemic worries and the action on Paytm was driven by a "lack of compliance" on the

its market part of the company. Paytm Payments Bank Ltd

(PPBL) is an associate of One97 Communications Ltd. One 97 Communications holds 49 per cent of the paid-up share capital (directly and through its subsidiary) of PPBL. Founder Vijay Shekhar Sharma has a 51 per cent stake in the bank.

PPBL Independent Director Manju Agarwal is learnt to have resigned from the board the RBI imposed after restrictions on the bank's operations.

According to a source, Agarwal resigned with effect from February 1.



EESL inks ₹500 crore pacts with State bodies, industry partners

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

State-owned Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL) has inked initial pacts worth Rs 500 crore with key state bodies and industry partners at the India Energy Week, to formulate framework for longstanding collaboration in key areas of energy efficiency. Ladakh Autonomous Hill

Development Council, Leh (LAHDC), and Vidhya (LAHDC), and Vidhya Pratishthan have partnered with EESL, the company said in a statement on Friday.

The MoUs with the two entities, valued at Rs 300 crore and Rs 200 crore, respectively, focus on crucial aspects of energy efficiency, including lighting, clean cooking, space

mobility, consultancy.

According to the statement, the EESL, a joint venture of public sector undertaking under the Ministry of Power, has signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) worth Rs 500 crore with key state bodies and industry partners at the India Energy Week 2024. The focus of the MoUs signed

during the event is to formulate a framework for longstanding collaboration in key areas of energy efficiency. These agreements lay the foundation for executing projects that implement energy-efficient measures across various facilities,

regions, and communities.

heating solutions across various locations Union Territory of Ladakh, using innovative technology. This is a follow-up to the

recent signing company's MoU distribution of 2,000 induction cookstoves in Ladakh, which demonstrates commitment comprehensive

energy solutions in the region. Vishal Kapoor, Chief Executive Officer, EESL, said in the statement, "Through these

partnerships, we are setting the groundwork transformative projects that will significantly contribute to India's journey towards an The MoU with LAHDC energy-efficient future."

Sensex gains 167 points on buying in bank shares, Reliance

 $B_{\text{higher by 167 points in a}}^{\text{enchmark Sensex closed}}$ volatile trade on Friday driven by buying in ICICI Bank, State Bank of India and Reliance Industries.

The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 167.06 points or 0.23 per cent to settle at 71,595.49. During the day, it hit a high of 71,676.49 and a low of 71,200.31. The broader Nifty rose by 64.55 points or 0.30 per cent to 21,782.50 with 27 of its shares closing in the green and 23 in the red. Stock markets took a breather after Thursday's slide and ended marginally higher on gains in banking and FMCG shares, analysts said. On the other hands, metal telecom and power shares came under selling pressure.

"After a volatile session, the market ended on a positive note, aided by a rebound in banking stocks after yesterday's sell-off. Mid and smallcap indices bled the most as the sentiment on the broader indices remains vigilant due to their rich valuation," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services. In the broader market, the BSE

smallcap gauge fell by 1.36 per

The BSE benchmark fell by 723.57 points or 1 per cent to settle at 71,428.43 on Thursday amid uncertainty about the timing of interest rate reduction after the Reserve Bank of India's monetary policy decision. The Nifty declined by 212.55 points or 0.97 per cent to 21,717.95.

cent and midcap index declined

Among the indices, oil & gas

went lower by 1.97 per cent,

metal fell by 1.62 per cent,

telecommunication (1.45 per

cent), utilities (1.36 per cent),

industrials (1.21 per cent) and

Bankex, FMCG, financial ser-

vices, consumer durables and

benchmark declined 490.14 points or 0.67 per cent, and the Nifty dipped 71.3 points or 0.32

În Asian markets, Tokyo and

Shanghai settled in the positive

territory while Hong Kong

European markets were trading

on a mixed note. The US mar-

kets ended in the green on

Foreign institutional investors

(FIIs) offloaded equities worth

Rs 4,933.78 crore on Thursday,

according to exchange data.

healthcare were the gainers. On the weekly front, the BSE

power (1.10 per cent).

0.82 per cent.

per cent.

ended lower.

Thursday.

Forex reserves jump to USD 622.469 billion

A Metro Train Model was presented to President Droupadi Murmu by Vikas

PFC Q3 NET PROFIT RISES 20 PER CENT

of Rs 10 each for FY 2023-24

Kumar, Managing Director, DMRC during her visit to the Delhi Metro system on

NEW DELHI: Power Finance Corporation posted over 20 per cent rise in its

consolidated net profit to Rs 6,294.44 crore in the December quarter, on the

back of higher revenues. The company's consolidated net profit was Rs

5,241.10 crore in the guarter ended on December 31, 2022. Total income in

the quarter rose to Rs 23.593.40 crore from Rs 19.662.65 crore in the same

period a year ago. Owing to concentrated resolution efforts, consolidated

net NPA (bad loans) has reached its lowest level at 0.86 per cent during

April-December 2023 from 1.15 per cent in the same period a year ago.

