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CANADA SWEPT BY LIBERALS, INDIA BE CAUTIOUS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Toronto

Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney's Liberal Party has won the federal election, capping a stunning turnaround in fortunes fuelled by US President Donald Trump's annexation threats and trade war.

Carney's rival, populist Conservative Party leader Pierre Poilievre, was voted out of his seat in Parliament, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation projected on Tuesday.

The loss of his seat representing his Ottawa district in Monday's election capped a swift decline in fortunes for the firebrand Poilievre, who a few months ago appeared to be a shoo-in to become Canada's next Prime Minister and shepherd the Conservatives back into power for the first time in a decade.

But then Trump launched a trade war with Canada and suggested the country should become the 51st state, outraging voters and upending the election. Poilievre, a career politician, campaigned with Trump-like bravado, taking a page from the 'America First' president by adopting the slogan 'Canada First.' But his similarities to Trump may have ultimately cost him and his party.

The Liberals were projected to win more of Parliament's 343 seats than the Conservatives. It wasn't immediately clear if they would win an outright majority — at least 172 — or would need to rely on a smaller party to pass legislation and remain in power.

Elections Canada said it has decided to pause counting of special ballots — cast by voters who are away from their districts during the election — until later on Tuesday morning.

The Liberals were leading or elected in 168 seats when the counting was paused, four short of a majority. Elections Canada estimated that the uncounted votes could affect the result in about a dozen districts.

Liberal Leader Mark Carney arrives in Ottawa in Canada PTI

The decision means Canadians won't know until later in the day whether Carney's Liberals have won a minority or majority mandate.

In a victory speech, Carney stressed the importance of unity in the face of Washington's threats. He also said the mutually beneficial system Canada and the US had shared since World War II had ended. "We are over the shock of the American betrayal, but we should never forget the lessons," he said.

"As I've been warning for months, America wants our land, our resources, our water, our country," Carney added. "These are not idle threats. President Trump is trying to break us so America can own us. That will never... Ever happen. But we also must recognise the reality that our world has fundamentally changed."

A defeat for the Conservatives

Poilievre hoped to make the election a referendum on former Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, whose popularity declined toward the end of his decade in power as food and housing prices rose.

But Trump attacked, Trudeau resigned and Carney, a two-time central banker, became the Liberal Party's leader and prime minister.

In a concession speech before the race call on his own seat, Poilievre vowed to keep fighting for Canadians.

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MODI CONGRATULATES CANADIAN PRIME MINISTER

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday congratulated Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney on the victory of his Liberal Party in federal elections and said he was looking forward to strengthening bilateral ties and unlocking greater opportunities for people of the two nations. Carney, an economist and political newcomer, led the Liberal Party to its remarkable victory in the elections held under the shadow of US President Donald Trump's tariff clash.

It is the Liberal Party's fourth victory since 2015 though its race against the Conservative Party was much tighter than anticipated by the opinion polls.

Terror fear shuts tourist spots in Valley

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ Jammu

One week after the Pahalgam massacre, the Jammu and Kashmir government on Tuesday closed down at least 48 out of 87 tourist hot spots in different parts of the Kashmir valley after intelligence agencies warned of the possibility of more terror attacks on tourists, non-local workers and others at the behest of Pakistan-based handlers of active terror groups in the valley.

Meanwhile, the joint team of security forces has intensified anti-terror operations to hunt down the perpetrators behind the horrific killing of 26 tourists in the Baisaran valley of Pahalgam.

Amid escalating tensions between India and Pakistan, the situation along the line of control also remains 'volatile' as the Pakistan Army has been consistently resorting to 'unprovoked' ceasefire violations since April 22.

According to a Defence PRO, the latest incident of ceasefire violation, the fifth in a row, was reported from the Kupwara and Baramulla districts in Kashmir, as well as the Akhnoor sector in Jammu. In the wake of a heightened threat, the local farmers in the border areas are rushing to harvest their standing crops to avoid collateral losses.

The joint team of security forces has intensified anti-terror operations to hunt down the perpetrators behind the horrific killing of 26 tourists in the Baisaran valley of Pahalgam

According to official sources, the decision to close down the tourist hot spots was taken after a recent review of the prevailing security situation and the threat perception.

The tourist destinations that have been closed include Doodhpathri, Aharbal, Kousarnag, Yousmarg, Tossamaidan, Bangus, Kariwan Diver Chandigam, Bangus Valley, Wular/Watlab, Rampora and Rajpora, Chearhar, Mundij-Hamam-Markoot Waterfall, Khampoo, Bosnia, Vijitop, Sun Temple, Verinag Garden, Sinthan Top, Margantop, Akad Park, Habba Khatoon Point, Babareshi, Ringawali, Gogaldara, Baderkote, Shrunz Waterfall, Kamanpost, Namblan Waterfall, Eco Park Khadniyar, Sangarwani, Jamia Masjid and Badamwari.

Several other public parks, famous hotels and resorts have also been closed down in the wake of fresh intelligence reports. The intelligence agencies have also issued warnings to remain vigilant and protect the railway property across the valley, besides ensuring the safety of the non-local and PM Package employees deployed on duty at several vulnerable places.

Continued on >> P2

PM commands full 'Operational Freedom'

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi asserted on Tuesday that the armed forces have 'complete operational freedom' to decide on the mode, targets and timing of India's response to the Pahalgam terror attack, as he chaired a meeting with the top defence establishment. During the high-level meeting, which was attended by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and the chiefs of three services, Modi affirmed that it is the national resolve to deal a crushing blow to terrorism, government sources said. Modi expressed complete faith and confidence in the professional abilities of the armed forces.

Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan was also part of the meeting, which was held amid India weighing its options for countermeasures following the Pahalgam terror attack which left at least 26 civilians, mostly tourists, dead.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi chairs a meeting with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, NSA Ajit Doval and armed forces chiefs in New Delhi PTI

The meeting came a day ahead of Prime Minister Modi on Wednesday scheduled to take stock of preparedness at Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS). He had earlier chaired CCS meeting last week and slew of measures like keeping Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) in abeyance and suspending visas of Pakistani nationals were announced.

Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan, meanwhile, on Tuesday chaired a high-level meeting which was attended by chiefs of three paramilitary forces and senior officers of two other security organisations, it was learnt.

The government on Tuesday also blocked Pakistan Defence Minister Khawaja Asif's social media account following the terror incident. Asif, in a recent TV interview, admitted to Pakistan's history of supporting and funding terrorist organisations.

As regards Home Secretary's meeting, Director General (DG) of Border Security Force Daljit Singh Chaudhary, DG of National Security Guard Brighu Srinivasan and DG of the Assam Rifles Lt General Vikas Lakhera attended it, sources said.

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The ByStander

PIONEER IN SHORT

India slams Pakistan's support for terrorism at UN

India said that the open confession of Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Asif admitting to his country's history of supporting and funding terrorist organisations exposes Pakistan as a 'rogue state' fuelling global terrorism and destabilising the region.

India's Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador Yojna Patel delivered a strong Right of Reply at the hybrid launch event for the 'Victims of Terrorism Association Network' (VoTAN) of the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism here Monday when Pakistan's delegate made a reference to the Pahalgam terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir.

FULL REPORT ON P9

'What's wrong if country using spyware against terrorists'

The Supreme Court on Tuesday observed what was wrong in using the 'spyware against terrorists' and said any report which touched upon the country's 'security and sovereignty' won't be made public. A bench of Justice Surya Kant and Justice N Kotiswar Singh indicated it may address individual apprehensions of privacy breach but the report of the technical committee was no document to discuss 'on the streets'.

The bench said, "Any report which touches the security and sovereignty of the country will not be touched. But individuals who want to know whether they are included, that can be informed. Yes, individual apprehension must be addressed but it cannot be made a document for discussion on the streets." The top court added it will examine the extent to which the technical panel report could be shared in public.

FULL REPORT ON P4

Cabinet approves Bill to regulate fee hike

RAJESH KUMAR ■ New Delhi

In a big step to regulate school fee structures across the Capital, the Delhi Cabinet has approved the Delhi School Education Transparency in Fixation and Regulation of Fees Bill, 2025, aimed at controlling arbitrary fee hikes and improving transparency in private and aided schools.

The Bill, which will apply to all 1,677 private unaided and government-aided schools in the city, aims to bring more clarity and fairness in how schools hike their fees. The legislation will lay out a clear mechanism for reviewing and revising school fees, which must now adhere to set guidelines determined by independent committees. This is the first time that the government is bringing a Bill to curb on arbitrary fee hikes by private and aided schools.

The decision follows months of escalating public unrest over what parents describe as excessive, unapproved fee hikes by private institutions. Incidents were reported where students were denied admit cards, removed from class rolls, or confined for delayed payments, sparking widespread protests and court interventions. This will provide a huge relief to parents against the arbitrary fee hikes by private and aided schools.

Terming it a bold and holistic step by approving the draft of the Delhi School Education Transparency in Fixation and Regulation of Fees Bill, 2025 at the Cabinet meeting, Chief Minister Rekha Gupta said that schools will face strict penalties from ₹1 lakh to ₹10 lakh for non-compliance of the government's directives. "In extreme cases, the school's recognition can be revoked, and the management may be taken over by the government. Additionally, the school's recognition may be canceled, and the management will be taken over by the Government. The Delhi School Educators Act of 1973 which lacked clarity on how the government could regulate private school fee hikes," she said.

Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta with Delhi Education Minister Ashish Sood addresses a press conference in New Delhi on Tuesday RANJAN DIMRI/THE PIONEER

CM Gupta addressing a press conference at the Cabinet meeting, said the government will call an urgent session of the Delhi Assembly to approve the Bill. After that, the Bill will be send to the Ministry of Home Affairs for approval.

"This Bill, as the name suggests, will not only monitor school fees effectively but will also ensure a transparent and accountable process. Now, whether or not fees are increased, it will be done through a clear, rule-based, and fair process," Chief Minister said.

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'Unholy Nexus': SC orders CBI probe against builders

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

Observing an "unholy nexus" between the banks and developers to dupe homebuyers, the Supreme Court on Tuesday directed the CBI to register seven preliminary enquiries against builders in NCR, including Supertech Limited.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and N Kotiswar Singh found a prima facie nexus between renowned banks and builders in NOIDA, Gurugram, Yamuna Expressway, Greater Noida, Mohali, Mumbai, Kolkata and Allahabad. The top Court took into account an affidavit filed by CBI and directed the UP; Haryana DGPs to give a list of DSPs, inspector, constables to the agency to constitute a special investigation team (SIT).

The Court further directed the CEOs/administrators of Greater Noida Authority, Noida Authority, secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and the Reserve Bank of India to notify one nodal officer from among their senior-most officers within a week to extend necessary assistance to the SIT. The bench said it will be monitoring the status of the investigations on a monthly basis.

Advocate Rajiv Jain, who is amicus curiae in the matter, called Supertech the "main culprit" in defrauding home buyers whereas Corporation Bank advanced more than ₹2,700 crore to builders through subvention schemes.

The court was informed that Supertech had 21 projects in six cities with agreement with 19 banks with 800 aggrieved homebuyers. The report of the amicus revealed Supertech alone had secured a loan amount of ₹5,157.86 crore since 1998. The underlying nexus between Supertech and the banks was therefore required a scrutiny on priority, it added.

Under the subvention scheme, banks disburse the sanctioned amount directly to the accounts of builders, who are then required to pay EMIs on the sanctioned loan amount until flats are handed over to homebuyers. After builders started defaulting on EMIs to banks, as per the tripartite agreement, the banks sought EMIs from the homebuyers.

The Apex Court previously said thousands of homebuyers were affected by the subvention scheme, where banks paid 60 to 70 per cent of the home loan amount to the builders without projects being completed within the stipulated time.

The Apex Court had then ordered the CBI to submit a roadmap on how it planned to unravel the 'builder-banks nexus' which duped thousands of homebuyers in the NCR and proposed to go into the root of the matter. The top court was hearing a batch of petition filed by over 1,200 homebuyers, who booked flats under subvention plans in various housing projects in NCR region especially Noida, Greater Noida and Gurugram.

Justice BR Gavai appointed as 52nd Chief Justice of India

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

The President of India Droupadi Murmu on Tuesday notified the appointment of Justice BR Gavai as the next Chief Justice of India with effect from May 14. "In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (2) of Article 124 of the Constitution of India, the President is pleased to appoint Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai, Judge of the Supreme Court, to be the Chief Justice of India with effect from 14th May, 2025," said the notification issued by Ministry of Law and Justice.

Chief Justice of India (CJI) Sanjiv Khanna had earlier written to the Union Law Ministry recommending Justice BR Gavai to be the next CJI. CJI Khanna is set to demit office on May 13.

Justice Gavai will be the second-ever CJI from the Dalit community, the first being Justice KG Balakrishnan, who had demitted office in 2010.

He will have a relatively short tenure at the helm and will demit office on November 23, 2025. Bhushan Ramakrishan Gavai was born to RS Gavai and Kamala. His father RS Gavai led the Republican Party of India (Gavai) faction, former MP and Governor of Bihar, Sikkim and Kerala.

Justice Gavai was appointed as an additional judge of the Bombay High Court on November 14, 2003, and became a permanent judge in 2005. He served at the High Court's principal seat in Mumbai and benches in Nagpur, Aurangabad and Panaji. He was elevated to the Supreme Court on May 24, 2019.

Paneer bleeds over wedding guests

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ Lucknow

A festive wedding celebration turned into a horror scene in Uttar Pradesh's Chandauli district when a man, furious over the absence of paneer (cottage cheese) at the feast, rammed a minibus into the gathering, injuring at least six guests and leaving behind a trail of destruction worth over ₹3 lakh.

The shocking incident took place late on Saturday evening in Hamidpur village, under the Mughalsarai Kotwali area, during the wedding of Rajnath Yadav's daughter. As the *baraat* (wedding procession) danced its way into the decorated venue, no one could have imagined the carnage that was about to unfold.

Eyewitnesses recall that the atmosphere was jubilant until Dharmendra Yadav, a guest at the function, stormed towards the food stalls, visibly agitated.

"He went from one counter to another, angrily flipping lids off dishes. He kept shouting, 'Where is the paneer? How can there be a wedding without paneer?'" said one guest, who wished not to be named.

When informed that no paneer dish was on the menu, Dharmendra's anger boiled over. In a move that left everyone stunned, he seized a parked tempo traveller and, without warning, drove it straight into the heart of the gathering.

"The vehicle came charging through the crowd like a demon. People were screaming, plates and decorations were flying, and within seconds, the entire wedding pandal was in ruins," said Sunil Yadav, a relative of the bride.

A festive wedding celebration turned into a horror scene in Uttar Pradesh's Chandauli district when a man, furious over the absence of paneer (cottage cheese) at the feast

Among the injured were the groom's father and the bride's uncle, both of whom suffered serious fractures and are currently admitted to a trauma centre in Varanasi. The beautifully set up wedding venue was left in tatters — food counters overturned, decorations destroyed, and gifts shattered.

As chaos reigned, Dharmendra fled the scene in the same vehicle, leaving behind a community in shock and disbelief.

Rajnath Yadav, the bride's father, demanded swift action. "We invited him with love. And just because there was no paneer, he destroyed our dreams. We refused to proceed with the marriage until the police registered a case against him," he said, holding back tears.

The bride's family eventually filed a formal complaint, after which the wedding ceremony resumed around noon the next day. However, the memories of that night's terror will likely haunt them for years.

Police have launched a manhunt for Dharmendra Yadav. "Efforts are on to trace and arrest the accused. We will ensure strict action is taken," said a senior police officer.

Meanwhile, villagers remain shell-shocked. "We have seen fights at weddings before, but who thought lack of paneer could cause such madness?" said an elderly resident.

Mamata to inaugurate Jagannath Temple at Digha

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ Kolkata

Bengal Chief Minister will on Wednesday inaugurate the stunning replica of Puri's Jagannath Temple constructed at the beach town of Digha, a four-hour drive from Kolkata.

The grand facsimile of the Puri's iconic ancient structure imitating the Kalinga school of architecture and built by the State owned Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd. comes up at a cost of ₹250 crores.

The Trinamool Congress think tank hopes the Wednesday's mega act would not only go a distance in mopping Banerjee's alleged "anti Hindu" and "pro Muslim" image but it will also stand out as an answer to Ayodhya's Ram temple the construction of which was inspired and inaugurated a few years ago by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Puri's Jagannath Dham is one of the four major pilgrimage centres of India — apart from Badrinath, Dwarka and Rameswaram Dhams. At Puri Lord Jagannath is an incarnation of Lord Vishnu (read Krishna) being worshipped here by the side of the Bay of Bengal.

The Digha temple, almost equal in height too stands barely a few hundreds metre from the same sea and is expected to draw large number of tourists from across the country and abroad the TMC leadership feels.

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee speaks with the media on the eve of the inauguration of the Lord Jagannath temple at Digha in Purba Medinipur district in West Bengal on Tuesday PTI

The grandiose of the structure spread out over 20 acres of land, crafted from exquisite pink sandstone sourced from Rajasthan and carved out by 800 skilled workers from the western State is likely to turn out to be a massive revenue generator for the cash starved State experts say.

Complementing the Chief Minister but requesting anonymity a even a senior BJP leader whose party is eying to topple her Government in 2026 Assembly elections said: "She has literally ruined Bengal… taken corruption to the level of an art… driven away industry and nurtured an army of unemployed smugglers and election goons … but you cannot deny the fact that this is a scheme that has come out of her 'hand' … exquisite! … you cannot just distinguish the duplicate from the original …"

A la the Puri temple its Digha mirror image includes a Bhog Mandap, Natmandir, Jagmohan, and the sacred Garbhagriha (sanctum sanctorum), all adorned with intricate carvings and divine statues.

A towering 34-foot-long, 18-faced Aruna pillar, sculpted from black stone and crowned with an Aruna idol, stands majestically at the temple's entrance. There are two idols of the Lord inside the temple — one made of traditional wood like the one in Puri and the other of marble, sources said.

Already christened as 'Digha Dham' — after Puri Dham — the majestic structure has a Singhdwar, Byaghradwar, Hastidwar, and Ashwadwar — all in a straight line — apart from a temple of Goddess Lakshmi and a separate Bhogshala for preparing the sacred Bhog Prasadam for Lord Jagannath.

The Chief Minister being the Jajman — or the Patron of the inaugural Puja — the prayers were offered in her name.

The Pandas (priests) who came from Puri performed the Tuesday's Puja Yajna and Homam — sacred offering to Agni or fire — in her name.

Banerjee who had personally selected the spot at New Digha expressed hope that the place would attract thousands of tourists from India and abroad. "Because of the sea, Digha has a special charm. Now, if it becomes a place of pilgrimage, more tourists will come. This temple will definitely add a new feather to the state's cap. Digha will grow into an international tourist attraction. This will serve as a place of harmony."

The construction of the temple had not been free from controversies with the BJP questioning State funding in the construction of the Digha temple while a section of Muslim people from East Midnapore demanding construction of a mosque after the Babri Mosque in Ayodhya.

When asked whether he would any day visit the temple Bengal Opposition Leader Suvendu Adhikari said he would keep a keen watch on whether any non-Muslim person entered the temple premises or not.

"If any non-Muslim fellow enters the temple premises then we will make the Chief Minister face consequences," he said.

Meanwhile the Calcutta High Court on Tuesday granted permission to organise a Maha Sanatani Dharma Sammelan at Contai barely 20 miles from Digha. Adhikari is likely to attend the religious affair where about 3,000 people will assemble.

The event is being organized to offset the inauguration of the Digha Jagannath temple the TMC alleged.

Ayush Ministry to organise National Ayush Mission Conclave on May 1-2

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

The Ayush Ministry is set to organise the National Ayush Mission (NAM) Conclave 2025 on May 1-2 at Kaivalyadhama in Lonavala, according to an official statement.

The two-day event is aimed at strengthening the integration of traditional Indian medicine systems into mainstream healthcare, making wellness more accessible and affordable to the common citizen, the ministry said in the statement.

The conclave is scheduled to be inaugurated by Prataprao Jadhav, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Ayush, whereas the Rajasthan deputy chief minister and health ministers of nine states and UTs of India are also expected to attend the conclave.

"The National Ayush Mission Conclave is a significant step towards fostering a collaborative ecosystem to strengthen the wellness and healthcare infrastructure across the country," Jadhav said on the upcoming event.

The event will include discussions around the latest developments, research innovations, and sectoral collaborations across Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa-Rigpa, and Homeopathy in various states and UTs.

Minister-level discussions will also be held to chalk out future expansion of the NAM scheme, the statement said.

The conclave will also see the launch of Blueprint for Ayush Policy 2025 and Standard Treatment Guidelines (STG) on Metabolic Disorders in Ayush System of Medicines.

Jadhav, along with health and Ayush ministers from various states and UTs will participate in the conclave, the statement added.

Gurugram gets new Ashray centre for delivery workers

PARVESH SHARMA ■ Gurugram

Gurugram Mayor Raj Rani Malhotra, in collaboration with Amazon India, inaugurated the new Ashray centre here in Gurugram's Sector-66 on Tuesday.

Ashray Centres are dedicated rest stops that offer air-conditioned seating, clean drinking water, electrolytes, mobile charging points, washrooms, first-aid kits, and refreshment facilities to delivery associates across the ecommerce and logistics ecosystem. The centres are available free of cost to all delivery associates.

Malhotra inaugurated the center in the presence of Amazon leader Nitumani Goswami, North Region Director, and other dignitaries. With this addition, six Ashray centres now serve delivery associates across Gurugram.

At the inauguration, Gurugram Mayor Raj Rani Malhotra said, "I applaud Amazon for prioritising the safety and well-being of delivery associates. These Ashray centres provide essential support, particularly during the hot summer season, offering much-needed respite from the heat and safe working conditions for delivery associates across sectors. This is a welcome addition to our city."

Dr Karuna Shankar Pande, VP of Amazon Logistics, Amazon India, said, "At Amazon, we are committed to maintaining industry-leading infrastructure to enhance the on-road experience for delivery associates.

'Project Ashray' has proven to be successful in improving driver experience and well-being, and this new center in Gurugram builds on that momentum. By providing dedicated rest points with essential amenities, we ensure all delivery associates — whether with Amazon or other companies— have the most comfortable environment while they work. We thank the Gurugram Mayor for her support, he said.

He further said the company plans to expand its network of Ashray centres to 100 across India by 2025. With the launch of this new centre, there are now 11 Ashray centers in the Delhi-Gurugram area, providing convenient access to essential amenities for delivery associates across the city.

This effort is an industry-first initiative designed to offer dedicated rest centres to delivery associates and logistics partners in high-footfall areas.

Located at petrol pumps and commercial rental spaces, these centers are equipped with essential amenities. Ashray centers operate from 9 am to 9 pm, 7 days a week all year round, offering free access to all visiting delivery associates for up to 30 minutes per visit.

With a capacity to accommodate up to 15 people at any time, the centres offer convenient parking spaces as well.

DDA inform NGT for reclaiming land in Yamuna Vanasthali project

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has informed the National Green Tribunal that it has reclaimed 24 acres of land in the Yamuna Vanasthali project area from January to April as part of its efforts to reclaim the river's floodplains from encroachers. The Yamuna Vanasthali plan is one of the Yamuna floodplain restoration projects on the eastern bank, stretching from the Wazirabad Barrage to the ISBT Bridge, spread over an area of 236.5 hectares.

"In compliance with the directions of the NGT, DDA has been making consistent efforts to reclaim the land from the encroachers in the floodplains. Ever since the last order of this Tribunal (on January 16), the DDA recently repossessed 24 acres of land in the Yamuna Vanasthali project area," the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) said in its report on Tuesday.

The report said that though the DDA was continuously engaged in the removal of encroachments, it was sometimes tough to protect or fence the area after a demolition drive was carried out. "Thereby, re-encroachment happens at some places, which is again removed," it said.

Cop reunites 200 missing kids with their families

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

By day, Ajay Jha is a policeman, but after hours, he becomes a man on a mission to reunite families with their missing children. Over the past 18 months, Jha has helped reunite more than 200 missing children, most of them specially-abled, with their families under 'Mission Milap,' an initiative he pursues beyond the call of duty. Jha, an Assistant Sub-Inspector in the security unit of the Delhi Police, began the initiative in November 2023, after he was moved by the difficulties faced by his 17-year-old son, who is also specially-abled — an umbrella term used often to describe certain emotional, speech, or mental impairments.

He says he gets about 100 calls and messages on average day from parents desperately seeking help to locate their children. As part of his calling, Jha goes to shelter homes to counsel specially-abled children and finds leads through 'Mission Milap' on Facebook and WhatsApp groups. Jha also bears the cost of travelling incurred by the families, who come from nearly every state of the country, even Nepal, and refuses to take any reward announced on the successful location of the missing.

"When I started doing this, I just had one thought- my child is safe with me, but what about the many families whose children have gone missing?" he said. He said that since his son has been in counselling for 14 years, he understands better how to communicate with such children.

"They usually do not have an idea what they are doing. Some get separated at such a young age that they do not know a thing about their homes. More importantly, they find it hard to talk to people, making it harder to locate their families," he said. Often, the parents are so poor they do not have a mobile phone, do not know where to begin, and end up getting duped by some fraud or the other, he said. "I want to make such people aware too and help them in finding their loved ones."

Terror fear shuts tourist spots in Valley

Continued from >> P1

After the horrific killing of tourists in Pahalgam, the tourist footfall was constantly declining. The tourist arrivals at the Srinagar airport also recorded a fifty per cent decline in the last week. Compared to the average arrival of over 9,000 tourists before April 22, the numbers have come down to little over 4,000 fresh arrivals daily since April 22. According to the information provided by the helpdesk, set up to facilitate visiting tourists, the visitors can come and visit tourist places in Srinagar, Gulmarg and Ganderbal districts.

Meanwhile, security has been beefed up across famous tourist places in Srinagar and Gulmarg.

