



CITY 3 PM ROADSHOW IN KANPUR

WORLD 7 HAMAS IN CAIRO AS TRUCE TALKS PROGRESS

SPORT 8 CSK EYE PAYBACK IN SECOND CLASH AGAINST PBKS

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## Terror strikes IAF convoy in J&K, one soldier dead

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

In a stark reminder to the Pulwama terror attack on security personnel in February 2019 ahead of the Lok Sabha polls, an Indian Air Force (IAF) vehicle convoy was attacked in the similar fashion by terrorists in the Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir late Saturday evening in which one soldier was killed and four seriously injured. The attack occurred near Shashidhar when the convoy vehicles were moving towards Sanai Top in the district's Surankote area. The local military units launched cordon and search operations to capture the terrorists behind the strike, the IAF statement read. This is the ninth major attack on security personnel since October 2021 in the region including this which comes right in the midst of 2024 General Elections. A similar terrorist strike took place in the Poonch district on December 21, 2023. Four Army personnel sacrificed their lives and three others received critical injuries after their vehicles were ambushed by the hiding foreign terrorists in the general area of Dera ki Gali in the Poonch district. Five Indian Army personnel including two officers were "killed in action" in the Kalakote forest area of Rajouri on November 22. Meanwhile, the audacious strike has once again raised question marks as none of the terrorists



Security personnel stand guard after a militant attack on army vehicles, in Poonch district on Saturday. A search operation is going on in the woods amid inputs about the presence of the militants

were neutralised. The attack comes three weeks ahead of polling in Anantnag-Rajouri Lok Sabha constituency. Poonch is part of Anantnag-Rajouri parliamentary constituency which is going to polls in the sixth phase on May 25. The border district of Poonch along with adjoining Rajouri has witnessed some of the major terrorist attacks over the past two years, signalling return of terror activities to the region, which was once cleared of terrorism and remained peaceful between 2003 and 2021. The officials said five security personnel were injured, two of them critically, when terrorists opened fire on two vehicles,

including one belonging to the IAF, near Shashidhar in the evening. The vehicles were moving towards Sanai Top in the district's Surankote area, they said, suspecting the involvement of the same group of terrorists who carried out an ambush on the troops in adjoining Buzliaz on December 21 last year, that left four soldiers dead and three others injured. The Army truck bore the major brunt of the firing by the terrorists who were armed with AK assault rifles and are believed to have fled into the nearby forests, the officials said. Sources said reinforcements from the Army and police have been rushed to the area and a

massive search and cordon operation was launched to track down and neutralise the terrorists. Police assisted by paramilitary forces carried out searches in Poonch town since Friday following inputs about movement of suspected persons. However, no one was arrested during the operation, said officials. The latest incident in the Pir Panjal region followed the killing of a Government employee Mohd Razaq, brother of an Army personnel, by terrorists at village Kunda Top in Rajouri's Shahdra area on April 22 and a village defence guard Mohd Sharief in Basantgarh area of Udhampur on April 28.

Police have released pictures of two Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorists, including suspected Pakistani national Abu Hamza, involved in the murder of Razaq and announced a cash reward of Rs 10 lakh on his head. The Buzliaz ambush in December last year came weeks after a major gunfight in the Dharmasal belt of Bajimaal forest in Rajouri that left five Army personnel, including two captains, dead a month earlier. Two terrorists, including a top commander of LeT identified as Quari, were also killed in the two-day long gunfight. Quari was said to be the mastermind behind several attacks, including the killing of 10 civilians and five Army personnel in the district. The stretch between Dhera Ki Gali and Buzliaz on the boundary of Rajouri and Poonch is densely forested and leads to Chamrer forest and then Bhata Dhurian forest, where five soldiers were killed in an ambush on an Army vehicle on April 20 last year. In May last year, five more Army personnel were killed and a major-rank officer was injured in Chamrer forest during an anti-terrorist operation. A foreign terrorist was also killed in the operation. In 2022, five Army personnel were killed when terrorists carried out a suicide attack on their camp at Pargal in Darhal area of Rajouri district. Both the terrorists involved in the attack were eliminated. **Continued on Page 6**



Former Delhi Congress president Arvinder Singh Lovely along with three former MLAs — Rajkumar Chauhan, Naseeb Singh, Neeraj Basoya — and Delhi youth Congress chief Amit Malik join the BJP in presence of BJP leaders Hardeep Puri, Vinod Tawde and Delhi BJP chief virendra Sachdeva, in New Delhi on Saturday

## Capital gains for BJP at Cong's expense/cost

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Turmoil within the INDIA bloc continued in the ongoing Lok Sabha polls as former Delhi Congress president and senior leader Arvinder Singh Lovely along with former Delhi Minister Raj Kumar Chauhan, former MLAs Neeraj Basoya, Naseeb Singh and Delhi youth Congress chief Amit Malik joined the BJP on Saturday. This will be the second innings of Lovely and Chauhan in the BJP while Basoya and Naseeb join the BJP first time. The development will boost the BJP prospects as these leaders will help to consolidate votes in Sikh, Dalit and Gurjar communities in the seven seats in Delhi which go to polls on May 25. The shock resignations of Lovely, Chauhan, Basoya and Naseeb came as a major blow to the party in the Capital. All the former Congress leaders slammed the Opposition party's

alliance with the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in Delhi for the Lok Sabha polls as they joined the BJP in the presence of Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri and party general secretary Vinod Tawde. Puri praised these leaders and said the BJP will utilise their services effectively. Delhi Congress' interim chief Devender Yadav on Saturday described former party unit president Lovely, who joined the BJP, as an "opportunist". The Congress does not care about such people. It was strong before and will remain strong in the future, he said. Reacting to Lovely joining the BJP, Yadav said, "I put Arvinder Singh Lovely in the category of an opportunist person. This is not the first time that he has tried to sabotage the Congress." "The party does not care much about such people. The Congress was strong before and will remain strong in the future as well. **Continued on Page 6**

## Priyanka's 'Shahenshah' retort to 'Shehzada' jibe

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI/DARBHANGA (BIHAR)/ LAKHANI (GUJARAT)

The continuous jibe by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Congress leader Rahul Gandhi by terming him "shehzada" (prince) reached a new zenith on Saturday with the latter's sibling and a general secretary in the grand old party, Priyanka Gandhi, calling the PM as "Shehanshah" (monarch). At the Lok Sabha poll rallies in Bihar and Jharkhand, Modi also used the term shehzada along with Rahul for the RJD leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav. "There is a shehzada in Delhi (Rahul) and one in Patna (Tejashwi), both of whom think of the country as their fiefdom (jaagir)." While addressing a rally in Gujarat, Priyanka called Modi a "Shahanshaah" who lives in a palace but is cut off from the public. It was her first response to the PM's 'shehzada' jibe for her brother Rahul. Asserting that India wants a strong leader at the helm to ensure security, Modi said his Government's surgical and air strikes had shaken Pakistan, and the neighbouring country's



Prime Minister Narendra Modi being felicitated during a public meeting for Lok Sabha polls, in Palamu, on Saturday

leaders are now praying that the Congress 'shehzada' becomes India's Prime Minister. "The new India knows how to enter enemy territory and strike... Shaken by the surgical and air strikes, leaders in Pakistan are now praying that the Congress 'shehzada' becomes Prime Minister of India... But, our strong nation wants a strong Government and leader." Modi said at the rally to campaign for BJP candidate from Palamu, V D Ram. While addressing a rally at Lakhani in Gujarat's

Banaskantha Lok Sabha constituency to canvass for her party candidate Geniben Thakor, Priyanka accused Modi of using the people of Gujarat for power and then forgetting them. "He calls my brother 'shehzada'. I would like to tell him that this shehzada walked for 4,000 kilometres from Kanyakumari to Kashmir to listen to your (people's) problems, met my brothers and sisters, farmers and labourers and asked how we can resolve their problems," she said. **Continued on Page 6**

## Troubles mount for Revannas

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ BENGALURU/NEW DELHI

Former Karnataka Minister and Holenarsipura MLA HD Revanna was arrested from his father and former Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda's residence in Padmanabha Nagar on Saturday evening. The arrest came minutes after his anticipatory bail plea was rejected by the special court for elected representatives, Bengaluru. Meanwhile, a day after former Congress President Rahul Gandhi wrote to Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah requesting to extend all possible support to the

victims of sexual abuse allegedly by JDS MP Prajwal Revanna, the Karnataka Government on Saturday said there is a possibility of the CBI issuing a "Blue Corner Notice" against the Hassan MP, who is said to have left the country. HD Revanna is father of Prajwal. High drama ensued as SIT teams, who had intelligence that MLA Revanna was at Gowda's residence, reached former Prime Minister's residence. The gates were not opened for them and even as the team was contemplating breaking in when Revanna opened the door of the house and walked out and gave himself up. Deve



Gowda was also in the house even as high drama ensued outside the gates. Revanna has been taken to the SIT office, in the CID headquarters in the city. Revanna has been arrested in an abduction case booked against him in KR. Nagar Police Station, Mysuru

complaint with KR. Nagar Police based on which a FIR was registered against Revanna and his close associate Satish Babu, who was arrested on May 3. Earlier in the day, the abducted woman was rescued by the SIT, hours before the court turned down the anticipatory bail plea of Revanna. She was allegedly held captive at the farmhouse of one Rajshekhara, a close associate of Revanna, in Kalenahalli, Hunsur Taluk, Mysuru district. "Now we will proceed for arrest of Prajwal with appropriate measures. There is a possibility of CBI issuing a Blue Corner Notice" said State CMO. **Continued on Page 6**

## India's first female wrestler on new ground

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

Hamida Banu, an "Amazon of Aligarh", whose legacy as a renowned India's first professional woman wrestler transcends the confines of the wrestling ring triumphing in over 300 matches mostly against male wrestlers, was honoured by Google doodle on Saturday with Google celebrating her achievements with online users. The US tech giant put up a colourful doodle of her image created by an Indian artist Divya Negi on its homepage. May 4 was chosen by Google as this was a special day in the life of Hamida in 1954 when she faced off against the well-known male wrestler Baba



Pahalwan, defeating him in a match lasting just one minute and 34 seconds. As Hamida emerged victorious, Baba Pahalwan deemed fit to retire from the wrestling profession as was declared by him. This victory solidified Hamida's status as a trailblazer in the world of wrestling. Born into a family of wrestlers in Uttar Pradesh's Aligarh in the early 1900s, she defied societal norms and pursued her passion for wrestling during a time when women's participation in sports, particularly in wrestling, was strongly discouraged in India. Her journey is a testament to

her exceptional skill and determination with which she broke the male dominated field. Throughout her career in the 1940s and 1950s, Hamida competed in over 300 wrestling competitions, astonishingly against both male and female wrestlers. Her prowess in the sport earned her widespread recognition, both nationally and internationally. She even earned the nickname "Amazon of Aligarh" due to her remarkable performances. Notably, Hamida also competed against Russian woman wrestler Vera Chistilin and emerged victorious in a bout lasting less than two minutes, further

showcasing her exceptional talent and skill. Despite her success in wrestling, Hamida faced challenges, including attempts to dissuade her from pursuing her dreams. Her coach once reportedly beat her severely to prevent her from going to Europe for wrestling competitions, causing injuries that took years to heal. Hamida's journey, although marked by extraordinary triumphs and accolades, tragically ended in poverty. Her ground-breaking achievements as India's first professional woman wrestler, she faced financial struggles in her later years. **Continued on Page 6**

## Puri Cong nominee takes Surat route out of party

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ BHUBANESWAR/NEW DELHI

Yet another Congress candidate this time for the Puri Lok Sabha constituency Sucharita Mohanty, has declined to contest the elections and returned the party ticket alleging lack of funding from the party. Mohanty, daughter of former Congress MP Brajamohan Mohanty in a mail to AICC general secretary (organization) K C Venugopal on Friday claimed that her campaign in the Puri Lok Sabha constituency has been hit hard because the party has denied funding. She alleged that AICC Odisha in-charge Ajoy Kumar "categorically" asked her to fight from her own resources. Elections to the Puri Lok Sabha constituency will be held on May 25. She is third contestant of the Congress who backed out with first from Surat, Nilesh Kumbhani, who withdrew his



Congress's Puri candidate Sucharita Mohanty, ex-Indore candidate Akshaya Kanti Bam, and ex-Surat nominee Nilesh Kumbhani

nomination enabling the BJP's Mukesh Dalal's unanimous win and the second was last week Akshaya Bam of Indore who first withdrew his nomination as Congress candidate and then joined the BJP. "Surat marked the beginning of BJP's victory. In Indore, the Congress candidate came out in support of BJP," Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on the withdrawal of nominations by Congress candidates. **Continued on Page 6**

# Man funding ISI operatives in UP arrested by ATS

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The Uttar Pradesh Anti-Terror Squad has arrested Ziya-ul-Haq (28) for allegedly funding Indian operatives associated with Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence in the state. The suspect is accused of giving monetary rewards to handlers transmitting classified information pertaining to the Indian Army across the border. He was arrested from Sant Kabir Nagar on Saturday and was carrying a reward of Rs 50,000 for any information leading to his arrest. Inspector General of Police (ATS) Nilabja Chaudhary said the name of Zia-ul-Haq had surfaced during interrogation of three terror suspects arrested in the past - Amrit Pal Singh alias Amrit Gil, Izharul Husain

and Riyazuddin. "Ziya-ul-Haq emerged as a significant figure in the network. Haq, believed to be in direct contact with Pakistani agents, allegedly operated under the guise of a Nepalese and used WhatsApp accounts and Nepalese numbers to conceal his identity from law enforcement agencies," the IG said. Haq played a pivotal role in orchestrating the financial transactions between the ISI handlers and the Indian operatives. His responsibilities included managing various bank accounts to facilitate the transfer of illicitly acquired funds, collected through criminal activities, to ISI operatives in Pakistan, the IG (ATS) added. The ATS said that investigations revealed that one of the

previously arrested suspects, Riyazuddin, had deposited Rs 70 lakh in his account in March 2023 and it was subsequently transferred to multiple accounts, prompting the ongoing scrutiny by the law enforcement agencies. The ATS acted swiftly on receiving intelligence indicating Haq's presence near the railway station in Sant Kabir Nagar district. He was arrested following electronic and physical surveillance. The ATS officials said that during the probe it had surfaced that Haq was also involved in the transfer of money from West Asian countries through hawala channels. The probe revealed that Rs 77 lakh was sent by the accused in a span of two years to various individuals who provided information to ISI handlers.

# UP at fourth place in GST collection

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh has emerged as the fourth largest state in collection of goods and services tax in the country. UP's tax authorities collected Rs 12,290 crore GST in April 2024. The other three major states ahead of UP are Maharashtra, Karnataka and Gujarat. The GST collection in April stood at Rs 37,671 crore in Maharashtra, Rs 15,978 crore in Karnataka and Rs 13,301 crore in Gujarat and Rs 12,210 crore in UP and Rs 12,210 in Tamil Nadu. Official sources said factors contributing to higher tax collections were robust steps to curb tax evasions, aggressive spending on infrastructure like highways expressways and a boost in the pilgrim footfall after the Pran Pratishtha of temple in Ayodhya on January 22 this year. They said high tax collection was a firm indication that economic-industrial activities were picking up in UP which was largely agrarian economy. The total annual expenditure by tourists (domestic and foreign) in UP may cross Rs 4 lakh crore by the end of 2025, leading to an additional tax revenue of Rs 20,000-25,000 crore during the current fiscal 2024-25, given the completion of Ram Mandir in Ayodhya and various initiatives taken by the state government to promote tourism and upgrade infrastructure in Ayodhya and massive investment by the hospitality industry in temple town. There has been a sharp increase in the number of pilgrims coming to Ayodhya and also in Kashi Vishwanath temple in Varanasi after the inauguration of Kashi Vishwanath temple corridor in November 2021. All these factors collectively would have given a fillip to the GST revenues of the state, according to an official of the state commercial tax department. While tours and travels face a GST rate of 5-18 per cent, air

travel attracts a levy of 5-12 per cent and accommodation in a hotel includes a duty between 12 per cent and 18 per cent. UP has been leading in allocations for capital expenditure for the last few years and boasts of the second longest road network in India. Its capital outlay for 2024-25 is proposed to be Rs 1,54,747 crore, an increase of 6 per cent over the revised estimate of 2023-24. The focus by the Yogi Adityanath government on capital expenditure has contributed to boost in revenues, especially given road and infrastructure construction involves GST levies at several levels such as contractors and cement that add to the state's kitty. Cement is taxed at 28 per cent under the indirect tax regime of GST. UP has allocated 5.9 per cent of its total expenditure towards roads and bridges, which is higher than the average allocation by states of 4.6 per cent in 2023-24. Beyond roads and highways, UP has also been able to pitch itself as a key manufacturing base. It is among the top five states in India when it comes to the total number of factories in operation, as per the Annual Survey of Industries 2021-22 by National Sample Survey. The state was also one of the top performers when it came to manufacturing and employment during the period. From Samsung Electronics; mobile phone facility - the world's largest - in Noida, to PepsiCo India's food plant in Mathura, UP has been able to become both a consuming as well as a manufacturing state. Notably, the state has emerged as a hub for IT enabled services (ITEs). As per the commerce ministry's Invest India, UP has over 30 special economic zones for IT/ITES and the government has also reserved 700 acres of land for an Electronics Mega City near Noida international airport. Data centres fall under the services category and thereby attract a GST of 18%.

# ₹30,000 crore paid to cane farmers by UP sugar industry

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The sugar industry in Uttar Pradesh has paid over Rs 30,000 crore to the sugarcane farmers during the current cane crushing season 2023-24. Most of the mills have completed the crushing and closed and the remaining few will wind up the operations in next two weeks. The sugar industry is politically significant in Uttar Pradesh as it covers the entire state from western UP to eastern end of the state. According to the data from the cane commissioner's office, the payment, done by the sugar mills, represents more than 82 per cent of the total cane supply payables for the current season. Besides, the ethanol production in UP which stood at nearly 421 million litres in 2016-17, rose to 1.54 billion litres in

2022-23. By March 2023-24, the production shot past the 1.75 billion litre mark. Ethanol, which is used in petrol blending, is an important byproduct of the sugarcane industry. The 121 operating mills in UP, with a combined cane crushing capacity of 0.84 million tons crushed per day (TCD), have so far crushed 98 million tons of the cash crop, producing 10.33 million tons of sugar. For the previous crushing season 2022-23, except for a private sugar mill unit defaulting on the farmers' payment of Rs 213 crore, the remaining chunk of Rs 37,838 crore was fully paid. Last year, UP logged a sugar production of 10.5 million tons. "The sugarcane payments facilitated during the Yogi Adityanath government since March 2017 is to the tune of Rs 2.5 lakh crore and counting. Interestingly, this is roughly Rs

36,600 crore more than the consolidated cane payments made in the preceding 22 years, that is from 1995 to March 2017," a Cane department official said. Of the 121 sugar mills in UP, private companies account for the maximum number, nearly 93 units, followed by 28 mills of the UP Cane Cooperative Federation Limited as well as the Uttar Pradesh State Sugar Corporation. Nearly 50 lakh farmers' households are engaged in sugarcane farming in UP, and generate an estimated annual economy of Rs 50,000 crore. In January 2024, the state government hiked the cane price by Rs 20 per quintal for various cane varieties. In the 2022-23 sugarcane crushing season, cane area and production in the state stood at 2.85 million hectares and 235 million tons respectively.

# ED files money laundering case against Elvish Yadav, others

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The Enforcement Directorate filed a money laundering case against YouTuber Siddharth Yadav alias Elvish Yadav and some others on Saturday under the charge of suspected use of snake venom as a recreational drug in parties he hosted. Official sources said the central agency had pressed the charges under the Prevention

of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) after taking cognisance of a FIR and charge sheet filed by the Gautam Buddha Nagar (Noida) district police last month against him and others linked to him. The ED is also investigating the alleged generation of proceeds of crime and use of illicit funds for organising rave or recreational parties. Yadav and some others linked to the case will be questioned as part of the investigation. Yadav was arrested on March 17 by the Noida police in connection with its probe into suspected use of snake venom as a recreational drug in parties that were allegedly hosted by him. The 26-year-old YouTuber, also the winner of reality show Bigg Boss OTT 2, was booked under various sections of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, Wildlife Protection Act, and the Indian Penal Code by the Noida police. After his win in Bigg Boss, he shared deals with politicians who treated

him a big crowd puller then. Yadav was among the six people named in an FIR lodged at Noida's Sector 49 police station on November 3 last year on a complaint from a representative of animal rights non-governmental organisation People for Animals (PFA). The five other accused, all snake charmers, were arrested in November and were later let out on bail by a local court. The five snake charmers were arrested from a banquet hall in Noida on November 3 last year and nine snakes, including five cobras, were rescued from their possession, while 20 ml of suspected snake venom was also seized. According to police, Yadav was not present at the banquet hall then. In April, the Noida police filed an over 1,200-page charge sheet in the case. The charges included are snake trafficking, use of psychotropic substances and organising rave parties, the police had said.



## NOTICE

I Kavita W/o Gulshan Kumar Arora, 414, Vayu Vihar Harjinder Nagar Kanpur, have changed my name from Kavita Rani TO Kavita for all future purposes

## NOTICE

I HAVE CHANGED ME NAME FROM MUSTAFA HASAN TO MUSTAFA HUSSAIN S/O TAUFEEQ HASAN R/O 80/86 LATOUCHE ROAD KANPUR

## NOTICE

I Anil Kumar service no 16019669K rank NK s/o Ramdev r/o vill Nonara post Tikariya thana Dhammar distt Sultanpur Uttar Pradesh hereby declare that my son's name in my service records is incorrectly mentioned as AUSH YADAV which should be read and written as AYUSH YADAV.

## NOTICE

I,Indra Raj S/o Ramesh Kumar, resident of Saket Nagar Alampur, Lalganj Rae Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh, as per Notary/Affidavit No. IN-UP36882671430244W, from today my name has been changed to Indra Raj Singh S/o Ramesh Kumar, from today onwards I will be known and recognized by this name.

## Information

It is informed that due to mistake my name has been recorded as MOSIM KHAN in my mark sheet and certificate, which is incorrect and wrong. In all government records my name is recorded as MOUSIM KHAN only. Which is correct. Hence I should be known and recognized by the name MOUSIM KHAN. Mousim Khan S/O Mustekim Khan resident-271 Feroze Gandhi Nagar District-Raebareilly.

