**MONEY 10** 

SENSEX, NIFTY HIT

**ALL-TIME HIGH** 

Late City Vol.21 Issue 189 \*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

BABAS THRIVE ON SOCIAL **EQUALITY DEFICIT** 

**OPINION 6** 

## BHOPAL, WEDNESDAY JULY 10, 2024; PAGES 12 ₹2 the plone stablished 1864 the plone of the p

**WORLD 8** 

ISRAELI FORCES PUSH

DEEPER INTO GAZA

CHAPTER CLOSED **BUT NOT FULLY: WARNER** 

12 SPORTS

## MODI'S MOSCOW HUG

#### India embraces all weather friend Russia

SERVICE/AGENCIES NEW DELHI/MOSCOW

India and Russia on Tuesday reviewed the entire spectrum of their bilateral ties and ongoing Ukraine conflict with Prime Minister Narendra Modi saying peace dialogue does not succeed amidst guns and bullets. He also said no solution is possible in the battlefield. Modi said stronger ties between India and Russia will greatly benefit the people.

He was officially conferred Russia's most prestigious civilian honour — the Order of St Andrew the Apostle by President Putin for exceptional services in promoting bilateral ties between the two countries. On his bilateral talks with

Putin, Modi in his opening remarks said he conveyed to Russia President and assured the world community that India is on the side of peace and was ready to contribute in ending the conflict in Ukraine.

"For a bright future for the new generation, peace is most essential...Peace talks do not succeed amidst bombs, guns and bullets," he said.

The Prime Minister also referred to his informal meeting with Putin on Monday and said listening to the Russian president lent



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, left, and Russian President Vladimir Putin in embrace during an informal meeting at Novo-Ogaryovo residence, outside Moscow, Russia, on Monday

"hope". While Modi did not explicitly mention Monday's Russian missile attack on a children's hospital in Ukraine, he said it was "heart-wrenching" to see innocent children dying.

"Be it war, conflicts, terror attacks — everyone who believes in humanity is pained when there is loss of lives. But when innocent children are murdered, when we see innocent children dying, it is heart-wrenching. That pain is immense," Modi

#### **Ukraine frowns** upon India

It is a huge disappointment and a devastating blow to peace efforts to see the leader of the world's largest democracy hug the world's most bloody criminal in Moscow on such a day

Ükraine President

"At our meeting yesterday, we listened to each other's views on Ukraine and I also placed before you the Global South's

expectation on peace and stability," Modi said. The Prime Minister also highlighted Russia's help to India in the energy sector. When the world was facing shortage of food, fuel and fertilisers, we did not allow our farmers to face any problem and our friendship with Russia played a role in that, Modi said. "We would want our cooperation with

Russia to expand further so as to ensure welfare of our farmers," he said. The Prime Minister also flagged concerns over challenges of terrorism. "India has been facing the challenge of terrorism for around 40 years; I condemn all forms of terrorism," Modi said.

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He said the world has to face multiple challenges in the last five years — first due Covid-19 and then because

of various conflicts.

Modi called terrorism
'horrible,' and condemned Moscow terror attack adding Moscow and Dagestan too have been a victim of terrorist attacks. "India has suffered from terrorism. We know how horrible it is. Recently there were terrorist attacks in Mosocw and Dagestan... We condemn terrorist attacks," Putin said during his bilateral meeting with Modi.

Last week, terrorist attacks in Derbent and Makhachkala, two of the largest cities in Russia's Dagestan, killed 21 people and left 46 injured. Modi also said talks with Putin covered ways to

diversify India-Russia in trade, security, cooperation commerce, agriculture, technology and innovation. "We attach great importance to boosting connectivity and people-topeople exchanges" he added.

### Jammu terror trail: **Shocking incursions**

**MOHIT KANDHARI JAMMU** 

 $M_{\rm search\ operations\ were}$  launched on Tuesday by the Indian Army, along with a team from the Special Operations Group (SOG) of the Jammu and Kashmir police, to pin down the perpetrators behind the audacious terror attack' on two Army vehicles. Five soldiers sacrificed their lives repulsing the attack near Badnota village of Machhedi in the Billawar tehsil of Kathua district on Monday.

The Ármy's elite paracommandos and sniffer dogs also joined the search operation while drones and helicopters were pressed into service for surveillance. Some of the eyewitnesses were also questioned by the security forces to gather more information about the group of suspected foreign terrorists.

It is learned some of the villagers in the area had spotted suspicious movement of outsiders in the area but failed to timely inform the local police or other agencies for necessary follow-up action.

Director General of Police R R Swain also flew to the area to oversee the operation on the ground. Accompanied by ADGP Anand Jain, DGP Swain



Indian Army personnel during a counter-terror operation following a terrorist attack on an Army convoy, in Kathua district, on Tuesday

conducted an aerial survey of the area and reviewed the ongoing operations.

A team of National Investigation Agency (NIA) officials has been sent to Kathua in the Jammu region to extend all possible support to the police in its investigation. So far the probe agency has not registered a case to investigate the terrorist attack.

The scope of the search operations was expanded to encompass large areas in the adjoining districts of Udhampur and Kathua, including Basantgarh, Seoj (a high-altitude area in Udhampur), and the upper reaches of Bani, Daggar, and Kindli in Kathua

Reacting strongly in New Delhi, Government also sent out a stern warning claiming the sacrifices made by the soldiers in the Kathua ambush will not go 'unavenged'. India will defeat the evil forces behind the attack. Since October 11, 2021, 43

bravehearts have sacrificed their lives in different attacks terror encounters in the Jammu

The counter-terrorist operations were temporarily stalled late Monday evening due to bad weather conditions. The suspected group of foreign terrorists also fled the spot taking advantage of the darkness and bad weather conditions

#### **Weather forecasting** to get tech upgrade



advanced

including

technologies

Automatic Weather Stations

(AWS), radars, and a high-

performance Computing

(HPC) System with 20

These enhancements aim to

align Delhi's forecasting

capabilities with global standards, ultimately

improving public safety and

economic resilience against

unexpected weather changes.

limited to metro cities but

will also benefit cities with populations exceeding 10 lakh. The overarching goal is

forecasting capabilities in tier

towns and remote areas nationwide," Union Science

and Technology Minister Dr Jitendra Singh said after

holding a special high-level

meeting convened to address

public concerns amid the

ongoing monsoon season across India.

bolster

These upgrades are not

petaflops capacity.

additional

weather

ARCHANA JYOTI NEW DELHI

the backdrop In the backdrop of widespread social media jokes and public skepticism recent weather predictions particularly for Delhi-NCR by the India Meteorological Department (IMD), the Centre has announced major upgrades in weather forecasting infrastructure across key Indian cities, including Delhi

As per plans, three dopplers radars and 180 automatic weather forecasting systems have been proposed for the national Capital and its adjoining regions while Mumbai will get four more In Mumbai, to take the tally to 6. Also, Kolkata is set to receive additional radar

Waking up to the urgent need to have accurate equipment, the Government has plans on deploying

He acknowledged the public dissatisfaction with the accuracy of recent forecasts, marked by several missed yellow and orange alerts. In fact failure in accurate alert has caught the citizens many times unaware, leaving them suffered in severe heatwaves conditions on the one hand and flood like situation on the other

> The IMD is continuously improving weather forecast systems to help the common man and share the benefits of world-class weather forecasting technology, said the Minister even as he acknowledged that the recent monsoon season in Delhi has been marked by significant public dissatisfaction and skepticism over the accuracy

of weather forecasts by the

IMD. According to experts, there are only 34 radars present in the country as of now. The number has increased by just 6 in the last 5 years. In contrast, the United States of America (USA) does weather prediction with almost 200 doppler radars. A media report quoted JP Sharma from Skymet saying that, "The Numerical Weather Model depends on how much data you have

given and what the quality of

data is. If you provide the

wrong information, then it

will get rejected.

#### Delhi drowns, in yet another downpour **STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

As heavy and sudden rain, accompanied with winds, lashed different parts of the national Capital on Tuesday, Delhiites were caught off guard as the rain created waterlogging in key areas and threw traffic out of gear.

Laxmi Nagar, Central Secretai Palam, Cantonment, Safdarjung, Parliament Street, Dilshad Garden, ITO and moderate

Department (PWD) said until afternoon, it received 22 calls regarding waterlogging and around three to four complaints of uprooted trees. The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) received 11 calls regarding waterlogging and seven complaints of uprooted trees.

Department (IMD) earlier predicted that rainfall



Greater Kailash, among accompanied by others, recorded heavy rain. thunderstorms and lightning A commuter gets drenched during rains in New Delhi on Tuesday Ranjan Dimri

The maximum temperature recorded in Delhi was 33.2 Celsius, three degrees notches below the normal. The minimum temperature settled at 27.2 degrees Celsius, 0.7 degrees below the

was likely to occur in many

normal. Additionally, the Spicejet airline said all Delhi and their consequential flights may get affected due to the bad weather and asked passengers to keep a check on their flight status.

### Relief eludes Kejriwal in liquor scam

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

A special court on Tuesday took cognisance of the seventh supplementary chargesheet filed by the Enforcement Directorate in the money-laundering case linked to the alleged excise policy "scam". The ED has named Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and Aam Aadmi Party in the supplementary chargesheet.

Special Judge Kaveri Baweja took cognisance of the chargesheet noting that there is sufficient material on record to proceed against the accused persons and listed the matter on July 12, when all the accused would be physically produced before the court. The probe agency had filed a 200-

page chargesheet naming Kejriwal and the AAP as accused in the case on May 17. The ED has alleged that Kejriwal



commission of grave economic offences and there is ample evidence on record to link him to the commission of the offence of

eighth in a series of charge sheets filed by the ED since November 2022, the ED claimed that Kejriwal was directly involved in formulating the excise policy and demanded kickbacks from the South Group in exchange for awarding them favours. The ED also alleged that Kejriwal was involved in using ₹45 crore of the proceeds of crime in AAP's Goa election campaign.

Simultaneously, the court also took cognisance of the eighth supplementary chargesheet filed by ED and issued production warrants to Vinod Chauhan and issued summons to another accused Ashish Mathur, also named in the eighth supplementary chargesheet. Kejriwal's legal woes escalated when he was apprehended by the ED on March 21. Although he secured bail from the trial court, the High Court has since intervened, suspending the release

### **Hathras A Conspiracy?**



PNS LUCKNOW

The Uttar Pradesh Government on Tuesday suspended the local SDM, a circle officer and four others based on the SIT report on the Hathras stampede that did not rule out a "big

stampede that did not rule out a cog conspiracy" behind the incident. The SIT report also flagged lapses on the part of the local administration that led to the incident that claimed

121 lives on July 2.
The report held the organisers responsible for the stampede, claiming they did not make arrangements to manage the crowd and also fixed the responsibility of administration, according to official

sources. It said the local police and administration did not take the event seriously and failed to provide proper

information to senior officers. The stampede at the 'satsang' of selfstyled godman Surajpal alias Narayan Sakar Hari alias Bhole Baba claimed

121 lives. "In its preliminary investigation, the SIT has held the event organisers primarily responsible for the stampede on the basis of eyewitnesses and other evidence. The SIT did not rule out any big conspiracy behind the

incident and has stated the need for a

thorough investigation," officials said.

of policy formulation, kickback scheme and the final use of the proceeds of crime. The ED pointed out that Kejriwal is involved in the

The ED has alleged that Kejriwal money laundering. intervents was intrinsically involved in the acts in its chargesheet, which is the order.

#### Organ Racket in National Capital busted industry currently generates \$6 and the racket's doctor

Industry).

serious threat.

According to the Delhi Police on Tuesday, a total of seven people, including a Delhi-based the authorisation committee.

Bangladeshi kingpin, have been arrested. Acting on a tip-off, the Crime Branch had been working on the case for two months. A majority of the donors and

recipients are from Bangladesh brought to India on the basis of the fake documents for the

Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO) Head Dr Vimal Bhandari, while talking about the issue of such rackets, said the onus of cross-checking the documents of the patient and the donor to ensure that such incidents do not happen lies on

#### Main accused in **BMW** case held

TN RAGHUNATHA MUMBA

Seventy two hours after he rammed his BMW into a two-wheeler at Worli in south-central Mumbai killing a fisherwoman and injuring her husband, the Mumbai police tracked down the Shinde Shiv Sena deputy Rajesh leader Shah's absconding son Mihir Shah and arrested him from Shahpur town in the neighbouring Thane district. One of the search teams that had been on the look for the 24-year-old Mihir Shah traced him to Shahpur, 73 kms away from Mumbai.

#### SAUMYA SHUKLA NEW DELHI

 $I^{
m ndia's}$  emergence as a global medical tourism hub in recent times has been marred by

several cases of organ theft, concerns among agencies and Ministries about blow to the country's reputation. To combat this menace, the Centre recently issued advisories for international patients.

India's growing popularity as a premier medical tourism destination is evident from the influx of approximately 2 million patients from 78 countries each year, seeking medical, wellness, and IVF treatment. This booming



Delhi Police Crime Branch personnel with men arrested for their alleged involvement in an organ transplant racket exposed by them, in New Delhi, on Tuesday. The Crime Branch arrested seven people, including a doctor

billion annually which is projected to soar to \$13 billion by 2026, bolstered by the Indian Government's ambitious 'Heal in India' initiative, according the CII (Confederation of Indian

However, with no let-up in incidents of organ thefts, the health tourism industry faces a

The latest being a major organ donation transplant racket running in Delhi-NCR region with links to Bangladesh busted by the Crime Branch of Delhi Police.

surgeries. Former National Organ and

#### 149 city buses non-operational, efforts on to restore facility

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ BHOPAL

**⊣**he 'Life Line' of Bhopal, the capital of Madhya Pradesh, has once again suddenly come to a halt as 149 city buses have stopped operating. These buses running on 10

routes remained halted for the last 6 days due to the ticket collection dispute, due to which about 40000 passengers are facing trouble every day.

Actually, 149 buses running on 10 routes of Bhopal city have been closed since Thursday. As of Tuesday, it has been 6 days since these buses have been closed. The reason for this is the demand to reduce the amount given per km by the ticket collection agency 'Chalo App' in these buses,

The reason for this is the demand to reduce the amount given per km by the ticket collection agency 'Chalo App' in these buses, but in the last 6 days, BCLL and the officials of the corporation could not find a solution to this problem

but in the last 6 days, BCLL and the officials of the corporation could not find a solution to this problem. In such a situation, more than 40 thousand passengers traveling daily in these buses are facing problems. Conflict between BCLL and Chalo Company has stopped the wheels of 149 buses in Bhopal. The reason for stopping the wheels of these 149 buses in

Company. Actually, there are two operators in the capital Bhopal, one of which is a bus operator and the other is a ticket operator. This ticket agency Chalo App has demanded to reduce the amount to be paid per kilometer. Angered by this, bus operator Maa Associates is not taking out its buses from

Cut collection company Bhopal is the conflict Chalo App has demanded between BCLL and Chalo Rs 25 per kilometer instead

of Rs 32. In protest against which the bus operators did not take out the buses from the depot.

Passenger buses are not running in many different parts of the capital Bhopal including 10 routes - Kokta, Mandideep, Ayodhya Nagar, Gandhi Nagar, Bhauri, Airport, Misrod, Bairagarh, Lalghati, Karond. Due to which students and common passengers are facing a lot of problems.

Students and common people waiting for the bus at the stoppage said that this is the only means we have which gives us the facility to travel in the city at a low cost, but now it is closed due to which we are getting troubled.

Students said that they are

getting late for coaching every day. We recharge the pass but do not get a bus on that route. Money is being spent from both sides. Bus route number from where to where total buses are operating are bus no. 115 Gandhinagar- Ayodhya Nagar total number of operating buses 17, bus no.

operating buses 17, bus no. 113 Idgah Hills- AIIMS total number of operating buses 10, 116 Putlighar to CRPF Camp Bangrasia 16, 205 Karond- Bairagarh Chichli 10, 204 Bhauri-Mandideep 02

208 Kokta- Lalghati 26, SR-8 Coach Factory-Bairagarh Chichli 31, TR-1 Akriti Eco City- Chirayu Hospital 33,311 Nariyal Kheda- LNCT College 02 and 106 Misrod- Airport 02 respectively.



Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla being welcomed by Minister for Housing and Urban Development Kailash Vijaywargiya, BJP MF Shankar Lalwani and Mayor Pushyamitra Bhargava upon his arrival in Indore, Madhya Pradesh on Tuesday.

## victim was in ralationship

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ BHOPAL

**■**he Madhya Pradesh High Court has dismissed a rape case filed by a woman against a man, noting that the two had been in a relationship for over 10 years and had physical relations out of their own free will." In his order dated July 2, Justice Sanjay Dwivedi noted that the case appears to be an abuse of process of law.

According to the order, the woman and man are well-educated individuals who had a consensual physical relationship for over 10 years. They ended their relationship after the man refused to marry her. The court stated that this does not justify registering a rape case against the petitioner (man).

"In my opinion, as per the fac-

been narrated by the prosecutrix (woman) in her complaint and also in her statement of 164 CrPC, this case cannot be considered to be a case of rape as defined under Section 375 of IPC (Indian Penal Code) and the prosecution is nothing but appears to be an abuse of process of law," the court said. In this matter, the court said, even IPC section 366 (inducing a woman to compel her for marriage) is not made out against the man. "Therefore, the offence under Section 366 of IPC registered against the petitioner at the later point of time is also liable to be quashed," it

The man was booked for rape and other charges by the Police Station Mahila Thana in Katni district in November 2021. He eventually moved to the High

### HC dismisses rape case as the Humidity witnessed in Bhopal, many other parts of the State

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ BHOPAL

nder the present weather conditions a Cyclonic circulation and trough line passing through Madhya Pradesh is making a strong system of rain active and inducing heavy rainfall.

Heavy rain occurred in some areas of Indore at around 3 pm in the afternoon. At the same time, humidity is felt due to sunshine in many districts including Bhopal-Sagar.

It rained lightly in Gwalior at around 4.30 pm. The Meteorological Department has issued an alert of heavy rain in 18 districts including Sheopur, Chhindwara, Shivpuri on Tuesday.

Senior Meteorologist said that in the last 48 hours, it rained in more than 30 districts of the state. Cyclonic circulation is active over North-East and South Rajasthan. At the same



time, the monsoon trough has come down further. It is passing through Raisen, Mandla in the state. Due to these systems, there is heavy rain in the entire state. This phase will continue for the next one week.

Heavy rain occurred in some areas of Indore at around 3 pm. 1.7 inches of rain in Betul, 1.25 inches of water fell in Khajuraho

Rain continues in Madhya Pradesh. On Monday also, it rained in many districts of the state. Betul received the maximum rainfall of 42 mm i.e., 1.7 inches. Khajuraho received 1.25 inches of rain. Bhopal also witnessed heavy rains. Rain was also recorded in Balaghat's Malajkhand, Narmadapuram, Indore, Khandwa, Khargone,

Narmadapuram's Pachmarhi

During the last 24 hours rainfall was recorded at some places in districts of Rewa division; at some places in districts of Gwalior, Chambal, Jabalpur, Shahdol, Sagar divisions; at many places in districts of Indore, Ujiain divisions; all places in districts of Bhopal, Narmadapuram divisions and the weather remained generally dry in all the remaining districts. The maximum temperature increased significantly in the districts of Sagar division and there was no significant change in temperatures in all the remaining districts. They remained much below normal in the districts of Indore division; they remained generally below normal in the districts of Bhopal, Gwalior divisions and normal in all the remaining districts. The minimum temperature increased significantly in the districts of Rewa division

and there was no significant change in temperatures in all the remaining districts. They were common in the districts of Rewa constituency and common in the districts of all other constituencies. [

From yesterday till today morning, thunderstorms and strong winds occurred in Bhopal, Vidisha, Raisen, Sehore, Rajgarh, Narmadapuram, Betul, Harda, Burhanpur, Khandwa, Khargone, Barwani, Alirajpur, Jhabua, Dhar, Indore, Ratlam, Ujjain, Dewas, Shajapur, Agarmalwa, Mandsaur, Neemuch, Guna, Ashoknagar, Shivpuri, Bhind, Morena, Bhopal, Purkalan, Singrauli, Rewa, Mauganj, Maihar, Anuppur, Shahdol, Umaria, Dindori, Katni, Jabalpur, Narsinghpur, Chhindwara, Pandhu, Seoni, Mandla, Balaghat, Patna, Damoh,

#### Minor girl raped by her neighbour

The accused locked the minor in a room as soon as she reached home and later he committed the crime

**STAFF REPORTER** BHOPAL

case of rape of a Aminor gril was reported with the Kolar police, accused committed the crime when she was alone at home. The accused took the minor to his house in the name of meeting his sister-in-law, stating that she was calling

The accused locked the minor in a room as soon as she reached home. After this, he committed the crime. After this, the accused exploited the minor by threatening her for two months. When the victim told the matter to her cousin, the matter reached the family. After this, a complaint was lodged at the police sta-

tion. The victim has told the police that about 2 months ago she was alone at home. Parents had gone to work. Brother and sister had gone

to school. During this time, Kuldeep, who lives in Basti, came to her house. He said that Bhabhi is calling you. The minor believed the young man and went with him. As

After this, he raped her by threatening her. Since the

the young man locked the

room from inside.



## Panja wrestlers exhibit their skills at competitions

PNS GWALIOR

Danja wrestlers from various parts of the country showed their skills in different weight categories during the Panja National Wrestling Competition held at the Dr. Bhagwat Sahai Medical College Auditorium here today.

150 players from 6 states participated in this competition, in which Ritesh Kumar got second place in 60 kg weight category, Kashi got third place, Ajay Bijoria got fourth place, Raman Kumar got fifth place. Similarly Prashant, Ankit, won in 70 kg. Anil, Madhusudan, Aniket Kumar, Shivam Gurjar won in 80 kg weight category. Abdul, Gulshan Majhi, Jang Bahadur, Kakkar Chhattisgarh were the winners in 90 kg weight category. Devendra Singh, Tanishq Mishra, Gaurav Singh, Krishna



Pandey told that a cash prize of 18 thousand rupees was given in each weight category and a given to the champion of champions. In total, cash prizes worth 1.05 lakh were given. Devendra from Haryana won the Sharma Memorial Open Arm Wrestling overall Championship.

The competition was inaugurated by Devendra Pratap Singh Tomar and the prize dis-

SDM Khalil Ahmed Khan. Secretary of Madhya Pradesh Panja Wrestling Association Tariq Khan from Bhopal, Wrestling Praveen Singh Jadoun, Secretary of Gwalior Arm Wrestling Organization Dr. Aditya Bhadauria, Vice President Dr. Vishal Yadav, Treasurer Thakur Yogendra and special guest Lakshmi Sharma from Security Agency were present in the said com-

#### incident, the teenager started staying lost. When the family asked, she told everything. After which the police registered a case against the

#### Review meeting of officials of Registration and Stamp held

In the meeting,

**Commissioner** 

**Deepak Singh** 

registration and

stamp of all the

**Indore division** 

registered documents. In the

meeting, he took information

regarding the revenue collec-

tion and fulfillment of targets

in registration and stamp from

the development projects, con-

struction of national high-

ways, state highways and rural

roads in various districts of the

Commissioner Seli Kanash,

Deputy Inspector General

Registration Zone Indore

Balkrishna Mourya, Senior

Registrar and Stamp Amresh

Naidu District registrar

Deepak Sharma along with District Registration Officers of

Indore, Dhar, Jhabua, Alirajpur, Badwani, Khandwa,

Khargone and Burhanpur were

present in the meeting.

Deputy

division.

reviewed the

progress of

districts of

in sequence

**Divisional** 

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ BHOPAL

review meeting of the divisional and district Alevel officers of the Registration and Stamp Department was held under the chairmanship of Divisional Commissioner Indore Deepak Singh. In the meeting, Divisional Commissioner Deepak Singh reviewed the targets and revenue receipts of the last year. He directed that the achievement of the targets of the financial year 2024-25 should be ensured within the time limit. He directed to ensure the action of resolving the pending old stamp cases by running a campaign while doing year-wise scrutiny. While reviewing the RRC cases, he gave necessary instructions related to their resolution.

