

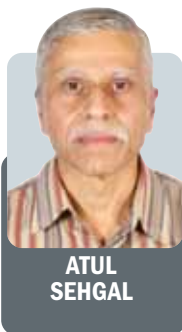
Building a new world economic order

A new, multipolar economic order is taking shape, led by nations like India, whose demographic strength, resource wealth, and deeply rooted ethos of fairness position it as a key architect of a more just and sustainable global economy

FIRST Column



ic growth of these countries through the eighties and nineties of the twentieth century could not be matched by the economically saturated and stagnating first-world block, WTO and a set of trade rules thereunder, like GATT and TRIPS, were established.



ATUL SEHGAL

But these also could not give the intended growth impetus to the first-world block, because of the working of immanent natural laws of economics. It is time again today to look at the above natural laws. The capitalistic, debt-based model of economics is unnatural and unsustainable. The plunder or exploitation-based model is inhuman and naturally unsustainable too. The world is staring at a new economic order because of the changing power equations across

MILITARY MIGHT CREATED POLITICAL HEGEMONY AND THIS GRADUALLY TRANSFORMED INTO ECONOMIC HEGEMONY THROUGH ONE-SIDED TRADE RULES THAT PERPETUATED THE POVERTY OF THIRD-WORLD COUNTRIES AND FURTHER ENRICHED THE FIRST-WORLD COUNTRIES

the globe. Today, military and industrial technology is not the sole preserve of the designated first-world nations of the twentieth century.

China, India, Brazil, and Iran are some of the ex — third-world countries that, besides being resource-rich, also have industrial and military technologies.

China and India possess nuclear arsenals, and even Iran is on its way to acquiring nuclear capability. So, neither military might nor economic might of the erstwhile powers can sustain the old world economic order.

The mammoth debt of China, pegged at 300 per cent of GDP, and of the USA, estimated at 36 trillion US dollars (more than 100 per cent of its GDP), is already showing its detrimental effects in both these countries, evidenced by the economic recession, inflation, and unemployment.

The Belt and Road initiative of China has landed in a quandary, and WTO rules are being thrown to the winds by the Trump administration in the USA.

The new world economic order will, inexorably, see the decline and demise of the US dollar as the

dominant currency and the emergence of a multiple — currency basket for trade.

The natural laws of economics are manifesting their work in the resurgence of India, and there seems to be no stopping the slow-stepped elephant after the dragon in its neighbour seems to have fagged out.

The unique positive naturally endowed features of India are its plentiful, productive Human Resources and its economically strategic agro-climatic location along with its rich mineral resources.

Today, this country is mostly free from exploitative interference and arm-twisting by global powers and is poised for rapid take-off to become a developed nation.

The new economic order will, therefore, inevitably, see a strong economic resurgence of the Indian subcontinent, regression of the eurozone countries, and a relatively slow growth of Latin American and African countries. The latter will pick up growth led by a resurgent India in the years and decades to come.

The Indian subcontinent, in its growth and development journey, will not indulge in the exploitation of the smaller and weaker states, unlike its colonial masters and their new avatars. It is not in the DNA of India to invade, conquer, and plunder other nations.

The Indian ethos underlines the philosophy of 'live and let live' instead of 'survival of the fittest'. That is another area where India is different and unique.

In conclusion, the global economic landscape is undergoing a profound transformation driven by the unsustainability of a debt-fuelled, capitalistic model and the waning dominance of the US dollar.

The era of Western economic hegemony — rooted in military might, exploitative trade practices, and the artificial supremacy of fiat currency — is rapidly eroding. Emerging economies like India, China, Brazil, and Iran, rich in resources and technological capabilities, are reshaping the balance of power.

Among these, India stands uniquely poised for sustained and inclusive growth, bolstered by its demographic advantage, strategic location, and ethical economic philosophy.

