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WHAT ACTUALLY UPSET THE
MODI APPECART

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ENTERS ITS FINAL STRETCH

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INFLOW SWELLS IN MAY

CHANDIGARH, TUESDAY JUNE 11, 2024; PAGES 12 ₹3

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PEOPLE SAY I AM AT
MY BEST: BUMRAH
12 SPORTS

BJP keeps plum of Cabinet pie



(Left to right): Amit Shah (Minister of Home Affairs; and Minister of Cooperation), Rajnath Singh (Minister of Defence), Nirmala Sitharaman (Minister of Finance; and Minister of Corporate Affairs), Piyush Goyal (Minister of Commerce and Industry), Ashwini Vaishnaw (Minister of Railways; Minister of Information and Broadcasting; and Minister of Electronics and Information Technology) and Chirag Paswan (Minister of Food Processing Industries)

RAJESH KUMAR/DEEPAK KUMAR JHA ■ NEW DELHI

There is no big change in the Team Modi 3.0 as some of the top Ministers will continue with their erstwhile portfolios hence giving no scope to the major coalition partners — TDP, JD(U) — to flex their muscles to take the reins of important Ministries. The allocation of portfolios underlined Prime Minister Narendra Modi's faith in his colleagues, especially those handling the frontline Ministries which shaped and drove the Government's policies and programmes. Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh, Nirmala Sitharaman, S Jaishankar and Nitin Gadkari — have been retained with their respective Ministries from the previous regime — Home, Defence, Finance, External Affairs and Road, Transport and Highways portfolios, to give impetus to first 100 days as mandated by Modi before going for the Lok

Sabha polls this March. Now all eyes will be on the full annual Budget to be presented by the Modi regime in the third term as the aspirations of alliance partners like review of controversial Agniveer schemes etc has to be on the platter. The new Cabinet-led by Modi aimed for continuity while trying to strike a balance between giving space to BJP bigwigs and accommodating NDA allies. Now, sources said that there is a possibility that BJP will continue to keep the Lok Sabha Speaker's post with itself and not budge to the demands of TDP as speculated. Sources said the Modi Government was reluctant to give the important Cabinet portfolios to its alliance partners. Notably, the NDA partners — TDP and Janata Dal (United) could not get the Cabinet portfolios which they demanded. TDP's Kinjarapu Ram Mohan

Naidu will be the new Civil Aviation Minister, a post previously held by Jyotiraditya Scindia. TDP leader C Pemmasani, who is the richest candidate of the Modi Government, will be Minister of State for Rural Development and Communications while Scindia will be Cabinet Minister for communications and development of northeastern region. Piyush Goyal who emerged successful in the Lok Sabha polls has been retained as Minister of Commerce while Ashwini Vaishnaw to accelerate as Railways Minister and in addition, will return in the newly formed NDA Government as the Information and Broadcasting Minister, a position previously held by Anurag Singh Thakur. The NDA partners TDP and JD(U) were lobbying for Railways Ministry but the Modi Government was reluctant to give it to its

partners. Former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan will be the new Agriculture Minister as well as Rural Development, and ex-Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar will now head the Ministry of Power and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs which previously held by Hardeep Singh Puri. Dharmendra Pradhan will continue heading the Education Ministry. Gujarat BJP president Chandrakant Raghunath Patil has been appointed as the new Jal Shakti Minister. Alongside Patil, V Somanna and Raj Bhushan Choudhary have been appointed as Ministers of State in the Ministry of Jal Shakti. Somanna also takes on the role of Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways, according to an official statement. Dr Jitendra Singh is MoS (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Science and

Technology; MoS (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Earth Sciences; MoS in the Prime Minister's Office; MoS in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; MoS in the Department of Atomic Energy; and MoS in the Department of Space. Arjun Ram Meghwal is MoS (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Law and Justice; and MoS in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. Jadhav Prataprao Ganpatrao is MoS (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Ayush; and MoS in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. RLD leader Jayant Chaudhary is MoS (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship; and MoS in the Ministry of Education. Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) chief Chirag Paswan is all set to become the new Minister of Food Processing Industries.



Army personnel during a search operation after a bus carrying pilgrims was ambushed by terrorists, in Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir, on Monday. At least 9 people were killed and 33 others suffered injuries in the terror attack on the bus, according to officials PTI

Manhunt to nab J&K terrorists

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

A day after suspected Pakistani terrorists desperately tried to widen the 'arc of terror', by targeting a passenger bus ferrying pilgrims via Shiv Khori Shrine to the Katra base camp in Reasi district, a joint team of security forces involving elite para commandos of the Indian Army on Monday launched a massive manhunt to track down the perpetrators behind the 'dastardly' attack. Despite the terror attack pilgrims remained undeterred as they arrived in large numbers to offer prayers at the Shiv Khori shrine on Monday. While supervising the ongoing search operations in the area, Senior Superintendent of Police, Reasi, Mohita Sharma told reporters on ground zero at least two terrorists were involved in the terror attack on Sunday. A total number of nine people, including four members of a family from Jaipur in Rajasthan, were killed and 41 others received critical injuries when their bus came under attack by a group of hiding terrorists. It is believed the terrorists belong to the same group of foreign terrorists responsible for targeting Army personnel in the twin border districts of Rajouri and Poonch in recent months.

Manipur CM's security convoy ambushed, Biren not present at spot

PNS ■ IMPHAL/NEW DELHI

Suspected militants ambushed the advance security convoy of Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh in Kangpokpi district on Monday morning, leaving one personnel injured. The convoy was on its way to violence-hit Jiribam district when it came under attack around 10.30 am near Kotlen village along a stretch of National Highway-53, police officials said. Multiple gunshots were fired at the vehicles of the security forces, who retaliated, a police officer said. The driver of one of the convoy vehicles suffered bullet injuries on his right shoulder, and he is being taken to a hospital in Imphal, the officer said. "Security forces have reached the ambush site, around 36 km from the state capital, and launched combing operations to trace the gunmen," he said. "CM Biren Singh, who is yet to reach Imphal from Delhi, was planning to visit Jiribam to take stock of the situation in the district," said an official. "Two police outposts, a forest beat office and at least 70 houses were torched in Jiribam by suspected militants on Saturday in a fresh bout of violence in the ethnic strife-torn state. Biren was in Delhi to attend the swearing-in ceremony of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, which he described as his responsibility as a Chief Minister. Singh condemned the ambush and termed it a direct attack on himself and the people of the State, assuring that the "rule of law" will be established. Speaking to reporters at Shija hospital, where the injured person is undergoing treatment, Singh said, "It is very unfortunate and highly condemnable. It's an attack on the Chief Minister, which means a direct attack on the people of the State. The state government has to do something... We will take a decision." Singh explained that fortunately the person was not seriously injured.



Modi thanks estranged leaders of Canada, Pak

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

In the backdrop of frosty ties between India and Canada, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday responded to a congratulatory message from his Canadian counterpart Justin Trudeau and said New Delhi looks forward to working with Ottawa based on mutual understanding and respect for "each other's concerns". Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, meanwhile, on Monday congratulated Modi for forming a Central Government for the record third time. In a social media post, Sharif said "Felicitations to Narendra Modi on taking oath as the Prime Minister of India." Modi thanked Sharif for his congratulatory message, on retaining the top office for a third term. "Thank you @cmshehbaz for your good wishes," Modi said in reply to Sharif's message on X. Incidentally, Pakistan Prime Minister's "felicitations" come days after Pakistan Foreign Office Spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch said in an official statement it would be premature to congratulate Modi. Former Pakistan Prime Minister and ruling party chief Nawaz Sharif also congratulated Modi for forming a Central Government for the record third time. He noted that the Lok Sabha election mandate reflects the confidence of the people in Modi's leadership and urged to "replace hate with hope". "My warm felicitations to Modi on assuming office for the third time. Your party's success in recent elections reflects the confidence of the people in your leadership. Let

us replace hate with hope and seize the opportunity to shape the destiny of the two billion people of South Asia," he wrote on X. The ties between India and Canada came under severe strain following Trudeau's allegations in September last year of a "potential" involvement of Indian agents in the killing of Khalistani extremist Hardeep Singh Nijjar in British Columbia. New Delhi rejected Trudeau's charges as "absurd". "Thank you @CanadianPM for the congratulatory message. India looks forward to working with Canada based on mutual understanding and respect for each other's concerns," Modi said in a post on X. In his June 6 message, Trudeau said Canada stands ready to work with the new Indian Government to advance the ties if they are anchored to human rights, diversity, and the rule of law. "Congratulations to Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his electoral victory. Canada stands ready to work with his Government to advance the relationship between our nations' peoples anchored to human rights, diversity, and the rule of law," the Canadian Prime Minister said. India has been maintaining that the main issue between the two countries is that of Canada giving space to pro-Khalistani elements operating from Canadian soil with impunity. There have been instances of pro-Khalistani elements threatening to harm Indian diplomats. Days after Trudeau's allegations last year, India had asked Ottawa to downsize its diplomatic presence in the country to ensure parity.

Get ready for second-degree burns

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

Northwest India, including regions like Jammu division, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, and parts of Jharkhand and Odisha in the East, is bracing for another bout of extreme heat in the coming days, with temperatures expected to soar over 45 degrees Celsius. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued warnings, indicating that heatwave to severe heatwave conditions are likely to prevail over these areas in the next five days. This looming heatwave comes on the heels of a series of intense and prolonged heat waves experienced across the country in April and May. Tragically, many States, including Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Odisha, have reported heatwave-related deaths and illnesses. Since March, nearly 25,000 suspected cases of heat stroke and 56 deaths have been recorded as per data shared by the National Centre for Disease Control, with States like Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Andhra Pradesh being the worst hit. However, these figures might be just the tip of the iceberg as data from Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Delhi which also



experienced blistering weather were not included. The IMD has forecast that the heatwave is likely to affect several States, including Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Odisha, and Gangetic West Bengal. As per the IMD bulletin, heatwave conditions are likely in pockets of Jammu division, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, Jharkhand, and Odisha during the next 5 days; Himachal Pradesh from June 12 to 14; Uttarakhand from June 11 to 14; Rajasthan on June 12 and 13; Madhya Pradesh from June 12 to 14. Heatwave conditions are also likely in parts of Gangetic West Bengal until June 13. Heatwave to severe heatwave

conditions are predicted in isolated pockets from June 10 to 12 and in parts of Bihar from June 10 to 12. They were likely in parts of Uttar Pradesh until June 14. IMD director general M Mohapatra said the fresh spell of heatwave is expected mainly due to an anticyclone which is causing subsidence of hot air over northwest India. "The onset of heatwaves is often attributed to anticyclones, which result in the subsidence of hot air over affected regions. This phenomenon leads to the compression and heating of air, creating a heat dome effect that traps heat and suppresses cloud formation. Consequently, cooler air currents are displaced, exacerbating the heat," explained a Met official.

Delhi Police scores big in India-Pak T20 match

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Known for its witty post and humorous takes, the Delhi Police's handle on social media platform X (formerly Twitter) has left netizens laughing through its unique meme soon after the blockbuster India-Pakistan clash in the T20 World Cup in New York as the Indian team beat its archrivals in a low-scoring nail-biting clash. The post garnered over one million views in less than a day. As millions were glued to their screens as India defeated Pakistan by six runs in the highly-anticipated T20 World Cup 2024 on Sunday, celebratory posts flooded social media. As fast bowler Jasprit Bumrah

ended the game by taking three wickets, the Delhi Police were quick to share a quirky post while tagging the New York Police Department (NYPD). The police posted, "Hey, @NYPDnews We heard two loud noises. One is 'Indiaaaa.. India!', and another is probably of broken televisions. Can you please confirm?" The post went viral almost immediately. It was reposted by over 7,700 people, reached over one million views, was liked by over 46,000 people, and had more than 1,200 comments. However, this is not the first time that the police department is deploying social media for its use.

Big cat photobombs oath pageant

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

As Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his 72 members Council of Ministers were taking oath for his third consecutive term on Sunday, an uninvited guest caught the attention of social media users at the grand forecourt of the Rashtrapati Bhavan. The Delhi Police, however, through its social media handle said claims of a wild animal at the ceremony are false. "It was not wild. Ignore such baseless rumors," the police said in a post. A short video clip of the ceremony has gone viral in which netizens noticed an animal roaming in the corridors of the Rashtrapati Bhavan. The animal, allegedly a leopard, was seen casually



walking in the Rashtrapati Bhavan when the official procedure was being carried out. The incident took place when Madhya Pradesh MP

Durgadas Uikey, also known as DD Uikey, was taking oath as one of the Union Ministers. In the video, an animal was seen casually walking at the Rashtrapati Bhavan when the

official procedure was being carried out on the stage. Several internet users took to social media and commented "Was it a leopard? An ordinary cat? Or a dog?" as the video was widely shared. Some alleged that the animal was a leopard while others wondered if it was a pet animal and some even raised questions over the video's authenticity. Some users even claimed that the video was edited with a focus on its background. Reacting to the viral video, a user wrote, "So wild animals are now casually roaming about in Rashtrapati Bhavan?? That is not a pet animal. What was the security doing?? Did all the CCTV footages break? Were the security personnel sleeping in the control room?"

Classifieds

BEDKHALI NOTICE

I, Jasbir Singh S/o Jagat Singh R/o # 487, Ghatiwala, Green Valley, Pinjore (Panchkula) has declared that my son Dharminder Singh & his wife Kulbir Kaur are out of my control. so, I disowned them from my movable-immovable property. Anybody deals with them in future at his own risk & responsibilities.

We, Ajit Singh S/o Tale Ram, Nirmala Devi W/o Ajit Singh, R/o 106/12, Kamal Colony, Rohtak declare that our son Deepak Siwach is out of our control, So we disown him from our all movable - immovable properties. in future We and our family will not be responsible for his any act.

We, Bairister Kumar Singh S/o Vishwanath Singh & Kusum Singh W/o Bairister Kumar Singh R/o Village-Pulhwaria, Post Office-Telari, Distt.Rohtas (Bihar) declare that our son Aman Singh & his wife Chhaya Kumari are out of our control. So, we disown them from our all movable/immovable properties. If anybody deals with them shall do their own risk in future.

We, Harish Kumar s/o Jangi Ram & Saroj Rani w/o Harish Kumar r/o #1683/23, Vishnu Colony, Tehsil Thanesar, Distt. Kurukshetra inform that our son Lakshya and his wife Kanika Gudeja are out of control. Therefore, we disown them from our movable and immovable properties. Our family will not be responsible for their good or bad deeds and transactions in future.

I, Shyam Lal S/o Nakli Ram R/o Village Salpani Kalan, Tehsil Thanesar, District Kurukshetra, have evicted my son Kamalpreet from all my movable- immovable properties, as he is out of my control. Anybody dealing with him at their own risk.

I, Baljeet Singh S/o Chandni Ram R/o Village Khanpur, Tehsil Siwan, Distt. Kaithal (Haryana) declares that my son Shugam is out of my control. I disown him from my moveable/ immovable properties. I have no concern for him. In future, work/deal with him at your own risk.

I, Santro (310377034450) W/o Sh. Ramratan R/o #491, Shiv Colony, Safidon Road Jind-126012 declare that my son Rambir (777944865143) and his Wife Meena (636805642020) are out of my control. So I disown him from my all moveable/immovable properties. Any body dealing with him at their own risk. I or my family are not responsible for any type of their legal or illegal acts.

I, Arin Sharma S/o Sh. Lalit Kumar R/o H.No. 1136/17 Railway Road Rohtak - 124001 declare that my father Lalit Kumar son of Om Prakash is beyond my control, hence I break all relations with him. I have nothing to do with this in the future. In future, if any person deals with my father, he will be responsible for it. I will not have any responsibility.

I Raj Kushalya Wife Shri Surjit Kumar Sharma Resident Of House No. 40 Street No. 2 Joginder Nagar Patiala Declare That My Son Rishabh Sharma Is Beyond My Control. I Evict Rishabh Sharma From My Movable / Immoveable Property, Bank, Etc. Whoever Deals With My Son Will Be Responsible.

मैं, सुभाष पुत्र प्रभु निवासी गांव बुढायण, तहसील उदयाना, जिला जोध्द, ने अपनी पूरी ऋतु को अपनी चत- अचल संपत्ति से बेदेखल कर दिया है क्योंकि वह मेरे कहने से बाहर है। उसके किसी भी प्रकार के लेनदेन/ अछे - बुरे कार्य आदि की मेरी व मेरे परिवार को कोई जिम्मेवारी नहीं होगी।

PUBLIC NOTICE

I Bhoop Chand S/o Sh Chhedil Prasad Resident Ward no 2, Tagra Kali Ram Near Vaternity Hospital Kalka Tehsil Kalka Distt Panchkula (Haryana) Have Change My Name From Bhoop Chand Rawat S/o Sh Chhedil Prasad Rawat To Bhoop Chand S/o Sh Chhedil Prasad.

I, Charnjeet Kaur w/o Jagtar Singh r/o Nabipur Colony, Post Office Gurdaspur Tehsil /District Gurdaspur declare that in school record of my son Karanveer Singh, my name wrongly written as Charanjit Kaur. My correct name is Charanjeet Kaur. Concerned note.

I, Sunil Kumar s/o Rampat r/o VPO Dhigarla Tehsil Sidhmukh sub district Rajgarh district Churu (Rajasthan) Pin- 331023 India. In Indian Army service documents my Mother's name is recorded as Vinod Devi which is wrong. In all Civil documents my Mother's name is recorded as Vinod Kumari which is correct. I want to get my mother's name Vinod Kumari in the Indian Army service documents.

I, Nanhi Devi (Existing name of spouse as per PPO), spouse of OM Parkash Khasa (name of husband) resident of VPO-Jauli Tehsil Gohana Distt Sonapat, have changed my name and DOB from Nanhi Devi and DOB 01-01-1954 (Existing name and DOB of spouse as per PPO) to Indrawati and DOB 10-06-1948 (proposed/ accepted new name and DOB of spouse) vide affidavit dated 10-06-2024 at sonapat.

I, Vipen Kumar Son Of Madan Lal Resident Of #859 Type-III Nuhon Colony Ghanauli Ropar Declare That I, Am An Employee Of Ggsstp. In Some Of My Documents My Name Is Vipen Kumar, Vipin Kumar And Vipon Kumar And My Date Of Birth 18/02/1968 And 19/02/1968. Whereas My Correct Name Is Vipen Kumar And Correct Date Of Birth Is 18/02/1968. Concerned Noted.

I, Usha Kiran widow Satwinder Singh, Vpo. Mansoorpur Teh-Mukerian (Hoshiarpur) declare that before marriage my name is Usha Rani D/o Bhag Chand and after marriage my name is Usha Kiran widow Satwinder Singh. That Usha Rani & Usha Kiran are the name of one and same person.

I, No 14835396L, Rank Hav/MT Name Veda Prakash Tripathi (old Name) S/o Krishna Chandra Tripathi resident of Vill – Anthideeh, Pokhra, PO – Captainganj, Distt – Basti, State – Uttar Pradesh, I have changed my Name from Veda Prakash Tripathi S/o Krishna Chandra Tripathi (Old Name) to Ved Prakash Tripathi S/o Krishna Chandra Tripathi (New Name).vide Affidavit dated 04 Jun 2024 sworn before Notary Neelkamal, Pathankot. Please correct it.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, V Jayalakshmi Mother of V.Arunprasath R/o #184, Sector 47-A, Chandigarh have changed my name from V Jayalakshmi to Jayalakshmi Vijayakumar vide Affidavit Dated 05-06-2024 before Notary, Distt. Court Chandigarh.

I, P Vijaya Kumar Father of V.Arunprasath R/o #184, Sector 47-A, Chandigarh have changed my name from P Vijaya Kumar to Vijayakumar Perumal vide Affidavit Dated 05-06-2024 before Notary, Distt. Court Chandigarh.

I, Jyoti Bala W/o Sudhir Arora H. No. 456, Ward no. 27, Near Park Camp, New Abadi Camp, Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Jyoti Bala to Jyoti Arora.

I, Kabul Singh S/O Milkha Singh R/O Mari Gour Singh Distt. Tarn.Taran have changed my name from Kabul Singh to Kabal Singh. concerned note.

I, Sushil Arora W/o Sukhdev Raj R/o H.No WG 112 Islam Ganj Jalandhar declare that in certain documents my name appears as Paramjeet Arora. I declare that both, Sushil Arora and Paramjeet Arora refer to the same person. Please note.

I, Priyanka Sukhija W/o Harish Gaba R/o H. No.13-14, Ward No. 8, Kunglal Garden, J.K.M. High School, Shanti Nagar, Hisar-125001 (Hry) have changed my name from Priyanka to Priyanka Sukhija for all purposes in future.

I, Sukhdev Suman Sharma S/o B.P.P Sharma, R/o of Lutsan, Hathras, Uttar Pradesh, Present Address 280-B, Railway Colony, Jagadhri Workshop, Yamunanagar, declare that all the names Sukhdev Suman, Sukhdev Sharma and Sukhdev Suman Sharma all these are my name, one and the same pesron. In future I shall be known as Sukhdev Suman Sharma.

I, Vimmi Kumari W/o Pankaj Kumar R/o 32, Kamboj Colony, Sector 18, Huda, Jagadhri, Distt Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Vimmi Kumari to Vimmi. In future I shall be known as Charnjeet Kaur. Concerned note.

I, Arvind S/o Om Parkash Khokher R/o H. No. 286, Gali No. 11, Near MG Club, Geeta Colony, Hisar (Haryana)-125001 have changed my name from Arvind to Arvind Khokher for all purposes in future.

I, Som W/o Kaptan R/o Ward no. 10, Bhadra Pana, Sampla, tehsil Sampla, Distt Rohtak declare that Som and Somwati both are my name, one the same lady. In future I shall be known as Somwati.

I, Renu Sharma w/o Raman Kumar R/o #817/8, Gandhi Chowk, Sadar Bazar, Karnal have changed my name from Renu to Renu Sharma. In future I should be known as Renu Sharma.

I, Mahinder Singh S/o Mehar Chand R/o Village Baldwala. PO Bhurewala, Tehsil Panchkula, distt-Panchkula Haryana have changed my name to Mohinder Singh.

I, Sanjeev S/o Sh. Gurmeet Singh Resident of # 104 Village Behlana, Chandigarh declare that I have changed my name Sanjeev to Sanjeev Kumar.

I, hitherto known as Pankaj Gandhi son of Ramesh Kumar Gandhi R/O 1, Vijay Nagar, Batala Road, Amritsar have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Pankaj Kumar Gandhi. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

I, Ram Narain Gaba s/o Hari Chand r/o near Birbel Nagar, H. No. 204/4, Narwana tehsil Narwana distt. Jind Haryana inform that I have changed my name from Ram Narain to Ram Narain Gaba.

I, Gopal Krishan Gaba s/o Ram Narain Gaba r/o near Birbal Nagar, H. No. 204/18, Narwana tehsil Narwana distt. Jind Haryana inform that I have changed my name from Gopal Krishan to Gopal Krishan Gaba.

I, Pankaj Tiwari father of Drishyam Tiwari R/o #32 First Floor, Parvati Enclave, Baltana Zirakpur have changed my Son name from Drishyam Tiwari to Akaay Tiwari vide Affidavit Dated 10-06-2024 before Notary, Distt. Court Chandigarh.

