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Promoter - M/s DLF Homes Panchkula Private Limited  
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\*Taxes and statutory charges extra as applicable and terms & conditions applicable.



Delhi LG writes to FM, proposes traffic violation-linked insurance premiums

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER

Delhi Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena has written to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman regarding a proposal where vehicles with a history of violations, including speeding, reckless driving, or other traffic offences, would be required to pay higher insurance premiums.

According to the LG, this financial deterrent would incentivise safer driving practices and foster a culture of responsible motoring on Indian roads.

LG Saxena has urged the FM to link insurance premiums of vehicles to the number of traffic violations recorded against the vehicle, requesting her to consider the proposal for a tiered insurance premium system that directly reflects the driving behaviour of individual motor drivers.

Saxena has underlined in his letter that implementing such a system would not only align insurance costs with the actual risk posed by individual drivers, but will also reduce the financial burden on insurers resulting from frequent claims. According to the high officer, this financial deterrent driven approach which is practiced in the USA and European countries, would promote responsible driving behaviour, leading to a reduction in accidents, saving lives, and ensuring more efficient management of insurance claims.

The LG has mentioned in his letter the recent data from the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) which revealed a disturbing trend of over-speeding and red-light jumping that contribute significantly to fatal accidents.

A comprehensive study by the World Bank further underscored the correlation between multiple traffic violations and a heightened risk of severe crashes and emphasised the need for urgent action, the high officer mentioned. In support of this proposal, the LG has highlighted Delhi's own accident statistics, where according to a 2023 report of the Delhi Traffic Police, 60 per cent of fatal road accidents involved vehicles that had previously been fined for traffic violations, primarily over-speeding and red-light jumping. With index-linked insurance premiums, India can position itself at the forefront of road safety initiatives and set a benchmark for other nations to follow, the LG emphasised. Saxena has also urged Sitharaman to engage the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) to take immediate action to establish a framework for index-linked insurance premiums.

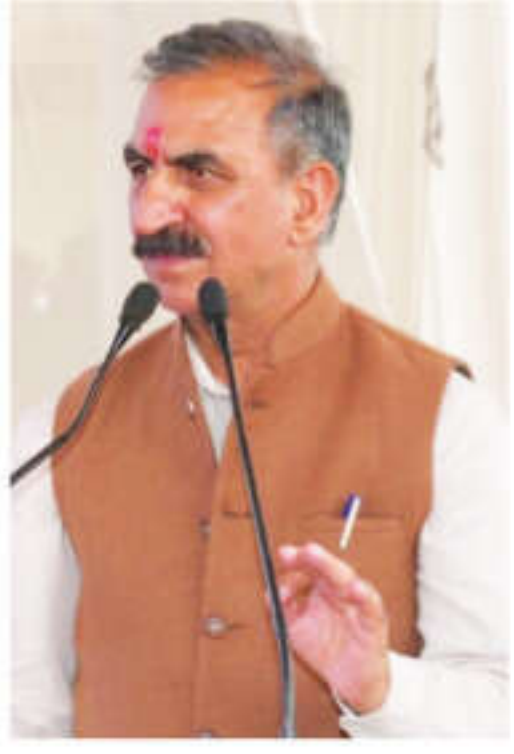
Himachal to continue providing cheaper power supply to industries as compared to neighbouring states: CM

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE SHIMLA, 25 SEPTEMBER

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Ssukhu has said that the state government is committed to formulating industry-friendly policies to promote investment in the state.

In a statement released here on Wednesday, Sukhu said that the state government has rationalized the electricity subsidies being provided to industries.

"Himachal Pradesh still supplies power at cheaper rates to the industries as compared to the neighbouring states. Large industries with supply voltage ranging from 33 KV to 220 KV will be offered electricity at rates which are cheaper than the neighbouring states of Punjab, Haryana and Uttarakhand by more than one rupee per unit," he said.



...bouring states of Punjab, Haryana and Uttarakhand by more than one rupee per unit," he said.

"This implies that industries in Himachal Pradesh still enjoy a comparative advantage to neighboring States. There are only 159 industries in the State with supply voltage ranging from 33 KV to 220 KV," he said.