Gross NPA also declined significantly by 78 basis points from 3.91 per cent

in the nine-month period of the last fiscal to 3.13 per cent in April-December

2023. The board, in its meeting approved the declaration of a second

interim dividend at the rate of 35 per cent, of Rs 3.50 per equity share,

India's forex reserves jumped by USD 5.736 billion to USD 622.469 billion for the week ended February 2, the Reserve Bank said on Friday.

In the previous week, the overall reserves had increased by USD 591 million to USD 616.733 billion. In October 2021, the country's forex kitty had reached an all-time high of USD 645 billion. The reserves took a hit as the central bank deployed them to defend the rupee amid pressures caused global developments since last year.

For the week ended February 2, the foreign currency assets, a

major component of the reserves, increased by USD 5.186 billion to USD 55.331 billion, as per the data of RBI. Expressed in dollar terms, the foreign currency assets include the effect of appreciation or depreciation of non-US units like the euro, pound and yen held in foreign exchange reserves. Gold reserves increased by USD 608 million to USD 48.088 billion during the week, RBI said.

Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) were down by USD 58 million to USD 18.19 billion, the central bank said.

India's reserve position with the IMF was unchanged at USD 4.86 billion in the week.

BRIEF

का दिल्ली मेट्टा मा अ

rata Power on Friday posted

Its consolidated net profit was Rs

14,841 crore in the quarter from

businesses continue to perform well and have helped the Company clock its 17th consec-

Our consistent performance shows strong fundamentals of excellence in operational performance and project execution capability, he noted.

cost-effective clean and green energy solutions, he said.

The company stated that better realisation in the core business segments, consisting of generation, transmission & distribution, and renewables, helped

grow its profit. The PAT during nine-month period of FY24 (April to subject to deduction of TDS, on the face value of the paid-up equity shares

TATA POWER

Tata Power net profit rises to ₹1,076 crore in Q3

a marginal increase of 2 per cent in its consolidated net profit at Rs 1,076 crore in December 2023 quarter.

1,052 crore in the quarter ended on December 31, 2022, a company statement showed. Total revenues also rose to Rs

Rs 14,339 crore in the same period a year ago Praveer Sinha, CEO and Managing Director, Tata Power, said in the statement, "Our core

utive PAT (profit after tax or net profit) growth quarter."

As the country witnesses a surge in power demand, Tata Power is well positioned to capitalize on the growth momentum with its cutting-edge, customized and

December) grew to Rs 3,235

crore as against Rs 2,871 crore in the same period of previous financial year

During April-December 2023, the company's revenue grew to Rs 45,286 crore, an all-time high for the said period, it stat-

As on December 31, 2023, the company's operational capacity stood at 4,270 MW in the renewables segment, generating 6,031 MUs (million units) of green power.

Another 4,752 MW of projects under TPREL (Tata Power Renewable Energy) and 4,120 MW of projects under TPSSL (Tata Power Solar Systems) are under execution, thus taking the total clean energy capacity to over 10,000 MW in the next 12-24 months.

The company is on an accelerated growth trajectory of transitioning to green energy and aiming for around 70 per cent of capacity from non-fossil-based fuels by 2030.

Tata Power is a leading integrated power company and a part of Tata Group. The company has a diversified

portfolio of 14,453 MW, spanning across the entire power value chain — from renewable and conventional energy generation to transmission & distribution, trading, storage solutions and solar cells and module manufacturing. Tata Power has 5,593 MW of clean energy generation, which constitutes 39 per cent of its total capacity.

Centre released ₹15,948 crore to sugar mills in last 5 years

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The centre has released about Rs 15,948 crore under different schemes in the last five years till January 31 to various sugar mills to improve their liquidity for clearing cane price dues of farmers, Parliament was informed on Friday. Minister of State for Commerce

and Industry Anupriya Patel said the central government, with a view to improve liquidity of the sugar mills enabling them to clear cane price dues of farmers, has announced these schemes in the last five years.

These schemes include the creation and maintenance of a buffer stock of 30 lakh tonne of sugar with effect from July 2018 to June 30, 2019; scheme for defraying expenditure towards internal transport, freight, handling, and other charges on the export of sugar season 2018-19; and assistance to sugar mills season 2019-20 to facilitate the export of sugar. A scheme for



providing assistance to sugar mills for expenses on marketing costs including, handling, upgrading and other processing costs, and internal transport and freight charges for sugar season 2020-21, 2019-20 and 2018-19 was also announced.