In the meeting, Divisional Commissioner Deepak Singh reviewed the progress of registration and stamp of all the districts of Indore division in sequence. While reviewing the progress of the first quarter of the current financial year, he directed to achieve the targets within the time limit in the coming months. He reviewed the district-wise progress of the

#### Pediatrics department organizes lectures

Bhopal: Under the guidance of Prof. Dr. Ajai Singh, Executive Director, AIIMS Bhopal, Department of Pediatrics is pleased to announce lectures focused on severe neurological conditions in children. This educational event will take place on July 10, from 2:00 PM to 4:30 PM in the Seminar Room of the SMART unit, located within the hospital building complex at AIIMS Bhopal.

The session will feature two distinguished speakers:-

1. Dr. Pankaj Pal, a renowned Pediatric Neurologist from GMC Bhopal, will present on the "Approach to Acute Encephalitis Syndrome." Dr. Pal's extensive experience in managing acute encephalitis will provide valuable insights into early diagnosis, treatment strategies, and patient management.

2. Dr. Rachana Dubey, a leading Pediatric Neurologist from Medanta Hospital Indore, will deliver a lecture on the 'Approach to Movement Disorders." Dr. Dubey's expertise in pediatric movement disorders will offer attendees a comprehensive understanding of the latest advancements in diagnosis and therapy.

#### NEERI to probe reality of garbage dumping site in Bhopal: Apex court

**Bhopal:** A big decision has been taken regarding the scientific execution of Adampur Garbage Dumping site in Bhopal. Senior environmentalist Subhash C. Pandey said the special bench of the Supreme Court on Tuesday ordered National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) to investigate the reality of the dumping site. The report has to be submitted after an investigation in 3 months. The next hearing of this case will be held on 21 October 2024.

Environmentalist Dr. Pandey said that the historic order of the Supreme Court will provide a big relief to thousands of residents and villagers living around Adampur Garbage Dumping site . At the same time, hope has also arisen that now not only the groundwater of Adampur and its surroundings will be saved from being poisonous, but the quality of water of other water resources and the Ajnaal river passing nearby will also improve.

After the order, NEERI i.e., NEERI will investigate and submit the report. This institution is from Nagpur. The investigation and monitoring of the Supreme Court will also increase the capacity of the processing units operating in Adampur Garbage Dumping site . At the same time,

the heaps of garbage lying for years will also be eliminated. After this, a green belt will be developed around Adampur

Garbage Dumping site . Environmentalist Dr. Pandey said that the Ajnaal river is a tributary of India's holy river Ganga. This will also free this river from pollution. Which will ultimately achieve remarkable success in making the Ganga river pollution

He said, today's order of the Supreme Court will set an example for the entire state, because now all the government agencies and responsible departments will have the fear that if there is too much laxity in the matter, then investigation can also be done by national institutions like NEERI

The urban waste of the entire city has been dumped in Adampur Garbage Dumping site since 2018. It was being set on fire repeatedly, for which Dr. Pandey filed a petition against Bhopal Municipal Corporation in the National Green Tribunal Bhopal in the year 2023. In which, considering the facts of Dr. Pandey to be correct, NGT imposed a fine of Rs 1 crore 80 lakh on Bhopal Municipal Corporation, but the Municipal Corporation challenged the said case in the Supreme Court and requested to waive the fine imposed.



Students go through books during an orientation programme for children organised at Swami Vivekanand Library in Bhopal on

#### AIIMS Bhopal student receives ICMR-PG thesis

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Prof. (Dr.) Ajai Singh, Executive Director and CEO of AIIMS Bhopal, congratulated Dr. Karmugil Tamil, a postgraduate (MD) student from the Department of Biochemistry, for securing the highly competitive ICMR-PG Thesis 2023 Financial Support. Among over 1,000 applicants, Dr. Karmugil was awarded a

grant of Rs 1 lakh for her groundbreaking research pro-

Dr. Karmugil's research will focus on evaluating serum IgA levels in patients with chronic rhinosinusitis and bronchiectasis treated at AIIMS Bhopal. This study aims to deepen the understanding of the pathogenesis of recurrent infections associated with these conditions, which significantly affect

the Indian population. The findings from this research are expected to contribute to better management and treatment strategies for these diseases. This achievement not only highlights the academic excel-

lence of our students but also underscores AIIMS Bhopal's commitment to advancing medical research that addresses critical health issues in India," said {rpf Ajai Singh.

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 subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of competent court and forums in Bhopal only. Readers are advised 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 claim made by the advertisers of the products & services and shall not be made responsible for any kind of loss, consequences and further product-related damages on such advertisements

#### BJP demands all-party meet from Delhi govt for cleaning of drains

PNS NEW DELHI

elhi BJP President Virendra Sachdeva demanded the city government to call an allparty meeting within 24 hours on the cleaning of drains and monsoon pre-paredness or threatened the AAP to be ready to face BJP's protest.

Sachdeva, along with former Delhi Minister Arvinder Singh Lovely, questioned the preparations of the AAP regarding the waterlogging caused by just 15 to 20 minutes of rain in Delhi and said that the rain once again exposed the shortcomings of the AAP government in Delhi.

The state BJP chief showed videos of waterlogging in various parts of Delhi after just 20 minutes of rain, stating

Sachdeva, along with former Delhi **Minister Arvinder Singh Lovely,** questioned the preparations of the AAP regarding the waterlogging caused by just 15 to 20 minutes of rain in Delhi

that hundreds of crores are being squandered in the name of cleaning drains by the Delhi government's Jal Board, Public Works Flood Department, Department, and Delhi

Municipal Corporation. "Minister Atishi and Mayor Dr. Shelly Oberoi, were constantly claiming that Delhi is prepared for rains now but all claims were proven hollow by just a few minutes of rain. Areas like I.T.O., Sangam Vihar, Burari, Deoli, Kishanganj, Chanderawal,

Najafgarh, which experienced significant waterlogging on June 28 and July 3, were once again submerged in just a few minutes of rain," he said.

He stated, "Only scams are happening in the name of cleaning drains in Delhi, and the Delhi government should call an all-party meeting within 24 hours on the cleaning of drains and monsoon preparedness or be ready to face BJP's protest."

Sachdeva added that if work He further stated, "The Chief had been done honestly, Delhi Minister of Delhi is in jail wouldn't be in this situation today, and they keep claiming Rajendra Nagar, and today. Out of 750 drains,

to run the government from jail, but the crucial and powerful Apex Committee of the Flood Department, which he chairs, has not held its meeting on time this year in January."

Lovely stated that all ministers of Delhi, along with all MLAs whose constituencies fall in low-lying areas, are members of this committee. "This committee works to prevent waterlogging during floods and monsoons. It has a broad scope of work and budget, but it's not being utilized in Delhi. The high-level committee meeting to prevent waterlogging in the city should be held in January, but this year, it was held in mid-June. If the meeting is held in June, what kind of preparations can be expected for July's waterlogging? This is a matter of concern," he alleged.



Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav offers prayers at Chintamani Ganesh Temple in Maharashtra on Tuesday.

### Two cars, 2 bikes damaged as pipiline bursts

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ BHOPAL

only around 150 have been

cleaned, but the silt removed

from them has not been lift-

ed, so it has flowed back into

the drains after the rain. He

pointed out that people have

lost their lives in the last two

rains. "It's unfortunate for

Delhi to have a government

with an insensitive Chief

Minister today," he claimed. Hitting at the AAP, Lovely

said, "Delhi has become a city

where residents suffer year-

round with water shortages in

summer, waterlogging during

rains, and pollution in winter. If Minister Atishi and the

Mayor Dr. Oberoi had spent

as much time working as

they did holding press con-

ferences, the situation might

have been better today."

**♦**he Narmada Water Supply pipe line burst at Retghat area situated between Kamala Park-VIP road late in the night on Monday.

A fountain of water started after a loud blast sound at 3 in the night. Due to this, the glasses of two cars broke, while two bikes were also damaged. Two shops were

also flooded with water.
The municipal corporation team has been engaged in repair work since Tuesday morning. However, water supply may be disrupted in the areas connected to the Narmada line at night. The Narmada Water Supply

pipe line passes near the

The municipal corporation team has been engaged in repair work since Tuesday morning

police post at Retghat. This line leaked at 3 in the night on Monday.

A resident of the area said, suddenly a loud sound of explosion was heard at 3 in the night which created panic in the locals. When we went to the spot, the Narmada line had leaked and water was flowing fast. The corporation was informed at night itself. The corporation had stopped

the supply in half an hour, but the water accumulated in the line kept flowing for two hours.

Cars were also parked at the place where the pipeline burst. Glass of two of these cars broke. Two bikes were also damaged. At the same time, water also filled in two cars nearby. Due to this, the goods were damaged.

Superintending engineer Udit Garg said, there was a leakage in the Narmada line at 3 in the night. The line was immediately closed. Water supply was done in the areas connected to the line at night. Repair work has been going on since this morning. Soon the leakage will be repaired and regular supply of water will be done.

Bank of India to observe settlement day

**STAFF REPORTER** BHOPAL

Bank of India is conducting Settlement Days at all its branches, zonal and FGMOs across the country to settle NPA loan accounts of borrowers under cially organised for those NPA borrowers who could not repay their loan on time due to distress in the borrower's business/medical condition or any other genuine reason. The Bank has special OTS schemes for settlement of small value accounts and medium sized accounts.



CHANGE OF NAME

I, PAWAN PRASAD PANTH S/o DEENANATH PANTH R/o M-No-1010 Gali-No-1 Ghamapur High-Court Jabalpur Madhya Pradesh-482007 changed my name to PAWAN PANTH.

PD(584)A

FORM NO. IV [See Sub rule (2A) of Rule 5

#### Khadi and Village Industries turnover crosses Rs 1.5 lakh crore for the first time

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

nder the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of India, has set a new record in production, sales, and new employment generation in the financial year 2023-24. On Tuesday, KVIC Chairman Shri Manoj Kumar released the provisional figures for the financial vear 2023-24 at the office at Rajghat, New Delhi. Surpassing all previous figures, there has been an increase of 399.69 per cent (approximately 400%) in sales, 314.79 per cent (approximately 315%) in production, and 80.96 per cent (approxigeneration compared to the financial year 2013-14. In the financial year 2022-23, there was an increase of 332.14% in sales, 267.52% in production, and 69.75% in new employment generation compared to 2013-

This remarkable performance of KVIC has made a significant contribution towards realizing the vision of a 'Developed India' by 2047 and making India the third-largest economy in the world. For the first time in the history of independent India, the sales of KVIC products have crossed Rs. 1.55 lakh crore in the financial year 2023-24. The sales figure in the financial year 2022-23 was Rs. 1.34 lakh crore. In the last ten financial

PNS NEW DELHI

n a bid to enhance

administrative efficiency

and public service deliv-

ery, the Arvind Kejriwal

government has proposed a

sweeping reorganization of

the Department of Women and Child Development

(WCD). The newly reorga-

nized district offices will be

New Delhi, Central, North,

North West, West, South,

South West, South East,

East, Shahdara, and North

Aligning the WCD district

offices with Delhi's 11 rev-

enue districts, the proposal

to this effect has been sent to

Lieutenant Governor's

approval. This overhaul aims

to create a more integrated

and coordinated system,

improving the implementa-

tion of schemes and ensur-

ing greater public conve-

Speaking on this, Delhi's

Women and Child

Development Minister

Kailash Gahlot said the reor-

ganization of district offices

East.

nience.

years of the 'Modi Government,' the sales of indigenous Khadi and village industry products made by artisans in rural areas, which were Rs. 31154.20 crore in the financial year 2013-14, have increased to the highest level of Rs. 155673.12 crore in the financial year 2023-24, which is the greatest achievement so far. In the financial year 2023-24, KVIC's efforts have created 10.17 lakh new jobs in rural areas, strengthening rural

India's economy.

Visitors go through a photographic exhibition of the monuments of the Gond dynasty era at the State Museum in Bhopal on

KVIC Chairman Shri Manoj Kumar has attributed this historic achievement to the inspiration of revered Bapu, the guarantee of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, and the tireless efforts of crores of artisans working in remote villages of the country. He said that Modi's 'Brand Shakti' has increased people's confidence in Khadi products. Khadi has become a 'new status symbol' of fashion for the youth. The demand for Khadi and village industry products is increasing rapidly in the market, which is reflected in the production, sales, and employment figures. He further said that in the last ten years, major changes and decisions have been taken under the guidance of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to increase the production of Khadi and village industries, which are yielding positive results. He further said that these figures are proof that the trust of the people of the country has increased in 'Make in Rs. 2915.83 crore.

will mark a significant step

toward optimizing our

administrative framework

This realignment will facil-

itate smoother coordina-

tion and implementation of

schemes, making the

process more straightfor-

ward for both administra-

tors and beneficiaries. By

aligning with the revenue

districts, we can work more

closely with local govern-

ment bodies to leverage

local insights and infra-

structure in program exe-

cution, ensuring better

resource allocation and pro-

gram targeting, Gahlot said.

The directives to re-align the district offices of the WCD

with the current revenue

district setup are guided by thoughtful deliberation and

comprehensive field reports.

The move will enhance the

department's responsiveness

to local needs and chal-

lenges, enabling a more agile

and effective response to the

evolving welfare needs of

women, children, and vul-

nerable populations within

for delivering social securi-

ty and welfare services.

India,' 'Vocal for Local,' and 'Swadeshi products.'

Large Increase in Production of Khadi and Village Industry **Products** 

The production of Khadi and village industry products, which was Rs. 26,109.08 crores in the financial year 2013-14, reached Rs. 108,297.68 crores in the financial year 2023-24, a jump of 314.79 per cent, while the production in the financial year 2022-23 was Rs. 95956.67 crores. This continuously increasing production is strong evidence that the Khadi and Village Industries Commission has done historical work in rural

Big Jump in Sales of Khadi and Village Industry Products

In the last 10 financial years, Khadi and village industry prodevery year. While sales were Rs. 31,154.20 crores in the financial year 2013-14, they reached Rs. 1,55,673.12 crore in the financial year 2023-24, with an unprecedented increase of 399.69 per cent, the highest sales ever.

New Record for Production of

Khadi Fabric There has also been an unprecedented increase in the production of Khadi fabrics in the last ten years. While the production of Khadi fabrics was Rs. 811.08 crores in the financial year 2013-14, it reached Rs. 3,206 crores in the financial year 2023-24 with a jump of 295.28 per cent, which is the best performance so far. The production of Khadi fabrics in the financial year 2022-23 was

each district. With the setup

of 11 new re-aligned district

offices, the WCD depart-

ment can now more effi-

ciently implement financial

assistance schemes such as

the Delhi Pension Scheme to

Women in Distress, Widow

Assistance Scheme, Ladli

Scheme, and all services

related to child and women

The constituencies covered

by each new district office

1. New Delhi: Delhi

Cantonment, Rajendra

Nagar, New Delhi, and RK

2. Central: Burari, Timarpur,

Sadar Bazar, Chandni

Chowk, Matia Mahal,

Ballimaran, and Karol Bagh

3. North: Áadarsh Nagar,

Badli, Bawana, Narela, and

4. North West: Rithala,

Mundka, Kirari, Sultanpur

Shalimar Bagh, Tri Nagar,

Rohini, Shakur Basti, and

5. West: Nangloi Jat, Moti

Mangolpuri,

constituency areas.

Model Town.

Majra,

Wazirpur.

Daughter

are as follows:

Puram.

Marriage

Kejriwal govt proposes sweeping recognition of WCD

The demand for Khadi fabrics has also increased rapidly in the last ten financial years. While its sales were only Rs. 1,081.04 crores in the financial year 2013-14, it reached Rs. 6,496 crores in the financial year 2023-24 with an increase of 500.90 per cent. Khadi fabrics worth Rs. 5,942.93 crore were sold in the financial year 2022-23. The promotion of Khadi by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi from big platforms has had a widespread impact on the sales of Khadi fabrics. The way the Prime Minister promoted Khadi from Bharat Mandapam to Rajghat during the G-20 summit held in the country last year has attracted the world community towards Khadi.

New Record for New **Employment Generation and** umulative Employment Generation

The main objective of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission is to provide maximum employment opportunities in rural areas. KVIC has also set a record in this area in the last ten years. While the cumulative employment was 1.30 crore in the financial year 2013-14, it reached 1.87 crores in 2023-24, with an increase of 43.65 per cent. Similarly, while 5.62 lakh new jobs were created in the financial year 2013-14, it reached 10.17 lakh in the financial year 2023-24, with an increase of 80.96 per cent. 4.98 lakh rural Khadi artisans (spinners and weavers) and workers are also employed in manufacturing Khadi fabrics.

Nagar, Madipur, Rajouri

Garden, Tilak Nagar, Hari

Nagar, and Patel Nagar con-

6. South: Malviya Nagar,

Mehrauli, Chhatarpur, Deoli,

Ambedkar Nagar, and

Greater Kailash constituency

7. South West: Vikas Puri,

Uttam Nagar, Dwarka,

Matiala, Najafgarh, Bijwasan,

8. South East: Jangpura,

Kasturba Nagar, Sangam

Vihar, Kalkaji, Badarpur,

9. East: Trilokpuri, Kondli,

Patparganj, Laxmi Nagar,

Krishna Nagar, and Gandhi

10. Shahdara: Vishwas Nagar,

Shahdra, Seemapuri, Rohtas

11. North East: Seelampur,

Mustafabad, and Karawal

This reorganization is

expected to significantly

enhance the administrative

efficiency of the WCD,

ensuring a more effective

delivery of welfare schemes

Gokalpur,

Nagar, and Babarpur.

Tughlakabad, and Okhla.

Nagar.

Gonda,

Nagar.

across Delhi.

Palam, and Janakpuri.

stituency areas.

#### Amazon launches Fire TV stick 4K

Bhopal: Amazon announced the launch of its new Fire TV Stick 4K in Bhopal, for INR 5,999. This latest addition to the Fire TV family is Amazon's most powerful streaming stick in India. Fire TV Stick 4K offers fast-streaming for cinematic 4K content with vibrant Ultra HD picture quality, Dolby Vision, HDR10+, and Dolby Atmos audio, which can further elevate home entertainment experiences. To get started, customers can simply connect the device to the HDMI port of their existing TV and start streaming their favourite

Customers enjoy streaming video entertainment content from popular OTT providers, YouTube, and other video apps on a range of Fire TV devices TV 4K Max, and Fire TV Cube. Today, Fire TV devices have been purchased by customers in 99% of the country's pin codes. In 2023, Pathan, cricket matches, playing games,

Jailer, Farzi, Drishyam 2, and Rocky Aur Rani were the mostwatched Amazon Prime Video titles on Fire TV across metros and non-metros. Popular titles searched through voice using Alexa included Tarak Mehta ka Ulta Chashma, Big Boss, Anupama, Ramayan, and CID to name a few. The new Fire TV Stick 4K has

been designed to offer advanced streaming experiences to our customers. Besides fast performance powered by 1.7Ghz quad core processor, the new Fire TV Stick 4K offers access to over 12,000 apps across genres, voice search and content control through simple commands to Alexa, superior picture and audio quality, immersive graphics for games, and so much more," General Manager for Amazon Devices India. "TV viewers in India enjoy streaming their favourite movies, TV shows,

#### CAPITAL

#### PROTECTING INVESTING FINANCING ADVISING Aditya Birla Finance Ltd.

Registered Office: Indian Rayon Compound, Verayal, Guiarat - 362266 Branch Office: 17, 2nd Floor, Vijaya Bank Building, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi - 110001

APPENDIX IV [See Rule 8 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002]

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE (for Immovable Property)
Whereas, The undersigned being the authorized officer of Aditya Birla Finance Limited Having Branch Address at: 2nd Floor, Vijaya Building, 17, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi, under the

Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the ecurity Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 31.08.2022 calling upon the borrowers namely M/s. Lucky Steel Through Proprietor, Mr. Babu Khan Through Lega Heirs, Mrs. Huseni Huseni, Mr. Irfan Khan to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Re 2,18,95,889/- (Rupees Two Crore Eighteen Lakh Ninety Five Thousand Eight Hundred Eight Nine Only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the

public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic Possession of the property describe herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said act rea with rule 8 the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this 9th day of July of the year 2024 The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the propert and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Aditya Birla Finance Limited for an amount of Rs. 2,18,95,889/- (Rupees Two Crore Eighteen Lakh Ninety Five Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty Nine Only) and interest thereon. The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section 8 of Section 13 of the act, in

respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

All that part and parcel of the Property: "House No.138-A, Shree Nagar Extension, Near Anan Bazar, Indore- (MP)-452018"

Date: 09/07/2024 Aditya Birla Finance Limited Place: Indore

\*Dhanvarsha

#### TruCap Finance Ltd.

(Formerly known as Dhanvarsha Finvest Ltd.)

## This is to inform our customers and public at large that TruCap Finance Ltd.

(Formerly known as Dhanvarsha Finvest Limited), a Non-Banking Financial Company, registered with Reserve Bank of India (RBI), having its registered office at 3 rd Floor, A Wing, DJ House, Old Nagardas Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai -400069, is shifting its Branch office located at TruCap Finance Ltd. (Formerly known as Dhanvarsha Finvest Limited), 1st Floor, above Reliance Trends Mall Station Main Rd, Ganj Basoda, Madhya Pradesh 464221 to TruCap Finance Ltd. (Formerly known as Dhanvarsha Finvest Limited) Office No. 2, 1st floor premises Opp. Railway Stand , Market, Vidisha Dt., Pin - 464 001. w.e.f. 11th October

The customers who are serviced from the location which is being shifted will be serviced from the new Branch

All concerned are requested to take note of same

For TruCap Finance Ltd (Formerly known as Dhanvarsha Finvest Limited)

One Time Settlement (OTS). The Settlement Day is spe-

#### **DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL AT JABALPUR** ( H.No. 797-II, Shantikunj, South Civil Lines, Jabalpur (M.P.) 482001

O.A. No. 1220 OF 2022

BANK OF BARODA: APPLICANT (S) Versus CC M/S. SAMRIDHI HOSPITALITY & ANOTHER: DEFENDANTS (S)

1. M/s. Samriddh Hospitality and Services, A Proprietorship concern through its Proprietress Smt. Neha Giri, Situated at Om Residency, 1st Floor, Sehore Nakam Main Road, Bairagarh, Bhopal (M.P.) 2. Smt. Neha Giri, Wife of Shri Sunny Giri, Proprietress of M/s. Samriddh

Hospitality and Services, Resident of Resident of A-128, Shed Ashok Garden, Govindpura, Bhopal (M.P.) Whereas, OA No. 1220/23 was listed before Hon'ble Presiding Officer.

Whereas, the Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue summons / notice on the said Application under Section 19 (4) of the Act, (OA) filed against you for recovery of debts of Rs.52,81,706.73. In accordance with sub-section (4) of Section 19 of the Act, you, the Defendants are directed as under: . To show cause within thirty days of the service of summons as to why

relief prayed for should not be granted. ii. To disclose particulars of the properties or assets other than properties and assets specified by the applicant under Serial No. 3A of the Original

Application. iii. You are restrained from dealing with or disposing of secured assets or

such other assets and properties disclosed under Serial No. 3A of the Original Application, pending hearing and disposal of the application fo attachment of properties.

iv. You shall not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise, except in the ordinary course of his business any of the assets over which security interest is created and / or other assets and properties specified or disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application without the prior approval of the tribunal. v. You shall be liable to account for the sale proceeds realized by sale of

secured assets or other assets and properties in the ordinary course of business and deposit such sale proceeds in the account maintained with the bank of financial institutions holding security interest over such assets. You are also directed to file the written stated with a copy there of

urnished to the Applicant and to appear before Register 24.07.2024 at 10:30 A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence. Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal on this 8th day of July 2024.



**AUTHORISED OFFICER** 



Bank of Baroda Bijora Branch: Tehsil Deori Distric Sagar- 470226 (N/1.P) India Ph- 9752410677,

E-mail: BIJORA@BANKOFBARODA.COM

Website: www.bankofbaroda.com

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Bank of Baroda under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated 10/04/2024, calling upon the Borrower:- Ramdas Chadar

Address: HNo-17, Bajrang Colony Gram Cheer Tehsil Deori Dist Sagar MP PIN 470226 Co-borrower :- Savita Chadar w/o Ramdas Chadar Address HNo-17. Bajrang Colony Gram Cheer Tehsil Deori Dist Sagar MP PIN 470226 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 23,60,098/- (Rupees Twenty Three Lakh Sixty Thousand Ninety Eight Rupees Only) as on 09/04/2024 together with further interest thereon at the contractual rate plus costs, charges and expenses till date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is here given to the Borrowei

and the Public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 on this the 04th day of July the year 2024.