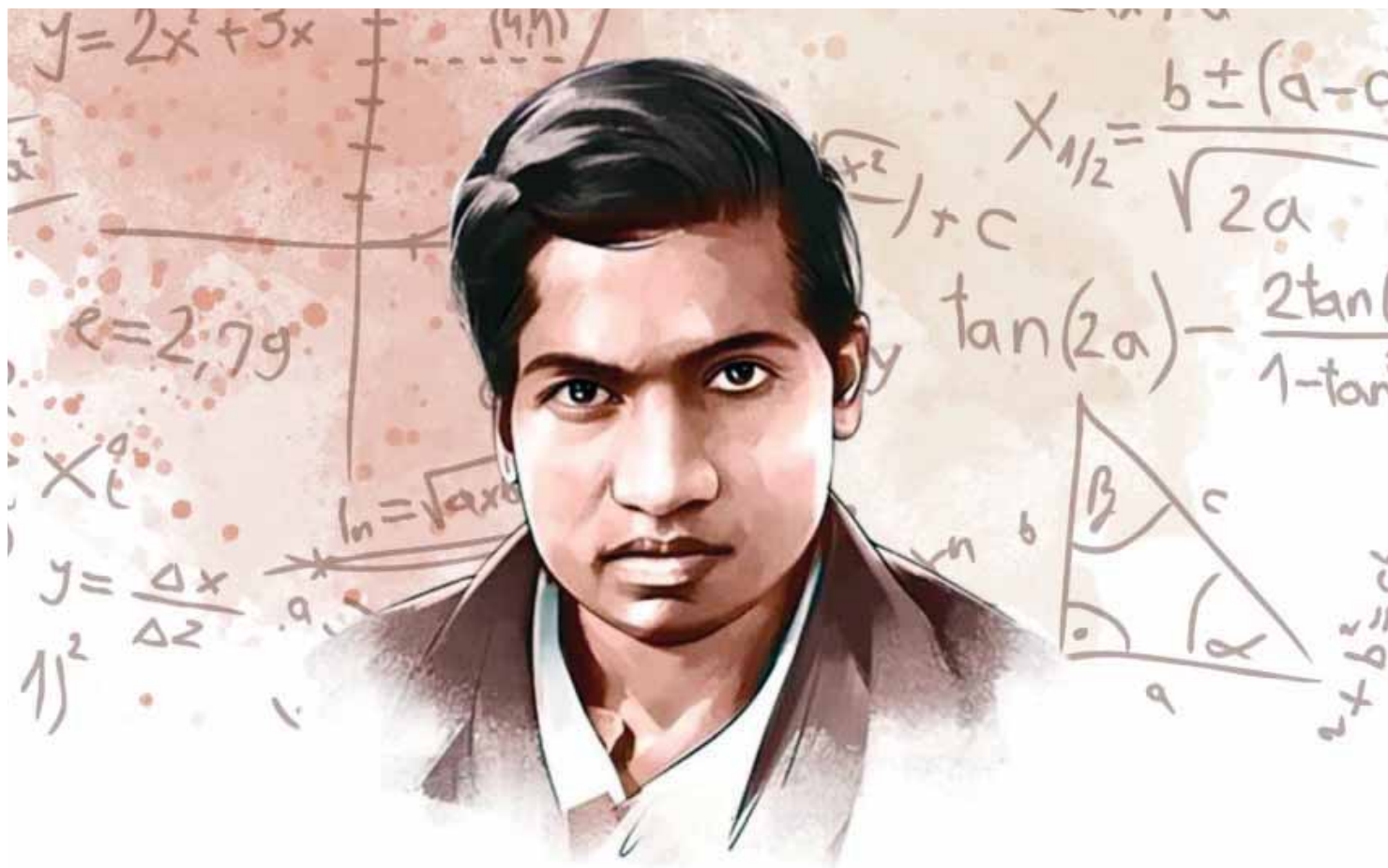
As the global order pivots toward a multi — currency trading system and more equitable partnerships, India's non-imperial ethos positions it as a natural leader in the evolving economic era.

The new world economic order will not just be about wealth accumulation but about fairness, sustainability, and mutual progress — principles deeply embedded in India's civilisational values. A future rooted in cooperation, not domination, is now within reach.