I, Gurbir Singh S/o Surinder Singh Bhalla R/O 1419, Jamuna Gali, Jagadhri, Distt Yamuna Nagar declare that in my some documents, the name of my father written as Surinder Singh. My Father's actual name is Surinder Singh Bhalla. Surinder Singh and Surinder Singh Bhalla Both are my father's name, one and the same person.

I, Naresh Kumar S/o Punnu Ram R/o Village Gheer, District Karnal declare that in my Adhar Card and Pan Card my DOB wrongly written as 01.01.1967. But my actual DOB is 25.02.1973. kindly correct it.

I, Sushil Kumar S/o Dhanpat Ram R/o House no.6, Bhatia colony, Assandh Road, Panipat have changed my daughter's name Aaravi Aggarwal to Arvee Aggarwal for all future purposes.

I, Gagandeep Singh S/o Gurcharan Singh R/o H.No-109/19, Double Story, Near Durga Mandir, Ward No-22, Sonipat, Haryana-131001 declare that name of my mother is wrongly written as Harijinder Kaur in my CBSE class 10th & NIOS 12th Marksheets, Haryana State Board Diploma & Marksheets in Computer Engineering and B.C.A. Degree and Marksheets. Actual name of my mother is Harjinder Kaur.

I, Prachi Kamboj W/o Mukesh Kamboj R/o H.No. 631, Near Khera, Dyal Pura Gate, Karnal, Haryana-132001 have changed my name to Prachi Nepal.

I, Gaurav S/o Krishan Kumar R/o H.No. 117, Jeevan Nagar, Opposite Old DC Road, Gurudwara, Sonipat, Haryana declares that Gourav & Gaurav both are my names. In future, I shall be known as Gaurav.

I, Balvinder Kaur alias Lakhwinder Kaur D/o Sawaran Singh W/o Bakhtawar Singh R/o H.No. 1294-B, Gali No. 4, Gurlal Bazar, New Partap Nagar, G.T Road, Amritsar, Punjab have changed my name from Balvinder Kaur alias Lakhwinder Kaur to Balvinder Kaur.

I, Drishti Gupta D/o Nitin Gupta W/o Sanyam Bansal R/O H.No. 46, Gali No. 3, Meerankot Road, Near Combridge School, Blue City Colony, Amritsar, Punjab-143001 have changed my name after marriage from Drishti Gupta to Drishti Bansal.

I, Diksha W/o Rajinder Kumar R/o H.No. 197, Street No. 7, Block –D, Near Khatu Shyam Mandir Mount Evenue Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my name from Diksha to Diksha Kumari. Concerned note.

I, Narender Kumar Gupta S/o Udmi Ram R/o House No.-1062, Sirda Road, Sector-14, Behind Gupta Hospital, Hisar-125001 (Haryana) India declare that I have changed my name from Narender Gupta to Narender Kumar Gupta for all future purpose.

I, Sambhav S/o Sh. Naveen Kumar R/o H.No. 202/20 Rahad Road, Saini Pura, Rohtak, Haryana declare That I have changed my name from Sambhav to Sambhav Saini In future I will be called by the name Sambhav Saini for all purposes.

I, Amritpal Singh Virk S/o Gurnam Singh Virk R/o H. No. 150/1, Village Dabri, P.O C.S.S.R.I., Karnal have declared that Amritpal Singh Virk S/o Gurnam Singh Virk &Amritpal Singh S/O Gurnam Singh both are my names for all future purposes.

I, hitherto known as Pankaj Gandhi son of Ramesh Kumar Gandhi R/O 1, Vijay Nagar, Batala Road, Amritsar have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Pankaj Kumar Gandhi. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

I, Ram Narain Gaba s/o Hari Chand r/o near Birbel Nagar, H. No. 204/4, Narwana tehsil Narwana distt. Jind Haryana inform that I have changed my name from Ram Narain to Ram Narain Gaba.

I, Meenakshi W/o Sh. Rohit Arya R/o H.No. 383, Sector-14, Hanuman Mandir, Sonipat have changed my name to Meenakshi Arya for all future purposes.

I, Punam W/o Vijay # 563, Dadu Majra Colony Chandigarh is hereby declare that my father's name in my PAN card wrongly mention as Vijay but correct name of my father is Girdhari Lal.

I, Army No.3022967L, Rank-Sep, Name-Ankur, Unit 9 Rajput, C/o 56 APO, R/o Village Sasmapur, Tehsil Thanesar, Kurukshetra have changed my father's name from Jai Prakash to Jai Parkash in Army records.

I Komalpreet Kaur Saini D/o Gurmali Singh R/O Village Panjeton Tehsil Naraingarh Distt Ambala have changed my name from Komalpreet Kaur Saini to Komalpreet Kaur. I used my name in future as Komalpreet Kaur.

I Gurjeet Kaur W/o Sudesh Kumar R/O Village Sherur PO Badhauri Tehsil Naraingarh Distt Ambala inform that in my Husband Army record my name Wrongly Mention as Gurjeet Koar. but my correct & actual name is Gurjeet Kaur

I Gurjeet Kaur W/o Sudesh Kumar R/O Village Sherur PO Badhauri Tehsil Naraingarh Distt Ambala inform that in my Husband Army record my Son's name Wrongly Mention as Sidhanat but his correct & actual name is Sidhant

I Jasvinder S/O Sukhbir R/O Ward No. 9, Phool Patti, Ajrana Kalan, Kurukshetra I Have Changed My Name From Jasvinder To Jaswinder

I Jiwan Kumar Goel S/O Sohan Lal Goel R/O Hno. 809/11, Sharda Nagar, Ambala City I Have Changed My Name Jiwan Goel.

I, Baljinder Kaur alias Bhajan Kaur Wife of Gurwinder Singh resident of VPO. Panjokhra Distt. Ambala have changed my name from Baljinder Kaur alias Bhajan Kaur to Bhajan Kaur.

IAdarsh Kumar Aggarwal S/o Raj Kumar Aggarwal R/O H.No- 657-P, Sec-10 opp Vatika City Center Huda Ambala City, Haryana have changed my name from Adarsh Kumar to Adarsh Kumar Aggarwal.

I Usha Devi W/o Sh. Jasmer Singh R/o VPO PilKhani Tehsil Ambala Cantt distt Ambala have changed my name from Usha Rani to Usha Devi.

I, Komal Rani W/o Ganesh Kumar R/O H.No. 177, Ward No. 3, Near Tagore Model School, Gurnanak Colony Pehowa District Kurukshetra, have changed my name from Komal Rani to Komal.

I, Mamta D/o No. 15376987P NK(TS) Balbir Chand R/o Village Barna Postoffice Barna, Tehsil Thanesar District Kurukshetra, declare that my name & DOB is wrongly mentioned as Kumari Mamta and 06.09.1994. While my actual Name & DOB is Mamta Rani & 09.06.1994.

It is for general information that I, Mandep Singh S/o Pardeep Kumar, R/o New Modal Townen, Shahbad, Kurukshetra, Haryana, 136135, declare that name of my mother has been wrongly written as Geeta in my 10th Class Educational Documents. The actual name of my Mother is Geeta Devi, which may be amended accordingly.

I, Chandan S/o Anil Goyal R/O H.No. 633, Sector 5, Urban Estate, Kurukshetra, have changed my name from Chandan to Chandan Goyal.

I, Parabhat Chand S/O Punnu Ram, H.No 328, Circular Road, Dinanagar, Distt Gurdaspur Punjab Have Changed My Name From Parabhat Chand To Prabhat Chand.

I Parveenkumari W/O Harbans Singh Villawadi Chandigarh Po Marara Tehsil Dinanagar, Distt Gurdaspur, Punjab Have Changed My Name Parveen Kumari To Parveen Devi.

I, Hitherto Known As Satiya Rani W/O Jagdish Raj R/O Sadhanwali , Dera Baba Nanak Distt Gurdaspur (Punjab)-143604 Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Sunita Rani.

I Kamal Kishore Pareek S/O Sh. Paras Ram Pareek Resident Of 1733/29, Bhushanpura, I/S Sultanwind Gate, Amritsar, Punjab, India. I Have Changed My Name From Kamal Kishore Pareek To Kamal Kishor Pareek.

I Avneet W/O Amardeep Singh Soni R/O M-11 Green Avenue Amritsar Have Changed My Name To Avneet Soni

I, Hitherto Known As Palwinder Kaur Wife Of Balkar Singh Residing At Vpo Khabbe Rajputan Tehsil Baba Bakala, Amritsar-143114 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Pinderpal Kaur.

I Kulwinder Singh S/O Bachittar Singh R/O Vpo. Mansoor Deva Tehsil, Zira Distt Ferozepur Have Changed My Name From Kulwinder Singh To Kulwinder Singh Virdi

I, Anoop Kaur Gill W/O Amar Singh R/O Tarn Taran Road, Near Power House, Adda Chabhal Tehsil And District Tarn Taran Have Changed My Name From Anoop Kaur Gill To Anoop Kaur

I, Amar Singh Sandhu S/O Didar Singh R/O Tarn Taran Road, Near Power House, Adda Chabhal Tehsil And District Tarn Taran Have Changed My Name From Amar Singh Sandhu To Amar Singh

I Hitherto Known As Jaspreet S/O Devraj, Residing At Vpo Lambra Abadi, Lambra, Distt. Jalandhar-144026, Punjab, India Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Jaspreet Sheemar.

I Mamta Suri D/O Sh. Rajinder Lal Suri W/O Sh. Sunil Behal R/O 18, Kairon Market, Hall Bazar, Opp. Post Office, Amritsar. I Have Changed My Name After Marriage From Mamta Suri To Mamta Behal.

I, Hitherto Known As Naveen Jain S/O Subash Chand Jain Residing At A-497, Ranjit Avenue, Amritsar-1, Amritsar, Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Naveen Kumar Jain.

I, Pammi Alias Padma Vansal W/O Suresh Vansal R/O L-6-2494, Gali No.3, Krishna Nagar, Tarn Taran Road, Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Pammi Alias Padma Vansal To Padma Vansal

I, Jyoti Khullar W/O Rattanjit Khullar R/O H.No.112, Gali No.4, Model Town, Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Jyoti Khullar To Jyoti

I, Veerpal Kaur Mangat W/O Gurmit Singh R/O Village Mithri Budhgir, Sri Muktsar Sahib Have Changed My Name From Veerpal Kaur Mangat To Veerpal Kaur.

I, Anjay Mahla S/o Hawasingh R/O H. No. 12 Block 1, VPO Sisai Bola, Distt Hisar, Haryana declare that I have changed my name from Anjay Mahla to Anjay for all future purpose.

I, Ankush Kumar S/o Sh. Vijay Kumar R/o H. No. 4, Vivek Nagar, Lahoria Chowk, Hisar (Haryana) declare that I have changed my name from Ankush Kumar to Ankush Chugh for all future purpose.

I, Puran Chand S/o Sh. Luddhinda Ram Sukhija R/o H. No. 167, Sector 16-17, Hisar (Haryana) declare that I have changed my name from Puran Chand to Puran Chand Sukhija for all future purpose.

I, Gulshan S/o Manga Masih R/o Village Tariza Nagar PO Dharival Distt Gurdaspur (Pb) have changed my name from Gulshan to Gulshan Salhotra. Concerned note.

I, No. 15815669X Rank HAV./ SKT (AVN) Name Parveen Ratra S/o Dev Raj .VPO Parmanand, District Pathankot . I have changed my wife name from Tania Ratra to Tania Kohli as per Aadhar card No. 711562424975 .Vide sworn affidavit before public notary dated 10.06.24, Here after my wife name is called as Tania Kohli.

I, Sukhwinder Kaur w/o no. 3409864F L/Hav. Lakhwinder Singh r/o VPO Saidipur, district Pathankot .I have changed my name as Sukhwinder Kaur to Sukhwinder Kour. That my husband L/Hav. Lakhwinder Singh presently serving in 8 Sikh regt. in the army record my date of birth is 19.03.1992. But my correct date of birth is 19.04.1992. Concerned note.

CONTINUITY PG NO. 05

बेदखली सूचना
मैं, विष्णु भागवान पुत्र श्री सोभा माता पुत्री श्री रामरख सिंह निवासी गांव बनवलवा तहसील कांतावली, जिला सिरसा बयान करता हूँ कि मेरा पुत्र आकाश मेरे कहने-सुनने से बाहर है और अपनी मर्मांगी करता है। इसलिए मैं अपने पुत्र आकाश को अपनी तमाम चल-अचल सम्पत्ति से बेदेखल करता हूँ। प्रत्यक्ष मैं से किसी से किसी प्रकार का लेन-देन करेगा या कोई आभाषात्मक कार्य करेगा उसका वह स्वयं जिम्मेवार होगा। मेरी व मेरे परिवार को कोई जिम्मेवारी नहीं होगी। शपथकार

कार्यालय नगर परिषद सिरसा पब्लिक नोटिस
कार्यालय के प्रॉपर्टी टेक्स रिक्तों अनुसार प्रॉपर्टी आई.डी. SRS/B01/0310 नया हउस टेक्स नंबर 3RFKU6L6 जो कि श्री मान रवि कान्त पुत्र स्व. श्री ब्रदी दास निवासी सिरसा के नाम दर्ज है। यह है कि श्री मान रवि कान्त का स्वर्गवास दिनांक 12.04.2021 को हो चुका है। यह है कि इनके स्वर्गवास के उपरांत रिपेटेड तहसीलदार एस. आर. एस . सिरसा के अनुसार 1-रीट देसी प्रक्रानन के 30 दिन के अंदर अंदर इस कार्यालय में हाजिर असलतान व कवालन अपन पक्ष पेश करें। अन्यथा बाद गुप्तने मियाद उपरोक्त यूनिट मुताबिक प्रस्तुत दस्तावेजों के आधार मृतकन के वारसान के नाम केवल प्रॉपर्टी टेक्स वसूली हेतु तब्दील कर दिया जावेगा। हदमें नगर परिषद सिरसा को कोई जिम्मेवारी नहीं होगी। विदित रहे।
स्वीकृत किया जाता है कि यदि प्रॉपर्टी आई.डी. SRS/B01/0310 नया हउस टेक्स नंबर 3RFKU6L6 में इस नाम तब्दीली पर किसी आम व खास को कोई एतराज हो तो वह नोटिस प्रक्रानन के 30 दिन के अंदर अंदर इस कार्यालय में हाजिर असलतान व कवालन अपन पक्ष पेश करें। अन्यथा बाद गुप्तने मियाद उपरोक्त यूनिट मुताबिक प्रस्तुत दस्तावेजों के आधार मृतकन के वारसान के नाम केवल प्रॉपर्टी टेक्स वसूली हेतु तब्दील कर दिया जावेगा। हदमें नगर परिषद सिरसा को कोई जिम्मेवारी नहीं होगी। विदित रहे।
कार्यकारी अधिकारी नगरपरिषद सिरसा ।

बेदखली सूचना
मैं लाख महाराजा पुत्र भंडरान निवासी ककान नंबर 417/17 कानपुर नगर हिसार, तहसील व जिला हिसार अपने हक में शायदयुक्त बयान करता हूँ कि मेरा लखना राहुल जोकि मेरे कवली सुनने से बाहर है तथा प्रॉपर्टी मेरे साथ लडाई झगडा करता है। मैं अपने लखना राहुल को अपनी तमाम चल व अचल संपत्ति से बेदेखल करता हूँ। मेरा व मेरे परिवार का राहुल से कोई संबंध नहीं रहा है। अतिथि मे राहुल से कोई थिरी प्रकार का लेन देन करेगा तो वह उसका वही जिम्मेवार होगा, मेरी व मेरे परिवार को कोई जिम्मेवारी नहीं होगी। शपथकार

सार्वजनिक सूचना
मैं, बलबीर कौर पत्नी स्व. प्यारा सिंह पुत्र स्व. इन्द्र सिंह, म. नं. 51/31 भूपेन्द्र नगर, निवासी रोहड़, जोन्ड, सूचित करती हूँ कि मेरे पति प्यारा सिंह का देहान्त 12.01.2007 को हो चुका है। मेरे पति के निम्नलिखित वारिसन हैं:- बलबीर कौर (पत्नी), सर्वजीत सिंह (पुत्र), बलविन्द सिंह (पुत्र), परमजीत कौर (पुत्री), कर्मजीत कौर (पुत्री)। उपरोक्त वारिसन के अलावा मृतक का अन्य कोई वारिस नहीं है। अगर इस बारे अन्य किसी व्यक्ति को कोई एतराज है या खयाल करता है तो हर प्रकार से मेरी जिम्मेवारी होगी। बलबीर कौर. मो. नं. 9467567967

PUBLIC NOTICE
I, Monu Sharma, son of Shri Ishwer Datt, permanent resident of Village Kalwa, tehsil Safidon, district Jind. I declare that I am a working as a Havildar in the Army and my Army number is. 15708716-M. My father's name is recorded as Ishwar Datt and date of birth is 06.07.1958 in my service records it is incorrect. My father's correct name Ishwer Datt and date of birth is 06.07.1948 as per Aadhar Card. That is My mother Shrimati Savitri date of birth is recorded as 05.10.1959 in my service record it is wrong. In the Aadhar card her date of birth is 23.10.1949, My mother right name is Shrimati Savitri (Savitri) and Date of Birth is 23.10.1949. My Father and Mother right Name and date of birth should be recorded in my army records. -Deponent

सार्वजनिक सूचना
इस पब्लिक नोटिस के मातहत जन-साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि प्रार्थी रामसुत पुत्र स्व. देवी प्रसाद निवासी भकन नं. 2, सुन्दर नगर, अम्बाला छावनी से मुक्त स्व. देवी प्रसाद के कानूनी वारिस को रिपेटेड करी को हेतु प्रार्थना पर इस कार्यालय में प्रार्थन हुआ है। प्रार्थी के प्रार्थना पर व स्वर्गन हलनमयी व रिपेटेड एक्टर /कमदार /पटवारी अनुमूल मुक्त स्व. देवी प्रसाद के निम्नलिखित कानूनी वारिस है:- राम सुत, राम सुत (पुत्र) सिरकता, राम कुमारी (पुत्री)। यदि इस को किसी व्यक्ति को कोई अतिरिक्त है तो वह तहसीलदार, अम्बाला छावनी के कार्यालय में पब्लिकेशन के 15 दिन के अंदर-2 अपील दर्ज करा सकता है। यदि प्रार्थी द्वारा यह सूचना किसी भी मध्य मरत प्राप्त हो तो प्रार्थी पारित्य दंड संहिता को धारा 177 व अन्य संबंधित कानूनों के तहत दंड का भण्डार होगा। नाथ तहसीलदार, अम्बाला छावनी

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NOTICE
This has reference to advertisement dated 27/06/2021, regarding recruitment of PTS in Kurukshetra Circle for F.Y. 2021-22 and 2022-23. It is informed that administrative decision has been taken that the pending process of recruitment of Subordinate staff advertised on 27/06/2021 for F.Y. 2021-22 and F.Y. 2022-23 be scrapped.

Sd/- (CM/AGM/DGM)
Indira Gandhi University Meerpur, Rewari
(A State University Established under Haryana Act No. 29 of 2013) Recognized u/s 12-B & 2(f) of UGC Act, 1956
Employment Notice (Advt. No. 49/2024 to 63/2024)
Indira Gandhi University, Meerpur (Rewari) invites online applications from the eligible candidates for recruitment of Teaching Posts in various Departments against sanctioned vacant posts. Subject-wise and category-wise number of vacant teaching posts along with Advt. Nos., detailed instructions, requisite qualifications, pay scales and modalities for selection are given on the university website **www.igu.ac.in**. The link for submission of online application shall be available on the university website w.e.f. **10.06.2024**. The candidates who had applied earlier against the post of Professor, Associate Professor and Assistant Professor vide advt. No. 10/2023 to 55/2023, 04/2024 to 28/2024, 33/2024 to 45/2024 need not to apply again. However, candidates can submit their latest updates if any through hard copy by **10.07.2024 (5:00 p.m.)**.

REGISTRAR
1312/11/36/2025/26554/C/27/4 Dated, 10/06/2024

<div>GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA</div> <div>TENDER NOTICE</div>						
Sr. No.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT / END (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	GURU JAMBHESHWAR UNIVERSITY HISAR	SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF 1 GBPS (1:1) INTERNET LEASED LINE IN NETWORKING CELL, TEACHING BLOCK-6, GUSBAT, HISAR	08.06.2024 25.06.2024	70000/-	http://www.gust.ac.in	01662-263113 mncel@gust.org
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in						
13/2025/40/265611/2714						

Pb CM Mann criticizes Kangana Ranaut for labelling Punjab as terrorist after 'slap' row

PNS ■ MOHALI

Breaking his silence on the incident where actor and MP Kangana Ranaut was allegedly slapped by a CISF constable at Chandigarh International Airport, Punjab chief minister Bhagwant Mann on Monday, condemned the incident as an act "out of anger" while also criticizing Ranaut for her inflammatory response, which labeled the entire state of Punjab as terrorist.

"The incident stemmed from anger. Kangana Ranaut's past remarks had already stirred resentment in the heart of the CISF constable," said Mann.

Mann acknowledged that while the slapping incident should not have occurred, he maintained that Ranaut's reaction was equally unjustifiable. "This should not have happened. But in reply to it, despite being a public figure - a film star and an elected MP - saying that the entire Punjab is a terrorist is wrong," he added.

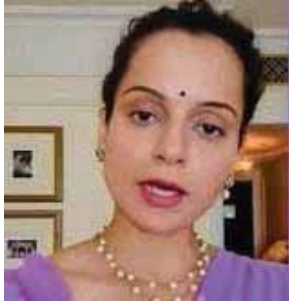
The Chief Minister highlighted Punjab's vital role in India's freedom struggle and its contribution to the nation's food security. He emphasized



that branding the state and its people as terrorists is not only incorrect but also deeply hurtful. "On every issue, you say that they are terrorists and separatists. If farmers hold protests, they are called terrorists. It is wrong," said Mann.

The incident involved Kulwinder Kaur, an 'under-suspension' CISF woman constable, who had allegedly slapped Kangana Ranaut at Chandigarh airport last week. Kaur was reportedly upset with Ranaut's comments during the farmers' year long agitation on Delhi borders. The constable's brother, Sher Singh Mahiwal, is an organizing secretary of the Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh Committee in Kapurthala.

Kangana Ranaut, in a video message following the



incident, claimed that she was hit in the face and verbally abused during a security check. She described the encounter in a social media post titled, "Shocking rise in terror and violence in Punjab" after landing in Delhi. Ranaut recounted, "She hit me in the face and started abusing me. I asked her why she did it and she said she supports the farmer protests. I am safe, but my concern is that terrorism and extremism are increasing in Punjab. How do we handle that?"

A separate video circulating on social media showed the agitated constable explaining her actions to bystanders. In the video, Kaur reportedly said, "Kangana made a statement earlier that the women farmers were protesting in Delhi

because they were paid Rs 100 or Rs 200. At the time, my mother was one of the protesters."

Following the incident, the Mohali Police booked Kulwinder Kaur under IPC sections 323 (punishment for voluntarily causing hurt) and 341 (punishment for wrongful restraint), both of which are bailable offences.

Chief Minister Mann reiterated that the slap incident symbolizes the pent-up frustration resulting from Kangana Ranaut's previous provocative statements.