"Under these schemes, a sum of about Rs 15,948 crore has been released to various sugar mills of the country in last five financial years including the current financial year till January 31, 2024," Patel said in a written reply to the Rajya Sabha.

She said that the export of sugar (raw, refined and white sugar) has been placed under a restricted category.

In 2022-23, sugar exports stood at 63 lakh tonne. This fiscal, no export has happened. In a separate reply, she said that the government has initiated an

exercise to create a new online platform to connect exporters with various stakeholders, including Indian Missions abroad, export promotion councils, and other partner government agencies. It would help provide informa-

tion such as the details of various trade events being organised and provide information on various Free Trade Agreements (FTAs). Replying to a question on FTA,

she said that imports of wines and vermouth (a kind of aromatic fortified) from Australia stood at USD 8.9 million during the January-December 2023 as against USD 10 million in the same period of 2022.

India-Australia Economic Cooperation Trade Agreement (Ind-Aus ECTA) came into effect from December 29, 2022.



₹5077 crore FDI reported by companies operating in defence sector: Government

PTI NEW DELHI

 $F^{\text{oreign Direct Investment}}_{\text{(FDI) worth Rs 5077 crore}}$ has been reported by companies operating in the defence sector, the defence ministry said in Lok Sabha on Friday.

The data was provided by Minister of State for Defence Ajay Bhatt while replying to a question.

The defence industry sector was opened up in May 2001 for private sector participation, he

'The FDI limit in the defence sector was enhanced in 2020 up to 74 per cent through the automatic route for companies seeking new defence industrial licence and up to 100 per cent by the government route wherever it is likely to result in access to modern technology," Bhatt said.

"So far, Rs 5077 crores worth of FDI has been reported by companies operating in the defence sector," he added.

The minister said the government also promotes co-development and co-production of niche defence technologies with foreign original equipment man-

To a separate question, he said the defence ministry has signed a contract with the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL) on December 20 for procurement of six next generation offshore patrol vessels for Indian Coast Guard (ICG) at a total cost

OYO expects consistent PAT rise in upcoming quarters: CEO "In the upcoming quarters, we PTI ■ NEW DELHI Last year OYO had prepaid Rs

Hospitality and travel-tech firm OYO expects a consistent rise in its Profit After Tax (PAT) after doubling it sequentially in Q3 FY24 to Rs 30 crore, according to company Founder & CEO Ritesh Agarwal.

Agarwal shared the update about the two-fold increase in the company's profit during an employee town hall on Friday. Oravel Stays Ltd, which operates travel tech brand OYO, had its maiden profitable quarter in Q2 FY24 with a PAT of Rs 16

anticipate a consistent rise in PAT, driven by enhanced patron confidence, improved customer experience, and favourable market conditions conducive to sustained growth," Agarwal told the employees. He also informed the staff that

the company clocked adjusted EBITDA of Rs 750 crore in FY23 and expects to clock adjusted EBITDA of Rs 1,000 crore in FY24, surpassing its earlier projection of Rs 800 crore for FY24.

When contacted, OYO spokesperson declined to com-

1,620 crore debt through a

buyback process that involved the repurchase of 30 per cent of the company's outstanding Term Loan B (TLB). The IPO-bound firm, in its last public filing, had disclosed that it achieved operational prof-itability in FY23, clocking an

adjusted EBITDA of Rs 277 Earlier, Agarwal had shared with employees that the company had turned cash flow positive in the fourth quarter of ufacturers to encourage FDI in the defence sector.

of Rs 1614 crore.

vivacit

34-acre luxury nature resort on the fringes of Tipeshwar forest in Nagpur is a celebration of low-impact construction, finds **SHARMILA CHAND**

comfortable three hour drive

from Nagpur and I was in front

Anof the stunning vista of tall

trees enveloping forest villas. This is 'Tipai by Wildlife Luxuries', nestled amid the virgin forests of Tipeshwar

Wildlife Reserve. Spanning in 34

acres, the resort sets an example of

ultimate luxury blending seamlessly with eco-friendly measures.
An initiative of sustainability-

conscious entrepreneur, Keyur Joshi, the co-founder and COO of

MakeMyTrip, Tipai has been built with minimal impact on fragile ecosystems. Each of the 11 forest

villas and four pool residences speak a story of unique aesthetics. "Core to the design of Wildlife Luxuries is

localisation, whether it was the

localisation, whether it was the techniques used, the material that was built with, or the people who contributed to the building process-they were all of this land," tells Joshi, with a well deserved sense of pride. "Working closely with the Institute of Village Sciences in Wardha, located

Village Sciences in Wardha, located

80 kms from the site, the architects

researched various possibilities of

importing labour, the neighbouring

village folk were trained in rammed

earth construction and stone

masonry. The vaulted roofs were

made of terracotta tiles made by local

permaculturist, the land was rejuvenated with natural vegetation,

strategically located water bodies and

a robust rainwater harvesting system

to reduce the impact on fragile

ecosystems.

with

Working



"WHEN WE STARTED

VILLA PROPERTY, WE

BUILDING THIS 15-

DECIDED TO USE

AVAILABLE IN THIS

PLACE. IT WAS AN

CHALLENGE FOR US.