(The writer is a management consultant based in New Delhi. Views are personal)

Ramanujan: Eternal lamp in the temple of mathematics

On April 26, 1920, the nation lost Srinivasa Ramanujan a rare mathematical genius. His mathematical consciousness illuminated the world for eternity. This is not merely his death anniversary; it is a celebration of a saint — like devotee of numbers who elevated mathematics to the realms of philosophy and the divine



RK JAIN ARIJEET

— thousands of formulas, many without proofs, that took mathematicians decades to fully understand. His mock theta functions, penned during his final days, baffled mathematicians for nearly a

mathematics is beyond the human mind; it is divine inspiration." Ramanujan was invited to Cambridge, and his collaboration with Hardy sparked a revolution in mathematics. The Hardy — Ramanujan formula on the distribution of prime numbers, along with their other contributions, are considered monumental achievements.

Ramanujan's greatest legacy lies in his notebooks — thousands of formulas, many without proofs, that took mathematicians decades to fully understand.

His mock theta functions, penned during his final days, baffled mathematicians for nearly a

FROM A YOUNG AGE, NUMBERS WERE HIS COMPANIONS AND HIS PLAYGROUND. WHILE OTHER CHILDREN PLAYED WITH TOYS, HE DELVED DEEP INTO THE MYSTERIES OF MATHEMATICS

century but are now essential in quantum physics and string theory.

His contributions to the Riemann zeta function continue to influence research on one of mathematics' most profound mysteries — the Riemann Hypothesis.

Yet, Ramanujan's journey was not without immense struggle. At Cambridge, he battled cultural isolation, dietary challenges, and the harsh English climate. Diagnosed with tuberculosis in 1917, his health deteriorated, and he returned to India in 1919.

Just a year later, on April 26, 1920, at the age of 32, he passed away in Kumbakonam. But though his mortal life ended, his spirit lives on through his work.

The discovery of his "Lost Notebook" in 1976 reignited excitement and opened new doors in mathematical research. Ramanujan's influence goes far beyond mathematics. His story is a bea-

con for dreamers and doers who dare to rise above adversity. In 1987, India marked his birth centenary by declaring it National Mathematics Year. His legacy continues in the world's top institutions, and his life inspired Robert Kanigel's biography *The Man Who Knew Infinity*, later adapted into a global film.

In his honour, December 22 is now celebrated as National Mathematics Day in India. Ramanujan's life is proof that genius needs no degree, wealth, or privilege. His journey is a testament to passion, faith, and the boundless potential of the human mind. His discoveries not only advanced science but also revealed a deep philosophical truth — that within each of us lies the power to touch the infinite.

Today, as we remember him on April 26, we do more than pay tribute — we renew our commitment to nurturing the spark within us. Like Ramanujan, may we turn our dreams into devotion. Equations may evolve and theorems may change, but there will never be another Ramanujan.

He is the eternal lamp in the temple of mathematics — forever radiant. His legacy is not India's alone — it belongs to all of humanity. As long as numbers are written and equations are solved, Ramanujan will remain immortal — a soul who touched infinity and offered its light to the world.

Srinivasa Ramanujan was not just a mathematician — he was a visionary who transformed numbers into a divine language. On April 26, we don't just mourn his passing; we celebrate a life that elevated mathematics into art, spirituality, and cosmic truth.

Despite humble beginnings and relentless hardships, his passion and genius blazed trails that continue to shape modern science.

His discoveries — ranging from infinite series to mock theta functions — remain cornerstones of mathematics, physics, and beyond. Ramanujan's journey proves that brilliance needs neither privilege nor pedigree.

His life is a testament to what the human spirit can achieve with faith, curiosity, and devotion. Today, his legacy lights the path for dreamers, thinkers, and seekers of truth across the world. As we remember him, we also honour the infinite potential within us all.

Ramanujan lives on, not just in equations, but in the eternal quest for knowledge he so passionately embodied. He is, and always will be, mathematics' guiding flame.

(The writer is a columnist and a blogger. Views are personal)

'Will support India,' says Tulsi Gabbard

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New York/Washington

US Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard on Friday said America stands with India as it hunts down those responsible for the heinous Pahalgam attack that killed 26 Hindus. The State Department too said the US stands with India and called for Pahalgam attack perpetrators to be brought to justice.