## आवश्यकता है

**एस.एस.जी. कॉलेज**  
ग्राम-मोस्ट मौहूर, फतेहपुर (समूह- प्रो राजेन्द्र सिंह (रज्जु बैरवा) विश्वविद्यालय प्रयागराज)  
आवश्यकता है प्राचार्य एवं प्रवक्तृओं की कला संकाय हेतु- (1) प्राचार्य- एक पद (2) हिन्दी साहित्य- एक पद (3) शिक्षा शास्त्र- एक पद (4) इतिहास- एक पद (5) गृह विज्ञान- एक पद (6) अंग्रेजी साहित्य- एक पद (7) संस्कृत- एक पद (8) समाज शास्त्र- एक पद  
विज्ञान संकाय हेतु - (1) वनस्पति विज्ञान- एक पद (2) रसायन विज्ञान- एक पद (3) गणित- एक पद (4) भौतिक विज्ञान- एक पद (5) जन्तु विज्ञान- एक पद नोट:- वेतन एवं योग्यता यू.जी.सी. एवं राज्य विश्वविद्यालय के मानकानुसार देय होगा। इच्छुक अभ्यर्थी अपना आवेदन विज्ञापन प्रकाशन से 21 दिनों के अन्दर विद्यालय के पते पर भेजें।  
महेश सिंह- प्रवक्तृक  
मो. 79053 50038, 9648670899

# BTech graduate found hanging in house

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A 29-year-old BTech graduate, Vidit Bahgav from Mahanagar Extension, allegedly took his own life due to mounting mental stress while preparing for competitive exams. Vidit had graduated from BBD University. According to reports, Vidit's phone was ringing around 3 am on Saturday, but he did not respond. Concerned, his younger brother Suvigya attempted to contact him by knocking on his door, but received no response. Suvigya

then broke open the door only to find Vidit hanging from the ceiling with a rope tied around his neck. He was brought down and rushed to Vivekanand hospital, where doctors pronounced him dead. Police are currently investigating the circumstances surrounding his death, and the body has been sent for autopsy. The bereaved father informed the police that Vidit had been experiencing significant mental stress over past 3-4 days but did not disclose the reasons behind it.

# Babysitter alleges torture by cop

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A female babysitter employed at Kasmanda House Apartments has accused the woman incharge of the Darulshafa police outpost, along with three women constables and their colleagues, of subjecting her to severe torture to coerce a false confession regarding the theft of ornaments from her employer's residence. In her complaint, the victim alleged that the woman police officer, in collusion with the flat owner where she worked, as well as his wife and son, subjected her to brutal physical abuse. She claimed to have been beaten with belts, sticks, kicked, and assaulted, resulting in significant wounds and cuts. The FIR, registered now at the PGI police station on a court directive, details an incident on December 15,

2023, where she was coerced to change into blood-stained clothes provided by the woman police officer, which she declined, preserving the evidence. The victim's account of torture is harrowing. She alleged that the woman officer threatened to publicly strip her daughter if she did not confess to the alleged theft at her employer's flat. "I have been employed at the flat since 2019. My employers have been unsatisfactory paymasters, often causing disruptions during salary payments. When I last worked with them, two months' salary remained unpaid. They fabricated this case against me last year after expressing dissatisfaction with my work and my refusal to continue working under their conditions," the victim alleged. She denied the theft allegation and faced threats. "I was

taken to the Darulshafa police outpost, where I witnessed my employer bribing the woman police officer with Rs 500 for my torture to extract a false confession," she alleged. The victim was allegedly confined to an inner room at the outpost where the woman police officer and her accomplices subjected her to physical abuse with cables, belts, and kicks to the stomach. "The woman officer forcibly took my mangalsutra, earrings, and mobile phone, claiming them as her employer's property to threaten me with jail," the victim claimed. The woman officer reportedly released her to her husband around midnight. "I felt immense humiliation and trauma from the torture despite my innocence. My husband consoled me, urging faith in the government and judiciary. We lodged a com-

plaint at the PGI police station, but they initially declined to register a case. We then moved court, which directed the police to register the case under relevant IPC sections," she explained. Meanwhile, thieves struck two houses in Jankipuram and Indiranagar, making off with cash and valuables. In Jankipuram, ornaments were stolen from the house of Jyoti Chaurasia in Gauri Puram locality while she was away visiting her father. She returned on May 3 after 15 days only to find her home burgled. In another incident, thieves stole Rs 50,000 in cash and valuables from the house of Raj Kumar Pandit in Amari village, Indiranagar. The theft took place while Raj Kumar and his family were in Gaya, their native town. They discovered the burglary upon returning to Lucknow.

**Public Notice**  
This is to inform the general public that Mr. Gurneel Singh and Mr. Baljinder Singh are the owners of Land area measuring 0.741, out of Gata No. 100, and area measuring 0.394, out of Gata No. 104 Total land area measuring 1.135 Hectare, i.e., 11303 Sq. Mtrs. Situated at Village Aggar Khurd, Pargana Bhoor, Tehsil Lakhpur, District Khir, UP. They acquired the above-mentioned land vide two Sale Deeds. Sale Deed dated 24.01.2009 executed by Santaraj Singh Charitable trust Gurudwara Sant Ashram through Sewadar Mr. Balkar Singh in favour of Mr. Gurneel Singh and Mr. Baljinder Singh in respect of said land Sold Portion of 2/3' Share of area measuring 0.756 Hectare, i.e., 7568.633 Sq. Mtrs. as Doc. No. 803 read with rectification Deed dated 29.03.2011 doc. No. 4921 and Sale Deed dated 24.01.2009 executed by Santaraj Singh Charitable trust Gurudwara Sant Ashram through Sewadar Mr. Balkar Singh in favour of Mr. Gurneel Singh and Mr. Baljinder Singh in respect of said land Sold Portion of 1/3' Share of area measuring 0.378 Hectare i.e., 3778.438 Sq. Mtrs. as Doc. No. 804 read with rectification deed dated 29.03.2011 doc. No. 4920.  
The above-said owners have misplaced the 1. Original Sale Deed dated 22.02.2001 executed by Mr. Harjeet Singh in favour of Mr. Harjeet Singh, Mr. Darshan Singh in respect of the out of Gata No. 100, area measuring 0.741 Hectare, out of Gata No. 104, area measuring 0.394 Hectare. Total area measuring 1.135 Hectare. (Doc No. 1404). 2. Original Sale Deed dated 01.08.2001 executed by Mr. Anil Kumar in favour of Mr. Anil Kumar in respect of the out of Gata No. 100, area measuring 0.741 Hectare, out of Gata No. 104, area measuring 0.394 Hectare. Total area measuring 1.135 Hectare. (Doc No. 7113). 3. Original GPA dated 22.08.2001 executed by Mr. Harjeet Singh and Mr. Darshan Singh in favour of Mr. Aadarsh Pal Singh in respect of the said Land. Anyone who finds the above-mentioned documents, kindly handover the same to the Manager of M/s. Avanse Financial Services Ltd., Lucknow, UP.  
Mr. Gurneel Singh and Mr. Baljinder Singh are in the process of mortgaging the said Land M/s. Avanse Financial Services Ltd. Any objections or concerns regarding this transaction should be raised within a period of 07 days from the date of this public notice. Any objections submitted after the completion of 07 days period shall not be considered binding with respect to the said property or the interests of our client.  
If anyone wishes to raise an objection, please do so within the stipulated 07-days period by contacting Law Veritas - North (Advocates & Legal Consultants) Office, 1st Floor, Building No. A-44/A, Sector-16, Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201301; Landlines: +910120-3101683; e-mail: accounts@vnrn.in

## CITYBRIEFS

**MRS VOGUE STAR INDIA**  
A city woman has won the Mrs India Contest, which was organised by Vogue Star India in Jaipur on April 14. As many as 63 women were selected from all over India from among 17,000 contestants and called to Jaipur. Rajni Singh was crowned Mrs Vogue Star India from Lucknow. Rajni Singh said that Vogue Star gave her the platform which she had been dreaming of since childhood. "I am from a Rajput family. I got my early education in Lucknow and got married while studying but I completed my studies. I had a passion for modelling from the beginning. To fulfil this, I worked hard and tried whenever I got a chance. I was also selected as an air hostess but my family members did not let me go. Women in my family were not allowed to work outside, so I struggled and opened my own real estate company," she said. She said she worked as a counsellor in a polytechnic college for two years and also worked as an HR professional. "However, I was fond of modelling and I participated against my family's wishes and was selected as Mrs Vogue Star India Lucknow," she added.

**VOTER AWARENESS**  
In a bid to spread awareness amongst voters, Akhil Bhartiya Vyapar Mandal pasted stickers in every shop in the markets and took out a 'padayatra' in Aminabad on Saturday. Office-bearers of the organisation were asked to take a pledge to increase voting percentage in Lucknow. ABVM Lucknow president Suresh



Chhablani, youth state general secretary Akash Gautam, Javed Beg, Anuj Gautam, Ashwan Verma, women state president Anita Jaiswal, and general secretary Ekta Agarwal said that to increase voting percentage in Lucknow, the organisation is pasting stickers in thousands of shop in every market.

**BOXING**  
The 23rd edition of the 'Annual Inter-School And Inter-House Boxing Championship' was held at The Lucknow Public Collegiate (Sharda Nagar) on Saturday. The fighters were trained under the guidance of professional trainers and teachers. The chief guest was Douglas P Shepherd, former chief coach (boxing), Sports Authority of India, Lucknow. Joint director/principal Jawaid Alam Khan gave away medals and trophies to the winners and runners-up.

**WELCOME ACCORDED**  
A warm welcome was accorded to railway leader Shivgopal Mishra at Charbagh station on Saturday after he was appointed general secretary unopposed during the annual convention of All-India Railway Men's Federation, New Delhi, on April 25. On his arrival in Lucknow by Rajdhani Express on Saturday evening, hundreds of railway employees welcomed him with flowers at Charbagh station.

**इंडियन बैंक Indian Bank**  
ALLAHABAD  
Zonal Office: 15/287, Mahatma Gandhi Marg, The Mall, Bada Chauraha, Kanpur U.P.-208001  
**POSSESSION NOTICE (Rule 8(1) for immovable Property)**  
Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Indian Bank, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 8 & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice (details of which have been mentioned hereunder) calling upon the borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the respective notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act read with les 8 & 9 of the said rules. The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of the Indian Bank for an amount and interest & charges there on as described here in below: We draw attention to the provisions of Section 13(8) of the SARFAESI Act and the Rules framed there under which deals with your rights of redemption over the securities.

S. No.	Name of the Borrowers	Name of Mortgagees	Description of the Immovable property	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession Notice	Outstanding Amt.
1.	M/s Papa Ji Solution Centre Prop.: Shri Jitin Mahendra S/o Shri Mahendra Kumar Verma	Shri Jitin Mahendra S/o Shri Mahendra Kumar Verma	All that part and parcel of Land & Building situated at Premises No. Vegetable Commercial Plot No. 2D/P-62, Hanspuram Yojana No. 2, Avas Vikas, Hanspuram, Naubasta, Hamipur Road, Kanpur Nagar. Area of the Property: 15.00 Sq. Mtr. Owner of the Property: Shri Jitin Mahendra S/o Shri Mahendra Kumar Verma Boundaries: North: Commercial Plot No 2D/P-81 South: 6.00 Mtr Road East: Commercial Plot No 2D/P-63 West: Commercial Plot No 2D/P-61	09.02.2024	29.04.2024	Rs. 11,16,383.00 (Rupees Eleven Lakhs Sixteen Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Three Only) as on 28.04.2024 with further interest w.e.f. 29.04.2024, charges and other expenses thereon.
2.	1. Shri Prem Chandra Sharma S/o Shri Ram Prasad Sharma 2. Smt. Rekha Sharma W/o Shri Prem Chandra	Shri Prem Chandra Sharma S/o Shri Ram Prasad Sharma	All that part and parcel of land and building situated on House No. 118/E/1, Block: Phase -1, Yojana No. 40, Panki, Ganga Ganj, Kanpur Nagar Area of the Property: 48.63 Sq. Meter Owner of the Property: Shri Prem Chandra Sharma S/o Shri Ram Prasad Sharma Boundaries: North: 7 Mtr. wide Road South: House No. 95/E/1 East: House No. 117 West: 5 Mtr. wide Road	07.02.2024	29.04.2024	Rs. 4,55,550.00 (Rupees Four Lakhs Fifty Five Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Only) as on 28.04.2024 with further interest w.e.f. 29.04.2024, charges and other expenses thereon.

Date : 05.05.2024 Place: Kanpur The Authorized Officer: Indian Bank

# PM roadshow in Kanpur

**Kanpur:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a roadshow here on Saturday to campaign for the BJP's candidates for the Kanpur and Akbarpur Lok Sabha seats.

A large crowd cheered for the prime minister and waved cutouts of the BJP's election symbol 'lotus' as he greeted them from his car. Modi also visited the Gumti Gurdwara before starting his roadshow. Small children, women and elders lined the streets as the prime minister's motorcade passed through. The crowd shouted slogans and showered flower petals.

The prime minister was accompanied by Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the BJP's Kanpur candidate Ramesh Awasthi and Akbarpur candidate Devendra Singh atop the open-hooded vehicle.

Voting in the state's 13 Lok Sabha constituencies, including Kanpur and Akbarpur, will be held in the fourth phase of the Lok Sabha election on May 13. The Kannauj parliamentary constituency, where Samajwadi



Party chief and former chief minister Akhilesh Yadav is in the fray, will also vote on the same day. A BJP worker said the roadshow was held from the Gumti Gurdwara to

Fazalganj and people from different sections of society greeted the prime minister. **PTI**

# Ayodhya turns into fortress ahead of PM Modi's visit

PNS ■ AYODHYA

The holy city of Ayodhya has been transformed into a fortress as preparations are underway for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to this city on Sunday during which he will hold a roadshow seeking support for the Bharatiya Janata Party candidates.

The prime minister's visit will mark his first return to Ayodhya since the 'Pran Pratishtha' ceremony in which he oversaw the consecration of Ram Lalla on January 22 this year.

Amid heightened security measures, Prime Minister Modi is slated to conduct a grand roadshow, symbolising both political outreach and spiritual reverence. Alongside seeking support for sitting BJP MP Lallu Singh from Faizabad and candidates contesting from neighbouring constituencies, the prime minister aims to gal-

vanise voters ahead of the crucial phase of the elections. In anticipation of the prime minister's arrival, Ayodhya has undergone a visual makeover, with streets adorned with vibrant flowers and stages erected to herald his reception. The municipal authorities have been diligently engaged in ensuring the cleanliness of the city, leaving no stone unturned to meet the exacting standards for the prime minister's visit.

While administrative efforts focus on security and infrastructure, local BJP leaders are spearheading the mobilisation of crowds, recognising the pivotal role Ayodhya plays in shaping the political narrative. Ram Dhun Tiwari, a prominent BJP leader, expressed confidence in the overwhelming turnout, underscoring the importance of projecting a positive message to bolster the party's electoral prospects. In a departure from tradition-

al public rallies, Prime Minister Modi is slated to traverse the city atop an SUV. Nevertheless, BJP workers and affiliated organisations have been diligently canvassing support, laying the groundwork for a resounding reception.

The much-anticipated roadshow, expected to span a distance of two kilometres, is scheduled for the late afternoon or evening hours, with Prime Minister Modi's arrival at Ayodhya airport slated for 4 pm. Prime Minister Modi's visit to Ayodhya holds profound significance, underscored by his previous engagements in the city. From addressing public gatherings during the 2019 elections to gracing the foundation stone laying ceremony of the Ram temple in August 2020, his recurrent visits underscore Ayodhya's enduring importance in the national consciousness.

# RLD leader quits over BJP ticket to Brij Bhushan son

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

**Meerut:** National spokesperson of BJP ally Rashtriya Lok Dal Rohit Jakhar has resigned from the party in protest against the BJP giving a ticket to the son of incumbent MP Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, who is facing criminal charges of sexually harassing women wrestlers.

"Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh is an accused in the sexual harassment case of women wrestlers. Giving tickets to his son is an insult to the women wrestlers. For me the honour of the country comes first," Jakhar told PTI on Saturday. "I sent my resignation from the post of the national spokesperson and the primary membership of the Rashtriya Lok Dal to party president Jayant Choudhary on Friday," the Jat leader added. Jakhar also said that he was not joining any political party but his struggle for social issues would continue as before. "Jhakar is among the top leaders of the RLD and is also the state president of the National Jat Federation. **PTI**

# India is the land of Ram and Krishna, and not jihad: Yogi

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday campaigned for Bharatiya Janata Party candidates contesting from Farrukhabad and Kannauj Lok Sabha constituencies.

He commenced the campaign with a public meeting in support of BJP candidate Jyotiraditya Scindia in Guna constituency of Madhya Pradesh. Following this, the chief minister appealed to the voters to send Mukesh Rajput and Subrat Pathak to the Lok Sabha from Farrukhabad and Kannauj constituencies respectively.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Yogi took out a roadshow in Kanpur. During both rallies in Uttar Pradesh, the chief minister focused on criticising the Congress, the Samajwadi Party, the Bahujan Samaj Party and the INDI Alliance.

He said that while during the SP rule, bullets were fired on Ram devotees in Ayodhya, today the city was witnessing the return of Tretayug and Ramrajya. In Farrukhabad, Chief

Minister Yogi Adityanath said that those who talk about jihad should feel ashamed of themselves and should rather go to the 'beggar' Pakistan. He added that those talking about jihad drew their inspiration from those who were responsible for the country's partition.

"By promoting jihad, they are disrespecting the democratic values of the country," he remarked. Attacking the SP, the Congress and the BSP, Chief Minister Yogi said, "Those who have robbed the poor of their rights and have not spared even the disabled are now starting to remember jihad. They should know that this is the land of Lord Ram and Lord Krishna, and not jihad."

Chief Minister Yogi remarked that before 2014, individuals who opposed India's advancement engaged in corruption within every scheme. He also noted that previously, upon witnessing explosions and terrorist activities, governments used to say that they were from across the border. "However, nowadays, even the masterminds from across the border are compelled to provide explanations even for minor

incidents like firecracker bursts," he added.

The chief minister said, "The SP and Congress leaders are trying to divide people on religious grounds. When they talk of 'vote jihad', their aim is Islamisation of India. However, there is no jihad in voting. Our focus should be on strengthening the world's largest democracy, ensuring the protection of our rights through the ballot."

In Auraiya, Chief Minister Yogi said that during the Samajwadi's rule, bullets were fired at Ram devotees in Ayodhya. In contrast, today, Ayodhya was witnessing the return of Tretayug and Ramrajya. "After 500 years, Lord Ram played Holi in the new Ayodhya. On Ram Navami, the world was amazed to see Ram Lalla's Surya Tilak. This magnificent event was not possible during the reign of SP, BSP and Congress because they questioned the existence of Lord Shri Ram," he added.

The chief minister also remarked that there was a period when the SP claimed that not even a bird could come to Ayodhya, but under the BJP government, a large

number of devotees from both the nation and abroad were heading for Lord Ram's darshan and were filled with joy upon experiencing the divine Ayodhya.

Chief Minister Yogi further stated that while on the one hand Ram Lalla was enshrined in Ayodhya today, on the other big mafias had been eliminated from Uttar Pradesh. "The entire life of former chief minister Kalyan Singh was dedicated to the development of the state and Ram Janmabhoomi. On the contrary, the SP did not express condolence on his death but went to read Fatiha at a mafia's house. You need to be cautious of them," he urged voters.

Attacking Congress manifesto, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath mentioned that it advocates cow slaughter under the garb of granting full freedom to minorities concerning their food choices. "But, we are prepared to make sacrifices to safeguard the cow. Cow slaughter will never be tolerated. Forget about cow slaughter in the state, even if anyone thinks about it, the gates of hell will be opened for them," he asserted.

# INDIA bloc govt's first decision will be to waive farmers' loans: Akhilesh

**Budaun:** Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav on Saturday said that if elected to power, the INDIA bloc government's first decision will be to waive off farmers' loans and claimed that the BJP is set to be wiped out in the third phase of polling in Uttar Pradesh.

Addressing a public rally in support of SP candidate Akshay Yadav, the former chief minister said, "They cheated the farmers. They waived off the loans of 16,000 crore of big industrialists but the loans of farmers were not waived off." The SP and INDIA bloc's first decision after forming the government on June 4 will be to waive off farmers' loans across the country, he added.

SP leaders Shivpal Yadav and Ramgopal Yadav also shared the stage with Akhilesh Yadav at the rally in Firozabad. SP candidate from Firozabad

Akshay Yadav is the son of Ramgopal Yadav. Accusing the BJP of not giving jobs to youngsters and leaking exam papers, he said, "The BJP also cheated the farmers. Their income has not increased but prices of everything have gone up."

"We will give free data and atta (flour) to the poor. This will not only help the poor get nutrition, but will also enable their children to use the free data to study and excel in life," he said. Earlier in the day, while addressing a rally in Nadha town of Budaun, Akhilesh Yadav said, "In the third phase of elections on May 7, the public will throw BJP seven miles away. This phase is going to wipe them out. In the first two phases, the people have overturned the BJP and in the third, the people are going to wipe out these people."

"They will be wiped out because they have not left any section with which they have not indulged in fake talks. If we take the last ten years into account, all their talks and promises have turned out to be false," Yadav said. "These people (BJP) were saying that they will double the income of farmers, but today when a farmer calculates his income, he gets worried that the cost of the produce and profits are not in keeping with the inflation, the government is not able to provide what the cost of the produce should be," he said.

The result is that even after hard work, our farmers are not happy, the people of the villages are not happy, he alleged. "Those who said they would double the income, brought three black laws for the farmers. Their conspiracy was to take away the land of the farm-

ers and capture their produce also. But we want to congratulate our farmers that they went and staged a protest in Delhi. The farmers stood firm until the government withdrew all the three black laws," he said.

The SP president said the farmers' fight is not over yet. "These are the same people who are moving away from giving an MSP (minimum support price)." This time, the Samajwadi Party and the INDI Alliance have decided that after the formation of the government, they will work to make the poor farmers happy by giving them the legal right to MSP," he said. Budaun and Firozabad will go to polls in the third phase on May 7. The Samajwadi Party has fielded Aditya Yadav, son of senior party leader Shivpal Yadav, from Budaun. **PTI**

# Mayawati targets BJP, Cong 'tall claims' on reservation

**Agra:** BSP president Mayawati on Saturday slammed both the BJP and the Congress over its "tall claims" on reservation, saying neither party wants its benefits to reach the intended groups. Addressing an election gathering here, Mayawati blamed the two parties and the Samajwadi Party for making reservations in government job promotions "ineffective".