KEEP IT CHEMICAL

AND PLASTIC FREE.

AROUND US WERE

DOING IN TERMS OF

CONSTRUCTION. WE

EARTH AND STONES

CAME TO FURNITURE

WE LOOKED AT WHAT

WE ALSO WANTED TO

WHATEVER IS

INTERESTING

THE VILLAGES

USED RAMMED

TO BUILD THE

VILLAS. WHEN IT

WE DID THE SAME

THING AND MADE

THEM WITH WHAT

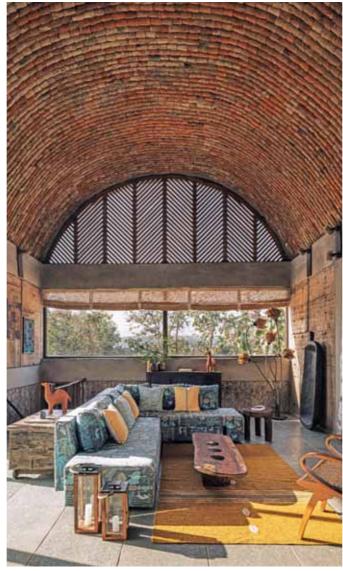
- KEYUR JOSHI,

WAS LOCALLY

Founder, TIPAI

AVAILABLE"







"THE WOMEN IN MY **KITCHEN OFTEN** DON'T REALISE THAT THE EVERYDAY THINGS THEY COOK **ARE WORTH SERVING IN A RESTAURANT — AND** I WANT TO CHANGE THAT" - CHEF AMNINDER SANDHU, F&B Founding Partner



I am truly fascinated by a stunning blend of classical modern aesthetics and functionality that redefines luxury and eco-tourism. Symbolic of sustainability, every unparalleled craftsmanship and finesse. Whether it's the large swallow nest lamps hanging from cross-beamed ceilings, or experimental Chandigarh chairs set at a large dining table, tiled floorings, terracotta art and wooden decks; local leaves, dried, pressed and framed on the walls; one gets the strong ethnic vibe of the place. Enter your room and you will

notice recycled furniture and how painstakingly the vaulted ceilings have been made. The colorful Indian durries lend an ambiance of cheer, warmth and sophistication. The sheer curtains with leafy motifs pay sensibilities as these represent the local unique leaf blockprinting method and handprinting technique. From the special packages of tea to the toiletries, a standout feature is the meticulously curated every detail for Tipai exclusively, by small boutique brands who share the brand's values for sustainability, quality and Says Ariane Thakore Ginwala, the principal designer for Tipai, "We've tried to retain the land as much as possible and reduce the use of concrete to make our land better. By planting trees and incorporating biomass in the richer. Sustainable, conscious luxury is the new travel. The true essence of luxury lies in handcrafted products, made slowly and with intention. We spent a lot of time selecting responsible brands to stay true to our vision. As you can see, our basins are handmade, the small batches of chocolates are from homegrown brands and so on."

AN ODE TO NATURE

The celebration of the forest, the land and its people make Tipai a thriving biodiversity getaway. Right from safari visits to the forest, to identifying birds or picking the ingredients from the resort farm for your meal, every activity has an espectic. every activity has an osmotic relationship with nature.

Over five years, more than 300 species of shrubs and trees have been planted in and around the resort, which today attract a plethora of birds and deer.

"In the summer the Palash trees bloom defying the arid heat, then rains make Tipai a blooming lush green, that turns a lighter shade as winter falls. The scenery changes dramatically across the seasons, and so does the produce from our food produce from our food forest - nourishing both humans and animals that call this quiet wildscape home. Frequent visits by deer and a surge in the variety of birds and insects tells us we are doing something right," adds Joshi with a smile. with a smile.

THE FOOD AT TIPAL

Made with produce from the kitchen garden and organic farms within the region, F&B at Tipai is a true celebration of this land. The produce to the flavours and those who grow, cook and craft this experience -they are all of this land. It is heartening to see that at the heart of the three restaurants is a deep desire to empower women; not just through employment, but by helping them see the beauty and power of the everyday things they do. The chutney they

AT A GLANCE!