He stressed that while the incident was regrettable, Ranaut should have shown restraint and remembered the significant contributions of Punjabis to the country. "The immature statement does not behove a public figure of Kangana's stature," Mann concluded, urging for a more responsible and respectful discourse.

SIT Formed to Probe 'Slap' Incident

In a high-profile case, the Mohali Police on Monday constituted a three-member Special Investigation Team (SIT) to investigate the incident

in which actress and Mandi MP-elect Kangana Ranaut was allegedly slapped at the Chandigarh Airport by the CIDF lady constable.

The SIT will be led by Mohali SP City Harveer Singh Atwal, and will be assisted by DSP Airport Kuljinder Singh and Station House Officer Perry Winkle.

SP City Atwal said that the investigation will heavily rely on the CCTV footage from the airport.

"The team will scrutinize the video evidence to identify individuals present at the scene during the incident.

Those identified in the footage will be questioned to gather more details. Additionally, both parties involved in the incident will be summoned for questioning to provide their accounts of what transpired," he said.

Based on the evidence collected, the SIT will compile a comprehensive report to be submitted to higher authorities. Currently, no specific timeline has been set for the completion of the investigation, as it involves interviewing numerous individuals which may take considerable time.

TMC delegation visits farmers at Pb-Hry border amid MSP agitation

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

In a significant show of support for the ongoing farmers' agitation, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday spoke with farmer leader Jagjit Singh Dallewal, assuring the protesters of justice. The interaction took place as a five-member delegation from the Trinamool Congress (TMC) visited the Khanauri border site, where young farmer Shubhkar Singh sustained a bullet injury on February 21. TMC's delegation, including its five Rajya Sabha MPs — Derek O'Brien, Md Nadimul Haque, Dola Sen, Sagarika Ghose, and Saket Gokhale, met with the farmers protesting at the Khanauri border between Punjab and Haryana to express solidarity with the farmers and to understand their grievances firsthand. During the visit, Mamata spoke with the farmers via phone, reinforcing her party's commitment to their cause.

"Today, a team from @AITCofficial in a 5 MP delegation visited farmers' protests at the Khanauri border. Our leader @MamataOfficial spoke via phone to farm leaders to assure them that @AITCofficial will always stand for justice for farmers. Jai Hind. Jai Kisan," tweeted Sagarika Ghose after the meeting. In her conversation, Mamata assured the farmers of every possible support and emphasized that she would raise their issues in the Lok Sabha. She criticized the NDA Government for not addressing the farmers' demands and insisted that the Central Government, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, should heed the farmers' rightful demands.

Mamata stressed that the farmers' demands, including a legal guarantee for the

Minimum Support Price (MSP), are legitimate and must be taken seriously by the government. "The farmers, enduring months of hardship, shared their harrowing experiences and highlighted how the Kisan-Birodhi Modi Govt. at the Centre has betrayed their aspirations and resorted to brutal repression... Our women MPs stood in full solidarity with the women farmers, reaffirming our support for their cause against this oppressive regime," read the post on the party's official handle on X (formerly Twitter).

Farmers have been protesting at the Khanauri border since February, demanding a legal guarantee for MSP among other issues. They intended to march to Delhi, but were stopped by the BJP-led Haryana Government at the border, leading to the establishment of a permanent protest site. The protest turned tragic on February 21, when Shubhkar Singh, a young farmer from Bathinda, was killed during a clash with the police at the Khanauri border. The incident also resulted in injuries to 12 police personnel. An inquiry into the incident is being conducted by a committee appointed by the High Court. TMC delegation's visit is seen as a strategic move to amplify the farmers' voices at the national level. The delegation promised that the TMC would raise the issue of MSP in the upcoming monsoon session of the Parliament. Abhimanyu Kohar, a leader of the Samyukta Kisan Morcha (non-political), acknowledged the delegation's visit and appreciated their support. "They went to the spot where tractors were damaged and Shubhkar Singh had sustained bullet injury. They spoke with farmers," said Kohar.

Three Assembly By-polls to be held on July 10 in Himachal

PNS ■ SHIMLA

After the Assembly by-polls for six seats into the state, Himachal Pradesh would again see By-polls for three assembly seats represented by three Independent MLAs who resigned from the assembly and joined the BJP. The polls will be held on July 10, according to the schedule issued by the Election Commission on Monday. The three Independent MLAs — Ashish Sharma (Hamirpur), Hoshiyar Singh (Dehra) and KL Thakur (Nalagarh) — resigned from the assembly on March 22 and joined the BJP the following day. Their resignations were accepted by the speaker on June 3. The result of these by-polls would not affect the stability of the Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu government as it is in a comfortable majority after the

victory in 4 assembly by-polls.

The BJP may field these three as its candidates from their respective seats. Sharma, Singh and Thakur were among the nine MLAs, including six from the Congress, who voted for BJP candidate Harsh Mahajan in the February 27 Rajya Sabha elections.

The six Congress MLAs were disqualified from the assembly for defying a party whip to be present in the House and vote in favour of the government. They later joined the BJP and were fielded from the respective constituencies they vacated on a saffron party ticket. In the bypolls to the six assembly constituencies, held simultaneously with the Lok Sabha elections, the Congress retained four seats while two were won by the BJP. The 68-member House is now functioning with 65 MLAs after the

bypolls. The ruling Congress has 38 MLAs while the BJP has 27.

According to the Election Commission's schedule, the notification for the bypolls will be issued on June 14 and the last date for filing nominations will be June 21. The papers will be scrutinised on June 24 while the last date for withdrawing nominations is June 26. The votes will be counted on July 13. Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu said the Independent MLAs could support any party in the House and there was no need for them to resign. "They were elected for five years but resigned within 14 months and the people of the state will decide their fate," he said.

In a related development, the Congress has dissolved its Hamirpur block unit and will shortly reconstitute it.

Jalandhar West by-poll on July 10

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

About a week after Punjab Vidhan Sabha Speaker Kullar Singh Sandhwan accepted the resignation of Jalandhar West MLA Sheetal Angural, Punjab Chief Electoral Officer Sabin C on Monday informed that by-election will be held on July 10 for the reserve seat. The Election Commission of India on Monday released the election program regarding the by-election to a total of 13 assembly segments across seven states.

With the announcement of the by-election to one assembly segment, the model code of conduct (MCC) has come into effect in the Jalandhar West constituency from June 10, and will remain in place until the election process is completed on July 15. Notably, the MCC, implemented in view of the Lok Sabha elections in Punjab on June 1, was only lifted the past week. The Jalandhar West seat became vacant following the resignation of Sheetal Angural, elected MLA as the member of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), who has since joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) ahead of polls. Angural on Monday criticized the Punjab Government upon the announcement of the by-election, pointing out that while five seats require by-elections, only Jalandhar West is being contested. He accused the State Government of selective approval of resignations, claiming that the strategy revealed the Government's underlying policies.

Help Himachal with open mind: Pratibha Singh to PM Modi

PNS ■ SHIMLA

Himachal Pradesh Congress President Pratibha Singh on Monday congratulated Prime Minister Narendra Modi for a third term in office, and hoped the Centre would help the state with an open mind. She also demanded a special economic package for the hill state.

"After the elections, the phase of allegations and counter-allegations is over, so the Central government should help the state with an open mind now," Singh said in a statement here.

"Any government elected in a democracy is big part of the public opinion and it should be fully respected and democratic values should not be violated at any level in the country," the state Congress president said.

BRIEFS

HRTC to procure 25 buses 50 tempo travellers CM Sukhu

Shimla: Himachal Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Monday said the Himachal Road Transport Corporation (HRTC) will procure 25 new Volvo buses and 50 tempo travellers to strengthen the fleet. Sukhu, while chairing a meeting of HRTC, assured full support from the state government that would bolster the corporation's operations. Apart from this, plans are underway to introduce electric buses with a substantial budget of Rs 517 crore allocated for their purchase in the current financial year, he said. "The state government has committed to providing Rs 63 crore per month to support HRTC in delivering excellent transport services to commuters," he said.

CM Saini directs officers to complete work of strengthening roads by August 31

Chandigarh: Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini on Monday said that the work of strengthening all roads in the state will be completed by August 31. Orders have been issued to all concerned departments. Besides this, the deadline for the floating the tender process has also been set for seven days. After this specified timeframe, not a single road in the state will be in a dilapidated condition, directed the Chief Minister while chairing a key meeting with officers in Karnal. The Chief Minister directed that pending development projects and schemes should be completed quickly. Besides this, the officers concerned should ensure the resolution of people's issues in 'Samadhan Shivers' to be organised in their respective offices. He further directed that the officers concerned must pay utmost attention to the problems, issue raised by the citizens and ensure quick solutions. He said that if any negligence is observed at any level, strict action will be taken. The Chief Minister also directed the officers concerned to expedite the completion of development work that is pending in colonies.

Poll results not to deflect SAD from Panthic agenda: Sukhbir Badal

Chandigarh: Shiromani Akali Dal president Sukhbir Singh Badal on Monday said that the results of the Lok Sabha poll in Punjab will not deflect him and his party from their agenda of commitment to the cause of Panth, Punjab, farmers and other aggrieved and poorer sections of society. "Our commitment to Panth and Punjab, especially farmers and the other poorer sections, is not subject to election results, good or bad. We will work even harder to fulfil our commitment to the aggrieved and downtrodden sections of society. We have seen massive glory and faced great challenges. But neither affects our commitment to principles. For us, principles will continue to remain above politics, and beyond victory or defeat," he said in a statement. Badal however said that as president of the party, he not only fully and humbly accepts the people's mandate but also wholeheartedly respects it.

PM's first decision to release Kisan Nidhi shows commitment towards farmers: Jakhar

Chandigarh: Punjab BJP president Sunil Jakhar on Monday said that the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's commitment and resolve towards welfare of farmers was manifested in his first decision in the third term authorizing the release of the installment of 'PM Kisan Nidhi', which will benefit over 11 crore farmer families in the country. Jakhar said that PM Modi chose farmers' issues over and above everything by first sanctioning the release of nearly Rs 20,000 crore to be distributed in this installment among farmer families — Rs three lakh crore distributed to farmers till date. Recently, as part of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra across 2.60 lakh gram panchayats in the country, over 90 lakh eligible farmers were added as beneficiaries to the PM Kisan Nidhi scheme. "Several lakhs of farmers in Punjab will benefit from this decision. money will be transferred in bank accounts of beneficiary farmers which will augment their income," Jakhar said. However, Jakhar lamented the Punjab government's alleged lackadaisical attitude coming in the way of benefits reaching farmers. About 14 lakh farmers may be deprived of the benefits of the scheme since the state has not lived up to its assurances of doorstep delivery.

Former Hry CM Khattar gets Power, Housing & Urban Affairs in Modi Cabinet

MANOJ KUMAR ■ CHANDIGARH

Former Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Monday was appointed as the Power Minister in Modi 3.0. In addition to this role, Khattar has also been assigned Housing and Urban Affairs in the new Cabinet.

Khattar, 70, served as Haryana Chief Minister until March 12, this year when he was succeeded by Nayab Singh Saini. He replaces RK Singh as Power Minister who lost elections from Arrah in Bihar.

Khattar had contested from the Karnal constituency in the Lok Sabha elections and defeated Divyanshu Budhiraja of the Congress. He had secured a victory with a substantial margin of 2,32,577 votes. Khattar is considered close to PM Modi with whom he worked in the BJP during the 1990s. Khattar, a bachelor, worked for almost

40 years as an RSS pracharak. Of the five Lok Sabha seats which the BJP won this time, three winning candidates have got berths in the cabinet. Besides Khattar, the other two are BJP veterans Rao Inderjit Singh and Krishan Pal Gurjar, who have also served as Union ministers in Modi's first and second tenure at the Centre. In the Union Cabinet, Rao Inderjit Singh has been given the portfolio of Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation; Ministry of Planning; and Ministry of Culture. Gurgaon MP Rao Inderjit Singh is a stalwart from southern Haryana and has been a representative from the region's predominant Ahir community.

Having been elected as Lok Sabha MP for the sixth term now, his third as a BJP member, Singh over the years has enjoyed unflinching support of Ahirs. Singh retained

the Gurgaon seat in the recently concluded general elections after defeating his nearest rival Raj Babbar of the Congress by a margin of more than 75,000 votes.

Another senior BJP leader Krishan Pal Gurjar has been given the portfolio of Minister of State in the Ministry of Cooperation.

From Faridabad, Gurjar retained his seat defeating Congress' Mahender Pratap Singh by a margin of 1,72,914 votes. He has served as Minister of State for Power and Heavy Industries, Shipping, Road Transport and Highways, Social Justice and Empowerment during the Modi government's previous two terms.

In the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, the BJP had won all the 10 seats in the state, but in the recently held elections, Congress wrested five seats. Assembly polls in Haryana are due to be held in October.

Despite electoral reverses, CM Mann says AAP performed better than past polls

PNS ■ MOHALI

Heralding the Aam Aadmi Party's (AAP) "improved" performance in the recently-concluded 2024 Lok Sabha elections, Punjab Chief Minister on Monday said that the party surpassed its previous electoral feats by not only securing a notable improvement in its seat count but also in vote share. At the same time, Mann pledged a relentless commitment to introspection and refinement. Determined to propel the party to even greater heights, the Chief Minister vowed to meticulously analyze and address any deficiencies in AAP's functioning, ensuring a path of continuous enhance-

ment and excellence.

Mann, addressing the media in Mohali after paying obeisance at Gurudwara Singh Shaheedan and praying for progress and prosperity of the state along with his wife, highlighted that AAP managed to secure three of the 13 available seats — a notable increase from their previous tally of one seat. The Chief Minister attributed this success to the growing voter support for AAP, despite the Congress party emerging victorious with seven seats, overshadowing not only the ruling AAP but also the opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD). Additionally, two independents secured sur-

prise wins, further fragmenting the electoral landscape in Punjab.

Mann pointed out that AAP's vote share had significantly enhanced from seven percent in 2019 to over 26 percent in the current polls. He contrasted this with the decline in Congress' vote share and the near elimination of the BJP in the state. "Our performance has shown a marked improvement, but we recognize that there is room for growth and development," said Mann.

He assured that the party would analyze and address any shortcomings in their strategy and execution to enhance their performance in future elections.

Hry CM presents possession letters of 100-100 sq yards plots to beneficiaries

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

After presenting possession letters of 100-100 square yards plots to intended beneficiaries under Mahatma Gandhi Gramin Basti Yojana, Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini on Monday said that over the last decade, both the Central and State governments have effectively implemented the spirit of Antyodaya. "Our double-engine government is truly pro-poor, continuously striving to strengthen and empower the underprivileged," he added.

The Chief Minister was speaking at the state-level function organized for distribution of possession letters of 100-100 square yards plots to the eligible beneficiaries under Mahatma Gandhi Gramin Basti Yojana in Sonapat district. In addition to Sonapat, similar such events were organized at 10 other locations — Bhiwani, Charkhi Dadri, Palwal, Gurugram, Hissar, Jind, Yamunanagar, Mahendragarh, Jhajjar, and Sirsa — in the State

where Haryana Government Ministers and MLAs distributed plot possession letters to the beneficiaries. More than 7,500 people received plot possession letters during the event.

The Chief Minister further said that for villages lacking available land for plots, beneficiaries will receive financial assistance of Rs 1 lakh each to purchase plots. Besides this, the government has made a plan to provide plots to other poor beneficiaries as well and directions have been given to the officers to develop a portal. Such families can register themselves on this portal, he added.

Saini said that during the election period, he directed officers to rectify the situation, ensuring beneficiaries received possession letters promptly. This task has now been successfully accomplished.

The Chief Minister said that the government has devised a plan to offer shelter to BPL families across 14 cities through the Mukhyamantri Shahri Awas Yojana. Under



this scheme, 15,000 plots will be provided. The list of beneficiaries has been meticulously verified and finalized. Implementation of this scheme is imminent and will commence shortly.

Saini highlighted the BR Ambedkar Awas Renovation Scheme, which offers financial aid of Rs. 80,000 for house repairs in the state. He said that

Rs. 370 crore has been disbursed among 66,000 beneficiaries under this scheme. Additionally, he emphasized Prime Minister Narendra Modi's efforts to empower the economically and socially disadvantaged through the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Rural and Urban). Over the past decade, the double-engine government has allocated Rs.

522 crore to this cause. From 67,649 applications, 14,939 impoverished individuals have received keys to their new homes.

Apart from this, 15,356 new houses are ready to be built, which will be handed over to the eligible people in two months.

Similarly, 29,440 applications were received under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Gramin, out of which Rs 376 crore was spent on the construction of 26,318 houses. Rs 32 crore was spent on the repair of 2,138 old houses.

Saini said that recognizing the significance of Chaulpals for various community gatherings, including marriages and ceremonies, the Haryana government has allocated a budget of Rs 100 crore for repairing Chaulpals belonging to the SC and BC categories. Once these Chaulpals are renovated, people will have improved facilities for organizing events.

He further said a new scheme called the Dayalu Yojana has been started, aimed

at assisting the poor. Under this scheme, families of deceased earning members receive financial aid of Rs 5 lakh. To date, Rs 370 crore has been distributed to 8,000 families across the state.

Additionally, through the Nirogi Haryana Yojana, free health check-ups have been provided to 2.71 crore individuals.

He said that people are facing difficulties in document corrections like Aadhar cards, ration cards, Parivaar Pahchan Patra, to solve this issue, a new initiative called 'Samadhan Shivir' has been initiated.

A 'Samadhan Prakosth' has been established within the Chief Secretary's office to address these issues. Deputy Commissioners and Sub-Divisional Magistrates (SDM) will address citizen grievances daily from 9 am to 11 am during working days. Their reports will be submitted to the Chief Secretary's office for monitoring by the Chief Minister himself, ensuring swift resolution of public concerns.

Classifieds

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Jaspreet Singh S/o Amrik Singh R/o Vill Shamdo Tehsil Rajpura (Patiala), have changed my name Jaspreet and Singh Surname.

I, Sunita W/o Gurdeep Singh R/o VPO Dhakansu Kalan Tehsil Rajpura (Patiala). have changed my name to Sunita Kaur.

I, Harbans Singh Alias Bansi S/o Vir Singh R/o VPO Dhakansu Kalan Tehsil Rajpura (Patiala), have changed my name to Harbans Singh.

I, Balbir Singh S/o Mahinder Singh R/o H.No.298 Govind Vihar Ambala City Distt Ambala Haryana, have changed my name to Balbeer Singh.

I, Rakesh Bharti S/o Nand Kishore Bharati, R/o H.No. 3131/2, Sector 47-D, Chandigarh, permanent R/o VPO, Harpur, Distt. Saran (Bihar), declare R Bharti and Rakesh Bharti is the same person.

I, Gurjeet Singh Badshah S/o Sh. Amarjeet Singh, R/o House Number -3180, Sector 21-D, Chandigarh. That I have changed my name from Gurjeet Singh Badshah to Gurjeet Singh Badesha.

I, Gourav S/o Inderjit Duggal R/o.126, New Jawahar Nagar, Batala Road, Amritsar have Changed my name from Gourav to Gourav Duggal

I, Opkar Singh S/O Sukhdev Singh R/O Vpo Jahangir, Amritsar Have Changed My Name To Upkar Singh. All Concerned Note.

I, Neha Sachdeva W/o Sh. Gaurav Sachdeva R/o, H.No. 28-A, Model Town, Karnal (Haryana) have changed My Name from Neha Gulati to Neha Sachdeva. My name will be known as Neha Sachdeva in future.

I, Vishesh Singla S/o Sh. Vivek Singla R/o H.No.29/1, Railway Road, Chaman Garden, Karnal have changed my name from Vishesh Singla to Vishesh Singla.

I, Narindervir Singh son of Gurmial Singh resident of Village Ghorewahi Adda, Post Office Ladhra, Tehsil & District Jalandhar, Punjab 144201, have changed the name of my minor daughter Jasreen to Jasreen Kaur. Now her given name is Jasreen and Surname is Kaur. All concerned note.

I, am Meena Devi, wife of Mr. Jasmer Singh, resident of village Mohangarh tehsil and district Jind, Haryana. I declare in my oath that I have changed my name from Meena Devi to Meena Kumari. Therefore, in future I should be known and recognized only by the name of Meena Kumari.

I, Sanjeev Mishra S/o Parmanand Mishra R/O R-71, Sector 74, Phase VIIIB, Mohali have changed my name from Sanjeev Kumar Mishra to Sanjeev Mishra. Both are one & same person.

I, Shivani Jain W/o Manish Jain R/o H.No. 28, Aggarsain Colony, Hisar (Haryana) have changed my name from Shivani to Shivani Jain for all purposes in future.

I, Neeraj Gupta S/o Sant Kumar R/o H. NO. 1538, Moti Pura Thandi Sarak, Hisar, declare that I have changed my name from Neeraj Gupta to Neeraj Gupta for all future purpose.

I, Neelam Soni W/o Sh. Ved Parkash Soni and D/o Sh. Subhash Chander Soni R/o H. No. 229, Sector 15 A Hisar (Haryana) declare that my name is Leela Devi. I have changed my name from Leela Devi to Neelam Soni for all future purpose. I want to change my name Neelam Soni in my all documents.

I, Neha D/o Lalit Kumar R/o House No. 18, Sector 14, Opposite Civil Hospital, Hisar, Haryana, 125001 declare that I have changed my name from Neha to Neha Goyal for all future purpose.

I, Lalit S/o Girdhar Gopal Goyal R/o House No. 18, Sector 14, Opposite Civil Hospital, Hisar, Haryana, 125001 declare that I have changed my name from Lalit to Lalit Kumar for all future purpose.

I, Sukhchain Singh S/o Sh. Lakhbir Singh R/o VPO Uklana Mandi, Teh. Uklana Mandi, Distt. Hisar (Haryana) 125113 declare that I have changed my name from Sukhchain to Sukhchain Singh.

I, Ritu Guri W/o Lovein Guri R/o H. No. 246/06, Ward No. 04, Near K. D. High School, Hisar, Distt. Hisar, Haryana 125001 declare that I have changed my name from Ritu Guri to Ritu Rani for future purpose.

I Sonia D/O sh. Bhushan Kumar R/O House no 163, Ravindra enclave phase 1, Baltana Zirakpur,Distt SAS Nagar Punjab. Declare that my father’s name is Bhushan Kumar and Bhushan is one and the same person. Concerned note

I Rajinder Kaur D/o of Nachhater Singh Sidhu Address Dhillwan (Patiala); District Barnala On some of my documents my father's name is written as Nachhater Singh Sidhu and on some of them Nachhater Singh these two names are my father's real name is Nachhater Singh

I, Sangeetha S is legally Wife of Service No. 16119024W Rank: HAV Name: Vadivelu S residing at Village Lakshimpuram, Post Kuppinyayakanpatti, Taluk Theni, Distt. Theni (State) Tamil Nadu Pin Code- 625520, have changed my name from Vadivelu Sangeetha to Sangeetha S.

I, P C Narayanan is legally Father of Service No. 15329862M Rank: L/HAV Name: Nikesp P residing at Village Cheruthazham Post Payangadi, Taluk Payyanur, Distt. Kannur (State) Kerala Pin Code-670303, have changed my name from PC Narayanan to P C Narayanan.