The former chief minister added that the majority of work is being "handed over to the private sector", and given there is no provision of reservation in the private sector, very little benefit of quotas is reaching these sections. "A lot of things are being said about reservations. Both Congress and BJP are making tall claims on the issue of quota for the SC/ST and OBC sections. But both are against it and do not want its full benefit to reach these sections," Mayawati said. Stressing that vacant posts for

reserved categories in government jobs have not been filled, Mayawati said that during the Samajwadi Party government in Uttar Pradesh "reservations in job promotions were ended".

"You should know that when this matter was taken up by our party in Parliament, we exerted pressure on the government to bring an amendment bill for reservation in promotions. The Congress, which was in power and the BJP colluded and the bill was torn," the Bahujan Samaj Party supremo said. With the SP at the forefront, BJP and Congress colluded to not let the bill to pass, she said. The BSP leader said the exploitation and oppression of the backward groups has to stop.

Mayawati sought support for the BSP candidates in Agra (Puja Amrohi) Fatehpur Sikri (Ram Niwas Sharma) and Hathras (Hem Babu), saying her party has given representation to

someone from the Jatav, Brahmin and Dhangar castes. Polling on these seats will be held in the third phase on May 7. The BSP leader also slammed the BJP for seeking votes over free food grains being distributed by the government.

"Earlier during the assembly election and now for Lok Sabha polls, BJP and RSS people, with a bag hanging on their shoulder, are moving about in villages to misguide the poor, saying that (Prime Minister Narendra) Modi has given you free ration and you should repay this debt through your votes in the elections," Mayawati said. "I want to tell the poor that the free ration that is being distributed has not come from the BJP or Narendra Modi ji's pocket, it has come from the taxes that you have paid. It is from your tax. It is not any kind of favour either given by the BJP or Modi ji," she said. **PTI**

# Mehrotra to be SP candidate from Lucknow

**Lucknow (PNS):** Lucknow (Central) MLA Ravidas Mehrotra will be the Samajwadi Party candidate from Lucknow Lok Sabha constituency as his papers were found valid during the scrutiny on Saturday.

Apprehending that Mehrotra's nomination papers could be rejected due to some technical reasons, the SP had readied a substitute candidate in Dr Ashutosh Verma to take on BJP's Rajnath Singh. Mehrotra, the SP's original pick, had filed his nomination papers from Lucknow on April 26 and the returning officer had pointed out some issues during the process. May 3 was the last date for filing nominations for the Lucknow seat and polling is scheduled for May 20. Dr Verma, who is a paediatrician and owns a super-specialty hospital in Lucknow, had filed his papers on Friday.

इंडियन बैंक		Indian Bank													
इलाहाबाद		ALLAHABAD													
Zonal Office Lucknow, New Building, 2nd Floor, Hazratganj, Lucknow-226001, Ph. 0522-2286272, 2287283, Fax: 0522-2288033, E-mail id: zolucknow@indianbank.co.in															
NOTICE OF SALE E-AUCTION															
Notice in intended sale under rule 8(b) of The Security Interest (Enforcement Rules) 2002 under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002															
Whereas, the Authorized Officer of Indian Bank (erstwhile Allahabad Bank) had taken constructive possession of the following property /ies pursuant to the notice issued under Sec 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 in the following loan accounts with right to sell the same of "AS IS WHERE IS, AS IS WHAT IS, AS IS WHATEVER THERE IS" basis for realization of Bank's dues plus interest as detailed hereunder and whereas consequent upon failure to repay the dues, the undersigned in exercise of power conferred under Section 13(4) of the said Act platform provided by the Service Provider, contact & detail for Symbolic Possession of property is available at present.															
Sr. No.	Name & Address of the Borrower(s)/Proprietor/Partners/Director(s)/Guarantor(s)	Description of the Immovable Property mortgaged	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Dt. of Demand Notice</td> <td>a) Reserve Price</td> <td>Date &amp; Time for submission of EMD</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dt. of Possession Notice</td> <td>b) Rs. 6,41,000/-</td> <td>Date &amp; Time of E-Auction</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Out.Amt. as per Demand Notice</td> <td>c) Account Details for EMD</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>d) Incremental Bid Amt.</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Dt. of Demand Notice	a) Reserve Price	Date & Time for submission of EMD	Dt. of Possession Notice	b) Rs. 6,41,000/-	Date & Time of E-Auction	Out.Amt. as per Demand Notice	c) Account Details for EMD			d) Incremental Bid Amt.	
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Out.Amt. as per Demand Notice	c) Account Details for EMD														
	d) Incremental Bid Amt.														
<b>Branch : Jankipuram</b>															
1.	1. Shri Anupam Dwivedi S/o Neelam Prakash Dwivedi (Borrower & Mortgagor), Add-1: 4/487, Sector 4 Vikas Nagar, Lucknow Add-2: B-11, Type B Sector D Sitapur Road, Lucknow, Ward Bhartendu Harishchandra, Lucknow	All that part and parcel of the Residential House constructed on Plot No. B-11, Type B measuring area 112 sq.mtr (1205.12 sq.ft.) situated at Sector D, Sitapur Road, Lucknow, Ward Bhartendu Harishchandra, Lucknow, Bounded: East: Plot No. 12, West: Plot No. 10, North: Plot No. 15, South: 9.00 mt wide road Sale deed executed in favour of Anupam Dwivedi and Rishabh Dwivedi duly registered on 07.11.2019 in the office of Sub registrar IV Lucknow at Book No.1, Khand No. 17828, from pages 269 to 286 at serial no. 13293	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>31.01.2023</td> <td>a) Rs. 64,11,000/-</td> <td>Till 21.05.2024 at 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10.05.2023</td> <td>b) Rs. 6,41,000/-</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rs. 72,77,999.00 as on 29.01.2023 with further Interest Cost other Charges &amp; expenses thereon</td> <td>c) 6127853725</td> <td>22.05.2024 at 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>d) Rs. 10,000/-</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	31.01.2023	a) Rs. 64,11,000/-	Till 21.05.2024 at 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM	10.05.2023	b) Rs. 6,41,000/-		Rs. 72,77,999.00 as on 29.01.2023 with further Interest Cost other Charges & expenses thereon	c) 6127853725	22.05.2024 at 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM		d) Rs. 10,000/-	
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	d) Rs. 10,000/-														
<b>Branch : Mawaiya</b>															
2.	1. Mr. Bablu S/o Ram Swaroop (Borrower), House No-345, Kashmiri Bagh, Lucknow-226003 2. Mr. Bablu S/o Ram Swaroop (Mortgagor), House No-345, Kashmiri Bagh, Lucknow-226003	All that part and parcel of land and building of House No. part of Plot No-79, Khasra No-590, situated at Bhuhar Pargana, Ward-Haiderganj, Tehsil & Dist-Lucknow Boundaries as per Sale Deed: East: Plot of Saroj Verma, West: 20 ft wide road, North: 20 ft wide road, South: Part of Plot No-79	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>04.08.2022</td> <td>a) Rs. 33,00,000/-</td> <td>Till 21.05.2024 at 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19.11.2022</td> <td>b) Rs. 3,30,000/-</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rs. 25,93,762.00 as on 31.08.2023 with further Interest Cost other Charges &amp; expenses thereon</td> <td>c) 6127853725</td> <td>22.05.2024 at 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>d) Rs. 10,000/-</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	04.08.2022	a) Rs. 33,00,000/-	Till 21.05.2024 at 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM	19.11.2022	b) Rs. 3,30,000/-		Rs. 25,93,762.00 as on 31.08.2023 with further Interest Cost other Charges & expenses thereon	c) 6127853725	22.05.2024 at 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM		d) Rs. 10,000/-	
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	d) Rs. 10,000/-														
<b>Branch : Aliganj</b>															
3.	1. Mrs Rekha Gupta W/o Mr Neeraj Kumar Gupta (Borrower), Address: 44 1 GR/04/013, Gaushalia Road, Balaganj, Lucknow 2. Mr Neeraj Gupta S/O Late Surendra Gupta (Co-borrower/Mortgagor), Address: 441 GR/04/013, Gaushalia Road, Balaganj, Lucknow	Property at plot no 1, kh no 292Sa, 293 Sa & 297 Sa, minijulia situated at Balaganj, Vrindawan Vihar Gaushalia Road, Lucknow, measuring 195.17 sq mtr, Tehsil & District- Lucknow in the name of Neeraj Gupta S/O Late Surendra Nath Gupta, Boundries as Under: East- Road 20 ft wide, West- Plot of Sharma Ji, North-Plot of Rakesh Trivedi, South-Road 20 ft wide	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>11.01.2023</td> <td>a) Rs. 70,91,000/-</td> <td>Till 21.05.2024 at 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23.03.2023</td> <td>b) Rs. 7,10,000/-</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rs. 58,16,044.00 as on 11.01.2023 with further Interest Cost other Charges &amp; expenses thereon</td> <td>c) 6127853725</td> <td>22.05.2024 at 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>d) Rs. 20,000/-</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	11.01.2023	a) Rs. 70,91,000/-	Till 21.05.2024 at 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM	23.03.2023	b) Rs. 7,10,000/-		Rs. 58,16,044.00 as on 11.01.2023 with further Interest Cost other Charges & expenses thereon	c) 6127853725	22.05.2024 at 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM		d) Rs. 20,000/-	
11.01.2023	a) Rs. 70,91,000/-	Till 21.05.2024 at 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM													
23.03.2023	b) Rs. 7,10,000/-														
Rs. 58,16,044.00 as on 11.01.2023 with further Interest Cost other Charges & expenses thereon	c) 6127853725	22.05.2024 at 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM													
	d) Rs. 20,000/-														
<b>Branch : City Office</b>															
4.	1. M/s Kalash Renewable Resources Management private Limited (Borrower), Address: B-7 Murla Bhawan, 10 A, Ashok Marg Lucknow 226001 Address: 685 A/1084 Saraswatiapuram, 60 feet Road Jankipuram Lucknow-226021 2. Shri Rishi Shanker Dixit s/o Shri Shiv Shanker Dixit (Director/Guarantor), Address: 93/22 Grain Market Ganesh Ganj Lucknow Uttar Pradesh 226018 3. Smt Neeraja Dixit, W/o Shri Rishi Shanker Dixit (Director/Guarantor/Mortgagor), Address- 93/22 Grain Market Ganesh Ganj Lucknow Uttar Pradesh 226018 4. Shri Swatanjal Shanker Dixit, S/o Shri Rishi Shanker Dixit (Director/Guarantor), Address- 93/22 Grain Market Ganesh Ganj Lucknow Uttar Pradesh 226018 5. Smt Vandana Dixit, W/o Kirti Shanker Dixit (Director/Mortgagor), Address- 93/22 Grain Market Ganesh Ganj Lucknow Uttar Pradesh 226018	Assignment Deed dated 09/08/2010 registered in the office of Sub registrar-1st, lucknow in Book No I, jld No 11619 on page No 341/392 at S.I No 10970 in the name of Smt. Neeraja Dixit W/o Shri Rishi Shanker Dixit and Smt Vandana Dixit W/o Shri Kirti Shanker Dixit both Resident of 93/22, Grain Market, Ganeshganj Lucknow 226018 Details/description of Property: Plot G-1/115 situated at transport Nagar Scheme, Phase-II, Kanpur Road Lucknow-226012, Bounded: East - Plot No G-1/64, West- 12 meter wide road, North- Plot No G-1/114, South- Plot No G-1/115-A	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>04.11.2022</td> <td>a) Rs. 1,96,36,200/-</td> <td>Till 21.05.2024 at 10.00 AM to 05.00 PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>27.01.2023</td> <td>b) Rs. 19,63,620/-</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rs. 2,07,55,237.00 as on 04.11.2022 with further Interest Cost other Charges &amp; expenses thereon</td> <td>c) 6127853725</td> <td>22.05.2024 at 10.00 AM to 05.00 PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>d) Rs. 10,000/-</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	04.11.2022	a) Rs. 1,96,36,200/-	Till 21.05.2024 at 10.00 AM to 05.00 PM	27.01.2023	b) Rs. 19,63,620/-		Rs. 2,07,55,237.00 as on 04.11.2022 with further Interest Cost other Charges & expenses thereon	c) 6127853725	22.05.2024 at 10.00 AM to 05.00 PM		d) Rs. 10,000/-	
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	d) Rs. 10,000/-														
<b>For verification about the document, property &amp; inspection thereof, the intending bidders may contact Indian Bank (erstwhile Allahabad Bank), above mentioned Branch, Lucknow during office hours before on 20.05.2024 and for auction related query intending bidders may contact above mentioned Branch.</b>															
<b>For downloading further details and Terms &amp; conditions, please visit : (1) http://www.ibapi.in (2) https://www.mstcecommerce.com THE BORROWER(S)/GUARANTOR(S) ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED ABOUT THE SALE NOTICE UNDER THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002</b>															
<b>Place : Lucknow, Date : 05.05.2024 INDIAN BANK (erstwhile Allahabad Bank)</b>															

# Rahul's focus on national goal: Rai Elderly man killed in road mishap

PNS ■ VARANASI

Uttar Pradesh Congress president and INDIA bloc candidate from Varanasi parliamentary constituency, Ajay Rai, reacted sharply against statements of rivals on party icon Rahul Gandhi contesting from Rae Bareilly Lok Sabha seat and said that the focus of Rahul Gandhi was on his national goal.

Speaking on the occasion of inauguration of his central election office in an office complex near his residential complex in Lahurabir area here on Saturday, Rai said that Rahul Gandhi's decision to contest from Rae Bareilly related to the legacy of family services and nothing else.

"Rahul Gandhi has taken the decision to contest from Rae Bareilly to fulfill his 'dharma' as a son and promise made by him to his mother (Sonia Gandhi) as many people of the constituency had written letters requesting in this direction," he said. Rai added that party leader Kishori Lal Sharma, who has been in touch with everyone in Amethi for four decades, is the only candidate capable enough to defeat Smriti Irani in Amethi.

"With Rae Bareilly, Rahul Gandhi will complete his campaign to fulfill his resolve to ensure the victory of the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) in the entire country," he added. Reacting sharply to the statements of Bharatiya Janata party leaders, Rai said when "our leader" Rahul Gandhi was con-



Congress candidate Ajai Rai inaugurating his election office in Varanasi on Saturday

testing the Rae Bareilly, the BJP people were making unnecessary statements like 'Jarasand' challenging Krishna. Rai's election office was inaugurated by Sant Pramod Das, successor of Mulgadi Kabir Math. As per the predetermined programme, the inauguration was to be done by the mahant of Kabir Math Sant Vivek Das, but after his arrest by the administration, it was done by his successor Sant Pramod Das. Rai condemned the action against Mahant Vivek Das before the inauguration of the office. Apart from senior Congress leaders, the city office-bearers and workers of Samajwadi Party, Aam Aadmi Party and

other partners of INDIA loc were also present. Ajay Rai said that this central office would be the centre for conducting elections in the three assembly segments falling in the city areas of Varanasi Lok Sabha constituency. According to him, the poll office for Rohania and Sewapuri assembly segments has already been opened on Madhauri Road in Manduadih area and it was inaugurated on Labour Day by Gunja Devi, the widow of a sanitation worker who lost his life while cleaning a sewer manhole last month. SP City president Dilip Dey also addressed the function. City Congress president Raghavendra Choubey wel-

comed the participants while the vote of thanks was proposed by district Congress chief Rajeshwar Patel. Prominent among those present were Dr Bahadur Yadav, Anil Srivastava, Subedar Singh, Abdullah Khan, Prof Satish Rai, Praja Nath Sharma, Anand Tiwari, Babban Singh, Lalu Yadav, Vijay Jaiswal, Avinash Singh Munna, Shailendra Singh, Omprakash Ojha, Manish Morolia, Pankaj Sonkar, Sitaram Kesari, Prince Rai, Sardar Maqbool Hasan, Fasahat Hussain, Babu Sunil Rai, Ghanshyam Singh, Dr Jitendra Seth, Chanchal Sharma, corporator Gulshan, Ramzan Ali and Waqas Ansari.

PNS ■ PRAYAGRAJ

An elderly man riding a scooter died on the spot after being struck by a tractor in the Handia Kotwali area of Prayagraj late Friday night, while his son sustained grievous injuries. Immediately after the accident, a large crowd gathered at the scene and informed police.

The police transported the injured to the hospital and sent the body for post-mortem examination. The deceased, Jumman (60) of Ward No. 4 in Handia and a tailor by profession, had accompanied his son to the market on a scooter to purchase goods. As they reached the Manas Hall gate on GT Road, a tractor laden with sand struck them from behind, resulting in Jumman's immediate death and causing injuries to his son.

Meanwhile, a pall of gloom descended on the house in Tikri village of Prayagraj when one of the three youths, who were injured in a road mishap, died on Saturday morning. Police sent the body for autopsy and started further investigations. As per reports, Akash Bharti, Shivam Bharti and Satish Gupta, all of Tikri in Utraon area, had gone to Raghupur Handia for a wedding on Friday night. While returning, they got hit by a vehicle near Bhaishi village. They were rushed to the district hospital where Satish Gupta, son of Motilal, died during treatment on Saturday. Satish was elder of the two brothers. Shivam and Akash are undergoing treatment in the hospital and their condition is said to be critical. A large number of villagers reached the house and consoled the bereaved kin. Meanwhile, people troubled by

the henchmen and close relatives of the late mafia don-turned-politician Atiq Ahmed continue to seek assistance from the police. There are reports of land occupied by Atiq's close relatives, with demands for taxes from associated goons. Cases are now being filed against such individuals.

Mohammed Aamir, a resident of Karel, has lodged a complaint with the Dhoomanganj police station against Mohammed Faheem, Mohammed Masroor, Zaki Ahmed, and others for offences including cheating, extortion, and threats of violence. It is alleged that the accused, known associates of Atiq, are extorting money in exchange for land rights. Following the late-night filing of the complaint, the police have initiated a search for the accused.

Aamir informed the police that the accused are illegally occupying his land in Kasari Masari, asserting dominance without proper authority. When Aamir protested, the accused presented documents from a distant area as proof of ownership, and upon further confrontation, they resorted to verbal abuse and physical assault. They continue to threaten Aamir, warning him against asserting his rights to the land.

Aamir reported that on April 25, an administrative team conducted an on-site inspection, during which both parties presented their documents. Following this inspection, both parties were prohibited from any construction activity. In retaliation, Mohammed Faheem and his associates attempted to attack Aamir, allegedly in the direction of Mohammed Masroor and Zaki

## One held for abduction, murder of shopkeeper

Prayagraj (PNS): The accused who allegedly abducted and murdered a shopkeeper in Prayagraj was apprehended by police in an encounter. During a midnight inspection in the Tharvai area of Gangapur on Friday, the police spotted three suspects travelling in a car. The suspects allegedly opened fire on the police, prompting the officers to return fire, injuring two of the suspects in the legs. DCP (City) Abhishek Bharti's team transported both the injured to SRN Hospital. They were identified as Ajay Patel and Dilip Patel. Meanwhile, the police arrested Vikas and seized weapons used in the crime. The abduction and murder stemmed from a land dispute valued at around Rs 40 lakh. The accused believed that the murder would grant them ownership of the land and money. Lalmani Patel (32), a resident of Tikri Ismailganj village in the Tharvai police station area of Gangapur, attended a village procession in Garapur Sakra village on Friday. Ajay Patel alias Saxena and Dilip allegedly abducted Lalmani at the gun-point during the event. After abducting Lalmani, they abandoned him in a car. Lalmani's wife filed a com-

plaint, leading the police to register a case against Ajay Patel alias Saxena and Dilip Patel. During a recent raid and interrogation, the police arrested Anil Patel, a resident of Tikuri under Ghurpur police station. Anil revealed during interrogation that Lalmani had been murdered. Acting on his information, the police recovered Lalmani's body buried in the sand on the banks of Nagarwar Yamuna Ghat in Lalapur. Following Lalmani's murder, the police conducted raids to locate the culprits. During a checkpoint stop on Friday night, Tharvai police attempted to halt a car. Three occupants fled upon seeing the police and opened fire. The police responded, injuring two suspects in the legs and apprehending the third. DCP (Ganga Nagar) Abhishek Bharti confirmed the involvement of these accused in Lalmani's abduction and murder, which was driven by a land dispute. The accused had disguised Lalmani's face to conceal his identity, but his family identified him by his footwear and clothing. Lalmani had a known dispute with Ajay and Dilip, leading to his abduction from the village event.

Ahmed. Aamir also disclosed that the accused demanded Rs 10 lakh in extortion money for him to proceed with construction on his property. Failure to comply,

they threatened, would result in violence and further illegal actions against him. Dhoomanganj police have registered a case and are actively investigating the matter.

## NCA construction in full swing at BHU

PNS ■ VARANASI

The construction of a 200-bed National Centre of Ageing (NCA) in the Institute of Medical Sciences, Banaras Hindu University (IMS-BHU), is going on in full swing. The upgradation of Regional Geriatric Centre (RGC) to third NCA under the National Programme for Health Care of the Elderly (NPHCE) of the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) in the Department of Geriatric Medicine, IMS BHU was approved by ministry last year. The preparatory work for construction of NCA has been expedited since the laying of foundation stone in February last.

HLL Infra Tech Services Ltd has been chosen as project management consultant for the establishment of NCA at IMS-BHU by the Health and Family



Welfare Ministry. Tender for the same was floated in December last year and the work was allotted to the contractor in February end. The 200-bed NCA will be set up in an area of 2,045 square metres and the whole project will be completed

in 18 months. This will lead to expansion in infrastructure and human resources of the Geriatric Medicine department and it will revolutionise the geriatric services of Sir Sunderlal Hospital (SSH) in BHU.

### 2 SISTERS UNDERGO COCHLEAR IMPLANT

Two sisters have undergone successful cochlear implants in the Ear, Nose and Throat Department, of the Institute of Medical Sciences, Banaras Hindu University (IMS-BHU). The girls could hear till the age of seven and their ability to speak was also developed. However, after the age of seven, they started experiencing hearing loss. As their hearing continued to deteriorate, they both became completely deaf, one at the age of 11 and other at the age of 16. Both of them, however, are able to speak. The doctors at the ENT Department, after inspecting the condition of the girls, decided to implant the cochlear implant device as the girls were fit for it and had good nerve and cochlear conditions. The implant was done in one ear of both the girls.

