



Crackdown continues- three unregistered Madarsas sealed in Haridwar

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Haridwar

The Tehsil administration of Laksar in Haridwar district sealed three Madarsas found to be functioning in violation of the rules on Tuesday.

district for about a week now. He said that the majority of the Madarsas operating in the area are running without valid documentation.

valid documents. Considering this, all these three Madarsas were sealed by the team.

BJP supports action against illegal Madarsas, probe into funding

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Dehradun

About 140 Madarsas found to be operating illegally across the State during the past one month.

lic sentiments and aspirations, to protect the demography and the character of the State.



Bharatiya Janata Party has stated that the Congress is bound to feel uncomfortable in such a situation, adding that the people will give a befitting reply to the Congress for its special affection for a particular community.

illegal Madarsas on the directions of chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami.

He said that the BJP fully supports the investigation into the funding of illegal Madarsas in the State.

Ary Satish enthralled with adaptation of Kafka's The Metamorphosis in Mumbai

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Dehradun

The National Centre for the Performing Arts (NCPA) recently hosted a sold-out adaptation of Franz Kafka's The Metamorphosis as part of the prestigious annual Literature Live! Festival in Mumbai.



growing sense of entrapment. A masterful use of lighting and sound heightened the tension, further immersing the audience in the protagonist's nightmarish reality.

The show also drew notable figures from the entertainment industry including Quasar Thakore-Padamee and Asad Laljee.

physicality and raw emotional depth, brought Kafka's unsettling narrative to life in a way few have managed before.

Beyond Satish's performance, the production was lauded for its artistic execution.

Established in 1969, the National Centre for the Performing Arts — India's leading cultural institution and largest performing arts centre, as well as the first multi-venue, multi-genre cultural hub in South Asia — served as the stage for this production, which delves into themes of isolation, dehumanisation and existential dread.

Public transport operators protest in Dehradun against distant fitness centres

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Dehradun

Several public transport vehicle operators staged a protest at the Transport headquarters in Dehradun on Tuesday against what they termed the impractical and questionable arrangements of the department.



government for setting up a fitness centre in Dehradun, he said. He stated that the meeting also addressed concerns regarding the increased fitness fees for vehicles older than 15 years.

make the fitness certification process more accessible. They demanded that the fitness tests continue at the Dehradun RTO until a new centre is established within five to seven kilometres of the city.

The city bus union president Vijay Dandriyal said that vehicles coming from Mussoorie have to travel 60 to 70 kilometres to reach these centres and 60 per cent of the vehicles travelling to these centres will have to do so without a permit.

They warned that if their demands were not met, around 40,000 registered vehicles in the city will go on strike.

He said that the central government's objective is not to inconvenience vehicle owners but to eliminate corruption and

कार्यालय जिला पूर्ति अधिकारी, उत्तरकाशी II

गंगोत्री भवन, प्रथम तम, जिला कार्यालय परिसर, उत्तरकाशी 249193

Email-dso.uttarkashi@gmail.com Telephone-01374-223839

पत्रांक: 1373/40-ई-निविदा/टेण्डर-554/2025-26 दिनांक: 25 मार्च 2025

ई-निविदा

वित्तीय वर्ष 2024-25 के लिये जनपद उत्तरकाशी के 16 खाद्यान्न भण्डारों बेस डिपो ऋषिकेश तथा बेस डिपो विकासनगर से खाद्यान्न/चीनी आदि वस्तुओं के परिवहन दुलान हेतु उत्तराखण्ड अधिप्राप्ति नियमावली-2017 के अन्तर्गत ई-निविदायें (तकनीकी निविदा/वित्तीय निविदा) निम्न विवरण के अनुसार आमंत्रित की जाती है।

ई-निविदा समय सारणी

Table with 4 columns: क्र.सं., निविदा का विवरण, दिनांक, समय

(सन्तोष कुमार मट्ट) जिला पूर्ति अधिकारी, उत्तरकाशी

Congress attacks BJP for Pauri MLA's comment

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Dehradun

The statement of Bharatiya Janata Party MLA from Pauri, Raj Kumar Pori, on the lack of development of Pauri and its connection with early departure of British from India has given an opportunity to the opposition Congress party to attack the ruling BJP.

spokesperson of Uttarakhand Congress Garima Dasgupta said that the statement of Pori shows his mental level. She said that the comment also reflects the mind-set of RSS and BJP leaders and it appears as if they have lost their mental balance.

people don't expect the BJP State president Mahendra Bhatt, who had recently termed people attending Gairsain rally as 'Sadak Chhap', to take any action against Pori as he lacks conviction and necessary moral authority.

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-AUCTION NOTICE. The bids are invited from the registered entities on IREPS by Sr.DCM/Chg./MB (ACO) through e-auction on 09.04.2025 for the allotment of Parking Contracts in Moradabad Division at Chandpur Siau (CPS) station.

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, DEHRADUN. R.C. No. 89/2025 PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK Versus DARBAR-E-TANDOOR & ANR. DEMAND NOTICE. CD No. 1 M/s Darbar-E-Tandoor a Sole Proprietorship Concern Having its Work Place at 8, Civil Lines, 3rd Floor, Above Dominos, Haridwar Road, Roorkee, District Haridwar-247667, Uttarakhand through its Proprietor Sh. Nusrat Izzar Siddiqui S/o Sh. Izzar Hassan Siddiqui.

TATA CAPITAL HOUSING FINANCE LTD. DEMAND NOTICE. Under Section 13 (2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 ("Act") read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 ("Rules").

Notice regarding MUTHAL VENUBAI dependent of No - 17013232W Rank - HMT Name - MUTHAL DNYANESHWAR SUDHAKAR VIII-HASNABAD PO- ANJANDOH, Teh-DHARUR, Dist- BEED, State- MAHARASHTRA have changed my name from MUTHAL VENUBAI to VENUBAI SUDHAKAR MUTHAL vide affidavit No 13AB 943342 dated Before MAJALGAON COURT.

F.No. LD-12/2025-Under Secretary (Admin [3022030] Government of India Ministry of Law and Justice Legislative Department. Legislative Department proposes to engage 5 Office Assistant purely on contract basis initial for a period of one year which can be further extended for two more years, one at a time, subject to satisfactory performance.