The quick reaction teams of the Special Operations Group of the Jammu and Kashmir Police, paramilitary forces, have been deployed across sensitive tourist locations; this includes Gulmarg, Sonamarg and the Dal Lake areas, which remain open to visitors.

The anti-terror operations have been going on at several locations in the valley to instill a sense of security and safety among the local population, especially in the rural pockets, following a massive crackdown against the over ground workers and their sympathisers in the area. In the Jammu region, a high alert has been sounded along the International border of the Jammu frontier. The village defence groups have been activated and they are assisting the local police and paramilitary forces during night patrolling and maintaining a tight vigil on the movement of miscreants and anti-national elements.

PM commands full 'Operational Freedom'

Continued from >> P1

Additional Director General of the Sashastra Seema Bal Anupama Nilekar Chandra were among the other attendees in the meeting. The BSF guards India's international borders with Pakistan and Bangladesh, the SSB secures the borders with Nepal and Bangladesh, the Assam Rifles protects the border with Myanmar and the NSG is a commando force specialising in anti-terror operations.

On Prime Minister's Modi's review on Wednesday, it was learnt a series of meetings are scheduled as the country reviews its security preparedness in the wake of the terror attack. The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) — the country's highest decision-making body on national security — will hold a meeting around 11 am. It will mark the second round of discussions at the highest level since the Pahalgam attack. Security preparations are likely to be discussed at this meeting.

After the meeting of CCS, the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs (CCPA) will also meet under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Modi. Besides the Prime Minister, the CCPA comprises Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Home Minister Amit Shah, Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari, Health Minister JP Nadda, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, and other senior ministers. The Cabinet's Economic Affairs Committee will meet thereafter, followed by a Cabinet meeting.

After the April 22 Pahalgam attack, the CCS decided to keep the 1960 Indus Waters Treaty in abeyance with immediate effect, saying Pakistan has breached its conditions.

Canada swept by Liberals, India be cautious

Continued from >> P1

"We are cognisant of the fact that we didn't get over the finish line yet," Poilievre told supporters. "We know that change is needed, but change is hard to come by. It takes time. It takes work. And that's why we have to learn the lessons of tonight — so that we can have an even better result the next time Canadians decide the future of the country."

Poilievre can still lead Conservative Party

Even with Canadians grappling with the fallout from a deadly weekend attack at a Vancouver street festival, Trump was trolling them on election day, suggesting again on social media that Canada should become the 51st state and saying he was on their ballot. He also erroneously claimed that the US subsidises Canada, writing, "It makes no sense unless Canada is a State!"

Trump's truculence has infuriated Canadians, leading many to cancel US vacations, refuse to buy American goods and possibly even vote early. A record 7.3 million Canadians cast ballots before election day.

Reid Warren, a Toronto resident, said he voted Liberal because Poilievre "sounds like mini-Trump to me." He said Trump"s tariffs are a worry.

"Canadians coming together from, you know, all the shade being thrown from the States is great, but it's definitely created some turmoil, that's for sure," he said.

Historian Robert Bothwell said Poilievre appealed to the "same sense of grievance" as Trump, but that it ultimately worked against him.

"The Liberals ought to pay him," Bothwell said, referring to the US president. "Trump talking is not good for the Conservatives."

The Liberal way forward

Carney and the Liberals secured a new term, but they have daunting challenges ahead. If they don't win a majority in Parliament, the Liberals might need rely on one of the smaller parties. The Bloc Quebecois, which looked set to finish third, is a separatist party from French-speaking Quebec that seeks independence. Trudeau's Liberals relied on the New Democrats to remain in power for four years, but the progressive party fared poorly on Monday and its leader, Jagmeet Singh, said he was stepping down after eight years in charge.

"This is a dramatic comeback, but if the Liberals cannot win a majority of seats, political uncertainty in a new minority Parliament could complicate things for them," said McGill University political science professor Daniel Béland.

Foreign policy hasn't dominated a Canadian election this much since 1988, when, ironically, free trade with the United States was the prevailing issue.

In addition to the trade war with the US and frosty relationship with Trump, Canada is dealing with a cost-of-living crisis. And more than 75 per cent of its exports go to the US, so Trump's tariffs threat and his desire to get North American automakers to move Canada's production south could severely damage the Canadian economy.

While campaigning, Carney vowed that every dollar the government collects from counter-tariffs on US goods will go toward Canadian workers who are adversely affected by the trade war.

He also said he plans to keep dental care in place, offer a middle-class tax cut, return immigration to sustainable levels and increase funding to Canada's public broadcaster, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

Cabinet approves Bill to regulate fee hike

Continued from >> P1

"A complete guideline, procedure for fees will be decided for all 1,677 schools in Delhi, whether they are aided, non-aided or private. For the first time in history, such a Bill is being drafted by the government," she added.

Sharing details, the Chief Minister said as of April 28, 2025, inspections have been conducted in 970 schools in Delhi, and notices have been issued to over 150 schools for complaints regarding fee hikes. 42 schools were found to be running dummy classes, and action was taken against them. More than 300 complaints regarding non-provision of books and uniforms have also been successfully resolved.

The Chief Minister, flanked by Education Minister Ashish Sood, said that the issue was discussed widely in recent days and there was "panic" among the parents due to activities of some schools and complaints regarding "harassment" of students in the name of fee hike. She also revealed that the government had received several complaints regarding "harassment" of students in the name of fee hike.

"The previous governments in Delhi made no provision to prevent fee hike. There was no guideline to help government prevent fee hike by private schools," she said.

The new Bill introduces a three-tier committee system to regulate and ensure transparency in the fee determination process. At the first level, there will be School-Level Fee Regulation Committee. The second level will be district fee Appellate Committee and the third will be Revision Commission. The school level committee will comprise of Representative of Management of the private school, principal, three teachers, five parents from Parent-Teachers Association and government nominee. The committee will be responsible for decisions related to fee hikes or any other related issues.

The District Fee Appellate Committee will be Constituted by the Director of Education at the District level. Deputy Deputy Director of Education (District) will be chairman. The other members will be Deputy Director (Zone) as member secretary and members include Chartered Accountant/account functionary (nominated by Director), Accounts functionary of District/Region, two teacher representatives (from School Level Committee, nominated by Director) and two parent representatives (from School Level Committee, nominated by Director).

The Revision Committee constituted by Government notification at the State level.

AAP Delhi State President Saurabh Bharadwaj slammed the BJP-led Delhi government for crafting a 'Private School Fee Act' that empowers school managements to hike fees unchecked, eliminates audit provisions, and blocks parents from raising complaints unless they gather support from parents of 15 per cent of students.

The Education Minister said that the Bill proposes formation of a three-tier committee at school, district and state levels. This will bring much-needed transparency and structure to the process of determining school fees and protect parents from unregulated hikes. The entire process will be time-bound, ensuring that parents are not left in limbo, he said.

According to the Education Minister, at the first level, every school will constitute a school-level fee regulation committee. This committee will include the chairperson of the school management, the principal as member secretary, three teachers, and five parents, including members from SC/ST communities and at least two women.

"A nominee from the Directorate of Education will serve as an observer. Schools will no longer be able to increase fees arbitrarily. Any hike will be allowed only once every three years and only after approval from this committee.

"The decision to increase fees will be based on 18 critical parameters, including the condition of classrooms and buildings, the school's financial reserves, and the quality of science laboratories, libraries, and playgrounds," he said.

These standards aim to ensure that fee hikes, if approved, are justified by real infrastructure or service improvements. Sood further announced that these school-level committees will be formed by July 31 and will be required to submit their reports within 30 days. "If the school-level committee fails to submit its recommendation on time, the matter will be escalated to the District Level Committee. If resolution is still not achieved, a State Level Committee comprising seven members will be empowered to take a final decision," he said. The minister also said that a 10-member committee will be formed at the district level. It will include two women and one from either the Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe category.

There have been long-standing complaints by parents and guardians against "irregular and exorbitant" fee hikes by private unaided schools in the national capital. The parents have also alleged coercive practices by schools, including denial of admit cards for board examinations and threats to strike off names of students over non-payment of what they describe as unauthorised fees. They also alleged that students faced mental harassment at schools if the fee payment was delayed.

The big move comes weeks after many parents across Delhi protested outside the Directorate of Education's office, demanding immediate rollback of fee hikes. This follows an announcement by the Delhi government's Directorate of Education (DoE) on April 16, stating that it has taken action against unaided private schools found guilty of illegally increasing fees. The actions include initiating de-recognition proceedings and the potential takeover of school management.

The issue has taken a political turn in recent weeks. Opposition leader Atishi publicly challenged the BJP-led government over the fee crisis, accusing it of failing to act. In response, the government issued notices to several institutions accused of unjustified hikes and began auditing hundreds of schools through district-level teams.

In September 2024, parents of Maharaja Agrasen Model School in Pitampura protested against annual fee increases of 18-20 per cent, alleging that the school issued School Leaving Certificates to students who refused to pay the hiked fees, despite the Department of Education's rejection of such hikes.

Similarly, in Mayur Vihar, Vanasthali Public School faced backlash for a 100 per cent fee increase, with parents claiming that students were removed from the rolls for non-payment.

In April 2025, parents protested outside DPS Dwarka over fee hikes, leading to political leaders promising action against such practices.

C'garh should excel in implementing new criminal laws by Sept: CS

STAFF REPORTER
RAIPUR

Chhattisgarh Chief Secretary Amitabh Jain on Tuesday asked top officials to work in coordination so that the state emerges at the top in compliance and implementation of new criminal laws by September 2025.

A meeting of the State Apex Committee constituted for the implementation of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita 2023, Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita 2023, and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam 2023, was held in Nava Raipur.

Jain emphasised training officers and employees, raising public awareness, and utilising information technology for speedy implementation of new criminal laws.

Instructions were given to train officers and employees of police, jails, health departments and courts as well as to deploy good master trainers for it.

In order to ensure speedy hearing of cases under the new laws through prescribed procedure, it is necessary to have video conferencing facilities in government hospitals, jails, banks, FSL and other important offices, he said.

He also directed collectors and superintendents of police to compulsorily hold periodic meetings of the District Coordination Committee to review the progress of implementation.

Bhupesh calls for raising PMAY subsidy

STAFF REPORTER
RAIPUR

AICC General Secretary and former Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Tuesday called for raising the subsidy of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana to Rs 2.5 lakh.

Speaking in Raipur, he said that this was necessary due to the rising costs of materials required to build houses.

Presently, the subsidy given to build houses under PMAY ranges from Rs 1.5 lakh to Rs 2.5 lakh.

He said that Rs 1.5 lakh was not enough to build a house and poor labourers were taking loans to build their homes.

Baghel also criticised the government on other issues and said the Vishnu Deo Sai-led BJP government is celebrating the 'Sushasan Tihar' while the entire state faces an electricity and water crisis.

The people are struggling with shortages of drinking water, and the farmers are worried about their crops drying. Thousands of acres of crops have been destroyed, he said.

> He said that this was necessary due to the rising costs of materials required to build houses.

Rs 1L for C'garh candidates for clearing UPSC mains

STAFF REPORTER
RAIPUR

The Chhattisgarh government on Tuesday announced an incentive of Rs 1 lakh to the local candidates of the state who will pass the mains examination of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).

The Urban Administration and Development Department has issued an order in this regard following the directives of Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai, an official statement said.

The incentive money will be provided to such candidates from the Mayor's fund named 'Mahapaur Samman Nidhi'.

The objective behind it is to not only provide financial aid to the candidates but also to boost their confidence.

In the UPSC 2024 exam result, five candidates of Chhattisgarh have brought laurels to the state.

Of the five, Purva Agrawal (Raipur) bagged the 65th rank, Arpan Chopra (Mungeli) secured the 313th rank, Mansi Jain (Jagdalpur) got the 444th rank, Keshav Garg (Ambikapur) got the 496th rank and Shachi Jaiswal secured the 654th rank in the UPSC exam result.

At the demand of the locals, a veterinary camp to vaccinate livestock was held for the first time in the remote Ghaton village in Chhattisgarh's Surguja district on Tuesday.

436 health institutions NQAS certified in 2024-25

STAFF REPORTER
RAIPUR

A total of 436 government health institutions in Chhattisgarh have received National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS) certification in 2024-25, an official communique said on Tuesday.

Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai said that this number was the highest compared to previous years. This is proof of unprecedented improvement in the health system of the state.

Sai praised the 'Chintagufa' Primary Health Centre in the highly Naxal-affected area of Sukma district, which was NQAS certified in November 2024.

New standards are being set by Chhattisgarh in the field of health service delivery, he said. Health Minister Shyam Bihari Jaiswal said that the evaluation of 644 other institutions was in process.

कार्यालय मुख्य अभियंता,
लो.नि.वि., राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग परिक्षेत्र, रायपुर (छ.ग.)

दिनांक 25.04.2025

एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अंतर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से निम्नलिखित निर्माण कार्य हेतु ऑनलाईन (Online) निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है :-

क्र.	नि.आ.सू.क्र. दिनांक	सिस्टमआईडी क्र.	कार्य का नाम	कार्य की अनुमानित लागत
1.	21/CE/NH/TC/44-05/2022	2025 MoRTH_857833_1	Construction of 2-Lane ROB At L/C No.AB-27 (Belbahara ROB) on Manendragarh To Ambikapur Section Of NH-43 (Old NH-78) At NH Km 264.000 & Railway Chainage 937/14-15 Between Udalkachar-Boridand Stations in the State of Chhattisgarh	Rs.63.15 Crore (i/c GST)
2.	22/CE/NH/TC/44-06/2022	2025_MoRTH 857870_1	Construction of 2-Lane ROB at NH L/C No. AB-72 on Surajpur to Ambikapur Road in Km 357.370 of NH-78 (New NH-43) at Railway Chainage 1925/11-12 on Bishrampur to Ambikapur Railway Line Near Jainagar in Chhattisgarh	Rs.28.40 Crore (i/c GST)

निविदा डाउनलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि दिनांक 09.06.2025 सुबह 11.00 बजे तक है।

2. उपरोक्त निर्माण कार्यों की निविदा की सामान्य शर्तें, धरोहर राशि, विस्तृत निविदा विज्ञप्ति, निविदा दस्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी सड़क परिवहन एवं राजमार्ग मंत्रालय (MORT&H's) के ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट देब पोर्टल https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app से डाऊनलोड की जा सकती है।

मुख्य अभियंता
लो.नि.वि., राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग परिक्षेत्र,
रायपुर (छ.ग.)

G- 252600561/4

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
P.W.D. (B&R) AMBIKPUR CIRCLE AMBIKAPUR

Invitation Date: 25.04.2025

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

01. For tender detail please visit
http://eproc.cgstate.gov.in
02. Concern Division - Ambikapur
03. S.No. 1'C' Class And Above Contractor
04. Bid Submission Due Date 15.05.2025

S No.	N.I.T. No.	Name of work	P.A.C. in lacks
1	2	3	4
1	04	Construction of Additional Room at Govt Rajmohni Devi Girls PG Collage Ambikapur Distt Surguja including Electrification Works. (First Call)	130.92

Superintending Engineer
P.W.D. Ambikapur Circle Ambikapur

G- 252600541/6

Two held with swamp deer antlers in Raipur

STAFF REPORTER
RAIPUR

The Forest Department in Chhattisgarh's Raipur city on Tuesday arrested two men for possessing and trying to sell swamp deer antlers.

Raipur Ranger Deepak Tiwari identified them as Yasir Khan and Faraz Khan, residents of Raipur city.

The two were nabbed from their residence in Adarsh Nagar locality in the Mowa area following a tip that they were looking for customers to sell the antlers. After the arrest, they told the police that they brought it from the Sirpur area in Mahasamund. A case under the Wild Life Protection Act was registered against them, and further probe was underway.

GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER,
MINIMATA(HASDEO) BANGO PROJECT, BILASPUR (CHHATTISGARH)

e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
eProcurement Portal://epros.cgstate.gov.in
CORRIGENDUM No. 1

In

NIT No. 07/SAC DL. 01.04.2025 System Tender No. 166400 (2 Call)

Whose G. No. 252600024 due to including Chhattisgarh Government WRD Mantralaya, Mahanadi Bhawan Nava Raipur, Atal Nagar Letter No. 1664/F-7-7/5-2/31/2001 Dated 09.04.2025 and letter No. 1751/F-7-7/S-2/31/2001 Dated 21.04.2025 in tender document Form B (Envelope C) following amendments are made:-

S.No.	Particulars	Previous published	Amendments as
1	Bid due date & Time	Date 21.04.2025 (Time 17.30 Hrs)	Date 01.05.2025 (Time 17.30 Hrs)
2	Bid Open Start date & Time	Date 22.04.2025 (Time 11.30 Hrs)	Date 02.05.2025 (Time 11.30 Hrs)

Note: All other terms and conditions of NIT will remain unchanged and the details amendments can be seen in Chhattisgarh https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in website.

Execitige Engineer
Hasdeo Barrage W/M Division
Rampur/Korba (C.G.)

G-252600517/5

IDFC FIRST Bank Limited
(erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)
CIN : L65110TN2014PLC097792
Registered Office: KRM Towers, 8th Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai - 600031. TEL: +91 44 4564 4000 | FAX: +91 44 4564 4022.

IDFC FIRST Bank

APPENDIX IV [Rule 8(1)]
POSSESSION NOTICE
(For immovable property)

Whereas the undersigned being the authorized officer of IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited) under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with [rule 3] of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notices calling upon the Borrower/ Co-borrowers and Guarantors to repay the amount mentioned in the demand notice appended below within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice together with further interest and other charges from the date of demand notice till payment/realization.

The Borrower/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors and public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of the Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this notice.

LOAN ACCOUNT NUMBER	BORROWER/S/ CO-BORROWER/S & GUARANTORS NAME	DESCRIPTION OF THE MORTGAGED PROPERTIES	DEMAND NOTICE		DATE AND TYPE OF POSSESSION TAKEN
			DATE	OUTSTANDING AMOUNT (RS.)	
100462141	1. TRIVENI SAHU, 2. CHUMMAN LAL SAHU, 3. TILAK RAM SAHU	ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF ABADI KHNO A PART OF KHASRA NO. 234, PLOT NO. 234/119, ADMEASURING 113.96 SQ. MTR., PH. NO. 16, OLD PH. NO. 14, SITUATED AT VILL. SIRRIKHURD, RIC KAUNDKERA, TAH. RAJIM, DIST. GARIABAND, NR. KHOLI PARA , WARD NO. 1, RAIPUR, CHHATTISGARH-493881, AND, **BOUNDED AS:EAST: HOUSE OF DHANI, WEST: HOUSE OF HEMLAL, NORTH: HOUSE OF CHUMMAN, SOUTH: HOUSE OF CHUMESH**	30.12.2024	Rs. 10,26,216.76/-	23-04-2025 Symbolic Possession
45591615	1. YASHWANT KUMAR, 2. RAMBALI DHRUW	ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF PLOT NO. 33, PART OF AABADI KHASRA NO. 831 (AABADI LAND), PLOT AREA 234 SQ. MTRS., SITUATED AT VILLAGE: BELARDONA, P.H.NO. 15 (OLD P.H.NO. 22), RIC- BELARDONA, TEHSIL: MAGARLOD, DISTRICT: DHAMTARI, CHHATTISGARH – 493662, AND **BOUNDED AS: EAST: HOUSE OF JEEVAN, WEST: ROAD NORTH: GALI, SOUTH: OPEN LAND**	21.12.2024	Rs. 10,02,141.83/-	23-04-2025 Symbolic Possession

The Borrower/ Co-borrowers/ Guarantors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited) for an amount mentioned in the demand notice together with further interest and other charges from the date of demand notice till payment/realization.

Authorised Officer
IDFC FIRST Bank Limited
(erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)

Date: 23-04-2025
Place: CHHATTISGARH

ADITYA BIRLA CAPITAL
PROTECTING INVESTING FINANCING ADVISING
Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited

Registered Office: Indian Rayon Compound, Veraval, Gujarat 362266
Branch Office: Aditya Birla Housing Finance, 4th Floor, Skypark, Opp Rani Sati Mandir, Ravi Nagar, Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492001.
1. ABHFL: Authorized Officer – Mr. Dineshwar Nishad: 91 93039 90002
2. Auction Service Provider (ASP): - M/S e-Procurement Technologies Pvt. Ltd. (Auctiontiger) Mr. Ram Sharma - Contact No. 8000023297 & 9265562819

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Asset(s) under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited/Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited/Secured Creditor, will be put to sale by auction on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **06-06-2025**, for recovery of **INR. 9,85,838 /- (Rupees Nine Lakh Eighty Five Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty Eight Only)** and further interest and other expenses thereon till the date of realization, due to Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited/Secured Creditor from the Borrowers namely **RADHESHAYAM SAHU & BHANUMATI SAHU.**

The reserve price will be **INR 21,86,000/- (Rupees Twenty-One Lakh Eighty Six Thousand Only).** and the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) will **INR 2,18,600/- (Rupees Two Lakh Eighteen Thousand Six Hundred Only).** The last date of EMD deposit is **05-06-2025**. Date of Inspection of the Immovable Property is on **04-06-2025 between 11.00 AM to 04.00 PM.**

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

KHATA NO 1790, KH NO 492/4 (PART) P H NP 107/50, RAMKRISHNA PARAMHANS WARD NO-02, VIKASH NAGAR, MAUJA GOGAON RI CIRCLE RAIPUR-1, TAH & DIST RALPUR CG 492001

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited/Secured Creditor's website i.e. **https://homefinance.adityabirlacapital.com/properties-for-auction-under-sarfaesi-act or i.e. https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net**

Date: 30-04-2025
Place:- RALPUR

Authorised Officer
Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank
Branch Office: ICICI BANK LTD, BP-4, Technopolis Building, 4th Floor, Sector V, Salt Lake City, Kolkata West Bengal- 700091.
CIN No: L65190GJ1994PLC021012, www.icicibank.com

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.

Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Heeradhar Gupta/ Rekha Gupta/ 1005/G Mayapara Ward No 1 Panchsill Nagar Chhattisgarh Durg 491003/ LBBLI00004712427/ LBBLI00005359961	Khasra No. 342/132 & 344/38, P.H. No. 06, Mouza Baghera, R.N.M. Durg 2, Tehsil And Dist Durg, Chhattisgarh. Adreasuring Area 25x57=1425 Sq. Ft. or 0-013 Hec./ Date of Symbolic 25.04.2025	28/03/2023/ Rs. 40,50,844/-	Durg
2.	Maddu Anant Rao/ Maddu Jagannath Rao/ Maddu Swathi/ Lig II- 403, 32 Acres Amrapalli Vananchal City I.e. Bhiali, District Durg Chhattisgarh Bhilai - 490026/ LBBLI00004417355	House No. LIG- II/ 403, Industrial Estate, Bhilai, District Durg (C.G.) Admeasuring an Area of Plinth Area 32.11 Sq. Mtr./ Date of Symbolic 25.04.2025	November 25, 2024/ 22,46,217.06/-	Bhilai

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantors(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date: April 30, 2025, Place: Durg & Bhilai
Sincerely Authorised Signatory, For ICICI Bank Ltd.

Although every possible care and caution has been taken to avoid errors or omissions, this publication is being sold on the condition and understanding that information given in this publication is merely for reference and must not be taken as having authority of or binding in any way on the writers, editors, publishers, and printers and sellers who do not owe any responsibility for any damage or loss to any person, a purchaser of this publication or not for the result of any action taken on the basis of this work. All disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of competent court and forums in Delhi/New Delhi only. Readers are advised and requested to verify and seek appropriate advice to satisfy themselves about the veracity of any kind of advertisement before responding to any contents published in this newspaper. The printer, publisher, editor and any employee of the Pioneer Group's will not be held responsible for any kind of claim made by the advertisers of the products & services and shall not be made responsible for any kind of loss, consequences and further product-related damages on such advertisements.

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Government working on education system: PM

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

Education system plays a key role in preparing youth for the country's future and the government is working on modernising it, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Tuesday.

Addressing the YUGM Innovation Conclave at Bharat Mandapam here, Modi asserted that it is crucial that the journey from idea to prototype to product is completed in the shortest time possible.

Emphasising the need to consistently promote AI, quantum computing, advanced analytics, space tech, health tech, and synthetic biology, Modi highlighted India's leading position in AI development and adoption.

"The education system plays a crucial role in this preparation and underscored efforts to modernise India's education system to meet 21st-century needs. The introduction of the New National Education Policy is designed with global education standards in mind," he said while noting the significant changes it has brought to the Indian education system.

Underscoring the importance of meeting the goal of a developed India within the next 25 years, the prime minister said, "it is crucial that the journey from idea to prototype to product is completed in the shortest time possible".

He stressed that reducing the distance from lab to market ensures faster delivery of research outcomes to the people, motivates researchers, and provides tangible incentives for their work.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi PTI

"This accelerates the cycle of research, innovation, and value addition," he said.

The prime minister called for a robust research ecosystem, urging academic institutions, investors, and industry to support and guide researchers.

The youth today excels not only in research and development but have become ready, emphasising the transformative contributions of India's young generation to research across various sectors," he said.

Citing milestones like the commissioning of the world's longest hyperloop test track, a 422-metre hyperloop developed at IIT Madras in collaboration with Indian Railways, the Prime Minister lauded groundbreaking achievements such as nanotechnology developed by scientists at IISc Bangalore to control light at the nanoscale and the "brain on a chip" technology, capable of storing and processing data across over 16,000 conduction states in a molecular film.

He further highlighted the development of India's first indigenous MRI machine just weeks ago.

Quoting the scriptures in Sanskrit meaning true life is lived in service and selflessness, Modi remarked that science and technology should also serve as mediums for service.

He remarked on the development of the National Curriculum Framework, Learning Teaching Material, and new textbooks for classes one to seven.

The prime minister highlighted the creation of AI-based and scalable digital education infrastructure platform - 'One Nation, One Digital Education Infrastructure' under PM e-Vidya and DIKSHA platforms, enabling the preparation of textbooks in over 30 Indian languages and seven foreign languages.