The Borrower/Guarantors/Mortgagors in particular and the public in general is here cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of Bank of Baroda for an amount of Rs.23,60,098/- (Rupees Twenty Three Lakh Sixty Thousand Ninety Eight Rupees Only) and further interest thereon at the contractual rate plus costs, charges and expenses till date of

The Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagors attention is invited to provision of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured

#### **Description of the Immovable Property** Description of Property: Land and Building (House) bearing Survey No on part

of khasra no 195/4. Present Khasra No 195/4/2. Situated at Village Kanskheda Bajrang Colony, PHNo- 31 Deori Tehsil Deori, District Sagar MP Pin 470226. Build up area 1000 Sq. Ft. Carpet Area 920 Sq. Ft.

Boundary Description :-

East-House of Jamna Sahu

West-House of Vimal vishwakarma North-House of Kalu Yadav South - Road of Colony

(Amit Kumar Srivastava) Chief Manager/Authorised Officer

Place: Mumbai Date: 10th July 2024

Company Secretary & Compliance Officer

**Authorized Office** 

Standing in the name of Mr. Ramdas Chadar s/o Gorelal Chadar Date:04/07/2024

**DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL JABALPUR** 

## Modi in Moscow: Amid dip in global temperature

SERVICE/AGENCIES NEW

Underlining the time tested ties between two countries, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday described Russia as India's "all-weather friend" and hailed President Vladimir Putin's leadership in strengthening the bilateral relationship over the past two decades. He termed Russia as "Sukh-dukh ka saathi."

He also announced that India has decided to open two new consulates in Kazan and Yekaterinburg cities of Russia in a bid to further boost travel and trade with the country. India currently has two consulates in Russia at St Petersburg and Vladivostok.

The Prime Minister's praise of Putin, during an address to the Indian diaspora in Moscow, came amid attempts by Western powers to isolate the Russian leader over the war in Ukraine. "On hearing the word Russia, the first word that comes to mind of every Indian is India's allweather friend (sukh-dukh ka saathi) and a trusted ally," Modi said.

"No matter how low the temperature dips below minus during Russian winter,



India-Russia friendship has always remained in 'plus', it is full of warmth. This relationship is built on the strong foundation of mutual trust and mutual respect," the Prime Minister said.

Modi said he had a special appreciation for "his friend" President Putin for steering India-Russia friendship to greater heights over the last two decades. The Prime Minister said for a long time the world had seen an "influence-oriented global order". "But, what the world needs right now is confluence not influence and no one can deliver this message better than India which has a strong tradition of worshipping confluences," Modi said.

The Prime Minister said India was undergoing a transformation and the pace of development over the past 10 years has taken the world by surprise. Modi said India was changing as it believes in the strength of its 140 crore citizens who are now dreaming of turning their resolve of

'Viksit Bharat' into reality. "Today's India is full of selfconfidence, unlike the situation before 2014, and this is our biggest capital," Modi said. "When people like you bless us, even the biggest goals can be achieved. You all know that today's India achieves whatever goal it sets its mind to," the prime minister said.

The Prime Minister said it

all the challenges and India will write a new chapter of global growth in coming

Modi said it was exactly a month ago that he took oath as prime minister for the third consecutive term when he had made the resolve to work at thrice the strength and speed to fulfill the aspi-

and speed to fulfill the aspirations of the country.

"Our government envisions making India the world's third-largest economy, build three crore homes for the poor, and turn three crore. poor and turn three crore poor women in villages to lakhpati didi;" the Prime Minister said amid chants of 'Modi, Modi' and 'Modi hai toh mumkin hai'. "In several goals of the government number three has assumed significance," he said.

He said India was the country which sent Chandrayaan to a place on the moon where no country has gone before and has given the world the most reliable model for digital transactions. "India's development of the past 10 years was just a trailer, we will see much faster growth in the next 10 years," Modi said.

As regards opening the new consulates, the Prime Minister made the announcement of the opening of new

Yekaterinburg while addressing the Indian diaspora here during his two-day visit to Russia. "I want to share some good news with you all. We have decided to open new consulates in Kazan and Yekaterinburg. This will enhance travel and business trade," Modi said.

Yekaterinburg is Russia's fourth largest city which has emerged as an important eco-nomic centre. The city had hosted four FIFA World Cup matches in 2018 when the sporting event was held in

Located on the confluence of the Volga and Kazanka rivers, Kazan is a cultural and educational hub and an emerging economic centre in Russia. Russia will also host the BRICS Summit in October in

Modi on Monday began a high-profile visit to Russia for the 22nd India-Russia annusummit with President Vladimir Putin, his first trip since the start of Moscow's invasion of Ukraine.

The prime minister, after concluding his engagements in Russia, will, on July 9, leave for Austria on the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister to that country in over 40 years.

### **Moscow agrees to repatriate all Indians** operating as support staff to Russian military

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI/MOSCOW

Taking cognisance of India's call to end the recruitment of Indians as support staff to the Russian military, Russia has broadly heeded to this and also agreed to ensure repatriation of those still working in the force, sources said on Tuesday.

It is learnt that Moscow agreed to release the Indians after the issue was brought up by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during an informal meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin on Monday night. The Russian president hosted a private dinner for the Indian prime minister at the former's residence in Novo-Ogaryovo on the outskirts of Moscow late on Monday evening.

Modi on Monday began a two-day high-profile visit to Russia for the 22nd India-Russia annual summit with President Putin, his first trip since the start of Moscow's invasion of Ukraine.

Last month, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said the issue of Indian nationals serving with the Russian Army remains a matter of "utmost concern" and demanded action from Moscow over it.

An announcement on Russia's decision to discharge all the Indians working as support staff to the Russian Army is expected to be made after summit talks between Modi and Putin on Tuesday. Russia has broadly agreed to our request on the issue, the sources said.

On June 11, India said two Indian nationals, who were recruited by the Russian Army, had been killed in the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict, which took the number of such deaths to four.

Following the deaths of two Indians, the MEA demanded a "verified stop" to further recruitment of Indian nationals by the Russian Army. In a strongly-worded statement, it said India demanded that there be a "verified stop to any further recruitment of Indian nationals by the Russian Army" and that such activities would not be in "consonance with our partnership."

Earlier in March, 30-year-old Hyderabad resident Mohammed Asfan succumbed to injuries sustained while serving with the Russian troops on the frontlines with Ukraine. In February, Hemal Ashwinbhai Mangua, a 23year-old resident of Surat, died in a Ukrainian air strike while serving as a "security helper" in the Donetsk region.

### Large-scale atrocities against Dalits in TN: Union Minister

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI** 

Union Minister L Murugan on Tuesday alleged largescale atrocities were taking place against Dalits in Tamil Nadu and claimed that even political leaders were not safe in the state under the DMK government.

A delegation of the Tamil Nadu BJP unit, led by the party's state vice president VP Duraisamy, will approach the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and the National Human Rights Commission later in the day, urging them to take appropriate action in the matter, Murugan told a press conference at the BJP headquarers here. Senior leaders of the BJP Tamil Nadu unit, including Duraisamy, were present at the press conference.

"After the DMK came to power in May 2021, there has been a tremendous increase in the atrocities against Dalits in that every year more than 2,000 cases of atrocities against he said.

Dalits are filed in the state," Murugan said.

He referred to a series of incidents of alleged atrocities against Dalits since 2022 and some incidents of attack and murder of the BJP leaders in the state, putting the blame on the "complete failure" of Chief Minister MK Stalin.

"Recently, K Armstrong, a Dalit leader and BSP state president was murdered," he said, alleging that "even political leaders are not safe" in the state under the DMK rule. "Scheduled caste leaders and people do not have security. under the DMK government,"

"A delegation of BJP Tamil Nadu unit, led by Duraisamy, is going to submit a memorandum to the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and National Human Rights Commission today in this connection, urging them to take appropriate action in the matter," the Union minister

> Murugan said the DMK claims that it is the pioneer of social justice but the ruling party is not following the idea of social justice in the state.

> "Stalin doesn't have the moral right to talk about social justice

## No open court hearing of same-sex marriage pleas: SC

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday refused to allow open court hearing of pleas seeking review of its last year's judgement declining legal recognition to same-sex marriage. In a setback to gay rights activists, a five judge constitution bench headed by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud had on October 17 last year refused to accord legal backing to same-sex marriage, saying there was "no unqualified right" to marriage with the exception of those that are recognised by

The apex court, however, had made a strong pitch for the rights of queer people so they don't face discrimination in accessing goods and services that are available to others, safe houses known as 'Garima Greh' in all districts to provide shelter to members of the community facing harassment and violence and dedicated hotline numbers which they could use in case of trouble. A five judge bench place in the state," he charged. | Kohli, BV Nagarathna and PS | the review pleas are consid-



Narasimha are scheduled to consider in chambers the pleas seeking review of the judgement on July 10. On Tuesday, senior advocates Abhishek Singhvi and NK

Kaul mentioned the matter and urged the CJI to hear the review petitions in an open

"I say that if these petitions can be heard in the open court...," Kaul asked the court. These are the constitution bench review matters which atrocities against Dalits taking | Justices Sanjiv Khanna, Hima told him. As per the practice,

ered in chambers by judges. In its judgement, the bench had held that transgender people in heterosexual relationships have the freedom and entitlement to marry under the existing statutory provisions.

It had said an entitlement to legal recognition of the right to union, akin to marriage or civil union, or conferring legal status to the relationship can be only done through "enacted law".

Chandrachud had delivered

four separate verdicts on a batch of 21 petitions seeking legal sanction for same-sex marriages. All five judges were unanimous in refusing to accord legal recognition to same-sex marriage under the Special Marriage Act and observed it was within Parliament's ambit to change the law for validating such

While the CJI had written a separate 247-page verdict, Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul (since retired) had penned a 17-page judgement in which he broadly agreed with Justice Chandrachud's views. Justice S Ravindra Bhat (since

retired), who authored an 89page judgement for himself and Justice Hima Kohli, had disagreed with certain conclusions arrived at by the CJI including on applicability of adoption rules for queer cou-ples. Justice PS Narasimha had said in his 13-page verdict that he was in complete agreement with the reasoning given and conclusions arrived at by Iustice Bhat.

The judges were unanimous "urban or elite" occurrence. In asexual and allied persons.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta that the Centre will constitute a committee chaired by the Cabinet Secretary for the purpose of defining and elucidating the scope of entitlements of queer couples who are in a union. The LGBTQIA++ rights activists, who had won a major legal battle in 2018 in the Supreme Court which decriminalised consensual gay sex, had moved the apex court seeking validation of same-sex marriage and consequential reliefs such as rights to adoption, enrolment as parents in schools, opening of bank accounts and availing succession and insurance benefits.

his judgement, the CJI had

recorded the assurance by

Some of the petitioners had urged the apex court to use its plenary power, "prestige and moral authority" to push the society to acknowledge such a union which would ensure LGBTQIA++ lead a "dignified" life like heterosexuals. LGBTQIA++ stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgennatural phenomenon and not sex, pansexual, two-spirit,

## **CBI** arrests two more in NEET-UG paper leak case



PNS NEW DELHI

The CBI has arrested two candidate, from Patna in connection with the alleged leakage of NEET-UG paper, taking the total number of arrests by the agency to 11, officials said Tuesday.

NEET-UG 'aspirant Sunny who hails from Nalanda and father of another candidate Ranjit Kumar who is from Gaya have been arrested, they

The CBI has so far arrested eight persons in Bihar NEET-UG paper leak case and one each in connection with alleged manipulation in Gujarat's Latur and Godhra, and one from Dehradun in connection with general conspiracy, the officials said. The agency had earlier arrested principal and vice principal of Hazaribagh-based Oasis school in the case and two persons who allegedly procandidates where burnt ques-

tion papers were recovered by

the Bihar Police.

The CBI, which is probing the alleged irregularities in the medical entrance exam, has registered six FIRs. The FIR from Bihar pertains to leakage of paper while the remaining from Gujarat, Rajasthan and Maharashtra are linked to impersonation of candidates and cheating. The agency's own FIR on a

reference from the Union Education Ministry pertains to a "comprehensive investigation" into the alleged irregularities in the examination. NEET-UG is conducted by the NTA for admissions to MBBS, BDS, AYUSH and other related courses in government and private institutions. This year, the exam was conducted on May 5 at 4,750 centres in 571 cities, including 14 abroad. More than 23 lakh candidates had appeared

### Meet outlines steps to empower physically challenged persons

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

 $P_{\text{structure, employment}}^{\text{roviding accessible infra-}}$ opportunities, and education to people with disabilities is crucial for ensuring their full participation and inclusion in society, Rajesh Aggarwal, Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Ministry of Social Justice, and Empowerment, said, stressing on diversity rather than disability with the nature of humanity.

He was speaking at the ASSOCHÂM's 6th Conference on Empowering Persons with Disabilities through Accessible & Assistive Technology here on Tuesday, Aggarwal also emphasised the gathering to not help people PWD with charity purposes but include them with designated job profiles and not quota. For enhancing education, he

gave examples of use of devices such as braille displays, speech-to-text software, and adapted learning tools to facilitate learning. Providing necessary workplace accommodations such as ergonomic chairs, specialized keyboards, and software solutions to support productivity, he added.

Focused on the theme 'Innovation and Sustainable Solutions for Equal Opportunities, the conference aligned with the vision of Viksit Bharat, aspiring to position India as a Global AT Hub. Driven by competitive manufacturing costs, sup-



porting government policies like Make in India , India can position itself as a key player in the global market, said the experts.A joint knowledge report 'Accessibility for all: embracing digital transformation with universal design" prepared by ASSOCHAM and EY was also released at the event.

Anil Rajput, Chairperson of the ASSOCHAM National CSR Council said

According to the WHO, 16 per cent of the world's population, which is over a billion people, have some form of disability, and 80 per cent of these live in the developing countries. With mobility being a critical factor in the lives of PwDs, he urged automobile manufacturers to bring in the latest technologies in vehicles for disabled people that are being used in different parts of the world. Amit Singh, Partner, EY

stressed on collaboration among government and private sector to create sustainable solutions for civil society and reducing barriers to participation.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is revolutionizing the field of emerging technologies by augmenting assistive devices' capabilities, personalizing experiences, and boosting accessibility. The country has a significant portion of its population that have disabilities that require immediate attention and solutions, he added.

Dr. Sara Varughese of CBM India addressed the pressing need for socially inclusive infrastructure, Dipendra Manocha of DAISY Forum of India advocated for government policies to support mass production of assistive devices, aiming to lower costs and broaden availability.

### Congress attacks Centre on unemployment

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

The Modi government has I only one mission and that is to "keep the youth jobless", Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge alleged on Tuesday in a scathing attack against the Centre on the issue

of unemployment. The Modi government may be refuting independent economic reports like the one by Citigroup on unemployment but how will it deny government data, Kharge asked in a lengthy social media post citing various reports.

"The truth is that Modi government is solely responsible for shattering the dreams of crores of youth in the last 10 years," he alleged. Kharge said the latest government data punctures the government's claims. According to NSSO's (National Sample Survey Office) Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises, in the manufacturing sector, 54 lakh jobs were lost in unincorporated units in the seven years between 2015 and 2023, he said.

"In 2010-11, 10.8 crore employees were employed in unincorporated, non-agricultural enterprises across India, which has become 10.96 crore in 2022-23 - that is, a marginal increase of only 16 lakh in 12 years," he said. Kharge cited the latest Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), to state that the urban unemployment rate is at 6.7 per cent (Q4,



"Modi government beats the drum of employment generation in the Formal sector by showing EPFO data, but even if we assume that data to be true, it has seen a 10% decline in new jobs in 2023," he said. A report by IIM Lucknow,

after analysing government data, shows that unemployment growth, high unemployment among the educated, low participation of women in the workforce are prevalent in the country, Kharge said.

He said the Modi government rejects independent economic reports because they expose their "shameless attempt to whitewash". According to the CMIE

(Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy), the current unemployment rate in the country has reached 9.2 per cent, he said, adding that it is a whopping 18.5 per cent for women. "According to the ILO report, 83% of the unemployed in the country are youth. According to the India Employment Report 2024, between 2012 and 2019, about 7 crore youth joined the labour force, but there was zero growth in

employment - only 0.01%!" he added. The Congress chief also

referred to the 2023 report

from Azim Premji University to say that 42.3 per cent of graduates under the age of 25 in the country are unemployed. "According to the latest report of Citigroup, India needs 1.2 crore jobs annually, and even % GDP growth will not be able to create enough jobs for our youth. Under the Modi Govt, the country has achieved an average of only 5.8% as

GDP growth," he said.

"Be it government jobs, or pri-

vate sector, self-employment or unorganised sector - Modi government has only one mission 'Keep the youth jobless," Kharge said. The Congress, which has been attacking the government over the issue of unemployment, on Sunday cited the Citigroup report to allege that the Modi govern-ment had accentuated India's "unemployment crisis" with the decimation of job-creating MSMEs through the Tughlakian demonetisation, a hastily rushed GST, and rising imports from China".

## **Dehra bypoll: Making poll debut, Sukhu's** Modi's tree plantation wife seeks votes in Himachal CM's name

Vote for the CM and not the MLA. This is the slogan of Congress candidate Kamlesh Thakur, wife of Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, who is making her debut in electoral politics from the Dehra Assembly

Dehra is one of the three assembly constituencies besides Hamirpur and Nalagarh where bypolls will be held on Wednesday. The seats fell vacant after the

three independent legislators -- Hoshiyar Singh (Dehra), Ashish Sharma (Hamirpur) and K L Thakur (Nalagarh) who had voted in favour of the BJP in the Rajya Sabha polls held on February 27 --resigned from the House on March 22.

The BJP fielded all the three former independent MLAs from their respective seats after they joined the saffron party. A total of 13 candidates are contesting the bypolls in the three segments

with 2,59,340 voters.
While the by-elections would not make much difference in the House as the Congress has a majority with 38 out of 68 members and the BJP has 27 members, in Dehra, the prestige of the chief minister will be at stake as Kamlesh Thakur is taking



on Hoshiyar Singh -- one among the nine MLAs who voted against the Congress candidate in the Rajya Sabha

polls. "Vote for the CM and not the MLA. Now, Dehra will also become the constituency of the CM," Kamlesh Thakur told people while canvassing implying that voting for her meant voting for the CM and hence "development".

"I will not need to go to the Secretariat to get your work done, I will get it done from the chief minister at home," said Kamlesh Thakur, who is pitted against two-time Independent MLA from Dehra and now BJP candidate Hoshiyar Singh.

Dehra constituency was carved out after delimitation in 2012 and senior BJP leader and former minister Ravi Inder Singh was elected in 2012 as the MLA while seeking re-election. "There was no need for them to resign as Independent

Hoshiyar Singh won as an

Independent in the 2017 and

The BJP gave a ticket to

Hoshiyar Singh, ignoring the

objections raised by former

ministers Romesh Dhawala and Ravi Inder Singh, and

set the stage for a virtual

straight contest between the

The no-holds-barred campaigning was marred by

insinuations, vitiating the

While Hoshiyar Singh has

been attacking Sukhu, saying

several educational, health

and other institutions are

talking of development, the

Congress leaders have

independents of "selling

their souls" to the BJP and

asking people to reject the

the

who de-notified

three

Congress and the BJP.

mud-slinging

atmosphere.

2022 assembly polls.

MLAs can support or oppose any party and even if they win, they would have to sit in the opposition," Sukhu said. He accused them of working for their own interests and not the people and alleged that the BJP, the Congress rebels and the Independent MLAs had hatched a conspiracy to topple the Congress government in the state.

also questioned why the

MLAs resigned after 15 months and were now

In the Hamirpur assembly segment, Ashish Sharma has crossed swords Congress's Puspender Verma who lost by a margin of 12,899 votes in the 2022

assembly polls. Hamirpur is the home district of Sukhu and the parliament constituency of former Union minister and BJP leader Anurag Thakur. assembly Hamirpur

constituency has been a stronghold of the BJP.

Of the 14 elections, including one by-election, held since 1967, the BJP and its earlier incarnation, the Jan Sangh and Janta Party won 10 while the Congress won three, including a by-

## campaign has become people's movement: Birla

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Tuesday said by launching the "Ek Ped Maa Ko Noon" Ke Naam" campaign, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has sent a message of adopting an environment-friendly lifestyle to the world battling climate change.

Birla said the plantation drive has become a people's movement across the country. The Speaker planted a sapling on the premises of the Border Security Force in the Bijasan area in Indore as part of the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaign.

Former Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan and state cabinet minister Kailash Vijayvargiya were also

Talking to reporters, Birla said, "The world is battling climate change, and to address these challenges, Prime Minister Modi has given a new message to the world to adopt an environment-friendly lifestyle and started the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam campaign." During the G20 Speakers'

Summit in New Delhi last year, the countries of this make the initiative to adopt



environment-friendly lifestyle a people's movement, he said.

'Indore, the country's cleanest city, has taken a new initiative to plant 51 lakh saplings. With this, it will also become the greenest city in the country in the coming days," he said

According to officials, under the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaign launched on June 5 on World Environment Day, 5.50 crore saplings will be planted across Madhya Pradesh, and of these, 51 lakh will be planted in Indore alone.

The plantation drive in global alliance resolved to Indore will culminate on July

### Dharavi redevelopment project a big scam, says Prithviraj Chavan

Senior Congress leader Prithviraj Chavan on Tuesday claimed the Dharavi slum redevelopment project in Mumbai was a "big scam" and demanded a white paper on it from the Maharashtra government.

Speaking in the Maharashtra assembly on budgetary demands of the revenue department, Chavan said the entire project will be scrapped once there is a change in government after the state assembly polls due October.

Dharavi is Mumbai's biggest slim cluster.

The Congress and Shiv Sena (UBT), both part of the opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi, have been opposing the multi-billion dollar redevelopment Dharavi project being executed by the

Adani group.
"The Dharavi redevelopment project is a big scam and the state government should come out with a white paper, or else when the next government comes to power in October the entire project will be scrapped," Chavan

The former state chief minister asked if the recent

handing over of a dairy land in Kurla for the Dharavi redevelopment project was mentioned in the original

There is no mention which government land is being given for Dharavi redevelopment...Whether it is Deonar, Mulund, salt pan land, he said. 'This should be investigated

as to how much government revenue loss is there," the Congress leader said.

He claimed that government land was being given to industrialists at very low prices and all revenue entitled to the government has been

The multi-crore Dharavi slum redevelopment project redevelopment project involves no land transfer to the Adani group but to the Maharashtra government's

### Normal life disrupted in parts of coastal Karnataka due to torrential rain

/UDUPI/SIRSI (KARNATAKA)

Normal life was disrupted in the coastal and Western Ghats districts of Dakshina Kannada, Udupi and Uttara Kannada following heavy to very heavy and incessant rains over the past few days, officials said. Uttara Kannada district Collector K Lakshmipriya said there was heavy rain in the coastal parts of the district on Monday and 313 people had taken shelter in eight care centres opened in Honnavar Taluk and they were provided with basic

many low-lying areas in the undivided Dakshina Kannada (including Udupi) were flooded. However, on Monday there were no incidents of flooding inside Mangaluru city, inundation was reported in lower parts of Bantwal town

situated near the riverfront. Officials at Karnataka State Natural Disasters Monitoring Centre (KSNMDC) said they were closely monitoring this area and that a rescue team was on standby.

Meanwhile, in Kannada, 10,600 cusecs water was released from the four gates of the Kadra reservoir of Kali river on Monday, as the water level crossed the danger threshold. Incidentally, when 6,000 cusecs of water was released on Saturday, to relieve pressure off the overflowing Kali river, downstream villages of Kadra dam, Kadra, Mallapur, Kerodi, Baira Balani, Karga, Ulag and Halaga were affected.



that Kannada on Monday were Sirsi, Siddapur and Yellapur, as well as parts of Malnad (ghats) area of Uttara Kannada. Many houses were flooded in Kadatoka area of Honnavar taluk and a team from National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) had to be deployed to rescue villagers.

As rain water entered houses at many places in Udupi, people had to be rescued by firefighters in rubber dinghies. The worst affected areas were in Kalsanka, Bailakere, Mathadabettu, Gundibail, Padigaru and Sagri. Firefighters used rubber dinghies to ferry women, children and elderly persons to safety.