CHANGE OF NAME. I, Abhishek Verma S/o Virendra Kumar Verma, resident of House.No.64/1 New No-139 Chawmandi Roorkee Tehsil Roorkee District-Haridwar have changed my minor Son's Name, from Hridyansh aged-6 years to Hridyansh Verma, for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 24/03/2025 at Roorkee. PD(1743)A

THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS PUBLIC NOTICE. This is to declare that in my educational certificate and mark sheet of Secondary School Examination my father's name has been recorded as HARSHVARDHAN whereas in my aadhar card No 5909-4995-3291 my father's name is HARSHVARDHAN SINGH. Both names belong to the same person. Rohit Singh Butola S/o Harshvardhan Singh address: Bayan Khala, Raja Road, Central Hope Town, Selauki, Tehsil Vikasnagar, District Dehradun, Uttarakhand-248197

Public Notice that my maiden name was Seema Gola d/o Shiv Charan Gola. I have changed my name from SEEMA GOLA to PRACHI ARYA. In future I should be known and recognized as Prachi Arya w/o Rohit Arya, address: G-5, Saraswati Vihar, Raipur Road, Dehradun, Uttarakhand

I, MUTHAL VENUBAI dependent of No - 17013232W Rank - HMT Name - MUTHAL DNYANESHWAR SUDHAKAR VIII-HASNABAD PO- ANJANDOH, Teh-DHARUR, Dist- BEED, State- MAHARASHTRA have changed my name from MUTHAL SUDHAKAR EAKNATH to MUTHAL SUDHAKAR EAKNATH vide affidavit No 13AB 943344 dated Before MAJALGAON COURT.

NOTICE. As per my 10th certificate, my name is printed as Mohd Fahd, S/o Shri MA Khan and Smt Hena Afaque. Whereas in my other documents (Birth certificate, PAN etc) it is Mohammed Fahd, S/o Shri Mohammad Afaq Khan and Smt Hena Afaq, residents of 624, Satya Vihar, Vijay Park near IMA Blood bank, Dehradun, Uttarakhand - 248001. The above-mentioned names belong to the same person/father/mother of mine, and this may be treated as an official record for all other purposes

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Mother allegedly drowns seven-month-old daughter in water tank in Dehradun

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Dehradun

With the reporting of heinous crimes being committed by women rising in frequency, the latest case has come to light in Dehradun district. A woman (22) allegedly drowned her seven-month-old daughter in a water tank in Vikasnagar area of Dehradun district. According to the officials, the family informed them that the child had been unwell for several days and the mother took her to both a doctor and a faith healer for treatment. The faith healer reportedly gave her some charms and per-

formed rituals. The officials said that the woman took her daughter to the rooftop water tank for another ritual on Tuesday morning during which the baby reportedly fell into the tank. Instead of raising an alarm, the woman allegedly left the scene and went about her household work. When family members later searched for the child, they found her in the water tank. The father and his brother took the child to a hospital, where doctors declared her dead, as per the officials. They said that the father

filed a complaint at Sahaspur police station, stating that his wife had taken their daughter to the faith healer and later drowned her in the water tank. Based on his statement, police registered a case and arrested the woman. She was presented before the court and sent to jail on Tuesday. The woman also has a two and a half years old son and was reportedly affected mentally due to her child's illness. The police are investigating the case from all possible angles, the officials added.

Three killed after truck hits riders in Haldwani

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Haldwani

With there being no respite from fatal road accidents in Uttarakhand, the latest mishap in Haldwani resulted in three deaths on Tuesday. A man, his son and a child riding on a motorcycle died after an accident involving a truck on the Kaladhungi Road here. The mishap occurred when the father-so duo along with a child were returning home on a motorcycle.

Kamluwaganja area. On Tuesday morning, he had gone with his son Bhupendra Maurya and a child Shivam Kashyap, to purchase school books in the Haldwani bazaar. After purchasing the school books, Maurya was riding back to his home with his son and the other child when his motorcycle was reportedly hit by a truck near Kamluwaganja. The trio were seriously injured and Maurya did on the spot. His son and the other child were taken to the Sushil Tiwari hospital in Haldwani where both died during

treatment. The Mukhani police station in-charge Vijay Mehta reached the site on being informed about the accident. The police seized the truck involved in the mishap and took the driver into custody. Sources stated that according to preliminary inquiry, the truck was being driven at speed at the time of the mishap.

Natives of Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh, Jai Singh Maurya worked in the farming sector in

Employees resent order linking salary disbursement with marriage registration on UCC portal

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Dehradun

The State government employee associations have strongly objected to the directions of some district magistrates for linking salary disbursement for March 2025 with marriage registration on Uniform Civil Code (UCC) portal.

said that only the employees who have registered their marriage on UCC portal should be given the salary for the month of March 2025.

The president of the federation, Arun Pandey said that the Uttarakhand government has not made it mandatory for the employees to register their marriage in the UCC portal till March 2025. However DMs of Pauri, Chamoli and Nainital have directed the district treasury officers to hold the

salaries for the month of March of the employees who have failed to register their marriage on the UCC portal. He said that the federation strongly condemns such orders and has demanded that the State government should ask the DMs to immediately revoke such orders.

Pandey said that the DMs should organise marriage registration camps at district and Tehsil levels for the employees.

The State Employees Joint Federation has written a letter to chief secretary Radha Raturi in which it has demanded immediate ban on the order of some DMs in which they have

Assistant professors appointed in Haldwani and Pithoragarh medical colleges

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Dehradun

The Medical Education department has appointed six specialist doctors as assistant professors in the government medical colleges of the State. These new appointments have been made in the government medical colleges of Haldwani and Pithoragarh.

For the government medical college, Haldwani, the committee has selected Dr Nikita Deupa as assistant professor in the department of psychiatry, Dr Ravi Singh and Dr Sudhir Kumar Verma as assistant professors in the department of surgery and Dr Satyendra Gupta in the department of Paediatrics. Similarly Dr Yogesh Kumar Gupta and Dr Samir Pandey will be appointed as assistant professors in the departments of orthopaedics and dental diseases respectively in the government medical college, Pithoragarh. All these

appointments have been made for a period of three years or till the appointment of permanent faculty members on these posts.

The Health minister Dhan Singh Rawat said that the appointment of these faculty members will strengthen the Haldwani and Pithoragarh medical colleges. He said the new faculty members will not only help in creating a better academic environment in these colleges but will also ensure better medical facilities to the patients.

A selection committee headed by the vice chancellor of the HNB Uttarakhand Medical Education University had recently selected these candidates after conducting walk-in interviews for these posts.