"The National Credit Framework has made it easier for students to study diverse subjects simultaneously, providing modern education and opening new career paths," he said. He stressed upon the importance of strengthening India's research ecosystem to achieve national goals, highlighting the doubling of gross expenditure on Research and Development from ₹60,000 crore in 2013-14 to over ₹1.25 lakh crore, the establishment of state-of-the-art research parks, and the creation of Research and Development Cells in nearly 6,000 higher education institutions.

He underscored that leading global universities are also opening campuses in India, promoting academic exchange, research collaboration, and cross-cultural learning opportunities for Indian students. "The trinity of Talent, Temperament and Technology will transform India's future", stressed the prime minister, highlighting initiatives such as Atal Tinkering Labs, with 10,000 labs already operational, and the announcement of 50,000 more in this year's budget to provide early exposure to children," he said.

YUGM (a Sanskrit word meaning confluence) is a first-of-its-kind strategic conclave convening leaders from government, academia, industry, and the innovation ecosystem.

The day-long conclave aims to catalyse large-scale private investment in India's innovation ecosystem and accelerate research-to-commercialisation pipelines in frontier tech. The conclave will also include high-level roundtables and panel discussions involving government officials, top industry and academic leaders; action-oriented dialogue on enabling fast-track translation of research into impact; a deep tech startup showcase

Featuring cutting-edge innovations from across India; and exclusive networking opportunities across sectors to spark collaborations and partnerships.

Election Commission to begin Voter ID-Aadhaar linking

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

As the Election Commission (EC) works to purify electoral rolls of duplicate entries, sources in the government asserted on Tuesday that Aadhaar sharing by voters on a voluntary basis as prescribed in the law will remain unaltered. They underlined that sharing Aadhaar details with poll authorities is voluntary under the Election Laws (Amendment) Act, 2021 and it will continue to remain so.

The sources also noted that there is no plan to tweak the law or related rules in this regard. They were responding to questions on whether there was a proposal to make Aadhaar sharing compulsory as also whether voters who don't share details will have to explain before poll authorities the reasons for not giving out details. They said the ground rules will remain unaltered and no provision is proposed to be added as of now. Amid a debate on the purity of electoral rolls, the Election Commission had said last month that the regular updating process of the voter list will be strengthened in close coordination with the birth and death registration authorities.

Technical consultations between the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) and experts of the EC will begin soon on voter list-Aadhaar linkage, it had said, adding though an elector can only vote in the assigned polling booth and nowhere else, the poll body has resolved to remove duplicates countrywide and end a decades-long issue within three months. "Regular updation of the voter list shall be strengthened in close coordination with the birth and death registration authorities," the EC had said.

According to the prevailing law, no entries in the electoral roll shall be deleted for inability of an individual to furnish or intimate Aadhaar number due to such sufficient cause as may be prescribed.

What is wrong if country using 'spyware against terrorists': SC

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Tuesday observed what was wrong in using the "spyware against terrorists" and said any report which touched upon the country's "security and sovereignty" won't be made public. A bench of Justice Surya Kant and Justice N Kotiswar Singh indicated it may address individual apprehensions of privacy breach but the report of the technical committee was no document to discuss "on the streets".

The bench said, "Any report which touches the security and sovereignty of the country will not be touched. But individuals who want to know whether they are included, that can be informed. Yes, individual apprehension must be addressed but it cannot be made a document for discussion on the streets." The top court added it will examine the extent to which the technical panel report could be shared in public.

Earlier on August 2022, then Chief Justice of India NV Ramana orally ordered for uploading the probe report by Justice (Rtd) Raveendran headed panel, saying Government did not co-operate with the probe panel.

However, the publication of the probe panel report was not found in the evening uploaded order.

Advocate Dinesh Dwivedi, appearing for one of the petitioners, said the question was whether the Government had the spyware and used it. "If they have it, there is nothing to prevent them from using it continuously even today," he added. The bench responded, "Please make submissions with regard to disclosure regarding individuals. The kind of scenario we are facing nowadays, let us be slightly responsible. We will see to what extent the report can be shared."

The top court went on, "What is wrong if the country is using the spyware against the terrorists? To have spyware is not wrong, against whom you are using is the question.

You can't compromise with the security of nation. Private civil individual who has right to privacy will be protected under the Constitution," the bench said. Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for journalist Paranjoy Guha Thakurta, referred to a US district court judgment. "WhatsApp itself has disclosed here. Not a third party. WhatsApp itself has disclosed that there was a hack. That time your lordships had not indicated whether hacking took place. Even experts didn't say so. Now you have evidence. Evidence by WhatsApp. We will circulate the judgment. The redacted portion should be given to concerned individuals so they know," Sibal said.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, however, suggested against any "roving enquiry". There was nothing wrong, Mehta said, in using the spyware against terrorists and they cannot have right to privacy. Senior advocate Shyam Divan, for one of the petitioners, said the report of the technical committee should be disclosed without any redaction.

The apex court then posted the hearing on July 30.

On August 25, 2022, the technical panel appointed by the top court to probe the unauthorised use of Pegasus found malware in five of the 29 examined cell phones but it couldn't conclude Pegasus was used. Following the report by former apex court Justice RV Raveendran, the top court recorded the Centre did not cooperate with the Pegasus probe.

The top court ordered the probe in 2021 into the allegations of the use of the Israeli spyware by government agencies for targeted surveillance of politicians, journalists, and activists and appointed technical and supervisory committees to examine the matter.

The overseeing panel submitted a "lengthy" three-part report, one of which suggested amending the law to protect citizens' right to privacy and ensure the nation's cyber security. The technical panel, which included three experts on cyber security, digital forensics, networks, and hardware, was asked by the top court to "inquire, investigate and determine" whether Pegasus spyware was used for snooping on citizens and their probe would be monitored by Raveendran.

The panel members were Naveen Kumar Chaudhary, Prabaharan P, and Ashwin Anil Gumaste. Justice Raveendran, who headed the panel, was assisted by former IPS officer Alok Joshi and cyber security expert Sundeep Oberoi in monitoring the inquiry of the technical panel.

The apex court order said the probe panel would be empowered to enquire and investigate the steps or actions taken by the Centre after reports in 2019 claimed the hacking of WhatsApp accounts of Indian citizens using the Pegasus suite of spyware.

IOS Sagar arrives in Port Louis, Mauritius

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

Reinforcing the enduring bond between India and Mauritius, IOS SAGAR made a significant and engaging port call at Port Louis, Mauritius, from April 26 to 28, as part of its operational deployment in the Indian Ocean, Defence Ministry said here on Tuesday.

During its harbour visit, the ship's Commanding Officer called on the Commandant of the Mauritius Coast Guard, reaffirming the commitment to strengthen cooperation between the two maritime forces. Select personnel of the multinational crew visited several key training facilities of the Mauritius Police Force (MPF), namely the Special Mobile Force Squadron, Maritime Air Squadron, Coast Guard Training School and the Police Helicopter Squadron and interacted with their counterparts.

The visit provided a unique opportunity to exchange knowledge and experience and discuss areas of mutual interest in maritime security.

As part of social activities, an invigorating joint yoga session was organised onboard IOS SAGAR, with participation from the multinational crew and MPF personnel.

The Commandant of the National Coast Guard also attended the event.

The crew of IOS SAGAR and the MPF also played a friendly volleyball match. IOS SAGAR opened its decks to visitors, welcoming members of the MPF, the Indian diaspora, and other enthusiastic groups.

Visitors were given a tour of the ship and briefed on her operational capabilities, navigation systems, and life onboard.

In addition, a trek to the iconic Signal Mountain was conducted for the ship's crew, including the multinational crew.

On departure from Port Louis, IOS SAGAR is scheduled to undertake a joint Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) surveillance with the Mauritius Coast Guard. Upon completion, the ship will proceed towards its next port of call, Port Victoria, Seychelles, continuing its mission of enhancing maritime security, regional cooperation , and goodwill in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

Rahul writes to PM for Parliament session on terror attack

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge and Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi have written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, asking him to convene a special session of Parliament to discuss the Pahalgam terror attack and demonstrate a collective resolve.

Several opposition MPs have made a similar demand to the government in the wake of the dastardly attack in which 26 people, mostly tourists, were killed last week, evoking anger and public outrage.

In the letter to the prime minister, Kharge said, "At this moment, when unity and solidarity is essential, the opposition believes that it is important to convene a special session of both Houses of Parliament at the earliest.

"This will be a powerful demonstration of our collective resolve and willpower to deal with the brutal terror attack in Pahalgam on innocent citizens on April 22. It is our fond hope that the session will be accordingly convened," the leader of opposition in the Rajya Sabha added.

Rahul Gandhi too wrote a letter to Modi with the same request and said the Pahalgam tragedy has outraged every Indian.

"At this critical time, India must show that we will always stand together against terrorism. The Opposition believes that a special session of both Houses of Parliament should be convened, where the representatives of the people can show their unity and determination."

"We request that such a special session be convened at the earliest," he added.

Sharing his letter to the prime minister on X, Gandhi said, "At this critical time, India must show that we always stand together against terrorism."

While the government has not made any response to the call for a special session of Parliament, sources discounted such a possibility and noted that the all-party meeting was called for the purpose of presenting a picture of national unity.

A BJP leader claimed that the opposition's demand is driven more by politics and cited the recent sharp attack on Modi by Congress leaders.

AICC general secretary Jairam Ramesh shared the letters of the leaders of opposition in both Houses and said it was a request for a special session regarding the Pahalgam terror attack.

"This is a very sensitive moment in our nation's history. We need to demonstrate unity, solidarity, cohesive will, collective resolve to deal with the situation, and what better way than having a special session of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha," he said.

Ramesh said the Parliament is the supreme political body in the country and it is not new as special sessions have been held earlier.

"This is not an occasion for political debate, confrontations, people are worried, anguished, this is a traumatic event that took place in Pahalgam, it affected the entire country... An all-party meeting happened, but the PM didn't attend, he was campaigning in Bihar. We hope that the PM will agree, attend, and take Parliament into confidence. After all, this is 'Team India', the PM is the captain of the team," he also said.

Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge FILE PHOTO

The Congress president, however, had been unrelenting in his attack on PM Modi.

At a party rally in Rajasthan on Monday, he lashed out at the prime minister for skipping the all-party meeting on the Pahalgam attack and accused the BJP of creating divisions in the country.

Kharge had said that in this hour of crisis, everyone wants to fight together, "but the BJP wants to spread venom and divide people".

India has cited "cross-border linkages" to the horrific incident and vowed severe punishment for those involved in the strike.

Opposition parties have also extended their support to the government in any action it takes against the perpetrators of the attack and their sympathisers.

BJP calls Congress 'Lashkar-e-Pakistan' over image controversy

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

A pictorial post by the Congress attempting to portray Prime Minister Narendra Modi as a leader missing in action during crisis was slammed by the BJP on Tuesday, which alleged that it was a '*sar tan se juda*' imagery and an attempt to weaken India.

The image posted on social media by the Congress without naming Modi showed an old photo of him with his body missing, and his clothes forming the outline. The image carried the message 'Gayab' (missing) on top with a caption in Hindi that read "*jimmedari ke samay —Gayab*" (missing at the time of taking responsibility). BJP national spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia claimed the post was intended to send out a message to Pakistan that the Congress was with them at this time of crisis, as he called the opposition party "Laskar-e-Pakistan Congress".

He also alleged that the Congress posted the image on social media at the behest of party leader Rahul Gandhi.

"Whatever be the intention, this is not an innocent post by the Congress. It is a sinister design to weaken the integrity of Bharat," Bhatia told a press conference at the BJP headquarters.

"On one hand, Prime Minister Modi and the brave Army have taken a vow to destroy the power which has looked at India with an evil eye, while on the other is terror power, demonic power... Pakistan's thinking and Congress' thinking," Bhatia alleged. "They are trying to target Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and give signals to Pakistan that in the dastardly (Pahalgam) terror attack, the Congress stands with Pakistan and not with its own country Bharat or India," Bhatia added.

The BJP spokesperson said former Pakistan minister Chaudhry Fawad Hussain, commenting on the Congress' post on X, made "objectionable remarks" against Prime Minister Modi and India and asked Rahul Gandhi if he was "betraying" India to receive praises from Pakistan.

"'Sar tan se juda' has become the foundational ideology and character of the Laskar-e-Pakistan Congress," he said,

At this crucial time, the Congress is trying to weaken India and send signals to Pakistan that it is with them, he charged.

BJP's IT department head Amit Malviya said on social media, "The Congress leaves little doubt with its use of 'sar tan se juda' imagery. This is not merely a political statement; it is a dog whistle aimed at its Muslim vote-bank and a veiled incitement against the prime minister."

The image posted on social media by the Congress without naming Modi showed an old photo of him with his body missing, the image carried the message 'Gayab' (missing) on top with a caption that read *"jimmedari ke samay Gayab"*

"It is not the first time the Congress has resorted to such tactics. Rahul Gandhi, on multiple occasions, has both instigated and justified violence toward the prime minister. Yet the Congress will never succeed, for the prime minister enjoys the love and blessings of millions of Indians," he added.

On the contrary, proverbially speaking, Malviya said, if anyone's neck has been slashed, it is the Congress, which has now been reduced to a "headless hydra", flailing without direction.

BJP MP Nishikant Dubey alleged that the hand of Congress is with the terrorists from Pakistan and those protecting the murderers of Hindus.

Slamming the Congress, BJP national spokesperson Pradeep Bhandari alleged that the opposition party seems to be taking its orders directly from Pakistan.

The Congress had stressed on unity at the all-party meeting but some of its leaders, including its Jammu and Kashmir chief, suggest holding talks with Pakistan, Bhandari alleged.

He also claimed that the Congress' social media post was quoted by a former Pakistani minister, which showed that Pakistan was doing the batting for the Congress, and the Congress was doing the bowling for Pakistan.

After a few days of speaking in one voice in the aftermath of the Pahalgam terror attack that claimed 26 lives on April 22, the ruling BJP and the Congress have stepped up attacks on each other. The BJP has cited controversial comments by several Congress functionaries to accuse them of speaking the language of Pakistan, besides questioning the sincerity of its leaders Rahul Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge in offering support to the government in its action against terrorists and their sponsors.

The Congress has in turn castigated Modi for not attending the all-party meeting and instead travelling to Bihar to address a public meeting to launch development projects, which the opposition linked to the upcoming polls in the state.

SC rejects bail plea of convicted former-IPS officer Sanjiv Bhatt

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Tuesday dismissed the bail plea of convicted former IPS officer Sanjiv Bhatt in a 1990 custodial death case in which he was sentenced to life imprisonment.

A bench comprising Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta said there was no merit in his plea for bail or the suspension of sentence in the case.

"We are not inclined to grant Sanjiv Bhatt bail. The prayer of bail is dismissed. The hearing of appeal shall not be affected. The hearing of appeal is expedited," Justice Nath said while pronouncing the verdict.

The appeal of Bhatt against the conviction and life imprisonment is presently pending in the top court.

Bhatt has moved the top court in 2024 challenging the Gujarat High Court's January 9, 2024 order dismissing his appeal. The high court also upheld the conviction of Bhatt and co-accused Pravinsinh Zala under Sections 302 (murder), 323 (voluntarily causing hurt) and 506 (criminal intimidation) of the Indian Penal Code.

The high court had dismissed the state government's appeal seeking to enhance the sentences of five other accused who were acquitted of murder charges but convicted under Sections 323 and 506.

On October 30, 1990, then additional superintendent of police Bhatt detained around 150 people following a communal riot in Jamjodhpur town following a 'bandh' call against the halting of BJP leader LK Advani's 'rath yatra' for the construction of a Ram temple in Ayodhya.

Prabhudas Vaishnani, one of the detained persons, died in hospital after his release.

Vaishnani's brother accused Bhatt and six other police officials of torturing him in custody and causing his death.

Bhatt was arrested on September 5, 2018, in another case where he is accused of falsely implicating a man for drug possession. The trial in the case is underway.

He is also an accused in a case of alleged fabrication of evidence in connection with the 2002 Gujarat riots cases along with activist Teesta Setalvad and former Gujarat director general of police RB Sreekumar.

CM Yogi slams SP leaders over terror attack remarks

SATISH TRIPATHI ■ Deoria

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, while addressing a large public gathering in Deoria, lashed out at Samajwadi Party (SP) leaders for their "shameful" comments on the recent terror attack in Pahalgam.

He said that some SP leaders sounded more like spokespersons for Pakistan than representatives of an Indian political party. "The entire country is united in condemning the terror attack beyond party lines, yet SP leaders are making disgraceful statements. It's hard to tell whether the comment came from a SP leader or a Pakistani official," the Chief Minister remarked.

He was referring to remarks made by an SP office bearer in Mumbai and a controversial response from SP chief Akhilesh Yadav, who, when asked why he had not visited the family of slain Kanpur resident Shubham Dwivedi, allegedly said the victim was "not from our party."

CM Yogi called this response both unfortunate and shameful. He also slammed a national general secretary of the SP for saying "a Hindu killed a Hindu," claiming it was a veiled attempt to absolve Pakistan of blame.

He accused both the SP and the Congress of indulging in casteist, divisive, and appeasement politics that endanger the nation's unity and security.

The Chief Minister stressed that the double-engine government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi is taking firm action against terrorism and Naxalism, and that the entire nation is united in this fight.

During his visit to Deoria, the Chief Minister inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for 501 projects worth ₹676 crore. Of these, 341 projects were completed and inaugurated, while 160 new projects were launched.

He distributed cheques worth ₹7.87 crore to women self-help groups, handed over loan cheques under the Chief Minister Yuva Udyami Yojana, keys to beneficiaries of the Chief Minister Rural Housing Scheme, tractors, and land leases to 37 beneficiaries.

Pension cheques were also handed over to differently-abled and destitute individuals. The Chief Minister also felicitated academic toppers Preeti Kushwaha and Shweta Prasad with certificates and medals.

Addressing the crowd, Yogi Adityanath recalled how, before 2017, Deoria was plagued with disease, lawlessness, and misgovernance.

Festivals couldn't be celebrated peacefully, youth were migrating in search of employment, farmers were committing suicide, and marginalised communities like the Musahars and Vantangiyas were suffering from hunger.

The then government, he said, was only concerned about the welfare of its own family. "Today, Deoria and Uttar Pradesh are known not for encephalitis, malaria, or dengue, but for highways, railways, metros, and world-class expressways," he said.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath with other leaders during the inauguration and laying of foundation stone of development projects in Deoria district on Tuesday PTI

The Chief Minister also inaugurated the district's first four-storey government degree college offering arts, science, and commerce courses.

A new degree college is being set up in Pathardeva with a focus on commerce education. He also announced the construction of an auditorium in a college at Gauri Bazar to support academic activities. He said that the rise of self-help groups in rural areas, once unimaginable, is now a reality and a sign of development. "Once a hub for riots and disease, today's Deoria is shaping its identity through development," he added. Highlighting improvements in connectivity, he announced that a four-lane highway is being built between Deoria and Gorakhpur, linking the region directly to Delhi and other major cities. Similar work is underway on the Gorakhpur-Ballia route and on widening the roads connecting Deoria with Kasia and Padrauna.

He also spoke of the ongoing construction of medical and nursing colleges and emphasised that the government is committed to providing every possible facility to the poor, especially marginalised communities. Yogi Adityanath took a direct swipe at the Samajwadi Party, saying that their politics is centered around their families and caste equations, and that their time in power brought only poverty, unemployment, and insecurity to the people.

In contrast, he said, the present government is working tirelessly for the welfare of the poor, farmers, and youth, with an ambitious plan to connect 15 lakh underprivileged families with government schemes.

He concluded by saying that poverty is not just a challenge for the affected families but for the government as well, and assured the public that his administration will leave no stone unturned in addressing it.

Dalit politics in flux: BSP fights to stay relevant in changing landscape

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ Lucknow

The rising cases of atrocities against Dalits across Uttar Pradesh have ignited political tensions, but for the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), the situation is revealing deeper vulnerabilities within its core support base.

Once the undisputed voice of Dalits in Indian politics, the BSP now finds itself struggling to maintain its relevance as rivals like the Samajwadi Party (SP) and the Azad Samaj Party aggressively court its traditional voters.

The recent attack on Samajwadi Party MP Ramji Suman has given the SP an opportunity to project itself as a protector of Dalit interests — a role that was historically owned by the BSP.

"The attack on our MP is not just an attack on an individual but on the dignity of the entire Dalit community.

"We will not stay silent," an SP leader from Lucknow told this correspondent, hinting at the party's plans to intensify outreach among marginalised communities.

While the BSP continues to raise its voice against incidents such as the vandalism of statues of Gautam Buddha and Dr BR Ambedkar and attacks on Dalit wedding processions, the response from the ground has been muted.

Realising the gap, the BSP high command recently instructed senior leaders to visit affected families, investigate cases thoroughly, and prepare detailed reports.

"It's not just about making statements anymore.

The ground reality demands that we stand firmly with our people and show real solidarity," said a senior BSP functionary who is part of the internal review process.

However, party insiders acknowledge that the bigger threat is not from the Samajwadi Party, but from Chandrashekhar Azad's Azad Samaj Party. "Azad's appeal among young Dalits, especially those frustrated with traditional politics, is growing rapidly. He speaks their language — of assertion, dignity, and rights — not just token representation," said a former BSP district president who requested anonymity.

The recent attack on Samajwadi Party MP Ramji Suman has given the SP an opportunity to project itself as a protector of Dalit interests — a role that was historically owned by the BSP

Adding to the party's internal problems is the sidelining of Akash Anand, the young and dynamic former national coordinator, who many within the BSP saw as the ideal figure to counter Azad's growing influence.

Instead, BSP supremo Mayawati has appointed veteran Rajaram to the post, leading to disappointment among party workers looking for generational change. "The youth wanted Akash.

They saw him as someone who could modernise the BSP's image and connect with first-time voters. The decision to sideline him has left many disillusioned," said a BSP youth leader from western Uttar Pradesh.

Meanwhile, responsibility for the Bihar elections has been given to national coordinator Ramji Gautam, indicating that the party is falling back on old hands rather than taking bold new steps.

Political observers believe that unless the BSP adapts quickly, it risks further alienating its voter base.

"The Dalit voter today is not blindly loyal," says political analyst Dr Shailendra Tiwari.

"They are aspirational, politically aware, and looking for leaders who can genuinely address their concerns, not just symbolically represent them.

"The vacuum left by the BSP's organisational decline is being filled by new players like Azad, and to some extent, even by the SP's PDA strategy."

The situation is made more complex by the fact that Dalit voters are no longer a monolith. Different sub-castes within the community have different aspirations and while some still view the BSP with emotional attachment, others are ready to experiment with new political homes.

The turbulence within the BSP — marked by internal exits, inconsistent messaging, and a perceived lack of energy — has only worsened the uncertainty.

"There is still emotional capital left for Mayawati among older Dalits," says another Lucknow-based analyst, "but politics today demands mobilisation, visibility, and narrative control — and that's where the BSP is slipping."

As Uttar Pradesh prepares for the next round of political battles, the BSP finds itself at a crossroads: revitalise its organisational machinery and reenergise its support base, or risk slipping into political irrelevance as new claimants rise to occupy the space it once dominated.

Gurugram gears up to combat waterlogging before monsoon

PARVESH SHARMA ■ Gurugram

The district administration is in action mode to tackle waterlogging problem in the city. To take stock of the arrangements made by the Municipal Corporation Gurugram (MCG), National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) and the Gurugram Metropolitan Development Authority (GMDA) to provide relief to the people, deputy commissioner Ajay Kumar visited the critical points of waterlogging and inspected the works related to drainage on Tuesday.

During this, officials of the MCG and GMDA were also present. Kumar visited Ambience Mall, Shankar Chowk, Sikanderpur, Shiv Nadar School, AIT Chowk, Sector 52, 56, 46, 47, 57, Sushant Lok, Artemis Road and Mayfield Garden during the inspection and instructed the officials to complete all the necessary preparations in time before the monsoon this time at the places in the city where there was more waterlogging in the last monsoon. The DC directed the NHAI officials to construct a breaker before entering the underpass as well as install high capacity water pumps here.

"Ensure cleaning of all the culverts and adjacent drains built under the national highway in the limits of Gurugram so that the rainwater can easily flow into the main drain," the DC told the officials. Along with this, the NHAI officials were instructed to make necessary improvements in the arrangements for rainwater drainage in their area of work.

The NHAI officials informed that the DC the blockage of drains here due to people throwing garbage in surface drains in various parts of the city is a big problem. Taking cognisance of the above problem, the DC asked the MCG officials to place big dustbins at such identified places told by the NHAI and also make the local people aware that they should throw garbage in those dustbins only. The DC said that he will soon visit Narsinghpur, Hero Honda Chowk and take stock of the work being done there. During this, the issue also came up that due to lack of proper cleaning of drainage and sewerage network in various sectors of the Municipal Corporation, rainwater overflows and creates the problem of waterlogging.

DC Ajay Kumar directed the corporation officials to identify all such sectors and ensure that the entire drainage and sewerage network is cleaned within the stipulated time period. During the inspection, GMDA Executive Engineer Vikram Singh informed the DC about the area related to Haryana Tourism Department adjacent to Udyog Vihar in front of Ambience Mall and said that C and D waste is being dumped illegally at some identified places here. Due to which the natural water bodies have been affected at this place.

He informed that soon the width of the pond area will be increased by GMDA through machines at this place. Due to which the water of Udyog Vihar, Surya Vihar and Dhundahera village can be diverted here.

Giving information about Leg One in Sikandarpur, he said that the cleaning work has been completed here. Giving information about the arrangements made near Shiv Nadar School, Vikram Singh said that check dams have been built at various places by GMDA in the Aravalli area.