In Uttara Kannada, Colonel Hill in Honnavar, a hillock on which one of the area's famous monuments, a British era column, stands, collapsed places on National Highway 66.

witnessed department, Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts issued an orange alert in their respective jurisdictions until July 11. An orange alert means very

heavy rainfall of 11 cm to 20

All three districts (Dakshina Kannada, Udupi and Uttara Kannada) declared a holiday for schools and PU colleges on Monday. A holiday has been declared

by the authorities in Dakshina Kannada and Udupi for schools and PU colleges on Tuesday also. Meanwhile, Uttara Kannada MP Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri on Monday visited affected areas in Shashihital and Gunda village and Bhaskeri of Kumta constituency as well as care

centres in Honnavar taluk and met the affected people. Karwar MLA Satish Sail offered 'bagina' (an offering to rivers in spate, a tradition With heavy rainfall expected according to the Met Kadra reservoir on Monday. followed in Karnataka) to

## **Assam flood situation improves** marginally, 18.80 lakh still affected

The flood situation in Assam improved improved marginally as the number of people reeling under the deluge in 27 districts decreased to around 18.80 lakh, officials said on Tuesday

The toll in this year's flood, landslide and storm rose to 85 with six more deaths reported on Monday, they said. Several major rivers, including the Brahmaputra, continued to flow over the danger level at different places with a forecast of rain in isolated places.

The affected population was 18,80,700 in 27 districts as compared to almost 22.75 lakh people suffering from officials said.



followed by Cachar with over 2.01 lakh and Barpeta with nearly 1.36 lakh suffering multiple agencies, including from the flood.

25 districts, taking care of 3,45,500 displaced people at present, the officials said.

operations National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and SDRF are operating 543 camps and being carried out across the In the next 24 hours, added.

affected areas. The Regional Meteorological Centre in Guwahati said on Monday that a cyclonic

circulation lies over Assam and neighbourhoods up to 1.5 km above the mean sea

are very likely to occur at isolated places Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura, it added.
The Brahmaputra river is

flowing above the danger mark at Nimatighat, Tezpur, Guwahati, and Dhubri.

Other major rivers that have breached the red mark are Subansiri at Badatighat, Burhidihing at Chenimari, Dikhou at Sivasagar, Disang at Nanglamuraghat, Kopili at Dharamtul, Barak at BP Ghat, Sankosh at Golokganj and Kushiyara at Karimganj town. Damage to infrastructure, including embankments, roads and bridges, has been reported from different parts

### Gujarat man seeks ₹20 lakh compensation for death of his college going son in Rajkot fire

**PTI** ■ RAJKOT

 $T^{\text{he father of a 20-year-old}}_{\text{engineering student, who}}$  was killed in the TRP game zone fire in Gujarat's Rajkot city on May 25, has moved the district consumer dispute redressal commission, seeking Rs 20 compensation from the firm which ran the ill-fated facility for the death of his son.

Twenty-seven persons lost their lives in the fire at the game zone. One Rasik Vekaria, a businessman, has moved the Rajkot District Consumer Disputes Commission Redressal demanding a compensation

and punitive damage of Rs 20 lakh from the firm for its negligent approach and deficiency in service, his lawyer Gajendra Jani said on Tuesday. Vekaria has sought compensation on the ground that his only son Nirav, a second-year engineering student, had a bright academic career ahead before the tragedy struck due to the negligence of the firm and its partners.

Collector, Commissioner of Police and Municipal Commissioner of Rajkot have also been made parties for the purpose of bringing all the documentary evidence related to this and the notices were issued



complaint, Jani said. Judge K M Dave has issued notices to nine respondents, including Raceway Enterprises, its partners, as well as Rajkot collector, police commissioner. and

municipal commissioner, he The complaint by Vekaria was filed on June 29,

heard on August 2.
As per the complaint,

Raceway Enterprises and its partners offered its products through various types of advertisement for activities such as games, amusement, sports and racing under the name of TRP Game Zone. "Lured by such a description, Nirav and other customers were attracted to the game zone and paid the amount fixed by it to enjoy its various products, such as trampoline, artificial wall climbing, racing, bowling, jumping, etc," the complaint stated. When the fire broke out on May 25, Niray and others

on July 6. The matter will be could not get out safely from the game zone and died prematurely in the blaze, it said. The complaint accuses the firm of being negligent regarding safety for its customers by not making fire extinguishers available, nor providing insurance cover. Nirav, the firm's customer, received defective service from the firm and died due to its negligence, it said.

"The complaint demanded that the partners of the firm and the owners of the place where the firm used to operate should pay a compensation of Rs 20 lakh to the family of deceased

### Maha to bring new law to crack down on bogus pathology labs

**PTI** ■ MUMBAI

Maharashtra Minister Uday Samant on Tuesday said the state government has drafted a law to crack down on bogus pathology labs, which will provide punishment to violators.

During the Question Hour in the state assembly, Samant, the higher and technical education minister, said the proposed law would entail proper rules and regulations, and flying squads would be formed to check violations. Unregistered pathology laboratories will not be

allowed to operate, he said.

The issue concerns the urban Nursing Home Act would development, public health medical education departments, Samant said. BJP MLA Ashish Shelar said bogus pathology labs were looting money and playing with people's lives.

Several collection centres that have come up over the years should be registered, he said, demanding criminal cases against violators.

NCP (SP) legislator Rajesh Tope said the Nursing Home Act should be amended if the government can't implement the new law soon. To this, the minister said the draft of the new law was ready, and if needed, the Municipal Corporation Act

also be amended. Yogesh Sagar of the BJP said

pathology forms a base for

any surgery, and the poor end

up going to bogus labs for testing.
Shiv Sena (UBT) MLA Ajay

Choudhary claimed that bogus pathology labs work in connivance with government hospitals.

The discussion took place on a question by BJP legislator Sunil Rane, who sought data about the number of pathology labs in Mumbai. He expressed surprise at the government's reply that under existing rules of the Mumbai

1888, there was no provision for registration of pathology

Fire NOC, certification from the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Laboratories, Calibration certification for good clinical practices, and registration for bio-medical waste disposal are required, he said.

The minister said the Maharashtra Paramedical Council had authorised 7,085 candidates to operate pathology labs since 2019, and of these, 182 were in Mumbai.

There were 197 labs in civicrun hospitals in Mumbai, he HC dismisses petition by Chinese national Seeking nod to go back to her country

Chinese Criminal Code, The court also said that, if the and records the country of the court also said that the court also said the court also said that the court also said the court also said that the court also said the court also said the court also said according to which once a The Karnataka High Court has dismissed a petition

filed by a Chinese national accused in alleged loan app completed. scams, seeking permission to travel back to her country Chinese pending trial on the grounds of meeting her ailing father. A single judge bench of Justice M Nagaprasanna passed the order on the plea by 42-yearold Hu Xiaolin, who is allegedly involved in a series of Chinese loan app scams known as "Power Bank app scam", in which customers

were coerced and cheated of

several crores of rupees in

The court took note of the

Karnataka and Kerala.

person becomes an accused, he is not permitted to move out of the country till the trial gets The petitioner being a

national undoubtedly aware of the law that prevails in China in treatment to (of) a foreign national or an alien, as described in its laws. If laws in China prohibit such exit of a foreign national under the aforesaid circumstances, laws of India cannot be made flexible on any score whatsoever, as it is a case of a Chinese national who is involved in multiple crimes," it

petitioner is permitted to move out of the shores of the nation, despite the plethora of crimes pending against her, it would become impossible conclude trial, as it would be permitting her to flee justice and create a dent in the majesty

According to sources, Xiaolin had come to India in 2017 and married Anas Ahmed, an Indian national, and is residing at present in Bengaluru.

of law.

The cases were registered against Xiaolin and her husband based on the complaint filed by Razorpay Software Private Limited, a

payment gateway. The petitioner was arrested

and released on bail conditions which include that she would not leave the country without prior permission from the According to sources, the

petitioner submitted that the Kerala high court had permitted her to visit China and come back in connection with cases registered in Kerala. To this, the Karnataka HC said: The High Court of Kerala granting permission to travel will not bind this Court to consider the issue on merits, as the order passed by the High Court of Kerala does not indicate the crimes or the practice prevailing in China to other nationals including Indian nationals.

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

### **Strong message**

PM Modi's Russia visit signals India's intent to preserve its strategic autonomy and pursue its national interest

rime Minister Narendra Modi is in Moscow for a two-day state visit. The visit comes after a long gap as the last time PM Modi visited Russia was in 2019. Since then, a lot has happened in the international arena and India and Russia have emerged as reliable friends. This visit holds profound implications for India-Russia relations, and it sends nuanced messages to both China and the West. India and Russia share a longstanding relationship rooted in historical, strategic, and economic cooperation. This visit underscores India's commitment to maintaining and strengthening these traditional ties. The partnership between the two nations spans various sectors, including defence, energy, space, and nuclear technology. By reaffirming these bonds, PM Modi signals India's intent to preserve its strategic autonomy and resist external pressures to align exclusively with any single global power bloc. India's relationship with China has been marked by border tensions. PM Modi's visit to Russia is a strategic manoeuvre in this delicate



balance. Russia and China have their own close ties. However, India's engagement with Russia serves to remind China that India has strong partnerships beyond its immediate neighbourhood. PM Modi was welcomed at the airport by Russia's First Deputy Prime Minister, Denis Manturov, a higher-ranking official than the Deputy Prime Minister who greeted Chinese President Xi Jinping on his recent visit. This underscores the significant importance Russia places on its relationship with India and is in contrast with Xi Jingping's welcome, where the lower-ranking Deputy Prime Minister received him. On the other hand, India's relationship with Western powers, particularly the United States, has grown sig-

nificantly in recent years. However, by visiting Russia, PM Modi communicates India's desire to maintain an independent foreign policy. This visit is a reminder that India will not be swayed into a singular alignment with Western interests. It underscores India's multipolar approach to international relations, where it seeks to engage with all major powers based on mutual interests and benefits. To put things in perspective Russia happens to be the major supplier of arms to India and India made no bones about buying Russian oil despite western sanctions. One of the critical aspects of PM Modi's visit is the focus on economic and energy cooperation. Russia is a significant supplier of energy resources, including oil and natural gas. Strengthening this energy partnership helps India secure its energy future while diversifying its sources. Defence cooperation has been a cornerstone of India-Russia relations. PM Modi's visit likely includes discussions on furthering defence ties and technology transfers. Furthermore, India has challenges in its neighbourhood and by leveraging its friendship with Russia, it can always have an edge. Besides, Russian support would come handy in India's bid for a permanent seat at the United Nations. India's engagement with Russia is vital for world peace and fostering a multipolar world which is the best guarantee for world peace.



NDRF personnel rescue trapped people from the flooded areas in Tanakpur

## Babas thrive on social equality deficit



The Hathras incident points to a deeper societal neglect of marginalised communities, offering a fertile ground for dubious leaders to emerge as champions of social reform

he unfortunate inci-dent in Hathras is finding a very despicable narrative in social media. Nobody seems to be mourning the death of 120-odd people belonging mostly to the Dalit community but contesting the fact that a godman had emerged from the Jatav community. We political analysts talk of undercurrents in polls and leave it unexplained.

The emergence of a Baba like Surajpal Singh explains it. In times when the most powerful of the political leaders with the help of all the money and machinery at their disposal find it difficult to get 25000 people to attend a rally, there must be something in Surajpal Singh's modus operandi which saw a gathering of 250000 people.When the BJP blames the Hindu voters for deserting it, particularly in Uttar Pradesh during the last parliamentary elections, its answer lies in the Hathras incident. The opposition leaders led by Rahul Gandhi and Akhilesh Yadav have blamed the administration for the tragedy and in a way covertly if not overtly taken a stand in defence of the Baba.

It's not only about a Surajpal from the Jatav community but several others like Rampal from the Jat community in Haryana, who have challenged the upper caste monopoly on Hindu spiritual discourse.

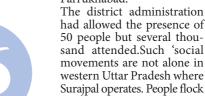
They have their methods that challenge the Puritan practises but they are applauded by their followers for it. The police report filed in the matter states that organisers "underreported the number of expected attendees, did not cooperate in managing traffic, and concealed evidence after the stampede, which occurred when people stopped to collect soil from the path of the baba's vehicle." The FIR indicated that the police and administration did everything possible with available resources.

The FIR ironically also shows that how the administration, he is reported to have facilijust district but pan-India, has been completely unaware of the swelling undercurrent. When cour to the poor from the such a large gathering of people clamber to clutch dust particles

kicked up by a departing godman's car, it reflects that the government and society have failed to engage with the poor and the deprived. Poverty is not as an economist would define it but that of ignorance and inequality. This provides just the fertile ground for a Baba from the community to emerge as a 'social reformer'.

The social reform programmes of the government, be it the 'sarvoday' of the yore or the 'antoday' of the current times, have focussed on cash transfer and not social equity transfer. This explains the financial sinews of Surajpal and others like him.

The financially prosperous in the community donate liberally as he talks of ending social discrimination.In his discourses Surajpal talks of equality and empowerment. He advocates education and even facilitates the admission of children from his community into upmarket schools. He routinely condemns caste-based discrimination and preaches universal brotherhood.What got his following soar was that during the Covid-19 pandemic, tated food and medicine dis community. During the second wave of the pandemic, in



PROGRAMMES OF THE GOVERNMENT, BE IT THE 'SARVODAY'OF THE YORE OR THE 'ANTODAY'OF THE CURRENT TIMES, HAVE FOCUSSED ON **CASH TRANSFER** AND NOT SOCIAL **EQUITY TRANSFER.** THIS EXPLAINS THE FINANCIAL SINEWS

OF SURAJPAL AND

OTHERS LIKE HIM

THE SOCIAL REFORM

May 2021, when contagion was at its peak, Surajpal organised a camp in Farrukhabad.

had allowed the presence of 50 people but several thousand attended.Such 'social movements are not alone in western Uttar Pradesh where Surajpal operates. People flock to 'Deras' of different hues, especially in the region of Haryana-Punjab. Though all these Deras have followers among every caste, most followers are Dalits and backward caste people, who are often economically weaker too. Punjab has been witness to the emergence of a large number of Deras due to prevailing inequality in the social and economic order and the marginal position of the Dalits in society.

According to rough estimates given by Sikh scholars, there are more than 9,000 Sikh and non-Sikh Deras in 12,000 villages in Punjab. Of these, there are about 300 major Deras across Punjab and the neighbouring Haryana. Out of these almost a dozen have over one lakh devotees each. Going by these standards Surajpal's Ashram has if not more at least as strong a numerical strength as the major Deras of Punjab like Radha Soami (Beas), Dera Sacha Sauda

Nirankari, Namdhari, Diya Jyoti Jagran Sansthan (Nurmahal), Dera Sant Bhaniarwala (Ropar), and Dera Sach Khand (Ballan). As of now, a judicial commission has been set up to enquire into the matter. The commission would blame Surajpal, his devotees and the administra-

tion for the tragedy.
The state would also for some time act with full might carrying out arrests. Once the public outcry dies down, the media would withdraw its cameras and post it at another news event. The matter under judicial probe too will hit a dead end. Probably nobody wants to answer why Babas like Surajpal get a tailor-made pitch to mould public emotion.

Through their clout they come to command political influence and every political party wants them on their side. No wonder Congress and Samajwadi Party are backing Surajpal Singh in the same way as the BJP government of Haryana gave liberal furloughs to murder convict Ram Rahim Singh of Dera Sacha Sauda. The wrath of Babas could be politically harmful.

president of, the Centre for Reforms, Development & *Justice*; *views expressed are* 

The writer is the author and

### The Imperative of upskilling strategies in modern business -



SRIKRISHNA

By investing in learning and development initiatives, organisations not only equip their workforce with essential skills but also drive sustainable growth

In today's fast-evolving business environment, the ability to adapt and thrive through continuous learning has become indispensable for sustained success. To remain competitive amidst technological advancements, economic shifts, and geopolitical changes, businesses must adopt proactive upskilling strategies. These strategies empower organizations to innovate and stay resilient, ensuring readiness to tackle uncertainty and adapt to evolving market demands. A crucial aspect of fostering organizational success lies in

developing a robust upskilling plan tailored to the needs of C-suite executives. This comprehensive approach focuses not only on enhancing technical competencies but also on cultivating strategic thinking and leadership abilities. CEOs play a pivotal role in this endeavor by investing in tailored Learning and Development (L&D) programs. These initiatives aim to refine communication skills, enhance adaptability, manage crises effectively, and unleash influential leader-

ship potential. Strategic thinking involves

synthesising information from diverse sources and cultivating collaborative relationships with stakeholders. These competencies are pivotal for making informed decisions and driving organizational progress. Embracing technology-centric strategies that incorporate cutting-edge skills such as Generative AI, Machine Learning, Data Analytics, and Cybersecurity is essential for navigating complexities and maintaining market competitiveness.

To effectively implement upskilling initiatives, organizations must first identify skill gaps within their workforce through regular assessments and performance reviews. Tailoring training programs to address these specific needs is key. Technology plays a crucial role in modern L&D, with elearning platforms, virtual classrooms, and mobile appli-

cations offering flexible and accessible training options. Research underscores the importance of fostering a culture of continuous learning. Encouraging cross-functional experience is another pivotal element of a robust development plan. Leaders benefit from rotating through various roles and departments, gaining a comprehensive understanding of the organization and fostering better decision-making. Building strong internal and external relationships is crucial, enabling effective collaboration and leveraging partnerships for innovation and growth.

The 2024 Business Outlook Report highlights that a significant majority of small and medium-sized enterprises have either implemented or plan to implement upskilling strategies. Failure to do so risks falling behind in a competitive landscape. McKinsey & Company supports this, citing that investment in employee development enhances engagement and

retention. AI-powered Human Capital Management (HCM) systems are transforming how

organizations manage skills gaps. These systems analyze workforce data to identify current competencies and predict future skill requirements, recommending personalized development opportunities. Tracking metrics such as employee engagement, course completion rates, and skill acquisition is crucial for refining L&D strategies aligned with business objectives.

Creating a culture that values learning is pivotal for upskilling success. Leaders must champion continuous development by setting an example, fostering an environment where learning is encouraged and rewarded. This involves integrating development goals into performance reviews, providing incentives for learning activities, and ensuring visible support from CEOs and senior leaders. Such a culture not only keeps businesses abreast of industry changes but also fosters sustainable growth and innovation, securing a competitive edge in the market.

(The writer is CEO, TimesPro; views are personal)

#### REEVALUATE CANDIDACY CRITERIA

Madam — The radical Sikh preacher and chief of 'Waris Punjab De,' Amritpal Singh, who is imprisoned in Assam's Dibrugarh district under the National Security Act, and Kashmiri leader Sheikh Abdul Rashid, popularly known as Engineer Rashid, who is in Delhi's Tihar jail for a terror funding case under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, were granted parole to take their oaths as members of the Lok Sabha on July 5. This event took place amid heavy security in and around the Parliament com-

People are wondering how, under our constitution, both individuals were allowed to run for MP and won convincingly as independents. This reflects on the electorate's choices, not the country's policies. Moreover, while both Amritpal (31) and Rashid (56) took their oaths to uphold the Constitution, they have no faith in it.I believe it is high time our Parliament revisited the criteria for election candidates. Anyone facing charges of terrorism or anti-national activities should not be allowed to contest elections, regardless of their popularity. Any individual who does not respect India's integrity and sovereignty should be ineligible to file a nomination. Instead, an affidavit affirming faith in the Constitution and National Integrity should be a prerequisite for candidates. Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee | Faridabad

**CELEBRATING TRUE HEROES** Madam — At a recent event in Kozhikode, Kerala, Union Minister Suresh Gopi referred to the cleaning staff as "superheroes" for their efforts in maintaining the cleanliness of the venue. He also invited them to sit in seats reserved for special guests, which they did hesitantly. Kudos to the minister for recognizing and honoring the work of a group of workers who are often overlooked. We hope this generous gesture will inspire more such acts of apprecia-



ımbai, India's financial capital, has come to a standsum as meany ......
es the city, causing widespread floodcome to a standstill as heavy rain lashing and disruption. The city's residents are struggling to cope with the torrential downpour, which has led to waterlogging in many areas, particularly low-lying regions like Sion,

the margins of social functions. Even Gandhiji once said, "Sanitation is more important than Independence.

Avinash Godboley Dewas

#### **AGENDA OF PM'S RUSSIA VISIT**

Madam —As Prime Minister Narendra Modi traveled to Russia on Monday, July 8, there was anticipation about whether he would address the issue of Indian nationals fighting for the Russian army in the conflict zone and ensure their safe return to India as soon as possible. The prime minister will hold summit talks with President Vladimir Putin amid the ongoing conflict in Ukraine during this visit, which is his first trip to Russia since 2019 and the first since the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022.

India has a longstanding relationship with Russia, initially with the USSR, thanks to the diplomatic and strategic initiatives of various Congress governments over the decades. More recently, during his ten years as Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh met with Russian tion for those who typically remain on Presidents Vladimir Putin and Dmitry

Andheri, and Kurla. The rain has also caused significant damage to property and infrastructure, with reports of wall collapses and tree falls disrupting daily life. The city's drainage system has been overwhelmed, leaving many areas submerged in water and hindering emergency services. The heavy rain has also affected the city's transportation systems, with flights and trains delayed or cancelled, and major roads clogged with traffic. Schools and offices have been forced to shut down, and the authorities are working hard to mitigate the situation. However, the city's residents are bracing themselves for another day of heavy rain and flooding, as the weather forecast predicts more rainfall in the coming days. The situation has sparked discussions on the need for improved urban planning and infrastructure to handle such extreme weather events. Purva Pandya | Ujjain

Medvedev 16 times, either in India or Russia. In comparison, this is only Mr. Modi's 11th meeting with President Putin after a decade in office. Between FY14 and FY23, India's exports to Russia stagnated, dropping from USD 3.17 billion to USD 3.14 billion, while imports surged dramatically from USD 6.34 billion to USD 46.21 billion. Such an imbalanced trade relationship is unsustainable in the long term and has harmful effects on our domestic industry. According to the Indian Embassy in Moscow, at least 50 Indian nationals have joined the Russian army. Many others have been "duped" into fighting in a war where they have no stake, aside from a chance to escape the poverty and unemployment crisis perpetuated by the current administration. Will the prime minister address the plight of these youth and ensure their safe return to India as soon as possible?

Bhagwan Thadani | Mumbai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneér@gmail.com

#### **FIRST COLUMN DISCOVERING** TRUE STRENGTH

The soul's intrinsic qualities of peace, love, and wisdom give us true strength and power

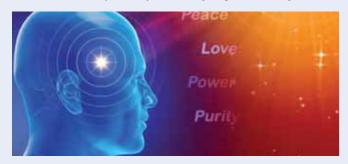


RAJYOGI BRAHMAKUMAR NIKUNJ JI

ahatma Gandhi has defined power in 2 forms, one is obtained by the fear of punishment and the other by acts of love. According to him power based on love is a thousand times more effective and permanent than the one derived from fear of punishment. However, the world that we live in today has a different scenario wherein power spells authority, strength, capability and superiority. If we walk down history lane, we can see that all good and bad endeavours by individuals or groups in the past were directed at garnering power.

Be it world wars, political uprisings, revolutions, religious propaganda, scientific research, technological innovations, economic strategies, or ethnic-cultural dominance, almost everything was aimed at being powerful or being in the seat of power. So what is it about power that makes most of us go crazy after it? Well!! The simple reply to this would be .. Who doesn't want to be powerful & experience the adrenaline rush? Of course, all of us just love that moment of power that allows us to do what we want to do on our terms.

Power has different meanings for different people, but the most common association of power is with money and that is why the rich and the powerful people in society always make headlines due to their high net worth. Another common imagery of power goes with political leaders who are seen as synonymous with power. In the 21st century, science and technology combined with marketing has also become another means of power along with media which has also emerged as a highly influential medium of power. It won't be exaggerating to say that media is one such source that affects all other powers as it can help to highlight downplay or even destroy the power value of all the above-mentioned powers. However in reality these are all outer forms or sources of power and since they are based on outer reality they tend to deplete or change and perish with time also they are unstable, unreliable and often disempowering. If that is so then what is the True source of power? The majority of us are unaware of the reality that True power is rooted in human consciousness i.e. in the soul. Yes!! But it's unfortunate that most of us, in our quest for power, totally forget that money or status



is the only means from which temporary power can be derived. Such

power is also limited in its outreach, value or benefit. The sense of 'I' and 'mine' turns such power into a limitation and it has

its influence for a limited period on a limited area of life to a limited degree On the other hand, true power will be unlimited, benevolent and universal in its impact & hence it will automatically empower others. Therefore to reclaim our real power we need to first understand who we are and live life from a spiritual perspective because when the spirit is awake and aware it is indomitable. When we become aware of how powerful we are from within, we become free from all kinds of desires.