I, Kamala P is legally Mother of Service No. 15329862M Rank: L/HAV Name: Nikesp P residing at Village Cheruthazham Post Payangadi, Taluk Payyanur, Distt. Kannur (State) Kerala Pin Code-670303, have changed my name from P Kamala to Kamala P.

I, Chinnammalu is Mother of Resident at House No.2, Ramalayam Street, Village: VJ Palem, Po. Kasimkota, Teh. Anakapalli, Distt. Visakhapatnam, (AP) 531031, have changed my name from Chinnammalu TO Telapu Achhiyamma Vide Affidavit Dated 07 June 2024 before at Notary Ferozepur.

I, Mukhtar Kosser is Wife of No. JC-59-4304W, Rank SUB/MAJ., Name Mohd Sagheer Unit of 7 Inf Div Defence & Employment Coy C/O 56 APO, Ferozepur Cantt, have changed my name from Mukhtar Kouser to Mukhtar Kosser Vide Affidavit Dated 05 June 2024 before at Executive Magistrate Ferozepur.

I, Lakhwinder Kaur is legally Mother of No.2494979N Rank: Hav Name Dilbag Singh R/o Patti Mangat, Tarsikka, Amritsar, Punjab-143116, India,have changed my name from Lakhvinder Kaur to Lakhwinder Kaur Vide Affidavit No.IN-PB 22272253142869W Dated 04-06-2024 before at Notary Ferozepur.

I, Jashanpreet Kaur is legally Daughter of No.2494979N Rank : Hav Name Dilbag Singh R/o Patti Mangat ki, near bhagta dadera, Tarsikka, Amritsar, Punjab-143116, India, have changed my name from Jasanpreet Kaur to Jashanpreet Kaur Vide Affidavit No.IN-PB 23507727235013W Dated 07-06-2024 before at Notary Ferozepur.

I, Mainpal S/o Mange Ram R/o H. No. 112B, Ganja Rupana, P.O. Shakar Mandori (13), District-Sirsa, State-Haryana have changed my name from Mainpal to B. M. Manav Arahant for all future purposes.

I, Suresh S/o Santu Lal R/o Village Kaul, Distt Kaithal, In my documents my name is Suresh Kumar, DOB 1958 is incorrect. Correct Name is Suresh and DOB 01/01/1958.

I Phoolo Devi W/o Suresh R/o Village Kaul, Distt Kaithal, in my documents my DOB is 01/01/1968 is incorrect. Correct DOB is 01/01/1960.

I Sumir Singh S/o Sh. Rameshwar Singh R/O Bhattu Kalan Teh. & Distt. Fatehabd declare that Gourav Kumar @Gaurav Kumar is my son. Gourav Kumar @ Gaurav Kumar is a same person. In all documents my son name is Gaurav Kumar. I want correct the name of son Gaurav Kumar. I shall not misuse the above said name. I shall abide terms and conditions of the concerned Deptt.

I Dasharian S/O Desh Raj R/o. Gali 7, Patram Nagar, Narwana (Haryana) have changed my name to Dushariya Bansal for all future purposes.

I, Faekeer Chand S/o Prem Chand R/o Shastri Colony, Pehowa, Kurukshetra have Changed My Name Fakir Chand.

I, Harjeet Singh resident of H. No. 482, Ward No. 6, Pooja colony, Behind Dashmesh Dharamkanta, Pehowa, Distt Kurukshetra, Haryana has changed my name from Harjeet Singh to Harjeet Singh Multani.

I Manpreet Kaur resident of H. No. 482, Ward No. 6, Pooja colony, Behind Dashmesh Dharamkanta, Pehowa, Distt Kurukshetra, Haryana has changed my name from Manpreet Kaur to Manpreet Kaur Multani

I, Kalavati Devi is mother of JC-404716K Sub Devendra Singh Bist, serving in unit 4 Guards (1 Rajput) C/o 56 APO have change my name from Kalavati Devi to Kalawati Devi.

I, Ramanjit Kaur W/o Ranvir Singh R/o Onkar Nagar, Gali No. 03, Phagwara, Distt. Kapurthala, Punjab Have Changed My Name From Ramanjit Kaur To Ramanjit Kaur Parmar.

I, Kulwinder Singh Parhar S/o Sarwan Singh R/o VPO. Karnana, Tehsil Nawanshahar, Distt SBS Nagar, Punjab Have Changed My Name From Kulwinder Singh Parhar To Kulwinder Singh.

I, Jaswinder Kaur Parhar W/o Kulwinder Singh R/o VPO. Karnana, Tehsil Nawanshahar, Distt. SBS Nagar, Punjab Have Changed My Name From Jaswinder Kaur Parhar To Jaswinder Kaur.

I, Satish Kumar s/o Sham Sunder Sharma r/o E.C-335, Prem Gali, Khingra Gate, Jalandhar, Punjab, declare that Sham Sunder Sharma & Sham Sunder was the name of one and the same person ie my father.

I, Kamaljeet Kaur W/o Dinesh Chander R/o B-16/36, Mohalla Pandora, Nawanshahr, District SBS Nagar, Punjab Have Changed My Name To Kamaljit Kaur.

I, Rakesh Kumar Joshi S/o Dwarka Dass Joshi R/o Mohalla Malkana, Des Di Dairy, Kapurthala, Punjab, Have Changed My Name To Rakesh Kumar.

I, Malkit Singh S/O Sukhwinder Singh. R/O Vpo Dostpur, Tehsil Kalanaur, Distt Gurdaspur, Punjab. Declare That My Given Name As Malkit And My Surname As Singh.

I, Jagmeet Singh S/O Sukhwinder Singh R/O Vpo Dostpur, Tehsil Kalanaur, Distt Gurdaspur, Punjab. Declare That My Given Name As Jagmeet And My Surname As Singh.

I, Jaspal Singh Sohi S/O Naranjan Singh R/O Vpo Dugal Kalan Teh Patran Distt Patiala 147105 Have Changed My Name Jaspal Singh Sohi To Jaspal Singh.

I Sandeep Garg S/O Ramdhari Garg # 54 Word No 3 Near Kale Mata Mandir Patran Distt Patiala (Pb) Have Changed My Name Sandeep Kumar To Sandeep Garg.

I Beant Kaur Gill W/O Mahla singh R/O Madhir, Distt Sri Muktsar Sahib Have Changed My Name To Beant Kaur.

I, Sanjeev Walia S/o Amrik Raj R/o Jaitu (Faridkot) have changed my name to Sanjeev Kumar Walia.

I Tajender Singh S/O Balkar Singh Vpo Lohgarh, Tehsil Baba Bakala Sahib, District Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Tajender Singh To Tejinder Singh.

I, Amandeep Gill W/o Harbinder Singh R/o Kothi No. 2538-C, Sunny Enclave, Kharar, S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali), have changed my name to Amandeep Kaur.

I, Ramnik Kumar S/o Gurdev Singh R/o Near Hari Singh Nalwa Chowk Raikot (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Ramnik Kumar Ahluwalia.

I Ramnik Kumar S/o Gurdev Singh R/O Near Hari Singh Nalwa Chowk, Raikot, Distt. Ludhiana, Have Changed My Name To Ramnik Kumar Ahluwalia.

I, Kanwaljit Singh S/o Hans Raj R/o Vpo. Jiwan Wala (Faridkot) have changed my name to Kanwaljeet Singh.

I, Renu W/o Kanwaljeet Singh R/o Vpo. Jiwan Wala (Faridkot) have changed my name to Renu Rani.

I, Kulwinder Singh S/o Sarwan Singh R/O Vpo Mahni Khera Tehsil Malout District Sri Muktsar Sahib Have Changed Name To Kulwinder Singh.

I, Vinit Pahuja S/o Madan Lal R/o H.No.30, Amloh Road, Sunny Enclave, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Vineet Pahuja.

I, Raupinder Paul Singh S/o Jaswinder Singh R/o H.No.32-B, W.No.2, Model Town, Samrala Road, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Rupinder Pal Singh.

I, Abhishek S/o Amit Verma R/o H.No.62, Chandigarh Road, W.No.27, Brahampuri Moh. Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Abhishek Verma.

I, Arun Kumar Aggarwal S/o Pawan Kumar R/o H.No.212, Near Laxmi Narayan Mandir, Narotam Nagar, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Arun Kumar.

I Amrinder Singh Gondara S/O Angrej Singh R/O Village Gondara (Faridkot) Have Changed My Name To Amrinder Singh.

I, Malwinder Singh S/O Nirmal Singh Gill R/O Vpo. Dod (Faridkot) Have Changed My Name To Malwinder Singh Gill.

I, Nirmal Singh S/O Harbhajan Singh R/O Vpo. Dod (Faridkot) Have Changed My Name To Nirmal Singh Gill.

I, Simarjeet Kaur W/O Nirmal Singh Gill R/O Vpo. Dod (Faridkot) Have Changed My Name To Simarjeet Kaur Gill.

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I Hitherto Known As Sukhjti Singh Dhaliwal S/O Darshan Singh R/O Near Tower, Salabatpura, District Bathinda, Punjab-151108 Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Sukhpal Singh.

I Hitherto Known As Amanpreet Kaur Bhullar W/O Inderjit Singh Bhullar R/O H. No. 462, Opp. Dhillon Cold Store, Bathinda Road, Rampura Phul, Tehsil Phul District Bathinda, Punjab-151103 Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Amanpreet Kaur.

I, Sandeep Saini S/O Som Nath R/O # 2, V.P.O. Manka Manki, Tehsil Barara, Distt Ambala Have Changed My Minor Son Name From Jivesh To Jivesh Saini.

I, Govinda Alias Govind Kapoor S/O Mohinder Pal R/O H.No.N.F.234, Raian Gali, Tanda Chowk Jalandhar Punjab-144001, have changed my name to Govind Kapoor.

I Amit S/o Tulsi Ram Aggarwal R/o H.No.46, St.No.08, Ferozepur Cantt have changed my name from Amit to Amit Aggarwal.

I Baldev Singh S/o Gurmej Singh R/o Gulamwala Teh and Distt Ferozepur Have Changed The Name Of My Minor Son Balraj Singh to Balraj Singh Sidhu.

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I, No.15614608K Hav Kanwal Singh resident of Village- Dandupur, Post-Naidu, Tehsil- Mawana, District- Meerut, State- UP, Pin- 250401, have changed my Mother name from Daya Bati to Daya Vide affidavit No.IN-PB23468016119183W dated 07 June 2024 before notary public Pathankot

I, Ashwini spouse of No.13626805M L/Hav Bhosle Pramod Hiraji resident of Village- Adgaon, Post-Adgaon, Tehsil- Kannad, District- Aurangabad, State- Maharashtra, Pin-431104, have changed my name from Ashwini to Ashwini Pramod Bhosle Vide affidavit No.IN-PB23734355308042W dated 08 June 2024 before notary public Pathankot

I Service No. 14651794M Rank HAV Sanjay Kumar S/O Ramashray Singh Unit of 77 Armd Wksp C/o 56 APO Ambala Cantt that in my service record my son's name is wrongly mentioned as Harash Raj but his actual name is Harsh Raj. Concerned note

I Archana Devi W/o Sanjay Kumar Service No. 14651794M Rank HAV Unit of 77 Armd Wksp C/o 56 APO Ambala Cantt that in my husband's service record my name is wrongly mentioned as Archna but my actual name is Archana Devi . Concerned note.

I Mukhram Saroy S/o Ramesh Kumar R/o 14 Lajwanti Colony Near Durga Mandir Ambala Cantt distt. Ambala that I have changed my name from Mukhram Saroy to Mukh Ram . Concerned note

I JC-511563H Subedar Randhir Singh, son of Ajaib Singh, village Dangoli post office, Ghanauli Tehsil and District Rupnagar, in my army record the date of birth of my wife Amarjeet Kaur is 08/06/1981 which is wrong. That her correct date of birth is 08/06/1982 should be corrected in the Army records.

I JC-511563H Subedar Randhir Singh, son of Ajaib Singh, village Dangoli post office, Ghanauli Tehsil and District Rupnagar, in my army record the date of birth of my mother Naib Kaur is 17/05/1957, which is wrong that her correct date of birth is 01/01/1966, should be corrected in the army records.

I JC-511563H Subedar Randhir Singh, son of Ajaib Singh, village Dangoli post office, Ghanauli Tehsil and District Rupnagar, my army record is my son name Aamandeep Singh, which is wrong, whereas his correct name is Amandeep Singh should be corrected in the army records.

I, JC-511563H Subedar Randhir Singh, son of Ajaib Singh, village Dangoli post office, Ghanauli Tehsil and District Rupnagar, in my army record the date of birth of my father Ajaib Singh is 10/03/1952 which is wrong. That his correct date of birth is 01/01/1948 should be corrected in the Army records.

I, Abhishek Dhyani is legal father of Sangya Dhyani R/O Air Force Station, Sirsa (Haryana) have changed my daughter name from Sangya Dhyani to Shreshthta Dhyani vide affidavit No. 6991 dated 10 Jun 2024 before Dinesh Jindal

FIRST COLUMN

A TREASURE TROVE OF TIMELESS WISDOM

The Puranas, with their vast and varied content, are living texts



SWAMI CHARNASHRIT

The Puranas are a vast genre of ancient Indian literature that holds a significant place in the cultural, religious, and philosophical tapestry of India. These texts are not merely historical or mythological accounts; they are rich repositories of wisdom, encompassing a wide array of subjects that continue to resonate with and inspire people across generations.

Origin and Structure of the Puranas

The term "Purana" is derived from the Sanskrit word "pura," meaning "ancient" or "old." Traditionally, the Puranas are attributed to Vyasa, the sage who is also credited with compiling the Mahabharata and the Vedas. There are eighteen major Puranas, known as the Mahapuranas, and an equal number of secondary Puranas, known as Upapuranas. Each Purana varies in length and content but generally follows a similar structural format comprising five main topics: the creation of the universe (Sarga), the secondary creation (Pratisarga), genealogies of gods, sages, and kings (Vamsa), the reigns of Manus (Manvantara), and the history of dynasties (Vamsa Charitra).

Cosmology and Metaphysics

The Puranas offer a profound exploration of cosmology and metaphysics, detailing intricate theories about the creation, sustenance, and destruction of the universe. The concept of cyclical time, as opposed to linear time, is a central theme, with the universe undergoing endless cycles of creation and dissolution. This perspective provides a holistic view of existence, emphasizing the impermanence of the material world and the eternal nature of the soul.

Ethical and Moral Teachings

At their core, the Puranas are repositories of ethical and moral teachings. They emphasize the principles of Dharma (righteousness), Artha (prosperity), Kama (pleasure), and Moksha (liberation). Through various narratives and parables, the Puranas highlight the importance of living a virtuous life, the consequences of actions (karma), and the ultimate goal of attaining liberation from the cycle of birth and death.

Theistic Devotion

The Puranas are rich in devotional content, promoting Bhakti (devotion) towards various deities such as Vishnu, Shiva, and the Goddess. They provide detailed descriptions of the forms, attributes, and stories of these deities, fostering a personal and emotional connection between the devotee and the divine. This devotional aspect underscores the idea that sincere love and devotion can lead to spiritual enlightenment and liberation.

Social and Cultural Insights

The Puranas play a crucial role in preserving and transmitting the cultural and religious traditions of ancient India. They serve as encyclopaedic texts, containing information on rituals, festivals, pilgrimages, and social customs. By doing so, they have helped maintain continuity in cultural practices and have provided a sense of identity and continuity to generations.

The Arts and Sciences

The Puranas are remarkable for their integration of art and science. They include discussions on astronomy, astrology, medicine, architecture, and even the performing arts. For instance, the Vishnu Purana and the Bhagavata Purana provide elaborate accounts of cosmology, while the Agni Purana offers insights into various scientific disciplines, reflecting the comprehensive knowledge system of ancient India.

(The writer is a spiritual guide, views are personal)

The long and short of Modi's welfarism



UTTAM GUPTA

The Govt is doing a good job of supplying food, fuel and fertiliser at subsidised cost but the largesse recipients are unlikely to make space for other deserving people

An overarching policy instrument Prime Minister Narendra Modi uses in relentless pursuit of a welfare State is his unflinching commitment to ensuring adequate supply of three essential items, namely fertilisers, food and fuel, to the target beneficiaries/consumers at 'throwaway' price or even for free.

In fact, he tells them about his intentions in this regard well in advance. Look at these facts: Urea is a widely used fertiliser that supplies primary nutrient nitrogen or 'N' and constitutes nearly half of India's total fertiliser consumption. To make it affordable to farmers, the Union Government controls its maximum retail price (MRP) at a low level unrelated to the cost of production/import and distribution, which is much higher. The excess cost over MRP is reimbursed to the manufacturer/importer as subsidy which varies from unit to unit, depending on its cost.

During its first term, under a comprehensive New Urea Policy 2015 announced on May 13, 2015, the Modi Government had frozen the urea MRP of ₹268 per 50 kg bag for a period four years till 2019-20. Even thereafter, the price remained unchanged at ₹242 per 45 kg bag (currently, urea is sold in 45 kg bag; so on pro rata basis, the price is the same as earlier). This price is nearly one-tenth of the cost of making it available leading to huge subsidy payout. On June 28, 2023, Modi announced its continued availability to the farmers at this price for three years, up to FY 2025-26.

As for food, the National Food Security Act (NFSA) enacted by the erstwhile UPA Government in 2013 had provided for giving wheat, rice and coarse cereals to eligible beneficiaries at a throwaway price of ₹3/2/1 per kg respectively. The excess of minimum support price (MSP) paid to farmers plus handling and distribution costs over this price (read ₹3/2/1 per kg) was reimbursed to the State handling agencies such as the Food Corporation of India (FCI) as subsidy.

Even as the NFSA had frozen the price to be paid by beneficiaries for three years, ie till 2016, the then Minister for Food and Civil Supplies, Ram Vilas Paswan, announced that the price won't be increased for three years. In 2020, due to the Corona pandemic, under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY), the Government also started giving 5 kg of rice or wheat per person per month for 'free' to all the 820 million beneficiaries under the NFSA.

Meanwhile, the pandemic-induced PMGKAY was withdrawn from January 1, 2023. However, from the same date, the Government started giving regular supplies under the NFSA for 'free' (instead of ₹3/2/1 per kg charged earlier). This modified scheme was renamed as PMGKAY. Later in the year, in November 2023, addressing a poll rally in Chhattisgarh, Modi announced extension of the PMGKAY for another five years, ie till 2028.

In case of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), ever since 2015, the Government remains committed to making it available for household consumption at a low price although unlike in fertilisers and food, Modi hasn't announced as to 'for how long'. At present, over 100 million poor households who have been provided free gas connection under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) are eligible to receive subsidy at the rate of ₹300 per cylinder (14.2 kg) for 12 fills per annum.



WE COULD END UP WITH A SCENARIO WHERE CRORES OF PEOPLE DON'T NEED TO EARN THEIR LIVING AND SIMPLY WAIT FOR THE STATE FREEBIES TO TAKE CARE OF ALL THEIR NEEDS

If the welfare scheme beneficiaries are assured that they will continue to receive the benefits perpetually, all the more when these concern essential items such as fertilisers, food, fuel and that too with zero or near-zero price tag, they couldn't have asked for more. They can use the money thus saved for spending on other things, say education, health etc that can help them enhance their productive capacity and improve the quality of living. But, this may not happen in all cases. What if they fritter away the savings on unproductive stuff?

A bigger risk has to do with complacency that this could give rise to amongst the recipients of the benefits. When the Government arranges their basic needs for free (in Delhi, the State Government gives electricity and water free), it could trigger a feeling as to 'why should they work at all?' We could end up with a scenario where crores of people don't need to earn their living and simply wait for the State freebies to take care of all their needs.

Such an approach also comes in the way of extending the benefit of welfare schemes to other deserving persons who are currently not included in beneficiaries list. For instance, the current list of PMGKAY beneficiaries being based on the Census of 2011, over 100 million persons who became eligible post-2011 don't have access to

free food. Giving them access without deleting equivalent number from existing list will require more allocation for food subsidy. If fund constraints don't permit hike in the budget, those 100 million will continue to be denied access.

Under the current system of giving fertiliser subsidy, farmers are prone to excessive use of urea leading to imbalance in fertiliser use, drop in crop yield, deterioration of soil health and adverse impact on the environment. Even as there is a dire need to reduce imbalance by curbing excess use of urea, its availability at throwaway price won't let that happen.

For this very reason, there is rampant leakage/diversion of urea for industrial uses. Further, because manufacturers and importers get full reimbursement of the excess of cost over the MRP as subsidy on 'actual' basis, there is no incentive to reduce cost and improve efficiency in operations. The existing system of giving food subsidy also suffers from leakages, misuse and inefficiency in operations.

When Modi says the supply of fertilisers and food for free or at throwaway prices will continue perpetually, dubious operators too get to continue with their illicit gains. To address these anomalies, the Government needs to drastically restructure its welfare schemes. First, there should be an exit clause

for a beneficiary under the scheme. The clause can be triggered when she crosses the poverty threshold. For instance, 250 million persons who have come out of poverty shouldn't be eligible for free food under PMGKAY.

Two, our political brass should do away with the 'free' tag to any item even if it is food. While no one can deny the need for some subsidy to make it 'affordable' to the poor, insisting that the commodity be given for free or at small fraction of the cost (as in case of urea) is a risky idea. It is an invitation to all kinds of wrongs such as fictitious claims, diversions, inflated cost and so on.

Three, instead of delivering a commodity at a low price, the Government should deposit the subsidy in the account of the beneficiary. The latter can buy her needs from the market where prices are determined in a competitive manner, thereby ensuring that the gains of efficiency improvements and cost reduction accrue to all consumers. In this scenario, there won't be any scope for misuse or diversion.

Four, a plethora of subsidies under different heads can be merged and given as a single lump sum amount as income support. This can save a lot of administrative work and associated costs involved in running multiple schemes.

(The writer is a policy analyst, views are personal)

Canada in covert talks with India over Nijjar's killing

India and Canada share a complex relationship, shaped by historical ties, diaspora influence and geopolitical interests

In the intricate dance of international diplomacy, Canada's intelligence chief, David Vigneault, embarked on clandestine visits to India earlier this year, delving into the shadowy realms of the Khalistani activist's controversial demise. These covert exchanges, veiled in secrecy, unfold against the backdrop of heightened tensions between the two nations, as a parliamentary report unveils India's ranking as the second most significant foreign threat to Canadian democracy, closely trailing behind China. With Prime Minister Trudeau's pledge to confront foreign interference head-on, Canada grapples with safeguarding its democratic integrity amidst the swirling currents of global power struggles.



SANTOSH MATHIEW

India and Canada share a complex relationship, shaped by historical ties, diaspora influence, and geopolitical interests. The Indian diaspora in Canada, particularly the Sikh community, has played a significant role in shaping Canadian society and politics. However, issues related to Sikh separatism and human rights in India have often been contentious points in bilateral discussions. Nijjar's assassi-

nation has brought these issues to the forefront once again, reigniting debates about the treatment of minorities in India and the extent of Canada's involvement in addressing these concerns. The Indian diaspora in Canada is significant and steadily growing. It's estimated that there are over 2 million people of Indian origin in Canada, making the Indian community one of the largest and most influential ethnic groups in the country. Over the years, the Indian diaspora has made significant contributions to various sectors of Canadian society, including business, politics, academia, and culture. This demographic's influence is a testament to the deep-rooted connections between the two nations.