Terrorists opened fire in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam on Tuesday, killing 26 people, mostly tourists, in the deadliest attack in the valley since the Pulwama strike in 2019. The Resistance Front (TRF), a proxy of the banned Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), claimed responsibility for the attack.

"We stand in solidarity with India in the wake of the horrific Islamist terrorist attack, targeting and killing 26 Hindus in Pahalgam," Gabbard said in a post on X.

"My prayers and deepest sympathies are with those who lost a loved one, PM @narendramodi, and with all the people of India. We are with you and support you as you hunt down those responsible for this heinous attack," she said.

"We pray for the lives of those lost and for the recovery of the injured and call for the perpetrators of this heinous act to be brought to justice," Bruce added.

Responding to a question on whether the US sees Pakistan as potentially being behind the attack and if Washington is playing any role in trying to de-escalate tensions between the two South Asian nations, Bruce said the issue was highlighted due to the severity of the situation but added that no further comment would be made at this time.

"What I can tell you is, of course, as we all know, it's a rapidly changing situation and we are monitoring it closely, as you might imagine. And we, of course, are not now taking a position on the status of Kashmir or of Jammu either, so that's really going to be the extent of what I can say today."

When asked if President Donald Trump had offered to mediate between India and Pakistan in his first term, she said, "I'm not going to be remarking... As I mentioned," Meanwhile, Congresswoman Elise Stefanik, who had been nominated by US President Donald Trump to be the US ambassador to the United Nations, said America is deeply saddened by the horrific mass terror attack in Kashmir, India.

PUBLIC NOTICE: This is to be informed that Sh. Vikas Kalra is the owner of Plot No. 4 Block-K, Green Park (Main), New Delhi 110016. That he have lost/Misplaced the original Sale deed which is executed by (i) Sh. Ajatshatru Sehgal (ii) Sh. Rajat Sehgal (iii) Dr. Shobha Sehgal in favour of Sh. Bhagirathi Lal Kalra which is registered as Doc. No. 7859 dated 18.12.1981.

PUBLIC NOTICE: To be known to all that I, Smt. Harjit Kaur, W/o Late Sh. Jaswant Singh Madan, R/O Flat No.-43, Ground Floor, Block-A, Pocket-N, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi-110088, declare that I have lost the original DDA possession letter issued by DDA in respect of Flat No.-43, Ground Floor, Block-A, Pocket-N, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi-110088.

भारतीय प्रबन्धन संस्थान, राँची Indian Institute of Management, Ranchi Recruitment for the position of Corporate Relation Manager at IIM Ranchi

NORTHERN RAILWAY Open E-Tender Notice The Sr. Divisional Engineer-II, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-Tender for the following work: Outsourcing of maintenance activities by hiring skilled and unskilled staff for day-to-day maintenance of colonies and service buildings in the section of SSE/W/MTC & SSE/W/MOZ under ADE/NMUT.

PUBLIC NOTICE: The Director Town & Country Planning, Haryana, Chandigarh has granted In-Principle approval vide memo no. LC-5058-IV/JE/SK/2025/15074 dated 25/04/2025 for transfer of part licensed area measuring 22,7505 acres from Yesha Developers LLP to M/s Signatreglobal Business Park Private Limited against License No. 121 of 2024 dated 14/08/2024 granted for setting up of Industrial Plotted Colony over an area measuring 125.60 acres in the revenue state of Village Bhandosi, Ghamroj & Mahendwara, Tehsil Sohna, District, Gurugram

DELHI TRANSCO LIMITED NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS Delhi Transco Ltd (A Government of NCT of Delhi Undertaking) intends to invite online tender for the following work: Tender No. T24R220431: Design, Engineering, Supply, Laying, Joining, Testing and Commissioning of 220kV D/C U/G 1200 Sq.mm XLPE Cable for upcoming 220kV TSS of Northern Railway at (Tughlakabad) from 220kV Substation BTPS and Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of 02 No. 220kV feeders for Northern Railways with associated civil work at 220kV Substation BTPS New Delhi (India) on Turnkey Basis.