Cultivation of Soybean shrinks sharply in Madhya Pradesh

GIRISH SHARMA ■ Bhopal

The cultivation area of soybean in Madhya Pradesh, India's so-called 'Soybean State', has witnessed a sharp decline, raising concerns among farmers and agricultural experts.

Once spread across 6.5 million hectares, soybean farming in the state has now shrunk to just 5.51 million hectares, reflecting a troubling trend despite Madhya Pradesh continuing to lead the country in overall soybean production. Retired Agriculture Director GS Kaushal attributes the primary reason for this decline to the outbreak of the Yellow Mosaic Virus, a devastating disease caused by a Potyvirus and transmitted by whiteflies.

The virus spreads rapidly, especially during periods of intermittent rainfall, when whitefly populations thrive and infect vast swathes of crops. Continuous heavy rains usually suppress this risk, but irregular rain patterns in recent years have led to widespread infestations. Farmers, particularly smallholders, have struggled to contain the disease, largely due to a lack of timely guidance and effective support. To present a positive outlook, the state government has claimed an approximate two percent increase in soybean acreage compared to last year, estimating the current area under cultivation at over 6.6 million hectares. Ground reports and data from within the Agriculture Department itself suggest otherwise.

"There has certainly been a contraction in both area and production compared to earlier years," an official from the Madhya Pradesh Agriculture Department acknowledged on condition of anonymity. "Efforts are being made to improve the situation, but field realities are challenging, and the figures being quoted at higher levels do not always match on-ground observations." Though the government has set a minimum support price of ₹4,892 per quintal and facilitated procurement processes, these financial incentives have not addressed the deeper agronomic problems. The lack of robust disease management strategies, limited farmer training, and weak extension services have all contributed to the ongoing crisis.

The state expects to procure between 650,000 to 700,000 metric tonnes of soybean by the end of December. Around 200,000 farmers have already received payments totaling ₹1,957.1 crore. Neemuch, Vidisha, Rajgarh, Narmadapuram, Agar Malwa, Shahdol, Anuppur, Jabalpur, Umaria, and Khargone are among the top districts where over 75 per cent of registered farmers have been paid.

The Malwa region continues to be the epicenter of soybean cultivation in the state, and while logistical efforts such as transportation of procured soybean have been efficient, completing 95 per cent of the required movement, the deeper challenges facing soybean farming remain unresolved.

Without proactive engagement with farmers at the grassroots level and honest acknowledgment of the current crisis, experts warn that Madhya Pradesh risks losing its dominant position in soybean production in the future.

Shinde Sena slams Congress for seeking Parliament session

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ Mumbai

Advising the Congress to "set its own house in order" before demanding a special Parliament session on Pahalgam issue, the Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena on Tuesday asked the Mallikarjun Kharge-led party to convene a special session of the All India Congress Committee (AICC) to discuss "offensive statements" by its leaders on the attack in the Kashmir valley.

"The Congress party must first set its own house in order. Before making noise about convening a Parliament session, the party must urgently call an All India Congress Committee (AICC) session to clarify its stand on the deeply offensive statements made by its senior leaders—statements that mock the victims of the Pahalgam terror attack and echo the narrative of Pakistan," three-time Shinde Shiv Sena MP and Parliament party leader Dr Shrikant Shinde said.

Shrikant, who is the son of Maharashtra's deputy chief minister Eknath Shinde, rooted for a special session of the AICC in retaliation to demand for a special Parliamentary session made by Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi to discuss the Pahalgam issue.

"The statements by the Congress leaders like (Maharashtra Congress legislature party leader) Vijay Wadettiwar, who cast doubt on the testimonies of survivors, to (Karnataka minister) R.B. Thimmapur and (Karnataka Chief Minister) Siddaramaiah, who downplayed the religious targeting of victims, (former union minister) Saifuddin Soz, who suggested India should accept Pakistan's word, and Tariq (J and K Congress President) Hameed Karra, who called for "dialogue" with a state that sponsors terrorism, are not isolated remarks, they represent a dangerous mindset," Shrikant said. Taking strong exception to the statements by some Congress leaders,Shirkant said: "This isn't mere political immaturity. It's a betrayal of the nation's pain. The mockery and minimization of the grief of widows, orphans, and survivors is not just irresponsible—it is inhumane. The Congress party owes the nation answers. Does it stand with the victims of terror or with those making excuses for terrorists? This hypocrisy cannot be whitewashed".

"India deserves a strong, united political response to terror—not a fractured, confused, and appeasement-driven narrative. If the Congress party cannot take a clear moral stand on this, it has no business demanding accountability from anyone else," Shrikant added.

Earlier on Monday evening, Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge and Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi wrote letters to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, asking him to convene a special session of Parliament to discuss the Pahalgam terror attack and demonstrate a collective resolve against terrorism. "At this moment, when unity and solidarity is essential, the Opposition believes that it is important to convene a special session of both Houses of Parliament at the earliest," Kharge stated in his letter to the Prime Minister.

"This will be a powerful demonstration of our collective resolve and will to deal with the brutal terror attack in Pahalgam on innocent citizens. It is our fond hope that the session will be accordingly convened," Kharge wrote.

Rahul to visit Pahalgam terror victim's family in Kanpur after two-day constituency tour

Opposition Leader Rahul Gandhi being received by Congress leaders Pramod Tiwari, Kishori Lal Sharma and others upon his arrival in Lucknow PTI

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ Lucknow

Congress MP and Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, is set to visit Kanpur on Wednesday to meet the family of Shubham Dwivedi, one of the 26 victims killed in the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir.

"After completing his two-day visit to Raebareli and Amethi, Rahul ji will visit Shubham's family in Kanpur to offer condolences," said Uttar Pradesh Congress Committee president Ajay Rai.

The visit is seen as part of the Congress leader's broader outreach to grieving families and victims of terrorism, underscoring his stand on national security and human compassion. Rahul Gandhi began his tour in his Lok Sabha constituency, Rae Bareli, on Tuesday. During the first leg of his visit, he distributed solar-powered carts to underprivileged families, highlighting the party's focus on sustainable development and support for marginalised communities.

He was received at Lucknow airport by state Congress chief Ajay Rai, Amethi MP Kishori Lal Sharma and other senior party leaders.

From there, he proceeded by road to Rae Bareli, where he interacted with local residents, Congress workers, and beneficiaries of welfare schemes. Though the Congress lost the seat in 2019, his visit signals continued efforts to reconnect with the grassroots and rebuild the party's support base in the region.

The stopover in Kanpur to meet Shubham Dwivedi's family adds a solemn note to the visit. Shubham, a native of Kanpur, was among the victims of the brutal terrorist ambush on a convoy carrying workers in Pahalgam, an incident that has drawn national condemnation.

Congress leaders have criticised the central government for lapses in security and intelligence in the aftermath of the attack. Rahul Gandhi's visit, is intended not just as a personal gesture of solidarity but also as a reminder of the need for stronger security protocols in high-risk zones.

"Gandhi's schedule reflects a mix of constituency-focused development, political consolidation and empathetic outreach a strategy that party insiders believe is vital for reviving Congress's fortunes in Uttar Pradesh ahead of future elections," Congress leader Pramod Tiwari said.

Editor's TAKE

Canada elects: In the shadow of Trump

Canada's elections have unfolded at a time when its close ally has drifted away

Mark Carney will retain the office of Prime Minister of Canada as the Canadians have put a seal of approval on his candidature. He was declared the winner in Canada's federal election, promising to fight against US President Donald Trump's trade war and threats of annexation. While Carney's Liberal Party has won the election by a slender margin, the result puts to rest various theories of instability in the system and the future of Canada itself. Canada has put overwhelming faith in Carney as they feel he is the person who can talk to Trump in his language. Canada's elections have come at a critical moment on the world stage, with global trade tensions reshaping traditional alliances.

Notably, the ongoing influence of Trump-era tariffs continues to cloud Canada's trade relationships — especially with the United States, its largest economic partner. The elections have brought to power a leadership that faces immediate pressure to redefine Canada's external economic posture. The political establishment is now more aware than ever of the vulnerabilities exposed by US protectionism during Donald Trump's second presidential term.

Tariffs on Canadian steel, aluminium, and other goods have left lasting scars on Canada's perception of its reliance on American markets. This environment has prompted Canadian policymakers to look beyond the US for more resilient and diversified trade partnerships. India, with its massive economy and growing geopolitical clout, is naturally one of the foremost candidates.

For India, the elections signal an opportunity to deepen economic and strategic engagement with Canada's new regime. Talks around a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) between the two nations have been on and off for years. The post-election moment could inject new urgency into these discussions. Canada's need for diversified markets aligns well with India's ambitions to increase exports and attract investment.

However, for that to happen, Canada and India would have to develop a mechanism to mitigate distrust and both nations will have to take baby steps to build confidence and repair relations, which took a beating in the wake of terrorism directed at India from Canadian soil. The relations between the two countries were at their lowest ebb during Justin Trudeau's regime, which Carney has tried to mend. Earlier this month, Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney joined the Hindu community in celebrating Ram Navami. It signalled Carney's resolve to mend fences with India. Beyond trade, there are shared interests in technology collaboration, education exchanges, green energy transitions, and the critical minerals sector — where India has a growing appetite and Canada boasts abundant resources. A friendlier, more trade-oriented Canadian Government could facilitate greater Indian investment in Canadian sectors and vice versa.

Additionally, Canada's large and politically significant Indian diaspora one of the largest outside India — will continue to play a bridge-building role, especially if the new Government recognises and leverages this demographic strength.

However, challenges remain. Diplomatic ties have occasionally been strained over issues such as Sikh separatism and differing geopolitical alignments. Recent tensions involving Khalistan sympathisers have caused friction, and even a pro-trade Government would need to carefully navigate domestic political sensitivities. Moreover, Canada's closer ties to the US — despite the tariffs — will not disappear overnight. India's evolving ties with the US, including in areas like the QUAD security dialogue, could smooth some of these frictions but they will not eliminate them altogether.

Canada's elections, set against the backdrop of lingering Trump-era trade disruptions, offer a pivotal opportunity for Ottawa to recalibrate its foreign and economic policies. For India, this could mean a more open and motivated partner willing to invest in a broader, more diversified bilateral relationship.

But success will depend on political will, strategic patience, and a willingness to address longstanding irritants with pragmatism. If handled wisely, the next few years could usher in a new era of India–Canada cooperation — less reliant on the ebb and flow of US politics, and more focused on shared growth and global influence.

Leaderspeak

It's an incredibly important relationship, the Canada-India relationship, on many levels. On the personal level, with Canadians having deep personal ties, economically, strategically... There are strains on that relationship that we didn't cause, to be clear, but there is a path forward to address those with mutual respect and to build out.

MARK CARNEY, PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA

The endless war for Kashmir

The latest civilian attack in Pahalgam by Pakistan-backed terrorists not only shattered a long-standing unspoken pact against targeting tourists but also reignited calls for retribution, hinting at a dangerous new phase

The latest civilian attack in Pahalgam by Pakistan-backed terrorists not only shattered a long — standing unspoken pact against targeting tourists but also reignited calls for retribution, hinting at a dangerous new phase. The war over J&K is unending. It started in 1947 and has not ceased since the Partition and the birth of Pakistan. It is unlikely to stop even after three full-fledged wars, several skirmishes and many 'brink of war' situations.

The doyen of India-Pakistan relations, late Stephen Cohen, said, 'They will fight a hundred years.' Add the numerous terrorist attacks by Pakistan (mainly against BJP Governments) and India's retaliatory covert actions across LoC/IB and the cost is staggering — a setback to the economic progress of the region, countless loss in human lives and deepening roots of hate and violence. During this time, dialogue has not been given a proper chance, thanks to spoilers. Post-Pahalgam, it is déjà vu. The most consequential terrorist attack was on December 13, 2001 against India's Parliament, the citadel of democracy, by Pakistan's Jaish-e-Mohammad. The failed encounter near the entrance to Parliament was over in 12 and a half minutes — less time than terrorists took to kill 26 innocent Hindu tourists. Security forces were slovenly in acting to make up for the intelligence and security void in Pahalgam. In 2001, the BJP-led NDA Government took the unprecedented step of mounting the unsuccessful Operation Parakram within 24 hours, which brought India and Pakistan twice to the brink of war. Pakistan's proxy war then was at its zenith.

Twenty soldiers, 0.5 JCOs and 1.7 officers were being killed in counter-terrorism operations every month — akin to fighting one Kargil every 16 months. By strengthening deterrence — though deterrence is not effective against terrorists — and kinetic operations following terrorist attacks in Uri and Pulwama (as well as political measures like revocation of Article 370), levels of terrorism were significantly lowered from the peak of 4,000 to 5,000 terrorists in 2001 to around 100 terrorists today, of whom 75 are foreigners.

But Pahalgam has punched a hole in the Government's claim that J&K is free of terrorism and Kashmiris have joined the mainstream. Many have not — due to continuing alienation resulting in considerable local support for terrorists. Otherwise, hundreds upon thousands of overground workers and administration officials would not have been rounded up, with reprisals against families which would rebound and affect J&K's statehood. Pahalgam was qualitatively different from the previous choice of targets. Earlier, mainly military targets — like Pathankot air base, Uri brigade headquarters and Pulwama CRPF convoy — were chosen. Pahalgam was a civilian target. In the Pentagon's book, an attack against civilian targets is terrorism.

The cardinal sin of terrorists was breaking the compact with Kashmiri awaam: not to attack tourists. This was the first time they did so; this would hurt the local economy and livelihoods badly.

ASHOK K MEHTA

There was yet another difference. One of the terrorists told the wife of a victim that they were sparing her so that she could tell Modi about the attack. Targeting women and children is taboo for terrorists and insurgents, who also spare doctors.

Terrorists have made Pahalgam personal for Modi. After every major attack, Pakistan has denied its involvement, even after Mumbai 2008 where Kasab was captured. It has always demanded 'credible evidence' and invariably suggested a joint probe, though this time a 'neutral probe' endorsed by China.

During Parakram, India's biggest and longest military mobilisation, its initial demands on December 14, 2001 were the termination of activities of Jaish and Lashkar terrorists, detention of leaders and sealing of their offices. These demands were later expanded to Pakistan stopping cross-border terrorism and full renunciation of terrorism in all its manifestations. Pahalgam terrorists chose their targets deep in the hinterland with the advantage of quick escape into high-altitude pine forests. Prime Minister Modi has directed terrorists to be hunted down till the ends of the earth. A bounty of ₹20 lakh has been offered. India's retribution so far has been chiefly diplomatic, economic and people-to-people. The already truncated Indian embassy in Islamabad has been scaled down to virtually nothing.

Unprecedented and unknown in effect, the Indus Water Treaty, which had survived all previous conflicts, has been held in abeyance. The war of words has begun: "Not a drop of water from the Indus River will flow into Pakistan"; "will bring Pakistan to its knees" are ministerial threats from India. Pakistan has responded with "Indian blood will flow if water is stopped". Modi has famously said, "blood and water can't flow together".

The long-threatened water wars could start. Usual war cries are also being issued from TV studios. Oft-repeated kinetic plans are being rebranded. Indians are crying out for revenge. A Pakistani minister has said its 130 nuclear missiles are not for show. Nuclear signalling has also begun.

But surprise — surprise: Ceasefire 2021 along the LoC is still breathing. Patriotism and nationalism should not blindside Indians to ground reality — though Pakistan's signature on terrorist attacks is well known. But a study of Pakistan's National Security Committee statement in response to the release of India's CCS decisions post-Pahalgam could balance the debate about victimhood. While Pakistan is the acclaimed epicentre of terrorism, Indian agencies are no longer papal and pristine. Pakistan's NSC statement mentions Kulbhushan Jadhav and Indian covert activities in Balochistan and Afghanistan. NSA Ajit Doval's expressed threats on Balochistan are historic. After the serial attacks by BLA in Balochistan recently, including Jaffar Express, Pakistan's DG ISPR Lt Gen Ahmand Sharif Chaudhary said: "the rules of the game have changed", hinting at Indian involvement. The interview of the Editors of Friday Times, Najam Sethi to Karan Thapar, also helps to clear the fog. Terrorists chose a target that ensured unqualified success and quick exit. Nearly a week has come to pass.

There is no news of contact with terrorists. Their exfiltration will nail the blame on the Pakistan complex. India's inevitable kinetic response must be measured — not driven by public sentiment and emotion and below the escalation threshold. In Balakot, high risk of escalation was underwritten by Trump and high domestic electoral reward. Trump 2.0 is unpredictable, though Bihar elections are approaching. For Pakistan, no risk is too high to keep the Kashmir masalacentre stage.

(The writer, a retired Major General, was Commander, IPKF South, Sri Lanka, and founder member of the Defence Planning Staff, currently the Integrated Defence Staff. Views are personal)

Fighting anaemia and malnutrition in Gujarat

SECOND Opinion

BY SWAPNA MAJUMDAR

When Hemant Deshmukh talks about health and nutrition, the community in Dang and Navsari, Gujarat, listens. This is not just because Deshmukh is educated, unlike many of them, but also because he happens to be a tribal like them. Being from the same community has helped Deshmukh build trust, make learning fun and debunk myths and misconceptions to improve the health and nutrition status of women, children and adolescents in both these predominantly tribal districts. Just how important reaching out to these communities has been can be gauged from the data of the latest National Family Health Survey 2019–2021 (NFHS-5).

According to NFHS-5, almost 77 per cent of adolescent girls in Dang and 72 per cent in Navsari are anaemic, and a significant percentage of tribal women are impacted by anaemia (72 per cent in Dang and about 60 per cent in Navsari). Further, anaemia prevalence among children under five is 82 per cent in Dang and 75.3 per cent in Navsari — both higher than the national average (67 per cent). It was these worrying statistics that prompted CHETNA, the Ahmedabad-based not-for-profit working on health and nutrition awareness, to focus its attention on these two districts. In March 2022, it began implementation of its three-year project in 16 villages in these two districts to improve nutritional status and access to healthcare services for women, children and adolescents. The first step of this project, called Arogya, was to ensure that the cultural and traditional sensitivities of the tribal community were respected. The decision to choose Deshmukh as the field coordinator proved to be a good one, as he not only belonged to the same tribal community but also spoke the local dialect and was well-versed in the local customs and beliefs. He was able to counsel pregnant women, adolescents and caregivers of children below five years in Dangi and Kunki, the local dialects, on diets, health issues and even menstruation. Deshmukh was helped by the innovative anaemia kit developed by CHETNA to raise awareness of nutritional anaemia. Largely illustrative, the kit has multiple communication tools, including technical information on anaemia, a set of three posters on key messages, a script for a role play and a guide for the field workers on how to use these tools.

Additionally, it comprises a handout of local folk songs modified to include anaemia messages, and a spinning disc game to make discussions on the causes and prevention of anaemia engaging. The kit also comprises a window chart. In this, the image of women who eat greens and full meals are shown as healthy; and to show how women who do not follow this healthy diet look, an image of a weak and tired woman is inserted atop it. Also handy was the kit explainer — to assuage fears of anaemic pregnant women that if they ate too much the baby would get suffocated in the womb; or if they ate brinjals, the baby would be dark-skinned; and that eating white-coloured food would cause difficulty during labour. Another effective strategy used was collaboration with the local frontline health workers like the ASHA, ANM and Anganwadi workers. By getting them on board, Deshmukh was able to ensure an increase in access to Government schemes related to maternal, child and adolescent health. Thanks to the novel multi-pronged strategies and the dedicated effort by Deshmukh, women are no longer consulting witch doctors — a practice popular before Arogya was initiated. Instead, they are visiting primary and community health centres close to their villages and are registering their pregnancies. Their families are maintaining a watch on their health and nutrition so that no woman is undernourished or anaemic when she delivers. Women are coming for ante and post-natal check-ups, getting their tetanus shots and having folic iron tablets.

Another visible change has come in the form of women making use of the nutrient — rich food packets distributed at the Anganwadi centre to pregnant women and lactating mothers. Before the Arogya project started, these packets were being fed to the cows at home so that they produced good milk. However, after demonstrations by Deshmukh and his team on how to cook these packets by adding locally available vegetables like jackfruit, dates and drumsticks, these are being consumed by the women. Undernourished infants are now also being fed four or five small meals a day to meet their nutritional requirements — underlining that change is possible with people-centred programmes.

(The author writes on development and gender. views are personal)

Letters to the Editor

Pakistan must stop exporting terrorism

Madam — One is hearing criticism from some humanitarians against India walking out of the 'Indus water treaty' and sending back Pakistani patients who had come here for treatment even before the ongoing enquiry into the Pahalgam terror attack is complete.

The 'liberal critics' who expect unending magnanimity from India would also do well to advise its recalcitrant neighbour to deserve the same.

For any enquiry to be a success, there has to be cooperation from all the parties involved. It is naive to expect even an iota of cooperation from a neighbour, who is a global exporter of terror, especially to India.

Despite submitting dossiers of evidence in the past, against those who have committed acts of terror and then found safe sanctuary in that country, no credible action has been taken. Against this backdrop, when facts cannot be immediately ascertained, there has to be conjecture, based not on emotion, but on past record.

In the circumstances, the completion of enquiry is a mere formality. Meanwhile, India needs to act on its own to defend and neutralise the terrorists who constantly infiltrate into its land from across the Western border and commit heinous acts of terror. If India and Pakistan are to be good neighbours Pakistan must act against its rogue elements.

V JAYARAMAN | CHENNAI

Online information can be misleading

Madam — Information available on the internet may not always be authentic. Almost everyone goes through the internet; but only some grow through it. Many doctors are baffled by the "immense internet knowledge" of patients and their relatives who blurt out their understanding on the subject through internet with regards to diagnosis, investigations, drugs and treatment.

Often it is almost like the patients take a second opinion from the doctor after having consulted their primary doctor, the internet.

Details on drugs and side effects can be, to an extent, accrued on the net. But when the addiction to internet propels the users to go for a drug not recommended by a doctor, or discontinue a treatment on their own, then the issue can get complicated.

In the process, the fine line between information and interaction, knowledge and experience, treatment and management, use and misuse get blurred. Unfortunately, people with Internet Derived Information Obstruction Treatment (IDIOT) syndrome or Cyberchondria are on a self medicating spree.

As a result, more and more patients who could have benefited from an early consultation with a doctor are going untreated or are being treated late in the day. Internet is a great resource but one must tread it with caution.

GANPATHI BHAT | AKOLA

Vaibhav Suryavanshi is a rare talent

Madam — It's natural, there was no exuberance, when Rajasthan Royals head coach Rahul Dravid rose from his wheelchair to applaud the 14 years and 32 days young sensation Vaibhav Suryavanshi, etched his name in IPL history by becoming the youngest centurion. Kudos to Rahul Dravid for identifying and mentoring this young player. Representing Rajasthan Royals, Vaibhav blazed his way to a century in just 35 balls against Gujarat Titans at the Swaiman Singh Stadium. The record of fastest century in IPL belongs to former West Indies batter Chris Gayle, who had brought up his triple figure mark in 30 balls for Royal Challengers Bengaluru against Pune Warriors in April 2013.

Vaibhav obviously is natural , superbly talented and fearless. Many would have succumbed to the pressure but he was absolutely a picture of calm. After his last three IPL performances, cricket lovers hope Vaibhav should be groomed by Dravid to have good mental strength and character apart from cricketing skills.

No doubt Vaibhav Suryavanshi is a precocious talent like the great Sachin Tendulkar! He is a very quiet boy but when it comes to cricket, he is a great talker. Let him now progress in cricket at his own natural pace and with proper guidance from experts. He should be advised not to get too excited and then think ahead of himself. Hope the corporates don't tempt him with endorsements and kill his talent.

BIDYUT KUMAR CHATTERJEE I FARIDABAD

THE INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY LAPSES AT PAHALGAM

The intelligence and operational lapses that led to the terrorist attack in Pahalgam in which 26 people were shot dead, regrettably echo a pattern of past blunders — including Kargil in 1999, Mumbai in 2008, Pulwama in 2019 and Ladakh in 2020 — all devastating.

This rare admission came during an all party meeting in New Delhi on Thursday (April 24) evening, convened three days after the April 22 terrorist strike. Parliamentary affairs minister Kiren Rijiju said that Intelligence Bureau and home ministry officials had briefed MPs about the massacre in Pahalgam's unguarded Baisaran meadow, but offered no further details.

The opposition MPs, however, revealed that the official explanation for the glaring intelligence failure was a misguided assumption: that militants would not target tourists, given their contribution to Kashmir's local economy an assumption now tragically proven false.In other words, despite upwards of 1,000 tourists visiting the site every day, no security personnel were deployed or present when the gunmen struck. Even after the attack, response times were painfully slow.

On April 22, all three layers failed simultaneously. The area was left wide open with multiple access routes through surrounding forests and trails. Moreover, the attackers, apparently in Indian Army fatigues, were never sighted en route to the meadow, indicating a severe lapse in surveillance.

Their undetected escape further underscored the breakdown in coordination between the Army, CRPF, J&K Police, and Kashmir's much — touted Unified Command structure. Even more startling was the absence of any immediate response despite the terrorists firing over 40 rounds from AK-47 rifles in an acoustically resonant mountainous terrain. There were no drones, surveillance cameras, or alert systems in place at Baisaran, despite its status as a popular tourist site.

BHAGWAN THADANI I MUMBAI

Please send your letter to the letterstopioneer@gmail.com. In not more than 400 words. We appreciate your feedback.

Trump's 'tariffs' trigger global trade turmoil

US President Donald Trump imposed sweeping new 'reciprocal tariffs' ranging from 10 per cent to 49 per cent on imports from nearly 60 countries, The move risks igniting retaliatory measures worldwide, with early signs of deepening economic strain already visible in the tit-for-tat tariff war with China

FIRST Column

Issuing an executive order citing "national emergency" on April 2, 2025, US President Donald Trump slapped additional customs duties branded as "reciprocal tariffs" (RTs) — in the range of 10 — 49 per cent — on nearly 60 countries including India, which faces a 26 per cent extra levy on most products across industrial and farm categories. While a 10 per cent baseline duty is applicable from April 5, 2025, the full additional impost takes effect from April 9, 2025.