Nijjar's assassination has prompted a range of reactions from both Indian and Canadian officials. Canadian officials have condemned the act and called for a thorough investigation, while also reaffirming their commitment to dialogue and cooperation with India. However, the incident has undoubtedly strained relations between the two countries, with potential implications for trade, investment, and strategic partnerships. Some argue that Nijjar's death underscores the need for greater attention to human rights violations in India, while others caution against jumping to conclusions and emphasize the importance of evidence-based investigations. At the diplomatic level, the fallout from Nijjar's assassination



has led to increased scrutiny of Indo-Canadian relations. The alleged involvement of India's Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) and a close aide of Ajit Doval in covert operations underscores the complex interplay between intelligence, diplomacy, and geopolitics. As India seeks to assert itself on the world stage, it must navigate these challenges with

caution, ensuring that its actions are guided by principles of transparency, accountability, and respect for international law. For Canada, the incident has highlighted the delicate balancing act it must perform in managing its diverse population while upholding democratic values. The Canadian government's response has been measured, focusing on ensuring justice for Nijjar while maintaining diplomatic channels with India. This approach is crucial for preserving the multifaceted relationship that exists between the two countries. While differences may exist on certain issues, there are also areas of common interest where cooperation can flourish. Moreover, the tragic loss of Jaswinder Singh Nijjar serves

as a reminder of the importance of upholding democratic values and protecting the rights of all individuals, regardless of their beliefs or backgrounds. This commitment to justice will not only honour Nijjar's legacy but also reinforce the values that both nations espouse. Moving forward, Indo-Canadian relations will likely face challenges as both countries navigate the aftermath of this incident. However, with mutual respect, dialogue, and a commitment to shared values, there is hope that they can emerge stronger and more resilient than before.

In conclusion, the assassination of Jaswinder Singh Nijjar has cast a spotlight on the intricacies of Indo-Canadian relations, highlighting both the challenges and opportunities

that lie ahead. It is a pivotal moment for both nations to reflect on their shared history, reaffirm their commitment to justice, and work towards a future marked by cooperation and mutual respect. The road ahead may be fraught with difficulties, but with a concerted effort, India and Canada can continue to build a relationship that is both robust and resilient, benefiting not only their citizens but also contributing to global peace and stability. Indo-Canadian relations are like a symphony, where each note, no matter how different, contributes to the harmony of the whole. Let us play our parts with respect, understanding, and a commitment to peace.

(The writer is an associate professor, views are personal)

Far-right election surge shakes EU, prompting Macron’s snap polls

AP ■ BRUSSELS

Far-right parties rattled the traditional powers in the European Union with major gains in parliamentary seats, dealing an especially humiliating defeat to French President Emmanuel Macron, who called snap legislative elections. Some ballots in the vote for the European Parliament were still being counted Monday, but the outcome showed the 27-nation bloc’s parliament membership has clearly shifted to the right. Italian Premier Giorgia Meloni more than doubled her party’s seats in the assembly. And despite being hounded by a scandal involving candidates, the Alternative for Germany extreme right party still rallied enough seats to sweep past the slumping Social Democrats of Chancellor Olaf Scholz. Sensing a threat from the far right, the Christian Democrats of EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen had



French President Emmanuel Macron appears on television screen at the French far-right National Rally party election night headquarters, Sunday,

already shifted further to the right on migration and climate ahead of the elections — and were rewarded by remaining by far the biggest group in the 720-seat European Parliament and de facto brokers of the ever-

expanding powers of the legislature. But the surge by nationalist and populist parties across Europe will make it much harder for the assembly to approve legislation on issues ranging from

climate change to agriculture policy for the next five years. Undoubtedly however, the star on a stunning electoral night was the National Rally party of Marine Le Pen, which dominated the French polls to such an extent that Macron immediately dissolved the national parliament and called for new elections to start later this month. It was a massive political risk since his party could suffer more losses, hobbling the rest of his presidential term that ends in 2027. Le Pen was delighted to accept the challenge. “We’re ready to turn the country around, ready to defend the interests of the French, ready to put an end to mass immigration,” she said, echoing the rallying cry of so many far-right leaders in other countries who were celebrating substantial wins. Her National Rally won over 30% or about twice as much as Macron’s pro-European centrist Renew party that is projected to reach less than 15%.

European election dents German leader’s authority, boosts conservatives, far right

AP ■ BERLIN

Dismal results for Germany’s governing parties in the European Parliament election have dented Chancellor Olaf Scholz’s authority and could prompt even more of the infighting that just cost the government dearly. A clear win for Germany’s mainstream conservative opposition boosts its confidence as the country begins to look ahead to a national election expected in the fall of 2025, but raises questions about why it isn’t benefiting more from the unpopularity of Scholz’s government. And a second-place finish for the far-right Alternative for Germany, despite scandals and setbacks, underlines its enduring appeal to many unsettled voters and its strength in the formerly commu-

nist east — where it emerged as the strongest party and hopes to win three state elections in September. The defeat of the three parties in Scholz’s unpopular coalition “really wasn’t surprising, but the level they’ve dropped to is quite shocking for a governing coalition,” said Andrea Rommele, a political science professor at the Hertie School in Berlin. Scholz’s Social Democrats, the environmentalist Greens and the pro-business Free Democrats secured less than a third of the vote. Scholz’s party polled only 13.9 per cent, its worst post-World War II showing in a nationwide vote, while the Greens crashed to 11.9 per cent from a peak of 20.5 per cent five years ago. All were significantly below their performance in Germany’s 2021 national election.

Scholz’s coalition government set out to modernize Germany but has gained a reputation for constant discord and poor communication as the economy struggles to generate growth. The coalition partners argued through the campaign about how to put together a 2025 budget while adhering to Germany’s tight self-imposed rules on running up debt. That problem already forced a hasty, court-mandated reshuffle of the 2024 budget, complete with subsidy cuts that prompted protests by farmers. “The sense in Germany at the moment is that the current government is not getting things done,” Römmele said. “I do think they are getting things done, not all of them but quite a number of them, but they have to communicate that properly ... and they have to stop having these inter-

nal coalition fights.” Chances of that don’t look good. The Social Democrats’ co-leader, Lars Klingbeil, said Sunday night that “our people want to see us fight” for its priorities. The party’s general secretary, Kevin Kühnert, told Phoenix television that, with the Cabinet due to present a draft budget within weeks, “it isn’t plausible that everything will get quieter tomorrow if all just pull themselves together.” Opposition leader Friedrich Merz celebrated his Union bloc’s win and described the outcome as “a serious defeat for the chancellor, who was on posters across the country.” Fellow conservatives suggested that Scholz should call a parliamentary confidence vote or that new elections might be needed — suggestions the governing parties dismissed.

Indian-origin man killed in Canada; targeted killing suspected

Ottawa (PTI): A 28-year-old Indian-origin man was shot dead in a suspected “targeted killing” in Canada’s British Columbia province, according to the police, who have arrested and charged four people with first-degree murder in connection with the case. The victim, identified as Yuvraj Goyal, was found dead by the police when they were responding to the call of a shooting in Surrey on Friday morning, the homicide unit of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police said in a statement. Goyal worked at a car dealership in Surrey, Global News reported, quoting his sister, Charu Singha. She said the family had no idea why he was killed and that they had no indication that he had any ties to organised crime. Goyal’s brother-in-law, Bawandeap, said the victim was on the phone with his mother, who lives in India, just before he was shot.

“He came back from his gym, (his) daily routine, and he stepped out of his car, and he was shot,” Bawandeap said. Police arrested four suspects — 23-year-old Manvir Basram of Surrey, 20-year-old Sahib Basra of Surrey, 23-year-old Harkirat Jhutti of Surrey, and 20-year-old Keilon Francois of Ontario — shortly after the shooting. They have been charged with first-degree murder, CBC News quoted the police as saying. In a statement released on Saturday, the homicide unit said authorities were alerted to a vehicle fire shortly after the shooting. On Saturday, the four were charged with first-degree murder, the Integrated Homicide Investigation Team said. Police said that while initial evidence suggests it was a “targeted shooting, investigators are working to determine the reason that Mr Goyal, a 28-year-old community member with no history of police contact, was killed.” The homicide unit also urged anyone with information or people driving in the area with dash-camera footage to contact the police.

UN food agency pauses aid work at Gaza pier over security concerns

AP ■ WASHINGTON

The director of the UN World Food Program said Sunday the programme has “paused” its distribution of humanitarian aid from an American-built pier off Gaza, saying she was “concerned about the safety of our people” after what had been one of the deadliest days of the war there. Saturday saw both an Israeli military assault that freed four hostages but left 274 Palestinians and one Israeli commando dead, and, Cindy McCain said, two of WFP’s warehouses in Gaza had been “rocketed” and a staffer injured. Sunday’s UN announcement of the pause appears the latest setback for the US sea route, set up to try to bring more aid to Gaza’s starving people. The US Agency for International Development described the pause as a step to allow for a security review by the humanitarian community in Gaza. USAID works with the World Food Program and their humanitarian partners in Gaza to distribute food and other aid com-



Smoke rises in the Palestinians Al Fara'a refugee camp in the occupied West Bank following an Israeli military raid, Monday, June 10, 2024. Israel’s military killed a 15-year-old Palestinian in an overnight raid on Al Fara’a refugee camp in the occupied West Bank, according to Palestinian health officials. The military said Monday that it had begun what it described as a “counterterrorism” raid into the camp. It said soldiers killed one militant and injured two more with live fire and said the heavy exchanges of gunfire were ongoing.

ing from the US-operated pier. Completed in mid-May, the US pier was operational for only about a week before being knocked offline by storm damage for two weeks. After repairs,

it returned to operation again Saturday, bringing in 1.1 million pounds (492 metric tons) of food and other aid, before McCain said her agency was pausing its humanitarian work there.

The UN agency gave no further details, including how long the pause would last. WFP spokespeople did not respond to requests for further details. Asked about the pier operation during an appearance on CBS’s “Face the Nation” McCain said: “Right now we’re paused.” “I’m concerned about the safety of our people after the incident yesterday,” McCain said, without elaboration. “We also, two of our warehouses, the warehouse complex were rocketed yesterday.” “We’ve stepped back for the moment,” she said, and want “to make sure that we’re on safe terms and on safe ground before we’ll restart. But the rest of the country is operational. We’re doing ... everything we can in the north and the south.” USAID said in a statement to The Associated Press that it was working with other US government officials and with humanitarian groups in Gaza “to ensure that aid can safely and effectively resume movement following completion of the security review that the humanitarian community is currently undertaking.”

Hunter Biden’s gun trial enters its final stretch

AP ■ WILMINGTON

The criminal trial of President Joe Biden’s son heads into its final stretch Monday as the defense tries to chip away at prosecutors’ case laying bare some of the darkest moments of Hunter Biden’s drug-fuelled past. Hunter Biden’s lawyers could call at least one more witness when the case resumes in Delaware’s federal court — the first of two trials he’s facing in the midst of his father’s re-election campaign. It’s unclear whether prosecutors will call any rebuttal witnesses before the case goes to closing arguments, and then to the jury. Hunter Biden is charged with three felonies stemming from the October 2018 purchase of a gun he had for about 11 days. Prosecutors say he lied on a mandatory gun-purchase form by saying he was not illegally using or addicted to drugs. Hunter Biden has pleaded not

guilty and has accused the Justice Department of bending to political pressure from former President Donald Trump and other Republicans to bring the case and separate tax charges after a deal with prosecutors fell apart last year. Hunter Biden has said he has been sober since 2019, but his attorneys have said he did not consider himself an “addict” when he filled out the form. The case has put spotlight on a turbulent time in Hunter Biden’s life after his brother Beau’s 2015 death. First Lady Jill Biden has watched it unfold from the front row of the courtroom. President Biden was away in France much of last week, and heads to Europe again this week for the Group of Seven leaders meeting in Italy. Hunter Biden’s struggles with a substance addiction before getting sober more than five years ago are well documented. But defence lawyers argue there’s no evidence Hunter

Biden was actually using drugs in the 11 days that he possessed the gun. He had completed a rehab programme weeks earlier. Jurors have heard emotional and tawdry testimony from Hunter Biden’s former romantic partners and read personal text messages. They’ve seen photos of Hunter Biden holding a crack pipe and partly clothed, and video from his phone of crack cocaine weighed on a scale. His ex-wife and two onetime girlfriends testified for prosecutors about his habitual crack use and their failed efforts to help him get clean. One woman, who met Hunter Biden in 2017 at a strip club where she worked, described him smoking crack every 20 minutes or so while she stayed with him at a hotel. Hunter Biden hasn’t taken the witness stand and it’s unclear if he will. But jurors have heard him describe at length his descent into addiction through audio excerpts played

in court of his 2021 memoir “Beautiful Things.” The book, written after he got sober, covers the period he had the gun but doesn’t mention it specifically. A key witness for prosecutors is Beau’s widow, Hallie, who had a brief troubled relationship with Hunter after his brother died of brain cancer. She found the unloaded gun in Hunter’s truck on October 23, 2018, panicked and tossed it into a garbage can at a grocery store in Wilmington, where a man inadvertently fished it out of the trash. “I didn’t want him to hurt himself, and I didn’t want my kids to find it and hurt themselves,” Hallie Biden told jurors. From the time Hunter returned to Delaware from a 2018 trip to California until she threw his gun away, she did not see him using drugs, Hallie told jurors. That time period included the day he bought the weapon. But jurors also saw text messages Hunter sent to Hallie in October 2018 saying

he was waiting for a dealer and smoking crack. The first message was sent the day after he bought the gun. The second was sent the following day. The defence has suggested Hunter Biden had been trying to turn his life around at the time of the gun purchase, having completed a detoxification and rehabilitation program at the end of August 2018. “There is no evidence of contemporaneous drug use and a gun possession,” defense lawyer Abbe Lowell wrote in court papers filed Friday. “It was only after the gun was thrown away and the ensuing stress ... that the government was able to then find the same type of evidence of his use (e.g., photos, use of drug lingo) that he relapsed with drugs.” Hunter Biden’s daughter Naomi took the stand for the defence Friday, telling jurors about visiting her father while he was at a California rehab centre weeks before he bought the gun.

Islamic State militants kill dozens in Congo

Goma (Congo) (AP): Militants allied with the Islamic State group in eastern Congo have killed at least 41 people in several villages in North Kivu province, the national government said Monday, as residents openly wondered why security forces weren’t protecting them. The statement said Friday’s attacks were carried out by Allied Democratic Forces militants in the villages of Masala, Mahihi and Keme. Local civil society members asserted that the true toll was higher, with as many as 80 killed. Richard Kirimba, a civil society official in the area that was attacked, said the militants appeared to be expanding their operations and that local mines were drawing them in. “There’s no state authority in this area, and in many villages there are no police, no soldiers, no national intelligence agency,” he told The Associated Press.

“The population is worried because the enemy is roaming around the neighbourhood,” said Kambale Vunyatsi Kiongozi, who represents some civil society groups. Residents have long called on the Congolese army to protect the local population. The government statement said Congo’s government has launched an operation to pursue the militants responsible and has killed a number of them and freed hostages in the process, without providing figures. Eastern Congo has struggled with armed violence for decades as more than 120 groups fight for power, land and valuable mineral resources, while others try to defend their communities. Some armed groups have been accused of mass killings. The violence has displaced nearly 7 million people, many beyond the reach of aid.

Gen Z turning away from military service in Aus

Tasmania: The Australian Defence Force is facing an acute recruitment crisis. Only 80 per cent of the 69,000 personnel needed to meet future challenges have signed up. The government recently announced recruitment will be opened up to some foreign citizens to try to fill this gap. Not only is the Australian military failing to achieve planned growth, it is actually shrinking, as Defence Chief General Angus Campbell told a Senate inquiry in February. There are two fundamental reasons for the current recruitment impasse. One is economic – low unemployment and a perception of better opportunities, work conditions and future prospects in the private sector. The other reason is cultural: a declining willingness of Gen Z to identify with – and fight to defend – their nation.

Either way, the key to the recruitment crisis lies in understanding the motivations of this generation, the main pool of potential recruits today. We recently interviewed 19 serving Australian soldiers from a range of demographics (two were Gen Z) and across military branches in a study funded by the Australian Defence Force. We wanted to find out what makes Gen Z recruits tick, and what the force might do to persuade more of them to serve their country. Researchers study every new generation as a guide to the future, from the baby boomers to Generation X (like the authors of this article), and millennials. None is more distinctive than generation Z, or Zoomers – people born roughly between 1997 and 2008. They are the first generation to grow up with smartphones and social media. In his current bestseller, The Anxious Generation, social psychologist Jonathan Haidt outlines the cataclysmal effect: he claims a large increase in depression and anxiety in young people is

the direct effect of unsupervised social media use during adolescence. Zoomers’ mental health is a barrier to service, as US Marine Corps Lieutenant Matthew Weiss spells out in his book on Gen Z military recruitment. A military career can be detrimental to psychological wellbeing, as Australia’s Royal Commission into Veteran Suicide has demonstrated. The force’s rigorous mental health entry standards may have reinforced this perception. The soldiers we spoke to said mental health is an issue for recruitment. On one hand, they agreed that service is mentally challenging, and that younger soldiers are more psychologically vulnerable. On the other hand, interviewees said the force’s mental health support has been improving. This is a step in the right direction – it may well be that media coverage of veterans’ mental health issues worries Zoomers considering enlistment. Weiss argues

private sector jobs (and money) afford much more online currency than military service. The respondents in our interviews agreed younger recruits were very savvy about pay and conditions. But there may be another motivator: as shadow Defence Minister Andrew Hastie recently told the ABC: “People who join the Defence Force don’t just do it for economic reasons, they do it because they love their country.” This means if love of country falls from generation to generation, military recruitment falls too. Weiss suggests in the United States, low patriotism partly explains Gen Z’s reluctance to enlist. Our interviewees said traditional nationalism played only a modest role for enlisting for young people. They thought a lesser sense of obligation and service is one reason. Another is the fact that the black-and-white picture of “my

country right or wrong” has been muddled following media coverage of alleged Australian war crimes in Afghanistan. The evidence confirms waning national pride among young Australians. We analysed publicly available data from the World Values Survey, a wide-ranging poll of people’s values around the globe conducted since 1981. It shows in 1981, 70.3 per cent of Australians were “very proud” of their nationality. This fell to 60.8 per cent in 2018, the first year to feature Gen Z members in the survey. That year, only 41.6 per cent of twentysomethings (including some millennials) were very proud Australians – the lowest proportion of any Australian age group in any year since the survey began. All else being equal, older adults tend to be more nationalistic, as surveys in different periods and countries show. But the nationalism gap between old and young has opened up further with Gen Z.

Aus PM urges activists to ‘turn heat down’ after US Consulate vandalised

Sydney (AP) Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese urged activists on both sides of the Israel-Palestinian debate to “turn the heat down” after the US Consulate in Sydney was vandalized on Monday. Surveillance video showed a person wearing a dark hoodie using a small sledgehammer to smash nine holes in the reinforced glass windows of the building in North Sydney after 3 am, a police statement said. Two inverted red triangles, seen by some as a symbol of Palestinian resistance but by others as supporting Hamas, were also painted on the front of the building. Albanese urged people to have “respectful political debate and discourse.” “People are traumatized by what is going on in the Middle East, particularly those with relatives in

either Israel or in the Palestinian Occupied Territories,” Albanese told reporters. “And I just say, again, reiterate my call to turn the heat down and measures such as painting the US consulate do nothing to advance the cause of those who have committed what is, of course, a crime to damage property,” Albanese added. The consulate was closed on Monday because of a public holiday in New South Wales state but would reopen on Tuesday, a consulate statement said. New South Wales Premier Chris Minns said an overwhelming majority of Australians did not approve of such vandalism. “We can make our point in this country without resorting to violence or malicious behavior,” Minns said.

Bulgaria’s centre-right party sweeps in national polls

Sofia (AP): Bulgaria’s centre-right GERB party led by former Prime Minister Boyko Borissov has received most votes in the country’s parliamentary election but will need at least two partners to form a governing coalition. The country’s sixth vote for the National Assembly in three years was held Sunday parallel with European Parliament elections. Both votes were marked by apathy that kept turnout at a record low of about 30 per cent. The results produced one more deeply fragmented parliament, which does not offer many options for restoring political stability in the European Union’s poorest member country. Many observers suggest that the most likely scenario is another snap parliamentary election later this year.

South Korea says North installing own loudspeakers along border

AP ■ SEOUL

South Korea's military on Monday said it's detecting signs that North Korea is installing its own loudspeakers along their heavily armed border, a day after the South blared anti-Pyongyang propaganda broadcasts over its speakers for the first time in years as the rivals engage in a Cold War-style psychological warfare. The South's resumption of its loudspeaker broadcasts on Sunday was in retaliation for the North sending over 1,000 balloons filled with trash and manure over the last couple of weeks. North Korea has described its balloon campaign as a response to South Korean civilian groups using balloons to fly anti-North Korean propaganda leaflets across the border. Pyongyang has long condemned such activities as it's extremely sensitive to any outside criticism of leader Kim Jong Un's authoritarian rule. The tit-for-tat over speakers and balloons has deepened tensions between the Koreas as talks over the North's nuclear ambitions remain stalled. In their latest nuclear planning talks in Seoul, US and South Korean officials reviewed an undisclosed guideline map-



ping out their nuclear deterrence strategies to counter growing North Korean threats. They also discussed strengthening the allies' combined military training involving strategic US assets, the participants said in a news conference. Cho Chang-rae, South Korea's deputy defense minister for policy, and Vipin Narang, acting US assistant secretary of defense for space policy, refused specific comment when asked to assess the threat posed by North Korea's balloon activities. Seoul's Joint Chiefs of Staff didn't immediately comment on the number of suspected North Korean speakers or where along the border they were spotted being installed. It said the speakers were still silent as

of Monday afternoon. South Korea on Sunday activated its loudspeakers for an initial broadcast into North Korea, which reportedly included news, criticism about North Korea's government and South Korean pop music. Hours later on Sunday, Kim's powerful sister warned that the South created a "prelude to a very dangerous situation." She said South Korea would witness an unspecified "new response" from the North if it continues with the broadcasts and fails to stop civilian activists from flying anti-North Korean propaganda leaflets across the border. "I sternly warn Seoul to immediately case its dangerous activities that would further provoke a crisis of confrontation," Kim Yo Jong said through state

media. Lee Sung Joon, spokesperson of South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff, said Kim's comments represented a heightened verbal threat from North Korea but he did not provide a specific assessment on the actions the North might take. Lee said the South was conducting broadcasts in sites where soldiers have sufficient protection and are equipped to swiftly hit back if attacked. "(We) don't think that they could provoke us that easily," Lee said during a briefing Monday. The Joint Chiefs of Staff didn't specify the border area where Sunday's broadcast took place or what was played over the speakers. It said that any additional broadcasts are "entirely dependent on North Korea's behaviour." The South withdrew loudspeakers from border areas in 2018, during a brief period of engagement with the North under Seoul's previous liberal government. In deciding to restart the loudspeaker broadcasts, South Korea's presidential office berated Pyongyang for attempting to cause anxiety and disruption" in the South and stressed that North Korea would be "solely responsible" for any future escalation of tensions.