Indian leopards, sloth bears, and bison among its 170 species of wildlife. While activities can be customised at Tipai, guests can indulge in bird

Tipeshwar Wildlife

Sanctuary, is home to

watching, safaris, Nature walks, photography classes, and fishing. Or just laze on a machan or sit by the lake.

 Savour the flavours of your choice.

grind on a sil batta, the flatbreads they cook on coals, the instinctive understanding of flavour -the kitchen at 'Palaash', dinner only restaurant, is almost entirely run by almost entirely run by women. While you savour the flavours of regional cuisines from Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh at Palaash, the menus at 'Perch' and 'Wadi' travel the world. Sipping tea under a gazebo, enjoying picnic by the river, indulging in sundowners by your private plunge pool, all this and a lot more along the known for its Bengal tigers; make Tipai a destination worthy of your bucking list. While there is plenty to do here, you also have an opportunity to set aside the

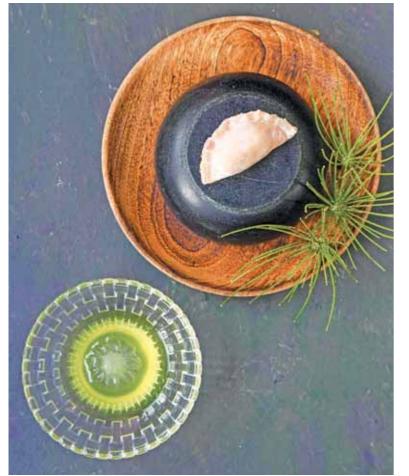
— Writer is an independent journalist who writes on travel, food and lifestyle

itinerary, just hit the pause

button and do nothing.

CULINARY VOYAGE

Set sail on a flavorful odyssey where ingredients are infused with inspiration, people and diverse cultures



Pullman New Delhi Aerocity is gearing up to host an extravagant dining experience in partnership with the esteemed restaurant, Ekaa, promising a feast for the senses. Nestled within the historic charm of Fort, Mumbai, Ekaa is renowned for its contemporary dining, approach to offering patrons a culinary adventure like no other, complete with an experiential menu and a carefully crafted narrative centered ingredients. Named after the Sanskrit word meaning 'One,' 'Unique,' or 'Matchless,' Ekaa shines a

spotlight on seasonality and quality produce, all incorporating innovative cooking techniques challenge that traditional culinary norms.

Stepping into the vibrant ambiance of Café Pluck, guests will be greeted by Head Chef Niyati Rao, who brings her joyful touch of minimalism to every dish.

Here, art and flavor converge seamlessly, with ingredients taking center stage in an elegantly understated During the two-day pop-up event,

diners will have the opportunity to sample signature dishes from Ekaa, each with a unique twist inspired by culinary traditions from around the world, including The Kingdom of Siam, The Kingdom of the Tzars, The Kingdom of the Aztecs, The Kingdom

of the Marathas, and more. Ekaa's menu, hailed as a gourmet masterpiece, showcases chef-interpreted creations that draw inspiration from seasons, cultures, and personal journeys, promising an unforgettable dining experience.

PULLMAN AEROCIT NEW DELHI

rendiest destination in Aerocity, Pullman New Delhi is in close proximity to the IGI Airport and within driving distance from business hubs of Gurgaon & New Delhi. It is a combination of 670 Suites & Rooms under one roof along with a state-of-the-art convention space with 16 meeting rooms and one of the largest ballrooms in Delhi NCR. The hotel offers an array of food & beverage options with 6 innovative outlets that draw the best of international and local culinary specialties. Leisure facilities include a spa, a fully-equipped health club and an outdoor swimming pool.



Indulge in a 10-course menu at Café Pluck, where each dish unfolds as a delightful adventure accompanied by captivating storytelling.
But the culinary journey doesn't stop

there. Elevate your experience by pairing these delectable delights with a pairing these delectable delights with a carefully curated selection of signature beverages, expertly chosen to complement the unique flavors of each dish, adding an extra layer of indulgence to your dining affair. Guests can immerse themselves in this culinary extravaganza at Café Pluck, where a multitude of delightful where a multitude of delightful experiences await, promising an unforgettable fusion of art, flavor, and storytelling.

lyer unlikely to be picked for last three Tests

After complaining of groin and back stiffness

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

hreyas Iyer is unlikely to be picked in the India squad for the remainder of the Test series against England after complaining of stiffness in his back and groin.