Manibhavnam Home Finance India Private Limited ("Company") (U65990DL2016PTC298946) Registered Office: Farm No. 10 Tropical Drive, Ghilorni, M.G Road, New Delhi - 110003. Mob-9310100001; email-customer@manibhavnam.com

Sd/- Authorised Signatory Signatreglobal Business Park Private Limited CIN: U70109DL2019PTC346164 Regd Off- 13th Floor, Dr. Gopal Das Bhawan, 28 Barakhamba Road, New Delhi-110001 Place- Gurugram

All Corrigendum/Addendum/Amendments/Date of Extension/Clarifications, if any, to the above e-tenders would appear only on the above mentioned websites.

PUBLIC NOTICE: FLAT NO-A-302, 3RD FLOOR, PLOT NO - 18/C-4, SECTOR-18, VASUNDHARA, GHAZIABAD-201001. That our client Mrs. Manoj Kumar Tripathi and Mrs. Sunita Tripathi propose to purchase the above said property from Aradhana Ahuja, who has assured our client that she is absolute owner in possession of the said property vide Sale deed No. 20818 dated 13.08.10 having purchased the same jointly with Ved Prakash Arora and Phoolwanti. The said Ved Prakash Arora and Phoolwanti died leaving behind two share in dated 13.08.10, bequeathing their separate will in favour of Aradhana Ahuja, the said Will(s) dated 13.08.10 are the last and final will of late Ved Prakash Arora and Phoolwanti.

SUPREME HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 ("SARFAESI ACT, 2002"). We, SUPREME HOUSING FINANCE LTD., a Housing Finance Bank Company under the National Housing Bank Act, 1987 and incorporated under the provision of Companies Act, 2013 and having its registered office presently at 2nd Floor, Block-E, Harsha Bhawan, Middle Circle, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001 (Earlier at RD Chambers 16/11, Arya Samaj Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005) and also having CIN: U67190DL2014PLC272457, do hereby serve upon you the following notice U/Sec. 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (hereinafter referred to as the 'Act'), the contents whereof may be noted accordingly.

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, चतुर्थ वृत्त, लोक निर्माण विभाग, रुद्रपुर (उधमसिंह नगर) फोन: 05944-240921 ईमेल: sepwdsun@gmail.com राष्ट्रीय प्रतिस्पर्धात्मक निविदा (e-tendering) महामहिम राज्यपाल उत्तराखण्ड की ओर से अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, चतुर्थ वृत्त, लोकनिर्माण विभाग (उधम सिंह नगर) द्वारा निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु ई-टेंडरिंग द्वारा टू-बिड सिस्टम के अन्तर्गत निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा से सम्बन्धित सभी सूचनायें वेबसाइट http://www.uktenders.gov.in पर दिनांक 28.04.2025 से उपलब्ध होंगी।

THE PUNJAB STATE COOPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS FEDERATION LTD. SCO 153-155, SECTOR 34-A, CHANDIGARH-160022. Notice Inviting e Tender. e-tenders are hereby invited for the purchase and supply of following item:-

Chief Engineer, Uttarakhand Rural Roads Development Agency, First Floor, Directorate of Panchayati Raj, Opp-IT Park, Sahasradhara Road, Dehradun. सचिव 61/अई-02(ख-2)/ITCO/पञ्जाबराजरीज/75 दिनांक: 25 अप्रैल, 2025 PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY) e-Procurement Notice-01(Relaying Works)/2025-26

NERES XVI POWER TRANSMISSION LIMITED CORE - 4, SCOPE COMPLEX 7, LODHI ROAD, DELHI, SOUTH DELHI, DELHI, INDIA 110003 CIN: U40106DL2023PLC409758 PUBLIC NOTICE M/s. NERES XVI Power Transmission Limited having its registered office at Core-4, Scope Complex 7, Lodhi Road, Delhi, South Delhi, Delhi, India 110003 intends to apply to the Government of India to confer upon him all the powers under Section 164 of the Electricity Act, 2003 for the placing of electric lines or electrical plant for the transmission of electricity or for the purpose of telephonic or telegraphic communications necessary for the proper coordination of works which telegraph authority possess under the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 with respect to the placing of telegraph lines and posts for the purpose of a telegraph established or maintained, by the Government or to be so established or maintained and will undertake the survey, construction, installation, inspection, erection and other works to be followed by commissioning, operation. Maintenance and other works for the following transmission scheme.