## Sri Sri praises Modi for promoting cultural heritage

PNS ■ VARANASI

Founder of the Art of Living Foundation and a globally renowned spiritual leader, Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for preserving and promoting India's cultural heritage. Addressing the Vikas Bharat Ambassador Nari Shakti Samvad programme at Trimbakeshwar Hall of Kashi Vishwanath Temple (KVT) here on Saturday, Ravi Shankar lauded the prime minister's efforts in enhancing the infrastructure of the Kashi Vishwanath Temple and its corridor, which not only reflects its cultural grandeur but also provides modern amenities to make it a memorable and

incomparable experience for the devotees. Discussing women-led development, spirituality and the delicate balance between business and domestic responsibilities on the second day of his two-day visit to the parliamentary constituency of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Ravi Shankar appreciated the efforts of the present government in empowering women in various sectors, highlighting their important role in the nation's journey to a developed India by 2047. He also highlighted the widespread impact of women power in various fields ranging from space exploration and startup ventures to sports.



Gurudev reached the venue at KVT after enjoying a serene boat ride to Lalita Ghat. He also saw Shri Kashi Vishwanath Dham (corridor). He said that everyone could

become an ambassador of a proud developed India by making his or her contribution. "To formalise the spirit of nation-building, development and progress, the prime minister has launched the Viksit Bharat Ambassador Programme and this movement is a clarion call from the prime minister that everyone should join this people-powered movement and help make the nation a developed India by 2047," he said. On the occasion, senior advocate and core member of Team Vikas Bharat Ambassador, Hitesh Jain, launched the Vikas Bharat Ambassador initiative and urged everyone to support this transformational journey.

**SBI State Bank of India**  
Regional Business Office, - 03, Fatehpur U.P.  
(Near Agrasen Chauraha, Jail Road, Behind DPS School) PIN No. 212601

**POSSESSION NOTICE** (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorized officer of the State Bank of India, R.B.O.-3, Agrasen Chauraha, Jail Road, Fatehpur 212601, under the securitisation & Reconstruction of financial assets and enforcement of security interest act 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under sub section 13(2) & 13(12) read with rule 8 & 9 of the security interest (enforcement) rules 2002, issued Demand Notices calling up on the borrower/guarantor to repay the amount mentioned in the notices with further interest expenses and other charges etc. thereon within 60 days from the date of said notices. The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to borrower/guarantor in particular and public in general and that undersigned has taken possession of property described herein below in exercise of power conferred on him U/S 13(4) of the said act read with rule 9 of the said rule on the date mentioned and there against the borrower/guarantor in particular and public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with property any delinks with property will be subject to charge of State bank of India, R.B.O. 03, AGRASEN CHAURAHA, JAIL ROAD, FATEHPUR 212601, under for SBI Branch ADB FATEHPUR (05396), Industrial Estate Baraura (09338) (Fatehpur) Branch & FATEHPUR CITY BRANCH (06833) Fatehpur Distt. Fatehpur. for an amount and interest and other charges thereon mentioned against each account herein below.

Sr.No.	Borrower Name & Address	Account Details	Details of property
1.	Smt. Shalini Dubey W/o Shri Vimal Kumar Dubey R/o Gata 2772, House No. 139 Murari F/2 Sarju Colony, Mohalla Shanti Nagar Fatehpur	Demand Notice dt: 01/07/2023 Possession Dt: 03/05/2024. Outstanding Amount: Rs. 18,66,877/- + Interest + etc.	Property in the name of Smt. Shalini Dubey W/o Shri Vimal Kumar Dubey R/o Gata 2772, House No. 139 Murari F/2 Sarju Colony, Mohalla Shanti Nagar Fatehpur. registered in the office of sub registrar, Fatehpur, Distt. Fatehpur on Book No. 1, Zild No. 12238 Page No. 365 to 394, at Per Document no 6695 on dated 15/07/2020 admeasuring 38 sq. mtr.
	State Bank of India, ADB Branch Fatehpur (05396) A/C No.: 41128432602 41128437699, 41694270629	Boundaries: North: Land Of Vendor South: Plot Of Bhummati East: Field Of Krishna Murari West: C C Road	
2.	M/s. D. K. Mobiles Pro. Sri Ram Kishore Gupta S/o Sri Kashi Prasad Gupta R/o Banda Sagar Road Radha Nagar Fatehpur	Demand Notice dt: 08/02/2024 Possession Dt: 01/05/2024. Outstanding Amount: Rs. 6,56,495/- + Interest + etc.	Property in the name of Smt. Gaya Shree W/o Sri Ram Kishore Gupta R/o Banda Sagar Road Radha Nagar Fatehpur
	Guarantor:- Smt. Gaya Shree W/o Sri Ram Kishore Gupta R/o Banda Sagar Road Radha Nagar Fatehpur	Boundaries: North: Plot Of Vendor South: Plot Of Ram Singh East: Banda Sagar Road West: Field Of Girija Shankar Rastogi	Property: Arazi Khasra Plot No. 385/1 Village-Sathariyaon Recorded in Records of Nagar Palika Parishad Fatehpur as Radha Nagar City Fatehpur. Registered in the office of sub registrar, Fatehpur, Distt. Fatehpur on Book No. 1, Zild No. 840 Page No. 141 to 150, at Per Document no 5660 on dated 11/12/1995
	State Bank of India, FATEHPUR CITY BRANCH (06833) Fatehpur.	A/C No.: 34855684687 (CC) A/C No.: 40229059071 (FITL) admeasuring 70 sq. mtr.,	
3.	M/s. Om Aluminum Works Pro. Sri Ravindra Prasad Tiwari S/o Sri Mahesh Prasad Tiwari R/o Village-Hazipurang, Pargana, Tahsil & Distt. Fatehpur.	Demand Notice dt: 17/01/2024 Possession Dt: 03/05/2024. Outstanding Amount: Rs. 11,19,304/- + Interest + etc.	Property in the name of Sri Ravindra Prasad Tiwari S/o Sri Mahesh Prasad Tiwari R/o Mohalla Gadhiva Ward No. 09 City Fatehpur. Property: Mohalla Gadhiva Ward No. 09 City Fatehpur.
	Guarantor:- Smt. Laxmi Devi W/o Sri Ravindra Prasad R/o Hazipurang, Pargana, Tahsil & Distt. Fatehpur.	Boundaries: North: House Of Cheddi Lal South: House Of Sri. Ram Manohar & Rajend East: Road West: Road	Registered in the office of sub registrar, Fatehpur, Distt. Fatehpur on Book No. 1, Zild No. 7367 Page No. 279 to 302, at Per Document no 8493 on dated 19/07/2013
	State Bank of India, Industrial Estate Baraura Branch (09338) Distt. Fatehpur.	A/C No.: 33239189503 admeasuring 175 sq. mtr.	

Dated: 05.05.2024 Place: Fatehpur Authorised Officer, State bank of India, RBO-3, Fatehpur

## Training given to generate train tickets on mobile app



PNS ■ VARANASI

Training was given to passengers to make tickets on their own through Automatic Ticket Vending Machine (ATVM) and Unreserved Ticketing System (UTS) on mobile app at Banaras and Varanasi City stations of Varanasi Division of North Eastern Railway (NER) here on Saturday. The awareness programme was organised on the direction of Divisional Railway Manager Vineet Kumar Srivastava under the leadership of Senior Divisional Commercial Manager Sheikh Rehman. The training camp was started at Banaras station by Divisional Commercial Manager Ramesh Pandey and Assistant Commercial Manager Pushkar Singh Rawat. Similarly, training was given to the passengers at Varanasi City station in the presence of Assistant Manager Divin Kumar Singh. In both the local stations, the training programmes began at 9 am near the booking offices in the general passenger halls. More than 200 passengers were trained by downloading the mobile app on their mobile phones.

The passengers were informed that they could avoid crowding and standing in long queues by generating their own tickets using a mobile app and that ATVM saves both time and money of passengers. A bonus of three per cent is also available on booking tickets through the e-wallet of UTS on mobile app. Apart from this, passengers were made aware of the methods of making tickets automatically through ATVM. Before this, the DCM at Banaras station inspected all the UTS counters, ATVM kiosks and enquiry counters and took information about their working capacity. Along with this, he informed the passengers from the camp at Banaras station how booking can be done through the UTS app. He told the passengers that after downloading the app, they had to enter the mobile number, name, gender and date of birth. On entering this, an OTP is sent on the passenger's mobile phone and after entering the OTP the user is registered. After this one can sign-up and ID and password will come on one's registered mobile number. After this one can log in to UTS.

## Awareness rally taken out under SVEEP



PNS ■ PRAYAGRAJ

An awareness rally was taken out on Saturday under the SVEEP programme with a view to increasing voters' participation in the Lok Sabha elections. The main objective of the voter awareness campaign, organised at Bethany Convent School, Naini, was to make the young students aware of the importance of voting, electoral system, Voter Help Line, Suvidha & cVIGIL apps, and other information related to elections. The programme was organised in the presence of CDO Gaurav Kumar. He said that efforts have to be made to also make parents of the young voters aware. Events like voter pledge oath, painting competition, quiz contest, street play, and poster-making competition were organised. All the students participated in the programme. CDO Gaurav Kumar informed the students about the importance of voting and elections in a democratic country and also administered them the oath. The programme was presided over by District Inspector of Schools PN Singh. Assistant DIOS LB Maurya and Dharmendra Singh, teacher Mohd Sabir, Deepak Kumar, Preeti Mishra, Nazia Khan,

Brijesh Srivastava, Hasbeen Ahmed among others were present on the occasion.

**IRCTC PREPARES SCHEDULE FOR SOUTH INDIA TRAVEL**  
Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has prepared the schedule of South India travel. It includes Rameshwaram, Meenakshi Temple Madurai, Kanyakumari, Tirupati Bala Ji, Mallikarjuna Jyotirling, etc. Bharat Gaurav Train will take the passengers for darshan of all the shrines. IRCTC has prepared to run Bharat Gaurav train for South India. In this package of 11 nights and 12 days, passengers will be able to board and disembark the train from Prayagraj, Pratapgarh and other stations. IRCTC will also make arrangements for local transport and accommodation for passengers. Tickets can be booked from the IRCTC office located at Prayagraj Junction. This train will originate from Rishikesh and reach at Pratapgarh via Lucknow. It will stop at Prayagraj Junction on June 7 night. On return, this train will reach Prayagraj on June 17 and Rishikesh on June 18. Passengers will also get vegetarian breakfast, lunch and dinner on board the train. There will also be an option for the passengers to get food cooked without garlic and onion. IRCTC, Prayagraj, manager Amit Srivastava said that per person fare will be Rs 22,250 for sleeper coach, Rs 37,000 for third AC, and Rs 49,000 for second AC. A total of 767 seats are available for booking. The train will have berths containing 49 second AC, 70 third AC and 648 sleeper seats.

# 21 per cent candidates in 4th phase of LS polls have criminal cases: ADR

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Out of the 1,710 candidates contesting in the fourth phase of the Lok Sabha polls, 21 per cent have declared criminal cases against themselves and 24 candidates have declared zero assets, as per the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) report.

The ADR and The National Election Watch analysed the self-sworn affidavits of 1,710 out of 1,717 candidates, who are contesting in the Lok Sabha elections 2024 Phase IV on May 13.

A total of 360 candidates have declared criminal cases against them. Emphasising the disparities amongst the financial backgrounds of the candidates with the richest candidate in the fray is Dr Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani of Telugu Desam Party with assets over Rs. 5,700 crore.

Among the 360 candidates (21 per cent) with criminal cases, 17 candidates were convicted, 11 declared cases related to



murder, 30 face charges of attempted murder and 50 candidates have criminal cases related to crimes against women, with 5 candidates facing charges of rape, the data showed.

The ADR findings also shed light on the distribution of candidates with criminal backgrounds across major political parties.

Among the major parties, 3 out of 3 candidates from AIMIM, 2 out of 3 candidates from Shiv Sena, 10 out of 17 candidates from BRS, 35 out of 61 candidates from Congress, 40 out of 70 candidates from BJP, 9 out of 17 candidates from TDP, 2 out of 4 candidates from BJD, 2 out of 4 candidates from RJD, 2 out of 4 candidates from Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb

Thackeray), 12 out of 25 candidates from YSRCP, 3 out of 8 candidates from All India Trinamool Congress and 7 out of 19 candidates from Samajwadi Party have declared criminal cases against themselves.

In addition to criminal disclosures, the ADR report also highlights significant diversity amongst the candidates' financial backgrounds.

A total of 476 candidates out of 1710 are "crorepatis", with assets exceeding Rs. 1 crore, with Dr Pemmasani being the richest. While, 24 candidates declared zero assets, the report showed.

In response to these findings, the ADR has proposed a series of reforms aimed at curbing the criminalization of politics.

These include permanent disqualification of candidates convicted of serious crimes, bringing political parties under the Right to Information Act, and implementing stricter penalties for candidates providing false information on election affidavits.

# Online radicalisation poses significant challenge to global security: CBI director

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Underlining that there can be no distinction between "good terrorism and bad terrorism", India has said online radicalisation continues to pose a significant challenge to global security.

Heading the Indian delegation at the recently-concluded 19th Interpol Conference of Heads of National Central Bureaux at France's Lyon, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) Director Praveen Sood highlighted the challenges posed by the nexus between organised crime, terrorism and extremist ideologies.

Sood said online radicalisation poses a significant challenge to global security. He unequivocally condemned all forms of terrorism and conveyed that there can be no distinction between "good terrorism, bad terrorism".

The event was attended by the national central bureaux of 136 countries, represented by senior police officials, according to a statement issued by the CBI. The National Central



Bureau (NCB) in each country is the nodal organisation responsible for coordination with Interpol. In India, the CBI is the designated NCB.

The aim of the event was to strengthen the operational cooperation among the NCBS of Interpol to combat transnational crimes.

"During the event, the Indian delegation held discussions with law-enforcement agencies from multiple countries for enhanced coordination on Interpol channels for a concerted action to combat organised crime, terrorism, drug trafficking, money laundering, online radicalisation, cyber-enabled financial crimes and to

prevent these crimes on a real-time basis," the statement said. The three-member Indian delegation, during its discussions with a number of countries including the United States, the United Kingdom and Saudi Arabia, emphasised the need for swift sharing of information through Interpol, expediting mutual legal-assistance referrals and extradition requests.

"Addressing the regional roundtable of the Asia Pacific region, India reiterated to contribute in regional capacity building and sharing India's policing best practices," the agency said.

Sood highlighted India's efforts in tackling crimes and detailed the role of institutions set by the government. "India supported the adoption of key conclusions of the 19th INTERPOL Heads of NCB Conference, calling for supporting global efforts in the prevention and disruption of terrorism and organised crime in all its forms to create a safer world," the statement said.

# Canada releases pictures of three Indians charged with Nijjar killing

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Canada has released the pictures of three Indians who allegedly killed Khalistani separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar last year. The three were arrested by the police there late Friday. Nijjar's killing had become the epicentre of a diplomatic row between India and Canada last year after Prime Minister Justin Trudeau alleged the role of "Indian agents" in the murder.

India had rejected the charge as "absurd" and "motivated." Canadian Police on Friday said they have arrested three Indians they suspect were part of the alleged hit squad that had killed Nijjar. The three arrested Indians - Karan Brar, 22, Kamalpreet Singh, 22, Karanpreet Singh, 28 - were living as non-permanent residents in Alberta for three to five years, said Superintendent Mandeep Mooker, who leads the Integrated Homicide Investigation Team.

The police also released their photos. They have been charged with first-degree murder and conspiracy to commit murder, showed court documents. Police said that none of the suspects were known to them earlier and they were investigating their possible ties to the Indian government.

The murder remains "very much under active investigation," Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) Assistant Commissioner David Teboul told a press conference on Friday.

"There are separate and distinct investigations ongoing into these matters, certainly not limited to the involvement of the people arrested today, and these efforts include investigating connections to the government of India," CTV News quoted him as saying.

Nijjar, a Canadian citizen who was wanted in India on various terror charges, was shot dead outside a gurdwara in Surrey on June 18, 2023. Trudeau's charge against India sparked a massive row later that year with both countries expelling diplomats of the other country. A fresh row erupted earlier this week after separatist slogans on 'Khalistan' were raised at an event in Canada addressed by Trudeau, prompting New Delhi to summon their Deputy High Commissioner and lodge a strong protest. On the sidelines of the event, Trudeau told reporters that Nijjar's killing had created a "problem" that he could not have ignored.

India rejected his comment and said it once again showed Canada provides political space given to separatism, extremism, and violence. "This not only impacts India-Canada relations but also encourages a climate of violence and criminality in Canada to the detriment of its own citizens," Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said.

Meanwhile, Canadian politician Jagmeet Singh has alleged that the Indian government was behind Nijjar's killing. However, Canadian police have not given any evidence linking the three accused to the Indian government.

Jagmeet Singh of Canada's New Democratic Party claimed the Indian government hired assassins to kill Nijjar in Surrey in 2023, an incident that set off a diplomatic clash with India. "The Indian government hired assassins to murder a Canadian citizen on Canadian soil - at a place of worship. Today 3 arrests were made," he said.

"Any Indian agent or state actor that ordered, planned or carried out this murder must be exposed and met with the full force of Canadian law. For Canada, democracy and free speech - there must be justice for Hardeep Singh Nijjar," Singh tweeted.



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# Army Summit on May 8 to highlight role of veterans in nation's progress

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian Army will host a summit next week with an aim to highlight the capabilities, potential and skills of military veterans as a driving force in the nation's progress, officials said on Saturday. The summit, which is being organised by the Army Welfare Placement Organisation (AWPO), will be held on May 8.

The event promises to provide a comprehensive understanding of how ex-servicemen can serve as an engine of growth for the nation, a senior official said. It will highlight the capabilities, potential and skills of military veterans as a driving force in the nation's progress.

With the participation of corporate leaders, military veterans, leading industry figures and veteran entrepreneurs, the summit aims to bridge gaps in training, orientation and preparation, paving the way for veterans to make significant contributions across diverse sectors of the economy, the army said.

Since its inception in 1999, the AWPO has been instrumental in facilitating the seamless integration of veterans into civilian careers, while upholding the spirit of service and dedication that defines the armed forces, it said.

The AWPO serves as a bridge between the skilled workforce of veterans and the opportunities available in the corporate and public sectors, the officials said. The summit will be centred around three major themes --



harnessing veteran's potential and experience, skills required to meet public and private sector needs and unveiling opportunities for veterans in India's growth story. Discussions have also been planned on many other macro and micro issues concerning the veteran community.

Military veterans represent a profoundly trained, motivated and exceptionally skilled resource, capable of seamlessly transitioning into diverse sectors with minimal orientation, the army said.

Annually, around 60,000 adept and driven soldiers, whose professionalism, leadership, technical and managerial abilities have been meticulously honed through extensive training, superannuate from service, it said.

These veterans, at the zenith of their capabilities developed through real-world high-pressure experience and a goal-oriented mindset cultivated over years of service, embody a significant national asset that must be effectively leveraged to

propel India's growth story, the army said.

The AWPO empowers veterans for entrepreneurship programmes, government jobs and job opportunities in friendly foreign countries.

It is pertinent to note that the AWPO has shown a 30 per cent increase in its placements during the last two years, the army said.

The bulk placements include 3,000 in the Indian Railways, 1,200 in dedicated freight corridors and approximately 3,200 as drivers for the Bihar Police, which is still under progress, it said. Some have also been placed with the Port Trust in Kolkata and Kandla ports, and as observers with the National Testing Agency.

In its latest drive, the AWPO, as a pilot project, has been able to place 10 veterans with the All Nippon Airways. They have been employed in Japan since March this year. In entrepreneurship programmes, approximately 900 veterans have been empowered in various fields, it added.

# Colonel of Madras Regiment in veshti and pagdi performs ritual at Murugan Temple

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI



Colonel of the Madras Regiment of the Indian Army, Lt General Manjinder Singh, performed a sacred ceremony at the Murugan Temple of its regimental centre, wearing a traditional 'veshti', according to a post on X shared by the Army's Training Command.

During the ceremony, the officer sported his traditional Sikh turban and also wore a 'veshti', a traditional wear of south India. "On the occasion of 15th Reunion & 35th BBCC of the Madras Regiment, Lt Gen Manjinder Singh, AVSM, YSM, VSM, GOCinC, ARTRAC and COLONEL of the Madras Regiment in the best secular traditions of Indian Army performed the sacred Kumbhabhishekam ceremony at the Murugan Temple of the Madras Regimental Centre, Wellington on 01 May 2024," the ARTRAC posted. "The ceremony was attended by the #Veterans and Serving Officers, JCOs & NCOs of the Madras

Regiment," it said. Underlining the ethos of the Indian Army, a senior official said, "Though, it is not a new thing for commanders in the Army to adhere to such a practice, yet the beauty of the ceremony doubled due to the gracious embracing of traditional south Indian 'dhoti' by a Sikh officer." The ARTRAC post has gained wide traction on X and has garnered appreciation from many people. "The Madras Regiment stands as one of the most distinguished regiments in the Indian Army, with a history that dates back to the 1750s. As the oldest regiment, it has been at the forefront of upholding the secular traditions of the Indian Army, a reflection of the nation's pluralistic society," the senior Army official said.

The official said the regiment's ethos is vividly displayed in its religious functions, which are conducted in South Indian traditions. "These ceremonies are inclusive, respecting the diverse religious beliefs of its soldiers while maintaining a unified regimental spirit," he said.

# SC stays High Court order to remove protesters from Chandigarh, Mohali road

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has stayed an order of the Punjab and Haryana High Court asking authorities to clear the Chandigarh-Mohali road blocked by a group of protesters.

A bench of justices BR Gavai, Satish Chandra Sharma and Sandeep Mehta issued notice on a plea of the Punjab government and sought the response of an NGO, which has filed the plea, the Centre and the Chandigarh administration among others.

During the hearing, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, said it is supporting the stand of the Punjab government. Mehta said, "Federalism is always protected except when it comes to corruption. In Covid times, every state and the Centre worked together." Punjab advocate general Gurinder Singh said the high court order be stayed.

In its orders dated April 9, passed in a batch of PILs, the high court said despite repeated opportunities given, neither the state of Punjab nor the Union territory of Chandigarh has been able to



give any redressal to the commuters of Chandigarh and SAS Nagar Mohali. "On account of a handful of people sitting and blocking the road, inconvenience is being caused to the commuters and residents of the Tri-city and the misery is continuing," it had said. It had noted that the Centre was also implicated as party on October 9 last year in the matter. It is also to be noticed that the Director General of Police, Punjab, had also been summoned in the matter almost one year ago.