Iyer has had recurring Iver has had recurring troubles with his back and had also undergone a surgery

The 29-year-old made 35, 13, 27, 29 in the opening two Tests and was guilty of not

capitalising on starts.
"He has complained of stiffness and back_issue," a BCCI source told PTI. India are already reeling with injuries to key players K L



Rahul and Ravindra Jadeja. Star batter Virat Kohli had missed the first two Tests due

to personal reasons and is unlikely to be available for the games in Rajkot and Ranchi

The selectors are yet to announce the squad for the last three Tests but they could

do that on Friday. On Monday, India bounced back to level the five-match series with a 106-run victory in Visakhapatnam. England, who have flown back to Abu Dhabi before the third Test in Rajkot beginning February 15, won the series opener by 28 runs.

India will be assemble in Rajkot on February 11 and England are expected to reach there a day after.

Bumrah tips helped me become

a better bowler, says Naman

AP BENONI (SOUTH

drawing

Sunday.

Jasprit Bumrah.

India U19 player Naman Tiwari wants to bowl the fastest ball in the world by

watching videos of former greats and following the

advice of pace spearhead

Left-arm pacer Naman, 18, who is grabbing headlines in the ongoing U19 World Cup here, has found the

tips he received from Bumrah at the NCA

working magic, and is now

looking forward to the title

clash against Australia on

Lucknow boy Naman has troubled rival batters with

his yorkers and speed, grabbing 10 wickets so far,

with a four-wicket haul

Bumrah is a source of

inspiration for us. I watch

his bowling videos a lot. I have met him several times at NCA and talked to him a

lot about the mentality and

skills of a bowler," Naman told PTI Bhasha on the

sidelines of a practice session at Willowmoore

"He has explained a lot (of

Park Stadium here.

against Ireland.

inspiration

him to bowling. "I started playing cricket as a batsman but I was not getting many chances. That's why I started bowling at an academy in Lucknow. Since I am lefthanded, I became a left-arm fast bowler," he said. Naman's father is an LIC agent and the pressure to focus on academics was immense given his middle-

things to me), which is class background. But his useful. He told me how to heart was in cricket. bowl accurate yorkers, and "Papa always told me to I have worked a lot (on that focus on studies. I was in seventh standard and wanted to play cricket. I asked my father to give me aspect) following his advice. I have to work hard to bring more aggression in this (my bowling)," he said. three years' time to prove myself in cricket. My family "I try to learn something from every bowler I like. I is very happy with my success today, said Naman.
"Papa calls me every evening. Seeing them (family) happy makes try to understand and learn evening. Seeing them (family) happy makes me feel very good that I did not disappoint them," he said. Naman's aim is to become a

lethal fast bowler and play

But, for now, I have to focus on performance. I want to continuously improve my game because the challenges will be even bigger in the future and I will have to prepare my base to face them," he said. Happy with the team's performance so far in the U19 World Cup, Naman said that it is the result of team effort. 'So far, the performance of

fastest ball in the world.

also want to play the World

Cup with the senior team.

all the players has been very good. Especially in the semifinals against South Africa, we tremendous spirit. I am very happy with the way we are playing and will try to maintain this momentum in the final also," he said. "Although I like all formats,

I find Test cricket the most challenging. That's where the real test of a bowler lies and I want to become a Test cricket for India. good Test cricketer in the future," said the youngster.

Padikkal 151 helps Karnataka finish 288/5 on Day 1 against TN

PTI ■ CHENNAI

Opener Devdutt Padikkal continued his red-hot form, slamming an unbeaten 151, his third Ranji Trophy hundred this season, as Karnataka reached 288 for 5 on the opening day of their Group C match against Tamil Nadu here on Friday. Electing to bat, the visitors lost skipper Mayank Agarwal (20) early, with just 35 runs on the board. Agarwal was making his comeback as he missed the last game against Railways after accidentally consuming some liquid on-board a flight that caused burning sensation in his mouth and throat.

Padikkal then joined forces with opener Ravikumar Samarth (57), constructing a 132-run partnership for the second wicket and took their side to a position of strength. The stand was broken after Aiith Ram knocked over Samarth. While Karnataka lost the third wicket at 226, Padikkal went strong, clearing the long-on boundary quite regularly to bring up his sixth First-Class ton.

Hardik Rai unl giving company to Padikkal at stumps. For TN, spinner R Sai Kishore has bagged three wickets so far. In another tie in Chandigarh, skipper Manan Vohra's fine knock of 134 acted as a cover in an otherwise toiling day for Chandigarh against Tripura.