The wait continues- BJP to appoint State president in a week

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Dehradun

The Bharatiya Janata Party is expected to appoint a new State president for Uttarakhand within a week or in the first week of April. Discussions over the new State president have been ongoing within the party leadership for the past several days after the announcement of the names of Mandal and district presidents. Multiple rounds of meetings have reportedly been held between the BJP high command, chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami and current BJP State president Mahendra Bhatt in the past two weeks. Several BJP leaders also reportedly visited Delhi in the past two days. Political observers suggest that the party may

follow the traditional pattern of balancing regional and caste representation in leadership appointments. Several names have emerged as potential candidates for the position. Among them, Aditya Kothari, Vinod Chamoli, Madan Kaushik and Jyoti Prasad Gairola, are considered strong contenders due to their organisational experience.

There is also a possibility that the BJP may appoint a woman as the State president for the first time. In that case, Kedarnath MLA Asha Nautiyal and Deepti Rawat Bhardwaj are among the likely choices. However, many also believe that BJP is also likely to reap-

point Bhatt as the State president. Responding to the delay in the appointment of the new State president, the BJP State vice president Jyoti Prasad Gairola stated that while the party has finalised Mandal and district presidents, the appointment of the State president follows a separate schedule determined by the central leadership for each State across the country.

He said that the selection process will take place at an appropriate time as per the party's internal schedule. The central leadership will take the final decision, hopefully by the end of March or in the first week of April, he added.

पंजाब नैशनल बैंक Punjab National Bank Recovery Center, PNB House, BHEL, Sector-IV Haridwar- 249403. Email: cs8238@pnb.co.in

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Punjab National Bank under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued demand notice/s on the dates mentioned against each account calling upon the respective Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors to repay the amount as mentioned against each account within 60 days from the date of notice(s)/ date of receipt of the said notice(s). The Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property/ies described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on the dates mentioned against each account. The Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies and any dealing with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of Punjab National Bank for the amounts and interest thereon. The Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors attention is invited to provisions of sub section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

S. No.	Name of the Borrower/Guarantor	Details of Security/Property	Date of Demand Notice	Date of possession notice affixed	Amount Outstanding
1.	Branch: Narsan Kalan Borrower: M/s Pinkesh Agro & Dairy Works (Through its Proprietor) Smt. Pinkesh Devi W/o Sh. Virendra Kumar Makhdumpur, Jhabreda, Roorkee, Haridwar, Uttarakhand (247667) Smt. Pinkesh Devi W/o Sh. Virendra Kumar (Proprietor) Makhdumpur, Jhabreda, Roorkee, Haridwar, Uttarakhand (247667) Sh. Virendra Kumar S/o Sh. Subhe Ram (Guarantor) 53/1, Makhdu -mpur, Jhabreda Haridwar, Uttarakhand (247667)	Residential Property Having Total Area 2050 Sq. Mtr. Situated At Mauja Makhdumpur Pargana-Manglore, Roorkee, Haridwar Registered Vide Gift Deed Registered In Bahi No. 1, Jild No. 3055 At Pages 167-188, Serial No. 2759, On Dated 11.03.2016 In The Office Of Sub-Registrar Roorkee In The Name of Smt. Pinkesh Devi W/o Sh. Virendra Kumar Which is Bounded As: East: Land Of Sh. Anuj & Rajendra, West: Rest Land Of Virendra Kumar, North: Road 15 Feet Wide, South: Land Of Vijender.	16.04.2019	21.03.2025	Rs. 14,50,588.88 with Future interest & expenses w.e.f. 01.04.2019 with further interest and expenses until payment in full

Date: 25.03.2025 Place : Haridwar Authorised Officer

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank (A Govt. of India Undertaking) सिंडिकेट Syndicate

E-Auction Notice Recovery Section, Regional Office-1, Dehradun Plot No. IT-38, IT Park SIDCUL Sahastradhara Road, Dehradun-248013, Tel No. 9604500211, Email: rocoddn@canarabank.com

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE OF VEHICLES UNDER HYPOTHECATION AGREEMENT THROUGH E-AUCTION

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to be the borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the movable properties described herein, taken possession under the provisions of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, will be sold on "as is where is", "As is what is" and "whatever there is" through e-auction on the following terms & conditions. E auction arranged by the service provider M/s C1 India Private Limited, through the website <https://www.bankeauctions.com>, through different lots.

The details of E-Auction also available at www.canarabank.com, Last date of executing EMD : 10.04.2025 till 4.00 pm, Date and Time of E-auction: 11.04.2025 between 12:30 PM TO 01:30 PM (with auto extension of 5 minutes)

S. No.	Borrower/Branch/ D P Code	Vehicle Details	Liabilities	Reserve Price		Branch Name
				Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Contact Mobile No.	
1	Branch: Rishikesh Avas Vikas (DP-18937) Borrower: Mr Rajpal Singh S/o Guru Charan Singh Village Thakurpuriane No. 02 Post Satyanarayan Mandir Rishikesh 249204 Uttarakhand	HYUNDAI AURA 1.2 MT CNG S (PETROL/CNG) Chassis Number- MALB241CLPM179729 Engine Number-G4LAPM450021 Registration Number-UK08TA8706	Rs. 6,32,482.36 as on 25.03.2025 + Interest w.e.f. 02.03.2025 + Expenses and Costs- Recovery w.e.f. 26.03.2025 (if any) In A/C No. 170007671703	Rs. 5,00,000/- Rs. 50,000/- Rs. 5,000/-		Canara Bank, Regional Office Dehradun A/c Name - Canara Bank A/c No. - 209272434 IFSC - CNRB0008305 Contact No.:- 9719209725 Mail: rfcoddn@canarabank.com

For Detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara bank's website: www.canarabank.com/ may contact Related Branch during office hours on any working day.

Date: 25.03.2025 Palace: Dehradun Authorised Officer, Canara Bank

वित्त मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF FINANCE

The GST Waiver of Interest & Penalty Scheme

Introduced under Section 128A of CGST Act

Considering the difficulties faced by the taxpayers, during the initial years of implementation of GST, amendments made in the CGST Act:

- To provide for waiver of interest and penalties for demand notices issued under Section 73 of the CGST Act for the fiscal years 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20.

Insertion of Section 128A in CGST Act to provide for conditional waiver of interest or penalty or both relating to demands raised under Section 73, for FY 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20.

In cases where the taxpayer pays the full amount of tax demanded in the notice upto 31.03.2025

The corresponding forms must be submitted by June 30, 2025

This timeline provides businesses sufficient time to comply with the scheme while encouraging them to regularise GST compliance without hefty interest & penalty.

Ease Your Compliance Journey with the GST Waiver of Interest & Penalty Scheme!