CLIX HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of CLIX Housing Finance Limited, a Housing Finance Bank Company under the National Housing Bank Act under the provision of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) (hereinafter referred to as "SARFAESI Act, 2002") having its Registered Office: W/2/14, 1st Floor, West Patel Nagar, Delhi, 110008 (hereinafter referred to as "CLIX"), is engaged in the business of providing financial assistance to meet the needs of over millions of its customers all over India, hereby issues to you the following notice:

Chief Engineer, Uttarakhand Rural Roads Development Agency, First Floor, Directorate of Panchayati Raj, Opp-IT Park, Sahasradhara Road, Dehradun. सचिव 61/अई-02(ख-2)/ITCO/पञ्जाबराजरीज/75 दिनांक: 25 अप्रैल, 2025 PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY) e-Procurement Notice-01(Relaying Works)/2025-26 The Chief Engineer, URRDA on behalf of Governor of Uttarakhand invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of works under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the Districts of Bageshwar for 03 number of packages with estimated cost totaling to Rs. 5.73 Crore including their maintenance for five years from the eligible contractors(Class-A and above) registered with PWD/CPWD or equivalent.

Chief Engineer, Uttarakhand Rural Roads Development Agency, First Floor, Directorate of Panchayati Raj, Opp-IT Park, Sahasradhara Road, Dehradun. सचिव 61/अई-02(ख-2)/ITCO/पञ्जाबराजरीज/75 दिनांक: 25 अप्रैल, 2025 PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY) e-Procurement Notice-01(Relaying Works)/2025-26 The Chief Engineer, URRDA on behalf of Governor of Uttarakhand invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of works under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the Districts of Bageshwar for 03 number of packages with estimated cost totaling to Rs. 5.73 Crore including their maintenance for five years from the eligible contractors(Class-A and above) registered with PWD/CPWD or equivalent.

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ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL, SRINAGAR BB, CANTT, BATWARA (J&K)- 190004 Website: www.apssrinagar.co.in INVITING QUOTATIONS 1. On behalf of the Chairman Army Public School BB, Cantt Srinagar invites quotations for the Printing & Supplying of various stationary and other items. Details of the same can be had from the school website.

NERES XVI POWER TRANSMISSION LIMITED CORE - 4, SCOPE COMPLEX 7, LODHI ROAD, DELHI, SOUTH DELHI, DELHI, INDIA 110003 CIN: U40106DL2023PLC409758 PUBLIC NOTICE M/s. NERES XVI Power Transmission Limited having its registered office at Core-4, Scope Complex 7, Lodhi Road, Delhi, South Delhi, Delhi, India 110003 intends to apply to the Government of India to confer upon him all the powers under Section 164 of the Electricity Act, 2003 for the placing of electric lines or electrical plant for the transmission of electricity or for the purpose of telephonic or telegraphic communications necessary for the proper coordination of works which telegraph authority possess under the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 with respect to the placing of telegraph lines and posts for the purpose of a telegraph established or maintained, by the Government or to be so established or maintained and will undertake the survey, construction, installation, inspection, erection and other works to be followed by commissioning, operation. Maintenance and other works for the following transmission scheme.

A Sacred Step

A powerful dance drama that brings the Ramayan to life with grace, strength, and deep emotion, says SAKSHI PRIYA

CULTURAL CELEBRATION

Ms. Rekha Gupta, the Chief Minister of Delhi, whose presence added prestige to the event and highlighted the cultural significance of the evening. Her support for the arts is well-known and her attendance at this dance drama reflected her dedication to promoting India's rich cultural heritage.



Ram's birth in Ayodhya to his return as king, through classical dance, dramatic expression and layered symbolism. Guru Ajay Bhatt and Aamrapali Bhandari's choreography respected the epic's soul.

Every movement was chosen with care. Ram's journey began with the celebration of his birth in Ayodhya. The air was alive with movement and colour. But celebration gave way to duty. Ram's departure into vanvaas was a haunting moment, his farewell to Kaushalya staged with restraint, as dancers encircled him like time closing in. The lighting shifted to capture the weight of sacrifice.