I made a terrible mistake, shared false info on Kohli: A B de Villiers

PTI ■ JOHANNESBURG

 $F^{ormer\,South\,Africa\,captain}_{A\,B\,de\,Villiers\,has\,said\,that}$ he "made a terrible mistake" by sharing "false information" about the personal reasons that have forced star India batter Virat Kohli to take a from international cricket, insisting that he has no idea "what's happening there". On his Youtube channel a few days ago, de Villiers had claimed that Kohli opted out an interaction with select information that was not true ongoing home series against ongoing SA T20 here. England due to the impending arrival of his second child with actor wife Anushka Sharma. On Thursday night, he backtracked on that statement in time,



of the first two Tests of the media on the sidelines of the at all," de Villiers, who is the

"Family comes first, it's event, said. priority as I said on my Youtube channel. I also made a terrible mistake at the same comes first, no one knows feels, India would be one of

brand ambassador of the

"I just think that whatever is best for Virat and his family false what's happening there. All I the strongest contenders.

can do is wish him well. Whatever the reason is for this break, I really hope he comes back stronger and better, healthy and fresh and ready to take on the world," he added. Kohli is unlikely to play any part in the ongoing series. Look forward to seeing SKY at T20 World Cup

De Villiers also spoke about international cricket in general during the interaction. The original Mr 360 degree,

by watching his (Bumrah's)videos. I like Shoaib Akhtar's speed, Dale Steyn's swing and Mitchell Starc's aggression very much," he who could hit the ball to just about any corner of the ground, de Villiers said he is eager to see Surya Kumar Yadav's performance in the Naman originally wanted T20 World Cup, where he to become a batter but fewer opportunities turned

Kashmir differently abled cricketers shine

amir Hassan had to learn Aquite early in life that left is right for him.

He didn't really have a choice. Fingers of his right hand had to be amputated after burn injuries caused by an accident deteriorated into severe infection. But life wasn't done testing him.

As if being forced to become a southpaw wasn't enough, he also had to grow up the hard way in Tarzoo Village, just three kilometres from



Sopore town in Kashmir his family, he gave up valley which earned fame for its apple orchards and being for militancy-infested during the '90s. Being the eldest child in

education to help his father, who worked in those picturesque apple orchards. What he never gave up was his cricketing ambition.

"Infrastructure is a problem achievements become all the in Kashmir. I daily walk three more significant given the Cups and the recent series kilometres from my village challenges posed by the for practice. As far as COVID-19 disruption. were concerned, I never got wanted to do was to play perturbed by them," the left-cricket. I would go for arm pacer, who is part of the training and come back both of whom hail from differently-abled, told PTI during an interaction here.

side has exceptionally well in the past few years winning the 2019 and 2023 World Cup for the differently-abled, and then beating England in a bilateral T20 series last month. The

home never any gossip or activity that would disturb my focus," said Aamir, who idolises former pacer Irfan Pathan and the first J&K player to represent India, all-rounder Parvez Rasool.

Now in his early 20s, Aamir is the leading seamer of team,

Cups and the recent series against England where he got five wickets in five games. "From childhood, all I Not only Aamir but national vice-captain Wasim Iqbal and batter Majid Magray, (batter) from Srinagar are shining examples of how cricket for the specially-abled

has picked up in the valley. Aamir practised bowling while playing with able-bodied boys of his village and that helped him stay a cut above the rest when it came

physically challenged cricketers. "You know when National Schools (Championship) was held years ago, I played under Abdul Samad's captaincy, the guy who plays for Sunrisers Namir said with a lot of pride.

to competing against other

Ravikant Chauhan, the secretary of the Differently-Abled Cricket Council of India (DCCI), which has been recognised by the BCCI, gave an insight into the growth of cricket in the

Bayern Munich trio set to return ahead of key game

AP MUNICH

Bayern Munich is set to welcome back three players to its squad to play at title rival Bayer Leverkusen in the Bundesliga on Saturday, but goalkeeper Manuel Neuer remains an injury doubt. Bayern is two points behind

league leader Leverkusen, which is unbeaten in 30 games in all competitions this season. This game is "the moment to put the cards on the table" in the title race, Bayern coach Thomas Tuchel said Friday, adding that he expects Leverkusen will get support from "neutral fans" across Germany who are keen to see Bayern's 11-year run of league titles come to an end.

Tuchel said he plans to have central defender Kim Min-jae back after he reached the Asian Cup semifinals with South Korea, and that defender Dayot Upamecano Joshua midfielder Kimmich are expected to be in the squad after recovering from injuries.