"Only on account of the fact that some of the protesters have been hiding behind a shield of religious legitimacy by placing the Guru Granth Sahib would not as such give the State reason not to act against the persons concerned, who are misusing the religious sentiments," it had said. The high court said it is also apparent from the photographs which have been placed on record that there is no large gathering. "In spite of the fact that it is well known that all the agita-

tors from the rural background are busy in harvesting and it is most opportune time to remove the blockage of the road, the State of Punjab and the Union Territory, Chandigarh, are dragging their feet for the reasons best known to them," it had said in its interim order. The high court, while deferring the proceedings, further said it is hoping the Punjab and Chandigarh administration will wake up from their slumber and keep in mind the observations of the apex court given in various verdicts related to protests on roads.

The high court had passed the order on a plea of NGO Arrive Safe Society which contended that local residents and commuters are facing unnecessary harassment because of the protest/morcha on the Chandigarh-Mohali road that have been ongoing since January 2023. The protesters have been seeking the release of Sikh prisoners, including Balwant Singh Rajoana, a convict in the former Punjab chief minister Beant Singh's assassination, and Devinderpal Singh Bhullar, a 1993 Delhi bomb blast convict.

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Zakia Wardak, the senior-most Afghan diplomat in India, has resigned from her position after reports emerged that she was caught at Mumbai airport last month for allegedly trying to smuggle 25 kg of gold worth Rs 18.6 crore from Dubai.

Wardak had taken charge as the acting ambassador of Afghanistan to New Delhi since late last year after working as the Afghan Consul General in Mumbai for over two years. In a statement posted on 'X', the Afghan diplomat said she decided to resign in view of numerous personal attacks on her that severely impacted her ability to effectively operate. She, however, did not mention the reports of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) seizing 25 kg of gold from her at the Mumbai airport on April 25. It is learnt that the DRI did not arrest Wardak as enjoyed diplomatic immunity.

"It is with great regret that I announce my decision to step away from my role at the consulate and embassy of Afghanistan in India, effective May 5," she said. "Over the past year, I have encountered numerous personal attacks and defamation not only directed towards me but also towards my close family and extended relatives," she said. Wardak took charge of the Afghan embassy in New Delhi last November after the mission helmed by then ambassador Farid Mamundzay announced its closure. Mamundzay had moved to the UK. There was no comment by Indian officials on Wardak's resignation.

# Afghan diplomat resigns after report of smuggling 25 kg gold

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"These attacks, which appear to be organised, have severely impacted my ability to effectively operate in my role and have demonstrated the challenges faced by women in Afghan society who strive to modernise and bring positive change amidst ongoing propaganda campaigns," Wardak said in her statement.

She said the "persistent and coordinated" attacks have surpassed a "tolerable threshold". "While attacks on me and my character were not altogether surprising, as being in the public life is something I had prepared myself for, I was unprepared for the toll it took

on those close to me. It is not fair to subject them to such unwarranted and horribly unfair experiences," she said. "The persistent and coordinated nature of these attacks, aimed at defaming my character and undermining my efforts, have surpassed a tolerable threshold," Wardak added.

"It has become increasingly clear that the public narrative is unfairly targeting the only female representative within this system, rather than focusing on constructive assistance and support," she said. "While it is my passion to serve my country and contribute to positive change, I find it necessary to prioritize my well-being and ability to function in a normal capacity. Therefore, I have made the difficult decision to resign from my current role."

The Afghan diplomat also thanked India for its "unwavering support" during her tenure in the country. "It has been a great privilege working alongside the people of India for the past three years. I am grateful for the collaborative efforts and shared vision for progress between nations," she said.

# Sharad hits back at Modi after manage family jibe

TN RAGHUNATHA ■  
MUMBAI

In a sharp retaliation to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's criticism about his "inability" to manage his family, NCP chief Sharad Pawar on Saturday wondered as to "when did Modi take care of his own family" and said the condition of the latter's family "is a matter of serious concern". Interacting with media persons in Pune, Pawar took a swipe at Modi for the latter's recent comment made in a television interview that "when Pawar cannot manage his own family, how can he manage Maharashtra?" by saying: "When did Modi manage or take care of his family? I do not want to stoop to that level... The condition of his family is a matter of serious concern. I avoid making personal comments... But, the Prime Minister does not believe in this..." On Modi's another comment that whenever Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray "needs me in any difficulty, I will be the first person to rush towards him to lend help", Pawar said:

"Let us hope and pray when Uddhav is never in such a situation where he would be compelled to seek Modi's assistance". On Modi's comment on how and why Pawar who criticised him as being "Putin in the making" received the Padma Vibhushan honour from his government, Pawar said: "When we were in the government, we had honoured the leaders from different political parties who had made notable contributions to the country. The awards like Padma are national honours. They do not belong to any political party. The Padma award is not Modi's personal property. The BJP does not have copyright over these honours". Averting that his faith in Modi was waning, Pawar said: "Modi had said many things during his election speeches in the past. But, he has not implemented them. He keeps making casual comments without application of mind. That's my faith in him going down". On the Prime Minister's criticism of his predecessor about the Dr Manmohan Singh government's policies in the past,



Pawar said: "Modi used to criticise Dr Manmohan Singh's policies bitterly in the past, but he is implementing the same policies. The speciality of Dr Manmohan Singh used to work quietly without talking about things he was doing and he used to produce results. But, in the case of Modi, he spends a lot of time criticising others. People have begun to understand Modi's style of functioning". Later in the day, while addressing an election rally at Purandar in Pune district for Opposition NCP-Maha Vikas

gentleman like Lal Bahadur Shastri became the Prime Minister of the country and created a new history," he said. "Subsequently, Indira Gandhi not only worked hard to alleviate the sufferings of the poor but also taught a lesson to Pakistan. After Pakistan's attack Indira Gandhi retaliated and divided the country into two. After that Pakistan did not rise again. Later we have had prime ministers like Narasimha Rao and Dr Manmohan Singh with whom I had worked," Pawar said. "Among all the Prime Ministers that the country has had, Modi is totally different. Thanks to him, the condition of farmers has become miserable. They are in distress. He has contributed to high inflation in the country," Pawar said. Pawar - whom Modi had criticised at his election rally at Madha in western Maharashtra early this week saying that the NCP chief had miserably failed as the Union Agriculture Minister - charged that the current Prime Minister had badly managed Agriculture in the country. "When we were in power, the

management of agriculture was in the hands of our people. After 10 years of Mr. Modi's arrival, the management of agriculture is in the hands of BJP. When I was in charge of agriculture, we increased the procurement rate of paddy by Rs 138 per quintal, and during Modi's tenure, it was increased by Rs 66 quintal," Pawar said. "The procurement price of wheat was increased by Rs 122 per quintal during my tenure, while during Modi Saheb's time it was increased by Rs 62. The procurement price of sugarcane was increased by Rs 187 per quintal during my tenure, while it was increased by Rs 50 during Modi Saheb's tenure," the NCP chief said. "The procurement price of cotton rose by Rs 114 during my tenure and rose by Rs 78 during BJP's tenure. The price of maize increased by Rs 159 during my time, while in 10 years of BJP it was Rs 59 per quintal. I am giving you these comparative figures because the Modi government did not pay adequate remunerative prices to the farmers in the country," Pawar said.

# Criminal conspiracy charges added to Shah doctored video FIR

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Criminal conspiracy charges have been added to the FIR registered in connection with the doctored video of Union Home Minister Amit Shah's speech, the Delhi Police said on Saturday, a day after it arrested a national coordinator of the Congress' social media team. Arun Beereddy, a native of Telangana's Hyderabad, who handled the "Spirit of Congress" account on X, was arrested from Delhi on Friday, police said. This is the first arrest made by the Delhi Police in the case. "We have added section 120B (punishment of criminal conspiracy) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) in the FIR as investigation has indicated to a larger conspiracy," a police officer said. Beereddy is among the prominent members of the Congress' social media team and he is accused of being among those who uploaded the doctored video on social media and also shared it with other members

of the party, according to officials. Following his arrest, he was produced before a court here on Friday night and it sent him to three days in custody for further interrogation by the police's Special Cell. The interrogation of Beereddy has started, the officials said. Initially, the cell on a complaint from the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C), which comes under the home ministry, had registered the FIR on Sunday under IPC sections 153 (wantonly giving provocation with intent to cause riot), 153A (promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth), 465 (forgery for purpose of harming reputation), 171G (false statement in connection with an election). The FIR also has Information Technology (IT) Act's section 66C which deals with fraudulent or dishonest use of electronic signature, password or any other unique identification feature of a person.

# Troubles mount for Revannas

**From Page 1**  
It will speed up the investigation, it said. A Blue Corner Notice is issued by the international police cooperation body to collect additional information from its member countries about a person's identity, location or activities in relation to a crime. "They (SIT officials) have assured that they will arrest and get the accused back, as soon as they get the information from the airports," it said. The SIT is said to have sent a request to the CBI, the nodal body for Interpol matters in India, seeking a Blue Corner Notice against Prajwal Revanna, official sources said. The 33-year-old Prajwal, who is the grandson of former PM Deve Gowda, was the BJP-JD(S) alliance's candidate from Hassan, which went to the polls on April 26. Explicit video clips allegedly involving Prajwal had started making the rounds in Hassan in recent days, following which the state government constituted the SIT to probe the scandal.

Prajwal is said to have flown abroad on April 27, a day after the first phase of Lok Sabha polls in Karnataka was held. A day earlier in his letter, Rahul asked Siddaramaiah to ensure that all those responsible for these "heinous crimes are brought to book". The Congress leader also expressed that he is deeply shocked to learn that as far back as December 2023, our Home Minister Amit Shah was informed by G Devaraje Gowda about Prajwal's antecedents, especially his history of sexual violence and the presence of videos filmed by the perpetrator. Responding to the letter written by Rahul, the Chief Minister took to social media and assured that his Government is committed to protecting the victims of rape and injustice by Prajwal. "From our wrestlers in Haryana to our sisters in Manipur, Indian women are bearing the brunt of the Prime Minister's tacit support for such criminals," Rahul's letter alleged.

# Canada releases pictures of three Indians charged with Nijjar killing

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■  
NEW DELHI

Canada has released the pictures of three Indians who allegedly killed Khalistani separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar last year. The three were arrested by the police there late Friday. Nijjar's killing had become the epicentre of a diplomatic row between India and Canada last year after Prime Minister Justin Trudeau alleged the role of "Indian agents" in the murder. India had rejected the charge as "absurd" and "motivated." Canadian Police on Friday said they have arrested three Indians they suspect were part of the alleged hit squad that had killed Nijjar. The three arrested Indians - Karan Brar, 22, Kamalpreet Singh, 22, Karanpreet Singh, 28 - were living as non-permanent residents in Alberta for three to five years, said Superintendent Mandeep Mooker, who leads the Integrated Homicide Investigation Team. The police also released their photos. They have been charged with first-degree murder and conspiracy to commit murder, showed court documents. Police said that none of the suspects were known to them earlier and they were investigating their possible ties to the Indian government.



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# What xenophobia? India an open society always: Jaishankar

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■  
NEW DELHI

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Saturday brushed aside US President Joe Biden's "xenophobia" remark about India and said, "First of all, our economy is not faltering." He also said India has always been open and welcoming to people from diverse societies. Biden, in his remarks, two days back alleged that India's economy was faltering and not doing well, while the US economy was growing. He also claimed that several countries, including India, are "xenophobic" because they do not welcome immigrants. Rejecting these assertions, Jaishankar, in an interview to a national daily, highlighted that India has always been open and welcoming to people from diverse societies. Jaishankar's statement is based on the fact that India has been the fastest growing major economy in the world for the last few years, while also becoming the fifth-largest global economy last year. India is also poised to become the world's third-largest economy before the end of the decade. On May 2, President Biden had said, "You know, one of the reasons why our economy is growing is because of you and



many others. Why? Because we welcome immigrants. We look to the reason (behind this)...think about it. Why is China stalling so badly economically? Why is Japan having trouble? Why is Russia? Why is India? Because they're xenophobic. They don't want immigrants." The US President said this while campaigning for his re-election for the US Presidency at a fundraising event in Washington. Responding to the claim on "xenophobia," Jaishankar said, "India has always been a very unique country... I would say actually, in the history of the world, that it's been a society which has been very open... different people from different societies come to India." He gave an example of the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA). Jaishankar highlighted how the CAA, introduced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Government, showcas-

es India's welcoming approach. "That's why we have the CAA, which is to open up doors for people who are in trouble... I think we should be open to people who have the need to come to India, who have a claim to come to India," Jaishankar said. He also spoke about the narrative created by a section of the western media and backed it with an example of the ongoing protests at US universities. Jaishankar spoke about the ongoing anti-Israel protests in American university campuses and criticised a section of the Western media for its biased coverage, suggesting that it is "very ideological" and not at all "objective" reporting. He said this section of media wants to shape the global narrative and has been targeting India as well. To curb the diplomatic fallout of President Biden's remarks terming India, Japan, and other nations, "xenophobic," the White House issued a clarification on the President's intentions, emphasising his "respect" for allies and partners. White House Press Secretary Karine Jean Pierre asserted that the President's comments were part of a broader message emphasising the strength derived from America's immigrant heritage.

# Terror strikes IAF convoy in J&K, one soldier...

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In 2021, nine soldiers were killed in two separate attacks by terrorists in the forested region. While five Army personnel, including a junior commissioned officer (JCO), were killed on October 11 in Chamrer, a JCO and three soldiers were killed on October 14 in a nearby forest. On February 14, 2019, a terror attack was carried out in Pulwama by a suicide bomber resulting in the death of 40 CRPF personnel. The suicide bomber, identified as Jaish-e-Mohammad's Adil Ahmed Dar, rammed his vehicle into a bus with the CRPF convoy.

World body United Nations and countries from across the globe, including the US, Russia, Australia, France, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, have condemned the brutal Pulwama terror attack, and extended their support to India in the fight against terrorism.

# Capital gains for BJP at Cong's...

**From Page 1**  
This is their habit. Whenever there is a chance, he (Lovely) has tried to cheat and there is no place for cheaters in the party," he added. Speaking to reporters after joining the saffron party, Lovely said he met his supporters and several Congress workers following his resignation, who urged him "not to sit at home but join a strong party to fight for the people of Delhi." Lovely referred to former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's speech where she had said that every drop of her blood is dedicated to the nation. "Indira ji ne bola tha mere khoon ka katra katra iss desh ke liye hai. Katre se Tukde Tukde pe aagye hain (Indira had said that every drop of her blood is dedicated to the nation. Now they are reduced to Tukde Tukde gang) Lovely, adding that he started feeling like a misfit in the party. Lovely hailed the BJP leadership, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, for giving him and his colleagues the opportunity to join the

party when they felt lost. He asserted that Modi is set to retain power with a big majority in the ongoing Lok Sabha polls. Lovely had recently quit as the Delhi Congress president protesting the party's alliance with the AAP. Earlier Lovely had made it clear that he has only quit the party post and not the party, although a section of the Congress leadership as well as AAP leaders believed that he would be joining the BJP again. Lovely's resignation on April 28 was a setback to the party in terms of optics and perception. Coming four days after former Delhi Minister Rajkumar Chauhan quit the party, the resignation of Lovely, who has been heading the Delhi unit since August last year, has been a blow to the Congress's efforts for the May 25 elections in Delhi. The Congress leaders from North East and Northwest Delhi were upset with their party's choice of candidates, including Kanhaiya Kumar and Udit Raj, in the national Capital for the elections. Earlier, Lovely resigned from

the Congress and joined the BJP in 2017. He, however, returned to the grand old party in 2018. After his induction into the BJP, Lovely exuded confidence that the party would sweep all seven Lok Sabha seats in Delhi and win the national polls. In his resignation letter sent to Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Saturday, Lovely also said that all unanimous decisions taken by the senior Delhi unit leaders have been "unilaterally vetoed" by AICC Delhi in-charge Deepak Babria. Lovely also claimed the Delhi Pradesh Congress Committee (DPCC) was not given any intimation about the decision to field Kanhaiya Kumar from North East Delhi seat and Udit Raj from North West Delhi seat before the official announcement was made by the party high command. Chauhan said the AAP Government has pushed the city backwards after all the "development" seen earlier, a reference to the Congress Government headed by Sheila Dikshit.

# EC shows off gargantuan poll exercise to 23...

**From Page 1**

The electoral body of India said that it exemplifies its commitment to conducting general elections of the highest standards, offering a golden bridge for the EMBs to witness democratic excellence first-hand. "The Election Commission of India continues fostering international cooperation by organising the Election Visitors' Programme (IEVP) during the ongoing Lok Sabha Elections 2024," it said. The programme, that begins on May 4, seeks to familiarise foreign EMBs with the nuances of India's electoral system as well as the best practices used by the largest democracy in the world, the EC said. The Commission said Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar, Election Commissioner Gyanesh

Kumar and Dr. Sukhbir Singh Sandhu will address the delegates on May 5. Thereafter, the delegates will embark in small groups to observe polls and related preparedness in various constituencies in six States- Maharashtra, Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh. On the invitation of the BJP, the parties that have sent their representatives are the Liberal Party of Australia; the Communist Party of Vietnam; the Awami League of Bangladesh; the Likud Party of Israel; the National Resistance Movement of Uganda; the Chama Cha Mapinduzi of Tanzania; the United Russia Party of Russia; the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna and the United National Party of Sri Lanka; the Militant Socialist Movement, Mauritius

Labour Party, Mauritian Militant Movement and Parti Mauricien Social Democrat of Mauritius; and the Nepali Congress, Janamat Party, Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist-Leninist), Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) and the Rashtriya Swatantra Party of Nepal. Significantly, neither of the two US parties - the ruling Democrats and the Opposition Republicans - was invited. No political party from Pakistan was invited, given India's poor relations with the neighbouring country. The Communist Party of China was also not invited. The ongoing Lok Sabha elections that began on April 19 and is being conducted in seven phases will conclude on June 1 with counting of votes scheduled for June 4.

# India's first...

**From Page 1**

After retiring from wrestling, Hamida settled in Kalyan, Maharashtra, where she adopted a son and endeavored to make a living through modest means. Reports indicate that she supported herself by selling milk, renting buildings, and selling snacks. This transition from the limelight of the wrestling arena to a humble existence underscores the harsh realities she faced outside of her sporting career. She breathed her last in 1986. Despite facing hardships, her legacy as a fearless trailblazer endures, and she continues to be celebrated for her contributions to the world of sports.

# Priyanka's 'Shahenshah'...

The Prime Minister at his rallies during the day said 25 crore people came out of poverty in the last 10 years of the NDA Government. "Congress never bothered for the welfare of people. The party's 'shahzada' was born with a silver spoon, and poses for the camera when he visits the house of the poor. But, it is my commitment to transform India.

# Puri Cong nominee takes Surat route out...

**From Page 1**  
Sources said Congress has now decided to change the Puri LS candidate and a proposal was submitted to the Congress high command. The name of the new candidate will be announced very soon, AICC sources said. Sucharita has been fielded by the Congress from the Puri Lok Sabha seat against BJP national spokesperson Sambit Patra and BJD candidate Arup

Patnaik, a former Mumbai Police Commissioner. "I was a salaried professional journalist who entered electoral politics 10 years ago. I have given all I have into my campaign in Puri. I tried a public donation drive to support my campaign for progressive politics without much success so far. I also tried to cut down the projected campaign spending to the minimum," she said. As she was not able to raise

funds on her own, the Congress leader had approached all senior leaders including the party's central leadership for funds for an impactful campaign in the Puri Lok Sabha constituency. "It is clear that only fund crunch is holding us back from a winning campaign in Puri. I regret that without party funding, it won't be possible to carry out the campaign in Puri. I, therefore, return the party ticket for the

Puri Lok Sabha constituency herewith," she said in her mail to the AICC. However, Mohanty said she will remain a loyal Congress worker and her leader is Rahul Gandhi. "I was denied funds from the party. In Assembly segments under the Puri LS constituency, weak candidates were given tickets. BJP and BJD are sitting on mountains of money. Vulgar displays of wealth are everywhere. It was difficult

for me to fight the election," Mohanty said talking to media. AICC in-charge of Odisha, Ajay Kumar said "Mohanty is saying that no fund provided and weak MLA candidates have been fielded. The party has nominated its best candidate for the MLA seats and funds will be provided to a candidate when the candidate launches the campaign and seriously fights at the ground.

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# Hamas in Cairo as Egyptian media report progress in ceasefire talks

AP ■ TEL AVIV (ISRAEL)

A delegation of the Palestinian militant group Hamas was in Cairo on Saturday as Egyptian state media reported "noticeable progress" in ongoing cease-fire talks with Israel while an Israeli official downplayed the prospects for a truce. Pressure has been mounting to reach a deal — Gaza's humanitarian crisis is dramatically escalating while Israel insists it will launch an offensive into Rafah, the territory's southern-most city. The stakes are high to find a halt to the nearly seven-months-long war. More than 1 million Palestinians are sheltering in the city of Rafah, along the border with Egypt, many having fled northern Gaza where a top UN official says there is now a full-blown famine. Egyptian and American mediators have reported signs of compromise in recent days but chances for a cease-fire deal remain entangled with the key question of whether Israel will

accept an end to the war without reaching its stated goal of destroying Hamas. Egyptian state Al-Qahera news said Saturday that a consensus has been reached over many of the disputed points but did not elaborate. Hamas has called for a complete end to the war and withdrawal of all Israeli forces from Gaza. The war has killed more than 34,000 Palestinians, according to Gaza's local health officials, caused widespread destruction and plunged the territory into an unprecedented humanitarian crisis. The conflict erupted on October 7, when Hamas attacked southern Israel, abducting about 250 people and killing around 1,200, mostly civilians. Israel says militants still hold around 100 hostages and the remains of more than 30 others. A senior Israeli official, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss ongoing negotiations, played down the prospects for an end to the war. The official told The Associated Press that Israel will not agree

in any circumstance to end the war as part of a deal to release hostages. Israeli strikes early Saturday on Gaza killed at least six people. Three bodies were recovered from the rubble of a building in Rafah and taken to Yousef Al Najjar hospital. A strike in the Nuseirat refugee camp in central Gaza also killed three people, according to hospital officials. In the last 24 hours, the bodies of 32 people killed by Israeli strikes have been brought to local hospitals, Gaza's health ministry said Saturday. In related developments this week, Israel briefed Biden administration officials on plans to evacuate civilians ahead of the Rafah operation, according to US officials familiar with the talks. The United Nations has warned that hundreds of thousands would be "at imminent risk of death" if Israel moves forward into the densely packed city, which is also a critical entry point for humanitarian aid.