Pak PM vows to 'eliminate terrorism'

Islamabad (PTI): Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Monday pledged to "relentlessly eliminate terrorism" from the country after seven soldiers, including a Captain, were killed in a terrorist attack in the restive Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province a day earlier.

The incident occurred when the convoy of security personnel heading towards Kachi Qamar, Sarband District of the Lakki Marwat District, came under attack by the terrorists.

The terrorists blasted an improvised explosive device (IED) initially and later opened fire on the convoy. "Deeply saddened by the martyrdom of Pak Army personnel, including a Captain in a targeted attack in Lakki Marwat District," Sharif said in a post on X.

"The sacrifices of our brave soldiers and citizens is a debt on us that we must repay by relentlessly eliminating terrorism from our nation," he said, condoling the deaths.

Shehbaz, Nawaz wish Modi on taking oath as PM

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and his elder brother and the ruling party supremo Nawaz Sharif on Monday wished Narendra Modi for taking oath as the prime minister for the third consecutive term. In his message posted on X, Nawaz, the former prime minister and chief of the Pakistan Muslim League (PML-N), said that Modi's success in recent elections reflects the confidence of the people in his leadership and asked him to seize the opportunity to shape the destiny of the two billion people of South Asia. Modi was sworn in as prime minister on Sunday for a record-equaling third term, heading a 72-member Union Council of Ministers in the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government. Shehbaz, the only prime minister from India's neighbourhood



who wasn't invited to the swearing-in ceremony in New Delhi, took to X to wish his counterpart on his return from China, Pakistan's all-weather ally. "Felicitations to @narendramodi on taking oath as the Prime Minister of India," he said in a post. "My warm felicitations to Modi Ji (@narendramodi) on assuming office for the third time. Your party's success in recent elections reflects the confidence of the people in your leadership. Let us replace hate with hope and seize the opportunity to shape the destiny of the two billion people of South Asia," Nawaz said.

Top leaders from India's neighbourhood and the Indian Ocean region, including Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu, Nepal Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' and Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe on Sunday graced the historic swearing-in ceremony. Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Mauritius Prime Minister Pravind Kumar Jugnauth, his Bhutanese counterpart Tshering Tobgay and Vice-President of Seychelles Ahmed Afif also attended the glittering ceremony held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Newly chosen Haitian PM discharged from hospital after spending a night

Port Au Prince, Haiti (AP): Haiti's newly selected Prime Minister Garry Conille was discharged from a hospital on Sunday after spending a night in treatment for an undisclosed condition.

In a video published on YouTube, Conille said he is now feeling well and is "ready" to continue to help steer the country out of its current security crisis by forming a government that will also prioritize issues like health care.

"The whole time I was at the hospital, I was thinking of something," Conille said in Sunday's video. "People that

need to go to the general hospital can't get there" due to security problems. "People who need health care" can't afford it. Conille arrived in Haiti on June 1 after a transitional council selected him as the nation's new prime minister. He had been working outside the country as UNICEF's regional director for Latin America. Gang violence is still surging in parts of Haiti's capital and beyond as Conille takes over the helm of the troubled Caribbean country awaiting the UN backed deployment of a police force from Kenya and other countries.

Missile attacks by Yemen's Houthi rebels strike 2 ships in Gulf of Aden: US military

AP ■ MANAMA (BAHRAIN)

Missile attacks by Yemen's Houthi rebels struck two ships in the Gulf of Aden, authorities said on Sunday, the latest assaults on shipping in the region. One anti-ship ballistic cruise missile hit the Antigua- and Barbuda-flagged cargo ship Norderney forward station late Saturday, starting a fire that those on board put out, the US military's Central Command said. It added that a second anti-ship cruise missile also hit the Norderney. The British military's United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations

centre similarly reported the attack and fire in the same area off Aden, saying "damage control is underway." Houthi military spokesman Brig. Gen. Yahya Saree claimed the attack in a prerecorded video message Sunday, saying the vessel had been targeted with both missiles and drones. Tracking data analysed by The Associated Press showed the Norderney was still in the Gulf of Aden on Sunday afternoon. In a second attack, a Houthi ballistic missile hit the Tavvishi, a Liberian-flagged, Swiss-owned-and-operated container ship in the Gulf of Aden, Central Command. Saree claimed the

US, Poland launching group to help Ukraine counter Kremlin disinformation

Warsaw (AP): The United States announced on Monday that it is setting up an operation in the Polish capital to help neighbouring Ukraine counter Russian disinformation. The US State Department's Global Engagement Centre, which works to highlight disinformation by what it considers hostile states, said in a statement that the US and Poland have jointly launched a Ukraine Communications Group "to support Ukraine against Russia's aggression in the information space". Increasingly, Polish officials say Poland is also a target of sabotage and other disruptive measures by the Russian secret services. Poland is a member of NATO along the military alliance's eastern front. It has been a hub for Western weapons sent to Ukraine. It has also been a place of refuge for a significant number of Ukrainians who have fled Russia's full-scale invasion that began in February 2022. The State Department said the new group would bring together allies to "coordinate messaging, promote accurate reporting of Russia's full-scale invasion, amplify Ukrainian voices and expose Kremlin information manipulation". It asserted that the Kremlin "repeatedly uses lies and manipulation to peddle false pretexts for its unjustifiable invasion, obfuscate its war aims and attempt to fracture worldwide solidarity with the Ukrainian people".

Ukraine's air force may keep some F-16 warplanes abroad

AP ■ KYIV

Ukraine may keep some of the F-16 fighter jets it's set to receive from its Western allies at foreign bases to protect them from Russian strikes, a senior Ukrainian military officer said on Monday. Belgium, Denmark, the Netherlands and Norway have committed to providing Ukraine with over 60 US-made F-16 fighter jets to help it fend off Russian attacks. Ukrainian pilots are currently undergoing training to fly the warplanes ahead of the deliveries expected to start later this year. Serhii Holubtsov, head of aviation within Ukraine's air force, said that "a certain number of aircraft will be stored at secure air bases outside of Ukraine so that they are not targeted here." Holubtsov told the US government-funded Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty that those F-16s could be used to replace damaged aircraft as they undergo repairs as well as for training Ukrainian pilots abroad. "This way, we can always have a certain number of aircraft in the operational fleet that corresponds to the number of pilots we have," he said. "If there are more pilots, there will be more aircraft in Ukraine." Russian President Vladimir Putin has warned that Moscow could consider launching strikes at facilities in NATO countries if they host the warplanes used in Ukraine. "If they are stationed at air bases outside the Ukrainian borders and used in

combat, we will have to see how and where to strike the assets used in combat against us," Putin said last year. "It poses a serious danger of NATO being further drawn into the conflict." In March, the Russian leader again warned Ukraine's Western allies against providing air bases from where the F-16s could launch sorties against the Kremlin's forces. Those bases would become a "legitimate target," he said. "F-16s are capable of carrying nuclear weapons, and we will also need to take that into account while organising our combat operations," Putin stated. The F-16s require a high standard of runways and reinforced hangars to protect them from attacks on the ground. It's not clear how many Ukrainian air bases can meet those requirements, and Russia would be certain to quickly target a few that could accommodate them once the jets arrive. Holubtsov noted that the F-16s will help protect front-line and border regions from Russian glide bombs that have inflicted significant damage to both troops and residential areas, including Kharkiv. Glide bombs are heavy Soviet-era bombs fitted with precision guidance systems and launched from aircraft flying out of range of air defences. "I think we will succeed, first of all, in pushing back the aircraft that drop glide bombs farther from the contact line," he said. "If we manage to push them back at least another 30-50 km

(19-31 miles), this can already be considered a turning point and an achievement, if not of superiority, then of parity in the airspace." Ukraine's Western allies are trying to bolster military support for Kyiv as Russian troops have launched attacks along the more than 1,000-km (620-mile) front-line, taking advantage of a lengthy delay in US military aid. Ukraine is currently fighting to hold back a Russian push near its second-largest city of Kharkiv, less than 30 km (less than 20 miles) from the border. The US and other NATO allies have responded to the latest Russian offensive by allowing Ukraine to use weapons they deliver to Kyiv to carry out limited attacks inside Russia. The decision could potentially impede Moscow's ability to concentrate its troops for a bigger offensive near Kharkiv and in other border areas. Last week, Putin responded by warning that Moscow "reserves the right" to arm adversaries of the West worldwide. "If they supply (weapons) to the combat zone and call for using these weapons against our territory, why don't we have the right to do the same?" Putin said. He didn't specify where such arms might be sent. The US has said that Russia has turned to North Korea and Iran to beef up its stock of relatively simple weapons, but Moscow could dip into its stock of high-tech missiles to share with adversaries of the West if Putin decides to fulfill his threat.

90 countries to attend Swiss-hosted Ukraine peace summit that Russia is snubbing

AP ■ BERN (SWITZERLAND)

Nearly 90 countries and organisations, half from Europe, have confirmed attending the Swiss-hosted Ukraine peace summit over the weekend despite Russia's refusal to participate in the conference, Switzerland's president said on Monday. Viola Amherd told reporters in the Swiss capital that the summit, on Saturday and Sunday, will aim to chart a path toward possible peace nearly 28 months after Russian forces invaded Ukraine and the war grinding on. "This is not propaganda," said Amherd. "This is about the basis of humanitarian aid provided by Switzerland...and to initiate a dialogue." The Swiss president added that most participants — about half of which will be

represented at the level of head of state or government — are country leaders, but "a handful" are from organisations like the United Nations. Some, including French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, are expected to attend the summit at the Buergenstock resort overlooking Lake Lucerne. About 160 invitations have been sent out and Amherd said it was not a "disappointment" for the Swiss government that fewer than 100 have so far announced participation in the first phase of the peace process. Swiss authorities said the final list of participants was expected by Friday, but key developing countries like Turkey, South Africa and Brazil haven't indicated whether they would attend. India they said, will

take part but it isn't clear at which level. Brazil and China said they wouldn't take part unless both sides — including Russia — were at the table, according to Swiss officials. Beijing has been one of the top supporters of Russian President Vladimir Putin since the war started. Foreign Minister Ignazio Cassis also addressed reporters, saying Switzerland has repeatedly acknowledged that there cannot be a peace process without Russia. "The question is not whether Russia will be on board, the question is when." He also said Switzerland is in frequent contact with authorities in Moscow about the conference. Ukraine has helped coordinate the summit, and President Volodymyr Zelenskyy is expected to

attend. Cassis said Swiss officials had to balance considerations that Ukraine might not have attended if Russia was represented. Swiss officials say the conference aims to set a course toward "lasting peace" in Ukraine, to reach a "common understanding" toward getting there, and draw up the "roadmap" on how to get both sides involved in talks. Nuclear security, humanitarian aid and food security are also on the summit's agenda. As many as 4,000 military personnel will be deployed to provide security and support air transportation, surveillance and roll out security fencing and steel wire for the event, officials said, adding that an increase in cyberattacks in the run-up to the summit was noted, but didn't provide details.

Japan economy shrinking, although slightly less than previously thought

AP ■ TOKYO

The Japanese economy shrank at an annual rate of 1.8 per cent in the first quarter of this year, slightly better than the initial estimate at a 2.0 per cent contraction, according to revised government data on Monday. The revision was due to private sector investments, at minus 0.4 per cent, up from the previous minus 0.5 per cent. Seasonally adjusted real gross domestic product, or GDP, a measure of the value of a nation's products and services, remained in negative territory,

as exports and consumption declined from the previous quarter. Quarter-to-quarter, the economy slipped 0.5 per cent in the January-March period, according to the Cabinet Office, unchanged from last month's results. The annual rate measures what would have happened if the quarterly rate lasted a year. Wage growth has been slow, and prices on imports have risen amid a decline in the Japanese yen against the US dollar. The dollar is trading at nearly 157 yen lately, up from about 140 yen a year ago.

Apple poised for late start in AI race with big ambitions

AP ■ NEW YORK

Apple's annual World Wide Developers Conference on Monday is expected to herald the company's move into generative artificial intelligence, marking its late arrival to a technological frontier that's expected to be as revolutionary as the invention of the iPhone. The widely anticipated display of AI to be embedded in the iPhone and other Apple products will be the marquee moment at an event that traditionally previews the next version of software that powers the company's hardware lineup. And Apple's next generation of software is expected to be packed with an array of AI features likely to make its often-bumbling virtual assistant Siri smarter, and make photos, music, texting — and possibly even creating emojis on the fly

— a more productive and entertaining experience. True to its secretive nature, Apple hasn't provided any advance details about Monday's event being held at the company's Cupertino, California, headquarters. But CEO Tim Cook has dropped strong hints during the first few months of this that Apple is poised to reveal its grand plans to enter a space that has been fuelling an industry boom during the past 18 months. AI mania is the main reason that Nvidia, the dominant maker of the chips underlying the technology, has seen its market value rocket from about USD 300 billion at the end of 2022 to about USD 3 trillion. The meteoric ride allowed Nvidia to briefly surpass Apple last week as the second most valuable company in the US Microsoft earlier this

year also eclipsed the iPhone maker on the strength of its so-far successful push into AI. But analysts have been having increasingly worried that Apple may be falling too far behind in the rapidly changing AI space, a concern that has been compounded by an uncharacteristically extended slump in the company's sales. Both Google and Samsung already have released smartphone models touting AI features as their main attractions. That's why analysts such as Dan Ives of Wedbush Securities view Monday's conference as a potential springboard that catapults Apple into another robust phase of growth. Ives believes infusing more AI into the iPhone, iPad and Mac computer will translate into an additional USD 450 billion to USD 600 billion in market

value for Apple. Monday's conference "represents the most important event for Apple in over a decade as the pressure to bring a generative AI stack of technology for developers and consumers is front and centre," Ives wrote in a research note. Apple definitely could use the boost that AI may be able to provide, particularly for its 13-year-old assistant Siri, which Forrester Research Dipanjan Chatterjee now calls an "oddy unhelpful helper." Meanwhile, OpenAI's ChatGPT is getting increasingly conversational — so much so that it recently sparked accusations of intentionally copying a piece of AI software voiced by Scarlett Johansson — and Google last month previewed an AI "agent" dubbed Astra that can seemingly see and remember things. Besides using AI to spruce up

Siri, Apple may also team up with OpenAI to bring some elements of ChatGPT to the iPhone, according to a wide range of unconfirmed reports leading up to Monday's conference. This will be the second straight year that Apple has created a stir at its developers conference by using it to usher in its entrance into a trendy form of technology that other companies already had been making inroads. Last year, Apple provided an early look at its mixed-reality headset, the Vision Pro, which wasn't released until early this year carrying a USD 3,500 price tag that has been a major impediment to gaining much traction. Nevertheless, Apple's push into mixed reality, tweaked with a twist that it bills as "spatial computing," has raised hopes that what is currently a niche technology

will turn into a huge market. Part of the optimism stems from Apple's history of releasing technology later than others and then using sleek designs and services combined with slick marketing campaigns to overcome its tardy start to unleash new trends. "Apple's early reticence toward AI was entirely on brand," Forrester's Chatterjee wrote in a preview of the developers conference. "The company has always been famously obsessed with what its offerings did for its customers rather than how it did it." Bringing more AI into the iPhone, in particular, will likely raise privacy issues — a topic where Apple has gone to great lengths to assure its loyal customer base that it can be trusted not to peer too deeply into their personal lives.

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NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
Prayagraj Power Generation Company Limited invites expression of interest (EOI) from eligible vendors for **Fire Service for PPGCL Plant and Associates areas** of 3x660 MW Thermal Power Plant at Prayagraj Power Generation Company Limited, Bara, Dist. Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, India.
Details of pre-qualification requirements, bid security, purchasing of tender document etc. may be downloaded using the URL- <https://www.ppgcl.co.in/tenders.php> Eligible vendors willing to participate may submit their expression of interest along with the tender fee for issue of bid document latest by **16th June 2024**.

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER
No. E-499218/3 Dated 10th June 2024
The Mission Director, Samagra Shiksha, Assam, invites bids from registered appropriate class of contractor for 47 building works in different schools as per the detailed notice inviting tender which can be downloaded from the website <https://www.assamtenders.gov.in>.
The last date of submission of tender is 02-07-2024 upto 2:00 PM.
Sd/-Mission Director,
Samagra Shiksha Axom
Kahilpara, Guwahati-19
Janasanyog/CF/150/24/11-Jun-24

Sensex, Nifty breach record levels but settle lower amid profit booking

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty ended lower on Monday after hitting their all-time high levels in early trade amid selling in blue-chip IT stocks and HDFC Bank. After breaching the 77,000-mark during the early trade, the 30-share BSE Sensex came under selling pressure at the fag-end of the session and ended 203.28 points or 0.27 per cent lower at 76,490.08. During the day, the benchmark jumped 385.68 points or 0.50 per cent to hit a new record of 77,079.04. Halting its three-day rally, the NSE Nifty dipped 30.95 points or 0.13 per cent to settle at 23,259.20. Intra-day, it climbed 121.75 points or 0.52 per cent to hit the lifetime peak of 23,411.90. Narendra Modi was sworn in as Prime Minister on Sunday for a record-equaling third term, heading a 72-member Union Council of Ministers that put emphasis on continuity, youth and experience, while also rewarding partners in the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government. Among the 30 Sensex companies, Tech Mahindra,



Infosys, Wipro, Bajaj Finance, Mahindra & Mahindra, HDFC Bank, HCL Technologies and Tata Consultancy Services were among the major laggards. UltraTech Cement, Power Grid, Nestle, NTPC, Tata Steel and Axis Bank were among the biggest gainers. “Volatility returned to markets, as Sensex slipped from its new high and fell sharply towards the close amid profit-taking in IT, metals and oil & gas stocks. Lacklustre sentiment also prevailed due

to weak global cues after recent data from the US indicated that rate cut may not happen soon,” said Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities Ltd. In the broader market, the BSE smallcap gauge climbed 1.04 per cent and midcap index jumped 0.56 per cent. Among the indices, services rallied 1.61 per cent, realty jumped 1.34 per cent, commodities (1.28 per cent), utilities (1.11 per cent), healthcare (0.77 per cent) and industrials (0.49 per cent).

IT, auto, metal and teck were the laggards. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) bought equities worth Rs 4,391.02 crore on Friday, according to exchange data. “The Indian market currently lacks fresh catalysts following the formation of the new government at the centre, suggesting that some consolidation may occur in the near term. Institutional flows indicate a mixed trend, with FIIs gradually covering their shorts and DIIs booking profits after the market reached historic highs,” said Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services. In Asian markets, Tokyo settled in the green while Seoul ended lower. Markets in China and Hong Kong were closed for holidays. European markets were trading in the negative territory. US markets ended lower on Friday. Global oil benchmark Brent crude climbed 0.18 per cent to USD 79.76 a barrel. The BSE benchmark ended at 76,693.36, up 1,618.85 points or 2.16 per cent, on Friday. The Nifty settled with a jump of 468.75 points or 2.05 per cent at 23,290.15.

Equity mutual fund inflow swells to ₹34,697 crore in May

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Equity mutual funds witnessed a staggering growth with inflow reaching a record high of Rs 34,697 crore in May, marking a 83 per cent surge from the preceding month, propelled by contributions from thematic funds and intermittent corrections that provided buying opportunity to investors. This also marks the 39th consecutive month of net inflows in equity funds, data with the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) showed on Monday. Moreover, monthly contributions from Systematic Investment Plan (SIP) rose to Rs 20,904 crore in May, from Rs 20,371 crore in April, marking the second consecutive month of inflows exceeding Rs 20,000 crore. Overall, the mutual fund industry has witnessed an inflow of Rs 1.1 lakh crore in the month under review as compared to Rs 2.4 lakh crore in April. The inflow was due to investment in equity as well as debt schemes. With these inflows, the industry's net assets under management rose to Rs 58.91 lakh crore in May-end from



Rs 57.26 lakh crore in April-end. As per the data, equity-oriented schemes witnessed an inflow of Rs 34,697 crore in May, way higher than Rs 18,917 crore in April. Except for the focused and equity-linked saving schemes (ELSS) categories, all the other categories witnessed good net inflows. Sector/thematic funds continue to attract investor attention with the highest net inflows of Rs 19,213 crores during the month. This was largely owing to the new fund offering (NFO) of the HDFC Manufacturing Fund, which collected around Rs 9,563 crore. “Intermittent corrections provided investors some buying opportunity in a market which has largely witnessed a secular uptrend for a long time now.

Moreover, the expectation of the NDA-led government coming back to power also propelled buying from investors, as they would have expected the markets to rally further if the NDA government is indeed formed,” Himanshu Srivastava, Associate Director - Manager Research, Morningstar Investment Research India, said. Manish Mehta, National Head — Sales, Marketing & Digital Business at Kotak Mahindra AMC, said that record inflows were aided by NFO listings and investors taking advantage of volatility to add equity schemes to their investments through SIPs as well as lumpsum. “The record inflow in May came despite high volatility from FPI selling and general elections. Investors remained steadfast in their pursuit of

returns on the back of the Indian growth narrative, buoyed by confidence in the incumbent government securing a record third consecutive term, Gopal Kavalireddi, Vice President of Research at FYERS, said. Apart from equities, debt category schemes experienced net inflows of Rs 42,495 crore on preference for safety which drove the flow in the segment. Liquid funds recorded inflows of Rs 25,873.38 crore. “Given the uncertainty surrounding the interest rate cycle, most of the flows have flowed into categories having a duration profile of less than a year such as ultrashort and money market. Significant flows have also been received by overnight and liquid fund categories, but that is largely corporates and institution driven and usually of very short tenure,” Srivastava said. The categories which witnessed net outflows are short duration, medium duration, dynamic bond, credit risk, gilt fund and floater fund. Besides, hybrid category schemes attracted Rs 17,991 crore and index funds and other ETFs collectively garnered Rs 15,180 crore.

Rupee falls 10 paise to close at 83.50 against US dollar

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee settled for the day lower by 10 paise at 83.50 (provisional) against the US dollar on Monday, following a rising American currency in overseas markets and a sluggish trend in domestic equities. Forex traders said the downside in the rupee was restricted by easing political uncertainties as Narendra Modi was sworn in as Prime Minister on Sunday for a record-equaling third term. At the interbank foreign exchange, the local unit opened at 83.48 and settled

for the day lower by 10 paise at 83.50 (provisional) against the American currency. On Friday, the rupee appreciated 13 paise to 83.40 against the US dollar. “We expect the rupee to trade with a slight negative bias on strong US Dollar amid rising expectations of a delay in interest rate cut by the US Federal Reserve due to tight job market,” said Anuj Choudhary – Research Analyst at Sharekhan by BNP Paribas. However, softening crude oil prices and optimism over a stable government may support the rupee at lower



levels. Traders may take cues from inflation data from India and the US. Investors may also watch out for the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) meeting this week. USD/INR spot price is expected to trade in a range of Rs 83.20 to Rs 83.80. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading at 105.27, higher by 0.37 per cent. Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, advanced 0.21 per cent to USD 79.79 per barrel. Modi will be heading a 72-

member Union Council of Ministers putting emphasis on continuity, youth and experience, while also rewarding partners in the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government. Along with Modi, senior BJP leaders including Rajnath Singh, Amit Shah, Nitin Gadkari, Nirmala Sitharaman and S Jaishankar, all ministers in the Modi 2.0 cabinet, took oath as cabinet ministers at the Rashtrapati Bhavan. On the domestic equity market, the 30-share BSE Sensex declined 203.28 points, or 0.27 per cent, to close at 76,490.08 points. The

broader NSE Nifty settled 30.95 points or 0.13 per cent lower at 23,259.20 points. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) were net buyers in the capital markets on Friday, as they purchased shares worth Rs 4,391.02 crore, according to exchange data. Meanwhile, India's forex reserves jumped USD 4.837 billion to a new all-time high of USD 651.51 billion for the week ended May 31, the RBI said on Friday. In the previous reporting week, the overall reserves had dropped USD 2.027 billion to USD 646.673 billion.