Upamecano has been out with hamstring injury and Kimmich with shoulder problems since both were hurt in Bayern's 1-0 win over Union Berlin on Jan. 24. Tuchel recalled how Upamecano returned from another injury last year and scored the opening goal in a statement win over Borussia Dortmund. Tuchel said a decision would be taken on Neuer's fitness after training Friday after the goalkeeper missed training earlier this week with an unspecified problem. Backup Sven Ullreich would step in if Tuchel Neuer can't play,

$F^{ m ormer}$ skipper Michael Vaughan is worried England will become a side that doesn't win much despite putting in the hard yards, adding that the team's batting unit needs to strike a

balance between playing aggressive and traditional cricket to succeed in India. Since adopting the 'Bazball' approach, England have enjoyed a good run but the same noholds-barred approach has also cost them several matches and series, including the Ashes

"England have become a difficult team to criticise too much because they are so good to



watch. Every game they play has us all absolutely gripped, and they have improved massively under Ben Stokes," Vaughan wrote in his coulmn for 'The Telegraph'.

"However, I do worry that they might become a team who do all this great work only to not actually win very much. They didn't win the Ashes when they should have done and now they have let India back into a series when they still have a load of big names, including Virat Kohli, to come back.

England had taken a 1-0 lead in the five-match series in India but Ben Stokes and his men let the hosts draw parity in the second Test as all their batters, barring Zak Crawley, were unable "England will not win the series if they bat the

way they did in Visakhapatnam. I actually

bowlers' book. With ball in hand, they have been quite traditional at times, aggressive at others, and they have gone up and down the gears in terms of how attacking their fields have been.

England had pulled off a dramatic 28-run win in the series opener on the back of vice-captain Ollie Pope's epic second-innings knock of 196 and left-arm spinner Tom Hartley's seven-wicket haul in the second innings."The young spinners have been fantastic but, for me, James Anderson's brilliant performance shows that they have to get another seamer, probably Ollie Robinson, in the side with him," he said.

Pospisil gets wild card for Bengaluru Open

PTI ■ BENGALURU

 ${
m F}^{
m ormer}$ top-30 Canadian tennis star Vasek Pospisil, whose career has been hit by a spate of injuries, was on Friday handed a wild card entry in the singles main draw of the Bengaluru Open Challenger event.

Pospisil had won the 2014 Wimbledon doubles title with American Jack Sock and also made the singles quarterfinal at the grass court major in 2015.

The 33-year-old old was ranked as high as 25 in singles in 2014 and fourth in the ATP doubles chart the following year. He also has a victory over the then World number one, Andy Murray in 2017.

Indian conditions are not alien to Pospisil, who has competed in the country thrice



at the Chennai Open, the ATP 250 event that was moved to Pune before going off the calender.

"I'm really excited to be in India again, and I'm very grateful to the event organisers for giving me the opportunity. I love the energy of this country and the people here so I'm hoping to have a great week," said Pospisil, who is making a comeback and

is now ranked 816. Pospisil has had to contend with a few injuries in his career that pegged him back. He had to battle a back injury in 2019 for which he had to undergo surgery, and then faced an elbow issue in 2022 but is deter-

mined to bounce back. Sunil Yajaman, Tournament Director said, Vasek Pospisil has always been one of the finest players on the Tour. He is an inspiration and it's nice he has chosen to be in Bengaluru. His life story and achievements

peak for themselves. "His presence adds strength to the field and makes the event more competitive. I am sure the Sporting fans of Bengaluru would enjoy watching Vasek and all the budding players of the city would look forward interacting with him and get motivated."

Anger over Messi absence in Hong Kong game spreads

AP ■ HONG KONG

The organizer of a much-hyped soccer match that intended to showcase Lionel Messi in Hong Kong said Friday it would offer a 50% refund following days of backlash from angry fans and the government over the absence of the World Cup winner. The grievances from Hong Kong fans stemming from Messi staying on the bench for the full 90 minutes in the game against a local team due to a groin injury earlier this week

has spread to mainland China after the Argentina star put in a 30-minute game appearance in Tokyo in Inter Miami's latest exhibition match in Asia on Wednesday. Over the past two days, many social media users in mainland China expressed their disappointment over Messi's no-show, with China's state-run newspaper, the Global Times, publishing an editorial that said the impact of the controversy surrounding the foot-ball star "has far exceeded the realm of sports."

Although every possible care and caution has been taken to avoid errors or omissions, this publication is being sold on the condition and understanding that information given in this publication is merely for reference and must not be taken as having authority of or binding in any way on the writers, editors, publishers, and printers and sellers who do not owe any responsibility for any damage or loss to any person, a purchaser of this publication or not for the result of any action taken on the basis of this work. All disputes are advised and requested to verify and seek appropriate advice to satisfy themselves about the veracity of any kind of advertisement before responding to any contents published in this newspaper. The printer, publisher, editor and any employee of the Pioneer Group's will not be held responsible for any kind of loss, consequences and further product-related damages on such advertisement