In addition to the large industries with supply voltage ranging from 33 KV to 220 KV, there is another set of 2011 industries in the State with supply voltage of 11 KV and 22 KV, he said, adding that for these industries also the price advantage of more than rupees one continues in comparison to the neighbouring states.

For helping these industries, the government has in fact reduced the electricity duty from 16.5 percent to 10 percent, he stated.

He said that the state government is committed to the promotion of 31,298 small and medium industries in particular.

"Subsidy for these industries remains unchanged and the energy charges remain untouched," he said.

The Chief Minister said that the rationalisation of electricity subsidies will not harm the interests of industries and reaffirmed the government's commitment to fostering industrial growth.

"These industries provide employment directly and indirectly to thousands of youth of the state and we are determined to support their continued growth and the state is grateful for their contributions," said Sukhu.

I&B Minister Vaishnaw attends Swachhata Hi Seva, 2024 campaign in Delhi

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER



Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw took part in a series of events as part of the Swachhata Hi Seva, 2024 campaign at Sookhna Bhawan hosted by Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), emphasising the importance of cleanliness and environmental stewardship.

The minister administered oath to officers and staff of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting at Sookhna Bhawan where participants committed to promoting cleanliness and sustainable practices within their spheres of influence.

In continuation of the 'Ek Ped Maa ke Naam' campaign launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, a sapling plantation drive was also initiated by Ashwini Vaishnaw highlighting the dual objective of cleanliness and environmental conservation. He also distributed saplings to the employees and underlined individual responsibility towards the environment.

The Minister was accompanied by L. Murugan, Minister of State for Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Sanjay Jaju, Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Chairperson, Press Council of India, officers from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Media heads from other wings of M/o I&B and officers/officials in large number were also present during the events.

CSIR-NIScPR signs MoU with Gurugram University

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER

CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR) has signed an MoU with the Gurugram University at the NIScPR's Vigyan Sanchar Bhawan, Pusa Campus here.

This MoU will open up new windows for both the institutions

in the service of society. The key areas of this memorandum of understanding are science communication, STI policy research, traditional knowledge and many more. On the occasion of this MoU signing yesterday, the Director of CSIR-NIScPR and Vice Chancellor of Gurugram University shared their views about the significance and need of this MoU.

Rajesh Kumar Singh Roushan, Controller of Administration, CSIR-NIScPR and Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Registrar, Gurugram University signed and exchanged the MoU. Dr. Sarala Balachandran, Chairperson, Department of Chemistry; Dr. Dwivedi, Head, Nursing; and Dr. Rakesh Yogi, Chairperson, Media Studies, Gurugram University also joined the programme. CSIR-NIScPR has a seven

decades legacy of science communication and science policy research.

On November 13-14, CSIR-NIScPR in collaboration with Gurugram University is going to organise an International Conference on Communication and Dissemination of Traditional Knowledge (CDTK-2024). Last date for early bird registration for CDTK-2024 is September 30.

Delhi Mayor, MCD Commissioner direct waste management agencies to improve sanitation

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER

Delhi Mayor Dr Shelly Oberoi and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi Commissioner Ashwani Kumar on Wednesday chaired an important meeting with private waste management agencies and directed them to enhance the sanitation system across the city.

Dr Oberoi directed the private concessionaires to take immediate and effective steps for improving

door-to-door waste collection, increase auto tippers, and ensure proper maintenance of 'Dhalao Ghars' and waste collection points before the festivals.

The agencies were also asked to submit a detailed written report by Thursday to ensure accountability, and the said report shall outline how the sanitation services will be improved by October 10, an official statement said.

Waste management agencies have been asked to provide a comprehensive report on their available resources,

including manpower, the number of waste disposal equipment including auto tippers, and other machinery.

Additionally, the Mayor directed the civic body officials to finalize the routing process for auto tippers by October 10 to streamline waste collection process and ensure more efficient service across the city.

Oberoi emphasized the urgency of improving sanitation, particularly in the Central Zone, Civil Lines, West Zone, Shahdara North, and Shahdara South Zones.