For more details, please refer to Section 128A of the CGST Act, 2017, Notification No. 20/2024-Central Tax dated 08.10.2024 and Circular No. 238/32/2024-GST dated 15.10.2024

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Haridwar sports complex inaugurated, players to get latest facilities

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Haridwar

The Haridwar Roorkee Development Authority (HRDA) has constructed the Haridwar sports complex here which was inaugurated by the authority's vice chairman Anshul Singh on Tuesday.



International level sporting equipment and coaching will be provided at this sports complex at nominal rates, the officials informed. It is pertinent to mention here that in addition to beautifi-

DGP reviews police preparations for Kumbh Mela 2027

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Dehradun

The director general of police Deepam Seth has instructed Haridwar senior superintendent of police Pramendra Dobhal to start forming a core team for Kumbh Mela 2027 to be held in Haridwar. A list of potential team members will be prepared to ensure timely deployment in Haridwar.



also directed the traffic officials to formulate a complete traffic management plan and asked the communications wing to develop a communication strategy and the fire services to ensure fire safety measures. The DGP also directed officials to prepare a training programme for personnel who will be involved in the event.

Centre awards U'khand for efforts to eradicate TB

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Dehradun

In recognition of the State government's efforts to make Uttarakhand free from tuberculosis, the government of India has awarded the State for excellent performance in community based efforts under the TB free Panchayat initiative.



The Union minister of Health and Family Welfare JP Nadda presented the award to the mission director of the National Health Mission (NHM) Swati S Bhadauria in New Delhi on Tuesday.

Uttarakhand has adopted TB eradication as a public movement where the village Panchayats are being strengthened so that they can monitor and control the

The Union minister Nadda appreciated Uttarakhand's efforts in the field of TB eradication. He said that the excellent performance of the State will prove to be a milestone in future to meet the target of eradication of TB.

Bhadauria said that under the leadership of chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami and Health minister Dhan Singh Rawat, the campaign against TB is being successfully executed. She attributed the success to the combined efforts of the State government, Health department, local administration, ASHA workers, Panchayat Raj bodies, social workers and the community.

She said that special efforts for comprehensive awareness at ground, immediate recognition, better treatment and community participation were made under the TB free Panchayat initiative in the State. The State has adopted an effective tracking system and multi-sectoral approach in the TB eradication programme. Bhadauria claimed that

achieving the target of a TB free Uttarakhand. She added that under the Ni-kshay Mitra scheme, participation of public representatives, private institutes and social workers is being done which has helped in providing social support and nutrition to the TB patients. Expressing happiness, the State Health minister Dhan Singh Rawat said that the award reflects the untiring efforts done by the State in the direction of eradication of TB. He said that everyone should work unitedly for achieving the target of a TB free Uttarakhand.

BOI to extend Rakshak Salary Package to IAF personnel

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Dehradun

The Bank of India inked a memorandum of understanding with the Indian Air Force to extend the BOI Rakshak Salary Package to Air Force personnel, veterans and Agniveers (recruited under the Agnipath Scheme). Senior

vice-marshall Updesh Sharma, VSM ACAS (Accts & AV) of the Indian Air Force chaired the ceremony while the chief general manager, Bank of India, Sharda Bhushan Rai was present for BOI.



bank officials said that the MoU, which had been signed at the Air Force Headquarters, New Delhi, covers special benefits, including enhanced free, comprehensive Personal Accident Insurance Cover (PAI) and attractive offers on Debit and Credit cards along with a host of other offers. Air

Sharma thanked BOI for extending the bouquet of financial services to all personnel and veterans of Indian Air Force while Rai assured best banking products and customer service, supported by state-of-the-art digital infrastructure.

Speaker adopts 10 TB patients under TB eradication campaign

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Dehradun

The Assembly speaker Ritu Khanduri Bhushan has adopted 10 tuberculosis (TB) patients under the TB eradication campaign, part of the Ni-kshay Mitra Yojana. With the support of the Hans Foundation, she also distributed sewing machines to these TB patients.

Jain appreciated the Hans Foundation's campaign, highlighting that it not only provides treatment to TB patients but also offers them means of livelihood, thus delivering both health and financial support.

As part of the TB Mukta Abhiyan initiative, sewing machines were provided to 10 TB patients in Government Doon Medical College to support their livelihoods. The principal of Government Doon Medical College (GDMC) Dr Geeta

The chief medical officer Dr Manoj Kumar Sharma adopted two TB patients, while Dr CS Rawat adopted one. Dr Sharma emphasised that supporting patients under the TB campaign is not only a departmental duty but also a humanitarian responsibility. He expressed optimism that with community participation, Dehradun district will soon achieve its goal of being completely TB-free.

Chola HOLAMANDALAM INVESTMENT AND FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED

WHEREAS the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002...

Table with columns: SL. NO., NAME AND ADDRESS OF BORROWER, DATE OF DEMAND NOTICE, OUT-STANDING AMOUNT, DETAILS OF PROPERTY POSSESSED, DATE OF SYMBOLIC POSSESSION.

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ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES ANSARI NAGAR NEW DELHI - 110029 EXAMINATION SECTION Advertisement No. 38/2025

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Table with columns: Opens on, Closes on

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Governor directs secretaries to develop roadmap for enhancing financial stability of CWC

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Dehradun

The governor lieutenant general (retd) Gurmit Singh has instructed the secretaries to convene a meeting and develop a roadmap to enhance the financial stability of the State Child Welfare Council (CWC) and to incorporate new schemes utilising modern technology.

schemes run by the State and Central governments reach children for their overall development. He highlighted the need for strengthening resources and infrastructure so that no child is deprived of quality education, health or nutrition.

The governor emphasised the urgent need for an innovative action plan aimed at financially strengthening the CWC. He stressed on the importance of introducing new schemes to genuinely fulfill the council's objectives. It is crucial for the council to play a supportive role in ensuring that the benefits of various

Further, the governor urged the CWC to adopt new ideas and approaches to empower children, making them self-reliant and skilled. He said that in an age of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and robotics, it is essential to develop child welfare schemes that enable children to learn the latest technologies and contribute positively to themselves, the State and the country. Such schemes should be tailored to current needs and must be

accessible to remote areas of the state, he said. Singh also stressed on the importance of consistent efforts to maximise public participation in CWC. During the meeting, he appreciated the members who have made significant contributions to the council. Additionally, the governor approved the estimated income and expenditure for the CWC for the fiscal year 2024-25 and consented to other agenda items. General secretary Pushpa Manas provided confirmation and approval for the proposals passed in the 15th meeting and presented a brief overview of the activities carried out over the past year.