Remember! A person who can control his thoughts and emotions and live by the highest values of peace, love, truth and joy under all circumstances is truly powerful. Such a person can influence and bring about change not only in his life but also in others' lives and the world around him. As children of the Supreme, every human being is a soul inherent with core values like peace, joy, love, purity, wisdom, power and bliss. Due to gross ignorance about these very values, we lose our true power and start searching for it in the wrong sources. That is why today the whole human race has become weak and impure. But! Now the Supreme Source of Power himself is guiding us all to regain our lost power and sovereignty by imparting knowledge of spirit (soul) through which we would become the rulers of our inner kingdom. So what are we waiting for? Let's just begin the journey to experience real power by connecting to our true selves and the Supreme Source.

(The writer is a spiritual educator and a popular columnist;

views are personal)

## Airfares to surge amidst aircraft shortage



SHIVAJI SARKAR

Indian air travelers are bracing for a steep hike in ticket prices as India is feeling the repercussions of a significant disruption in Boeing's production schedule



irfares to shoot up sharply as airlines in India, the third largest in the world, face a shortage of aircraft. The airlines are to suffer as the US Boeing is in crisis for its Starliner space vehicle leakage and two fatal crashes defrauding the US government. Boeing has lost more than \$32 billion since 2019. Fewer companies could lose that kind of money and not be facing bankruptcy. Boeing may face three years of probation, independent safety audits and a penalty of \$ 487.3 million in penalty. It has put its new aircraft manufacturing off schedule causing delivery of far fewer planes to airlines in India. It would hamper the growth of the industry here and limit the capability to offer seats to fliers. It would result in severe seat shortages and spiralling fares.

The US Justice Department might charge Boeing with iraud if it does not plead guilty to two deadly Max crashes in 2018 and 2019 killing 346 people. The case stems from the department's determination that Boeing violated an agreement that was intended to resolve a 2021 charge of conspiracy to defraud the US government. Boeing is charged with misleading regulators who approved the 737 Max and set pilot-training requirements to fly the plane. The company blamed two relatively low-level employees for the fraud. Boeing reached a \$2.5 billion settlement for the 2018 and 2019 Ethiopian crashes with the Justice Department in January 2021 to avoid prosecution on a single charge of fraud misleading federal regulators who

approved the plane. Boeing blamed the deception on two relatively low-level employees.In March 2019, an Ethiopian Airlines 737 MAX crashed, killing all 157 on board, after which regulators around the world grounded MAX aircraft. The crashes were blamed on a flaw with a newly-



**BOEING REACHED** A \$2.5 BILLION SETTLEMENT FOR **THE 2018 AND** 2019 ETHIOPIAN CRASHES WITH THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT IN JANUARY 2021 TO AVOID

PROSECUTION ON A SINGLE CHARGE OF FRAUD — MISLEADING **FEDERAL REGULATORS** 

WHO APPROVED THE PLANE inducted system for pushing the 
It is a new production glitch that aircraft nose down to prevent the plane from stalling.

This week the justice department's criminal fraud section told a federal court Boeing violated terms of the settlement by failing to make promised changes to detect and prevent violations of federal anti-fraud laws. The deter-mination means that Boeing could be prosecuted "for any federal criminal violation," including the charge of fraud that the company hoped to avoid with the set-tlement, the Justice Department

The company handed over 27 planes in January, its lowest tally since September, compared with 67 deliveries in December. It sold three Boeing 737 Max planes but also logged three cancellations. As it was grappling with the situation on January 5, 2024, a door plug blew out on an Alaska Airlines flight at 16,000 feet shortly after take-off from Portland, Oregon. None was injured but it ripped off headrests and exposed passengers to a gaping hole in the 26th row. Bolts holding a door panel were also found missing, the US National Transportation Safety

Board reported.
This led the Federal Aviation
Administration (FAA) to halt Boeing's planned production increases till it was satisfied with

the quality control issues. The Max planes that Air India wants to buy, Boeing says, would have to rework about 50 of the undelivered planes because of incorrectly drilled holes in 22 fuselages or the larger outer shell that encompasses the main aircould slow deliveries further. Various FAA safety inspections would periodically stop the production line. The FAA says that it would allow the variant of the 737 Max 9 with the door plug to fly again - after demanding checks to the bolts on every plane. The family of two MAX victims want Boeing to face a criminal trial and pay a fine of \$ 24.8 billion. They are against plea bargaining saying this was just a reworking of "letting Boeing off the hook". In such a situation, the hope of Air India Express and Akasa getting their deliveries does not look bright.

Questions arise about how the two airlines agreed to the deal of MAX, which still has not cleared safety issues. China has reportedly cancelled some of its bookings.Amid such situations in June 2022, Tata Sons signed the agreement during the Paris Air Show for 20 Boeing Dreamliners, 10 Boeing 777X widebody aircraft, and 190 Boeing 737 MAX narrow-body aircraft along with 250 Euro Airbus for \$ 70 billion, according to Tata Sons and Air chairman India Chandrashekhar.

In June 2023, IndiGo made the world's largest aircraft order by signing a deal for 500 A320 neo family planes from Airbus. Indigo is expecting some Airbus 320

deliveries. But that would not suffice the needs of the growing number of passengers. Indigo is set to ground many aircraft. So would Spicejet, which met with several security issues. The delays, which are said to be unavoidable, would create a

shortage of aircraft almost with all major airlines, Indigo, Spicejet, Akasa and Air India.

Jet Airways and Go First have gone bankrupt adding to the shortage.The Boeing crisis could hit India hard with Air India and Akasa having fewer aircraft and an overall shortage of seats for domestic and international routes spiralling fares. Airlines in India carried a record 152 million passengers in 2023, a 30 per cent increase from 2022 and a 5 per cent rise over 2019. According to the Director General of Civil Aviation, the domestic air traffic from January to May rose 4 per cent during the period to 13.8 million.

The aviation industry fears that the reduced aircraft delivery is set to impact the aviation market severely more so as several passengers rise more owing to a fallacious dynamic Indian Railways fare structure. It hikes train fares to the level of air fares making people prefer to travel by air. This is impacting the railways and the airlines alike

Fares in certain destinations like Kochi-Delhi Kolkata-Delhi Mumbai-Delhi or Guwahati-Delhi could skyrocket and match some of the international routes as the country does not have an integrated

approach.
If the rail fares are cut and the reservation system rationalised, it could take off a significant load from the airlines. The unimaginative system predicts a scramble for airline tickets by the end of December winter vacation.

(The writer is a policy analyst; views expressed are personal)

### Leadership shifts in the UK and Iran signal a new era of moderate politics

The recent election results in the UK and Iran reflect a broader global trend of voters favouring leaders who advocate for inclusivity and moderation

¬here has been a change of leadership in both the United Kingdom and Iran. In the UK, Rishi Sunak of the Conservative Party has been succeeded by Keir Starmer of the Labour Party. In Iran, the people have elected Masoud Pezeshkian, a reformist and relatively liberal candidate, as their new President.

The Iranian presidential election was necessitated by the death of the former President, Ebrahim Raisi, in a helicopter crash in May. These shifts, one in Europe and the other in Asia, represent a change in the mindset of people across continents.

Both countries, with their

rich traditions and civiliza-

tions, have seen their elec-

torates reject hardliners in



favor of moderate leaders

and parties. This highlights how, when given the choice, people make thoughtful decisions on a large scale, guided by the current needs rather than the incessant rhetoric of hardliners invoking civiliza-

tion and nationalism. The Labour Party in Britain had been out of power for the last 14 years. Many predictbelieved the country would remain under Conservative rule indefinitely.

The Conservatives, driven by their nationalistic desires, even led the UK out of the European Union, isolating the nation from its neighboring democracies.It is noteworthy that while the Conservatives' loss marks a historic low in the context of British democracy, the significant increase in seats for the Liberal Democrats, from 11 in 2019 to 72 now, represents

a historic high. As the Liberal Democrats are considered somewhat more left-leaning than even the Labour Party, there is a renewed emphasis on improving the quality of life for the common man, more ed the party's demise and so than at any other time in

the country's political landscape.Conversely, since the Islamic Revolution in 1979, Iran has consistently positioned itself against the West to assert its sovereignty. This stance has not only led to cultural conflicts with the West but also created significant challenges for Iran's economy. Its isolation and confrontations with G7 nations have weakened its oil-based economy Additionally, the Iranian peo-

ple have periodically expressed their dissatisfaction with the country's social laws. With the recent changes in leadership in Britain and Iran, both new leaders have pledged to end their countries isolation and foster global friendships. This suggests that the UK may seek to



renew ties with the European Union, and Iran may aim to improve relations with the

It will be interesting to see if Keir Starmer will reconsider Brexit and move the UK closer to the EU.Similarly, as the new Iranian President promises to "extend a hand of friendship to everyone," it which is the main reason for are cautiously optimistic

this will lead to peace with the USA and, eventually,

with tech-rich Israel. It will also be intriguing to observe if the Iranian leader can persuade the Supreme Leader to return to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) framework,

Iran's isolation in the West.These election results suggest a potential leftward shift in global politics, with significant changes occurring in both major European and Asian countries.

This could mean that governments will need to focus more on job creation and improving the quality of life for their citizens. Britain is currently facing financial dif-ficulties and high inflation, despite soaring property

prices. Similarly, the Iranian people are feeling the weight of ever-increasing sanctions imposed by the US and its allies. Iranians need a new economy and a new approach to their relations with the West.While Western nations

about the change in Iran, they are confident that the new Labour leadership in the UK will adopt a pragmatic approach. Moving away from the Conservative tactics of unnecessary assertiveness driven by nostalgic colonial attitudes, the UK will need to redefine its strategy and engage more openly with the public.

Finally, there is a message for political parties worldwide: if you stay connected with the grassroots and continue to address the issues of the common people in pragmatic ways, you will remain relevant and potentially revive. (The writer is a senior journalist and has been covering foreign affairs and interna-tional politics; views are

## **New UK lawmakers** gather to be sworn in

Hundreds of newly elected lawmakers trooped excitedly into Parliament on Tuesday after the UK's transformative election brought a Labour government to power. The halls of the labyrinthine building echoed with excited chatter as the 650 members of the House of Commons gathered — 335 of them arriving for the first time. That compares to 140 new lawmakers after the last election in 2019. The seat of British democracy took on a back-to-school feel, from the rows of lockers temporarily installed in wood-paneled corridors to the staff holding "Ask Me" signs ready to help bewildered newcomers.

The new House of Commons includes the largest number of women ever elected — 263, some 40 per cent of the total —



Britain's Prime Minister Keir Starmer, background center, poses for a photograph with the new intake of Scottish Labour Members of Parliament, outside no 10 Downing Street, in London on Tuesday.

and the most lawmakers of shrunken contingent of 121 colour, at 90.The youngest new lawmaker is Labour's Sam Carling, 22. He is one of 412 Labour legislators elected last week who will cram onto green benches on the government side of the House of Commons. Opposite them will be a

Conservatives, a vastly increased number of Liberal Democrats, 72 strong, and a smattering of representatives from other parties including the environmentalist Green Party and the anti-immigration

### Rishi Sunak names shadow Cabinet

Rishi Sunak, the interim UK Opposition Leader until his Conservative Party finalises the process to choose his successor, has named a shadow Cabinet who will take their place in the House of Commons as the new members of Parliament begin being sworn in on Tuesday.

The 44-year-old British Indian leader had to contend with some high-profile resignations and missing Tory MPs who lost their seats in the party's worst electoral defeat in last week's general election, which the Labour Party won with a land-

David Cameron, a former prime minister who was parachuted into the House of Lords by Sunak to become his foreign secretary last year, has resigned and the portfolio will now be shadowed by his former deputy Andrew Mitchell

"It's been a huge honour to serve as foreign secretary, but clearly the Conservative Party



in Opposition will need to shadow the new foreign secretary from the Commons," said Cameron in a social media

As a committed Conservative I will continue to support the party and help where I can as we rebuild from the very disappointing election result," he

Richard Holden resigned as party chairman after what he said was a "very tough set of results" and has been replaced by former economic secretary

Fuller as interim chairman. James Cartlidge has been appointed shadow defence secretary and Ed Argar shadow justice secretary, after the former ministers in those briefs -

Grant Shapps and Alex Chalk

- lost their seats.

to the UK Treasury Richard

Kemi Badenoch, former business secretary, has been named shadow levelling up secretary after Michael Gove had stepped down as an MP, and Kevin Hollinrake will shadow Badenoch's former ministerial role in the Opposition.

Former Home Office minister Chris Philp will be the new shadow Leader of the House of Commons for the Tories after Penny Mordaunt suffered a defeat in the polls.

Many of the other portfolios will mirror their former ministerial posts from the Opposition benches, with Jeremy Hunt named as shadow chancellor, James Cleverly as shadow home secretary and Indian-origin Claire Coutinho as shadow energy security and

net zero secretary Sunak and his shadow Cabinet

will be in place for the early business in the Commons, with the State Opening of Parliament scheduled for July 17 when the King's Speech will lay out the Keir Starmerled government's plans for the parliamentary calendar ahead. Starmer, meanwhile, has been whizzing around different parts of the United Kingdom before setting off on his first overseas tour as British Prime Minister to Washington for the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) summit.

His Cabinet, with a record number of women ministers including British Indian Culture Secretary Lisa Nandy, had their second meeting with him at 10 Downing Street on Tuesday.

Foreign Secretary David Lammy has been on a hurriedly organised European visit to Germany, Poland and Sweden. Chancellor Rachel Reeves made her maiden policy speech on Monday, promising mea-

sures such as planning reforms to get the economy growing

While Deputy Prime Minister Angela Rayner has the additional brief of Levelling Up Secretary, Home Secretary Yvette Cooper has a big challenge of illegal migration to tackle as Labour ditches the

Tory plan to deport them to Rwanda. Pakistani-origin Shabana Mahmood as Justice Secretary has to get to grips with an over flowing prison population and John Healey as the Defence Secretary has to set the UK's strategy amid ongoing global

conflicts.

Wes Streeting as the new Health Secretary has set up meetings with striking National Health Service (NHS) junior doctors to find a resolution to the long-drawn crisis and Jonathan Reynolds will be preparing for his Department for Business and Trade to pick up on key issues, including the India-UK free trade agreement (FTA) negotiations.

### To counter China, NATO moving closer under US leadership

AP WASHINGTON

 $\mathbf{I}^{\text{n}}$  the third year of the war in Ukraine, NATO is set to deepen relations with its four Indo-Pacific partners, which, although not part of the military alliance, are gaining prominence as Russia and China forge closer ties to counter the United States and the two Koreas support opposing sides of the conflict in

The leaders of New Zealand, Japan and South Korea for the third year in a row will attend the NATO summit, which starts Tuesday in Washington, DC, while Australia will send its deputy prime minister. China will be following the summit closely, worried by the alliance's growing interest beyond Europe and the Western Hemisphere.

"Increasingly, partners in Europe see challenges halfway around the world in Asia as

being relevant to them, just as partners in Asia see challenges halfway around the world in Europe as being relevant to them," Secretary of State Antony Blinken said last week at the Brookings

Institution. America's top diplomat said the US has been working to break down barriers between European alliances, Asian coalitions and other partners worldwide. "That's part of the new landscape, the new geometry that we've put in place." Countries with shared security concerns are strengthening ties as competition escalates between the United States and China. Washington is trying to curb Beijing's ambition to challenge the US-led world order, which the Chinese government dismisses as a Cold War mentality aimed at containing China's inevitable rise. On Monday, Beijing responded angrily to unconfirmed

Indo-Pacific partners are expected to release a document laying out their relationship and ability to respond jointly to threats from cyberattacks and disinformation.

Lin Jian, a spokesman for the Chinese foreign ministry, accused NATO of "breaching its boundary, expanding its mandate, reaching beyond its defence zone and stoking confrontation". The war in Ukraine, which has pitted the West against Russia and its friends, has bolstered the argument for closer cooperation between the US, Europe and their Asian allies. "Ukraine of today may be East Asia of tomorrow," Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida told the US Congress in April. The US and South Korea

accused Pyongyang of supply-

ing Russia with ammunition,

while Russian President

Vladimir Putin visited North

Korea last month and signed a pact with leader Kim Jong Un that envisions mutual mil itary assistance.

South Korea and Japan, meanwhile, are sending military supplies and aid to Ukraine. The US also says China is providing Russia with machine tools, microelectronics and other technology that allow it to make weapons to use against Ukraine. South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol will bring to Washington "a strong message regarding the military cooperation between Russia and North Korea and discuss ways to enhance cooperation among NATO allies and Indo-Pacific partners", his principal deputy national security adviser, Kim Tae-hyo, told reporters on Friday. New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon said discussions would "focus on our collective efforts to support the rules-based sys-

#### EU halts Georgia's accession to bloc, freezes financial aid over much-criticised law

AP TBILISI

eorgia's accession to the GEuropean Union has been halted, and some of the bloc's financial support to the South Caucasus country has been frozen after the Georgian authorities adopted a new law that critics feared would curb democratic freedoms, the EU Ambassador in Georgia said Tuesday. According to Pawel Herczynski, EU leaders made the decision to halt the process during the last summit of the European Council, and it came in the wake of the Georgian authorities adopting the law on "foreign influence" despite weeks of protests. In addition, a total of 30 million euros (USD 32.5 million) in financial support, earmarked for Georgia's Defence Ministry in 2024, has been frozen, Herczynski said at a news conference.

"This is only the first step, there will be other steps. Our

direct support to the govern-ment of Georgia will be limited, and we will seek to redirect support from the government of Georgia to civil society and the media," he said. "It is sad to see EU-Georgia relations at such a low point, when they could have been at an all-time high.

The law, which came into effect last month despite mass protests and a veto from the country's president, requires media, nongovernmental organisations and other nonprofit groups to register as pursuing the interests of a foreign power" if they receive more than 20 per cent of their funding from abroad.

The opposition has denounced the bill as "the Russian law" because Moscow uses similar legislation to stigmatize independent news media, organisations and individuals critical of the Kremlin, and called its passage a sign of neighbouring Russia's hold

over Georgia. EU officials have repeatedly denounced the law as unde-mocratic and said it would hinder Georgia's path to EU membership. The bloc agreed to grant

membership candidate status to Georgia in December on condition that it fight disinformation, including against the EU, bring its foreign and security policies into line with the bloc's, and introduce new justice reforms, among other measures.

Membership talks did not get underway. To start talks with a candidate, the 27 EU nations and that country must agree on a negotiating mandate. EU experts must also conduct a screening procedure, to analyze how much work needs to be done to bring Georgia's laws and standards into line with those of the bloc.

Once those preconditions have been met, an intergovernmental conference would be called with Georgia to officially launch the start of talks. Each step requires unanimous agreement from the EU member nations and can be blocked at any point.

At a summit on June 27, EU leaders warned Georgia that its path toward membership would be blocked unless the "foreign influence" law was repealed.

They called "on Georgia's authorities to clarify their intentions by reversing the current course of action which jeopardizes Georgia's EU path, de facto leading to a halt of the

accession process." In the days before the summit, EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell said the bloc was considering "putting a hold to our financial assistance to the government" in Tbilisi and downgrading political con-

It was not clear how much money overall would be affected.

## deeper into Gaza

Israeli forces advanced deeper into the Gaza Strip's largest had regrouped there, sending thousands of Palestinians fleeing on Monday from an area ravaged in the early weeks of the nine-month-long war. Hamas warned that the latest

raids and displacement in Gaza City could lead to the collapse of long-running negotiations over a cease-fire and hostage release, after the two sides had appeared to have narrowed the gaps in recent days.

Israeli troops were again battling militants in areas that the army said had been largely cleared months ago in northern Gaza. The military ordered evacuations ahead of the raids, but Palestinians said nowhere feels safe. Most of the population of 2.3 million has been displaced, often multiple times. Hundreds of thousands are packed into sweltering tent camps. Israel ordered the evacuation of northern Gaza in the first weeks of the war and has prevented most people from returning. But hundreds of thousands of Palestinians remain, living in shelters or the shells of homes. "We fled in the darkness amid heavy strikes," said Sayeda Abdel-Baki, a mother of three who had sheltered with relatives in the Daraj neighbourhood. "This is my fifth displacement." Residents reported artillery and tank fire, as well as airstrikes. Gaza's Health Ministry, with limited access to the north, did not immediately report casual-

Israel issued additional evacuation orders for areas in other neighbourhoods of central Gaza City. The military said it had intelligence showing that militants from Hamas and the smaller Islamic Jihad group were in the area, and called on residents to head south to the city of Deir al-Balah.

Israel accuses Hamas and other militants of hiding among civilians. In Shijaiyah, a Gaza City neighbourhood that has seen weeks of fighting, the military said troops raided and destroyed schools and a clinic that had been converted into militant compounds.

The war has decimated large swaths of urban landscape and sparked a humanitarian catastrophe.

the closest they have been in months to agreeing to a cease-fire deal that would pause the fighting in exchange for the release of dozens of hostages captured by Hamas in the October 7 attack that triggered the war. CIA Director William Burns returned to the region Monday for talks in Cairo, according to Egypt's state-run Qahera TV, which is close to the security services. An Israeli delegation was also heading to the Egyptian capital, Israeli media reported.

But obstacles remain, even after Hamas agreed to relent on its key demand that Israel commit to ending the war as part of any agreement. A key part of that shift, officials told The Associated Press, is the level of destruction caused by Israel's rolling offensive. Hamas still wants mediators to guarantee that negotiations conclude with a permanent cease-fire, according to two officials with knowledge of the talks. The current draft says the mediators — the United States, Qatar and Egypt — "will do their best" to ensure that negotiations lead to an agreement to wind down the

Israel has rejected any deal that would force it to end the war with Hamas intact — a condition Netanyahu reiterated on Sunday. Hamas on Monday said it is "offering flexibility and positivity" to facilitate a deal, while accusing Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of "putting more obstacles in the

or putting more obstacles in the way of negotiations".

Meanwhile, Hamas' top political leader, Ismail Haniyeh, warned mediators of "catastrophic consequences" if Israel continued its operations in Gaza City, saying Netanyahu and the army would bear "full responsibility" for the collapse of the talks, the group said in a subsequent statement. The two officials said there's also an impasse around whether Hamas can choose the high-profile prisoners held by Israel that it wants released in exchange for

#### Israeli forces push Newly elected French lawmakers negotiate to form next government

lower house of parliament, for talks seeking to cobble together a government majority after a chaotic election result left the legislature split among left, centre and far-right parties.

President Emmanuel Macron on Monday asked his prime minister, Gabriel Attal, to continue handling day-to-day affairs, less than three weeks before the start of the Paris Olympics. Macron leaves Wednesday for a NATO summit in Washington.

Sunday's election left no faction even close to the majority needed to form a government, raising the risk of paralysis for the European Union's secondlargest economy. While a fractured parliament is not uncommon in Europe, the situation is unprecedented in France's modern history.

Leaders of the leftist coalition. the New Popular Front, which Newly elected lawmakers won the most seats, say they should form a new governthe coalition — the hard-left France Unbowed, the Socialists and the Greens — began negotiations to find a candidate for prime minister.

The New Popular Front "is the leading Republican force in this country and it is therefore its responsibility to form a government ... to implement the public policies expected by the French people," Green lawmaker Cyrielle Chatelain said. Hard-left lawmaker Mathilde

Panot said, "France Unbowed lawmakers are going into the National Assembly not as an opposition force... but as a force that intends to govern the coun-

Their talks are complicated by internal divisions. Some are pushing for a hard-left figure while others, closer to the centre-left, prefer a more consenminister is accountable to par-France Unbowed and the Greens arrived Tuesday morning at the National Assembly. The Socialist lawmakers, who include former President Francois Hollande, were to gather in the afternoon. The top negotiator for the Socialist party, Johanna Rolland, said the future prime minister won't be Jean-Luc Mélenchon, the divisive hard-left founder of France Unbowed who has angered many moderates.

Speaking on France 2 television Tuesday, she suggested the left-ist coalition could possibly work with centre-left members of Macron's alliance. "We will be open," she said.