After UP, HP directs food establishments and street vendors to display names of owners

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE SHIMLA, 25 SEPTEMBER

Close on the heels of UP, now Himachal Pradesh too has mandated the display of owner's name and identification outside the restaurants, fast food outlets, eateries and also by street vendors selling edible items.

Congress leader and Urban Development Minister Vikramaditya Singh, while talking to media, stated that this move

is aimed at ensuring food safety so as to provide people access to clean and hygienic food. He said a collective decision similar to UP was taken in a meeting of the Urban Development and Municipal Corporation held on Tuesday, and that the orders have been issued to that effect. The decision is the outcome from growing concerns of food safety and apprehensions of food contamination particularly in the light of alarming incidents

of especially harmful substances being reported that are dangerous to human health, he said.

The move is a replication of the UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath directions that underscores the need for enhancing public safety and stringent action against incidents of food adulteration. It also underlines the need for stricter inspections and amendments to the Food Safety and Standards Act.

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE COURT OF Sh. Hem Singh, District Judge-01, East District, Room No. 109, 1st Floor, New Building, Karkardooma Courts, Delhi PETITION UNDER SECTION 8 OF THE HINDU MINORITY AND GUARDIANSHIP ACT, 1956 SEEKING APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN FOR MINOR MASTER RAJEEV KUMAR NANGAL AND PERMISSION FOR SALE OF PROPERTY. In the matter: GP No. - 06/2024 Next Date of Hearing: 29-10-2024 SUKHWINDER KAUR Versus STATE (GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI) NOTICE TO: GENERAL PUBLIC Whereas the Petitioner Mrs. Sukhwinder Kaur W/o Late Mr. Kailash Kumar Nangal R/o A-8, Lovely Apartments, Mayur Vihar Phase-1 Extn., Delhi-110091 has filed the above petition for her appointment as the Guardian of the minor Child Namely Master Rajeev Kumar Nangal and to grant permission for sale of undivided share of 16.66% share of minor Child, namely Master Rajeev Kumar Nangal, in the said flat/Suit Property, ie, One Flat bearing No. A-8, Lovely Apartment, Mayur Vihar Phase-1 Extn., Delhi-110091, area measuring 69.55 sq. meters. This notice is hereby issued to the respondent regarding the institution of this petition. If any person has any objection to the grant of taking Legally Binding Decisions on Behalf of Subject Person, He/She should appear in the court on 29-10-2024 at 10:00 am, either in person or through an authorised agent

or lawyer for filing objections failing which the petition shall be decided in accordance with law. Given under my hand and seal of the Court, this 12-09-2024. District Judge-01, East District, New Building, Karkardooma Courts, Delhi Seal of the Court U/o S Rule 20 CPC IN THE COURT OF Yashvir Singh Rathor, District and Sessions Judge, Jind CNR No. : HRJNO1-006564-2019 Next Date: 21-10-2024 ANUP KUMAR YADAV Vs KHEM RAJ ETC. Claim Petition U/c S 166 of The Motor Vehicle Act, 1988 as amended up to date for grant of a compensation of Rs 20,00,000/- on account of injuries suffered by petitioner in a Motor PUBLICATION ISSUED TO: 1. Khem Raj son of Jagan Nath Meena R/o Village Partappura PS Sanwar, District Ajmer (Rajasthan) (Driver of Truck Trailer No. RJ-14GD-4400) 2. New Jai Shankar Transport Company, 35/15 Rajat Path Mansarovar, Jaipur- 302020 (Rajasthan) through its owner Sarjeet Singh S/o Mohan Lal Resident of Katrathal PS Dadiya District Sikar (Raj.). (Regd. Owner of Truck Trailer No. RJ-14GD-4400) In above titled case, the respondents could not be served in ordinary way. It is ordered that respondents should appear in person or through their representative on 21-10-2024 at 10:00 a.m. For details logon to https://highcourtdelhi.gov.in/r/sd=dist\_notice&district=jind District and Sessions Judge, Jind Seal of the Court