Dak Adalat to hear postal grievances on March 27

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Dehradun

In order to redress the grievances of the customers in an effective manner, the Uttarakhand Postal Circle (UPC) is set to organise the quarterly Dak Adalat at the UPC office and seven circle post offices on March 27. According to the staffers working at the general post office (GPO) in Dehradun, the Dak Adalat will commence at 4 PM. They further

said that all grievances, particularly those pertaining to registry, parcel, money order, value payable post and saving bank account would be heard at the Dak Adalat. Those willing to participate must confirm by March 26. The aggrieved customers must clearly write Grievances for Dak Adalat at the top of the grievance applications. Besides, there would be no hearing on such grievances which have already been closed by courts, pending before consumer disputes redressal forums, settled by the postal directorate and earlier presented before Dak Adalat. Seven mandals where Dak Adalat would be held are Dehradun, Almora, Nainital, Chamoli, Pauri, Pithoragarh and Tehri.

THDCIL organises annual vigilance meet in Kerala

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ RISHIKESH

THDC India Limited organised its annual vigilance meet from March 25 to 27 in Alleppey, Kerala where the chairman and managing director, R K Vishnoi reaffirmed the company's unwavering commitment to corporate

governance and ethical business practices. "Vigilance is a fundamental pillar of organisational excellence and nation-building," he said, adding that it must be embedded into every layer of the organisation. The director

(Personnel), Shallinder Singh inaugurated the meet in the presence of THDCIL's chief vigilance officer Rashmita Jha. Singh said that integrity and fair practices are essential pillars for a progressive society.

IFSCA INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES CENTRES AUTHORITY 2nd and 3rd Floor, Pragya Tower, GIFT City, Gandhinagar, Gujarat

VACANCY NOTIFICATION International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA), a statutory unified regulatory body under the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India, invites applications from eligible Indian citizens for filling up various positions of Young Professionals/ Consultants Grade I on contract basis.

जेमिताल दुग्ध उत्पादक सहकारी संघ लिमिटेड लालकुआं, जिला नैनीताल (उत्तराखण्ड) दूरभाष : 05946 : 268061, 268127

एतद् द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि संस्था की मुख्य दुग्धशाला लालकुआं में निम्न कार्य की निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जानी हैं। 1. 'न्यूमैटिक टाईप पीरी प्रेस 04 स्टेशन 12 दुग्ध' 2. 'ब्लॉस्ट फ्रीजर रूम मशीन एवं पफ वॉल सहित (साईज 5.20x4.80x2.50 मीटर 01 जोब' वगैरह दोनों कार्यों का कंफ्रीकेटिंग/आपूर्ति/फिक्सिंग हेतु विशेषज्ञ फर्मों से बन्द निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं।

SMFG India Home Finance Co. Ltd. (Formerly Fullerton India Home Finance Co. Ltd.)

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 ("the Act") AND THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002 ("the Rules")

The attention of the borrower(s) is invited to Section 13(b) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets and further to Section 13(c) of the Act, whereby the borrower(s) are restrained / prohibited from disposing of or dealing with the secured asset(s) or transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of business) any of the secured asset(s), without prior written consent of SMHFC and non-compliance with the above is an offence punishable under Section 29 of the said Act.

Editor's TAKE

Turkey in turmoil

Ekrem Imamoglu's arrest could pose a serious challenge for President Erdogan

Democracy is increasingly under attack across the world. Turkey is the latest case in point where the President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is out to weed out any opposition and would not mind even if it irks the people at large. Turkey is facing one of its most intense political crises in years following the arrest of Istanbul Mayor Ekrem Imamoglu, a key Opposition leader and major rival to President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. The arrest has sparked mass protests across the country, raising concerns about Turkey's democratic future and stability. Imamoglu was arrested on corruption-related charges, including running a criminal organisation, bribery, extortion, bid-rigging, and illegal data collection.

His supporters argue that the charges are politically motivated and are part of Erdogan's broader strategy to sideline a formidable contender for the 2028 presidential race. The Turkish government, however, denies any political interference, insisting that the judiciary remains independent. The timing is particularly significant, as it coincided with the main opposition Republican People's Party (CHP) holding a symbolic primary election to endorse him as their presidential candidate.

The arrest has triggered widespread protests across Turkey, particularly in Istanbul, Ankara, and Izmir. Riot police have responded with water cannons, tear gas, and plastic bullets, while demonstrators have fought back with stones. Despite the government's vow to crack down on what it calls "street terror," the protests continue to gain momentum. The opposition sees Imamoglu's detention as an attack on democracy.

In response to the government crackdown, the CHP has set up nationwide ballot boxes for non-members to cast 'solidarity votes' in support of the embattled mayor. The international community has reacted strongly to Imamoglu's arrest. The Council of Europe has condemned the move and called for his immediate release. Political analysts suggest Erdogan is attempting to eliminate his strongest opposition ahead of the next elections. Domestically, the case has rattled Turkey's financial markets. Investors are increasingly wary of the country's political instability, which could further impact Turkey's struggling economy. This is not Imamoglu's first legal battle. In 2022, he was convicted for allegedly insulting Turkey's Supreme Electoral Council. More recently, a university nullified his degree over alleged irregularities, effectively barring him from running for president.

His political ascent has been a major challenge for Erdogan. He secured a surprise victory in Istanbul's 2019 mayoral elections, defeating Erdogan's ruling AKP in a major blow. A rerun of the election only solidified his popularity, making him one of the strongest opposition figures in Turkish politics today.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has increasingly exhibited authoritarian tendencies, undermining Turkey's democratic institutions. Over the years, he has consolidated power by curbing judicial independence, restricting press freedom, and suppressing political opposition. His government has jailed journalists, academics, and activists critical of his rule, while elections have been marred by allegations of unfair practices, media censorship, and crackdowns on rival parties.

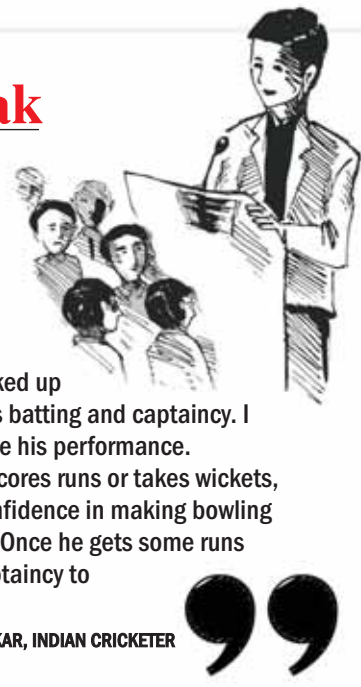
The transition from a parliamentary to a presidential system in 2018 granted Erdogan sweeping executive powers, weakening checks and balances. Furthermore, his handling of protests, such as the Gezi Park demonstrations and the post-2016 coup purges, has drawn widespread criticism for human rights violations. These actions have significantly eroded Turkey's democratic credentials, pushing the country toward an increasingly autocratic rule.