Mélenchon, who did not run in the legislative elections, also joined the talks at the National Assembly on Tuesday afternoon. Yael Braun-Pivet, a member of Macron's centrist alliance

sual personality. France's prime and former president of the National Assembly, said "in my liament and can be ousted view, the French people sent us through a no-confidence vote. a clear message. They did not ity to any specific political bloc so they're ordering us to listen to one another, work together and that's what we need to do." According to official results, all three main blocs fell far short of the 289 seats needed to control the 577-seat National Assembly, the most powerful of France's two legislative chambers.

The results showed just over 180 seats for the New Popular Front leftist coalition, which placed first to beat Macron's centrist alliance, with more than 160 seats. The far-right National Rally party of Marine Le Pen and its allies were restricted to third place, although their more than 140 seats were still way ahead of the party's previous best showing of 89 seats in 2022.Macron has three years remaining in his presidential

#### Indian-origin jailed for rape in Singapore

Singapore (PTI): An Indianorigin Singaporean bar owner was sentenced to jail for 13 vears and four weeks on Monday and will receive nine a runaway 17-year-old girl after allowing her to work for

Raj Kumar Bala, 42, was convicted of a charge each of raping and molesting the victim and pleaded guilty to a third charge of harbouring a runaway under the Children and Young Persons Act, Channel News Asia reported.

him.

Defence lawyer Ramesh Tiwary said his client has asked to be released on bail pending appeal, according to the channel's report. The court heard that the victim was 17 in February 2020 when she ran away from the Singapore Girls' Home. She found out about a job opportunity at Bala's Don Bar and Bistro in Dunlop Street in the Little India precinct of hotels, motels and eateries through another runaway who The other runaway was also

sexually assaulted by Bala in a charge that stood down for the time being. bar to interview for the job and met Bala, who described the

job duties to her, including serving customers and making drinks. He offered her the role, saying

she could stay at the bar with other runaways.

The victim worked at the bar for a few days, but police received a tip-off about people who absconded and worked there. They raided the place in the early hours of February 22, 2020. The victim fled with another girl to escape the raid, before being picked up by Bala. He drove them to his condominium, telling them they could stay there, before drink-

ing alcohol with the girls. He raped the victim while she was heavily intoxicated and also engaged in sex acts with the other girl.

#### Displaced families struggle amid ongoing Israel-Gaza conflict

attack on southern Israel, has

driven some 1.9 million of the

territory's pre-war population

of 2.3 million Palestinians

from their homes. Most of

On his key chain, Hassan Nofal keeps the keys to two homes. One is to the house of his grandparents in what is now southern Israel, which he says his family was driven out of by Israeli forces in 1948 and to which they've never been able to return. The other is to Nofal's house in northern Gaza that he had to flee last year after Israel launched its campaign of bombardment and offensives in the territory. Over the nearly nine months since, Nofal and his family have been uprooted four times, driven back and forth across the Gaza Strip to escape the onslaught. Nofal said he is determined to make sure his key doesn't become a keepsake like his grandparents'. 'If my house key becomes just a memory with me moving forward, then I don't want to live anymore," he said. "I must return to my house ... I want



Gaza with my children in our repeatedly since then, fleeing house." Israel has said over and over across the length Palestinians will eventually be of the strip to escape a series allowed to go back to their of ground offensives. homes in Gaza, but it is not clear when. Many homes have been destroyed or heavily damaged. Israel's assault in Gaza, triggered by Hamas' October 7

Each time has meant a wrenching move to a new location and a series of crowded, temporary shelters whether at the homes of extended family, UN schools, or tent camps. Along the way, families have struggled to stay

together and keep a few pos-

### Hurricane Beryl kills four, plunges 3 million into darkness in Texas

PTI ■ HOUSTON

At least four people were killed, and nearly three million homes and businesses were left without power as powerful tropical storm Beryl, which brought damaging winds and floods, slammed into Texas early on Monday. Beryl brought Schools, businesses, offices, and financial institutions to a halt soon after it made landfall near Matagorda as a category 1 hurricane, the National Hurricane Centre said on Monday evening. Flooding, rains and tornadoes were possible across portions of eastern Texas, Western Louisiana. Two people were killed after trees fell on homes, and a civilian employee of the Houston Police Department was killed when he was trapped in flood

One more person was report-

ed dead in a fire incident.

immediate reports of wide-spread structural damages,"



he said. "We still have danger-Officials asked residents to

stay home on Monday night as floodwaters from Beryl began to recede, and crews started surveying the damage. 'Don't let the clear skies fool

you," Mayor John Whitmire said at a news conference."There were no

ous circumstances." Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo offered a similar message: 'We're not out of the woods yet... Let's just wait until tomorrow. Doing a damage assessment on your own property is one thing, but driving around unnecessarily — we really ask that you avoid it."

## Kyiv mourns as rescuers make last-ditch efforts

escue operations stretched Rinto a second day at a major Kyiv children's hospital struck by a Russian missile, Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said on Tuesday, adding that 38 people were killed and almost 200 injured in an intense daytime barrage that smashed into cities across the country. Zelenskyy said on the social platform X that 64 people were hospitalized in the capital as well as 28 in Kryvyi Rih and six in Dnipro — both in central Ukraine. It was Russia's heaviest bombardment of Kyiv in almost four months and one of the deadliest of the war, hitting seven of the city's 10 districts. The strike on the Okhmatdyt children's hospital, which interrupted open-heart surgery and forced young cancer patients to take their treatments outdoors, drew an international outcry

Kyiv city administrators declared Tuesday an official mourning. Entertainment events were prohibited and flags lowered in

Russia denied responsibility for the hospital strike, insisting it doesn't attack civilian targets in Ukraine despite abundant evidence to the contrary, including Associated Press reporting.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov on Tuesday repeated that position, pointing to a Russian Defense Ministry statement that blamed a Ukrainian air defense missile for partially destroying the hospital.

The Russian onslaught Monday came on the eve of a NATO summit in Washington where alliance countries are expected to pledge new military and economic support for Ukraine.

Earlier on Monday, Russian missiles blasted cities across Ukraine on Monday, damaging the country's largest children's hospital and other buildings in a fierce assault that interrupted heart surgeries and forced young cancer patients to take their treatments outdoors. At least 31 people were killed, officials said. The daytime barrage targeted five Ukrainian cities



different types, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said on social media. Ukraine's air force said it intercepted 30 missiles. More than 150 people were wounded. It was Russia's heaviest bom-bardment of Kyiv in almost

four months, hitting seven of the city's 10 districts. At least seven people were killed in the capital, including two staff members at the hospital. Strikes in Kryvyi Rih, Zelenskyy's birthplace in central Ukraine, killed 10. The attack on the Okhmatdyt children's hospital caused debris to fall into heart patients' open chests in the middle of surgery. Cancer patients had their beds wheeled into parks and onto the streets. "It is very important that the world should not be silent about it now and that everyone should see what Russia is and what it is doing," Zelenskyy said. Russia denied attacking the hospital and said the strikes hit military targets.

The assault unfolded a day before Western leaders who have backed Ukraine were NATO summit in Washington to consider how they can reassure Kyiv of the alliance's unwavering support and offer Ukrainians hope that their country can survive Europe's biggest conflict since World War II. Zelenskyy said during a visit to Poland that he hopes the summit will provide more air defense systems for Ukraine. In a statement, US President Joe Biden called Monday's missile strikes "a horrific reminder of Russia's brutality". "It is critical that the world con-

tinues to stand with Ukraine at this important moment and that we not ignore Russian aggression," the statement said At the hospital in Kyiv, rescuers searched for victims under the rubble of a partially collapsed, two-story wing of the facility. At the main 10-story building, windows and doors were blown out, and walls were blackened. Blood was spattered on the floor in one room. The intensive care unit, operating theatres and oncology departments all were damaged, offi-

### Search on for dozens buried in Pak authorises ISI to deadly Indonesian landslide Agency show rescue personnel using farm tools and their bare hands to pull a mud-caked body

AP JAKARTA

 $R^{\text{escue workers dug through}}_{\text{tons of mud and rubble on}}$ Tuesday as they searched for dozens of missing people after a landslide hit an unauthorized gold mining area on Indonesia's Sulawesi island, killing at least 23

More than 100 villagers were digging for grains of gold on Sunday in the remote and hilly village of Bone Bolango when tons of mud plunged down the surrounding hills and buried their makeshift camps, said Heriyanto, head of the provincial Search and Rescue Office. Rescuers recovered more bodies on Tuesday in the devastated hamlet where the gold mine is located. "Improved weather allowed us to recover more bodies," said Heriyanto, who goes by a single name like many Indonesians.

According to his office, 66 villagers managed to escape from the landslide, 23 were pulled out alive by rescuers, including 18 with injuries, and 23 bodies were recovered, including three women and a 4-year-old boy. About 35 others were missing,

National Disaster Management Agency spokesperson Abdul Muhari said torrential rains that have pounded the mountainous district since Saturday triggered the landslide and broke an embankment, causing floods up to the roofs of houses in five villages in Bone Bolango, which is part of a mountainous district in Gorontalo province. Nearly 300 houses were affected and more than 1,000 people fled for safety. Authorities deployed more than 200 rescuers, including police and military personwith heavy equipment to search for the dead and missing in a rescue operation that has been hampered by heavy rains, unstable soil, and rugged, forested terrain, said Afifuddin Ilahude, a local rescue official.

'With many missing and some remote areas still unreachable, the death toll is likely to rise," Ilahude said, adding that sniffer dogs were being mobilized in the search. Videos released by the National Search and Rescue

## intercept, trace calls for national security

Pakistan government on Tuesday formally authorised the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), the country's premier spy agency, to intercept and trace calls for national security. The Ministry of Information Technology Telecommunication issued a

notification under the Pakistan Telecommunication (Reorganisation) Act, 1996 to this

"In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 54... the federal government in the interest of national security and in the apprehension of any offence, is pleased to authorise the officers not below the rank of grade 18 to be nominated from time to time by the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) to intercept calls and messages or to trace calls through any telecommunication system as envisaged under Section 54 of the Act," the notification read. It also states that the govern-

Islamabad (PTI): The ment will prioritise and have precedence in the telecommunications system over any licensee to safeguard national defence or security against foreign threats. "The federal government in the interest of national security and in the apprehension of any offence is pleased to authorise the officers ...] to be nominated from time to time by ISI to intercept calls and messages or to trace calls through any communication system," the notification further read. Sources said that the notification followed after the government of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif formally decided at the cabinet level to allow the ISI to trace and record calls. The decision appears to be a part of the government's efforts to tighten the noose on social media platforms as the opposition Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) used them to approach its supporters despite the narrowing of space on the traditional media.

#### Pak SC reserves judgment in plea about reserved seats allotment

Pakistan's Supreme Court on Tuesday reserved its judgment in a key petition by the opposition Sunni Ittehad Council (SIC) party about getting its due share in the reserved seats in Parliament and provincial assemblies.

The appeal was filed after the Election Commission of Pakistan rejected the SIC's plea for awarding its share in the 70 reserved seats in the National Assembly and another 156 in the four provincial assemblies. The SIC became prominent after Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party-supported candidates joined the party after winning the elections as jailed former prime minister Ímran Khan's PTI could not contest the polls and was not eligible to claim the seats reserved for women and minorities. The seats were awarded to the winning parties based on proportional representation.

The ECP had rejected the SIC plea for reserved seats as it had not contested the elections and got strength when PTI-backed

independently elected candidates joined after the elections. Its appeal against the ECP decision in the Peshawar High Court was also turned down. Subsequently, the party challenged it in the Supreme Court. A 13-member bench headed by Chief Justice Faez Isa and comprising justices Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, Munib Akhtar, Yahya Afridi, Aminuddin Khan, Jamal Mandokhail, Muhammad Ali Mazhar, Ayesha Malik, Athar Minallah, Syed Hasan Rizvi, Shahid Waheed, Irfan Saadat Khan and Naeem Akhtar Afghan heard the case.

Chief Justice Isa announced at the conclusion of the proceedings that the panel decided to reserve the verdict for mutual consultation.

He did not give any date for the announcement of the judgment, which is expected this week. "We will see if a short judgment can be announced," the chief justice remarked while reserving the judgment. Earlier, the Supreme Court on May 6 in a major relief to the PTI, suspended the Peshawar High Court's decision about rejecting ing, the ECP on May 14 suspended the victory notifications of 77 candidates who belonged to other parties and were declared successful on the reserved seats. The final ruling by the top court in the case would decide the fate of those 77 reserved seats. Though it may not change the current power structure, the changes in the overall number game in the assemblies may impact the lawmaking process in the country. The problem of the PTI began when just before the general election, it was deprived of its symbol of cricket bat by the ECP for failure to hold the intra-party election according to its Constitution. It forced PTI to field its candidates as inde-

the SIC plea. Following the rul-

pendents.
PTI candidates joined the SIC to secure a due share in the reserved seats, but the ECP rejected the SIC plea for reserved seats by saying that it had not contested elections and also did not provide a list of candidates for the reserved seats within the stipulated time.

#### Suspected attack by Yemen's Houthi rebels targets ship in the Gulf of Aden

Dubai (AP): A suspected attack by Yemen's Houthi rebels targeted a ship in the Gulf of Aden on Tuesday, the latest assault by the group on the crucial maritime trade route. The captain of the ship reported an explosion in close proximity to the vessel off the coast of Nishtun, Yemen, close to the country's border with Oman, the British military's United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations centre said. The ship, whose name and flag were not released, and all crew are safe, the UKMTO said in a warning to mariners.

The explosion took place in the farthest reaches of the waterway earlier targeted by the rebels, the centre said.

It did not elaborate on what caused the explosion, though the Houthis have been known to use drones and missiles as well as bomb-carrying drone boats. The Houthis did not immediately comment. However, it can take hours or even days before they acknowledge carrying out an attack. The last reported Houthi attack in the region took place June

The rebels have targeted more than 60 vessels by firing missiles and drones in their campaign that has killed a total of four sailors. They seized one vessel and sank two since November.US-led airstrikes have targeted the Houthis since January, with a series of strikes on May 30 killing at least 16 people and wounding 42 others, the rebels say.

The Houthis maintain that their attacks target ships linked to Israel, the United States or Britain as part of rebel support for the militant group Hamas in its war against Israel in the Gaza Strip. However, many of the ships attacked have little or no connection to the Israel-Hamas war — including some bound for Iran.

## Pakistan PM urges int'l community to | Australia appoints recognise 'burden of Afghan refugees'

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

from the thick mud and placing

it in a black bag to take away for

burial. Monsoon rains cause

frequent landslides and flash

floods in Indonesia, an archipel-

ago nation of more than 17,000

islands where millions of people

live in mountainous areas or

Informal mining operations are

common in Indonesia, provid-

ing a tenuous livelihood to

thousands who labor in condi-

tions with a high risk of serious

injury or death. Landslides,

flooding and collapses of tunnels are just some of the hazards fac-

ing miners. Much of gold ore processing involves highly toxic

mercury and cyanide and work-

ers frequently use little or no

The country's last major mining-

related accident occurred in April 2022, when a landslide

crashed onto an illegal tradition-

al gold mine in North Sumatra's

Mandailing Natal district, killing

12 women who were looking for

near floodplains.

protection.

The head of the UN refugee l agency Filippo Grandi on Tuesday met with Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to discuss the situation of millions of Afghan refugees living in uncertainty since Islamabad announced a repatriation plan of what it called "undocumented aliens" last year. During his meeting with Grandi, Commissioner of the UNHCR, Sharif urged the international community to recognise the "burden of Afghan refugees" being shouldered by Pakistan and demonstrate "collective responsibility" to deal with the issue, the Dawn newspaper reported. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) arrived in Pakistan on Sunday on a threeday visit.

"The prime minister stressed that the international commu-

nity must recognise the burden being shouldered by Pakistan while hosting such a large refugee population, and demonstrate collective responsibility," a statement from the PM's Office said. The Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) leader added that despite numerous challenges, the country had hosted Afghan refugees with exemplary

respect and dignity.
Sharif sought UNHCR's support in mobilising adequate resources to supplement Pakistan's efforts in this regard urging the global refugee agency to play its role in coming up with durable solutions to address the situation of Afghan refugees.

The prime minister emphasised that the international community needed to be mindful of the socio-economic challenges and security threats that Pakistan was facing,

the Dawn reported. "The UN High Commissioner expressed gratitude for Pakistan's generosity and hospitality in hosting millions of Afghan refugees for the past many decades and assured that UNHCR would continue to work closely with Pakistan to fulfil the basic needs of the Afghan refugees," the statement added. Pakistan launched the first round of repatriation of what it called 'undocumented aliens" in November last year. While no official data has been released as to how many of the estimated undocumented Afghans have left their country since November, the newspaper quoting informed sources said that half a million immigrants returned to Afghanistan via Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan in the first round. On Monday, Grandi met with Pakistan's Minister for States

Mugam, and said that UNHCR would organise a global dia-logue, most likely in October, to discuss refugee-related issues, the Dawn said. "Pakistan would be specially invited at this occasion," the UNHCR chief said. He expressed the hope that the event will create a new dimension and avenues for the support of refugees across the

globe Currently, there are 1.45 million registered Afghan citizens card holders and this does not include a great number of unregistered Afghan refugees and other nationals," federal minister Muqam said. He added that it was a "matter of concern" that there was a decline in support for Afghan refugees and development funds for their hosting areas in Pakistan.

We need exclusive, generous and sustainable interventions, and Frontier Regions, Amir he said.

## spl envoy to confront rise in antisemitism

**AP** MELBOURNE

The Australian government named a special envoy on Tuesday to confront a rise in antisemitism across the country since the Israel-Hamas war began. A similar envoy will soon be appointed to challenge Islamophobia in Australia and both will promote social cohesion, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese told reporters at the

Sydney Jewish Museum. Albanese's own Sydney office has been targeted with pro-Palestinian graffiti as rival activists clash over the Israeli-Hamas war in Australian cities and university campuses.

Albanese appointed Jillian Segal, a Sydney lawyer and business executive, to be "special envoy to combat antisemitism in Australia" for three years. She will consult with community groups and report back to Albanese and Multicultural Affairs Minister Andrew Giles. Segal called statistics on antisemitism in Australia "shocking". Reports of antisemitism spiked 700 per cent immediately after Hamas militants sparked the war in Gaza by attacking Israel on October 7, and are still running 400 per cent to 500 per cent higher than before the

conflict, she said.
The reports include Jewishowned businesses being boyoned businesses businesses being boyoned businesses being boyoned businesses businesse cotted and vandalised as well as Jewish artists being excluded or subjected to social media shadow bans that restrict their visibility on platforms, Segal said. Unfortunately there is no single answer to the perennial problem

of antisemitism," she said. 'But the creation of this role shows a determination by the government to confront this evil and to ensure that it does not erode the goodness that exists

in our society," she added. Albanese said a graffiti attack that marked his inner-Sydney office as a Hamas target in December was being taken seriously and acted upon. He also condemned last month's vandalism with spray paint at the Australian National Korean War Memorial and the Australian Vietnam Forces National Memorial in the national capital, Canberra. "I have spoken with members of the Jewish community here, in Melbourne, right around Australia, who have not felt safe, members of the Jewish community whose children are worried about wearing their school uniform in our capital cities," Albanese

#### Taliban's morality police contributing to climate of fear among Afghans: UN and employment, and having the implementation of orders,

**AP** ■ NEW YORK

 $T^{he\ Taliban's\ morality\ police}_{\ are\ contributing\ to\ a\ climate\ of\ fear\ and\ intimidation}$ among Afghans, according to a UN report published Tuesday. Edicts and some of the methods used to enforce them constituted a violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms, the report said. The Taliban set up a ministry for the "propagation of virtue

and the prevention of vice' after seizing power in 2021. Since then, the ministry has enforced decrees issued by the Taliban leadership that have a disproportionate impact on women and girls, like dress codes, segregated education a male guardian when they

"The punishments attached to non-compliance with instructions and decrees are often arbitrary, severe and disproportionate," said the report from the UN Mission in Afghanistan. "Sweeping bans with a discriminatory effect on women have been introduced. Human rights violations, as well as the unpredictability of enforcement measures, contribute to a climate of fear and intimidation among segments of the population.

The mission said it documented at least 1,033 instances between August 2021 and March 2024 where ministry

resulting in the violation of a person's liberty, and physical and mental integrity. "This includes the use of threats,

arbitrary arrests and detentions, excessive use of force by de facto law enforcement officials and ill-treatment." These instances mostly affected men, who were punished for allegedly violating Taliban orders or because their female relatives had breached them, according to the report.

It said the ministry's role was expanding into other areas of public life, including media monitoring and eradicating drug addiction. "Given the multiple issues outlined in the report, the position expressed employees applied force during by the de facto authorities that

this oversight will be increasing and expanding gives cause for significant concern for all Afghans, especially women and girls," said Fiona Frazer, the head of UNAMA's Human Rights Service. The ministry rejected the UN report, calling its findings false and contradic-"Decrees and relevant legal

documents are issued to reform society and should have their implementation ensured," the ministry said. The mission's report comes a week after a Taliban delegation travelled to Oatar to attend a UN-sponsored meeting on increasing engagement with Afghanistan amid the country's economic challenges and humanitarian crises.

#### Pak completes bridge at Kartarpur Corridor after 2.5-year delay Lahore (PTI): Pakistan has will be functional once the finally completed the 420- Indian side is completed,"

metre-long bridge at the Kartarpur Corridor zero line after a delay of two-and-a-half years, an official said on Tuesday. The need for the Kartarpur bridge arose from the vulnerability of the zero-line area to flooding, emphasising the importance of constructing a safe and secure passage for the visitors of the Gurdwara Darbar Sahib, Kartarpur Management Unit Deputy Secretary Saifullah Khokhar told PTI. "We have completed the bridge from our side on the zero-line Kartarpur Corridor. Now it is up to India to complete its side of the bridge, especially a 10-feet dis-

puted one," he said. "The bridge

Khokhar added. Earlier, flood ing incidents had disrupted visitors' movements to the Kartarpur Sahib. The first deadline to complete the construction of the 420-metre-long bridge was December 2021. The construction works, however, had come to a halt temporarily because of some financial constraints and political issues. The Public Development Fund funded the project with an estimated cost of PKR 4.53 million. The Frontier Works Organisation (FWO) and National Engineering Services of Pakistan (Nespak) collaborated to carry out the construc-

#### PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD. (Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall Patiala-147001) Corporate Identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813 (Contact No. 96461-17604, 96461-17659)

Tender Enquiry No. 1680/EMC/O&M/PC-2566 Dated: 08-07-2024 Chief Engineer/ O&M (P&P Cell-II), GHTP, Lehra Mohabbat, invites E

tender for the Procurement of Leakage Current Analyzer for Surge Arrester, Quantity as per NIT. For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 08-07-2024 from 17:00

Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at

https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

76155/12/3080/2023/35462 Dated CHD :- 7/9/2024

# Sensex, Nifty hit all-time high Financial inclusion index rises with growth and sense of the sen

**PTI** ■ MUMBAI

Benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty rebounded on Tuesday, hitting their fresh record closing levels on the back of gains in auto and FMCG shares and foreign fund inflows.

The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 391.26 points or 0.49 per cent to settle at a new closing peak of 80,351.64. During the day, it jumped 436.79 points or 0.54 per cent to hit a new lifetime high of 80,397.17.

The NSE Nifty went up by 112.65 points or 0.46 per cent to 24,433.20 -- its record closing high. During the day, it surged 123.05 points or 0.50 per cent to hit a new record peak of 24,443.60.

"Both domestic and global factors continue to drive the momentum. Currently, consumption sectors like FMCG and auto are leading the gains, buoyed by progress in the monsoon and kharif sowing," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial

Sensex shares, Maruti Suzuki India jumped over 6 per cent amid reports that the UP government waived registration taxes on

+1.82 19,92 59,41 +8.87 ▲ 11.57 +1.42 A +2.54 27.87 +8.92 LAST LAST +1.58 97,22 12.34 +0.04 8.95 37.10

initiative promote environmentally friendly vehicles in the state.

Mahindra & Mahindra. Titan, Sun Pharma, ITC, Nestle and Tata Motors were the other big gainers. Reliance Industries, Kotak

hybrid cars as part of its Finance and JSW Steel were

among the laggard. Investors are eagerly awaiting the first-quarter earnings results, which will guide market direction, Nair said, adding, "Additionally, continuous positive FII inflow contributes to the positive

sentiment.".