Higher property prices, changes in law to boost debt recovery from stressed realty projects: Report

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Recovery of debt from stressed residential realty projects is set to increase in the current financial year due to higher property prices as well as changes in rules, a report said on Monday. The bad loan recovery rate is estimated to touch 16-18 per cent at the end of FY25 from 11 per cent as on March 31, 2024, domestic rating agency Crisil said in a report. “This will be driven by improved viability of stressed projects due to healthy demand and price appreciation seen in residential real estate and greater investor and promoter interest in reviving such projects,” the agency said. It added that recent amendments to the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) regulations for real estate



projects should also strengthen resolution of stressed real estate assets in the medium term. The agency said it analysed the performance of its portfolio comprising security receipts of Rs 9,000 crore from 70 stressed realty projects with a saleable area of 66 million square feet while arriving at the estimates. It said residential realty demand is set to increase by 10-12 per cent courtesy a healthy economic growth and

buoyant demand across housing segments in top-six cities. Additionally, it said low unsold inventories across major micro markets will also help ARCs (asset reconstruction companies) turn around stressed real estate projects faster with support from promoters or external investors. A bulk three-fourths of the projects it analysed turned non-performing assets (NPA) between 2019 and 2022, and were impacted by falling sales and slower collections during the Covid-19 pandemic. The remaining are pre-2019 NPA projects that faced liquidity issues due to weak demand, it said. Crisil's senior director Mohit Makhiya said 33 million square feet of unsold inventory is likely to be sold at appreciated market prices because of a significant

increase in prices over the last two fiscals and healthy demand for residential real estate. “The emergence of distressed asset credit funds is expected to improve the accessibility of last-mile funding for project completion, supporting faster restructuring of debt by promoters with ARCs,” he added. The agency further said the amendments in insolvency rule made in February this year enable resolution of individual projects by delinking them from the entire corporate entity involving multiple projects and group inter-linkages. Speaking of the necessity of the amendments, it said only 8 per cent of the admitted cases have been resolved under IBC and debt worth Rs 40,000 crore was stuck across 100 ongoing realty cases for more than two years.

Gold remains flat at ₹71,800/10 grams; silver rises ₹200

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Gold prices remained flat at Rs 71,800 per 10 grams in the national capital on Monday. According to Saumil Gandhi, Senior Analyst of Commodities at HDFC Securities, gold traded flat on Monday, after Comex spot gold declined as much as 3.45 per cent on Friday, the most since August 2021. However, silver prices rose Rs 200 to Rs 92,100 per kg. In the previous session, it had closed at Rs 91,900 per kg. “In the Delhi markets, spot gold prices (24 carats) are trading flat at Rs 71,800 per 10 grams, unchanged from the previous close,” Gandhi said. In the overseas markets, spot gold at Comex was trading at



USD 2,293 per ounce, down USD 1 from the previous close. However, silver was quoted higher at USD 29.50 per ounce. It had ended at USD 29.15 per ounce in the previous session. “Gold prices traded within a narrow range, after a minor gap-down opening. This movement was mainly influenced by the strengthening US dollar, following strong nonfarm payrolls data,” Jateen Trivedi, VP Research Analyst of Commodity and Currency at LKP Securities, said.

AI Express union flags concerns over charge sheet to cabin crew

PTI ■ MUMBAI

An Air India Express staff union has claimed the airline has issued charge sheets against 200 cabin crew members for reporting sick last month when the carrier faced significant disruptions. The Air India Express Employees Union (AIXEU) has termed the airline's move as unfortunate and unfair labour practice. In a letter to Air India Express chief Aloke Singh on Sunday, the union also warned the Tata Group-run airline's management that such actions could be detrimental to the interests of the company and its passengers. There was no comment from Air India Express. According to Union sources, the charge-sheet was issued to around 200 cabin crew members on June 5, with a deadline of 72 hours to file a response. Around 200 cabin crew members of Air India Express went on strike on May 7, to protest against the alleged mismanagement in the airline, resulting in cancellation of hundreds of flights. Consequently, the airline management terminated the services of 25 cabin crew members and warned the others to join work or else face the same action. Three days later, the strike was called off after a conciliation meeting between the representatives of cabin crew members and the airline management at the Office of the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) in Delhi on May 9. “The charge-sheet was issued by the Chief of HR to many of the cabin crew members regarding their sick reports. It is very unfortunate and constitutes unfair labour practice to reopen the case and issue charge-sheets for



matters that have already been settled through conciliation. “The termination orders of the 25 cabin crew members were also withdrawn during conciliation based on the settlement agreement,” the Union, which is affiliated to the RSS, said in the letter. Requesting the management to refrain from reopening settled issues, AIXEU president K K Vijayakumar said in the letter, “Such actions could be detrimental to the interests of the enterprise and its passengers. Instead, I urge you to seek opportunities for cooperation to strengthen our industrial relations.” Stating that the entire issue was discussed between the Central Labour Commissioner (CLC) on May 9 and was amicably settled between the management and the union, it added, “Pursuing the charge-sheet and initiating punitive action against employees would only lead to unpleasant situations and worsen the already affected industrial relations.” “It was clearly stated in the last hearing held on May 28 in front of the CLC that no punitive action would be initiated against the employees in this regard,” the Union said. “Additionally, since the issue was settled on May 9, I believe that the employees were available for duty the following day.

Ras Al Khaimah eyes 20 per cent increase in tourists footfalls from India

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Ras Al Khaimah, one of the seven emirates in the UAE, is eyeing over 20 per cent growth in tourist arrivals from India with targeted marketing campaigns and addition of new hotels, the emirate's Tourism Development Authority CEO Raki Phillips has said. “In 2023, we saw a significant increase in visitors from India, up 20 per cent compared with the 2022 numbers. This represents a strong recovery and growth compared to 2019. For 2024, we expect year-on-year growth exceeding 20 per cent, driven by targeted marketing campaigns and the introduction of new hotels and attractions that resonate with Indian travellers,” Phillips told PTI in an

interview through email. In 2023, he said, Ras Al Khaimah welcomed the highest numbers of overnight arrivals of 1.22 million visitors, surpassing the previous record of 1.13 million visitors in 2022. “This growth reflects our strategic efforts in enhancing our tourism offerings and promoting the Emirate globally. For 2024, we anticipate continued growth, projecting a 10 per cent increase in the number of arrivals as we introduce new hotels and experiences that cater to a diverse range of travellers,” he added. India is the fifth largest source market of Ras Al Khaimah after Russia, Germany, and the United Kingdom, and Kazakhstan, he said, adding that this steady growth of Indian tourists underscores



the growing appeal of Ras Al Khaimah as a preferred destination for Indian travellers. When asked about how much Indian tourists spend on an average, Phillips said, “while I cannot provide exact figures due to varying factors, however, I can confidently say that Indian tourists are among the top contributors to our tourism economy in the UAE.”

Indian travellers spend an average of USD 1,200 per trip to GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) countries, according to the latest data from Euromonitor International, he added. Further, Phillips said, the majority of Indian tourists visiting Ras Al Khaimah are families, adventure enthusiasts, and wellness seekers. However, there is a growing trend of young

couples and honeymooners choosing Ras Al Khaimah for its unique blend of adventure, luxury, and tranquillity, he stated. “In 2024, we aim to attract a diverse range of segments from India, including family vacationers, adventure enthusiasts, and luxury travellers. We are also focusing on promoting meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions (MICE) tourism. Weddings are also an important segment for us, and we have seen a growing interest in destination weddings. Our Emirate offers a range of breathtaking wedding venues, from beachfront resorts to desert oases, and we work closely with our partners in India,” he added. Phillips said, the robust air connectivity between the

UAE and India will also help boost tourism from India with numerous direct flights which take just over three hours. “Ras Al Khaimah benefits from its proximity to Dubai International Airport, one of the busiest and most well-connected airports globally, located just 45 minutes away,” he added. To keep the current momentum of tourist footfalls from India, he said, Ras Al Khaimah Tourism Development Authority is participating in roadshows, media events, fam trips, and exclusive events with leading wedding planners. “We have been forging strategic partnerships and implementing targeted marketing campaigns to enhance our tourism offerings,” Phillips added.

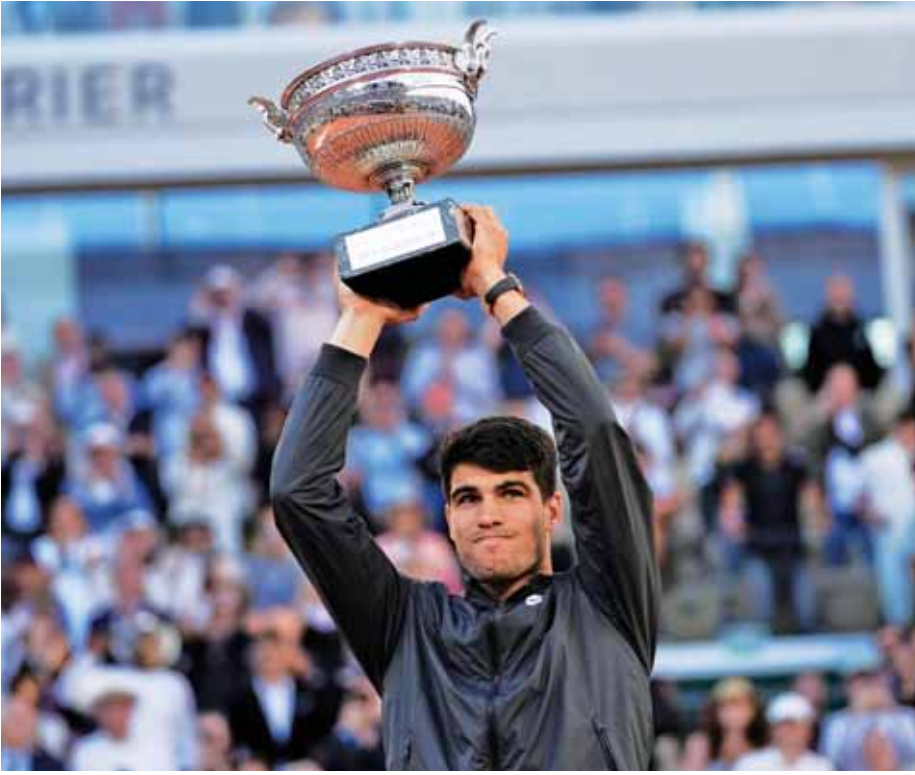
Carlos Alcaraz Wimbledon title defense starts July 1

AP ■ PARIS

Carlos Alcaraz plans to continue his tradition of celebrating Grand Slam titles with tattoos by getting ink of the date he won his first French Open championship and a drawing of the Eiffel Tower. That art to help remember Sunday's 6-3, 2-6, 5-7, 6-1, 6-2 comeback against Alexander Zverev in the final at Roland Garros will go near Alcaraz's left ankle. His right ankle already bears the date of his 2023 Wimbledon triumph and an image of a strawberry; his left arm carries the date of his first major trophy, which arrived at the 2022 US Open. At the rate he's going, the 21-year-old from Spain might run out of skin. Alcaraz, though, noted Sunday that he assured his mother he would not keep printing the dates of every Slam victory for the rest of his career on his body. Instead, he'll keep it to just

dates of the first title from each of the four most important events in tennis - which means all that remains is the Australian Open, and who would doubt that he eventually will add that one, too? As it is, Alcaraz is the youngest man to collect a Slam title on clay, grass and hard courts, much as he was the youngest, at 19, to reach No. 1 in the ATP rankings. "My game suits ... Every surface," he explained, "because I practice it." He first learned the sport on clay. He finds himself most comfortable on hard courts - he sought to excel there because that's what is used at most tournaments - and his always-look-to-attack style is a perfect fit for grass, as his win over seven-time Wimbledon champion Novak Djokovic in last year's final at the All England Club proved. Alcaraz's title defense there begins July 1. Of course, he said, he works on his defence. And, his drop shots and volleys are valuable

tools, as Zverev and so many others see. But Alcaraz's underlying principle is this: "My main goal is being aggressive, as much as I can." In the semi-finals in Paris, he wore down Jannik Sinner - who replaced the injured Djokovic at No. 1 in the rankings on Monday, ahead of No. 2 Alcaraz - and came back from a two-sets-to-one deficit by grabbing eight of the last 11 games in a four-hour, nine-minute match. In the final, Alcaraz wore down the fourth-ranked Zverev, again erasing a 2-1 deficit in sets, this time by rolling through 12 of the last 15 games in a four-hour, 19-minute match. "We're both physically strong, but he's a beast. He's an animal, for sure. The intensity he plays tennis at is different to other people," Zverev said. "He can do so many different things." Alcaraz dealt with cramps against both Sinner and Zverev and said the real key he has



found is in the mind. "If you're not strong in your head and you don't show mental strength," Alcaraz said, "you won't win Grand Slams." Greatness has been predicted of him for quite some time and, so far, he has met the outsized expectations. The standards he's setting only serve to increase the volume of the praise - and the projections of what might be possible. As he answered questions in English and Spanish on Sunday night, Alcaraz was asked in both languages how many of these trophies he could keep winning. A reporter mentioned Djokovic's men's-record 24 Grand Slam titles (which, if you're keeping track, is 21 more than where Alcaraz's total stands). Another brought up that number, as well as the 14 French Open championships won by his countryman and, to use Alcaraz's word, "idol," Rafael Nadal (just, oh, 13 ahead of Alcaraz).

Alcaraz laughed and called those two accomplishments otherworldly. When someone wanted to know whether equaling Djokovic is something he dreams about and is achievable, Alcaraz smiled that wide smile of his. "I don't know," he said. "I hope so." Then, Alcaraz related a conversation he had Saturday with his coach, 2003 French Open champion Juan Carlos Ferrero, about how "difficult" it is to win one Slam - and how "unbelievable" it is that Djokovic has won 24. "Right now, I can't think about it. I just want to keep going, and let's see how many Grand Slams I'm going to (own) at the end of my career. Hopefully, reach the 24," Alcaraz said before reaching his left hand toward the silver Coupe des Mousquetaires he had just earned and adding, "but right now, I'm going to enjoy my third one and let's see in the future."



Prannoy to spearhead Indian challenge in Australia Open badminton

PTI ■ SYDNEY

HS Prannoy will look to regain his lost form when he spearheads India's challenge at the Australian Open badminton tournament starting here on Tuesday. Prannoy, seeded fifth here, didn't have best of results in the last two tournaments. He was stunned by compatriot Meiraba Luwang Maisina in the men's singles opening round of Thailand Open last month. If that was not enough, world No. 10 Prannoy lost to world No. 11 Kenta Nishimoto 13-21 21-14 15-21 in a 45-minute Round of 16 match in Singapore Open. And the Indian will be desperate to turn things around in the BWF Super 500 event here as he opens his campaign against Ygor Coelho of Brazil. Sameer Verma will play Chico Aura Dwi Wardoyo of Indonesia in the opening round, while Ravi faces a tough opponent in eighth seed Loh Kean Yew of Singapore. Other Indians to feature in the men's singles are Mithun Manjunath, who will take on Indonesia's Alwi Farhan, Kiran Geoge who is up against Canada's Xiaodong Sheng, S Sankar Muthusamy Subramanian who is pitted

against top seed Jonatan Christie of Indonesia. In women's singles, eighth seed Aakarshi Kashyap will lead the Indian charge. She will play Ukraine's Polina Buhrova in the opening round. Ashmita Chaliha will play Peru's Ines Lucia Castillo, Anupama Upadhyaya will lock horns with Malaysia's Wong Ling Ching, Samiya Imad Farooqui has a tough opponent in top seed Akane Yamaguchi of Japan, while Keyura Mopati and Malvika Bansod will feature in an all-Indian contest. No Indian features in the men's doubles, while Panda sisters, Rutuparna and Swetaparna, seeded seventh, and the pair of Harshita Rout and Sruti Swain will lead India's charge in the women's doubles. There are three Indian pairs in the mixed doubles. Eighth seed B Sumeeth Reddy and Sikki Reddy will play Malaysian duo of Wong Tien Ci and Lim Chiew Sien in their opener, while Tarun Kona and Sri Krishna Priya Kudaravalli will be up against another Malaysian combination of Hoo Pang Ron and Cheng Su Yin. The third Indian mixed doubles pair of Ayush Raj Gupta and Sruti Swain will play against Australian duo of Jordan Yang and Sydney Tjonadi in the opener.

PTI ■ DOHA

The influential Sunil Chhetri's absence will be a difficult void to fill as the Indian football team enters a testing transition phase with a crucial FIFA World Cup qualifying match against heavyweights Qatar here on Tuesday. The 39-year-old Chhetri called time on his glorious international career by playing in last week's fixture against Kuwait in Kolkata, which ended in a goal-less draw as the team failed to give him a fitting farewell. Chhetri ended with 94 goals in 151 matches, having led the country with aplomb for more than a decade. The Indian team will be led by the 32-year-old first-choice goalkeeper Gurpreet Singh Sandhu, who has so far appeared in 72 internationals and is the most experienced player in the 23-member squad after Chhetri's retirement. An acid test awaits India as they run into two-time Asian champions Qatar at the Jassim bin Hamad Stadium, knowing well that a defeat will end their campaign and dash all hopes of securing a maiden entry into the third round of the

Chhetri less India enter testing transition phase with crucial WC qualifier against Qatar

World Cup Qualifiers. India remain in the second spot with five points and a goal difference of -3. Afghanistan, who also played out a 0-0 draw with Qatar in their last outing in Hofuf, Saudi Arabia, are in third spot with a goal difference of -10, the stalemate making the job much more difficult for Igor Stimac's wards. Qatar, who have already qualified for the third round as group-toppers, have named a largely youthful squad, with 21 out of their 29 players below the age of 24. "We have watched the Afghanistan versus Qatar game and will work on the attacking transition, with a hope to start scoring goals from the chances we create," said Stimac on arriving here. India had their first practice in Doha on Sunday evening and are having the official training session on Monday at the match venue. For the Blue Tigers, a result is a must. If they lose against Qatar, they will be eliminated



from the FIFA World Cup Qualifiers third round. They will then be doing battle in the AFC Asian Cup Qualifiers third round matches for a place at the 2027 tournament in Saudi Arabia. However, if India beat Qatar, they will be in pole position to make the World Cup Qualifiers third round and a

direct spot at the Asian Cup thanks to their much-superior goal difference over Afghanistan. If India draw against Qatar, they will qualify for the third round only if the match between Kuwait and Afghanistan, which will kick off in Kuwait City two hours after India's match, also ends

in a draw. In that scenario, India will finish second in the group with six points, the same as Afghanistan, but with a better goal difference. Kuwait are at the bottom of the table with four points but with need to be creative with their passing and intelligent with movement off the ball.

for the second and final berth from Group A. For over a decade, one question that has dogged Indian football is, "Who, after Sunil Chhetri?" The team is yet to find a lethal striker to succeed him. Rahim Ali struggled as a substitute in the previous match and lacked clinical finishing skills. The likes of Manvir Singh, Vikram Partap Singh and David Lalhlansanga comprise India's forward line but they are yet to make a statement upfront. The fancied Qatar side will look to exploit wherever the India team is found wanting, making it extremely important for defenders Anwar Ali, Mehtab Singh, Nikhil Poojary and Rahul Bheke to be on their toes at all times. In the midfield, the likes of Sahal Abdul Samad, Anirudh Thapa, Brandon Fernandes, Liston Colaco and Lallianzuala Chhangte will need to be creative with their passing and intelligent with movement off the ball.

Nagal attains 77th place in ATP rankings; set to represent India in Paris

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's Sumit Nagal climbed 18 places to 77th in the latest ATP rankings issued on Monday, all but sealing a spot in the Paris Olympics men's singles draw. Nagal has 713 ATP points. The improvement in his rankings was due to Nagal bagging the men's singles crown at the Heilbronn Neckarcup 2024 Challenger event in Germany on Sunday, beating Switzerland's Alexander Ritschard in a three-set thriller. The Indian won 6-1 6(5)-7 6-3 in the final that lasted two hours and 22 minutes. Rankings, as on Monday, will be the basis for deciding entries for the Games. As per the established criteria, the top 56 players, both in men's and women's rankings, will attain automatic qualification for the Olympics but no



more than four per country can make the cut for the Games, a rule which allows lower ranked players to sneak into the draw. Nagal looks good to secure the last available ranking-enabled spot in the draw. The last time India had a player in the Olympics main draw was the 2012 Games when Somdev Devvarman made it

thanks to a wildcard. "Elated to win the title in Heilbronn this week. It was an important week for me, and I'm proud to have produced my best tennis when it mattered the most," Nagal posted on X after his final win. "If I win a match like this, I can be proud because the fight was insane. Ranking is secondary, first goal is to play good tennis," he said at the end of his match. The 26-year-old Nagal would be the sole Indian in the men's singles event in Paris. This was the sixth ATP Challenger title for Nagal and the second of the year after the Chennai Open crown on home soil earlier this year. Nagal, who is currently the best-ranked Indian singles player, has won four ATP Challenger titles since 2023 and the win in Heilbronn was his fourth title on clay tennis courts.



Di Maria scores, Messi returns in Argentina's Copa America warmup victory over Ecuador

AP ■ CHICAGO

Angel Di Maria scored as Lionel Messi returned to the international stage for the first time in six months, helping Argentina to a 1-0 victory over Ecuador in a Copa America warmup match. Messi was sidelined for the first half before replacing Di Maria in the 56th minute on Sunday night. A right hamstring injury kept the eight-time Ballon d'Or winner and Inter Miami star from participating in Argentina's previous two Copa America warmup matches against El Salvador and Costa Rica in March. "Sometimes there is no need to risk it, not only with Leo. It is about taking care of them so that they arrive in optimal conditions," Argentina head coach Lionel Scaloni said of his decision to sit Messi for the first half. With Messi watching from the bench, Di Maria sent a reverse pass from Christian Romero into the net to open the scoring in the 40th minute. "It helps to play against a rival like that, especially because Ecuador plays at a high level, they make it difficult for anyone," Scaloni said. "And we needed to get together, compete, add minutes and feel the sensation of putting on the shirt before a Cup that is going to be difficult." It was Di Maria's second consec-

utive goal in an international match. He also scored against Costa Rica on March 26. With the 31st goal of his Argentina career, the 36-year-old midfielder is tied with Gonzalo Higuain for the fifth-most goals in the country's history and sits just four scores behind Diego Maradona at No. 4 on the leaderboard. Argentina - the reigning World Cup and Copa America champion - hasn't fallen in its last seven meetings with Ecuador, a streak dating back to 2019. "The goal is to continue competing, and these guys have competing in their blood," Scaloni said. "Sometimes it turns out well and other times it doesn't turn out well. But you have to keep playing. There are always things to play for. Now the Copa America, then the qualifiers. ... Our goal is always to compete at our best." UP NEXT Argentina: Lionel Scaloni's squad will wrap up its pre-Copa America slate in Washington D.C. On Friday with a warmup match against Guatemala before opening its group stage of the tournament against Canada on June 20. Ecuador: A pair of international friendly matches remain against Bolivia on Wednesday and Honduras on June 16 before opening the Copa America schedule against Venezuela on June 22.