Leaderspeak



Rishabh Pant is an intelligent cricketer, and he will have picked up valuable insights regarding his batting and captaincy. I believe we will see him improve his performance. Additionally, when a captain scores runs or takes wickets, it significantly boosts their confidence in making bowling changes and setting the field. Once he gets some runs under his belt, I expect his captaincy to become even more assured.

SUNIL GAVASKAR, INDIAN CRICKETER



Letters to the Editor

A historic return from space

Sunita Williams safe return has sparked pride across India and the world, with leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, celebrating her achievement

NASA astronaut Sunita Williams, of Indian descent, is in the news this week. Her team has returned safely to Earth after spending nine months in space. They initially planned to be in space for eight days, but technical problems extended their mission. The spacecraft returned without them in September. This week, they landed in a SpaceX Crew Dragon capsule alongside Nick Hague and Alexander Gorbunov.

After landing near Tallahassee, they were taken on stretchers for health checks. Her return is a moment of immense pride for leaders in India and across the globe, marking a significant leap in space exploration. Prime Minister Narendra Modi wrote an emotional letter to the "illustrious daughter of India," inviting her to visit India after her return.

Notable figures who praised her include Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin, among others. West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee expressed her joy: "Our daughter of India returns to us, and we are deeply, deeply happy and elated. We are profoundly happy for Butch Wilmore as well. Hail their courage, hail their return, hail human glory!" Mamata also called for a Bharat Ratna for Sunita in a post on X.

Sunita Williams, 59, is a former US Navy captain. She was born in Ohio to a Gujarati father, Deepak Pandya, from Jhulasan in Gujarat, and a Slovenian mother, Ursuline Bonnie Pandya. Sunita practices Hinduism and took a copy of the Bhagavad Gita and a Ganesh idol to space. She feels proud of her Indian heritage and said, "Everywhere I have lived, I have had Ganesh with me, so he had to come with me to space. The last time, I brought a small copy of the Upanishads."

The NASA astronauts will now undergo standard protocols to mitigate the physical challenges posed by prolonged weightlessness in space. They have been sent to the Johnson Space Center in Houston, where they will undergo recovery and return to normal life after some time.

According to Newsweek, Sunita has spent 322 days in space across several missions. She previously held the record for the most spacewalks by a female astronaut, with nine spacewalks, until Peggy Whitson broke the record in 2017. Sunita joined NASA in 1998 and has helped test new space technologies and conduct research on the International Space Station (ISS). She has been married to former police officer Michael J Williams for



over 20 years. What began as an eight-day mission became a remarkable testament to the astronauts' resilience.

Their extended stay included over 4,500 orbits and a staggering journey of more than 121 Million statute miles.

Experts worry that spending a long time in microgravity can cause health problems for astronauts when they return to Earth's gravity. NASA maintains that transitioning from one gravity field to another is more challenging than it sounds.

"It affects spatial orientation, head-eye and hand-eye coordination, balance, and locomotion, with some crew members experiencing space motion sickness," the US agency stated.

The rehabilitation program includes daily two-hour sessions to help improve mobility, build muscle strength, and increase endurance. Life on the ISS follows a set routine, focusing on dealing with weightlessness, fluid shifts in the body, and the loss of bone density. Their extended stay has provided valuable scientific insights into space exploration. Their endurance in the face of balance issues, dizziness, and muscle weakness common due to the legs and back not supporting body weight is commendable.

Although both astronauts have completed their mission, adjusting to life on Earth

will take time.

Former US President Donald Trump has turned the issue of the stranded astronauts into a political matter. He blamed former

President Joe Biden for not helping them. The White House's official X account stated, "PROMISE MADE, PROMISE KEPT: President Trump promised to rescue the stranded astronauts while criticising Joe Biden."

Trump mentioned Sunita, referring to her as "the woman with wild hair" in his

comments. Trump explained why he has not yet invited the NASA astronauts to the White House. "They have to get better. You have no pull in your muscles and gravity when you are up there (in space). You can lift a thousand pounds like this," the former US President told Fox News.

Sunita and her crew's return is a key success in space exploration. This mission will provide valuable data for future space travel and help improve spacecraft technology. The mission was critical in understanding

the effects of prolonged space travel, aiding NASA and other space agencies in planning future missions, including sending humans to Mars.

Conclusion

Sunita Williams' safe return from her extended mission in space marks a significant milestone in human space exploration. Despite the unforeseen technical setbacks that prolonged their stay, the mission has contributed valuable scientific data that will aid future space endeavors, particularly in understanding the long-term effects of space travel on the human body. Leaders and citizens alike have celebrated her achievements, with calls for national recognition reinforcing her status as a symbol of perseverance and excellence. As Sunita and her fellow astronauts undergo rehabilitation, their experiences will continue to shape the future of space travel. With missions to Mars and beyond on the horizon, their insights into endurance, adaptation, and survival in microgravity will be invaluable. This mission underscores the evolving challenges and triumphs of human spaceflight, reminding us of the limitless possibilities that lie ahead in the quest for exploration beyond Earth.

(The writer is a popular columnist. Views expressed are personal)

Green infrastructure for sustainable cities

Opinion

According to UN reports, approximately 55 per cent of the global population lives in urban areas, but this percentage is expected to reach 68 per cent by 2050. Rapid urban growth surpasses effective urban and transport planning, resulting in worsening air and noise pollution, urban heat islands, and limited green spaces. These challenges contribute to significant health risks, including increased mortality rates for city dwellers.

However, with strategic urban planning and sustainable transport solutions, cities can mitigate these harmful effects and create healthier, more livable environments.

One of the most effective ways to achieve this is through active transportation. Cities that invest in pedestrian-friendly pathways and bike lanes encourage physical activity while also minimising reliance on cars.

By ensuring safety and convenience, such infrastructure makes walking and cycling more appealing to residents, reducing vehicle congestion and emissions.

Public transport also plays a critical role in sustainable urban mobility. Expanding metro networks, bus services, and other mass transit options can significantly ease traffic congestion and lower pollution levels. For example, Paris is enhancing its transit system with new routes to offer viable



HARI SOMALRAJU

alternatives to car travel, encouraging a shift toward greener commuting habits.