IN THE COURT OF Sh. Deepankar Mohan, District Judge-04, Shahdara District, Room No. 306, 3rd Floor, Karkardooma Courts, Delhi CS 657/2017 Next Date of Hearing: 04-10-2024 ASHOK KUMAR Vs MOHAN LAL & ORS. TO, VIJAYA BHALLA @ RANI (D 2(F)) D/O LT. KRISHAN MURARI, W/O SH. SANTOSH BHALLA, R/O B-29-62, DILSHAD GARDEN, DELHI-95 Whereas an application under Order 5 Rule 20 CPC has moved before me and you are hereby informed through this notice that you are hereby required to appear in person. Given under my hand and seal of the Court this 06-08-2024. District Judge-04, Shahdara District, Karkardooma Courts, Delhi Seal of the Court 5-7091

Regd. Office at : H-941 (A) RICO Industrial Area Bhiwadi, Rajasthan-301019 -Defendant WHEREAS you are intentionally evading service of summons it is hereby notified that if you shall not file your written reply within 30 days of this publication and not defend the case on the 29-11-2024 at 10:00 am fixed for the final disposal, it will be heard and determined ex-parte. Given under my hand and seal of the court this 12-09-2024. District Judge (Commercial Court), North, District Courts, Rohini, Delhi Seal of the Court 5-7092

J.(Civil)-12 PROCLAMATION REQUIRING ATTENDANCE OF DEFENDANT (Order 5, Rule 20 of the Code of Civil Procedure) IN THE COURT OF Ms. Ruchika Singla, District Judge-03, Room No. 311, 3rd Floor, (N/W), District Courts Bohni, Delhi Case No. - CS DJ-52/2024 ALOK SHARMA Vs CHARAN SINGH TO CHARAN SINGH, HOUSE NO. 250 VILLAGE SHAHPUR TAGA, SONEPAT HARYANA - 131001 Whereas you are intentionally evading service of summons it is hereby notified that if you shall not defend the case on dt - 05-11-2024 the day fixed for the final disposal, it will be heard and determined ex-parte. Given under my hand & seal of the court on this 23-09-2024 District Judge-03, (N/W), District Courts Rohini, Delhi Seal of the Court 5-7094

IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI (ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION) I.A. 24287/2023 & I.A. 24288/2023 IN ARB. P. 160/2020 YOKOHAMA INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED -Petitioner Versus SHRI SHYAM LAL VERMA -Respondent To RESPONDENT: SHRI SHYAM LAL VERMA SON OF SHRI M. L. VERMA, RESIDENT OF 89, GROUND FLOOR, AMBIKA VIHAR, PASCHIM VIHAR, NEW DELHI-110087 ALSO AT: C-38, HARISHANKAR PURAM, GWALIOR-474001, MADHYA PRADESH ALSO AT: 190, VIJAY NAGAR EXTENSION, GWALIOR-474009, MADHYA PRADESH ALSO AT: 108, 2ND FLOOR, SANGAM APARTMENT, PASCHIM VIHAR, NEW DELHI-110087 ALSO AT: 178, VIJAY NAGAR, GWALIOR-474002, MADHYA PRADESH EMAIL : 2975ilverma376@gmail.com WHEREAS the above named Petitioner has filed I.A. 24287/2023 & I.A. 24288/2023. Whereas, this Court issued notice to you, the above named Respondent. AND WHEREAS it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Court that it is not possible to serve you in the ordinary way, therefore, this notice is given by publication directing you to make appearance before Ld. Joint Registrar (Judicial) of this Hon'ble Court on 22-10-2024 at 11:00 A.M. to defend the above mentioned petition. Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day mentioned above, the Petition will be heard and determined in your absence. Given under my hand and seal of the Court in terms of order dated 06th day of August, 2024. Assistant Registrar (O) for Registrar General my Seal of the Court 5-7097

IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI (ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION) I.A. 24273/2023 & I.A. 24274/2023 IN ARB. P. 161/2020 YOKOHAMA INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED -Petitioner Versus SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SHUKLA -Respondent To RESPONDENT: SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SHUKLA, 2ND FLOOR, PLOT NO. 732, SECTOR-49, SAINIK COLONY, FARIDABAD-121001, HARYANA ALSO AT : FLAT NO. 706, TOWER A/12, SUPER TECH ECO VILLAGE-II, SECTOR 16-B, NOIDA EXTENSION, GREATER NOIDA, GAUTAM BUDDH NAGAR, U.P.-201301 MOBILE: 9871429429 WHEREAS the above named Petitioner has filed I. A. 24273/2023 & I.A. 24274/2023. Whereas, this Court issued notice to you, the above named Respondent. AND WHEREAS it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Court that it is not possible to serve you in the ordinary way, therefore, this notice is given by publication directing you to make appearance before Ld. Joint Registrar (Judicial) of this Hon'ble Court on 22-10-2024 at 11:00 A.M. to defend the above mentioned petition. Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day mentioned above, the Petition will be heard and determined in your absence. Given under my hand and seal of the Court in terms of order dated 06th day of August, 2024. Assistant Registrar (O) for Registrar General my Seal of the Court 5-7098

Section 276 of the Indian Succession Act, 1925 for the grant of Probate/Letters of Administration to the petitioner in respect of the movable and immovable property of the estate of Late Kalindi Dhondu Yeram. Notice is hereby given to the general public that any person having objection to the Grant of Letter of Administration/Probate in his favour in respect of the estate of the deceased particularly, S. No. : Bank Name : Nature Accounts : Account No. : 1. Punjab National Bank, Nangloi Branch, Savings Accounts, 0530000100136632, 0530000300213209 and 307300101453199 2. Punjab National Bank, Nangloi Branch, FDR Account, 0530000A0001965 may file the same in the court personally or through counsel on or before the next date of hearing 15-10-2024. Given under my hand and seal of the court on the 21st day of September 2024. District Judge-02 & Waqf Tribunal (NDD), Main Building, Patiala House Court, New Delhi Seal of the Court 5-7098

IN THE COURT OF Ms. Medha Arya, Administration Civil Judge-Additional Rent Controller (Central), Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi IN THE COURT OF Sh. Sumit Dass, District Judge-02 & Waqf Tribunal (NDD), Room No. 22, Main Building, Patiala House Court, New Delhi PC No. : 1/2024 ND0H : 07-12-2024 ASHISH VASUDEV Vs STATE & ANR. Ashish Vasudev S/o Late Sh. Surendra Nath Vasudev, R/o 222-224, Double Storey, New Rajinder Nagar, Central, Delhi-110060 -Petitioner FOR SUCCESSION CERTIFICATE UNDER INDIAN SUCCESSION ACT, 1925 To, All Concerned Whereas in the above noted petition the applicant/petitioner has applied for Succession Certificate in the Hon'ble Court Under Section 372 of the Indian Succession Act, 1925 in respect of the debt and securities amount of Rs xxx. As per record to be standing in the name of Late Fateh Chand Vasudev deceased. Whereas the 07-12-2024 at 10' o'clock in the forenoon has been fixed for hearing or the application notice is hereby given to this concerned. Given under my hand and seal of the court on this 24-09-2024. Administration Civil Judge-cum-Additional Rent Controller (Central), Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi Seal of the Court 5-7100

South-East District, Saket Court Complex, New Delhi Case No. : CS (COMM)/316/2024 BANK OF BARODA -Plaintiff Vs POOJA DEVI PROPRIETOR OF M/S ANSIKA ENTERPRISES -Defendant To, M/S POOJA DEVI PROPRIETOR OF M/S ANSIKA ENTERPRISES, HAVING RESIDENCE ADDRESS : F/176, BLOCK-F, FIRST FLOOR, AALI VIHAR, SARITA VIHAR, NEW DELHI-110076 TEL No. : 011-41541107 CELL No. : 9643738861 / 7701971358 Email id : ansikaenterprises2019@gmail.com Also at : OFFICE ADDRESS : GF-17A, DEVIKA TOWER-16, NEHRU PLACE, NEW DELHI-110019 WHEREAS you are intentionally evading service of summons it is hereby notified that if you shall not defend the case on the 14th day of October 2024 the day fixed for the final disposal, it will be heard and determined ex-parte. Given under my hand and seal of the Court, this 02nd day of September, 2024. District Judge (Commercial Court)-01, Block-I, South-East District, Saket Court Complex, New Delhi Seal of the Court 5-7095