In the broader market, the BSE midcap gauge climbed 0.36 per cent and smallcap index went up by 0.22 per cent.

Among the indices, auto jumped 2.17 per cent. Consumer durables (2.01 per cent), realty (1.23 per cent),

discretionary consumer (1.21 per cent), healthcare (1 per cent) and utilities (0.76 per cent) also closed higher. Telecommunication, capital goods and teck were the laggards.

A total of 2,010 stocks advanced while 1,924 declined and 92 remained unchanged on the BSE.

Also, 320 stocks hit their upper circuit limit while 242 firms hit the lower circuit levels.

The market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms on Tuesday hit a fresh lifetime high of Rs 451.27 lakh crore. In Asian markets, Seoul

Tokyo and Shanghai settled higher while Hong Kong ended lower.

European markets were trading mostly lower. US markets ended mostly higher on Monday.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) bought equities worth Rs 60.98 crore on Monday, according to exchange data.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude declined 0.51 per cent to USD 85.31 a barrel.

BSE benchmark declined 36.22 points or 0.05 per cent to settle at 79,960.38 on Monday. The NSE Nifty dipped 3.30 points or 0.01 per cent to 24,320.55.

## index rises with growth across all segments: RBI

The Reserve Bank's FI-Index, capturing the extent of financial inclusion across the country, rose to 64.2 in March 2024, showing growth across all parameters. index captures information on various aspects of financial inclusion in a single value ranging between 0 and 100, where 0 represents complete financial exclusion and 100 indicates full financial inclusion.

The value of the index for March 2024 stands at 64.2 vis-à-vis 60.1 in March 2023, with growth witnessed across all sub-indices," the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said in a statement on Tuesday. Improvement in FI-Index is mainly contributed by usage dimension, reflecting deepening of financial inclusion, it added.

The FI-Index comprises three broad parameters access (35 per cent), usage (45 per cent), and quality (20 per cent) - with each of these consisting of various dimensions, which are computed based on a number of indicators.

In August 2021, the central

Rupee gains 1 paisa to 83.49 against US dollar PTI MUMBAI

> The rupee inched up one paisa at 83.49 (provisional) against the US dollar on Tuesday as gains from strong domestic equities and sliding global crude prices were negated by a surging greenback overseas. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee started slightly up at 83.49 and hit an intra-day high of 83.47 and a low of 83.51 against the American currency during the session.

> It finally settled at 83.49 against the dollar, registering a gain of one paisa over the previous

On Monday, the rupee settled at 83.50 against the US dollar. "Indian rupee gained today on optimism as Nifty touched fresh all-time highs and fresh FII inflows. A decline in crude oil prices also supported the rupee. However, a positive US dollar capped sharp gains. The US dollar gained on weak Euro amid political uncertainty in Anuj Choudhary, France," Research Analyst at Sharekhan

by BNP Paribas, said. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, rose 0.06 per cent to

## **Govt may relax 45** days payment rule for MSMEs in Budget

The government may relax the requirement of making payments to MSMEs within 45 days of buying goods and services to check large corporate from looking at other sourcing avenues, sources said.

The announcement to this effect could be made in the Budget likely to be presented on July 23.

government considering suggestions regarding changes to Section 43B(h) of the Income Tax Act made by MSMEs during pre-Budget consultations, sources

The government in last year's Budget added a new clause under Section 43B of the Income Tax Act to address the challenge of delayed payments faced by MSMEs in the country. According to Section 43B(h)

of the Income Tax Act, introduced through the Finance Act 2023, if a larger company does not pay an MSME on time — within 45 days in case of written agreements — it cannot deduct that expense from its taxable income, leading to potentially higher taxes.

MSMEs fear that due to this provision, large buyers could cold-shoulder MSME suppliers and start buying either from those MSMEs that are not registered with Udyam or from non-MSMEs. The amendment was brought



in for MSMEs to get timely payment, but there are a lot of sources said, adding that they feared that large corporate, in bid to safeguard their interest, can shift their sourcing requirement to bigger firms or ask their vendors to give up their MSME registration to do business with them.

Earlier in May, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had said the changes, if any, to the rule will have to be done in the full Budget in July under the new government as the representations submitted by MSMEs.

The MSME sector accounts for 30 per cent of the country's gross domestic product (GDP) and the second largest employer after agriculture. The share of from products specified for MSMEs constituted 45.56 per cent of the country's total exports.



## Temasek expects India growth to remain firm over next 2 yrs

**PTI** ■ SINGAPORE

Singapore investor Temasek expects India's growth to remain firm over the next two years, driven by infrastructure-led capital expenditure, and a recovery in private consumption.

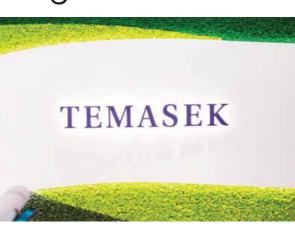
Temasek on Tuesday reported an SGD 7 billion rise in its Net Portfolio Value (NPV) to SGD 389 billion for the financial year ended March 31, 2024, mainly driven by gains to the US and India investments. India has continued to see

strong economic momentum alongside improving macro and political stability, the

hadi and Village Industries'

company said in a statement. 'We expect growth to remain firm over the next two years, primarily driven infrastructure-led capital expenditure, accelerated supply chain diversification, and a recovery in private consumption," Temasek said. Temasek said its Net Portfolio Value (NPV) rose by SGD 7 billion to SGD 389 billion for the financial year ended March 31, 2024.

'The increase was mainly due to our investment returns from the US and India, offset by underperformance China's capital markets," it



Temasek said it maintained a cautious but steady investment pace amidst

economic uncertainties, and invested SGD 26 billion into

consumer, and healthcare, aligned with the four structural digitisation, susu future trends sustainable consumption, and longer lifespans. Excluding Singapore, the US continued to be the leading destination for Temasek capital, followed by India and Europe while it has also stepped-up investment

bank said FI-Index has been

incorporating details of

insurance, postal, as well as

the pension sector, in

government and respective

The index is responsive to

ease of access, availability

and usage of services, and

According to RBI, a unique

feature of the index is the

quality parameter which

captures the quality aspect of

by

protection and inequalities

opportunities in sectors such as technology, financial

and deficiencies in services.

inclusion

financial

consumer

sustainability,

investments,

conceptualised

comprehensive

banking,

financial

reflected

literacy,

consultation

sectoral regulators.

quality of services.

activities in Japan. Temasek divested SGD 33 billion for the year. Of this, about SGD 10 billion was due to the redemption of

capital by Singapore Airlines and Pavilion Energy for their mandatory bonds and shares respectively. Overall, Temasek had a net

divestment of SGD 7 billion, compared to a net investment of SGD 4 billion compared a year ago.

"We invested in Electric Vehicle companies Mahindra Automobile in India and BYD in China, sustainable battery solutions provider Ascend Elements in the US, and electrolyser manufacturer Electric

Hydrogen in the US," it

#### Khadi and Village Industries' annual turnover crossed ₹1.5 lakh crore

PNS NEW DELHI

Kannual turnover crossed Rs 1.5 lakh crore for the first time in FY 2023-24 with over 10 lakh new jobs generated during the fiscal, its Chairman Manoj Kumar said on Tuesday. According to provisional figures for 2023-24 released by KVIC, a 315 per cent increase in production and a 400 per cent rise in sales were registered in the last 10 years. New employment generation also witnessed an 81 per cent increase during the decade starting from 2013-14. "For the first time, over 10 lakh new iobs were created and our turnover crossed Rs 1.5 lakh crore in 2023-24," Kumar said. Surpassing all previous figures, there has been an increase of

new employment generation compared to the financial year sales were Rs 1.34 lakh crore in 2022-23.

'The production of Khadi and village industry products, which was Rs. 26,109.08 crores in the financial year 2013-14, reached Rs. 108,297.68 crores in the financial year 2023-24, a jump of 314.79 per cent, while the production in the financial year 2022-23 was Rs. 95956.67 crores. This continuously increasing production is strong evidence that the Khadi and Village Industries Commission has done historical work in rural areas," KVIC said

"In the financial year 2023-24, KVIC's efforts have created 10.17 lakh new jobs in rural areas, strengthening rural India's economy," it stated. The KVIC Chairman said the almost 400 per cent in sales, demand for Khadi and village nearly 315 per cent in production, and 81 per cent in industry products made by rural artisans is increasing.

### Sebi invites public comments on proposed amendments to REIT, InvIT rules

PTI NEW DELHI

Papital markets regulator Sebi on Tuesday said it has sought public views on the proposed amendments to the master circulars for REITs and InvITs.

In a consultation paper, Sebi said these amendments will provide clarity on the nomination rights of directors to the boards of REIT (Real Estate Investment Trusts) and (Infrastructure Investment Trusts) managers.

In the proposed amendments, the markets watchdog has addressed market participants' requests for clarification on the rights of unitholders to nominate a director to the board of the investment manager or unitholder holding a manager of REITs and InvITs. significant portion of units in



The changes propose that the restriction on nominating a unitholder nominee director will not apply if the right to appoint a nominee director is available as per the Sebi (Dehenture Trustees) regulations.

Under the current norms, a

an InvIT or REIT has the right to nominate a director, provided their unitholding exceeds a specified threshold. "It has been represented by market participants to provide clarity on the availability of the right to

nominate a director on the

Board of Directors of the

Investment Manager of InvIT

Manager of REIT, to a unitholder where such nomination right is also available to a unitholder in the capacity of lender to the Investment Manager Manager or the InvIT/REIT (or its HoldCo(s) or SPVs), Sebi said.

...It is proposed to amend the Master Circular for InvITs dated May 15, 2024 and Master Circular for REITs dated May 15, 2024 to provide that the restriction relating to the right to nominate a Unitholder Nominee Director shall not be applicable if the right to appoint a nominee director is available in terms of the Sebi (Debenture Trustees) regulations," it added.

Sebi has invited public comments and suggestions on the draft circulars till July 29.

## ONGC to invest ₹2 lakh cr to meet net zero emission target

 $S_{\hbox{\scriptsize Natural Gas Corporation}}^{\hbox{\scriptsize tate-owned}} \stackrel{\hbox{\scriptsize Oil}}{\hbox{\scriptsize and}} \text{ and }$ (ONGC) will invest about Rs 2 lakh crore in setting up renewable energy sites and green hydrogen plants and cutting gas flaring to zero to achieve its 2038 net-zero carbon emission goal.

which company, produces about two-thirds of India's crude oil and about 58 per cent of natural gas, on Tuesday released a 200-page document, detailing its path to achieving net zero emissions

It listed clean energy projects even as it looks to boost its hydrocarbon output to meet the country's energy needs. ONGC will invest Rs 97,000 crore by 2030 in setting up gigawatts of renewable energy capacity, green hydrogen, biogas, pump hydrogen, biogas, pump storage plant and offshore



wind project, according to the document. Another Rs 65,500 crore will be invested by 2035, mostly in a green hydrogen or green ammonia plant, and the remaining Rs 38,000 crore by 2038, primarily in setting up 1 GW

of carbon emissions it is directly (Scope-1 emissions) indirectly (Scope-2 emissions) responsible for. ONGC said it will invest Rs

5,000 crore to cut gas flaring to zero by 2030 through technological intervention. of offshore wind projects.

These projects will help the atmosphere 554 million The firm released into the firm offset 9 million tonnes cubic metres of methane in

2021-22 (base year), mostly because it was an incidental by-product of oil or the quantity was not economical enough to pipe it to consumers.
ONGC will spend Rs 30,000

crore in setting up 5 GW solar parks that will convert sunlight into electricity and turbines that will do the same with wind energy. It will add 1 GW of solar and onshore wind capacity by 2035 and 2038 at a cost of Rs 5.000 crore each.

by 2030 and a similar amount by 2035 to set up two 1,80,000 tonnes per annum green hydrogen and/or 1 million tonnes of green ammonia projects. which

It will invest Rs 40,000 crore

installations in the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal to produce oil and gas from below the seabed, is also looking at installing offshore wind turbines to generate 0.5 GW of electricity by 2030 and double it by 2035. The first 0.5 GW offshore wind project is likely to cost Rs 12,500 crore and the next about Rs 12,000 crore.

By 2038, it will add another GW of offshore wind energy capacity at an investment of Rs 25,000 crore, the document said.

The company is also looking at investing Rs 20,000 crore for setting up 3 GW of pump storage plants to meet electricity requirements when renewable sources like sunlight and wind energy are not available. The remaining investment will be in biogas, carbon capture and other clean energy projects. All this while it continues to hunt and produce more oil and gas.

Crude oil, which companies like ONGC pump out from below the seabed and from primary source of energy. It of gas.

is processed in oil refineries to produce petrol, diesel and jet fuel. With the world looking to transition away from fossil fuels, companies around the globe are looking at new avenues to use crude

Gas produced in a similar fashion is used to generate electricity, produce fertiliser or convert into CNG to power automobiles or into PNG to fire kitchen stoves. Scope 1 emissions are from directly emitting sources that are owned or controlled by a company. Scope 2 emissions are from the consumption of purchased electricity, steam, or other sources of energy generated upstream from a company's direct operations.

produced 21.14 ONGC million tonnes of oil in 2023-24 (April 2023 to March 2024) and 20.648 underground reservoirs, is a billion cubic metres (bcm)

### Taiwan Expo India 2024 kicks off

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI** 

The three-day Taiwan Expo India 2024 which kicked off here from Tuesday at Bharat Mandapam has over 60 companies presenting cutting-edge solutions in smart manufacturing, green sustainability, healthy living, and smart city development The event serves as a crucial platform for exploring in advancements energy and smart technology, facilitating collaborations between Taiwanese and innovators stakeholders.

However, it is the Taiwan Excellence Pavilion featuring products from 24 Taiwanese brands across AI application, ICT, industrial applications, lifestyle, and medical sectors which is drawing a large



inauguration of Expo on Tuesday here. The inauguration kicked off

with a dynamic product launch session, spotlighting HERO products from industry leaders like ADVANTECH, GIGABYTE, Mbran Filtra, MSI, and Zyxel. Additionally, 19 other prominent brands such as AVer, CHIMEI MOTOR, CyberPower, and EverFocus are showcasing their worldclass offerings, underscoring Taiwan's prowess innovation and technology.

## TEST OF TIME FOR GUKESH TO EXCEL IN FASTER VERSION

PTI ■ ZAGREB (CROATIA)

orld Championship challenger D Gukesh will look to improve his billing in the faster version as Vidit Gujrathi joins him for the Superunited rapid and blac cless tournament, a part of the Grand Chess Tour.

Set to meet Chinese Ding Liren in Singapore from November 20th to decide the next world champion, decide the next world champion, Gukesh has repeatedly proved his superior ability in the Classical format. But when it comes to faster version, the Indian is yet to find his place amongst the world

Championship, there will be games under faster time control of rapid and blitz chess to determine the winner and Gukesh would like to set the record straight like American Fabiano Caruana just did a few days back in Bucharest when he won the tiebreaker by a mile winning his games against Gukesh, R Praggnanandhaa and Alireza Firouzja of France.

Gujrathi, who has got a wildcard, will be the other Indian in the fray in the USD 175000 prize money tournament that will have nine rounds under rapid and 18 under blitz chess rules.

With each win worth two points in rapid and one under the blitz The fact remains that in case of a rules, it remains to be seen who result in the World will be the master of Zagreb but



the odds are in favour of top seed Caruana who will look forward to notching back-to-back wins on

Ian Nepomniachtchi from Russia and Alireza are another two players who can turn the tide in their favour on their day and here they have five playing days to prove their true mettle.

Wesley So of America, Maxime Vachier-Lagrave of France and Anish Giri of Holland are the other three in contention while local star Ivan Saric and another American Levon Aronian complete the ten-player line up. So remains dangerous but is clearly struggling with form while clearly struggling with form while Vachier-Lagrave has to prove himself yet again.

triumph in the last Global Chess League in Dubai but the former Armenian is clearly past his best Giri, on the other hand, has had mixed success in faster version and will like to end it on a high. All eyes will be on Gujrathi if he can replicate his magic. Gujrathi had come out as one of the best prepared players in the last Candidates tournament and there

Levon Aronian led his team to a

is every chance that he will spring a few surprises here. Players: D Gukesh, Vidit Gujrathi (Ind); Fabiano Caruana, Levon Aronian, Wesley So (Usa); Alireza Firouzja, Maxime Vachier-Lagrave (Fra); Ian Nepomniachtchi (Fid); Ivan Saric

## (Cro); Anish Giri Ned).



#### Photo of a young Messi with Lamine as a baby resurfaces after almost 17 years

AP BARCELONA

When Joan Monfort took photos of Lionel Messi with a baby for a charity calendar almost 17 years ago, he knew the long-haired young man would make it big in soccer.

He could not have imagined the little boy would as well. The baby in the photos which have gone viral - was none other than Lamine Yamal, the Spanish wunderkind, who at 16 is showing such promise that he's already being compared to the greats. The youngest to have played for Spain, he became the youngest player ever in the ongoing European Championship in

from 2007 resurfaced after Yamal's father posted it on Instagram last week with the text "the beginning of two legends?

Germany.

Monfort, 56, who works as a freelance photographer for The Associated Press and others, said the photo shoot took place in the visitors' locker room at Barcelona's Camp Nou in the autumn of 2007, when Yamal was just a few months old.

Barcelona players posed with children and their families for a calendar as part of an annual charity drive by local newspaper Diario Sport and UNICEF. Monfort was in charge of the photo shoots - and it just so happened that Messi was paired with Yamal's family. His mother, who is from Equatorial Guinea, is next to Messi and the baby in one of the photos.

"We made the calendar with the help of UNICEF. So UNICEF did a raffle in the

Maybe the Centre Court spectators were saluting

Novak Djokovic's opponent by

saying his name. Maybe they

were booing Djokovic, trying

to rattle him. The 24-time

Grand Slam champion was

sure it was the latter - and he let

everyone know he was not

Djokovic easily beat 15th-

seeded Holger Rune 6-3, 6-4,

6-2 in just over two hours

Monday night to reach the

Wimbledon quarterfinals, then

made sure to get a message

across to those fans he thought

**AP** LONDON

happy about it.

neighborhood of Roca Fonda in Mataró where Lamine's family lived. They signed up for the raffle to have their picture taken at the Camp Nou with a Barca player. And they won the raffle," Monfort said.

It wasn't an easy assignment, he recalled, mainly because Messi wasn't sure how to interact with baby Lamine, who was in a plastic tub for the shoot. "Messi is a pretty "Messi is a pretty introverted guy, he's shy," Monfort said. "He was coming out of the locker room and suddenly he finds himself in another locker room with a plastic tub full of water and a baby in it. It was complicated. He didn't even know how to hold him

Messi was 20 at the time and already considered a big talent, but it would take a couple of years before he made his mark as the most outstanding player of his generation for Barcelona and Argentina.

Like Messi, Yamal has gone through Barcelona's renowned La Masia youth academy. Despite his age, he's been one of Spain's best players at Euro 2024, where his team will play France in the semifinals on Tuesday. Yamal will turn 17 on Saturday, the day before the final in Berlin.

Monfort, 56, had no idea it was Yamal in those photos from 2007 until a friend messaged him as they started trending online. He's had a long career as a

sports photographer since 1991, following Barcelona around the world, but said he's never experienced this level of excitement around any of his photos.

Djokovic gets into it with Wimbledon

fans after reaching the quarterfinals

## Bradley appointed US Ryder Cup captain after Woods turns down job

Keegan Bradley is assured of making another Ryder Cup team, this time as the U.S. Captain. The PGA of America announced his selection after months of talking with Tiger Woods about taking the job. The PGA of America released the news on Instagram after

word began to leak during the day that Bradley, who has played on only two Ryder Cup teams and never was an assistant captain, was chosen to lead the 2025 matches at Bethpage Black in New York. Bradley already was in New York going through media training, with a news conference to introduce him set for noon Tuesday at the NASDAQ building. At age 38,

Palmer was a playing captain in 1963 at East Lake. Sports Illustrated was first to May

he will be the youngest

American captain since Arnold

report that Bradley would be the next captain.

Woods was the first choice of the Ryder Cup committee and had been in negotiations for months about what the job would entail and whether he had time to fulfill the duties, many of them involving promotion of the event.
While he plays only a limited schedule, Woods is the vice

chairman of the commercial PGA Tour Enterprises board as it tries to hammer out an investment deal with the Saudi backers of rival LIV Golf.

He was a playing captain for the 2019 Presidents Cup when the Americans won at Royal Melbourne, and he served as an assistant Ryder Cup captain at Hazeltine in 2016.

"I'm dedicating so much time to what we're doing with the PGA Tour. I don't want to not fulfill the role of the captaincy if I can't do it," Woods had said in



Championship. Once Woods wasn't an option, the PGA of America went for some local flavor with Bradley. He is a New England native who played his college golf at St.

"Keegan's past Ryder Cup

Team over the next year-and-a-half," PGA of America President John Lindert said. "We are confident that with Keegan at the helm, the 2025 U.S. Ryder Cup team will compete at Bethpage with the same confidence and determination that has defined his career."

Bradley has six PGA Tour victories, including the 2011 PGA Championship. Two of those victories came last season, and Bradley figured it might be enough for him to might be enough for him to make another Ryder Cup team. He was devastated when U.S. Captain Zach Johnson overlooked him with his four captain's picks, going with Rickie Fowler, Justin Thomas, Jordan Spieth and Brooks Koepka.

The prototype of Ryder Cup experience, strong captains typically is a player just relationships and unwavering outside the prime of his career, passion for this event will prove usually in the mid-40s. And invaluable as he guides the U.S. ever since players gained a

stronger voice in selecting captains after the 2014 matches, the model has been for future captains to first serve as assistants at the Ryder Cup or Presidents Cup.

The template also is for the immediate past captain -Johnson in this case - to be an assistant at the next Ryder Cup. With so much outside-the-box thinking on the Bradley selection, it was not immediately clear if that was still true.

Bradley last played in the Ryder Cup at Gleneagles in Scotland in 2014, when Tom Watson benched him and Phil Mickelson for both Saturday sessions in another European

Bradley made his Ryder Cup debut in Medinah in 2012, teaming with Mickelson to go 3-0 before losing to Rory McIlroy in singles in what turned out to be a European victory, the largest comeback by a visiting team. by a visiting team.



#### MADHYA PRADESH ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION 5th Floor, "Metro Plaza", E-5 Arera Colony

Bittan Market, Bhopal-462016 Phone No.: 0755-2463585, 2430154, Fax No.: 4004137 E-mail: secretary@mperc.nic.in, Website: www.mperc.in No.: MPERC/D(T)/2024/1676 Bhopal, Dated : 09.07.2024

#### PUBLIC NOTICE - REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FROM ELIGIBLE CONSULTANTS

Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission is a Statutory Body constituted under the provisions of Electricity Act. 2003. The Commission desires to hire the services of competent consultants for analysis of the tariff/true-up petitions. The Consultant shall provide comprehensive assistance to Commission for analysis of Multi-Year Tariff Petitions and true-up petitions to be filed by the generating companies and Transmission licensee in Madhya Pradeshas per the "Scope of Work" provided at Clause 2 of RFP/Bid document. The RFP/ Bid documents may be downloaded from the Commission's website www.mperc.in.

The significant dates are indicated below:

1.	Issue/Publication of Bid Document	-	11th July, 2024
2.	Receipt of Bid proposal	-	16:00 Hours of 8th August, 2024
3.	Opening of Technical Portion of Bids	-	17:00 Hours of 8th August, 2024

The interested parties may submit their proposals strictly in accordance with the procedure laid down in the RFP/Bid documents, so as to reach to the Commission's office as per the time schedule indicated herein. For amendments/due date extension/update if any, please visit Commission's website

M.P. Madhyam/115312/2024

#### With plenty of swimming stars at 2024 Olympics, France's Marchand may shine brightest Budapest, and his performance 1970s that was powered by

**AP** ■ NEW YORK

 $M_{ ext{the last Olympics will be}}^{ ext{ost of the big stars from}}$ back at the pool in Paris. Caeleb Dressel. Katie Ledecky. Titmus. Emma Ariarne McKeon.

But the local favorite might just shine brightest of them all. France's Léon Marchand has great Michael Phelps, a link that was only strengthened by Phelps' longtime coach, Bob Bowman, overseeing the 22-

vear-old's rise to prominence.