The US director of the UN World Food Program, Cindy McCain, said Friday that trapped civilians in the north, the most cut-off part of Gaza, have plunged into famine. McCain said a cease-fire and a greatly increased flow of aid through land and sea routes was essential. Israel recently opened new crossings for aid into northern Gaza, but on Wednesday, Israeli settlers blocked the first convoy before it crossed into the besieged enclave. Once inside Gaza, the convoy was commandeered by Hamas militants, before UN officials reclaimed it. The proposal that Egyptian mediators had put to Hamas sets out a three-stage process that would bring an immediate, six-week cease-fire and partial release of Israeli hostages, and would include some sort of Israeli pullout. The initial stage would last for 40 days. Hamas would start by releasing female civilian hostages in exchange for Palestinian prisoners held by Israel.

# Israel has briefed US on plan to evacuate Palestinian civilians ahead of Rafah op

AP ■ WASHINGTON

Israel this week briefed Biden administration officials on a plan to evacuate Palestinian civilians ahead of a potential operation in the southern Gaza city of Rafah aimed at rooting out Hamas militants, according to US officials familiar with the talks. The officials, who were not authorised to comment publicly and requested anonymity to speak about the sensitive exchange, said that the plan detailed by the Israelis did not change the US administration's view that moving forward with an operation in Rafah would put too many innocent Palestinian civilians at risk. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has vowed to carry out a military operation in Rafah despite warnings from President Joe Biden and other western officials that doing so would result in more civilian deaths and worsen an already dire humanitarian crisis. The Biden administration has said that there could be conse-

quences for Israel should it move forward with the operation without a credible plan to safeguard civilians. Some 1.5 million Palestinians have sheltered in the southern Gaza city as the territory has been ravaged by the war that began on October 7 after Hamas militants attacked Israel, killing 1,200 people and taking about 250 hostages. The United Nations humanitarian aid agency on Friday said that hundreds of thousands of people would be "at imminent risk of death" if Israel moves forward with the Rafah assault. The border city is a critical entry point for humanitarian aid and is filled with displaced Palestinians, many in densely packed tent camps. The officials added that the evacuation plan that the Israelis briefed was not finalized and both sides agreed to keep discussing the matter. White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre told reporters on Friday that no "comprehensive" plan for a potential Rafah operation has been revealed by the Israelis to

the White House. The operation, however, has been discussed during recent calls between Biden and Netanyahu as well as during recent virtual talks with top Israeli and US national security officials. "We want to make sure that those conversations continue because it is important to protect those Palestinian lives — those innocent lives," Jean-Pierre said. The revelation of Israel's continued push to carry out a Rafah operation came as CIA director William Burns arrived Friday in Egypt, where negotiators are trying to seal a cease-fire accord between Israel and Hamas. Hamas is considering the latest proposal for a cease-fire and hostage release put forward by US, Egyptian and Qatari mediators, who are looking to avert the Rafah operation. They have publicly pressed Hamas to accept the terms of the deal that would lead to an extended cease-fire and an exchange of Israeli hostages taken captive on October 7 and

Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails. Hamas has said it will send a delegation to Cairo in the coming days for further discussions on the offer, though it has not specified when. Israel, and its allies, have sought to increase pressure on Hamas on the hostage negotiation. Signaling that Israel continues to move forward with its planning for a Rafah operation could be a tactic to nudge the militants to finalise the deal. Netanyahu said earlier this week that Israeli forces would enter Rafah, which Israel says is Hamas' last stronghold, regardless of whether a truce-for-hostages deal is struck. His comments appeared to be meant to appease his nationalist governing partners, and it was not clear whether they would have any bearing on any emerging deal with Hamas. US Secretary of State Antony Blinken visited the region, including Israel, this week and called the latest proposal "extraordinarily generous" and said "the time to act is now."



President Joe Biden awards the nation's highest civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, to Michelle Yeoh during a ceremony in the East Room of the White House, on Friday in Washington. AP/PTI

# King Charles III takes over hundreds of charity patronages on Coronation anniversary

PTI ■ LONDON

Britain's King Charles has significantly increased his charity patronages by nearly 300 this weekend to mark the first anniversary of his Coronation in May last year, taking over several that Buckingham Palace said were supported by his mother late Queen Elizabeth II. The palace said a major review of more than 1,000 royal patronages and charity presidencies was undertaken following the 75-year-old monarch's accession to the throne in September 2022 after the death of his mother. Other working members of the royal family, including wife Camilla and son and heir Prince William, will also take on the patronage of a number of organisations previously supported by the late Queen to add to their existing portfolios. "The King and Queen [Camilla] will continue to serve as patron to many of the charities and institutions with which His Majesty was affiliated as Prince of Wales, and respectively Her Majesty as Duchess of Cornwall," a Buckingham Palace statement said on Saturday. "In addition, Their Majesties are pleased to continue the patronage of a great variety of charities and organisations previously supported by Queen Elizabeth II...Royal patronage highlights the vital work of these organisations and allows their many achievements and valuable contributions to society to be more widely recognised and promoted," it said. "With his long record of support for the Commonwealth and as a champion of the environment, he embodies the values to which the Royal Commonwealth Society aspires, and which inspires our work to make a practical difference in the lives of the 2.6 billion people who make up the Commonwealth family," said Dr Linda Yueh, Executive Chair of the Royal Commonwealth Society.

# Probe accuses India of influencing Canadian politics, communities

PTI ■ OTTAWA

Indian officials, including Canada-based proxies, engage in a range of activities that seek to influence Canadian communities and politicians to "align" Ottawa's position with New Delhi's interests on key issues, particularly concerns over Khalistani separatists in Canada, an official report has found. The findings in the interim report by Commissioner Marie-Josée Hogue, who is leading the independent public inquiry, found evidence of foreign interference in Canada's last two federal elections in 2019 and 2021 but the results of the votes were not affected and the electoral system was robust. India has previously rejected as "baseless" the allegations of its interference in Canadian elections and asserted that the core issue has been Ottawa's meddling in New Delhi's internal affairs. The report, published on Friday said the People's Republic of China ("PRC") stands out as the main perpetrator of foreign interference against Canada. "China has been assessed by Canadian authorities as the most active foreign state actor engaged in interference directed at government officials, political organisations, candidates for political office and diaspora communities," it said. On India, the report said: "Indian officials, including Canada-based proxies, engage in a range of activities that seek to influence Canadian communities and politicians. These activities include

foreign interference, which aims to align Canada's position with India's interests on key issues, particularly with respect to how the Indian government perceives Canada-based supporters of an independent Sikh homeland (Khalistan)." India's interest in Canada relates to Canada's large South Asian community. India views part of these communities as fostering an anti-India sentiment, and represents a threat to India's stability and national security, it said. "India does not differentiate between lawful, pro-Khalistani political advocacy and the relatively small Canada-based Khalistani violent extremism. It views anyone aligned with Khalistani separatism as a seditious threat to India," the report said. "We strongly reject all such baseless allegations of Indian interference in Canadian elections," External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said in New Delhi in February. "It is not the government of India's policy to interfere in the democratic processes of other countries. In fact, quite on the reverse, it is Canada which has been interfering in our internal affairs," Jaiswal said in response to a question. The Canadian probe report said that the targets of Indian foreign interference are often members of the Indo-Canadian communities, but prominent non-Indo-Canadians are also subject to India's foreign influence activities. These activities may not be directed at influencing Canada's democratic institutions, but are still significant, it said.

# Ready to hold talks but not for striking any deal, says Imran

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's jailed former prime minister Imran Khan has said that he is ready to hold talks but not to strike a "deal" with anyone who has stolen his party's mandate in the February 8 general election. Talking to journalists at the high-security Adiala jail in Rawalpindi on Friday, the 71-year-old Pakistan Tehreek e Insaaf founder asserted that negotiations were held only with adversaries and therefore the talks should be held with those who were the biggest opponents of PTI at present, apparently a reference to the military establishment, the Dawn newspaper reported on Saturday. Underlining that he had been saying for 18 months that he was ready to hold negotiations but not to strike a deal, Khan reiterated that his party would hold talks with everyone but

the three parties, the Geo News reported. "Someone who wants to leave the country or avoid imprisonment makes a deal," he said, in an apparent reference to PML-N leader Nawaz Sharif. Khan named Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur, Leader of the Opposition in the National Assembly Omar Ayub and Leader of the Opposition in Senate Shibli Faraz for holding negotiations. "I have proposed these three names for talks and not for a deal," he said. The February 8 general elections delivered a fractured mandate. Independent candidates, a majority of them backed by Khan's PTI, won 93 seats in the 336-member National Assembly. Former three-time prime minister Nawaz Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) won 75 seats while the

Bilawal Zardari Bhutto-led Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) came third with 54 seats. The Muttahida Qaumi Movement Pakistan (MQM-P) won 17 seats. Khan's PTI party has maintained that the powerful establishment had favoured Sharif's PML-N and that the Election Commission of Pakistan deliberately used a different form to declare the results to "steal the mandate" that belonged to it. The PML-N struck a post-poll deal with Bhutto's PPP and four smaller parties and formed the government in March. Khan reiterated that he was "always ready for talks, but it could only take place when their stolen mandate was returned and innocent imprisoned workers were released," the Dawn newspaper quoted PTI's media department as saying on Friday. Without naming anyone, Khan told reporters that "they" were

going to lodge the fourth case against him concerning the Toshakhana gifts. They should make whatever the cases they wanted all at once, he added. Khan's statement came a day after PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan claimed that his party was neither holding dialogues with anyone nor had any special message for talks. Gohar, speaking to journalists outside Rawalpindi's Adiala Jail, said that the former premier was facing "politically motivated" cases. He added that the PTI founder requested the judiciary to give judgements on his cases at the earliest, the Geo News reported. "Ali Amin Gandapur, Omar Ayub Khan and Shibli Faraz have been given the go-ahead to hold talks, but not to strike a deal," Gohar said, adding that they were to talk to anyone except three political parties.

# Yoga officially makes debut in Pak

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

After making global headlines, the ancient Indian physical, mental and spiritual practice of yoga has officially arrived in neighbouring Pakistan. According to the official Facebook page of the Capital Development Authority (CDA), which is responsible for the upkeep of Islamabad, the Metropolitan Corporation of Islamabad has launched "Free yoga classes in F-9 Park" in the capital. "Many people have already

joined in to kickstart their journey towards health and wellness," the CDA said. It also posted pictures of people taking part in the yoga exercises. Recognising its universal appeal, the United Nations on 11 December 2014 proclaimed 21 June as the International Day of Yoga. A draft resolution establishing the International Day of Yoga was proposed by India and endorsed by a record 175 member states. Yoga is normally linked with India and there are not many

formal institutions in Pakistan to teach yoga. Though privately people like the physical part of yoga exercises. Many residents appreciated the move to organise Yoga classes with several people inquiring about the programme. A step at the official level to organise yoga at the most prominent park of the capital is a welcome move and may send a positive message across the border amidst a chill in bilateral ties over the Kashmir issue and cross-border terrorism. "Good job I really appreciate your work CDA pls send the timing," Shahid Iqbal, a resident, commented. However, some criticised the CDA for failing to provide decent residential facilities to the people of Islamabad and instead resorting to showcasing sideshows. Ghulam Mustafa said in his comments that CDA failed to develop new sectors. "For God's sake concentrate on your core functions and develop the residential sectors you failed to develop during the last 35 years," he said.

# Striking deals to end campus protests, some colleges invite discussion of their investments

AP ■ NEW YORK

Anti-war demonstrations ceased this week at a small number of US universities after school leaders struck deals with pro-Palestinian protesters, fending off possible disruptions of final exams and graduation ceremonies. The agreements at schools including Brown, Northwestern and Rutgers stand out amidst the chaotic scenes and 2,400-plus arrests on 46 campuses nationwide since April 17. Tent encampments and building takeovers have disrupted classes at some schools, including Columbia and UCLA. Deals included commitments by universities to review their investments in Israel or hear calls to stop doing business with the longtime US ally. Many protester demands have zeroed in on links to the Israeli military as the war grinds on in Gaza. The agreements to even discuss divestment mark a major shift on an

issue that has been controversial for years, with opponents of a long-running campaign to boycott Israel saying it veers into antisemitism. But while the colleges have made concessions around amnesty for protesters and funding for Middle Eastern studies, they have made no promises about changing their investments. "I think for some universities, it might be just a delaying tactic to diffuse the protests," said Ralph Young, a history professor who studies American dissent at Temple University in Philadelphia. "The end of the semester is happening now. And maybe by the time the next semester begins, there is a cease-fire in Gaza." Some university boards may never even vote on divesting from Israel, which can be a complicated process, Young said. And some state schools have said they lack the authority to do so. But Young said dialogue is a better

tactic than arrests, which can inflame protesters. Talking "at least gives the protesters the feeling that they're getting somewhere," he said. "Whether they are getting somewhere or not is another question." Israel has called the protests antisemitic; its critics say the country uses such allegations to silence opposition. Although some protesters were caught on camera making antisemitic remarks or violent threats, protest organisers — some of whom are Jewish — have called it a peaceful movement to defend Palestinian rights and protest the war. Administrators at the University of California, Riverside, announced an agreement Friday with protesters to close their campus encampment. The deal included the formation of a task force to explore removing Riverside's endowment from the broader UC system's management and investing those funds "in a man-

ner that will be financially and ethically sound for the university with consideration to the companies involved in arms manufacturing and delivery." The announcement marked an apparent split with the policy of the 10-campus UC system, which last week said it opposes "calls for boycott against and divestment from Israel." "While the University affirms the right of our community members to express diverse viewpoints, a boycott of this sort impinges on the academic freedom of our students and faculty and the unfettered exchange of ideas on our campuses," the system said in a statement. "UC tuition and fees are the primary funding sources for the University's core operations. None of these funds are used for investment purposes." Demonstrators at Rutgers University — where finals were paused due to the protests on its New Brunswick campus — similarly packed up

their tents Thursday afternoon. The state university agreed to establish an Arab Cultural Centre and to not retaliate against any students involved in the camp. In a statement, Chancellor Francine Conway noted protesters' request for divestment from companies doing business with Israel and for Rutgers to cut ties with Tel Aviv University. She said the request is under review, but "such decisions fall outside of our administrative scope." Protesters at Brown University in Rhode Island agreed to dismantle their encampment Tuesday. School officials said students could present arguments for divesting Brown's endowment from companies contributing to and profiting from the war in Gaza. In addition, Brown President Christina Paxson will ask an advisory committee to make a recommendation on divestment by Sept. 30, which will be put before the

school's governing corporation for a vote in October. Northwestern's Deering Meadow in suburban Chicago also fell silent after an agreement Monday. The deal curbed protest activity in return for the reestablishment of an advisory committee on university investments and other commitments. The arrangement drew dissent from both sides. Some pro-Palestinian protesters condemned it as a failure to stick to their original demands, while some supporters of Israel said it represented "cowardly" capitulation. Seven of 18 members subsequently resigned from a university committee that advises the administration on addressing antisemitism, Islamophobia and expressions of hatred on campus, saying they couldn't continue to serve "with antisemitism so present at Northwestern in public view for the past week." Michael Simon, the executive direc-

tor of an organisation for Jewish students, Northwestern Hillel, said he resigned after concluding that the committee could not achieve its goals. Faculty at Pomona College in California voted in favour of divesting from companies they said are funding Israel's war in Gaza, a group of faculty and students said Friday. The vote Thursday is not binding on the liberal arts school of nearly 1,800 students east of Los Angeles. But supporters said they hope it would encourage the board to stop investing in these companies and start disclosing where it makes its investments. "This nonbinding faculty statement does not represent any official position of Pomona College," the school said in a statement. "We will continue to encourage further dialogue within our community, including consideration of counterarguments."



# DU PLESSIS, BOWLERS CARRY RCB TO FOUR-WICKET WIN OVER GT

PTI ■ BENGALURU

Royal Challengers Bengaluru pressed the self-destruction button halfway but a blazing fifty by captain Faf du Plessis had enough torque in it to carry them to a four-wicket over Gujarat Titans in their IPL match here on Saturday. Du Plessis (64, 23b, 10x4, 3x6) and Kohli (42, 27b, 2x4, 4x6), who added 92 runs in just 35 balls for the opening wicket, were in prime touch as Royal Challengers moved past a frail target of 148, braving some nervy moments, most of it their own creation. The win also lifted RCB to seventh place on the table with eight points from 11 matches, and kept their mathematical chances of making it to the play-offs alive. Du Plessis and Kohli dealt in boundaries as the home side racked in 92 runs in Power Play, that contained 10 fours and seven maximums. Both Du Plessis and Kohli were severe on all GT bowlers, as the latter began the butchering with two sixes off pacer Mohit Sharma in the

first over. Du Plessis was in no mood to play the role of a sidekick as he waded into left-arm pacer Josh Little with a sequence of 4, 6, 4, 4 in the second over that produced a total of 20 runs. The Titans introduced IPL debutant left-arm spinner Manav Suthar in the hope of containing Kohli at least, but the ploy was foiled spectacularly. The RCB talisman showed his increasing comfort against spin, clobbering Suthar for two successive sixes. Du Plessis reserved his punitive blade for Mohit, whom he carted around for four fours in the fifth over, as the South African reached fifty in just 18 balls before falling to Little. RCB entered a phase of struggle from there as they lost last match centurion Will Jacks, Rajat Patidar, Glenn Maxwell and Cameron Green between the sixth and 10th overs for just 20 runs. Little (4/45) and spinner Noor Ahmad (2/23) were the chief perpetrators as RCB slipped from 92 for 1 to 112 for five. Ahmad soon ousted Kohli as



RCB were 117 for six but Dinesh Karthik (21 not out, 12b) was cool under pressure

as RCB notched their overall fourth and third win in a row of this season.

Before RCB batsmen joined the party, their bowlers came up with an immaculate effort

on a supportive pitch to bowl GT to a modest 147. There were a couple of good

partnerships – 61 between David Miller and Shikhar Dhawan and 44 by Rahul Tewatia and Rashid Khan – but the Titans lacked that one big innings or a stand that could have given them a firmer grip on the match. In fact, they seemed distinctly incapable of accelerating even in the Power Play as their top-order batters struggled against RCB pacers, Mohammed Siraj (2/29) and Yash Dayal (2/21) who stuck to a wonderful length. That GT managed to strike just two fours in Power Play offered ample evidence to their struggle and RCB bowlers' accuracy. The Gujarat side's Power Play score of 23 for three was the lowest in the segment this season, and it was mainly due to Siraj's domination upfront. He could not beat a throw from Kohli to the non-striker's end. Shubman Gill followed soon as his attempted swat to the on-side off Siraj took a leading edge and ended in the hands of Vysakh Vijayakumar at deep point. Green fetched the third

wicket for RCB in the Power Play when he jettisoned in-form B Sai Sudharsan, whose feeble pull close to the body was snaffled by Kohli at mid-off. Miller (30, 20b) and Shikhar (37, 24b) tried their best to drag GT out of the woods with a well-paced 61-run alliance off 37 balls for the fourth wicket. Miller, who was fortunate to get dropped on 23 off Green by Karn Sharma, played archetypal power shots. He punished leg-spinner Karn for a couple of sixes – a pull and a loft over extra cover – but fell to the same bowler when a miscued heave was grabbed by Maxwell at deep. But a bigger misfortune was in store for the visitors as Shikhar, who backed up a tad too far to Rahul Tewatia's soft drop, could not beat a throw from Kohli to the non-striker's end. For the sixth-wicket, Tewatia (35, 21b) and Rashid (18, 14b) added 44 off 29 balls, but the latter's desire to be innovative against Yash Dayal saw the ball crashing onto the stumps. Tewatia, who punished Karn for 18 runs (4, 6, 4, 4) in the 16th over, departed soon.



## IPL playoffs hopeful LSG wary of dominant KKR's all round firepower

PTI ■ LUCKNOW

Lucknow Super Giants will have to bring their 'A' game forward to prevail against a dominant Kolkata Knight Riders when the two teams, marching towards IPL playoffs, clash here on Sunday. With an all-round win by 24 runs over Mumbai Indians propelling the second-placed KKR to 14 points - one more step closer to qualification - the pressure will be on KL Rahul's LSG to find a way past the threat that Shreyas Iyer's side poses. Lucknow Super Giants are placed just one rung below KKR at number three with 12 points from 10 matches with six wins and four defeats. With a rampant Sunrisers Hyderabad (12 points) hot on their heels at fourth, followed by the dangerous Chennai Super Kings (10 points) and Delhi Capitals (10 points) on the points table, LSG will be under pressure to avoid getting into a mid-table battle as the race for the final-four has intensified. LSG were far from convincing in their previous assignment at Ekana Stadium here as they were made to work hard in a modest 145-run chase by Mumbai Indians, winning by just four wickets in the last over. Skipper Rahul and all-rounder Marcus Stoinis have been the key players for LSG and it remains to be seen if South Africa veteran Quinton de Kock is brought back in place of young Arshin Kulkarni, who opened the innings in the last game. Even though he has gone without a fifty since the first game, Nicholas Pooran has consistently notched up crucial scores but LSG's overall finishing skills is under question following their struggles against Mumbai Indians. LSG seemed to have made

heavy weather towards the end giving MI a real sniff by losing wickets in a flurry and completing their modest chase with some stutter. Ayush Badoni has had a subdued run in this IPL and the uncapped Indian player would be keen to shrug off the rustiness. LSG's bowlers will also face a stern test with none of them making a real dent with individual brilliance in this IPL. LSG are also likely to be without express pacer Mayank Yadav. Having lost only three of their 11 matches so far, it has taken something out of the ordinary to stop KKR in their tracks. CSK used a spin-friendly surface to eke out a win in Chepauk, while RR's all-round class helped them pip KKR in a high-scoring thriller. If anything, KKR's bowling woes were exposed when Punjab Kings recorded IPL's highest chase ever against them, but Iyer's side has emerged strongly from that setback with two impressive wins. However, having trounced MI on a sluggish wicket which exposed their batting frailties, KKR will aim for a much improved performance with the bat. For the second time in this IPL, KKR batters struggled when the ball did not come on to the bat and they were forced to change gears in order to build a strong target. KKR slipped to 57 for five at one stage and ran the risk of being shot out for a paltry total, but Venkatesh Iyer (70) and Manish Pandey (42) came to the rescue with a fine 83-run stand. Iyer and Pandey were forced to soak pressure, curb their attacking game and look to farm the strike to build a recovery path for their side among the bowlers carried out a perfect job to secure a 24-run win.