Technology is another powerful tool for improving urban transport. Smart traffic systems that analyse real-time road conditions can optimise signal timings, reducing unnecessary idling and emissions. Adaptive traffic control strategies lead to smoother traffic flow, minimising pollution and enhancing efficiency.

The transition to electric vehicles (EVs) is a key component of sustainable transport. By investing in EV charging stations, cities make it easier for residents to adopt cleaner transportation options. Many municipalities are prioritising this shift to align with long-term sustainability goals. Green urban planning extends beyond transport infrastructure. Parks, green roofs, and urban forests help combat the heat island effect while providing essential recreational spaces. Brisbane, for instance, has been actively designing cooler, walkable urban spaces, setting a precedent for other cities worldwide. Sustainable road construction materials further contribute to environmental benefits. The use of recycled asphalt and permeable concrete minimises resource consumption and improves stormwater management, making roads more resilient while reducing their ecological impact.

The advantages of sustainable urban transport planning are far-reaching. Reduced vehicle usage leads to lower carbon emissions and improved air quality. Access to green

spaces and active transport options fosters healthier lifestyles, reducing the risk of lifestyle-related diseases. Efficient public transport and smart traffic systems ease congestion, enhancing the daily lives of commuters. Additionally, investments in sustainable infrastructure create job opportunities and attract responsible businesses, stimulating economic growth.

Despite these benefits, several challenges must be addressed. Implementing sustainable infrastructure requires significant initial investment, but the long-term savings in public health improvements, reduced environmental damage, and economic development make it a worthwhile endeavour. Strong policies and regulations are essential to drive these initiatives forward, ensuring that sustainable urban development remains a priority. Community engagement is also crucial—when residents are actively involved in planning, projects are more likely to meet local needs and gain public support. The journey toward sustainable cities is both necessary and achievable. By prioritising active transport, public transit enhancements, smart traffic solutions, and green infrastructure, urban areas can minimise their environmental footprint while improving the quality of life for their residents. While challenges exist, the long-term benefits of a low-carbon, people-centric urban environment far outweigh the obstacles, paving the way for a greener and healthier future.

(The writer is managing director of Systra Group India. Views expressed are personal)

RESERVATION HAS BECOME A SLOGAN FOR HARNESSING VOTES

It has become a routine process to raise the issue of reservations whenever an election is near as now Bihar elections will be held after six months and political parties know that the issue will be challenged in the court and will be rejected by the judiciary and till then keep this alive for vote bank. In the Parliament elections, Opposition parties were to flare up the issue of reservations and due to this reason BJP could not get the absolute majority in the Lok Sabha, and it is a great weapon in the hands of Opposition. Now the Karnataka government has declared four per cent reservation for Muslims in allotment of contracts, and it is also true that the state has already provided similar reservation for SCs and STs and OBC contractors.

Articles 14 and 15 of the Constitution of India mandate that the state shall not discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth but authorises governments to "make special provisions for the

advancement of socially and educationally backward classes of citizens or for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes."

The Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurements (Amendment) Bill, 2025, which the state Assembly passed the other day reserving for Muslims four per cent of contracts in civil works valued up to ₹2 Crore, and goods or services procurement contracts up to ₹1 Crore, hence, hardly qualifies for constitutional protection. The government would argue that the measure is designed to address the acute unemployment among the communities.

But the fact remains that the Constitution has designed reservation as a policy to ensure that communities which have been kept off the mainstream get a chance to be part of it. Economic disadvantages are an issue that have to be addressed separately.

YASH PAL RALHAN | JALANDHAR

KKR, RR eye batting, bowling overhaul

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Guwahati

Outmuscled in their previous matches, title-holders Kolkata Knight Riders and Rajasthan Royals will eye a quick course correction in every aspect when they face each other in an IPL match here on Wednesday.

The Knight Riders were beaten by seven wickets by Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the tournament-opener while the Royals were given a 44-run drubbing by Sunrisers Hyderabad.

The common theme in those defeats was how the seemingly powerful batting and bowling units of KKR and RR failed to fire.

While the Rajasthan outfit might offer the excuse of playing on a Hyderabad shirtfront for the malfunction of their bowling unit, the Kolkata side do not have any such cover.

Apart from Sunil Narine, none of the KKR bowlers were able to contain free-flowing RCB batters, and in that the demystification of mystery spinner Varun Chakravarthy might just worry them a bit.

Even on an Eden Gardens pitch that had some grip, Chakravarthy was given a towering by Phil Salt and Virat Kohli.

The KKR camp now hopes that the spinner will find his stride on a Guwahati pitch that generally has some bite.

They will also keep an eye on the fitness of Anrich Nortje, who is recovering from a back strain. If the South African gets a green signal from the physios, then he will walk in for Spencer Johnson.

Similarly, KKR's middle-order batting crumbled spectacularly after skipper Ajinkya Rahane and Narine gave them a blistering start, eventually settling for a sub-par score.



Their batting pivots such as Venkatesh Iyer and Andre Russell got out, playing pre-determined cross-batted shots, and KKR will hope that they will show more game awareness in Guwahati.

The Knight Riders will also hope that Rinku Singh regains his hitting prowess down the order. It is crucial in converting a good total into something more intimidating in nature.

His recent T20 form is not that encouraging and in his last five international outings, Rinku has logged scores of 11, 9, 8, 30, 9 along with a 12 in the IPL opener.

Rinku and his top-order colleagues in KKR will hope that the Rajasthan bowlers would once again struggle to find their groove here.

The likes of Jofra Archer, who bowled the most expensive spell in the history of IPL against SRH, Fazalhaq Farooqi and Maheesh Theekshana were rudderless against the onslaught of Travis Head and Ishan Kishan. Archer had leaked 76 runs

from his overs at the Uppal.

But they have an opportunity in Guwahati to regain their form.

It will also be a blot on stand-in skipper Riyan Parag who, at times, looked perplexed on the field about the decisions to be made. The Rahul Dravid-coached side will eye sharper and more intuitive leadership from Parag against KKR.

Teams

Kolkata Knight Riders: Ajinkya Rahane (captain), Rinku Singh, Quinton de Kock, Rahmanullah Gurbaz, Angkrish Raghuvanshi, Rovman Powell, Manish Pandey, Luvnity Sisodia, Venkatesh Iyer, Anukul Roy, Moeen Ali, Ramandeep Singh, Andre Russell, Anrich Nortje, Vaibhav Arora, Mayank Markhanda, Spencer Johnson, Harshit Rana, Sunil Narine, Varun Chakravarthy, Chetan Sakariya.