At last summer's world championships in Fukuoka, Marchand broke Phelps' 15vear-old world record in the 400-meter individual medley, to go along with victories in the 200 IM and 200 butterfly - two more of Phelps' signature events. "Leon has several things that make him a great," Bowman said. "He has speed and he has endurance. So he kind of has the whole package that you want, and so far he's done well under pressure, which is the other piece of that equation. He has it all really." Marchand will also have the home-pool advantage in Paris, where the swimming will be contested in a temporary facility set up inside the La Défense Arena, the 30,000-seat

The place figures to be especially loud every time

home of the rugby club Racing

Marchand steps up on the blocks. "I get to swim the (400) IM against the world record holder in his home country," said Carson Foster, the top American hopeful. "That

> Marchand, who swam for Bowman at Arizona State, competed in four events at the showing of sixth in the 400 individual medley.

> atmosphere is going to be

But he emerged as one of the sport's rising stars at the 2022 world championships in

the following year in Fukuoka only raised the stakes heading into his home-country Olympics.

"When I came back from Tokyo, I was like, Damn, this is like a game-changer. Now I can actually beat those guys pretty soon," Marchand said. "I know I can train better. I know I can CONCERNSSwimming has three of those same Chinese faced many doping scandals over the years, going all the way back to the East Germans' rise to prominence in the ramifications.

state-sponsored doping. Now, all eyes are on the Chinese after reports that

nearly two dozen of their top swimmers tested positive for banned substances ahead of the Tokyo Olympics but were allowed to compete. Five of those swimmers went on to win medals, including three golds It was a also reve: swimmers had previously tested positive for a different substance but faced no

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Guarantor (Rs.)

Rs. 30,21,86,466.50

dated 13.07.2016

SARFAESI Act with

future interest, cost and

For Sale of

**Immovable Properties** 

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act. 2002 read with Rules 8/9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002

E-mail- ubin0906069@unionbankofindia.bank

The notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the borrower(s)/mortgagor(s)/guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged charged to the secured creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the authorized officer of Union Bank of India (secured creditor) will be sold on "As is where is" "As is What is" and "Whatever there is" on the date mentioned below for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to Union Bank of India from the below mentioned borrower(s)/guarantors(s). The reserve price and the Earnest Money Deposit are also

mentioned hereunder: Date and Time of Auction: 26.07.2024. 12.00 Noon to 5.00 PM (with 10 min unlimited auto extensions) Name & address of Borrower / Guarantor / Mortgagor **Description of the Immovable** Dues to be recovered Reserve Price (Rs.) property put for auction

Borrower:- M/s Ekdant Infrabuild Private Limited; Registered Address: B-1/46, Lane No. 3, New Ashok Nagar, (1) 3.25 hectares of land at S.No.43/2 Peepa Delhi-110096 ALSO AT: D-18, Sector 7, Noida UP-201301 Vivekanand Puri Colony, Shivpuri, MP-473551 Guarantors:- 1) Ram Singh; D-171, Sector 49, Noida UP - 201301; • Vivekanand Puri Colony, Shivpuri, MP - 473551 2) D K Singhal; A-131, Sector 55, Noida UP-201301; • Vivekanand Puri Colony, Shivpuri, MP - 473551 3) Raveesh Vats; D-18. Sector 7, Behind Noida Authority, Noida UP-201301; Vivekanand Puri Colony, Shivpuri, MP - 473551 (2) 3.25 hectares of land at S.No.43/1 Peepar 4) Shashi Singhal; 1017, Vastu Block, Mahagun Mansion, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad - 201014; • Vivekanand Puri Colony, Dhar Main Road Village Bhojpur Pargana and Shivpuri, MP - 473551. 5) Raveen Vats; D-18, Sector 7, Behind Noida Authority, Noida UP-201301; Vivekanand Puri Colony, Tehsil Pohri District Shivpuri MP owned by Shivpuri, MP - 473551. 6) M/s Ekdant Buildtech Private Limited (Through its liquidator); B-1/46, Lane No. 3, New Ashok Nagar, Delhi-110096 • D-18, Sector 7, Noida UP-201301 • Vivekanand Puri Colony, Shivpuri, MP-473551. 7) Mayank Singhal; H No. A-131, Sector 55, Noida, UP-201301; • Vivekanand Puri Colony, Shivpuri, MP-473551. 8) Kanchan Singh; Rajkeey Karamchari Colony, Raebareli, Kotavali, Raebareli, UP -229001; • Vivekanand Puri Colony, Shivpuri, MP-473551

UP-201301; • D-18, Sector 7, Behind Noida Authority, Noida UP-201301; • B-1/46, Lane No. 3, New Ashok Nagar, Delhi-110096 Borrower: - M/s Ekdant Buildtech Private Limited (Through its liquidator) Registered Address: B-1/46, Lane No. 3, (1) 2.17 hectares of land at S.No.35/2 Peepar New Ashok Nagar, Delhi-110096 ALSO AT: D-18, Sector 7, Noida UP-201301 Guarantors:- 1) Ram Singh, D-171, Sector 49, Noida UP - 201301, Vivekanand Puri Colony, Shivpuri, MP - 473551

9) Suman Singh, D-171, Sector 49, Noida UP - 201301; Vivekanand Puri Colony, Shivpuri, MP-473551 10) Sheela Singh,

2) Dinesh Kumar Singhal A-131, Sector 55, Noida UP-201301 • Vivekanand Puri Colony, Shivpuri, MP - 473551 3) Raveesh Vats D-18, Sector 7, Behind Noida Authority, Noida UP-201301, Vivekanand Puri Colony, Shivpuri, MP - 473551 4) Shashi Singhal 1017, Vastu Block, Mahagun Mansion, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad - 201014 • Vivekanand Puri Colony, Shivpuri, MP - 473551 5) Raveen Vats D-18, Sector 7, Behind Noida Authority, Noida UP-201301 • Vivekanand Puri Colony, Shivpuri, MP-473551 6) M/s Delhi Bio Briquette Mills D-18, Sector 7, Noida, UP-201301 • Vivekanand Puri Colony, Shivpuri MP - 473551 7) M/s Eco Fuel B-1/46, Lane No. 3, New Ashok Nagar, Delhi - 110096 • Vivekanand Puri Colony, Shivpuri, (3) 0.77 hectres of land at S.No. 44/2 Peepar Dhai MP-473551 8) Mayank Singhal H No. A-131, Sector 55, Noida, UP-201301 • Vivekanand Puri Colony, Shivpuri, MP-473551 Main Road Village Bhojpur Pargana and tehsil 9) Kanchan Singh Rajkeey Karamchari Colony, Raebareli, Kotavali, Raebareli, UP -229001 • Vivekanand Puri Colony, Pohri district Shivpuri MP owned by M/s Eco Shivpuri, MP-473551 10) Suman Singh, D-171, Sector 49, Noida UP - 201301 • Vivekanand Puri Colony, Shivpuri, Fuels (Bounded as per sale Deed) [Open Land] MP-473551 11) Ekdant Infrabuild Private Limited B-1/46, Lane No. 3, New Ashok Nagar, Delhi-110096 • D-18, Sector 7, (4) 0.77 hectares of land at S.No. 44/4 Peepal Noida UP-201301 • Vivekanand Puri Colony, Shivpuri, MP-473551 • C-40, Sector – 58, Noida, UP-201301

12) Sheela Singh, Vivekanand Puri Colony, Shivpuri, MP - 473551 • D-171, Sector 49, Noida UP - 201301 • A-131, Sector 55, tehsil Pohri district Shivpuri MP owned by Noida UP-201301 • D-18, Sector 7, Behind Noida Authority, Noida UP-201301 • B-1/46, Lane No. 3, New Ashok Nagar, M/s Delhi Bio Briquette Mills. (Bounded as per Delhi - 110096

/ivekanand Puri Colony, Shivpuri, MP - 473551; • D-171, Sector 49, Noida UP - 201301; • A-131, Sector 55, Noida Dhar Main Road Village Bhojpur Pargana and

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(2) 2.17 hectares of land at S.No.35/1 Peepar

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tehsil Pohri district Shivpuri MP owned by Shash

Singhal (Bounded as per sale Deed) [Open Land]

Dhar Main Road Village Bhojpur Pargana and

(5) 1.16 hectares of land at S.No. 42/2 Peepa

Dhar Main Road Village Bhojpur Pargana and

ehsil Pohri district Shivpuri MP owned by She

sale Deed) [Open Land]

& Status of Possession

Ohar Main Road Village Bhojpur Pargana and

Tehsil Pohri District Shivpuri MP owned by

esh Vats and Raveen Vats [Open Land]

Rs. 30,09,14,445.85 SARFAESI Act with uture interest, cost and

Rs. 47,51,000/-

Rs. 4,75,100/-Rs. 47,510/-Rs. 47,51,000/-Rs. 4,75,100/-Rs. 47,510/-Rs. 17,22,000/-Rs. 17,220/-Rs. 17,22,000/-Rs. 1.72.200/-

**Bid Increment** 

Rs. 64,10,000/-

Rs. 6,41,500/-

Rs. 64,100/-

Rs. 6,41,500/-

Rs. 17,220/-Rs. 25,48,000/-Rs. 2,54,800/-

Rs. 25.480/-

Singh. (Bounded as per sale Deed) [Open Land] -For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, Please refer to the link provided in https://www.unionbankofindia.co.in/auction-property/view-auction-property.aspx and www.unionbankofindia.co.in -For Properties Serial No. 1-2, Authorised Officer Mr. Binod Kumar Contact No. 7477250588.

Note: Bidders are advised to register and validate their KYC on https://ebkray.in website/portal at least 2-3 days prior to auction date and EMD may be deposited 2 days before the date of auction to avoid any

mendum: This is in reference to the E-Auction Sale Notices which is already seperetely issued by Authorised officers in all above accounts in which the E-Auction site mentioned was //www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp." now the said mstc site is discontinued and the new site is https://ebkray.in without prejudice to our right to auction.] Date: 05.07.2024, Place: New Delhi

**Authorised Officer, Union Bank of India** 

were against him. Rune's supporters at various tournaments often will stretch out his last name, saying, "Ruuuuuune!" - which sounds

rather similar to "Boooooo!" and that happened again Monday.

his During on-court postmatch interview, Djokovic spoke briefly about the match, but then veered into a discussion about the people in the stands.

'To all the fans that have respect and that stayed here tonight: Thank you very much from the bottom of my heart. I appreciate it. And to all those people that have chosen to disrespect the player - in this case, me - have a goooood night. Goooood night. Gooooood night. Very gooooood night," he said, stretching out the "Os" in

"good" so they sounded like 'boo.' The interviewer tried to

dissuade Djokovic from thinking anyone was trying to taunt him.

"They were. They were. They were. I don't accept it. I know they were cheering for Rune. But that's an excuse to also boo," Djokovic said. "Listen. I've been on the tour for more than 20 years. So trust me, I know all the tricks. I know how it works. It's fine. It's fine. It's

OK. I focus on the respectful people, that have respect, that paid (for) a ticket to watch tonight - and love tennis. And love tennis. And appreciate the players and the effort that the players put in here."

At his news conference later, Djokovic was asked whether he thinks the All England Club should do something to curb rowdy fan behavior.

योनेयन बैंक Union Bank

## BUMRAH, MANDHANA NAMED ICC PLAYER OF MONTH FOR JUNE



India's victorious T20 World campaign, Jasprit Bumrah added another feather to his hat when he was on Tuesday named the 'ICC Men's Player

of the Month for June'. It was double delight for India as women's team vicecaptain Smriti Mandhana was also named the 'Women's Player of the Month' by the global body.

Mandhana won her first ICC Women's Player of the Month after playing a starring role in India's sweep over South Africa in the ODI series last month.

Bumrah came out on top in

the men's vote from compatriot Rohit Sharma and Rahmanullah Gurbaz of Afghanistan, while Mandhana won the women's award overcoming England's Maia Bouchier and Lanka's

Bumrah, who bagged 15 lot to celebrate as a team, and wickets to be adjudged the Player-of-the-Tournament add this personal accolade to in the T20 global showpiece last month, also claimed the Men's Player of the Month accolade for June, the ICC

"I am delighted to be named the ICC Men's Player of the Month for June," Bumrah said in the ICC statement. 'It's a special honour for me following a memorable few weeks spent in the USA and West Indies. We have had a India were the first team to

announced.

the list.

The 30-year-old was at his dependable best in the USA and Caribbean and bowled at an average of 8.26, at an astonishing economy rate of 4.17. He joined Virat Kohli (a two-time winner in his own right) as India players to claim the Men's T20 World Cup Player of Tournament award.

win the men's T20 World Cup without losing a game all tournament.

Barring a washout against Canada in the first round, the Rohit Sharma-led India went on to win all eight matches they played in the tournament.

'To perform as well as we did at the tournament and lift the trophy at the end is incredibly special, and I will carry those memories with and I can further contribute

captain Rohit Sharma and Rahmanullah Gurbaz for their excellent performances in the same period, and I am humbled to have been chosen as the winner."

In the women's game, Mandhana set the tone with a commanding 117 in the first outing in Bengaluru. Despite an early stutter by the hosts in which they fell to 99 for five, Mandhana remained resolute, and benefitted from some lower order resistance to guide India to a formidable score of 265 from their 50 overs, which proved far beyond the

Mandhana went one better in the second match, hitting her second successive century and top scoring in a game that saw 646 runs in total. The opener blitzed the South African bowling attack, smashing 136 in 120 balls and in tandem with her captain Harmanpreet Kaur, posted just enough to see off the resurgent visitors. She came close to sealing a hat-trick of hundreds in the final outing, falling agonizingly on 90 in a stylish effort that ensured India recorded a comfortable victory to close out the series.

During the period, Mandhana recorded 343 runs at an average of 114.33, with a strike rate of over 100, earning her the Player of the Series award.

"I'm really glad to have won the ICC Women's Player of the Month for June. I'm really happy with the way the team has performed and I'm happy to have contributed. For us, we won the ODI and the Test series and hopefully we can continue our form me forever," Bumrah said. to win more matches for "I wish to congratulate my India," Mandhana said.



#### **Retired Warner says** he is open to play Champions Trophy next year

PTI SYDNEY

David Warner has declared his international career a "closed chapter" but at the same time, the Australian batting great won't mind padding up in the Champions Trophy next year should he be selected, something that has been described as "emergency option" by his ODI captain

Cummins. Warner retired from ODIs after Australia's World Cup-winning run in November last year, while his last Test was against Pakistan in January. His final T20I came against India on June 24 at the shortest format's recentlyglobal concluded

showpiece. "Chapter closed!! It's been an unbelievable experience to play at the highest level for such a long period. Australia was my team. The majority of my career was at the international level. It's been an honour to be able to do this, 100+ games in all formats is my highlight," Warner wrote in an Instagram post on Monday.

I will franchise cricket for a while, and I am also open to playing for Australia in the Champions trophy if selected," he added.

This is not the first time that Warner has shown interest in playing the 50over tournament. Even while announcing his ODI and Test retirement in January, he had said he'd be open to playing the Champions Trophy, which is set to return after an eight-year hiatus in Pakistan next year.

Back in January when Pat Cummins was asked about Warner's return for the Champions Trophy, Cummins had said "I think it's probably time to

give some others a crack [in ODIs], but knowing that he's going to still be playing cricket."

So it might be more of a kind of break glass in an emergency option. But, you know, David is going to be scoring runs somewhere in the world. So you never quite know that this is (the end)."

Reflecting on his illustrious career, Warner, who retired as Australia's highest scorer and seventh-most prolific batter in the world in T20 format with 3,277 runs from 110 matches at an average of 33.43 and strike rate of 142.47, thanked his family, fans and teammates.

"For all the cricket fans out there, I truly hope I have entertained you and changed cricket, especially tests, in a way where we scored a bit faster than others. We cannot do what we love without the fans, so

thanks.

"I want to say thanks to everyone out there who has made this possible. My wife and my girls, who sacrificed so much, thank you for all your support. No person will ever what we've been through. From 112 Tests, he has scored 8,786 runs at an average of 44.59 with 26 hundreds and 37 fifties between 2011 and 2024.

He also scored 6,932 runs from 161 ODI matches at an average of 45.30 with the help of 22 centuries and 33 half centuries.

'To the players and staff, thanks for putting up with me. No more what's app junk, your ears are now going to be free of my voice. This team has had unbelievable success the Last few years and long may this continue. Pat cummins, Andrew old Mac and staff have got this," he added.

#### SLC denies report of drinking party inside team hotel during recent T20 World Cup

described a media report which states unequivocally that the involved in a drinking party inside team hotel during the recent T20 World Cup as "entirely false, fabricated, and baseless". A weekend newspaper had on July 7 claimed that the Sri Lankan players had a drinking party inside the team hotel before the match against South Africa, which the islanders lost by six wickets in New York on June 3. "Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) wishes to issue the following clarification regarding an inaccurate article titled 'Drinking Party Inside Team Hotel Before South Africa Match?' published in a weekend newspaper on July 7th and subsequently circulated on social media.

refutes the contents of the article and confirms that no The Sri Lankan Cricket such incidents, as described, have occurred. Therefore, SLC news report is entirely false fabricated, and baseless," the SLC said in a statement.

Sri Lanka secured only one victory at the T20 World Cup, defeating the Netherlands. The islanders were eliminated in the group stage as they finished third after losing to South Africa and Bangladesh, while their game against Nepal was washout out.

"We vehemently believe that such false reporting unfairly damages the reputation of Sri Lanka Cricket, its officials, and the players," the SLC added. "In light of the said false allegations, Sri Lanka Cricket has requested that the respective newspaper publish a 'Right of Reply' to address and rectify the damage caused to Sri Lanka Cricket."

# It will be tough to fill Kohli's shoes, says Gaikwad

India batter Ruturaj
Gaikwad knows well that it
will be "tough" and "hard" to
replace retired Virat Kohli at

Virat Ruturaj
Zimbabwe.

Zimbabwe.

Zimbabwe.

New ball. So there is not much difference," he said.

Gaikwad led the Chennai
Super Kings in the IPL this
Super Kings in the IPL this

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Satisfy batting with a said, batting with a said in the IPL as much difference, and batting with a said in the IPL as much difference, and batting with a said, batting with a said, batting with a said, batting with a said, batting with a said in the IPL as much difference, and batting with a said in the IPL as much difference, and batting with a said in the IPL as much difference, and batting with a said in the IPL as much difference, and batting with a said in the IPL as much difference, and batting with a said in the IPL as much difference, and batting with a said in the IPL as much difference, and batting with a said in the IPL as much difference, and batting with a said in the IPL as much difference, and batting with a said in the IPL as much difference, and batting with a said in the IPL as much difference, and batting with a said in the IPL as much difference, and batting with a said in the IPL as much difference, and batting with a said in the IPL as much difference, and batting with a said in the IPL as much difference, and batting with a said in the IPL as much difference, and batting with a said in the IPL as much difference, and batting with a said in the IPL as much difference, and batting with a said in the IPL as much difference, number three spot in T20Is and said he is just focusing on making valuable contributions with the bat in

whatever position the team leadership deems fit.

The retirement of Kohli, skipper Rohit Sharma and all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja from the shortest format following the T20 World Cup triumph has opened the doors for the upcoming players and Gaikwad is one such talented batter who has the potential to seal the No. 3

"This is a big topic and I think it's not the right point to think about it. To even compare with him (Kohli) or try to fill in his shoes is relatively very tough and very

you want to start your career, you want to start the way you want, you want to play your own game. So that's the priority right now.

Focus on one game, focus on how you can contribute towards the team in whichever position you play and make sure you are on the winning side more often than

Gaikwad has batted at No. 3 position for India in the first two T20Is against Zimbabwe but the Pune-born cricketer said he has no preference and will bat wherever the team

requires him. "No, wherever the team wants, I will bat there. There is no problem. There is not much difference between the

year and he said captaincy has made him to get more involved in the game though it didn't make any difference to his batting.

"Actually, to be honest, nothing has changed much. Because my batting has been the same as before. I have to play with responsibility and try and finish it on my own," he said.

"It's just that the way you look at the game, I think every time you are more involved now in the game since you have captained the IPL franchise for a long period of

"So you tend to be into the game for a longer period of time instead of just staying in

hard," Gaikwad said on the eve of the third T20I against because you have to play the said, batting wise it's not

"keeping perspective" as he went hammer and tongs to blast a match-winning 47ball 100 in the second T20I. "Actually, communication is not from a senior player," Gaikwad said.

'It comes from a batting partner because obviously with non-strikers you feel something about a particular bowler or particular conditions and you have to have that confidence to go and share with your partner whatever you feel and what are the right options, what to do in certain situations.

Definitely this is something which I have been doing it being part of all the teams whether state team, IPL team the boundary outside and just or Indian team as well...

#### **PTI** HARARE

India will find it tough to choose between Yashasvi Jaiswal's Jaiswal's seemingly effortless flamboyance and Abhishek Sharma's uber-cool aggression at the top when they rejig their combination to make space for World Cup-winning squad members in the third T20 International against Zimbabwe here on Wednesday.

"SLC categorically and strongly

The arrival of Jaiswal, Sanju Samson and Shivam Dube, all of whom were part of the main team during the title-winning run last month, gives the Indian team a formidable look in the most important game of the series as visitors look to press home the advantage after the booster shot of a series-levelling 100-run victory

in the second match Abhishek, the left-handed opener, did enough to live up to his pre-series hype with a 46-ball century in only his second game and did look the part opening the innings. However, Jaiswal, with a handsome strike rate of 161 plus in 17 T20I matches, including a hundred and four half-centuries, does have the first claim to be skipper Shubman Gill's opening partner by virtue of being the reserve opener of the first-choice T20 team.

Although rare but it is not

## Focus on Jaiswal's batting position as stronger India ready to make statement against Zimbabwe

uncommon for batters to be dropped in the very next match after a milestone innings.

Case in point were Manoj Tiwary, immediately after his maiden ODI hundred against the West Indies in 2011, and Karun Nair after his triple hundred in a Test match

against England in 2016. But skipper Gill is unlikely to let that happen with his best friend since their U-14 days and someone who scored his first international ton with a willow borrowed from the former.

So, it could well be a case of one of the two southpaws batting at one drop. Sanju Samson, who normally bats at No. 3 for Rajasthan Royals, might come in at No.5, while Ruturaj Gaikwad, who batted at No.3, will probably drop down a place to No.4.

As far as the changes in the playing eleven are concerned, Jaiswal is likely to replace B Sai Sudharsan, who was selected only for the first

two games. Samson will come in place of



Dhruv Jurel, who had a good outing behind the stumps.

Dube, the only player who was a part of T20 World Cup playing XI,

is likely to walk in to replace Riyan Parag. The imposing batter could be an even bigger nemesis for the Zimbabwean spinners during the back-10.

As far as Zimbabwe is concerned, their batting has left a lot to be desired with scores of 115 while batting first and 134 in the second

essay chasing 235. On the Harare Sports Club track where there is a bit of extra bounce available for the spinners, Ravi Bishnoi (6/24 from 8 overs) and Washington Sundar (3/39 in 8 overs) have proved to be unplayable at times.

Bishnoi, who normally bowls 20 to 22 googlies in his 24 balls per match, has varied his pace brilliantly and with home skipper Sikandar Raza being kept quiet, the other batters haven't looked good enough to counter the Indian bowling attack. The 13-run shock defeat in the opener was a timely wake-up call for the young visiting side and it did well to play without five specialist bowlers in the second game where batting first became an advantage.

For skipper Gill, a good score would be a necessity after two dry games and he is just too good a player to fail thrice. That could prove to be an ominous sign for the home team bowlers, who don't have even one guy with express pace.

In a nutshell, it could be another one-sided game. **TEAMS (FROM)** 

India: Shubman Gill (captain), Yashasvi Jaiswal, Abhishek Sharma, Ruturaj Gaikwad, Sanju Samson (wk), Shivam Dube, Rinku Singh, Washington Sundar, Ravi Bishnoi, Avesh Khan, Mukesh Kumar, Riyan Parag, Dhruv Jurel, Ahmed, Khaleel Deshpande.

Zimbabwe: Sikandar Raza (captain), Faraz Akram, Brian Bennett, Johnathan Campbell, Tendai Chatara, Luke Jongwe, Innocent Kaia, Clive Madande, Wessly Madhevere, Tadiwanashe Marumani, Wellington Masakadza, Brandon Mavuta, Blessing Muzarabani, Dion Myers, Antum Naqvi, Richard Ngarava, Milton Shumba.