The additional tariffs will apply over and above the current US levies, which average 3.3 per cent on a most favoured nation (MFN) basis. While the above levies are applied country-wise, certain product — level tariffs also take effect concurrently in all countries.

A 25 per cent duty on steel and aluminium products has already become operational from March 12, 2025, and a 25 per cent impost on automobiles and auto parts took effect from April 2, 2025. The US had earlier announced special extra tariffs for three of its largest trading partners — namely China, Mexico and Canada.

On imports from China, the US imposed a 54 per cent additional tariff (34 per cent RTs plus 20 per cent special extra tariff). China retaliated by imposing 34 per cent RTs on its imports from the US. The latter retorted with an additional impost of 50 per cent on imports from the former — taking the total to 104 per cent.

This bullied China to impose a further RT of 50 per cent on imports from the US, taking its total additional tariff to 84 per cent. Trump escalated the tariff war, levying a total of 125 per cent on Chinese imports (including a 20 per cent Fentanyl-linked tariff, which comes to 145 per cent). China has struck again — increasing its additional tariff to match the US at 125 per cent.

Even as EU countries, Japan and Australia had earlier hinted at retaliation, Trump's announcement of a 90-day truce with countries other than China (however, a 10 per cent baseline duty will apply) has led them to defer their plans for now. Reciprocal tariffs are trade duties that one country imposes in response to tariffs placed on its goods by another country.

In simple terms, if Country A charges extra taxes on goods from Country B, then Country B does the same in return. It's like a "tit-for-tat" in trade. This approach is seriously flawed. First, Country B need not be importing the same goods from Country A that the latter does from the former. Even when the product basket is the same, the foundational principle of comparative advantage suggests that Country B should import a product from Country A if the latter can deliver it at a lower price.

It makes no sense for Country B to artificially increase the price of the product (albeit cheaper) coming from Country A by imposing a higher import duty/tariff. There can be exceptions to this foundational principle for less developed or developing countries wherein the Governments are committed to protecting certain sectors. For instance, under the WTO rules, developing countries have the right to keep relatively higher "bound tariffs" (giving reasonable room for tariff hikes, if need be) for agricultural commodities.

UTTAM GUPTA

The USA certainly doesn't fall into this category. Trump's argument that the imposition of "RTs" will help in re-invigorating domestic manufacturing by prompting companies to invest in the USA is far-fetched.

Firms are enthused to invest and expand capacities only when they are assured of demand. But a levy of RTs will kill demand by pushing up prices. And don't forget the devastating effect on demand for US products in other countries when the latter go for "tit-for-tat".

Forget any gains — it could take a serious toll on the US growth itself. According to former US Treasury Secretary Larry Summers, Trump's RTs will wipe out nearly US $30 trillion — roughly equivalent to its one-year GDP.

> TRUMP ESCALATED THE TARIFF WAR, LEVYING A TOTAL OF 125 PER CENT ON CHINESE IMPORTS (INCLUDING A 20 PER CENT FENTANYL — LINKED TARIFF, WHICH COMES TO 145 PER CENT). CHINA HAS STRUCK AGAIN, INCREASING ITS ADDITIONAL TARIFF TO MATCH THE US AT 125 PER CENT.

The manner of arriving at the applicable additional tariff is mysterious. These tariffs seek to match the tariff and non-tariff burden that American businesses face while exporting to other countries. For instance, in the case of India, he looks at not just the existing tariffs but also loads on the tariff equivalents of non-tariff barriers and other trade-impacting measures like subsidies and currency adjustments. This way, it arrives at a high figure of 52 per cent. Having artificially inflated the number, Trump — in a gesture of benevolence — says 'we are imposing on India an additional duty of 26 per cent only, which is half of what New Delhi charged the US'.

The reality is that even the 'discounted' tariff of 26 per cent is more than double India's current trade-weighted tariff rate of 12 per cent on its imports from the US. Such a disingenuous and opaque method of arriving at RTs is evident in individual product categories. The resulting sharp increase in tariffs on major export items from India such as chemicals, metals, gems and jewellery, engineering, automobiles, food products etc. will have a devastating effect on these sectors. India may have some reason to feel relieved when it sees RTs on its exports to the USA in juxtaposition with tariffs imposed on its key Asian competitors — viz. China (125 per cent), Vietnam (46 per cent), Thailand (36 per cent), Bangladesh (37 per cent) etc. In textiles and garments, India will have a clear edge over China and Bangladesh.

In electronics and telecom, steep tariffs on exports from Vietnam and Thailand should give India a leg up. In January 2025, the US imposed restrictions on the export of computer chip — making equipment, software, and high-bandwidth memory chips to China. This has undermined the latter's capabilities to boost the production of its goods such as electronics, automobiles etc.

China has also been impacted by EU countries imposing tariffs on their imports of Chinese EVs. These measures targeting China should help India find space for its electronics, EVs and automobiles in US/EU markets.

Trump has kept pharmaceutical formulations (besides energy and semiconductors) out of the purview of reciprocal levies. India caters to nearly half of the US market for branded generic medicines. The Americans get these medicines very cheaply when compared to the stuff made by US firms. It is, therefore, natural that the Administration has exempted their imports.

The US has offered some relief from its tariff assault to a country that takes significant steps to remedy non-reciprocal trade arrangements. For such countries, Trump says "I may decrease or limit in scope the duties imposed under this (reciprocal tariff) order."

India has already taken some steps such as cutting taxes on bourbon whiskey, fish feed, motorcycles, mobile phone components and satellite parts. It could offer more under the Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) with the USA it intends to conclude by the end of 2025. But Trump won't be satisfied with some more cuts here and there.

He has put forth big demands such as reforming India's stockholding programme for food security, allowing the import of GM (genetically modified) food, lowering tariffs on farm products, amending its Patent Act to allow evergreening (a fancy term for extending patent protection for older drugs and delaying generic alternatives), removal of ban on inventory-based model in e-commerce, granting US firms access to Government contracts including defence.

It won't be possible for India to yield ground in any of these areas. In February 2025, during a joint press conference at the White House, Trump had said Modi was "a much tougher negotiator" than him. Events seem to be proving otherwise.

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

The consequences of experimenting with Yoga

Yoga, rooted in deep spiritual and scientific traditions, is increasingly at risk of being diluted by modern, hybrid practices that prioritise aesthetics and fitness over inner transformation

Growing up, I always learnt and practised Yoga with a quiet, disciplined, and almost sacred approach. In India, Yoga was never just an exercise; it was a deeply spiritual and scientific system, honed over thousands of years to align the body, mind, and spirit. Whether it was traditional forms like Hatha Yoga and Ashtanga Yoga, or guru — shishya lineages such as Sivananda Yoga, Iyengar Yoga, or Satyananda Yoga, the core practices remained largely consistent, with only minor variations, and were intentionally grounded in both physical discipline and profound philosophical wisdom.

Hatha Yoga, which I practise at Sivananda School of Yoga, for instance, is not merely about bending the body into various shapes. It is about balancing the masculine and feminine energies within oneself ('Ha' in 'Hatha' means Sun and 'tha' means Moon). The slow, purposeful asanas are designed to prepare the body for deeper spiritual practices like meditation and so on.

Ashtanga Yoga demands discipline and synchronisation of breath with a progressive series of postures, promoting physical endurance and mental clarity.

Iyengar Yoga, developed by BKS Iyengar, emphasises precision and alignment. Props like belts and blocks are used not as gimmicks but as intelligent aids to help practitioners achieve the correct posture safely. Satyananda Yoga, from the Bihar School of Yoga — also a disciple of Swami Sivananda, offers a holistic system combining asanas, pranayama (breath control), and meditation, deeply grounded in ancient scriptures yet highly accessible to modern practitioners.

These traditional forms of yoga were complete systems — designed not just to build strong bodies but to cultivate resilience, compassion, inner peace, and eventually, spiritual awakening.

But today, the variations presented, especially to attract younger audiences — are at times of concern. In the quest to make Yoga more "appealing", a whole new breed of hybrid practices has emerged, at times sans focus on posture or mind–breath–body coordination.

While innovation can often bring new energy to old traditions, in the case of Yoga, I worry that something fundamental is being lost. Yoga, for example, was developed to suit the Western craving for calorie-burning workouts. It emphasises speed, strength, and sweat but often sacrifices breath awareness, alignment, and the contemplative aspects that are central to Yoga.

SHARMILA DAS

Aerial Yoga uses silk hammocks to suspend practitioners in mid-air. While it might look beautiful on social media, it introduces new risks to the musculo skeletal system, especially if taught without a proper understanding of traditional postures and body mechanics.

HIIT Yoga and CrossFit Yoga attempt to fuse high-intensity interval training and weightlifting principles with yogic postures. The fact is that Yoga was never intended to be a high-stress activity on the body.

Then there's Paddleboard Yoga and Spin and Yoga, both interesting combinations, but ones that often seem to dilute the inward focus that traditional Yoga demands. Balancing on a paddleboard or spinning on a cycle while trying to breathe deeply and remain mindful often becomes more of a challenge to one's physical endurance rather than an invitation to stillness and self-inquiry. What concerns me is not merely the creation of these hybrids, but the way they are marketed: Yoga is increasingly sold as a product — a lifestyle choice that promises flat abs, glowing skin, and mental sharpness in 30 days or less.

> SHISHYA LINEAGES SUCH AS SIVANANDA YOGA, IYENGAR YOGA, OR SATYANANDA YOGA, THE CORE PRACTICES REMAINED LARGELY CONSISTENT, WITH ONLY MINOR VARIATIONS, AND WERE INTENTIONALLY GROUNDED IN BOTH PHYSICAL DISCIPLINE AND PROFOUND PHILOSOPHICAL WISDOM.

The ancient aim of Yoga — union with the higher self — is often barely mentioned. The sacredness of the practice, its depth, and its inherent science seem at risk of being trivialised into a trendy hashtag or a flashy gym class.

Experimenting with traditional practices without a deep understanding of their purpose and structure can be risky. Traditional Yoga evolved slowly, through painstaking observation of the human body and mind.Every asana was designed with attention to anatomical, energetic, and psychological effects. Disrupting this carefully developed sequence, speeding it up, loading it with weights, suspending it mid-air — can lead to injuries ranging from minor sprains to serious spinal issues.

Traditional Yoga balances the nervous system, calming the fight-or flight response and cultivating parasympathetic dominance (rest and digest mode). High-intensity fusions may instead overstimulate the nervous system, leaving practitioners wired and anxious rather than grounded and serene.

Having said that, I believe there is always room for creativity. Yoga should be alive, growing, and meeting the needs of new generations. But this growth must be rooted in respect for the science behind traditional systems. Without that grounding, we risk turning Yoga into just another fitness fad — here today, gone tomorrow — when in fact it is one of humanity's most precious treasures for holistic health and self-realisation.

As someone who has felt the profound benefits of traditional Yoga, I urge others — especially younger audiences drawn to "new-age" Yoga — to explore the traditional systems first. Understand the depth before seeking novelty. Build a strong foundation before experimenting. After all, Yoga isn't just something we do, it's something we become, and it's a way of life.

And that transformation is far too sacred to be rushed, repackaged, or compromised. Yoga, rooted in deep spiritual and scientific traditions, is increasingly at risk of being diluted by modern, hybrid practices that prioritise aesthetics and fitness over inner transformation. While innovation can breathe fresh life into ancient systems, it must not come at the cost of Yoga's core purpose — union, awareness, and holistic well-being.

Traditional Yoga is not just movement; it is a precise, time-tested science designed to harmonise body, mind, and spirit. Fusing it with high-intensity workouts or gimmicky formats may attract attention, but it often undermines its healing, meditative essence.

The danger lies not only in physical injury but in reducing Yoga to a trend, stripped of its depth and sacredness. For Yoga to remain a transformative path, its evolution must be rooted in respect and understanding. Before reinventing it, we must first embody it. Let us not forget — Yoga is a journey inward, not a performance outward.

(The author is a certified Sivananda Yoga teacher with over 30 years of practice. Views are personal)

Pahalgam attack shows global zero terror tolerance

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ United Nations

India said that the "strong, unequivocal" support and solidarity extended by global leaders in the wake of the terrorist attack in Pahalgam is a testimony to the international community's "zero tolerance" for terrorism. "The Pahalgam terrorist attack represents the largest number of civilian casualties since the horrific 26/11 Mumbai attacks in 2008," India's Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador Yojna Patel, said.

"Having been a victim of cross-border terrorism for decades, India fully understands the long-lasting impact such acts have on victims, their families and society," Patel added.

Patel was speaking at the hybrid launch event for the 'Victims of Terrorism Association Network' (VoTAN) of the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism at the world body's headquarters on Monday.

She said that "India deeply appreciates and values the strong, unequivocal support and solidarity extended by leaders and governments across the world in the wake of the recent terrorist attack at Pahalgam, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. This is a testimony to the international community's zero tolerance for terrorism."

The horrific April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam killed 25 Indians and one Nepali citizen. The victims were mostly tourists from all across India.

Global leaders, including US President Donald Trump, US Vice President J D Vance, Russian President Vladimir Putin, UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer, Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, French President Emmanuel Macron, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres condemned the Pahalgam terror attack and expressed their condolences and solidarity with India. Last week, the 15-nation UN Security Council issued a Press Statement condemning "in the strongest terms" the terrorist attack in Jammu and Kashmir,

A security personnel stands guard a day after a terrorist attack in Pahalgam PTI

stressing that those responsible for these killings should be held accountable and organisers and sponsors of this "reprehensible act of terrorism" should be brought to justice. The Council members "stressed that those responsible for these killings should be held accountable, and urged all States, in accordance with their obligations under international law and relevant Security Council resolutions, to cooperate actively with all relevant authorities in this regard." A press statement is a declaration to the media made by the President of the Security Council on behalf of all 15 Members. France is President of the Council for the month of April and the press statement was issued by Council President Permanent Representative of France to the UN Ambassador Jerome Bonnafont. Pakistan currently sits in the UN Security Council as a non-permanent member. A press statement requires agreement from all Council members and is a negotiated text. Patel highlighted that the Council, in its statement, has said that perpetrators, organisers, financiers and sponsors of reprehensible acts of terrorism must be held accountable and brought to justice.

"Acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, wherever, whenever and by whomever committed. We reiterate that terrorism in all its forms must be condemned unequivocally," she said. India also termed the establishment of the Victims of Terrorism Association (VoTAN) as a significant step, saying it will create a structured, safe space for victims to be heard and supported. "India believes that initiatives like VoTAN are essential to strengthening the global response to terrorism, ensuring that victims remain at the centre of our collective efforts," Patel said.

The hybrid launch event commenced with a video showing testimonies of survivors and families of victims of terror attacks around the world, including by survivor of the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack Karambir Singh Kang, Nidhi Chaphekar and the son of a woman killed in the 1985 bombing of Air India flight 182 en route from Toronto to London.

VoTAN is an initiative bringing together victims of terrorism and victims' associations from across the globe to drive collective action to support victims' rights and needs. "Terrorism remains a serious threat to international peace and security, and a daily reality for thousands of people around the world."

Disabled Pakistan teen appeals to PM Modi to allow his mother to return to Karachi

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Karachi

A disabled Pakistani teenager, who was sent back from India without his treatment being completed, has appealed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the government to allow his mother to join them in Karachi.

Ayan's mother, who has an Indian passport and her sister, were not allowed to return to Pakistan when the youngster's family was expelled from New Delhi where they had gone for his treatment.

Ayan, 16, was carried off the train and put on a stretcher at the Karachi Cantt Railway Station when he returned on Monday from Lahore after his family was sent back by Indian authorities via Wagah.

"I had gone there for treatment at the Indraprastha Hospital, where I was receiving critical treatment under Dr Sudhir Kumar. But after the Pahalgam incident we were all told to return to Pakistan immediately," he told media. Ayan was accompanied to Delhi by his parents, brothers, uncle and cousins.

He was shot by police last year due to a misunderstanding and this left him paralysed from the lower body.

"My wife is from India and after we got married, she came to Karachi. But when we were returning since she and her sister have Indian passports the authorities didn't allow them to come with us despite valid visas," Ayan's father said.

He said they had gone to Delhi last month with great hopes and were living with relatives because of the specialised and better medical care.

"His treatment had started but now it has been left incomplete," Haleem said.

Ayan's case is not the only one where Pakistani families, that had gone to India for medical treatment of their children, have been told to return as per the Indian government's directives after the Pahalgam attack which left 26 people dead. Meanwhile, more than 1,000 Indians have left Pakistan for their home via the Wagah border over the last six days after they were forced to cut short their visits because of the cancellation of visas in the wake of the Pahalgam terror attack, an official said on Monday.

"Over 1,000 Indians have left Pakistan for their home via the Wagah border over the last six days. Similarly, more than 800 Pakistanis have returned home by Monday," a government official told to media. He added that those possessing long-term visas from both countries are facing problems in repatriation.

On Sunday, 236 Pakistanis returned home and 115 Indians crossed into their homeland. At Wagah, Pakistan Rangers and India's Border Security Force thoroughly checked the papers of the repatriated citizens before allowing them to proceed with immigration.

Pakistan Foreign Minister vows steps to protect its right under Indus Waters Treaty

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Islamabad

Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar on Monday promised to take "all appropriate steps" to protect its right under the Indus Waters Treaty that was suspended by India after the terrorist attack in Pahalgam.

Dar chaired a high-level meeting on the Indus Waters Treaty, attended by the Minister for Law and Justice and Water Resources Azam Nazeer Tarar, Attorney General Mansoor Awan, senior officials and technical experts, according to a statement by the Foreign Office.

On April 22, terrorists opened fire in Kashmir's Pahalgam killing 26 people, 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. Dar also said that India's "unilateral and illegal move to hold the treaty in abeyance contravened the established norms of inter-state relations, international law, and the treaty's own provisions".

The treaty is critical to regional stability and its sanctity must be preserved. Noting that the waters of the Indus River System remain a lifeline for Pakistan's 240 million people

He said that the treaty is critical to regional stability and its sanctity must be preserved. Noting that the waters of the Indus River System remain a lifeline for Pakistan's 240 million people, he deplored the Indian attempts to weaponise water.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif announced to explore all options to ensure uninterrupted flow of rivers allotted to Pakistan under the treaty.

Leading politician Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari said that either water will flow in the Indus River or blood. India on Wednesday suspended the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) and downgraded diplomatic ties with Islamabad.

In response to India's decision to suspend the IWT, Pakistan on Thursday threatened to suspend the Simla Agreement and put other bilateral accords with India on hold.

Pakistan also suspended all trade, closed its airspace for Indian airlines and said any attempt to divert the water meant for it under the IWT will be considered an Act of War.

China welcomed measures to ease India-Pakistan tensions, including a fair investigation into the Pahalgam attack, and expressed support for its ally's sovereignty and security.

Trump marks first 100 days in office with Michigan rally celebration

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Warren (US)

President Donald Trump is holding a rally in Michigan on Tuesday to mark the first 100 days of his second term, staging his largest public event since returning to the White House in a state that has been especially rocked by his steep trade tariffs and combative attitude towarda Canada.

Trump is making an afternoon visit to Selfridge Air National Guard Base for an announcement alongside Democratic Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. He's expected to speak at a rally at Macomb Community College, north of Detroit, allowing him to revel in leading a sprint to upend government and social, political and foreign policy norms.

His Republican administration's strict immigration polices have sent arrests for illegal crossings along the US-Mexico border plummeting, and government-slashing efforts led by billionaire adviser Elon Musk have shaken Washington to its core. Its protectionist import taxes imposed on America's trade partners have also sought to reorder a global economy that the US had painstakingly built and nurtured in the decades after World War II.

Trump has also championed sweeping

President Donald Trump speaks as he welcomes the Super Bowl champion Philadelphia Eagles PTI

US expansionism, refusing to rule out military intervention in Greenland and Panama, suggesting that American developers could help convert the war-torn Gaza Strip into a Riviera-like resort and even suggesting annexation of Canada.

"I run the country and the world," Trump told The Atlantic magazine in an interview. He told Time of his first 100 days, "I think that what I'm doing is exactly what I've campaigned on."

Only about 4 in 10 Americans approve of how Trump is handling the presidency, and his ratings on the economy and trade are lower than that.

Additionally, 46 per cent of US adults approve of Trump's immigration policies, with about half of Americans saying he has "gone too far" when it comes to deporting immigrants living in the country illegally. Just 33 per cent of Americans, meanwhile, have a favourable view of Musk, the Tesla CEO and world's richest person, and about half believe the administration has gone too far in working to pare back the government workforce.

"The bottom line for the first hundred days is, lots of damage being done to the fundamentals of our government," said Max Stier, founding president and CEO of the Partnership for Public Service, a nonprofit dedicated to better government.

Stier noted that there'd been "a lot of interest in this idea of trying to make our government more efficient, and what we've seen instead is the most substantial destruction of our core governmental capabilities in history."

Michigan was one of the battleground states Trump flipped from the Democratic column. But it's also been deeply affected by his tariffs, including on new imported cars and auto parts.

Michigan's unemployment rate has risen for three straight months, including jumping 1.3 per cent from March to reach 5.5 per cent, according to state data. That's among the highest in the nation, far exceeding the national average of 4.2 per cent. Automaker Stellantis halted production at plants in Canada and Mexico after Trump announced a 25 per cent tariff on imported vehicles, temporarily laying off 900 US employees. Industry groups have separately urged the White House to scrap plans for tariffs on imported auto parts, warning that doing so would raise prices on cars and could trigger "layoffs and bankruptcy."

That seemingly would make the state an odd choice for Trump to hail his own accomplishments. "I'm not sure that he is at all interested in doing the smart thing," said Bernie Porn, a longtime Michigan pollster. "He is what I would call an in-your-face president. 'This is what I'm going to do.'" Trump is also visiting Selfridge, which was established after the US entered World War I in 1917, and the community college campus in Warren. Both are near the Canadian border and home to many people with deep business and personal ties to that country. "Michigan always feels very, very positively toward Canada," said the pollster, who noted that its voters "can't be reacting well to the kinds of things he's done." Presidents usually hold multiple rallies at 100 days, but Trump is only stopping in Michigan before a Thursday speech in University of Alabama.

Amazon launches satellites to rival Starlink

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Cape Canaveral

Amazon's first batch of Internet satellites rocketed toward orbit Monday, the latest entry in the mega constellation market currently dominated by SpaceX's thousands of Starlinks. The United Launch Alliance's Atlas V rocket carried up 27 of Amazon's Project Kuiper satellites, named after the frigid fringes of our solar system beyond Neptune. Once released in orbit, the satellites will eventually reach an altitude of nearly 630 kilometres. Two test satellites were launched in 2023, also by an Atlas V. Project officials said major upgrades were made to the newest version.

The latest satellites also are coated with a mirror film designed to scatter reflected sunlight in an attempt to accommodate astronomers and reduce interference with observations.

Danish King visits Greenland amid rising Trump interest

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Nuuk (Greenland)

King Frederik X of Denmark arrived in Greenland on Tuesday, kicking off a visit to the semiautonomous territory that US President Donald Trump wants to annex because of its strategic Arctic location. Frederik's trip to the island's capital city of Nuuk follows the new Greenlandic prime minister's visit to Copenhagen earlier this week.

Prime Minister Jens-Frederik Nielsen accompanied the monarch to Nuuk. The king wore a jacket with emblems of the Danish and Greenlandic flags as he disembarked from the plane to applause. Danish broadcaster TV2 asked Frederik about his mission during his trip.

He said he wasn't on a mission, and he was happy to be there. Nielsen also told reporters that the Danish royal house's love for Greenland can't be questioned.

He added that the monarch is well-liked on the island. The flight was originally scheduled for Monday, but was delayed because of poor weather conditions.

Frederik is expected to meet with the new Greenlandic government this week, as well as attend a traditional "kaffemik," or coffee break, to meet with Greenlanders, the royal house said. Weather forced him to cancel the anticipated trip on Wednesday to Station Nord, the island's northernmost military and scientific station, plus forgo a meeting with an elite dogsled unit of the Danish special forces that patrols the remotest parts of northeast Greenland. The monarch visited Greenland last July, months after he took the Danish throne upon his mother's abdication. This week's Greenland trip comes after U.S. Vice President JD Vance visited a remote US military base on the island and accused Denmark of underinvesting in it. Trump seeks control of mineral-rich Greenland, saying it's crucial for US security.

Trump hasn't ruled out taking the island by military force, even though Denmark is a NATO ally of the United States. In addition to official meetings, King Frederik is also expected to tour educational institutions and healthcare facilities to better understand the living conditions in Greenland. His itinerary includes a visit to a coastal village affected by climate change, where he will speak with scientists and local residents.

The royal visit is widely seen as a gesture of solidarity and an attempt to strengthen unity amid external geopolitical pressures. Greenlandic officials have praised the king's continued interest in their affairs, viewing it as reassurance that the island remains a valued part of the Danish realm despite growing calls for independence.

This visit is also seen as a reaffirmation of Denmark's support for Greenland's development, particularly in the areas of climate action, environmental sustainability, and economic growth, further solidifying their partnership and mutual goals for progress.

Next Pope inherits Pope Francis' Indigenous legacy

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Vatican City

Whoever succeeds Pope Francis will inherit his momentous and controversial legacy of relations with Indigenous people throughout the Americas.

Some found Francis to be a reconciling figure, others a disappointment. Even those who applauded the actions he took during his 12-year papacy said they were just a beginning, and that his successor will need to continue to work toward healing.

Francis, who died April 21, at age 88 issued a historic apology for the "catastrophic" legacy of residential schools in Canada and oversaw the repudiation of the "Doctrine of Discovery" — the collective name given to a series of 15th-century papal decrees that legitimised colonial-era seizure of Native lands.