# CSK eye payback in second successive clash against PBKS

PTI ■ DHARAMSALA

Defending champions Chennai Super Kings will look to set their house in order and get back to winning ways when they face an upbeat yet unpredictable Punjab Kings for the second time in a row in the IPL here Sunday. Just three days back, PBKS outclassed CSK by seven wickets at Chepauk, considered their fortress. The two losses in the last three games at home have put Chennai in a spot. They are placed fifth on the table with 10 points and the five-time champions will hope the change of venue would bring a change in fortune as well with just four games to go to seal their place in the knockout stage. CSK's failure to push the pace in the middle overs against the spin duo of Harpreet Brar and Rahul Chahar saw them post a

below-par score of 162-7. Their batting has become too dependent on skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad and six-hitting machine Shivam Dube and the moment one of them fails, it puts the pressure on others who have not been consistent in bailing out the team. While Gaikwad hit his fifth 50-plus score of the season to hold it together, veteran batter Ajinkya Rahane once again failed to capitalise on the starts, while Ravindra Jadeja and Sameer Rizvi struggled against spin. CSK also has been hampered by the health and fitness concerns of their pacers, including Deepak Chahar, who limped off holding his hamstring after bowling just two balls and is likely to miss the reverse clash against PBKS. The absence of their frontline bowlers, Matheesha Pathirana (niggle) and Tushar Deshpande (flu), also didn't



help matters the other day. Add to that the dew factor which took the spinners out of the equation and PBKS romped home comfortably. While Richard Gleeson made his IPL debut in the last match, CSK might bring back Mukesh Choudhary, Punjab Kings, on the other hand, have seen a

resurgence as they registered back-to-back wins to re-ignite their playoffs hopes. En route to their win over CSK, Punjab became the second team after Mumbai Indians to beat the defending champions five times in a row and they will fancy their chances. Punjab remains an

unpredictable side as although it notched up wins over Gujarat in Ahmedabad, Chennai at Chepauk and also chased down a T20 record score against KKR, it has struggled at home against RR, SRH and Gujarat. With back-to-back wins, PBKS climbed to seventh spot with 8

points and will need to carry the momentum to salvage their slim hopes. Jonny Bairstow, who made a hundred against KKR, will be their go-to man, while Rilee Rossouw, Shashank Singh and Prabhsimran Singh too have to raise their hands. PBKS' bowling department has experienced names such as Kagiso Rabada, Harshal Patel, Arshdeep Singh and Sam Curran and they need to be consistent. Rabada was brilliant the other day but others have gone for runs. If PBKS has to repeat their performance against CSK then the spinners -- Harpreet Brar and Rahul Chahar - will have to deliver once again. Interestingly, the first IPL match in Dharamsala stadium was a clash between Chennai and Punjab in 2010. The venue offers a lot of runs and dew remains a factor, making it an enticing contest.

## Size of stadiums not relevant in modern day cricket: Ashwin

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The evolution of batting in modern day is such that incredible power-hitting is slowly rendering the size of cricket stadiums irrelevant, world's premier off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin said on Saturday, fearing that the trend could make the game pretty one-sided. Ashwin's comment have come in the context of unreal totals being put up by teams in this year's IPL. Sunrisers Hyderabad posted totals of 277 and 287 while scores of 250 have been surpassed by teams this season with liberal help from the extra batter in the form of Impact Substitutions. "The stadiums built back in the day are not relevant in the modern day. The bats that were used back then were also used for gully cricket. With LED boards of the sponsors being used, the boundary has come in by 10 yards," Ashwin, one of the leading voices in global cricket, said during a promotional event for his IPL team Rajasthan Royals. Ashwin feels that if the trend continues, the game will become very one sided in coming times. "It is tilting too far on other side, which will make someone's misery your great time. Bowlers will need mental boost," the straight-talker said. However Ashwin also firmly believes that a good bowler will find his footing and stand out among the pack with his innovations. "Game shifts balance and you



have to find answers. There's clear window to differentiate yourself," Ashwin said. He is happy that Rajasthan Royals' bowling attack hasn't suffered a lot unlike some of the other teams even though he marvels at the ball striking abilities of the batters over time. "If you look at the Industrial rate (average runs conceded by teams in IPL), we have gone for less. We defended 180 in Jaipur in one game which was huge," he said. "But you are certainly marvelled at ball-striking. At the end of the day spectators come to watch fours and sixes," said India's second highest wicket-taker in Tests. For someone with a very sharp sense of humour, Ashwin had a hilarious take on size of boundaries this season.

"The ground in Jaipur, the boundary is huge. When I saw that, Dhruv Jurel said, 'Bhaiyya this is so big' and I told him 'Dhruv, atleast let it be somewhere'. Watching that, I felt at this stage of my career, I would need a bicycle to reach the (Sawai Man Singh) boundary. "Then in the next stadium, I felt I could walk and the next I could run and then in one I felt if I spit my Chewing gum, it will cross the boundary rope for a six," said Ashwin. The Royals' bowling coach Shane Bond summed it up aptly. "For bowlers now, if you can bowl well, you can make a lot of money. Batting has evolved and bowling is catching up," the former New Zealand speedster said.



## Mild back stiffness forced Rohit Sharma to play as impact sub in MI, KKR clash

PTI ■ MUMBAI

India captain and Mumbai Indians opener Rohit Sharma was forced to play as an impact sub in the IPL clash against Kolkata Knight Riders due to a "mild back stiffness", said leg-spinner Piyush Chawla. Playing as an impact sub, Rohit managed just 11 runs in 12 balls in the second innings during their 24-run loss against KKR, which has nearly put the five-time champions out of the IPL this year. "He just had a mild back stiffness so it was just a precautionary thing," Chawla told the media after the match here at the Wankhede Stadium. Mumbai's defeat was their eighth in 11 matches, essentially shutting the doors on the Hardik Pandya-led side and Chawla too conceded that it is only "pride" that they are left with to play for. "For the pride and the reputation, because sometimes when you enter on the field, you don't think whether you are going to qualify or you are not going to qualify," he said. "You have to play for your name and that's what we are playing for," he added. Chawla pointed MI's inability to attain momentum at any stage in this IPL as the reason behind their poor performance. "You must have often heard about that T20 is all about momentum and just that we didn't get that momentum going this season and it can

happen to any team," he said. "It's not like it's happening to us for the first time or any other team for the second time. It can happen to anyone and it's just that that momentum was not our way." The 35-year-old Chawla became IPL's second leading wicket-taker when he went past Dwayne Bravo on Friday to take 184 wickets. "It has been a beautiful journey because IPL started 17 years back and at that time nobody gave that much preference to the spinners, but now if you see that in top few wicket takers in India, especially all the spinners, Ashwin, Yuzhi, myself (are there), so it's a good feeling," he said. Chawla also praised Manish Pandey for delivering in a pressure situation while playing his first game this season. Pandey (42) added 83 runs for the sixth wicket with Venkatesh Iyer (70) as KKR posted 169 all out in 19.5 overs. "It was a good partnership and credit has to go to them because they batted beautifully. Well, T20 is something in which experience plays a big role. (which is) what we saw today. "When Manish walked in, maybe if somebody walks in who must have played few games, he would have panicked that runs are not coming. "But he read the situation and the way he handled the situation because if you see in starting, he was hardly going at run a ball. But later on, he knew that he has to stand there with Venky."

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"Disease is an experience of a so-called mortal mind. It is fear made manifest on the body"  
— Mary Baker Eddy



Amid mounting concerns regarding Covishield's safety and the acknowledgment of potential adverse effects by its maker UK giant AstraZeneca, public unease is on the rise, with calls for accountability, says **ARCHANA JYOTI**

## COVISHIELD'S SHIELD IN QUESTION

My CT scan result showed that they (doctors) had never seen anything like this before. Numerous blood clots were removed through surgery from my legs and lower abdomen. Alex Mitchell, a key litigant in the legal proceedings in the UK against British pharma giant AstraZeneca told a news channel in India about the side effects that he suffered after receiving the COVID vaccine.

Mitchell is not the only one who has been reeling under the side effects due to the COVID jab and taken up a legal battle against AstraZeneca over allegations linking its vaccine to fatalities and severe adverse effects.

The firm is facing at least 51 such cases and has recently conceded that its vaccine could, albeit exceedingly rarely, induce Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome (TTS), a medical condition characterized by abnormally low levels of platelets and the formation of blood clots.

With this admission by the UK pharma giant, in India, the Serum Institute of India (SII), headquartered in Pune, which was a licensee to AstraZeneca's vaccine formula may too find itself mired in potential legal ramifications with the parents of a young woman who died purportedly due to complications arising ten days post her inoculation with the vaccine in 2021 said that they are contemplating legal action against both SII and AstraZeneca.

Though a section of legal experts say that

### Symptoms of TTS

A rare condition associated with Covishield, include severe headaches, abdominal pain, leg swelling, or shortness of breath, usually appearing two weeks post-vaccination. Timely identification and intervention are crucial in mitigating severe consequences.



SII may get clean chit in the case given it was a mere manufacturer of the jab, Venugopalan Govindan, bereaved father of the deceased Karunya has expressed profound dissatisfaction with AstraZeneca's belated admission, lamenting its timing vis-à-vis the lives already lost. He also castigated SII for its failure to suspend vaccine distribution following the restriction imposed by 15 European nations due to reported incidents of blood clot-related fatalities in March 2021.

Govindan has also implicated governmental agencies, regulatory bodies, and other stakeholders in the unfortunate demise of his daughter and numerous others post-vaccination. His sentiments have reverberated across social media platforms following AstraZeneca's acknowledgment of its COVID jab's potential to precipitate blood clotting.

Govindan spearheaded a petition titled 'Post-vaccination side effects - Blood clots, MIS-A, etc. Awareness was required' shortly after his daughter's tragic demise in 2021. As the petition gained traction, it served as a platform for individuals to share their own experiences, concerns, and opinions regarding COVID-19 vaccines.

For instance, one Shikha Bhalla, a netizen, has given her account of losing vision in her left eye due to a rare side effect underscoring the importance of thorough



### BIG NUMBER

India's vaccination campaign began on January 13, 2021, administering Covaxin and Covishield. Covishield received approval for use in 49 other countries. As of April 29, 2024, India has administered 1,749,417,978 doses of Covishield, making it the world's largest vaccination program. India's vaccine arsenal during the pandemic included Covaxin, Covishield, Sputnik-V, Covovax, Corbevax, and ZyCoV-D, among others. Worldwide, 13.5 billion COVID-19 vaccines have been administered since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, according to science research organization Our World in Data. Around 71% of the world's population has received at least one dose of a Covid vaccine.

### GLOBAL INSIGHT

According to global data on TTS available in the public domain, as of January 5, 2024, Canada had reported 89 cases of TTS, of which 56 cases were reported following vaccination with AstraZeneca's Vaxzevria/Covishield COVID-19 vaccine, and 24 cases were reported following vaccination with Pfizer-BioNTech's Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine. Eight cases were also reported following vaccination with Moderna's Spikevax COVID-19 vaccine. In the U.K., 122 instances of TTS following the administration of the AstraZeneca vaccine have been reported as of November 2023.

### OPP MAKES A GIBE

Where is the Thank You Modi ji banner now? Why are the PM and Health Ministry silent? Is this the reason why deaths due to heart attack at young age occur? Was this the reason why BJP took electoral bonds worth Rs 50 crore from Serum Institute? This issue is not a matter of politics but of safeguarding people's lives," Srinivas Bhadravathi Venkata, the National President of the Indian Youth Congress in a post on X.

monitoring and reporting of adverse events. Another netizen Parikshit Suri has emphasized on the rigorous testing and transparency in vaccine development and echoed widespread calls for accountability and scrutiny in the approval process.

Dr. A Rajkumar Sreenivasan's plea for informed consent highlighted the ethical dimensions of healthcare decision-making, emphasizing the need for individuals to have agency and autonomy in vaccination choices. Michelle Zeh's skepticism about vaccine necessity and safety shed light on broader concerns surrounding pharmaceutical influence and the importance of evidence-based decision-making.

Manish Kumar's observation of increased heart attacks post-vaccination prompted calls for comprehensive investigation and surveillance to ensure the ongoing safety and efficacy of vaccination programs. While many doctors have said that benefits outweighs the downsides Dr Sankha Shubhra Chakrabarti, Head-Geriatrics, IMS-BHU posted on X, @these genius Indian doctors who are self consoling by saying it occurs within few weeks and cannot after 3 years probably do not know how the AdenoV delivery system is designed to work.

Amidst these concerns and controversy over the safety aspects of the Covishield vaccine, the matter has now reached the Supreme Court on May 1, 2024, with a petition led by advocate Vishal Tiwari adding a layer of complexity and urgency to the discourse. Tiwari has sought the constitution of an expert medical panel to study the risk factors.

"More than 175 crore doses of Covishield have been administered in India. After Covid 19 there has been an increase in deaths due to heart attacks and sudden collapse of persons. There have been several cases of heart attack even in youngsters. Now after the document filed in UK court by the developer of Covishield, we are compelled to think on the risk and hazardous consequences of Covishield vaccine which have been administered to the citizens at a large number," the petition filed by advocate Tiwari says.

The plea points out that AstraZeneca, the company that developed the vaccine, has said that its AZD1222 vaccine against Covid-19, which was made under license in India as Covishield, could cause low platelet counts and the formation of blood clots in rare cases.

The petition says the medical panel should

be headed by an expert from AIIMS and supervised by a retired Supreme Court judge.

Tiwari has further sought directions to the Centre to establish a 'Vaccine Damage Payment System' for citizens or families who have suffered debilitating health setbacks or even deaths after taking the vaccine.

The plea has also called for strict action against the circulation of spurious Covishield, an offshoot of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine, which underwent extensive administration across India.

However, SII, conspicuously headquartered in Pune, has remained reticent in response to the looming specter of legal action. Equally intriguing is the silence maintained by the Union Health Ministry, notwithstanding mounting apprehensions and criticisms voiced by recipients of Covishield on various social media platforms.

Delhi Health Minister Saurabh Bharadwaj has already raised the Centre's attention to these links, saying that it should work to urgently address the alleged side-effects of the Covidshield vaccine as millions of people in India were administered the shot during the Covid pandemic. Bharadwaj expressed concern over the alleged link between the vaccine's side effects and a series of sudden deaths in India, claiming that Covidshield was banned in several European countries, including Germany, France, Spain, Finland, Norway, and Denmark.

Despite the government's formation of a national committee to probe such occurrences, the determination of insufficient evidence linking her demise to the vaccine underscores the intricate challenge of establishing causality in rare adverse events. However, the narrative shared by individuals such as Govindan underscores the exigency for robust surveillance, reporting mechanisms, and support infrastructure to address post-vaccination complications comprehensively.

Against the backdrop of Covishield's legal conundrum, SII's competitor Hyderabad-based Bharat Biotech, has underscored the efficacy of its jab, Covaxin, saying that it was meticulously evaluated and efficacy/efficacy trials were held within India.

## DOCTORS SPEAK

TTS is a very rare condition resulting from an abnormal immune response. While it has several causes, it has also been linked with adenovirus vector vaccines. The WHO has deemed the vaccine safe and effective for all individuals aged 18 and above. ... We are yet to fully understand the impact of coronavirus on people, also called long Covid. The



difficulty is to distinguish between the complications that are caused by Covid itself or the vaccine. That remains debatable. People who are vaccinated have an overall lower risk of complications such as post-Covid heart attacks and strokes among others.

— DR RAVI WANKHEDEKAR, Former national president of the IMA



needs to fight. In the case of AstraZeneca's adenovirus vector vaccine, a chimpanzee adenovirus - ChAdOx1 - has been modified to enable it to carry the Covid-19 (SARS-CoV-2) spike protein injected into the muscles of humans."

— DR RAJEEV JAYADEVAN, Co-Chairman, IMA Covid-19 task force

## Study confirms higher risk of very rare clot with AstraZeneca Jab

The Global Covid Vaccine Safety Project conducted an extensive analysis of adverse events associated with COVID-19 vaccines across multiple regions, including Argentina, Australia (New South Wales and Victoria), Canada (British Columbia and Ontario), Denmark, Finland, France, New Zealand, and Scotland. They employed a method called observed versus expected (OE) ratios to compare the number of adverse events reported with the expected baseline rates.

In simple words, this means first healthcare providers have a baseline 'expectation' of how many adverse events are likely given a certain number of vaccinated people, and compare it with the number of events reported to health systems. Expectations are formed based on experience with the rates of vaccination, and reactions observed historically. However, COVID-19 vaccination was an outlier event that saw billions of vaccines administered over a relatively short span.

OE ratios greater than 1.5, indicating 50% more adverse reactions than expected, were identified as potential safety signals requiring thorough investigation. Notable findings included elevated OE ratios for Guillain-Barré syndrome and cerebral venous sinus thrombosis following the first dose of the ChAdOx1 vaccine. Additionally, acute disseminated encephalomyelitis showed a high OE ratio following the first dose of the mRNA-1273 vaccine. Increased OE ratios for myocarditis and pericarditis were also observed following vaccination with BNT162b2 (Pfizer/BioNTech), mRNA-1273 (Moderna), and ChAdOx1 (AstraZeneca/Serum Institute of India) vaccines.

In India, as of December 6, 2022, a total of 92,003 Adverse Events Following Immunisation (AEFI) were reported, accounting for approximately 0.009% of the population vaccinated against COVID-19. However, it's essential to note that the strength of adverse event reporting systems can vary



"There have been studies that show the baseline rate in European states (adverse events related to COVID-19 vaccines) is higher than Asia. This is a combination of both a better reporting system as well as physiological factors. Studies done in one country may not easily translate to another."

— CHANDRAKANT LAHARIYA  
Physician and health policy expert

significantly between countries, influencing reported incidence rates.

The study also highlighted differences in adverse event reporting rates between regions. For example, the affidavit submitted by the Indian government to the Supreme Court cited higher AEFI rates in the United States (0.2%) and the United Kingdom (0.7%) compared to India. These variations may be influenced by reporting system robustness and physiological factors.

Despite confirming previously identified rare safety signals associated with COVID-19 vaccination, the study emphasized the need for further investigation to confirm associations and evaluate clinical significance. An affidavit by the government to the Supreme Court claimed that compared with India, nearly 0.2% of the people in the United States who received COVID-19 vaccines showed AEFI, as did 0.7% in the U.K.

"These ratios are, however, significantly influenced by the strength of the adverse event reporting system in countries. This can significantly vary among countries."

"While our study confirmed previously identified rare safety signals following COVID-19 vaccination and contributed evidence on several other important outcomes, further investigation is warranted to confirm associations and assess clinical significance," the study by the Global Covid Vaccine Safety Project said.



# A NIGHT IN OSTELLO BELL SHARED STORIES, SHARED SPACES



BY PAWAN SONI

After watching Kangana Ranaut's film, *Queen* which includes a scene where she stays in a hostel, I was intrigued and mentally noted to experience it at least once. This opportunity arose when I was traveling alone for work in Milan for a few days. Since my wife is not keen on such experiences, I could only do it while traveling solo. I myself was a bit hesitant and booked the hostel room for only one night post which I booked a luxury hotel room.

Staying in a hostel room with bunk beds shared by eight tourists from different countries and continents was an eye-opening experience. As someone accustomed to the privacy of hotels, the idea of sharing a room with strangers was initially daunting. However, the warmth and friendliness of my fellow travelers quickly put me at ease. Additionally, in India, we would never think of sharing a room with both guys and girls. Here, we were six guys and two girls sharing the dormitory room.

One of the most memorable aspects of my stay was the interactions with my roommates. Despite our diverse backgrounds, we found common ground in our love for travel and adventure. Each person had a unique story to share, from their reasons for travelling to their favourite destinations. I learned about different



cultures, traditions, and ways of life, broadening my perspective and igniting my curiosity about the world.

The hostel's facilities played a significant role in fostering a sense of community among guests. The small locked storage below the beds ensured that our belongings were safe, while the charging points were necessary for



the phone charging, individual reading lights provided convenience without disturbing others. The common bathroom, although shared, was always clean and well-maintained, a testament to the hostel staff's commitment to guest comfort and roommates ensuring to leave the washroom with the same hygiene level

they expected from others.

The common kitchen was a hub of activity, with guests preparing meals and sharing recipes from their home countries. It was a delightful experience to taste dishes from around the world, each one infused with the flavours and spices of a different culture. The complimentary



fruits and groceries added a thoughtful touch, making us feel at home in this foreign environment.

Beyond the practical amenities, the hostel's vibrant atmosphere made it a memorable stay. It served as a meeting point for young travellers, where friendships were formed over shared meals and late-night conversations. The hostel also organised social events, such as pub crawls and city tours, allowing guests to explore the city together and create lasting memories.

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

## EXPERIENCING CULTURE ONE COURSE AT A TIME

# POP-UP DINNERS

The industry's evolving nature is fostering a culture of shared knowledge, with chefs and restaurants collaborating more than ever. While the permanence of specific formats, like pop-ups, remains uncertain, the spirit of collaboration is undoubtedly a mainstay. It's a dynamic era where working together isn't just a trend; it's a fundamental shift shaping the future of the culinary landscape.

BY RUPALI DEAN

Pop-up restaurants are like culinary jazz performances, where chefs create impromptu meals in unconventional settings, such as dining rooms or even courtyards. These temporary dining experiences allow chefs to experiment freely with their cooking skills within a confined timeframe and for a select audience. For example, Chef Vladimir Mukhin recently hosted famous Chef Joan Roca from El Celler De Can Roca at Krasota restaurant in Dubai. They worked together to create a unique culinary experience, exploring the deep stories behind well-known dishes. By combining different textures, ingredients, and flavours, they presented a special event in Dubai that highlighted the perfect blend of artistry in both appearance and taste. Roca's *Memories of a Neighbourhood Bar* paired with Deyneka's *The Light of The Past* set the scene. This dish, from El Celler de Can Roca's cookbook, honours the family's legacy. The three brothers learned cooking early at Can Roca, perfecting their skills. Inspired by Roerich's *Himalayas*, Mukhin's *Artichoke Curry* and *Coconut Rice* reflect the painting's colours. The *Black Cod with Plum and Fig* drew from Aivazovsky's art, symbolizing a shipwreck survival. Five Senses *Bon Bons* by Jordi Roca at Casa Cacao concluded the feast magically, blurring reality and fantasy.