The forest scenes were among the most visually captivating. With nothing more than cloth, shadow and body formations, the dancers created rivers, trees, and wild animals. Sita stood tall with presence and dignity, while Lakshman reflected Ram's sense of duty with measured steps.

Then came the heart of the epic — Ravan's entrance. Played with authority and presence, his character carried pride and ego that ultimately led to his fall. The abduction of Sita was staged in stillness: a tight spotlight, the sudden clash of cymbals, and her hands rising in despair.

No cries — only silence, and it was deafening. Hanuman's scenes brought a shift in energy. His entry was spirited and charged, with leaps and spins that filled the stage. The youngest performing alongside the seasoned artists, especially in the search for Sita, held their own with focus and honesty, proving that emotion carries more weight than age or training.

AND THEN THE WEDDING SEQUENCE

Of all the moments, this stood out as the most poetic. Ram and Sita's swayamvar was staged with dignity. The breaking of Shiva's bow was done through a symbolic gesture — the clap and sudden illumination. But it was what followed that left the audience completely still: the phoolon ki baarish. There were no real flowers, yet one could see them. Each dancer opened their palms to the sky, then turned their hands downward, releasing imaginary petals in slow motion. It was the suggestion that created magic. The hall watched in stillness, as if the gods themselves were blessing the union. The battle between Ram and Ravan was marked by strong choreography, precise and deliberate, reflecting the conflict both within and around. And when Ram returned to Ayodhya, it was the sight of the people lighting lamps, forming the deepmala with their bodies that brought home the meaning of Diwali.

The dialogues were few, spoken with clarity at the right moments — Ram's declaration of duty, Sita's quiet resolve, Hanuman's pledge. The lighting throughout was purposeful — never overpowering, always in line with the mood of each scene. This was the Ramayan performed with clarity, discipline and respect. Dr Mehra and her team brought together talent, tradition and a deep sense of purpose.



DEVOTION CAPTURED IN EVERY STEP AND MOTION

Every scene, every expression, every beat of the foot was in service of the story, what stayed was the feeling that something timeless had passed before our eyes, an offering of art, devotion and truth that will remain with those who witnessed it.

There are moments when art stops being performance and becomes prayer. When the movement of feet, the strength of hands, and the silence between gestures speak louder than words. **Maryada Purushottam Shri Ram**, presented by the Urvashi Dance Music Art & Cultural Society, was one such offering. The dance carried with it the weight of legacy, the fire of devotion, and the strength of truth.

It began in silence — no fanfare. Just the stage slowly lighting up to the sound of a conch, a chant rising through the Kamani Auditorium and the sight of dancers entering barefoot, as if walking into a sacred space. From that very first moment, the performance became an experience. Among the distinguished guests in attendance was Ms Rekha Gupta, the Chief Minister of Delhi, whose presence highlighted the cultural significance of the evening. Directed with remarkable sensitivity by Dr Rekha Mehra, the production traced the arc of the Ramayan from



Art as a form of Reflection

A moving journey through colour and memory, where quiet forms speak to something deeply human

BY TEAM VIVA

Art, in its purest form, communicates feelings that words cannot capture. Through the play of form, colour, and texture, it creates a space for personal reflection. The exhibition, **Beyond Myth & Metaphor** by Shabir Hussain Santosh and curated with an essay by Archana Khare Ghose, is being held at Shridharani Gallery, New Delhi and is presented by Sanchit Art.

It invites the viewer into a world where myth is not retold but felt. Santosh's paintings do not aim to deliver a heavy narrative; instead, they evoke a deeper feeling, a subtle undercurrent of emotion that emerges through his use of abstract forms. He doesn't seek to tell stories in the traditional sense. Instead, he captures the essence of myth in a way that goes beyond its literal meaning. The figures in his paintings are often soft, undefined, allowing for a sense of fluidity and openness. The colours employ a particularly striking. Warm, earthy reds and glowing yellows are infused with a quiet energy, evoking both the warmth of the earth and the depth of memory.