But some Indigenous leaders criticised him as slow to fully recognise the traumatic impact of Catholic missionary efforts and for canonising Junipero Serra, the 18th-century missionary accused of mistreating Native people in present-day California. Even Francis' admirers says his work is unfinished

"It's 150 years of trauma. It's going to take us a bit of time to recover," said Wilton Littlechild, a residential school survivor and former Grand Chief of the Confederacy of Treaty Six First Nations in Canada. "He put us on a real strong path to reconciliation, but it can't stop."

Perhaps the most dramatic of Francis' encounters with the Indigenous commu-

Cardinals hug and shake hands at the end of a mass for mourning late Pope Francis PTI

nity occurred on a July day in 2022 in Maskwacis, a small town in the Canadian province of Alberta and the hub of four Cree nations. There, Pope Francis paid respects at a cemetery near a former residential school for Indigenous children. He then delivered a long-sought apology for Catholic complicity in the 19th- and 20th-century residential school system for the First Nations, Metis and Inuit people of Canada. "I am deeply sorry, sorry for the ways in which, regrettably, many Christians supported the colonising mentality of the powers that oppressed the Indigenous peoples," Francis said.

The Rev. Cristino Bouvette, an Alberta priest of Cree and Metis heritage who was liturgical coordinator for the pope's Canada visit, recalled hearing the applause and seeing some onlookers weeping.

Bouvette said his late grandmother had attended a residential school and never felt the pope needed to apologise — but he, too, began to weep.

"My thoughts immediately turned to my grandmother," he said. "I think she would have been deeply touched had she been alive to hear those words herself, despite her not thinking it needed to happen." The first pope from the Americas also offered an apology in Bolivia for Catholic complicity in colonialism and he supported the use of Indigenous languages and customs at Catholic liturgies in Mexico. Francis "was a human being who tried to love and respect and honour people," advocating for the poor and migrants, said Valentin Lopez, chairperson of the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band in California. "But regarding the Native Americans specifically, there's a number of negative items that were pretty much totally ignored by the pope, and for that we're disappointed."

Kenneth Deer — a Mohawk activist from Canada who was part of a Native delegation that urged Francis in 2016 to rescind the Doctrine of Discovery — saw Francis as "very progressive, and he could have been more progressive if the Vatican wouldn't hold him back."

Deer noted that while the church was unwilling to state that the residential schools were an act of genocide, Francis was willing to say that in personal remarks. "That's who you want to listen to, the unscripted Pope Francis," Deer said.

Francis' successor will need "to continue working, continue to evolve," said Deer.

Visiting Bolivia in July 2015, Francis asked forgiveness "not only for the offenses of the church herself, but also for crimes committed against the Native peoples during the so-called conquest of America."

Later that year in his only US visit, Francis officially declared Serra to be a saint. Many Native activists lambasted the canonisation, calling the missionary priest a prime culprit in what Francis had just apologised for in Bolivia — complicity with destructive colonisation.

Serra founded California's historic missions, where thousands of Native Americans were converted. Some were brutally whipped for misbehaving, resisting, or trying to flee, enduring severe punishment and hardship.

India slams Pakistan's support for terrorism at United Nation

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ United Nations

India said that the open confession of Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Asif admitting to his country's history of supporting and funding terrorist organisations exposes Pakistan as a 'rogue state' fuelling global terrorism and destabilising the region.

India's Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador Yojna Patel delivered a strong Right of Reply at the hybrid launch event for the 'Victims of Terrorism Association Network' (VoTAN) of the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism here Monday when Pakistan's delegate made a reference to the Pahalgam terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir.

'It is unfortunate that one particular delegation has chosen to misuse and undermine this forum to indulge in propaganda and make baseless allegations against India,' Patel said.

'The whole world has heard the Pakistani Defence Minister Khawaja Asif admitting and confessing Pakistan's history of supporting, training and funding terrorist organisations in a recent television interview,' she said.

Patel asserted that 'this open confession surprises no one and exposes Pakistan as a rogue state fueling global terrorism and destabilising the region. The world can no longer turn a blind eye. I have nothing further to add,' she said.

In a recent interview on Sky News, Asif said 'Well, we have been doing this dirty work for the United States for about three decades, you know, and West, including Britain' to a comment that he admits that Pakistan has had a long history of backing, supporting, training and funding these terrorist organisations.

Also, India said that the 'strong, unequivocal' support and solidarity extended by global leaders in the wake of the terrorist attack in Pahalgam is a testimony to the international community's 'zero tolerance' for terrorism.

'The Pahalgam terrorist attack represents the largest number of civilian casualties since the horrific 26/11 Mumbai attacks in 2008,' Patel said. 'Having been a victim of cross-border terrorism for decades, India fully understands the long-lasting impact such acts have on victims, their families and society,' Patel said during the launch of the event.

Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations Yojna Patel at the launch of the victims of Terrorism Association Network, in New York PTI

She said that 'India deeply appreciates and values the strong, unequivocal support and solidarity extended by leaders and governments across the world in the wake of the recent terrorist attack at Pahalgam, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. This is a testimony to the international community's zero tolerance for terrorism.'

Global leaders, including US President Donald Trump, US Vice President JD Vance, Russian President Vladimir Putin, UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer, Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, French President Emmanuel Macron, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres condemned the Pahalgam terror attack and expressed their condolences and solidarity with India.

'Acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, wherever, whenever and by whomever committed. We reiterate that terrorism in all its forms must be condemned unequivocally,' she said.

India also termed the establishment of the Victims of Terrorism Association (VoTAN) as a significant step, saying it will create a structured, safe space for victims to be heard and supported.

'India believes that initiatives like VoTAN are essential to strengthening the global response to terrorism, ensuring that victims remain at the centre of our collective efforts,' Patel said.

The hybrid launch event commenced with a video showing testimonies of survivors and families of victims of terror attacks around the world, including by survivor of the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack Karambir Singh Kang, Nidhi Chaphekar and the son of a woman killed in the 1985 bombing of Air India flight 182 en route from Toronto to London.

Kang, who was the General Manager of the Taj Mahal Hotel in Mumbai when the 26/11 terror attacks occurred, lost his wife and two sons in the barbaric attack. Chaphekar is a survivor of the ISIS bombing at Zaventem Airport in Brussels, Belgium, in March 2016.

She was a cabin manager for the Indian airline Jet Airways and became the face of the victims and survivors of the terror attack after a photograph, showing her slumped on a chair at the airport, her stunned face bloodied and covered in dust and her yellow Jet Airways uniform blazer ripped apart, showcased to the world the horror of the attack.

VoTAN is an initiative bringing together victims of terrorism and victims' associations from across the globe to drive collective action to support victims' rights and needs. 'Terrorism remains a serious threat to international peace and security, and a daily reality for thousands of people around the world.

Women, children, and young people continue to be among the most vulnerable victims of these attacks. Given the global nature of the threat, no nation, no community, no individual, is immune,' the UN said. VoTAN aims to provide a safe space for victims and survivors of terrorism to support each other, build resilience and engage as advocates, educators, and peace builders.

By facilitating collaboration, sharing best practices, and amplifying the voices o f victims, the network seeks to strengthen the resilience of societies against the impact of terrorism, it said.

The development of the network was supported by a financial contribution from Spain. The initiative was a key outcome from the first United Nations Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism, held in September 2022 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

Space made me feel decades younger: Astronaut Don Pettit

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Cape Canaveral

Fresh from space, NASA's oldest full-time astronaut said on Monday that weightlessness made him feel decades younger, with everyday aches and pains vanishing.

Don Pettit marked his 70th birthday on April 20 by plunging through the atmosphere in a Russian Soyuz capsule to wrap up a seven-month mission at the International Space Station.

Pettit, an engineer who still feels 'like a little kid inside', focused on his astrophotography while at the space station, capturing auroras, comets and satellites streaking off in the distance

In his first public remarks since touchdown, Pettit said he threw up all over the Kazak steppes upon touchdown, the result of feeling gravity for the first time in 220 days.

Returning to Earth has always been 'a significant challenge' for his body, Pettit said from NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston.

'I didn't look too good because I didn't feel too good,' he said, adding that his body's normal 'creaks and groans' returned.

In weightlessness, on the other hand, Pettit felt the decades melt away.

'It makes me feel like I'm 30 years old again,' said Pettit, an astronaut since 1996 who ventured to space four times. 'All that kind of stuff heals up because you're sleeping, you're just floating and your body, all these little aches and pains and everything heal up.'

Mercury astronaut John Glenn was 77 when he returned to orbit on a short shuttle flight in 1998.

But he'd been gone from NASA for decades and was close to wrapping up his Senate career.

Even a pair of 90-year-olds have flown to space, but only on 10-minute up-and-down hops by Jeff Bezos' Blue Origin rocket company.

Pettit, an engineer who still feels 'like a little kid inside', focused on his astrophotography while at the space station, capturing auroras, comets and satellites streaking off in the distance.

He also conducted a slew of physics experiments in his spare time, like blowing and stacking bubbles, and forming a perfect ball of honey on a spoon with peanut butter, in order to share the experience with others.

'I've got a few more good years left,' Pettit said. 'I could see getting another flight or two in before I'm ready to hang up my rocket nozzles.

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY
PARADIP PORT-754142, ODISHA (INDIA)
ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT
(ESTATE-WING)
No.AD/EST/GENL-01/2025/1702 Dt.21.04.2025
e-Tender Call Notice
An e-Tender Call Notice has been floated inviting bids for the work "**Providing Field / Office Assistance for Estate Works for a period of 2 (two) years**". The date of available of documents in website is from 22.04.2025 to 13.05.2025 at 16.00 hours. For details, please log on the website: http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.
Sd/- Sr. Asst. Estate Manager
Paradip Port Authority
PPA/PR/08/2025-2026 dtd.29.04.2025

PUBLIC NOTICE
Known to all that my client **1. Mohd. Sharif 2. Sh. Om Prakash Sanani 3. Sh. Rajneesh Kumar & 4. Sh. Sunil Kumar owner of the PROPERTY NO. 13-B, (NEW NO. C-1/63A), AREA 45 SQ. YDS., KHASRA NO.762, NAWADA MAJRA, HASTSAL, A-EXTN., MOHAN GARDEN, UTTAM NAGAR and All purchase property from Smt. Meena Sharma vide Notarized GPA, ATS and will dated 10.03.2025 Now 1. Mohd. Sharif 2. Sh.Om Prakash Sanani 3. Sh. Rajneesh Kumar & 4. Sh. Sunil Kumar wants to sell aforesaid property.** And It is informed that any deal with said documents by any person except my said client and said institution regarding said property, shall be deemed as null and void. If any person having any claim, right in said property then he may contact and handover the same and apprise his claim to undersigned within 15 days of this publication.
AD REM LEGAL SOLUTION
Ch. No. 760 - Dwarka Court Sector-10, Dwarka, New Delhi-75
Mobile :- 9899013918

PUBLIC NOTICE
We, Anil Kumar S/o Shri Harinath and Harpal Singh S/o Shri Lal Singh, hereby state that we, along with our partnership firm SHAANTI WORLD registered address 108/10, Sector 22, Rohini, New Delhi 110086, have no connection or association since October 2023, with Mr. Shailendra Mohan Mishra S/o Shri Kamal Kant Mishra or with his firms-Shaan World Travels, Shaan World Holidays, and Shaanti World Tours (situated at 2nd Floor, Nirmal Tower 202, 26, Barakhamba Road, Connaught Place, New Delhi 110001), or with any other business entity operated by Mr. Shailendra Mohan Mishra. This clarification is being issued purely in the interest of transparency and to prevent any possible confusion or miscommunication. For any further information, please feel free to Contact: 9811354243, shaantiworld@gmail.com

kotak Kotak Mahindra Bank
NOTICE
Locker Hired by **MONIKA AND HIMANSHU VERMA** having address at **H 104 FRIENDS APPT PLOT NO-49C PLOT NO-48 IP EXTN PATPARGANJ NR MADHU VIHAR GURUDWARA, DELHI-110092** with **KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK SHOP NO 1 TO 6, GR & 1ST FLOOR, PLOT NO 9, LSC MANDAWALI, FAZALPUR, IP EXT, PATPARGANJ DELHI-110092** remains un-operated from last 8 years, 10 months.
All the 3 letters earlier sent to **MONIKA AND HIMANSHU VERMA** calling upon them to clear dues and to operate the locker has returned unserved and they are not contactable.
It is hereby informed that despite this notice, if dues not cleared and locker is not operated by **MONIKA AND HIMANSHU VERMA** within 90 days from the date of this notice, break open of the said locker will be done on **July 29, 2025** at around **12p.m.**

kotak Kotak Mahindra Bank
NOTICE
Locker Hired by **SUJAT B KAPRE AND ALKA S KAPRE** having address at **D-702 PRINCE APPT PLOT NO-54 I P EXTN NEAR PANKAJ PLAZA PATPARGANJ, DELHI-110092** with **KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK SHOP NO 1 TO 6, GR & 1ST FLOOR, PLOT NO 9, LSC MANDAWALI, FAZALPUR, IP EXT, PATPARGANJ DELHI-110092** remains un-operated from last 8 years, 8 months.
All the 3 letters earlier sent to **SUJAT B KAPRE AND ALKA S KAPRE** calling upon them to clear dues and to operate the locker has returned unserved and they are not contactable.
It is hereby informed that despite this notice, if dues not cleared and locker is not operated by **SUJAT B KAPRE AND ALKA S KAPRE** within 90 days from the date of this notice, break open of the said locker will be done on **July 29 , 2025** at around **12p.m.**

PUBLIC NOTICE
Known to all that my client **Smt. Satish Kumar owner of the PLOT NO.2, AREA 25 SQ YARDS KHASRA NO.571, BINDAPUR PRATAP GARDEN IN BLOCK-A, UTTAM NAGAR NEW DELHI-110 059 and Sh. Satish Kumar purchase property from Smt. Kanchan Saini vide Notarized GPA, ATS and will dated 09.01.2025 Now Sh. Satish Kumar wants to sell aforesaid property.** And it is informed that any deal with said documents by any person except my said client and said institution regarding said property, shall be deemed as null and void. If any person having any claim, right in said property then he may contact and handover the same and apprise his claim to undersigned within 15 days of this publication.
AD REM LEGAL SOLUTION
Ch. No. 760 - Dwarka Court Sector-10, Dwarka, New Delhi-75
Mobile :- 9899013918

PUBLIC NOTICE
Known to all that my client **Smt. Archana Rani owner of the PROEPRTY NO. 60, AREA 70 SQ. YDS., RECT.NO.65, KILLA NO.3, VILLAGE HASTSAL, ZAILDAR ENCLAVE, K-1 EXTN. MOHAN GARDEN, NEW DELHI-110059 and Smt. Archana Rani purchase property from Sh. Anil Kumar vide Notarized GPA, ATS and will dated 07.11.2007 Now Smt. Archana Rani wants to sell aforesaid property.** And It is informed that any deal with said documents by any person except my said client and said institution regarding said property, shall be deemed as null and void. If any person having any claim, right in said property then he may contact and handover the same and apprise his claim to undersigned within 15 days of this publication.
AD REM LEGAL SOLUTION
Ch. No. 760 - Dwarka Court Sector-10, Dwarka, New Delhi-75
Mobile :- 9899013918

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given on behalf of **Mr. Ramesh Saini** to inform to the public at large that **Mrs. Pooja Saini** W/o Mr. Ramesh Saini is the owner of **Entire Property Bearing No. C-19, Admeasuring 68.50 Sq. Yds., Khasra No. 99/2, Situated at Wazirabad, Gali No.12, Wazirabad, Extn. Delhi** vide **Sale Deed dated 25.04.2024 (Doc No. 2024/19/I/4265)** executed by **Mr. Sandeep Singh and same to be financed & mortgaged by Aditya Birla Housing Finance Ltd.** So, to comply the requirements of BANK/NBFC, we give this public notice that if any Person having any type of claim/right/title/interest/creating mortgage over the said property, may inform in writing, at the address mentioned below, about his objections, within **15 days** from today, failing which it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all type of Encumbrances, lien etc. **Lucem Legal LLP**
B-93B, Second Floor, Opp. SBI Bank Sector 2, Noida, UP-201301 Contact#0120-4269379

PUBLIC NOTICE
I, SHEELA DEVI WIFE OF LATE SHRI SHIV SINGH TOMER RESIDENT OF D-139, GALI NO.6 LAXMI NAGAR, DLEHI-110092 do hereby solemnly affirm and inform That I dis-own/Debar my children (1) Vijay Singh Tomer S/o Late Shri Shiv Singh Tomer (2) Anita Singh Tomer D/o Late Shri Shiv Singh Tomer (3) Sunita Singh Sikarwar W/o Late Rajveer Singh Sikarwar from all my Movable and Immovable Properties due to their misbehavior and other bad habbits. That in future I shall not be responsible of any acts done by (1) Vijay Singh Tomer S/o Late Shri Shiv Singh Tomer (2) Anita Singh Tomer D/o Late Shri Shiv Singh Tomer (3) Sunita Singh Sikarwar W/o Late Rajveer Singh Sikarwar neither their legal heirs i.e. wife, husband and children That I shall not be responsible in case if any of the above person have raised any loan from Bank of Financial Institution they themselves shall be responsible for the same. **Sheela Devi**

PUBLIC NOTICE
Uttar Bharat G.E. Co-operative Group Housing Society Ltd.
B-361, B-Block, Basement, Near Ambrahi Village, Sector-19, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075
This Public notice is hereby issued for the information of all concerned that the duly appointed Court Commissioners by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi have disqualified Thirteen (13) members of the Uttar Bharat G.E. Co-operative Group Housing Society Ltd. on the ground of non-submission of the requisite documents necessary for the clearance and confirmation of their member ship, Out of these disqualified members, eleven (11) members have voluntarily tendered their resignation from the member ship of the society, leaving the following two (2) individuals as disqualified members:

S.No.	Membership No.	Name of Member
1	341	Prabha Gupta
2	188	Balram Singh Rawat

Despite repeated efforts made by the society to communicate with the aforementioned disqualified members through official correspondence, their letters have been returned undelivered.
In accordance with the provisions of Section 41(1)(d) of the Delhi Co-operative Societies Act, 2003, the society is empowered to cease the membership of such members. In adherence to the principles of natural justice, this public notice shall serve as a final intimation to the said disqualified members.
The concerned members are hereby directed to respond to this notice within a period of seven (7) days from the date of publication, failing which it shall be presumed that they have no objections or claims in this regard. Consequently, their membership shall stand ceased/terminated, and the society shall proceed to fill the resultant vacancies as per Rule 19(2) of the Delhi Co-operative Societies Rules, 2007. The cessation/termination of membership and the subsequent action of the society shall be deemed final and shall not be subject to challenge. For any clarifications or further inquiries, the concerned members may contact the society office during working days during and working hours (i.e. Monday to Saturday 12.00 Noon to 4.00 PM)
By the order of Management Committee
Uttar Bharat G.E. CGHS Ltd- Secretary

1000 Trees Housing Private Limited
Registered office 711/92, Deepali, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019
CIN no : U70100DL2010PTC210404
Whereas 1000 Trees Housing Private Limited in collaboration with landowners, is in the process of undertaking the development of a Group housing project over land measuring 13.078 acres situated in Sector 105, Gurugram in accordance with the provision of License no. 127 of 2012 dated 27.12.2012 granted by the Director, Town & Country Planning Haryana, Chandigarh.
And whereas several individuals/persons have made bookings or entered into agreements for the allotment of unit(s) in the said Project.
And whereas the Director Town & Country Planning, Haryana, Chandigarh, vide memo no. LC-2648/JE(AK)/2025/15349 dated : 25.04.2025, has granted its in-principle approval for Change in Beneficial interest in favour of 1000Trees Housing Private Limited and has directed company to invite objections in this regard.
Accordingly, vide this public notice, objections are hereby invited from allottees/public. For that purpose a copy of the aforementioned in-principle approval dated : 25.04.2025 is available for perusal on our website, www.1000treesgurgaon.com and it can also be perused at the office of the undersigned at ATS Tower, Sector 135, Noida -201305 or at Site office or in the office of the District Town Planner (Gurugram), HSVP Complex, Sector 14, Gurugram, Haryana.
Objection, if any, may be submitted in the office of the District Town Planner (Gurugram), HSVP Complex, Sector-14, Gurugram, Haryana, within 15 days of the publication of this notice, failing which it shall be construed that there is no objection to the proposed approval.
Authorised Signatory
1000 Trees Housing Private Limited
Dated: 30 April 2025
Place - Gurugram

THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS
CHANGE OF NAME
I, HARSHIT SONI S/O Sh. Rakesh Kumar R/O J-5/60, 1st Floor, Rajouri Garden, New Delhi-110027 have changed my name from HRITIK to HARSHIT SONI and henceforth I will be known as the HARSHIT SONI for all purpose.
PD(1948)C
I, hitherto known as SHARAD RAJWANSHI son of Mr. DUSHYANT GUPTA, an Advocate by Profession and residing at C-19, First Floor, Ashoka Enclave, Peera Garhi, New Delhi 110087 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SHARAD RAJ GUPTA for all purpose.
PD(1950)A
I MOHD WASIM AKHTAR s/o MOHD NAZIRUL HAQE r/o WZ-245A, First Floor, Madipur Village, Delhi-110063 have changed my name as MD WASIM AKHTAR.
PD(1951)A
LOST & FOUND
I, PREM KSHETRAPAL, wife of SH. SUBHASH CHANDRA KSHETRAPAL have lost original Share Certificate of FLAT NO.275, DELHI CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS CGHS LTD., BLOCK-A-3, PASCHIM VIHAR, NEW DELHI, finder please contact: 9935718721
PD(1949)A

PUBLIC NOTICE
LOSS OF SHARE CERTIFICATE
Notice is hereby given that the share certificate detailed herein, issued by Uttar Bharat G.E. CGHS Ltd., has been lost or misplaced. In the event of its recovery, the finder is requested to return it to the following address: 24/18, Upper Ground, Shakti Nagar, North Delhi-110007.
Share Certificate No.: 381
Holder's Name: Smt. Akansha Aggarwal W/o Gaurav Aggarwal
Number of Shares: 121 Shares
Distinctive No(s).: 17429 to 17549
Pursuant thereto, I have submitted an application to Uttar Bharat G.E.CGHS Ltd. for the issuance of a duplicate share certificate in lieu of the lost/misplaced original. Any person(s) having objections to the issuance of the duplicate share certificate is/are hereby required to notify the under signed or the office of Uttar Bharat G.E. CGHS Ltd. (i.e. B-361,B-Block,Basement, Near Ambrahi Village, Sector-19, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075) in writing within seven (7)days from the date of publication of this notice.In the absence of any objections within the stipulated period, the duplicate share certificate shall be issued by the society, and no further claims in this regard shall be entertained.
For any objections or claims,
please contact: Name:Akansha Aggarwal
Address: 24/18, Upper Ground,
Shakti Nagar,North Delhi-110007.

Before Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Delhi
4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001
Notice under section 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts Due to Bank and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rule 12 & 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rule) 1993) in the matter of
T.A. No. 975/2023 **Date: 24.12.2024**
STATE BANK OF INDIA **APPLICANT**
Versus
MUKESH KUMAR & ORS. **RESPONDENT**
To,
Defendant
D1. MUKESH KUMAR S/O RAJENDER YADAV
A-1/97 Gali No 16 Hastal Road Uttam Nagar Delhi - 110059, **Also At - M/s Zest Ortho**, AG-215 Back Side Shalimar Bagh Delhi-88, **Also At** - T Flat No S2-802 Tower Speed S2 8th Floor Solitairian City Sect-25 Jaypee Green Sports City SDZ Gautam Budh Nagar UP-201308
D2. PARY DEVELOPERS PVT LTD.
B-22 PKT-9A Jasola New Delhi-25, **Also At**- GH-B1/2 Jaypee Greens Sports City Sect-25 Yamuna Express Way Industrial Development Authority Area Gautam Budh Nagar UP - 201306, **Also At** - Jaypee Sports City SDZ Distt. Solitairian City Sect-25 Yamuna Express Way Gautam Budh Nagar, UP - 201306
D3. SOLITAIRE REALINFRA PVT LTD
D-835 New Friends Colony New Delhi - 25, **Also At** - A-56 Sect-136 Noida UP - 201301, **Also At** - Sect-25 Jaypee Greens Sports City SDZ Gautam Budh Nagar UP-201308
Whereas the above named applicant(s) has / have instituted a case for recovery of **RS. 31,21,247/- (Rupee Thirty One Lakh Twenty One Thousand Two Hundred Forty Seven Only)** against you and where as it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in the ordinary way therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in the Tribunal on **06.05.2025 at 11.00 A.M.**
Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day before the mentioned, the case will be heard and determined in your absence.
All the matters will be taken up through Video Conferencing or Physical and for that purpose:-
(i) All the Advocates/Litigants shall download the **"Cisco Webex"** application / software;
(ii) **"Meeting ID"** and **Password** for the date of hearing qua cases to be taken by Hon'ble Presiding officer/Registrar shall be displayed in the daily cause list itself at DRT Official Portal i.e. **drt.gov.in.**
(iii) In any exigency qua that the Advocate / Litigants can contact the concerned official at **Ph. No. 23748478.**
Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal this the **24th day of Dec., 2024.**
By order of the Tribunal
SECTION OFFICER, DRT-II, Delhi

APPENDIX IV-A
[UNDER RULE 8(6)OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002]
E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Property under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 ('the said Act') read with provision to Rule8(6)ofthe Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 ('the said Rules').
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Co-Borrower(s) that below described immovable property mortgaged/charged in favor of Akasa Finance Limited (Formerly Known as Pooja Finelease Ltd) [Secured Creditor], the possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of the Secured Creditor Akasa Finance Limited (Formerly Known as Pooja Finelease Ltd), will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever is there Basis"** on the date and time specified herein below, for the recovery of the amount due to the Secured Creditor from the Borrower(s) and the Co-Borrower(s). The Reserve Price and the earnest money deposit of the immovable property ("Mortgaged Property")is mentioned herein below.