AP ■ MONTREAL

Max Verstappen won the Canadian Grand Prix for the third straight year for the Red Bull star's 60th Formula 1 victory and sixth in nine races this season. Verstappen started second in the rain alongside pole-sitter George Russell and dominated late again at Circuit Gilles Villeneuve on Ile Notre-Dame on Sunday. The 26-year-old Dutchman has a staggering 50 victories in the last 75 F1 races. Verstappen finished 3.879 seconds ahead of McLaren's Lando Norris in the 70-lap race on the 2.71-mile (4.36-kilometer) road course. Last year, Verstappen started from the pole and led every lap. The race Sunday started with a soaking wet track before the sun emerged 10 minutes in, but rain showers returned periodically throughout the afternoon. "It's a lot of fun to drive these kinds of races now and then," Verstappen said. "You don't want it all the time because that's too stressful. But I had a lot of fun out there today." Norris lost a 10-second lead when Logan Sargeant brought put the safety car on Lap 26.

"We should have won the race today and we didn't so, frustrating," Norris said. "We had the pace. We should have won today. It's as simple as that." Mercedes took the third and fourth spots, with Russell third and seven-time Montreal winner Lewis Hamilton fourth. Oscar Piastri was fifth for McLaren, followed by Aston Martin drivers Fernando Alonso and Lance Stroll, the lone Canadian in the race. "It was a tough track with the condition, so I'm really satisfied to score points," Stroll said. "Lots of points, the sixth and seventh positions are really good for the team." Verstappen increased his season lead to 56 points over second-place Charles Leclerc of Ferrari. "As a team, we made the right calls today," said Verstappen, coming off a sixth-place finish in Monaco.



"It's great to have three wins in a row here. I hope I can add more in the future." On Lap 46, Norris stayed out while Verstappen and Russell pitted. Verstappen regained the lead three laps later when

he squeezed past Norris as the McLaren driver came out of the pit lane. Verstappen hung onto the top spot the rest of the way. Verstappen managed to avoid hitting a groundhog on Lap

31. "He was almost dead," Verstappen said. "I started to get to the last chicane and I thought it was debris initially. So I started to close in and then I'm like, Oh

my God, that's an animal.' Last year, a bird flew into my car, so I didn't want to have a groundhog stuck in my car as well." Verstappen joined Hamilton and Michael Schumacher as the only drivers to three-peat in Montreal. The three-time season champion is third on the career victory list behind Hamilton (103) and Michael Schumacher (91). Ferrari had a terrible weekend. Leclerc retired on Lap 43 after gambling with his tire strategy and falling far behind, and Carlos Sainz exited later when he spun out. "Just a very weak, disappointing weekend for the whole team," Sainz said. "We never seemed to find pace." Organisers said 350,000 spectators made the trip to the track over the event's three days. Verstappen started second Sunday on a tiebreaker after having the same lap time as Russell in qualifying Saturday.

Demoralised Pakistan eye big win against Canada to keep T20 WC hopes alive

PTI ■ NEW YORK

Shocked by the USA and scarred by India, Pakistan have little to play for and everything to lose when they meet Canada in their penultimate group league encounter of the T20 World Cup here on Tuesday. If the Super Over loss against the co-hosts in their opening Group A match was not enough, Pakistan slumped to six-run loss at the hands of arch-rivals India in a low-scoring match here on Sunday. Pakistan's Super Eight qualification chance now hinges on winning big against Canada and Ireland, besides hoping that the Americans lose big to India and Ireland. Even in that scenario, both the teams will end on four points each and it will boil down to which team has a better net run rate. Hence Pakistan can only pray for divine intervention in best case scenario. USA after two wins enjoy a healthy run-rate of +0.626 and just a victory against Ireland would suffice while Pakistan with a dismal NRR of -0.150 would not only need to win but also by comprehensive margins. In the two matches so far, the 2009 champions never really looked the formidable side it was once known to be. There seems to be no clarity in Babar Azam's leadership. The two factions in the team -- one led by the skipper with his close friends Mohammed Rizwan and Shadab Khan while other including, recently



sacked Shaheen Shah Afridi is also making matters worse. Not a single department clicked for Pakistan in the two matches so far and they will need a more cohesive effort in the remaining matches to give themselves an outside chance. While Babar and Shahadab Khan scored 40 odd runs against USA to post 159 for 7, Pakistan failed to defend the target, losing the match in Super Over. And then while chasing an underwhelming 120-run target, none of the Pakistani batters could up the ante as they consumed 59 dot balls to be restricted 113 for 7. Pakistan's major concern going forward is the underwhelming

performance of their batters as the likes of Fakhar Zaman, Imad Wasim, Shadab Khan and Iftikhar Ahmed played loose shots to make life difficult for them against India. While Mohammed Rizwan took 44 balls to score his 31 runs, Wasim consumed 23 balls for his 15. The only bright sport for Pakistan on Sunday was the performance of their bowlers with Naseem Shah (3/21) and Mohammad Amir (2/23) leading from the front. But premier fast bowler Shaheen needs to take more responsibility upfront in the remaining two games to give Pakistan an outside chance. He has hardly been able to get

swing in conducive conditions. Going forward Pakistan will have to do some soul searching if they want to revive their faltering campaign. Canada, on the other hand, are placed third in Group A with one win out of two games. After the seven-wicket loss to USA, Canada bounced back in style to beat Ireland by 12 runs in their next match. In Navneet Dhaliwal, Canada have a veteran top-order batter who was a part of that 2019 victory over Ireland, and a lot will be riding on him. Canada will also take heart from the defeat against the USA because they had posted an imposing 194, albeit in a losing cause.

Pakistan lost the plot after 15 overs, players under pressure: Kirsten

PTI ■ NEW YORK

Perplexed by Pakistan's sudden disintegration in the T20 World Cup match against India here, the team's recently-appointed head coach Gary Kirsten said his batters "lost the plot" after 15 overs and are under pressure after failing to perform at their best. Pakistan are on the verge of being eliminated from the tournament after consecutive losses to debutants USA and arch-foes India. The loss to Rohit Sharma's on Sunday was a classic case of implosion with the side going from 80/4 in the 15th over to ending at 113/7 while chasing a modest 120. Kirsten emphasised the significance of strike rotation, particularly on challenging surfaces like the one here. He said his team failed to follow the strategy. "I think certainly on a pitch like that, it is really, really important to be able to rotate the strike. So, I agree with you that sometimes it's fun to watch a game like this where it's not only about hitting boundaries," Kirsten said in the post-match press conference. "But you also have to be able to use 120 balls really well. As I said, we did for 15 overs and then we lost the plot...We're losing too many wickets. "As a batting unit, you can't lose as many wickets as we are losing. Players have got to take responsibility when that opportunity comes," he added. Pakistan were guilty of consuming 59 dot balls during the chase. Indian pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah did the most damage with figures of 3/14 in his four overs.



The side's next game will be at the same venue against Canada on Tuesday. It will be a virtual do-or-die encounter for the runners-up of the last edition. "These guys are all international players and they're aware that when they're not performing at their best that there's going to be pressure put on them. That's understandable," Kirsten, who has coached the 2011 ODI World Cup-winning Indian team, said. "...But a lot of these guys have played a lot of T20 cricket around the world over many, many years and it's really up to them to decide how they're going to take their games forward," the South African stated. Asked if the team lacks the ability to handle pressure, Kirsten stressed upon the importance of continual growth and adaptation in the fast-paced world of international cricket. "I'm having a look into the environment and looking at what the issues are. I look at these players, I've watched them play many, many years on TV and kind of getting to

know them, they're fantastic guys," Kirsten, who was appointed just a few weeks before the World Cup, said. "I mean, there's a lot of very disappointed guys in the change room now. I think for me the most important thing for every international player is that you continue growing..." he explained. "The game is changing pretty much every year. So, if you're not up to it and you're not improving, you're going to get found out somewhere." On what exactly was the team's strategy while chasing, Kirsten said the focus was on capitalising on loose deliveries and rotating the strike. However, he expressed disappointment over the team's loss of momentum during the crucial phase of the innings. "...I thought we did that brilliantly for 15 overs. We kept it at a run a ball, and then we lost wickets and then we stopped scoring ones and then we were looking for boundaries and once you've got to that point, it was always going to be hard. "So, the message was to do

what we executed on for 15 overs," the coach said. Amid the disappointment of defeat, Kirsten found solace in the team's bowling performance, especially in the death overs. "(It) got better and better and we've tracked their stats over the last 15 odd games, and they've been an incredible bowling unit from overs 10 to 20. I think our record between overs 10 to 20 as a bowling unit is up there with the best," he said. "We've got four fantastic seamers and Imad Wasim I thought bowled really well today as well. So, we've got some nice options on the ball with the team and I think we're going to be a difficult team to bat against if we bowl like that," he added. Kirsten diverged from the criticism aimed at the drop-in pitches of the Nassau stadium, refraining from joining the bandwagon of discontent. Despite witnessing a series of low-scoring matches, he remained diplomatic about Sunday's wicket and the chatter surrounding its uneven bounce, which has been dubbed dangerous in several quarters. "I think it wasn't dangerous, I mean the odd one rose up, but not many. Generally it kept a little bit lower, it was difficult to score from both batting sides and also a fairly slow outfield so it was never going to be a big total," said Kirsten. "I would have said 140 would have been a really good score on that pitch, so India didn't get that and so I thought we had the game," added the South African.

Year ago people asked if I am finished, now they say I am at my best: Bumrah

PTI ■ NEW YORK

Jasprit Bumrah couldn't help but laugh at how the narrative about him has changed in a year's time — from being someone whose career is finished to the one who is at the peak of his prowess. In 2022, Bumrah underwent surgery for a lower back stress fracture and missed the T20 World Cup in Australia. Just before his comeback in a home bilateral series, he developed a strain and was out for more than 10 months. As a result, people became sceptical of his ability to handle the workload of three formats. But Indian cricket's rare gem sealed the lips of 'Doubting Thomases' with 67 wickets across three formats in the last one year, including a match-winning 3/14 against Pakistan in the low-scoring T20 World Cup thriller on Sunday. "See a year ago, the same people were saying that I might

not play again and my career is over and then now the question changed," he said taking a shot at all those who doubted his ability to fight back. India restricted Pakistan to 113/7 after posting a mere 119 here thanks largely to Bumrah's stupendous performance. He understands the fickle nature of criticism and knows that despite being a cliched phrase, controlling the controllables works best for him. "For me, I am not looking at whether I am bowling at the best of my ability. I try to solve the problem that is there in front of me. I know it's a cliched answer...But I was trying to focus on what is the best option over here on a wicket like this," the 30-year-old revealed. "How do I make shot-making difficult? What are the best options for me? So that way, I try to stay in the present and focus on what I have to do." NO BAGGAGE OF IPL:

Outside noise and pressure can gobble one up in a high-stakes game. But it's something that Bumrah successfully avoids by creating his own bubble. "Because if I look at the outside noise, if I look at people and pressure and emotion takes over, then things don't really work for me," the 30-year-old explained. The IPL-17, that concluded last month saw an unprecedented 1260 sixes being hit on tracks that resembled roadways. The 'Impact Player' rule also hurt top quality bowlers who were often dispatched to the stands with disdain. "When it's bat vs bat, I switch off the TV. I have been a fan of bowling since childhood. When there is a challenge between bat and ball, that is the game I like," Bumrah said. But the Indian bowling unit that has come for the T20 World Cup hasn't shown any scars of the IPL. "Obviously, the IPL that we played was not very bowler-



friendly but we are very happy that we didn't come here with that baggage and when we are getting help here, we were trying to use it. "I have played a lot of cricket in my young years. - when the bat and ball challenge is good it is more interesting to watch the match." ROHIT, BUMRAH AND THE 'MI TEMPLATE': Bumrah, the bowler, has played most of his franchise cricket under Rohit Sharma's

captaincy. The captain-strike bowler combination was central to Mumbai Indians' five title wins and Bumrah saidn he knew how to control low-scoring games. "So, once we started, we were very clear the message in the huddle was that now that is over, what is next? What are the things that are in our control? So, we will try to focus on that and not to create panic because yes, there will be boundaries here and there.

"People might play good shots, but we'll have to try and be composed and try to hold our shape. So that was the biggest positive, not at any stage did I feel that the panic had spread in the team and we were looking too far ahead. So that's a really positive sign for us." MAGIC DELIVERIES OFTEN DON'T WORK: Low-scoring matches often force bowlers to try effort deliveries like yorkers or bouncers but Bumrah doesn't want anyone to overdo that

stuff. "If we go for magic deliveries and try to be too desperate, run-making becomes easy and they know the target. So, we had to be very mindful of not overdoing it," he said. "Whenever there is help, you can get excited. You can try pole hunting -- bowl bouncers, out-swingers, in-swingers. But you don't have to do that. I have learned that. "But this time, it was not happening a lot. The ball was not doing a lot. Yes, we did create pressure. A little bit of

lateral movement was there but not too much, not as pronounced as the last game." 'JASSI JAISA KOI NAHIN': As one of greatest pacers active currently, Bumrah could well be called the leader of 'Fast Bowlers' Union'. "I always advocate bowlers, but we're very happy with the appreciation that bowlers have received because our country is obviously a batsman-loving country and we understand but we are very happy that bowlers are coming up front," Bumrah said.

New Zealand looked rusty and disorganised: Ian smith

PTI ■ PROVIDENCE (GUYANA)

Former New Zealand cricketer Ian Smith has questioned the readiness of his country's team in the T20 World Cup, saying it looked rusty and completely disorganised in the humiliating defeat against Afghanistan. New Zealand suffered an embarrassing 84-run loss to Afghanistan in their tournament opener here on Friday. They were dismissed for 75 in their chase of 159, with Rashid Khan and Fazalhaq Farooqi grabbing four wickets each. The Kiwis are placed fifth and last in Group C and will next play the West Indies in Trinidad on Wednesday with the negative net run rate making their task of qualifying for the knockouts an uphill task. "They've got to beat the West Indies, and hope that they (West Indies) get beaten by Afghanistan, because New Zealand's run rate situation is so poor - we're going to be very behind the eight ball when it comes to that," Smith, who has played 63 Tests and 98 ODIs, told Sen Radio on Monday. "I just don't know they're going to get up to speed from the flat performance they had the other day (against Afghanistan). What kind of team are they going to pick? Are they going to make any changes? The people they bring in haven't played any

cricket either," he added. New Zealand had made it to the semifinals of the 2022 T20 World Cup after topping the group stage, riding on fine performances from Devon Conway, Kane Williamson and Daryl Mitchell, among others. But with Conway returning to the side after a long injury layoff and Finn Allen not quite hitting his straps, things are not looking great for the Kiwis, known for their work ethics and competitive spirit. Besides, they have entered the World Cup having not played a single official warmup match. "He (Conway) looked decidedly rusty, in fact very average, he looked down on practice with the gloves on. And he's been out of form with the bat for a little while," Smith said of the top-order batter who missed the entire IPL 2024 due to injury. "Apart from the fact that he's had injuries, Conway played no cricket in the IPL even though he was contracted, and still they maintained they didn't need to have anything like a specialist wicketkeeper in this tournament." With Finn Allen going for a first-ball duck and Conway mustering just eight runs, the Kiwis didn't get the desired start in the chase against Afghanistan. "They missed opportunities to put pressure on Afghanistan early on, one partnership was all they needed to win the game. It



was probably one of the worst performances I've seen, when you consider all aspects of the game, from a Blackcaps side that I can recall," Smith said. "It was underdone, it was rusty, it was disorganised — they were so far not ready it was not funny." "Finn Allen has got a bit to prove, I've been saying this for a while — they basically ended the career for Martin Guttill to make way for Allen. They couldn't pick him in the 50-over World Cup because he wasn't consistent enough at that point, and I

don't see much difference between then and now," Smith added. Smith also lamented the poor Kiwi fielding, saying it was quite unlike the side that puts its heart and soul into every aspect of the game. "One thing New Zealand has always done over the years is field well as a unit. We've been able to answer (to that) pressure with some really good fielding performances, we aren't doing it at the moment. "Here again, we start with a poor performance, and I kept

going back to Kane Williamson (in the post-match interview) and he said 'we lost it in the first ten overs' because that set the tone," Smith said. "The only way you get those things sorted is to play cricket."

AU SMALL FINANCE BANK LIMITED (A SCHEDULED COMMERCIAL BANK) Regd. Office: 19-A, Dhuleshwar Garden, Ajmer Road, Jaipur - 302001 (CIN:L36911RJ1996PLC011381)			
Demand Notice Under Section 13(2) of Securitisation Act of 2002			
As the loan account became NPA therefore the Authorized officer under section 13(2) of "The Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002" had issued 60 days demand notice to the borrowers/co-borrowers/ Mortgagees/Guarantors (collectively referred as "Borrowers") as given in the table. According to the notice if the borrowers do not deposit the entire amount within 60 days, the amount will be recovered from auction of the mortgage properties/secured assets as given below. Therefore you the borrowers are informed to deposit the entire loan amount along with future interest and expenses within 60 days from the date of demand notice, otherwise under the provisions of 13(4) and 14 of the said Act, the Authorized officer is free to take possession for sale of the mortgage properties/Secured assets as given below.			
Borrowers to note that after receipt of this notice, in terms of Section 13(13) of the Act, 2002, you are prohibited and restrained from transferring any of the secured assets by way of sale, lease or otherwise, without prior written consent of the secured creditor. Borrowers attention are attracted towards Section 13(8) r/w Rule 3(5) of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 Act that the borrowers shall be entitled to redeem their secured asset upon the payment of the complete outstanding dues as mentioned below before the publication of auction notice, which thereafter shall cease to exist.			
Loan A/c No./ Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Mortgageor/ Guarantor	Date and Amount of Demand Notice Under Sec.13(2)	Description of Mortgaged Property	
(A/c No.) 2121211531524771 Mortgagee: SECURITISATION THROUGH IT'S PROPRIETOR LATE MR. OM PARKASH JAIN AND LEGAL HEIR MR. VINOD JAIN & MRS. SATYAWATI JAIN OF LATE MR. OM PARKASH JAIN (Borrower) MR. VINOD JAIN S/O LATE MR. OM PRAKASH JAIN (ALSO, LEGAL HEIR OF BORROWER/GUARANTOR LATE MR. OM PARKASH JAIN) (Guarantor) MRS. SATYAWATI JAIN W/O LATE MR. OM PRAKASH JAIN (ALSO, LEGAL HEIR OF BORROWER/GUARANTOR LATE MR. OM PARKASH JAIN) (Mortgagor/Guarantor)	31-May-2024 Rs. 55,03,743/- (Rupees Fifty Five Lakh Three Thousand Seven Hundred Forty Three Only) As on 30-May-24	SCHEDULE OF HYPOTHECATION Exclusive charges by way of hypothecation on current assets and movable fixed assets both present and future. SCHEDULE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY MORTGAGED:- All that part and parcel of residential property Plot/House No. 2718, Admeasuring 393.097 sq. yards. Situated at Housing Board Colony, Sector 15, Urban Estate, Sonapat, Haryana. Owned by Mrs. Satyawanti Jain. Boundary of the property as under:- East- Plot No. 2719 North- Road West- Plot No. 2717 South-Plot No. 2735	
Place: SONIPAT, HARYANA		Date : 10-June-2024 Authorised Officer AU Small Finance Bank Limited	

AU SMALL FINANCE BANK LIMITED (A SCHEDULED COMMERCIAL BANK) Regd. Office: 19-A, Dhuleshwar Garden, Ajmer Road, Jaipur - 302001 (CIN:L36911RJ1996PLC011381)			
APPENDIX IV [SEE RULE 8(I)] POSSESSION NOTICE			
Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the AU Small Finance Bank Limited (A Scheduled Commercial Bank) 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 Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notice on the date as mentioned below calling upon the borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the said notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice as per the details given in below table:			
Name of Borrower/Co-Borrower/ Mortgageor/Guarantor / Loan A/c No.	13(2) Notice Date & Amount	Description of Mortgaged Property	Date of Possession Taken
(A/c No.) L9001060826368233 & L9001060123059121 Deepak All In One Store (Borrower), Kuldeep Kumar (Co-Borrower)	20-Dec-23 Rs. 228927/- Rs. Two Lac Twenty-Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-Seven Only & Rs. 31449/- Rs. Three Lac Fourteen Thousand Four Hundred Ninety-One Only 19-Dec-23	All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/ Building/ Structure and fixtures Property Situated At- Property No Mcl/803/0159/1/4/12, House No 4, Thakar Basti, Dist- Fatehabad, Haryana. Admeasuring 185sq.Yds	06-Jun-24
(A/c No.) L9001060131446441 Sheetal Hair Saloon (Borrower), Krishan Kumar (Co-Borrower), Hanuman Singh (Co-Borrower)	12-Jan-24 Rs. 318058/- Rs. Three Lac Eighteen Thousand Fifty-Eight Only 10-Jan-24	All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/ Building/ Structure and fixtures Property measuring 0 Kanal 12 Marla i.e. 3/40 share of 8 Kanal 0 Khatuni comprised in Kheewat 903 Khatuni No 1152, bearing Khazra No. 151/20(8-0) situated at Village- Kirthan, Sub Tehsil Bhattu Kalan, Distt- Fatehabad wide sale Deed no. 484 dated 08-06-2004 from the office of Sub Registrar Bhattu Kalan. Mutation no. 4181 Admeasuring 12 Marla, East: Vacant Plot of Subhash, West: House of Binja Ram, North: Street, South: Vacant Plot	06-Jun-24
(A/c No.) L9001060128235151 Kulvinder Singh (Borrower), Lachman Singh (Co-Borrower)	20-Jan-24 Rs. 823673/- Rs. Eight Lac Twenty-Three Thousand Six Hundred Seventy-Three Only 18-Jan-24	All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/ Building/ Structure and fixtures Property Situated At- Property Id No- Mcl/B/14/0120, Near Old Chilli, Tehsil & Dist-Fatehabad, Haryana Admeasuring 3.75 Marla East: GALI, West: HOUSE OF HARI SINGH, North: HOUSE OF GOVIND, South: ROAD	06-Jun-24
(A/c No.) L9001060835018001 Kulvinder Singh (Borrower), Lachman Singh (Co-Borrower)	02-Feb-24 Rs. 212081/- Rs. Two Lac Twelve Thousand Eighty-One Only 30-Jan-24	All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/ Building/ Structure and fixtures Property Situated At- Property Id No- Mcl/B/14/0120, Near Old Chilli, Tehsil & Dist-Fatehabad, Haryana Admeasuring 3.75 Marla	06-Jun-24
The borrower having failed to repay the amount, therefore notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein above mentioned on him/her under section 13(4) of the said (Act-2002) read with Rule 8 of the said rule on the date mentioned in the above table. "The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets." The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the AU Small Finance Bank Limited (A Scheduled Commercial Bank) for the amount and interest thereon mentioned in the above table.			
Place: HARYANA		Date: 10-JUN-2024 Authorised Officer AU Small Finance Bank Limited	