Rajasthan Royals: Riyan Parag (stand-in captain), Sanju Samson, Shubham

Dubey, Vaibhav Suryavanshi, Kunal Singh, Jofra Archer, Maheesh Theekshana, Deshpande, Fazalhaq Farooqi, Rathore, Shimron Hetmyer, Yashasvi Wanindu Hasaranga, Akash Madhwal, Kwena Maphaka, Ashok Sharma, Jaiswal, Dhruv Jurel, Nitish Rana, Yuvraj Kumar Kartikeya Singh, Tushar Sandeep Sharma.

Whole year I focussed, visualised about finishing games, says Ashutosh Sharma

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Visakhapatnam

Ashutosh Sharma says he spent the whole year visualising the finishing line after pulling off a miraculous heist for Delhi Capitals against Lucknow Supergiants in Visakhapatnam.

Ashutosh attracted attention with his exemplary finishing skills last season when he turned up for Punjab Kings. However, he did not leave the season a fully satisfied man as he did not meet his own expectations.

It is early days in IPL 2025 but the 26-year-old, who plays for Railways in domestic cricket, was pleased with his stellar 66 not out off 41 balls that brought Delhi Capitals back from the dead on Monday night.

Ashutosh was quick to highlight the role played by IPL debutant Vipraj Nigam as the duo changed the course of the game after Delhi Capitals found themselves down and out at 113 for six chasing 210.

It was the contentious Impact Player rule that allowed Ashutosh to play the innings of his life.

Last year was really good but that's history for me. I have taken the positives from there and worked on myself, to improve whatever weaknesses I had

— ASHUTOSH SHARMA, DC PLAYER

He changed gears dramatically after collecting 20 runs off the first 20 balls he faced.

The last 11 balls he faced yielded 46 runs as he finished the game with a six over the bowler's head and the majority of his five sixes came down the ground.

"Missed out on finishing the game on a couple of occasions in the previous season. The whole year I focussed and visualised it. Had the belief that if I play till the last over, anything can happen.

"Well played to Vipraj. I asked him to keep hitting. He was very calm under pressure. Want to dedicate this award to my mentor Shikhar (Dhawan) paaji," said Ashutosh.

Ashutosh and Shashank Singh made a

name for themselves with their exploits for Punjab Kings before the franchise released the former ahead of the auction.

To become part of a serious discussion in the context of Indian cricket, Ashutosh knew he could not sit on past performances.

"Last year was really good but that's history for me. I have taken the positives from there and worked on myself, to improve whatever weaknesses I had. I'm applying what I did in domestic cricket."

With number 11 on strike in the 20th over and six runs needed for a famous win, it is natural to be nervous but Ashutosh remained confident.

"I was confident. It's part of the game. Whether it's an appeal or not a run. It wasn't part of my batting, so I was confident that if he took a single, I would be able to hit a six. I was really confident about my ability," said Ashutosh after smashing Shabbaz Ahmed for a maximum to seal the win.

With a match-winning effort in the opening game of the season, Ashutosh has raised the bar for himself.

ICC retains Nitin Menon in Elite Panel of Umpires

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Dubai

The International Cricket Council (ICC) on Tuesday included Allahudien Paleker of South Africa and England's Alex Wharf in the ICC Elite Panel of Umpires which features Nitin Menon as the only Indian, while Jayaraman Madangopal has been promoted to the Emerging Panel.

Michael Gough and Joel Wilson will make way for the two new entrants in Paleker and Wharf.

According to BCCI sources, the 50-year-old Madangopal has been promoted to the Emerging Panel which makes him eligible to officiate in overseas Tests and ODIs. Former Tamil Nadu player Madangopal has so far officiated in one Test, 22 ODIs and 42 T20Is.

Meanwhile, Menon is ranked second behind Richard Illingworth in the Elite Panel of Umpires.

Paleker, a former first-class cricketer from South Africa, has officiated on-field in four Tests, 23 ODIs and 67 T20Is in men's international cricket and a total of 17 women's international games — having also officiated at major ICC tournaments such as men's T20 World Cup 2024, and the Under-19 men's Cricket World Cup 2024.


Wharf brings a wealth of experience from his 16-year first-class career, having also featured in 13 ODIs for England.

Wharf has officiated on-field in seven Tests, 33 ODIs, and 45 T20Is in men's international cricket, and has stood at the recent ICC men's and women's World Cups, the respective men's and women's T20 World Cups in 2024 and the men's Champions Trophy in 2025.

ICC chairman Jay Shah gave his warm wishes to the two new entrants, Paleker and Wharf, while also thanking the outgoing umpires, Gough and Wilson.

"By definition, being an elite official brings with it scrutiny and pressure, but we are confident that both Allahudien and Alex possess the temperament, experience and skill to deliver consistently at this very top level," Shah said in a statement. "On behalf of the ICC, I wish them all the best for the upcoming season as well as for the future. We would also like to place on record our sincere thanks to both Joel and Michael for their services to the world game, over a number of years."

Paleker expressed his gratitude for the promotion and acknowledged the support of his mentors, colleagues, and family. "This is a significant moment in my umpiring career. It's an honour to be named in the elite panel, and I look forward to reposing the faith shown in me. Being on this panel brings both pride and responsibility, but I am confident that my experience officiating across formats will stand me in good stead," he said.




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सशक्त उत्तराखण्ड आत्मनिर्भर उत्तराखण्ड

सेवा, सुशासन और विकास के 3 वर्ष

यूसीसी - समानता द्वारा समरसता मजबूत भू-कानून

राष्ट्रीय खेलों में उत्तराखण्ड का शानदार प्रदर्शन युवाओं को 20 हजार से अधिक सरकारी नौकरियों औद्योगिक निवेश को बढ़ावा जमरानी बांध कार्य प्रारंभ मंडी परिषद द्वारा 595 संपर्क मार्ग, 120 हैंडपंप, कृषि के 276 विद्यार्थियों को 46 लाख छात्रवृत्ति, दुर्घटना सहायता में 14 लाख की सहायता गढ़रपुर और रुद्रपुर में नई मंडियों का निर्माण, मंडियों की आय को दुगना करने का लक्ष्य एवं मंडी से जुड़े हुए सभी वर्गों के विकास की योजनाएँ प्रारंभ करने का लक्ष्य



डॉ. अनिल डबू
अध्यक्ष उत्तराखण्ड कृषि उत्पादन विपणन बोर्ड