Name of Borrower/ Co-Borrower(s) / security provider/s	Description of Property	Date of Possession	Date of Demand Notice	Last Date for submission of BID/ EMD	Date & Time of E-Auction	Reserve Price (Rs)	Earnest Money Deposit (10%) (Rs.)	Amount Due as on 18.10. 2023
Shri Rajnish Karki S/o Shri J.S. Karki (Borrower). Smt. Manisha Rajnish Karki W/o Shri Rajnish Karki (Co-Borrower)	Entire Ground Floor erected on L-1/13, Hauz Khas Enclave, New Delhi-110016 admeasuring 525 sq. yards, by virtue of Registered Sale Deed having registration No. 3735 in book No. 1, Volume No. 9164	12.03. 2025	18.10. 2023	06.06. 2025	07.06. 2025 from 11 am on ward till 4 pm	Rs. 10,00,00, 000/- (Rupees Ten Crore Only)	Rs. 1,00,00, 000/- (Rupees One Crore Only)	Rs. 7,07,45,808/- (Rupees Seven Crore Seven Lakhs Forty Five Thousand Eight Hundred And Eight Only) as on 12.03.2025 Rs. 7,60,63,246/- (Seven Crore sixty lakh sixty three thousand two hundred seventy six Only)

Terms and Conditions: -
- The Auction sale will be " Online E-Auction/ Bidding through Banks approved service provider M/s E-Procurement Technologies Ltd - Auction Tiger Mumbai Contact Persons Mr. Remprasad (M)+91-09265562821/09265562818/09374519754/+91-6352490773(e-mail) /**ramprasad@auctiontiger.net**, Phone 079-61200599, website: **https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net**
- Bidders are advised to go through the Bid Forms, Tender Document, detailed terms and conditions of auction sale before submitting their bids and taking part in the E-Auction sale proceedings.
- Bids shall be submitted through online procedure only in the prescribed formats with relevant details.

Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) shall be 10% of the Reserve Price Fixed and shall be deposited through RTGS/NEFT/FUND TRANSFER to credit of following account before submitting the bids online: -

Details	
Name of Bank & Branch	ICICI BANK LTD, MOTI NAGAR, DELHI
Name of Beneficiary	AKASA FINANCE LIMITED
Account No	036405003562
IFSC Code	ICIC0002356

- The bid price to be submitted shall be above the Reserve Price and the bidders shall improve their further offer in multiple of Rs.5,00,000/- (Rupees FiveLakh Only). The property will not be sold below the reserve price set by the Authorized Officer. The bid quoted below the reserve price shall be rejected and the EMD deposited shall be forfeited.
- The successful bidder shall have to pay 25% of the purchase amount (including Earnest Money deposit of 10% paid as above) on the day of declaration of successful bidder or not later than next working day thereof, as the case may be. The Balance 75% of the purchase price shall have to be paid on or before the 15th day of confirmation of the sale by Secured Creditor or such extended period as may be agreed upon in writing between the purchaser andSecured Creditor, in any case not exceeding three months.
- The EMD of the unsuccessful bidder will be returned on the closure of the E-auction proceedings within 15 working days from the date of auction.
- The sale is subject to confirmation by Secured Creditor. If the Borrower/Guarantor pays the amount due to the Secured Creditor in full before date of execution sale deed, no sale will be concluded.
- Since the prospective tenderers are advised to do their own due diligence in this regard. The Authorized Officer shall not be held responsible for any charge, lien, encumbrance, property tax or any other dues to the Government or anybody in respect to the aforesaid mortgaged property.
- Inspection of the aforesaid mortgaged property can be done on 31stMay2025 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pmby the interested parties/ tenderer after seeking prior appointment with Authorized Officer. The Authorized Officer has the right to reject any tender/ tenders (for either of the property) without assigning any reasons thereof.
- There are certain minimum society dues are pending.
- On compliance of terms of sale, Authorized Officer shall issue 'Certificate of Sale' in favor of the successful purchaser. All expenses relating to stamp duty, registration charges, conveyance, VAT/GST etc. to be borne by the purchaser. The successful purchaser shall comply with the relevant provisions of Income Tax Act,1961 pertaining to tax deduction at source with regard to purchase of said immovable property.
- The sale is subject to the conditions prescribed in the said Act and the said Rules and the conditions mentioned above.
- For further details contact the Authorized officer on +91-97171-71117
- For detailed terms and conditions please refer to the Tender Document which may be provided from the authorized officer by email. (The contents whereof shall be treated as part of this notice).

The borrower/guarantor/mortgagor are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned above along with up-to-date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of e-Auction failing which the said property will be auctioned/sold and the balance dues, if any, will be recovered with interest and cost.
Date:29.04.2025 **For Akasa Finance Limited**
Place: Delhi **Authorised Officer**

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to all concerned and the general public is hereby informed that the Environmental Clearance bearing File No. SEAC/HR/2024/122 & EC Identification No. EC24C3801HR5849934N dated 06/12/2024 has been granted to M/S KAMAL IDEAL INFRATECH PRIVATE LIMITED AND OTHERS for Development of Residential Group Housing Colony Located at Sector-64, Sonipat-Kundli, Multifunctional Urban Complex, Haryana
Copy of Clearance Letter is available on the website of MOEFCC/SEIAA

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE
SMM/EMU/GZB acting for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Tender against Tender No. **46245075A-24-04-2025.** The details are as under:

1.	Name of Work	Supply of Electrical Intervehicular Coupler Spares for AT-BT MEMU (ICF Rakes) & 8 Car Conversion to 12 Car Formation
2.	Approx. cost of work	99,23,800/-
3.	Quantity	01 Set
4.	Last Date & Time of Submission of tender bid of tender	27.05.2024 (11:00 Hrs.)
5.	Date & Time of Opening of tender document	27.05.2024 (11:00 Hrs.)
6.	Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen	www.ireps.gov.in

Note : (i) The tenderer/s must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procurement System (IREPS) site i.e. **www.ireps.gov.in.** (ii) Please refer to the tender document for all terms and conditions. (iii) No manual offers are acceptable.
NIT No. 46245075A, Dated: 24.04.2025 **1262/2025**
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY
(E-Auction Notice)
Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/PS, Northern Railway Delhi Division invites bids through **e-Auction** through IREPS (**http://ireps.gov.in/**) for the allotment of under mention contracts at following Railway stations/locations:

E-Catalogue No.	Date & Time of bidding	Railway Stations/ Locations/Lots
Parking 14-2025	14.05.2025 at 11.00 Hrs	New Delhi Ajmeri Gate Side (PCCV), Meerut (Kankankhera), Adarsh Nagar (PRS), Kurukshetra 1st Entry, Delhi 2nd Entry KGS Side (TW Parking), Bareta, Muradnagar, Khatauli, Kurukshetra (Site-1), Kurukshetra (Site-2), Karnal (375 Sq.Mtrs), Shahabad Markanda= Total 12 Sites
Website particulars where complete details of E-Auction can be seen		**https://ireps.gov.in/**

All contractors who intend to participate in the e-auctions conducted through E-Auction Leasing module of IREPS should fulfil following mandatory requirements before they can submit their bids:
•Registration on IREPS for E-Auction Leasing module -Active IREPS User Account for E-Auction Leasing Module •Payment of One Time Registration Fee • Current Account in State Bank of India •Integration of SBI Bank Account with IREPS Account •Lien Marking of Funds •Updation of Turnover Details •Contractors who do not have IREPS account for any module of IREPS can submit their online request for registration by clicking on New Vendors / Contractors (E-Tender /E-Auction Leasing) link on IREPS Home page.

Railway Authority to contact, in case of any query	Divisional Railway Manager's Office, Commercial Branch, State Entry Road, New Delhi 110055. **Email: pkg.delhidivision@gmail.com Tel: 011-23743084**

No.23AC/393/E-Auction/Pkg/2025 Dated: 28.04.2025 **1256/2025**
SERVING CUSTOMER WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY
NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION
Senior Divisional Commercial Manager/Freight, Delhi Division, Northern Railway, in terms of Railway Board letter no. 2022/TC(FM)/10/04 dated 13.06.2022, invites bids through **e-Auction (www.ireps.gov.in)** for leasing of parcel space of **SLR compartments** for a period of **two years** as per detail and schedule given below:-

S. No.	Date & time of e-Auction	Assets to be auctioned
1.	07.05.2025 at 10:30 am	12034 (F1), 12191 (F1 & F2) , 12215 (F1), 12428 (F1) (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday), 12444 (F1), 12457 (F1 , F2 & R1), 12562 (F1), 12874 (F1), 12963 (F1), 14041 (R1) (Sunday), 14507 (F1, F2 & R1), 15035 (F1 & R1), 19338 (F1), 20806 (F1), 20958 (F1), 22421 (F1), 22429 (F1), 22463 (F1), 22806 (F1).
2.	08.05.2025 at 10:30 am	12005 (F1), 12038 (F1), 12055 (F1), 12057 (F1), 12060 (F1) (Monday and Tuesday), 12191 (R1), 12425 (F1), 12816 (F1), 14206 (F1), 14331 (F1, F2 & R1), 14714 (F1), 15058 (F1), 20452 (F1), 22168 (R1), 22421 (F2 & R1), 22858 (F1), 22986 (F1).
3.	09.05.2025 at 10:30 am	12002 (F1), 12011 (F1), 12013 (F1), 12017 (F1), 12040 (F1), 12045 (F1), 12066 (F1), 12148 (F1, F2), 12428 (F1) (Monday), 12448 (F1), 12455 (F1), 12481 (F1), 14041 (F1), 14053 (F2), 14212 (F1), 14305 (F1, F2, R1), 14731 (F1), 20938 (F1), 20946 (F1), 22454 (F1, F2, R1).
4.	13.05.2025 at 10:30 am	12015 (F1), 12050 (F1), 14041 (F2), 14087 (F1, F2, R1), 14089 (F1, F2, R1), 14303 (F1, F2, R1), 14316 (F2), 14679 (F1), 15035 (F2), 15060 (F1, F2, R1), 20156 (F1), 20473 (F2), 22472 (F1, F2, R1), 54076 (F1, R1).
5.	14.05.2025 at 10:30 am	12430 (F1), 12463 (F1), 12584 (F1), 12754 (F1), 12876 (F1), 14035 (F1, F2, R1), 14053 (R1), 14152 (F1), 14164 (F1), 14521 (F1, F2, R1), 14681 (F1), 20473 (F1, R1), 20914 (F1), 22168 (F1, F2), 22438 (F1).

Important notes: 1. For more information, requirement and various .aspects regarding these e-Auctions, interested bidders are advised to visit **https://www.ireps.gov.in/html/helpdesk/learning_centre.html.** (e-Auction leasing section). **2.** Following assets are again being floated on Revised Reserve Price (RP): **a.** 14041 (F1, R1). **b.** 54076 (F1, F2, R1). **c.** 22454 (F1, F2, R1). **3.** Railway Administration reserves the full and absolute rights to short terminate these contracts at any point of time and/ or for taking any decision regarding the discontinuation / continuation of these contracts with modified/additional terms and conditions depending upon the continuation / discontinuation of these trains or commencement of new train services. **1265/2025**
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Piyush Goyal explores avenues for greater collaboration with UK

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ London

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal, who is in London on a two-day visit, focused on bilateral trade and investment ties during his interaction with a range of senior business leaders to explore the potential for greater collaborations with the UK. After a meeting with UK Business and Trade Secretary Jonathan Reynolds to advance the ongoing Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations, Goyal held talks with Revolut Chair Martin Gilbert with a fintech focus and De Beers Group CEO Al Cook with a focus on "global trends in the gems and jewellery sector" on Monday.

"Exchanged views on the immense opportunities in India's fintech ecosystem and the importance of partnerships with global players to drive innovation and growth," Goyal posted on social media after meeting Gilbert.

"We discussed India's opportunities, sustainable practices, and growth prospects for the diamond industry," the minister said about his meeting with Cook.

These one-on-one discussions were followed by an interaction with a CEO's delegation travelling from India, including Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Senior Vice-Chairman Anant Goenka, and past presidents Harsh Pati Singhania and Rajan Bharti Mittal.

"Interacted with members of the Indian business delegation over dinner. Discussed the robust growth of our industry and avenues for greater collaboration with the UK for mutual prosperity," said Goyal.

On Tuesday, the minister will meet UK Chancellor Rachel Reeves, among other senior officials. All eyes are on the FTA negotiations, which were re-launched in February following a pause for general elections last year. They are aimed at clinching a deal that is expected to significantly enhance the estimated GBP 41 billion a year India-UK trade partnership.

Union Minister Piyush Goyal speaks during the India-UK Business Roundtable PTI

"This government is committed to doing the right deal with India, which will improve access for UK businesses, cut tariffs, and make trade cheaper and easier," a UK Department for Business and Trade (DBT) spokesperson said.

India, Rotterdam Port plan green, exports to Europe

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

The visit of Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal to the Netherlands has laid the groundwork for setting up a green and digital corridor between the Port of Rotterdam and Indian ports for the export of green hydrogen to Europe, an official statement said on Tuesday. The commerce ministry said that huge opportunities are there for enhancing cooperation between Indian ports and the Netherlands' Port of Rotterdam in areas such as digitalisation, green shipping, and logistics optimisation, to boost bilateral trade.

During the visit, Barthwal held discussions in this regard with the CEO of the Port of Rotterdam authority Boudewijn Siemon.

The Rotterdam port is Europe's largest and one of the world's most advanced ports. Both sides discussed opportunities in the areas including knowledge sharing, technology transfer, and sustainable port management practices.

In the meeting, Barthwal highlighted the potential for collaboration in modernising Indian ports, aligning with India's Maritime Vision 2030, which aims to enhance port capacity and logistics efficiency.

Both sides expressed interest in deepening ties through joint initiatives in port digitalisation, green shipping, and logistics optimisation, which are critical to boosting bilateral trade flows, the commerce ministry said.

"The visit laid the groundwork for setting up of a Green and Digital Corridor between the Port of Rotterdam and Indian ports like the Deendayal Port Authority Kandla, and export of Green Hydrogen and carriers like Ammonia and Methanol from India to Europe, with the Port of Rotterdam acting as a gateway to Europe," it said.

He also met ASML, a global leader in photolithography systems for the semiconductor industry, CEO Christophe Fouquet, and discussed deepening India-Netherlands cooperation in the sector.

US watches India for alleged IP rights' violations

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

The US on Tuesday again placed India on its 'priority watch list' stating that New Delhi remains one of the world's most challenging major economies with respect to protection and enforcement of intellectual property (IP) rights.

The US Trade Representative's (USTR) 2025 Special 301 report said that over the past year, India has remained inconsistent in its progress on intellectual property protection and enforcement.

It said that although India has worked to strengthen its IP regime, including raising public awareness about the importance of the subject, and engagement with the US on IP issues has increased, there continues to be a lack of progress on many long-standing IP concerns.

"India remains one of the world's most challenging major economies with respect to protection and enforcement of IP... India remains on the Priority Watch List in 2025," it said.

USTR said that India has worked to strengthen its IP regime, and engagement with the US on IP issues has increased, there continues to be a lack of progress on many long-standing IP concerns

It added that patent issues continue to be of particular concern in India.

"Among other concerns, the potential threat of patent revocations and the procedural and discretionary invocation of patentability criteria under the Indian Patents Act impact companies across different sectors.

Moreover, patent applicants generally continue to confront long waiting periods to receive patent grants and excessive reporting requirements," the report said.

Stakeholders continue to express concerns over vagueness in the interpretation of the Indian Patents Act, it alleged.

Despite India's justifications of limiting IP protections as a way to promote access to technologies, India maintains high customs duties directed to IP-intensive products such as ICT products, solar energy equipment, medical devices, pharmaceuticals, and capital goods.

"While steps to improve intellectual property Office operations and procedures are to be commended, India's overall IP enforcement remains inadequate," US Trade Representative's said.

It added that the US intends to continue to engage with India on intellectual property matters, including through the trade policy forum's intellectual property working group.

The report has listed eight countries, including India in its 'priority watch list'. China, Indonesia, Russia, Argentina, and Venezuela are among others on the list.

It has also placed 25 countries, including Pakistan and Turkey, on the list.

Sensex climbs 70 points on foreign fund inflows

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Mumbai

Equity benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty settled marginally higher in a volatile trade on Tuesday as investors turned cautious amid concerns over geopolitical tensions.

However, intense buying in blue-chips Reliance Industries, Infosys and Tata Consultancy Services and unabated foreign capital inflows supported the domestic market.

The 30-share BSE benchmark gauge climbed 70.01 points or 0.09 per cent to settle at 80,288.38. During the day, it jumped 442.94 points or 0.55 per cent to 80,661.31.

The NSE Nifty ended marginally up by 7.45 points or 0.03 per cent to 24,335.95.

From the Sensex firms, Reliance Industries, Tech Mahindra, Eternal, HCL Tech, Infosys, IndusInd Bank, Tata Consultancy Services and Bajaj Finserv were the biggest gainers.

In contrast, UltraTech Cement, Sun Pharma, Power Grid, NTPC, Kotak Mahindra Bank and Mahindra and Mahindra were among the laggards.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) bought equities worth ₹ 2,474.10 crore on Monday, according to exchange data.

"The market exhibited largely range-bound oscillation, as caution prevailed amid geopolitical concerns over border tensions. The sustained inflows from FIIs provided support to market sentiment and restricted further pessimism. Meanwhile, mixed Q4 results have raised the risk of downward revisions to FY26 projections," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Investments Limited, said.

Rupee falls two paise to close at 85.25 against US dollar

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Mumbai

The rupee consolidated in a narrow range and settled for the day 2 paise lower at 85.25 (provisional) against the US dollar on Tuesday, on recovery in the US dollar and geopolitical tensions between India and Pakistan. However, positive domestic markets and a decline in crude oil prices cushioned the downside for the domestic unit. At the interbank foreign exchange, the domestic unit opened at 85.06 and moved between the intra-day high of 84.96 and the low of 85.40 against the greenback. The unit ended the session at 85.25 (provisional), registering a fall of 2 paise over its previous closing level.

On Monday, the rupee appreciated 18 paise to close at 85.23 against the US dollar. "We expect the rupee to remain under pressure amid uncertainty over trade tariffs and the ongoing geopolitical tensions between India and Pakistan," said Anuj Choudhary - Research Analyst at Mirae Asset Sharekhan. Meanwhile, nearly 50 public parks and gardens located in vulnerable areas of Kashmir valley have been shut as a precautionary measure in the wake of the Pahalgam terror attack, officials said on Tuesday.

Gates have been closed at 48 of the 87 public parks and gardens in Kashmir in view of the threat perception to tourists, they said.

They said the security review was an ongoing process and more locations may be added to the list in the coming days.

Besides, the Union Cabinet will be meeting on Wednesday for the first time since the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam that left 26 people dead.

Choudhary noted that positive tone in the domestic markets and foreign fund inflows may support the rupee at lower levels and traders may take cues from job openings and labour turnover survey (JOLTS) and CB consumer confidence data from the US.

"USD-INR spot price is expected to trade in a range of 84.90 to 85.60," he said.

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading higher by 0.16 per cent at 99.17.

Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, fell 1.64 per cent to $ 64.78 per barrel in futures trade.

In the domestic equity market, the 30-share BSE Sensex advanced 70.01 points or 0.09 per cent to close at 80,288.38, while the Nifty rose 7.45 points or 0.03 per cent to settle at 24,335.95. Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) bought equities worth ₹ 2,474.10 crore on a net basis on Monday, according to exchange data.

Netradyne to elevate passenger safety

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Bengaluru

Netradyne, the global provider of AI-powered fleet and driver safety solutions, on Tuesday announced plans to expand its global footprint to 15 countries by the end of 2026. Currently having commercial operations in 10 nations, Netradyne will add Japan and Spain in 2025 and further expand its presence to three more nations — Ireland, France and Italy — by the end of 2026.

"Today, Netradyne operates through three key offices worldwide — Bangalore (India), San Diego (Headquarters in USA) and San Francisco (USA). This global footprint supports our innovation, customer success, and expansion across international markets. Currently we are in the process of starting commercial operations in Japan and Spain, which will happen by the end of 2025. By the end of 2026 we will add Ireland, France and Italy. We also have other key European markets in focus. As road safety becomes a pressing global concern, Netradyne's AI-powered solutions offer a strong use case worldwide. Netradynestands as a shining example of deep tech with the R & D Center in India making a global impact," said Durgadutt Nedungadi, Netradyne's Sr vice-president, EMEA and APAC.

Apart from the US and India, Netradyne has commercial operations in Canada, Mexico, Germany, UK, Belgium, Netherlands, Australia and New Zealand. Earlier this year, after raising $90 million in its 'Series D' funding round at a valuation of $1.34 billion, Netradyne entered the Unicorn club.

"We are increasing our presence to scale efficiently in various countries. In many global markets, we already have on-ground employees working remotely, ensuring presence without heavy infrastructure investment. India serves as a major R&D hub, housing key design, development, and testing laboratories," Nedungadi added. Today, Netradyne has more than 650 team members in India and 850 globally.

With the addition of Eminent Transit, Netradyne expands its influence in the corporate and employee transportation segment. This strategic partnership aims to elevate safety, efficiency and passenger comfort through the integration of Netradyne's "Driveroi" technology — an advanced fleet camera system that analyses 100 per cent of driving time to monitor and improve driver behaviour in real time.

On selecting Netradyne as their fleet safety solution partner, Ravi Kiran, CEO of Eminent Transit, said, "We serve over 70 corporates in more than 160 cities across India with a combination of fleets, delivering executive-class journeys. Deployment of Netradyne's 'Driveroi' technology not only elevates the safety, reliability, and efficiency of our transportation services but also provides essential protection for women employees traveling late at night.

Eminent Transit is a premier provider of corporate travel and employee transportation solutions across India. This strategic partnership aims to elevate safety, efficiency, and passenger comfort through the integration of Netradyne's Driveroi technology."

Netradyne is a global provider of AI-powered fleet and driver safety solutions. Its flagship product — "DriverOI" — leverages AI and edge computing to deliver real-time feedback and insights that improve driver behaviour and fleet safety.

SBI, LPAI sign MoU to enhance services

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

State Bank of India (SBI) on Tuesday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Land Ports Authority of India (LPAI) to strengthen banking services infrastructure across 26 land ports bordering neighbouring countries.

LPAI currently operates 15 land ports across 8 border states adjoining Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Myanmar, with 11 more ports sanctioned across states, including Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Mizoram, Uttarakhand, and West Bengal.

These land ports are handling trade volumes of ₹ 70,952 crore, and total passenger movement through these transit points stood at 30.46 lakh as on 2023-24. Over a decade, the ports witnessed a 15-fold rise in trade and an 18-fold increase in passenger movement.

Land ports currently handle ₹ 71,000 crore in forex trade, and nearly 31 lakh people cross borders through these land ports annually.

These land ports are going to play a very pivotal role in international trade, and SBI's presence at these sites will not only contribute towards business growth but also will have a remarkable imprint on the financial landscape of the country, while India aspires for Viksit Bharat by 2047, a joint statement said.

As per the Memorandum of Understanding, employees of Land Ports Authority of Indiawould get a corporate salary package with host of offers, including personal accident insurance, and concession in locker rent.

SBI will also explore catering to banking needs like forex transactions, Bulk Cargo Insurance, digital banking products and an array of other banking products in the ports in the next six months, it said.

This strategic collaboration will strengthen India's border trade ecosystem and provide modern banking solutions to businesses and individuals at land ports, it said.

SBI will partner with Land Ports Authority of India and aspire to improve the trade transactions for ₹ 80,000 crore at present to ₹ 2 trillion by 2030.

Trent Q4 profit down 56.2 per cent

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

Tata group retail firm Trent Ltd on Tuesday reported a 56.24 per cent decline in consolidated net profit to ₹ 311.60 crore for the March quarter, on account of exceptional gains in the previous corresponding quarter.

The company had posted a consolidated net profit of ₹ 712.09 crore in the January-March quarter a year ago, according to a regulatory filing from Trent Ltd, which operates retail stores under the brand names -- Westside, Zudio, and Star.

Its consolidated revenue from operations was up 27.87 per cent to ₹ 4,216.94 crore during the March quarter. It was at ₹3,297.70 crore in the year-ago period, it added. Trent's profit before exceptional items and tax was up 38.5 per cent to ₹ 416.85 crore in the March quarter. It was at ₹ 301.03 crore in the corresponding quarter. "In Q4FY24, the term of leases had been reassessed under IND AS116, resulting in an exceptional gain of ₹ 543 crore, tax impact thereon was ₹ 137 crore and the same was recognised as an exceptional item last year," Trent said in an earning statement. Trent's total expenses increased 26 per cent during the quarter to ₹ 3,874.43 crore in FY25.

The total consolidated income, which includes other income, of Trent was at ₹ 4,291.28 crore, up 27.16 per cent in the December quarter.

"For the fashion portfolio, the like-for-like growth in Q4FY25 was in the mid-single digits and for the financial year it was in the double digits. We continue to build on our presence in metro/Tier 1 cities. The agenda has been to drive material reach and share of revenues across key markets," said Trent. FY25, Trent's net profit was up 3.85 per cent to ₹ 1,534.41 crore, as against ₹1,477.46 crore a year ago. In FY25, Trent's total income was at ₹ 17,353.17 crore, up 37.02 per cent. As of March 31, 2025 Trent's portfolio included 248 Westside, 765 Zudio (including two stores in the UAE) and 30 stores across other lifestyle concepts, according to the earning statement from the company. "In FY25 we opened 40 Westside and 244 Zudio stores and consolidated 24 Westside and Zudio stores each," it said.