### THE WORLD IS GETTING SMALLER AND MORE INCLUSIVE

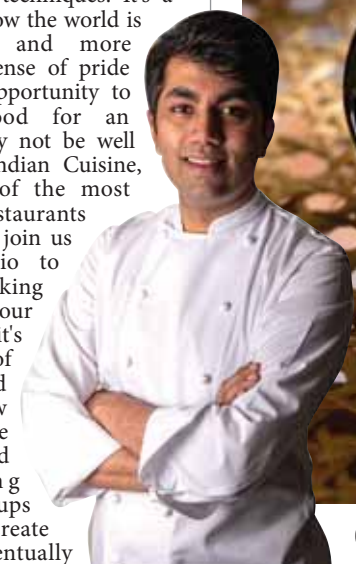
Engaging in pop-up events presents chefs with a valuable chance to acquire new skills and engage in the exchange of culinary knowledge amongst peers in the industry. "Pop-ups are a great platform of exchanging ideas and sharing our cooking philosophies and techniques. It's a true example of how the world is getting smaller and more inclusive. It's a sense of pride when I get an opportunity to cook Indian food for an audience that may not be well educated about Indian Cuisine, or when Chefs of the most renowned restaurants around the world join us at Trésind Studio to share their cooking philosophy with our guests. In the end it's a celebration of culture and creating new friendships. The ideas and brainstorming during pop ups sometimes create dishes that eventually



CHEF JOAN ROCA WITH CHEF VLADIMIR MUKHIN AND HIS TEAM AT KRASOTA, DUBAI



CHEF JOAN ROCA AND VLADIMIR AT A POP UP COLLABORATION IN KRASOTA, DUBAI



CHEF HIMANSHU SAINI AND CHEF JITIN JOSHI

become part of our menu", says Chef Himanshu Saini of Trésind Studio (1 Michelin star), Dubai. Traditionally, pop-ups served as a stepping stone for aspiring restaurateurs to showcase their cooking prowess and test new concepts. However, nowadays, some chefs view pop-ups as standalone ventures, using them to delve into and share their cultural culinary heritage. "I myself have been doing pop up around the globe as a guest chef and this year I would be hosting a guest chef every month in our Private room at the Crossing Dubai. I think it is a great way to show a different and unique style of food philosophy with another chef in the same kitchen. It's not only a great showcase of talent, but also a great learning for the team. I don't think this trend will pass soon and personally would like to see more chefs collaborating and coming together", adds Jitin Joshi Director of Culinary, Lemon Butter, Dubai, U.A.E.

### THE LEARNING MUST NEVER STOP

These gatherings often feel like a blend of educational sessions and personal memoirs, weaving intimate tales through cherished recipes and unique ingredients. "As a chef, it's important to never stop learning. We love inviting chefs from various backgrounds into

our spaces for 4-Hands collaboration events. It's an excellent way for us to learn from each other and discover new possibilities. We've been fortunate to have the opportunity to travel overseas and meet fantastic people, learning and experiencing entirely new cultures, cuisines and ingredients. I always try to bring a few of my team with me on these trips, I believe that travel helps to widen one's perspective and encourage accelerated growth. It's fulfilling for me to groom and provide opportunities for my team to learn", says Julien Royer Chef Owner- Odette (3 Michelin stars), Singapore.

These modern chefs charge for their dinners, yet none are earning vast fortunes from them. They often promote their events on Instagram and sell tickets digitally. Regardless of the practical details, pop-up dining enables them to innovate and test ideas with a small group of guests, fostering a fleeting sense of community. In a time where personal narratives hold greater significance in art and conversations, pop-ups provide chefs with a platform to express, through cuisine, "This is my heritage. This is my identity."



The Japanese celebrate the Hanami, the festival of Spring, with as much gusto as we Indians do. **SHOBORI GANGULI** participates in the gastronomical delights accompanying this ancient ritual at Guppy right here in Delhi

# CHERRY BLOSSOMS, CHEER AND CAMARADERIE



**T**his week I had the great fortune to partake of the Hanami festival at one of Delhi's finest Japanese restaurants Guppy (part of the Olive Chain). This is cherry blossom season of spring in Japan, a time to mark the Hanami festival — a unique cultural tradition of viewing flowers in full bloom, an ancient ritual which serves as a Japanese reminder of the transience of nature, the blossoms a metaphor for life, draped in the immortal philosophy of hope and renewal.

And no festival in the world is complete without its attendant share of feasts and festivities. Guppy, in an earnest attempt to keep this old Japanese heritage alive and robust in a faraway land from Japan, in the very heart of India in Delhi, laid out a sumptuous fare of what would typically be a part of a Hanami dining spread.

Among the salads on offer — Artichoke & Melon, Avocado, Beet & Edamame and Chicken, Avocado & Greens — my friend and I settled for the first one which was a refreshing mix of marinated artichoke, grapes, and

seasoned melon served atop crisp rocket leaves and greens in a spicy Japanese wofu dressing. This salad was truly refreshing and welcome on a hot summer day working in perfect symphony with our Shinzuku Sour cocktail of Gin, fresh gooseberry, peach soju and stillabunt. Skipping the Sushi selection, which we Indians are now

quite familiar with, we opted for the translucent Tobanjan-spiced Chicken Steamed Dumplings, the filling a burst of minced chicken in a Japanese spicy tobanjan chili paste served with a ponzu dip. Perhaps it is me and my changed taste buds over the years or a conscious attempt by Japanese kitchens based out of India, the element of spiciness has notched up a bit from what was often termed as a "bland" taste emanating from traditional kitchens, which may suit the Japanese palate even today, in Japan and elsewhere in the world, but were not embraced with the same degree of enthusiasm one has watched with Italian, Spanish, Chinese, West Asian and Mediterranean spreads across continents.

The fact that Guppy was brimming with people, almost all tables occupied, on a busy working week day, is perhaps testimony to the fact that Japanese cuisine has certainly found an innovative way to work around the Indian palate and its natural inclination for well-spiced food.

From their Small Plates offering we went past the vegetarian Stuffed Tofu Katsu to the Crisp Chicken Parcel, an oven-baked phyllo parcel with ginger flavoured chicken accompanied by soy apple salsa and a yuzu miso sauce.

For the Mains, while my friend settled for the undoubtedly healthy and delicious Grilled Yuzu Khoso Fish, marinated in Jaanese yuzu khoso and herb salsa, grilled and served with lemon butter soy, I ventured into the now universally forbidden territory of red meat. The Grilled Marinated Lamb Chop came with seasonal vegetables and was served with red wine miso. I must admit that while the flavours of the grill settled rather smoothly on my palate, the meat itself was on the rare side and a tad stringy. Red meat requires adequate time to be rested in its marination for it to step delicately away from the bone. In my opinion, the Lamb Chop needed some more attention.

That said, the experience was a rather cheerful one, given that the Japanese dedicate as much time to the aesthetics of the inanimate as to the animate. Guppy is that cheerful, pretty, comfortable Japanese place one would like to hang around at, with friends or family. Here's wishing everyone a happy Hanami, the Japanese spring festival so similar to our own spring festival of Basant Panchami.

## Gurugram's latest Culinary Contender



BY **PAWAN SONI**

**N**estled between two established dining spots at Two Horizon, Marieta emerges as Gurgaon's newest culinary contender, overtaking the space vacated by well-regarded Italian eatery Artusi. Although the name "Marieta" which is a popular female name hails from Greece, the restaurant's global menu lacks prominent Greek offerings.

The start was a bit of a let down. Not being served a hard copy of the menu and asking diner to scan a barcode for the digital menu at a fine-dine restaurant with an excuse that they are new doesn't go well with me. May be I am an old timer who doesn't like reading the menu on mobile's small screen. The manager quickly impro-

vised and offered to share a b&w printed menu with which I was okay but it never came. However he later shared his laptop with me to read the menu. For a classy looking restaurant they can easily do with few laptops if even after a month of their opening they are finding it difficult to get the printed menu.

I am here with my wife and like most men opt for 'The Second Date'. Don't get me wrong, it is a tequila and sake based cocktail with a bit of lychee and Jasmine tea. Its delightful aroma and soothing taste set a pleasant tone for the evening. As I perused the drinks menu, I noticed a variety of tequila and mezcals cocktails, signaling an interesting trend. Just as gin has surpassed vodka in popularity for cocktails, it seems tequila-based cocktails might be the next big trend.

While the food initially took some time to arrive, once it did, the dishes came out in quick succession. Most of the dishes we ordered were impressive. The Mushroom and Cream Cheese (Rs495), encased in crispy kataifi on a cauliflower sauce base, was particularly exciting. Similarly, the Habanero Butter Shrimp (Rs750), served with airy sourdough bread, was noteworthy, although I expected a bit more heat from the habanero, making the dish's name somewhat misleading.

The Avocado Cream Cheese Uramaki (Rs750) sushi roll was



### FACT SHEET

Sector 43, Gurgaon  
Phone: 8800186953  
Cuisine: Global with focus on Mexican

**RATINGS**  
Food: 3.5/5  
Drinks: 4.0/5  
Service: 3.75/5  
Ambience: 3.5/5  
Overall: 3.5/5

enjoyable, with the added crunch of fried sweet potato crisps on top. However, the Spicy Sweet Potato Soft Shell Taco lacked the necessary spiciness to balance the sweetness of the potato. Adding a bit of spicy sauce on the side made it more enjoyable for me.

The only disappointment was the Neapolitan Margherita pizza, which fell short on the dough, kneading, and rolling. The edges didn't rise properly, the center wasn't thin enough, and the sauce was mediocre. However, the chef acknowledged the issue without making excuses, which in my view was commendable. Since we had no room for a main course, we opted for desserts directly. The Vanilla Bean Panna Cotta (Rs595) was exceptional, perfectly set and delicious. Topped with figs and caramel sauce, this dessert, an Artusi recipe, is reason enough to visit Marieta.

We arrived early for a Monday dinner and found the music to be too loud for an empty restaurant. However, as more guests arrived, the sound was absorbed, creating a more enjoyable ambience. The tables in alfresco settings are a bit small for four people; fitting more than two people would be a challenge. Despite minor initial hiccups, the service was good and well-informed. Overall, Marieta is worth a try, especially for the panna cotta.

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



**YOUR WEEK AHEAD**

MADHU KOTIYA



**ARIES** March 21-April 19

This week may fall short of your expectations, particularly regarding financial aspects. You may find yourself unable to make decisive choices at work, leaving tasks incomplete and your workspace disorganized. You might even delay important activities or travel due to uncertainty. However, as the week progresses, you'll discover a more stable approach to managing your responsibilities. Connections from distant locations could prove advantageous. Your team will look to you for more active involvement, and you'll rise to the occasion, regaining confidence and engaging more with your social circle. Despite these improvements, the week might conclude on a challenging note, with domestic tensions or significant health issues within your family demanding both your time and financial resources, which could indirectly affect your professional commitments.

Lucky number 7 | Lucky colour Teal  
Lucky day Friday



**LEO** July 23-Aug 22

This week presents a challenging phase marked by a strong drive and assertive demeanor. Your focus is solely on your professional commitments, often at the expense of your emotional well-being. The overwhelming workload might lead to frustration as you struggle to see tangible outcomes in the distance. Midweek, expect a significant change in your social or professional circle, either through an unexpected arrival or a departure. This may cause a temporary spike in your temper, urging you to make impulsive decisions amidst confusion. While travel might be forthcoming, it's crucial to take moments for reflection to maintain your composure and gain clarity. Despite these testing times, your ability to remain objective during tough decisions shines through, though caution is advised to avoid rushed judgments.

Lucky number 17 | Lucky colour Indigo  
Lucky day Sunday



**SAGITTARIUS** Nov 22-Dec 21

This week emphasizes the need for organization, focus, and self-discipline. A sense of uncertainty pervades, creating misunderstandings between partners. A situation arises where clarity and honesty are available, yet you may find yourself turning away from these truths due to a fear of worsening circumstances. Around midweek, expect challenges related to legal matters or external inquiries that could lead to disappointment. It's a good time to monitor your health and manage how you express yourself, resisting the urge to engage in conflicts with those who challenge you can be beneficial. Consider this period an opportunity for solitude, allowing for reflection and reassessment of your objectives. Healing and rejuvenating yourself during this time will prepare you to tackle upcoming challenges with renewed vigor. Patience is key, as the difficulties you face are only temporary.

Lucky number 121 | Lucky colour Fuchsia  
Lucky day Saturday



**TAURUS** April 20-May 20

This week is set to be filled with abundant blessings. Your long-standing projects are likely to come to a successful conclusion, and there could be exciting developments regarding your living situation, such as moving into a new home through a fortunate opportunity. Expect heartwarming gatherings with family and friends that enhance your sense of community. You'll find yourself surrounded by a positive energy that boosts your confidence and inspires others. With your strong communication skills and magnetic personality, you naturally attract people who seek deeper, cooperative connections with you. Your leadership qualities shine brightly this week. As the week winds down, you'll be drawn towards spiritual practices. Engaging in these reflective activities will deepen your connection to the spiritual realm and spark your creativity. Enjoy every moment of this enriching week.

Lucky number 8 | Lucky colour Olive  
Lucky day Tuesday



**VIRGO** Aug 23-Sep 22

This week promises significant growth in your financial status, accompanied by joy and fulfillment. At work, you exhibit remarkable expertise and apply your vast knowledge in practical ways. Your approach is disciplined, with a keen adherence to schedules and procedures, which contributes to a strong financial foundation, security, and comfort. Additionally, there's potential for receiving substantial financial gains, possibly from unexpected sources. Opportunities for advancements and salary increases might arise, boosting your self-confidence. You may encounter new opportunities such as a job offer, project, or assignment. Utilize your resources judiciously and nurture a keen interest in acquiring and implementing new knowledge professionally. The vibrant energy of youthful colleagues at work also plays a crucial role in driving successful outcomes and bringing joy to your life.

Lucky number 9 | Lucky colour Coral  
Lucky day Thursday



**CAPRICORN** Dec 22-Jan 19

This week marks a period of significant achievement following your persistent efforts and meticulous attention to detail. As the days unfold, you'll find yourself immersed in challenging tasks that require your full concentration and commitment. Your dedication to enhancing both your professional skills and personal growth will be evident. Despite the obstacles, the hard work will enrich your experience and knowledge, paving the way for notable successes. By the week's end, you will have every reason to feel proud and fulfilled. Additionally, this is an ideal time for deep spiritual rejuvenation and strengthening your connection with the divine. The week concludes with powerful transformative energies, fostering personal healing and possibly leading to meaningful relationship advancements, including new commitments or deepening existing bonds.

Lucky number 13 | Lucky colour Maroon  
Lucky day Monday



**GEMINI** May 21-June 20

This week ushers in a spectrum of experiences encompassing deep emotions and spiritual growth, as well as an aggressive pursuit of prosperity. As the week begins, your financial endeavors start to bear fruit, leading to an increase in profits as the days progress. Your caring nature allows you to live lavishly, and your balanced, generous approach at work fosters a harmonious environment. Travel may be on your agenda, possibly including international journeys or leisure cruises with loved ones. Midweek brings a focus on home life, where you adeptly manage the demands of both your professional and personal spheres. As the week draws to a close, you will savor the rewards of your hard work, enjoying robust health and a burst of creativity.

Lucky number 19 | Lucky colour Golden  
Lucky day Sunday



**LIBRA** Sep 23-Oct 22

As the week begins, you embark on a journey of discovery, seeking paths to resolve final challenges effectively. You are on the verge of completing a significant chapter, facing hurdles that you will navigate through successfully. Midweek brings a wave of affection and quality moments with your significant other. As the week draws to a close, conditions become favorable for making investments in real estate or similar significant acquisitions. This period marks a fortunate phase with exceptional opportunities enhancing your overall well-being. You are energized, spirited, and buoyant, surrounded by the warmth of family support that uplifts your confidence. The weekend is perfect for enjoying memorable times with your family and friends, celebrating the joys of togetherness.

Lucky number 21 | Lucky colour Beige  
Lucky day Tuesday



**AQUARIUS** Jan 20-Feb 18

This week heralds a time of fulfillment and joy, as an abundance of blessings enriches your life across multiple fronts. Expect a surge of positivity that enhances your capacity for organization and sharpens your intuition. Harness this vibrant energy to boost your cognitive abilities. It's a rewarding period, both financially and emotionally, offering deep spiritual growth and emotional satisfaction. Relationships take center stage, enhancing connections and aligning closely with your aspirations. Opportunities in your professional life, such as new roles or ventures, are likely to materialize, positioning you favorably in your career path. Your overall vitality is robust, complemented by effective communication and leadership skills, setting the stage for a successful and harmonious week.

Lucky number 131 | Lucky colour Turquoise  
Lucky day Friday



**CANCER** June 21-July 22

This week brings surprising shifts that may leave you feeling both proud and empowered to face the world's challenges. You find yourself unexpectedly stepping into a realm of success, particularly in areas you once thought were beyond your reach. Recognition and envy from others mark your newfound status, though those who truly support you will celebrate your accomplishments. This is a time of significant progress, aligning closely with your true interests. You've surpassed difficult obstacles, and your achievements are now publicly recognized and applauded. A sense of joy emerges, rooted in past experiences. As the week closes, you'll find comfort in cherished memories, reconnecting with the joys of childhood and enjoying moments with younger companions and old friends.

Lucky number 11 | Lucky colour Lavender  
Lucky day Wednesday



**SCORPIO** Oct 23-Nov 21

This week, your focus is primarily on professional endeavors. Embracing risk now may lead to significant financial gains due to your exceptional performance. You possess an abundance of creative energy, enabling you to overcome any barriers with bold confidence. A daunting challenge has captured your attention, but you have the capacity to master it with flair. Midweek, anticipate a period of stringent guidance from a senior female relative. Heeding her wisdom and suggestions will prove advantageous. Enhance your cognitive abilities by engaging with intellectually stimulating activities like reading substantive literature and tackling challenging puzzles. Such pursuits might also lead you to profound revelations in your spiritual journey.

Lucky number 18 | Lucky colour Amber  
Lucky day Sunday



**PISCES** Feb 19-March 20

Success this week seems highly linked to collaboration and teamwork, enhancing both productivity and rapport in your professional environment. You're stepping into a phase where self-respect becomes a cornerstone, fueling both your career and lifestyle with vibrant, innovative ideas. The horizon appears promising, with current ventures showing signs of prosperity and the potential for exciting job opportunities on the near horizon. Effective communication and mutual support are crucial right now, paving the way for fruitful negotiations. A sense of spirituality infuses your endeavors, adding a layer of depth to your pursuits. Joyous family developments, such as the anticipation of a new child, bring happiness and a sense of fulfillment. Your visionary outlook and proactive confidence empower you to explore new territories fearlessly.

Lucky number 1 | Lucky colour Ivory  
Lucky day Wednesday

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**ASTROTURF**  
BHARAT BHUSHAN PADMADEO

# Mother teaches how to make life better



Carrying over from the previous issue, it is important to note that negative memory implants in our minds and the preconditioning thereof, can act a great devil for the self and those around. So, they will also come under the category of demonic forces. Such negative tendencies often foray into uncontrolled and fanciful inconsequential thoughts. They overtake our mind and distract our attention from priority preferences. We, thus, often misdirect our energies towards unproductive ends. In the process, our creative potential gets restricted from blooming out in full. Trapped into such unproductive voluminous thoughts, we are hardly left with mind-space necessary to invoke our faculty of discrimination. We, thus, lose our sense of reasons and direction, and thereby objectivity. Therefore, it becomes imperative upon us to consciously strike upon such unbecoming tendencies, for which we are very much capable. Otherwise, they will keep chasing us from within to our detriment. The question now is: how to figure out

true intent and character of varied demonic presences in disguise, well in time? And then, identify the most appropriate weapon to checkmate their assault? Evidently, it calls for being on full mental alert all the time. That alone can facilitate identifying right weapon for the right occasion. Mother's 10 arms also correspond to the positive and negative implications of man's sensory organs - 5 of perception and 5 of action. Experience suggests that in our usual flow of life, more often our sensory perceptions get stuck to the illusionary glare and glitter of the seeming world. Ego, further driving one's mind, makes one believe that what is apparent is to be taken as absolute truth. In the process, one forgets the necessity of invoking the indwelling faculty of discrimination necessary to figure out the underlying truths. True picture thus missing, one may inadvertently respond unintelligently on instinctive judgment. By the time one realises, the danger would have caught us unaware. It, therefore, becomes incumbent upon us to be on full

mental alert to figure out one's own limitations of mind in time, work upon them aggressively, and ensure being in full control of the self. Now, why a Lion as Mother's mount? Remember, a lion is known to be a

very intelligent animal and supposedly the king of jungles. When a lion goes for a hunt in search of its feed, it moves strategically, carefully, cautiously, without wasting much of its energy, but with its eyes fixed on its

prospective kill. It ensures not being noticed by the kill, till it is ready for its final assault. However, once the prey comes within its reach, it extols all its energy and pounces upon it. But then the lion does not go for its next kill till it has become hungry once again after exhausting its feed. The killing too is, therefore, need based and not out of greed. In fact, in nature's scheme of things, there exists a food chain. It is so made out as that there exists a predator to check the outgrowth of any creature. Bacteria in a drain treats the night soil. But its excessive presence will make living inhabitable. So, to keep their outgrowth in check, there exist other creatures. This way nature's biodiversity is kept in equitable balance. Here again, the animals, unlike human beings, invariably live in their present moment. They do not dwell on their past nor do they care for future. They are not tempted to encroach upon other's share to secure their future concerns either. Human beings, on the contrary, recalling their unpleasant memories of the past invite sense of fear. They also keep dreaming about

making a better future. In the process they dissipate their energies and mind space towards unproductive ends. Consequently, they are hardly left with enough to do justice to the callings of the present. What we forget that the seed planted today will turn into a fruit bearing tree tomorrow. Accordingly, we need to shed the past that has become history and forget about future that is uncertain. Following which we can put in our whole into present, which alone will prepare the ground for a better tomorrow. If the above inputs are made to sink in deep in one's mind through continued reflection, it will induce a person to act accordingly, which one could carry on effortlessly. Following which, one may be able to successfully steer life with ease and comfort, despite all oddities and hazards coming in the way. Life will then turn into a beautiful experience.

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