Standing in front of these paintings, viewers often find themselves captured by the quiet stillness of the artwork. They stare, perhaps searching for a clearer understanding of what the painting is about, but it is precisely this uncertainty that makes the work so compelling. The figures are often incomplete or fragmented, and yet they evoke such a powerful emotional response.

Artist ability to convey such powerful emotions with the simplest of forms speaks volumes about his understanding of the human condition. His work is not about spectacle but about evoking a quiet space for thought and reflection.



EXHIBITION THAT ENCOURAGES SLOWING DOWN AND ALLOWING THE EMOTIONS IN THE PAINTINGS TO TAKE ROOT. IT IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC UNTIL APRIL 30, 2025. GO SEE IT - NOT TO UNDERSTAND EVERY DETAIL, BUT TO FEEL THE MESSAGE.



The Rediscovery of a 17th-Century Masterwork

BY TEAM VIVA

Art, in its essence, is an exploration of human emotions, experiences, and ideas. **Caravaggio's Magdalene in Ecstasy** offers a vivid representation of these elements, capturing a raw and sincere moment in a remarkable way. This painting, rediscovered after centuries, provides an intimate view into the depths of Mary Magdalene's emotional state, offering more than just a visual experience, but a deep reflection on penitence and spiritual devotion.

Mary Magdalene in Ecstasy (1606), 40.75 in x 36 in, showcases the artist's masterful use of chiaroscuro — the dramatic contrast between light and shadow — which imbues the painting with both realism and emotional intensity. Roberto Longhi, a key researcher of Caravaggio, noted that the subject was interpreted in a unique and innovative manner, with Caravaggio placing the figure in a diagonal position that draws the viewer into the 17th century.

The rediscovery of this painting is a remarkable event in the art world. Mina Gregori, an expert in Caravaggio's work, recalled the emotional experience she had when first encountering the painting, describing how it felt like an act of devotion. This painting is not only significant for its artistic merit but also for its historical value in understanding the role of images and faith during the Counter-Reformation period.

One of the most notable aspects of Magdalene in Ecstasy is the rendering of the hands. Caravaggio's attention to detail in these hands, with their vivid colours and naturalistic depiction, is considered one of the defining elements of the original painting. These hands, full of tension, convey a deep sense of emotion that goes beyond technique, showing the artist's ability to bring life into his work. The face of Magdalene is another focal point of the painting. The careful blending of light



and shadow on her face gives it an inner mobility, which, in turn, heightens the emotive impact of the piece. Caravaggio's treatment of the eyes, especially the tears, merging the emotional depth of the subject with the natural world around her. The striking red hair of Magdalene, cascading over her shoulder, is depicted with equal intensity.

Caravaggio's use of light to highlight this feature contributes to the painting's dramatic effect, and the folds of her red cloak, executed with bold, vigorous brushstrokes, further emphasise the dynamic tension within the composition. The cross and skull, symbols of death and devotion, are placed strategically in

HISTORIC BAROQUE MASTERPIECE

In an exciting cultural milestone, **Magdalene in Ecstasy** will be unveiled in New Delhi as part of a historic exhibition. The Cultural Centre of the Italian Embassy, in partnership with The Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, proudly announces the arrival of Caravaggio's masterpiece in Delhi on the occasion of the visit of Italian Deputy Prime Minister Antonio Tajani and Minister for University and Research Anna Maria Bernini. The exhibition will be opened to the public at KNMA Saket till May 18, 2025. The rediscovery of this work is a powerful reminder of the timeless nature of Caravaggio's art. His ability to capture the essence of human emotion, through light, shadow, and form, continues to resonate with modern viewers, offering them a glimpse into the complexities of the human soul.

the painting to prompt reflection. The positioning of these elements invites the viewer to contemplate not only the life of Magdalene but also the broader themes of redemption and eternal life.

The crown of thorns, situated above Magdalene, speaks to her sacrifice and connection to the suffering of Christ, urging viewers to meditate on the spiritual significance of her actions.

Through his masterful technique and vivid portrayal of the human experience, he conveys not only the visual appearance of his subjects but also their internal emotional state. In **Magdalene in Ecstasy**, every brushstroke carries the weight of human struggle, spirituality, and devotion.