In FY25, Trent added presence across 64 cities/towns including many in Tier-II and III locations. "The traction from customers has been encouraging given the growing awareness of our brands across markets. We believe this play out augurs well as an indicator as we pursue the next phase of our growth," it said. "The emerging categories, including beauty and personal care, innerwear and footwear continued to gain traction with customers. These emerging categories contribute to over 20 per cent of our revenues," it said.

CM Naidu inaugurates landmark academic, hostel blocks

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Amaravati

The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Nara Chandrababu Naidu, inaugurated the Mahatma Gandhi Academic Block one of its kind of largest academic blocks in the country, 3 new hostel blocks, and launched the global innovation challenge — V-Launchpad 2025 in the university campus.

The event marked a pivotal moment in the university's commitment to academic excellence, innovation and global collaboration.

The Chief Minister, who had laid the foundation stone for the Central Block of VIT-AP in 2016, has graced the occasion as chief guest today and inaugurated the Mahatma Gandhi Academic Block — India's largest single academic block. Standing tall at 45 metres and spanning 7.68 lakh square feet, the block houses cutting-edge classrooms, lecture halls, collaborative learning spaces and a 700-seater auditorium. His visit to the campus signifies a powerful milestone in the institution's remarkable journey towards becoming a global centre of learning and innovation.

Chandrababu Naidu giving speech at inaugration ceremony PIONEER PHOTO

In addition, Nara Chandrababu Naidu garu unveiled the new Men's and Women's hostel blocks, namely the VV Giri block (2.31 lakh sqft), Acharya NG Ranga (2.26 lakh sqft), block and Durgabai Deshmukh (2.26 lakh sqft) blocks.

These facilities aim to provide students with a nurturing and inspiring environment for academic and personal development.

The day also witnessed the official launch of V-Launchpad 2025 — Global Innovators Challenge for Swarna Andhra @2047, a groundbreaking initiative designed to foster innovation, entrepreneurship, and leadership among students and startups.

INBRIEF

LIC ANNOUNCES RELAXATIONS FOR VICTIMS OF PAHALGAM TERROR ATTACK

LIC of India expresses deep grief over the death of innocent citizens at Pahalgam in the terrorist attack. LIC of India is committed to supporting those affected and will expedite claim settlements to provide financial relief. Siddharta Mohanty, CEO and MD of LIC announced many concessions to mitigate the hardships of the claimants of LIC policies. In lieu of death certificates, any evidence in Government records of death of the policyholder due to the terrorist attack or any compensation paid by Central/State government will be accepted as proof of death.

CONFERMENT OF THE RANK OF HONORARY COLONEL ON PROFESSOR PRATEEK SHARMA, VICE CHANCELLOR OF DTU

It is with immense pride and honour that we share with you that the Pipping Ceremony of Professor Prateek Sharma, Vice Chancellor, Delhi Technological University was held on 25th April at Delhi Technological University during Saamant, 2025 organised by National Cadet Corps (NCC) DTU. Professor Sharma was conferred the prestigious rank of Honorary Colonel by the Government of India.

AIFF asks Churchill to return I-League trophy

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

The All India Football Federation (AIFF) on Monday asked Churchill Brothers to return the I-League trophy it presented to the club, even as Goa Football Association (GFA) questioned the rationale behind awarding the silverware despite a stay order from the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

On Sunday, hours after Switzerland-based CAS stayed AIFF's decision to declare Churchill Brothers as I-League champions and barred it from conducting any formal medal ceremony, the national federation awarded the winners trophy to the Goan club.

AIFF deputy Secretary General M Satyanarayan presented the trophy to Churchill Brothers players and later claimed that the federation learnt about the CAS order only after the ceremony was over as its secretariat was closed on Sunday.

But on Monday, the AIFF was forced to ask Churchill to return the trophy.

"On Monday, we have written to Churchill Brothers to return the I-League trophy," an AIFF source told PTI on condition of anonymity.

"We are bound to obey CAS order. Let the CAS decide on the matter and we will hand over the trophy after the decision."

Meanwhile, GFA President Caitano Fernandes on Monday wrote a letter to the AIFF Executive Committee members to hold an "urgent inquiry on the potential disregard of the CAS order".

"The decision to proceed with the presentation in apparent disregard of a CAS directive brings serious embarrassment to AIFF. Ignoring a CAS order would undoubtedly have severe consequences for the AIFF and the reputation of Indian football on the international stage," Fernandes wrote in the letter.

"Therefore, I implore the esteemed members of the Executive Committee to treat this matter with utmost seriousness it deserves. A comprehensive and impartial probe must be launched immediately to investigate. The rationale behind proceeding with the event."

He also claimed that he was not provided any communication regarding the I-League trophy presentation after he was initially invited for the formal ceremony on Sunday. He said by doing so, the AIFF has showsn "unacceptable level of mistreatment towards the GFA".

"On the evening of April 26th... I received an e-mail from Satyanaryanan inviting me in my capacity as GFA president and member of League Committee to attend the trophy presentation scheduled to take place in Goa on April 27. The e-mail stated that the venue and specific schedule would be confirmed upon his arrival in Goa," he wrote.

Fernandes said he received no further communication regarding the trophy presentation and later came to know that the ceremony has already taken place "completely bypassing the involvement and presence of GFA".

He demanded a comprehensive and impartial probe on the reasons behind the failure to communicate the presentation details to GFA and the "utter disregard shown to the GFA".

Asked about Fernandes' claim, Satyanarayan said, "It was unintentional (development). The trophy was to be presented on April 26 initially but Churchill said to be done on April 27.

"They (Churchill) also did not give any venue initially. So, I myself did not know the venue beforehand.

"Later, Churchill also wanted the ceremony to be a small one. I just landed in Goa and straightway went to the venue to present the trophy. So, there was no intention on my part to cause any inconvenience to Mr Fernandes."

Churchill Brothers had finished provisionally on top of the table with 40 points after the final round on April 6. But, their title and Indian Super League promotion were subject to the outcome of Inter Kashi's disputed points from their January 13 match against Namdhari SC, which the latter had won 2-0.

The AIFF Disciplinary Committee had awarded a 3-0 forfeit win and three points to Inter Kashi after ruling that Namdhari fielded an 'ineligible player'.

That decision would have taken Inter Kashi to 42 points, enough to clinch the title. However, the AIFF Appeals Committee later put the Disciplinary Committee order "inoperative and in abeyance" pending a final hearing.

After a delayed process, including a postponed April 12 hearing due to Namdhari's counsel citing "sickness", the AIFF's Appeals Committee on April 18 set aside the Disciplinary Committee's order and ruled in favour of Churchill.

On the basis of its Appeal Committee ruling, the AIFF had declared Churchill Brothers as I-League champions.

Donnarumma remains vulnerable on set pieces, corners

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Paris

Gianluigi Donnarumma was hailed as the world's best goalkeeper by Paris Saint-Germain coach Luis Enrique after his saves helped the French club reach the Champions League semifinal against Arsenal.

However, for all of his shot-stopping ability, Donnarumma remains alarmingly vulnerable on set pieces and corners — areas which just happen to be Arsenal's major strongpoint.

The sides meet on Tuesday in London in the first leg of their semifinal, where Donnarumma will be in the spotlight.

His blunders cost PSG when it lost 2-0 at Arsenal early into the league phase.

Two weeks ago, the 26-year-old Italian made great saves with his team under pressure against Aston Villa in the quarterfinal return leg. PSG emerged 5-4 winners on aggregate thanks in large part to their goalkeeper.

Donnarumma has proved to be outstanding on his line thanks to remarkable speed and agility. He starred in a penalty shootout when Italy won the European Championship in 2021 and did so again when PSG eliminated Liverpool on penalties in the last 16.

Despite being 1.96 metres tall and stockily built, Donnarumma does not impose himself under the high ball

It is a far different story on set pieces. Too hesitant Donnarumma's reluctance to come for corners and crosses dates back to last season's competition. It could become a serious problem considering Arsenal is the best side in Europe's top five leagues from set pieces and especially strong on corners. Set-piece coach Nicolas Jover has been Arsenal's mastermind on dead-ball situations. Jover also worked with Arsenal coach Mikel Arteta when both were at Manchester City.

Despite being 1.96 metres tall and stockily built, Donnarumma does not impose himself under the high ball. Accurately flighted balls sent toward the penalty spot often cause panic in PSG's defense, creating a kind of no man's land between the goalie and his defenders.

PSG lost 3-1 at home to Nice on Friday for its first defeat in Ligue 1, with two of the goals coming from crosses. Sports daily L'Equipe gave Donnarumma a 3-out-of-10 rating for his performance

Donnarumma's passing from the back is also erratic, leading to some blunders in Ligue 1 and almost causing a farcical-looking goal against Brest in their Champions League playoff match in February. Receiving a routine pass back from captain Marquinhos, he somehow kicked the ball straight at the head of striker Ludovic Ajorque a few meters away and the ball rolled narrowly wide of the goal.

Ongoing issueDonnarumma's hesitancy under the high ball was exposed in October's defeat at Arsenal.

He was beaten by a dipping cross as Kai Havertz nodded in Arsenal's first goal.

Last season in the Champions League quarterfinal first leg against Barcelona, Donnarumma failed to claim a corner and defender Andreas Christensen headed in the winner. Donnarumma stood rooted to his line and, earlier in that match, he had struggled with Lamine Yamal's cross when Raphinha put Barcelona ahead.

It was a repeat scenario in the semifinal return leg against Borussia Dortmund when central defender Mats Hummels rose unchallenged to head in Julian Brandt's corner. Again, Donnarumma seemed reluctant to commit himself and there appeared little communication between him and Marquinhos.

Battle on the wingsAnother key area in the game could be the contest on the wings. Left winger Gabriel Martinelli and right winger Bukayo Saka tormented Real Madrid in the quarterfinal return leg, with both scoring as Arsenal won 2-1 to advance 5-1 on aggregate.

PSG right back Achraf Hakimi and left back Nuno Mendes both scored against Villa in the return leg. But their attacking intent may be reigned in as they deal with the forays of Martinelli and Saka, who likewise will be careful not to leave too much space behind them when they push up.

FIA president signals change to swearing punishments

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ London

The president of Formula 1's governing body FIA has signaled he'll make "improvements" to punishments for swearing and criticism which have sparked a backlash from F1 drivers.

FIA President Mohammed Ben Sulayem posted on Instagram Monday that after "constructive feedback" from drivers across the various event the FIA governs, "I am considering making improvements to Appendix B."

That's the document which lays out the punishments for a range of offenses ranging from physical violence to political statements, swearing and any comments deemed to cause "moral injury or loss" to FIA. Ben Sulayem has been seeking to crack down on swearing since last year and punishments were tightened for 2025 to allow for larger fines and suspensions for drivers who swear repeatedly.

The crackdown on swearing prompted a backlash from F1 drivers when Max Verstappen and Charles Leclerc were punished last year. Leclerc was fined and Verstappen was asked to make amends with community service. Drivers in the World Rally Championship boycotted TV interviews last month after one of them was fined.

After the last F1 race in Saudi Arabia, Verstappen refused to talk about a penalty which cost him the lead because, he suggested, any criticism risked breaking the FIA rules. "I know that I cannot swear in here but at the same time, you can also not be critical," he said.

There was one sign of a more flexible approach when Carlos Sainz, Jr Was not fined for using an expletive in a news conference while he protested another fine for being late for a national anthem.

"Humans make the rules and humans can improve the rules," Ben Sulayem wrote Monday. "The principle of continuous improvement is something I have always believed in and is at the heart of all we do at the FIA.

Purcell accepts 18-month doping ban, says ITIA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Sydney

Two-time Grand Slam doubles champion Max Purcell has accepted an 18-month ban after breaching anti-doping rules, the International Tennis Integrity Agency (ITIA) said on Tuesday.

The Australian player admitted to a breach of rules relating to the use of a "prohibited method" after unknowingly receiving an intravenous infusion of vitamins above the allowed limit of 100 milliliters in a 12-hour span and entered into a provisional suspension in mid-December.

Purcell said he'd informed the clinic he was a professional athlete and that the infusion had to be less than 100 milliliters.

The International Tennis Integrity Agency said the 27-year-old had received IV infusions of over 500 milliliters twice but his full cooperation and information sharing during the investigation had allowed for a 25 per cent reduction in the sanction.

"This case does not involve a player testing positive for a prohibited substance but demonstrates that the anti-doping rules are broader than that," ITIA chief executive Karen Moorhouse said.

"It also shows the International Tennis Integrity Agency (ITIA) considers intelligence from a range of sources with the overriding aim to protect everyone covered by the tennis anti-doping rules, and ensure a level playing field for all."

Purcell said the stress of the ongoing case had been "seriously affecting (his) quality of life" over the past few months.

"From being unable to sleep and eat properly, and refusing to be by myself, to developing nervous and anxious tics which I still currently battle day to day," Purcell said in a statement he posted to Instagram.

"I could not sit and enjoy anything without the thought of the case and the endless possibilities of what sanction I would receive. I am so glad this is finally over for me and I can move on with my life."

Purcell teamed with Jordan Thompson to win the US Open last September, and with Matt Ebden to win Wimbledon in 2022.

Madrid Open suspended due to major power outage

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Madrid

Former US Open champion Coco Gauff was preparing to shower in a dark locker room after play at the Madrid Open tennis tournament was suspended and then postponed because of a major power outage in Spain and Portugal.

Then Gauff realised that the water was off, too. "So I just had to take baby wipes and wipe myself,: Gauff said on Monday, "and spray some perfume and call it a day."

Gauff managed to beat Belinda Bencic 6-4 6-2 shortly before the outage, which apparently cut off the sound as she was giving a post-match interview on the court. Then the 2023 US Open champion posted an Instagram story showing only an emergency light working in an otherwise dark locker room.

The ATP Tour said that two singles matches and one doubles match were underway when power went out at 12:34 p.M. Local time (1034 GMT).

"The cut is preventing the use of electronic line calling systems and also left a spider cam dangling over the court inside Manolo Santana Stadium," the ATP added. Tournament organisers said they "had no choice but to suspend/cancel all

sporting activity in order to guarantee the safety of the players, fans and personnel." They recommended all spectators leave the sports complex.

The event is scheduled to resume on Tuesday. There will be third-round matches in the top of the draw, and fourth-round matches in the bottom of the draw.

Grigor Dimitrov was leading Jacob Fearnley 6-4 5-4 inside the main stadium when play was stopped. Also, Matteo Arnaldi was leading Damir Dzumhur 6-3 3-2 when play was suspended. That match later continued — apparently with manual line calling — and Arnaldi won 6-3 6-4.

The doubles match was also completed and some players were practicing despite the outage. A a few people remained in the stands to watch.

The blackout brought much of Spain and Portugal to a standstill, knocking out subway networks, phone lines, traffic lights and ATM machines.

Spanish power distributor Red Eléctrica said restoring power to large parts of the country after the outage could take up to 10 hours.The company declined to speculate on the causes of the blackout.

Gauff also posted a photo of candles being distributed.

"I don't think we're even going to be able to go back to the hotel because the traffic lights are out," Gauff said.

"It's just crazy how much we depend on electricity. It's really insane and puts it in perspective."Another fourth-round women's match was also completed before the blackout: Mirra Andreeva beat Yuliia Starodubtseva 6-1 6-4.Second-ranked Iga Swiatek "sat in the darkened players' lounge, talking with members of her team," ahead of her scheduled match against Diana Shnaider, the WTA Tour said. Swiatek and Shnaider had been scheduled to play in the main stadium after the Dimitrov-Fearnley match.

Top-ranked Aryna Sabalenka had been scheduled to play Peyton Stearns later.

Chithambaram finishes joint first in rapid section of Superbet Rapid, Blitz Tournament

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Warsaw

Delivering under pressure, Indian Grandmaster Aravindh Chithambaram put it across Frenchman Alireza Firouzja in the final game to finish joint first with 11 points after the end of the rapid section of Superbet Rapid and Blitz Tournament, a part of the Grand Chess Tour.

The Indian wild card entrant needed to match Firouzja and Slovenian Vladimir Fedoseev on points, and he got a little lucky after wild complications as the Frenchman lost on time from what could have been a drawn rook and pawns endgame.

Star performer R Praggnanandhaa bounced back in the event and jumped to joint fourth spot, scoring crucial victories over Romanian David Gavrilescu and Duda respectively in the last two rounds. The Indian shares the fourth spot along with American Levon Aronian on 10 points. With 18 blitz games still remaining in the first tournament of the Tour, Maxime Vachier-Lagrave of France is not far behind on nine points, a full point ahead of Deac Bogdan Daniel of Romania and Duda.

Gavrilescu stands ninth in the ten-player tournament on seven points, a couple of points more than former world champion Veselin Topalov who is in last spot.

Aravindh started the day with a victory over Duda who was outdone in the complexities arising out of an early piece sacrifice by the Indian.

The middle game offered chances for Duda but it was never easy to find precise moves in a jungle of variations that had to be navigated. Aravindh eventually won a rook back and the resulting position offered little resistance.

In the eighth round Aravindh lost to Vachier-Lagrave but that did not let his hopes down and a final victory over Firouzja ensured that the Indian would top the list in rapid section that offered two points for a win and one for a draw.

The scoring system will be back to normal in blitz section as the winning side will get a full point. However, with so many games still to come, it could be anyone's overall victory. Praggnanandhaa found himself back on track after an indifferent start that had given him just five points in the first six games. The Indian played out a draw with Fedoseev and then the wins in last games ensured that remains within striking distance of the leading trio.

Standings after Rapid:

1-3 Aravindh Chithamabaran (Ind), Vladimir Fedoseev (Slo), Firoujza Alireza (Fra) 11 each.

4-5: R Pragnanandhaa (Ind) Levon Aronian (Usa) 10 each

6: Maxime Vachier-Lagrave (Fra) 9.

7-8: Duda Jan-Kryzsztof (Pol), Deac Bogdan-Daniel (Rou) 8 each.

9: David Gavrilescu (Rou) 7.

Barcelona on course for hat trick of European titles

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Nyon

Barcelona is on course for a hat trick of European titles after beating Trabzonspor 4-1 in the UEFA Youth League final on Monday.

It was won the day after Barcelona reached the Women's Champions League final and two days before the men's team hosts Inter Milan in the first leg of the Champions League semifinals.

Leading from the 11th minute, on the first of two precise left-foot strikes by Mali youth international Ibrahim Diarra, Barcelona was rarely tested to claim a record third European youth title. Trabzonspor got a deserved goal in the 88th.

No club has swept European titles at each level since the Youth League started in the 2013-14 season. Barcelona won the inaugural edition and also lifted the trophy in 2018.

Barcelona's youth system is so strong that first-team players Lamine Yamal and Pau Cubarsi were still eligible for the under-19 team that plays in the UEFA Youth League.

The starting lineup on Monday had 10 players older than superstar winger Yamal, who turned 17 last July on the eve of helping Spain win the European Championship final against England.

Barcelona was too strong for Trabzonspor, the first Turkish team to reach even the round of 16 in the competition. Hundreds of its noisy claret-and-blue fans outnumbered Barcelona's support in the small stadium next to UEFA headquarters.

Diarra's opening goal was added to in the 18th when defender Andres Cuenca tapped in a loose ball after goalkeeper Erol Can Çolak pushed away a powerful header by Landry Farré.

Barcelona captain Hugo Alba placed a rising shot in the 57th and Diarra again found the bottom corner of the net in the 68th.

A late header by Trabzonspor defender Bican Tibukoglu hardly dimmed the celebrations for Barcelona, which could have a stellar end to the season.

The La Liga-leading men's team must get past Inter over two legs to earn a Champions League final on May 31 in Munich against Paris Saint-Germain or Arsenal.

The women's team faces Arsenal in their Champions League final on May 24 in Lisbon.

The youth team coached by Juliano Belletti — who scored a Champions League-winning goal for Barcelona against Arsenal in 2006 — did its part on Monday.

Bhaker, Kusale, Palak in squad for Munich WC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

Paris Olympics stars Manu Bhaker and Swapnil Kusale were on Tuesday named in the 23-member Indian squad along with reigning Asian Games champion Palak for the Munich leg of the Rifle/Pistol ISSF World Cup, beginning June 8.

The National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) announced the squad with Bhaker being the only member to make the cut in two individual events — women's 10m and 25m pistol events.

Also returning to the national team is Sandeep Singh in men's air rifle. Kusale and Sandeep will be seen in action for the first time since their Paris Games appearances.

The Indian rifle and pistol squad recently returned from a two-legged combined ISSF World Cup stage in Argentina and Peru, with 15 medals including six gold. India were second in the standings in Argentina and third in Peru.

A total of 13 members from that squad find themselves in the Munich team as well, with no changes seen in the women's 50m rifle 3 positions (3P) and 25m pistol competitions only. There will also be as many as three debutants in Munich.

CSK look to turn around fortunes against PBKS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
Chennai

Their play-off hopes all but over, Chennai Super Kings (CSK) would look to turn around a floundering campaign when they square off against a better-placed but erratic Punjab Kings (PBKS) in their Indian Premier League match here on Wednesday.

It has been a disappointing season for five-time champions CSK, languishing at the bottom of the table with just two wins out of nine games.

PBKS, on the other hand, are placed fifth in the standings with five wins from nine matches and would look to rise up with a victory against a demoralised CSK side, which failed to get its combinations right so far in the season.

What has been most disheartening for CSK is their inability to master the home conditions at the Chepauk, considered a fortress for a long time.

CSK would be desperate to register their third win of the tournament to keep slim hopes of making it to the playoffs alive.

Even a talisman like Mahendra Singh Dhoni has failed to fire up the side after taking over the leadership from Ruturaj Gaikwad, who has been ruled out due to an elbow injury.

And Dhoni admitted that CSK are struggling to get their line-ups right.

"If you see the powerplay, whether it was the combination or the conditions, we are struggling with both bat and ball," Dhoni had said.

Key match-ups

CSK's young recruit Ayush Mhatre, who grabbed eyeballs on his IPL debut, will look to put on a strong display when he takes on Arshdeep Singh in the powerplay.

The most entertaining battle is expected to be between Shivam Dube and Yuzvendra Chahal in the middle overs.

Chahal has been in magnificent form for PBKS in the second half of the tournament, and it would be interesting to see how the CSK middle order handles him.

Priyansh Arya and Prabhsimran Singh have been in good form for PBKS while opening the batting and the onus would be on left-arm pacer Khaleel Ahmed to contain the duo.

In skipper Shreyas Iyer, PBKS have got a batter, who can control the pace of the game, but CSK would rely on Afghanistan spinner Noor Ahmad to deliver the goods.

At 43, Dhoni has shown glimpses of his legendary finishing skills but despite being a shrewd tactician, he is struggling to field a winning combination on the field.

Rachin Ravindra too has been inconsistent at the top. The struggles of Ravindra Jadeja, Ravichandran Ashwin and Matheesha Pathirana haven't helped CSK's cause either. On the batting front, the likes of Vijay Shakar, Deepak Hooda and Rahul Tripathi have been below par.

भारत सरकार
कारपोरेट कार्य मंत्रालय
त्वरित कारपोरेट समापन प्रसंस्करण केंद्र (सी-पेस)
आई.आई.सी.ए. बिल्डिंग, 7वीं मंजिल,
प्लॉट पी-6,7,8, सेक्टर-5, आई.एम.टी मानेसर, गुड़गांव,
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सत्यमेव जयते

Government of India
Ministry of Corporate Affairs
Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit (C-PACE)
IICA Building, 7th Floor,
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FORM No. STK –6
PUBLIC NOTICE
[Pursuant to sub-section (2) and sub-section (4) of section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 and rule 7 of the Companies (Removal of Names of Companies from the Register of Companies) Rules, 2016]

Public Notice:ROC/C-PACE/STK-2/248(2)/2024-25/199 Date: -22/04/2025

Reference:

In the matter of striking off or removal of names of (8) companies in the state of Chhattisgarh under section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 in respect of:

S No.	Work Item	CIN	Company Name
1	AB3082990	U74999CT2019OPC009419	ASANA FACTORY (OPC) PRIVATE LIMITED
2	AB3100986	U24311CT2024PTC016366	NU TECH PIPES WORLD PRIVATE LIMITED
3	AB3120044	U47990CT2023PTC015408	HAARVIN GREEN ENERGY PRIVATE LIMITED
4	AB3222655	U70109CT2021PTC011257	MA INNOVENTURES PRIVATE LIMITED
5	AB3263926	U01100CT2021PTC011327	K.A.P.S. KRISHI TECH PRIVATE LIMITED
6	AB3358683	U80903CT2022PTC013037	TAHILIANI CLASSES PRIVATE LIMITED
7	AB3394771	U80900CT2020PTC010734	GR8 TECHSOFT PRIVATE LIMITED
8	AB3433121	U27109CT2022PTC013114	BAGADIYA ALLOYS PRIVATE LIMITED

2. Notice is hereby given that the Registrar of Companies had received applications from the above-mentioned companies under section 248(2) of the Companies Act, 2013 for removal of its/their name (s) from the register of companies either on the ground that they have failed to commence business within one year of their incorporation or on the ground that the company(ies) is/are not carrying on any business or operation for a period of two immediately preceding financial years and has/have not made any application (s) within such period for obtaining the status of a dormant company under section 455 of the Companies Act, 2013 or the company(ies) have obtained the status of dormant company/subscribers to the memorandum have not paid the subscription which they had undertaken to pay at the time of incorporation of a company and a declaration to this effect has not been filed within one hundred and eighty days of its incorporation under subsection (1) of section 10A/ have not been carrying on any business or operations, as revealed after the physical verification carried out under sub-section (9) of section 12, but it/they do not wish to continue its/their registration as companies and have, therefore, requested for removal/ strike off of its/their names from the register of companies.
3. Accordingly, the Registrar of Companies proposes to remove or strike off the names of the above-mentioned companies from the Register of Companies.
4. Any person objecting to the proposed removal or striking off name of the companies from the register of companies may send his or her objection to the office address mentioned here above within thirty days from the date of publication of this notice.

Irkan Tirkey
Assistant Registrar
Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit

CBC 07123/11/0118/2526