The Statesman

KOLKATA Statesman House, 4, Chowringhee Square Kolkata-700 001 Mob : 7980388433, 9830045650 Email: delhistatesman@gmail.com statesmandisplay@gmail.com thestatesmanclassified@gmail.com DELHI Statesman House, 148, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi-110 001 Tel : (011) 2331 5911, 43043793 delhistatesman@gmail.com Hiten Rathore hiten.statesman@gmail.com Mob : 9212192123 BHUBANESWAR Plot 3A, Zone B, Sector A, Mancheswar Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010. Mob : 09438838880 statesmanbbsr@gmail.com delhistatesman@gmail.com SILIGURI Spencer Plaza, 18/19, 1st Floor, Burdwan Road Above Vishal Mega Mart Siliguri-734005, West Bengal Ph. : 9832082429 sil\_statesman@yahoo.co.in delhistatesman@gmail.com HYDERABAD The Statesman Limited, 2nd Floor, UNI Building, A.C. Guards, Hyderabad-500004, Mob : 9866323009, 9212192123 Email: delhistatesman@gmail.com hyderabad@thestatesmangroup.com MUMBAI 5, Kasturi Buildings, Jamshejdi Tata Road, Mumbai-400 020 Mob : 9892810138, 9212192123 Tel : (022) 35775450, Email: delhistatesman@gmail.com mumbai@thestatesmangroup.com LUCKNOW 2/2, Butler Palace (Near Jopling Road), Lucknow-226 001, Mob : 9212192123, Email : delhistatesman@gmail.com RANCHI 11/C, Road#1, Ashoknagar, Ranchi - 834 002, Mob : 9835115742, 9212192123 Email: delhistatesman@gmail.com ranchi@thestatesmangroup.com

AIR-SURCHARGE: Kathmandu - Re. 2, Eastern Region - Re. 1 All other stations in India - Re. 1

Classified section containing various legal notices, advertisements, and public information. Includes notices from the High Court of Delhi, District Courts, and various agencies. Also contains a 'CHANGE OF NAME' notice and a 'LOST & FOUND' notice.





THURSDAY  
26 SEPTEMBER 2024

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P9



**MP KANGANA RANAUT  
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REMARK ON FARM LAWS**

P4



**'J&K ON CUSP  
OF CHANGE'**

P5



**RISHABH PANT  
BACK IN TOP-10 OF  
TEST RANKINGS**

P12

SENSEX 85,169.87 ▲255.83

NIFTY 26,004.15 ▲63.75

₹ vs \$ 83.60

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SILVER 99,990

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TEMPERATURE

Max: 37.3 °C (+3) Min: 26.8 °C (+3)

SUN RISES 06:12 hrs SUN SETS 18:13 hrs

MOON RISES 01:04 hrs MOON SETS 14:43 hrs

**THUMBNAILS**



Leopards seen inside their enclosure at a zoo in Surat. ■ ANI

**TMC's Basirhat MP Nurul Islam passes away after battle with cancer: Trinamul Congress MP from Basirhat, Haji Sheikh Nurul Islam passed away on Wednesday morning. He is survived by his wife and children. He was 61 years old and suffering from liver cancer for quite some time. He was sick when he was given the Lok Sabha ticket and assured that Party's chairperson that he was fine and would contest in the poll.**

## Cong entrenched in corruption: PM Modi

Says lands of farmers were looted and state was handed over to 'dalals'

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER

Prime Minister Narendra Modi Wednesday launched a scathing attack on the Congress and said the "royal" family of the party is the country's most corrupt family and it was under Congress rule corruption took roots in the government system and gained strength.

Addressing an election rally in Sonapat, Haryana, he said people in Haryana cannot forget how the State was "looted" when the Congress ruled the State. "Lands of the farmers were looted, and the State was handed over to dalals (middlemen) and dandaads (sons-in-law)," he said.

When the top leadership is corrupt, cadres below get an easy license to loot, the Prime Minister said.

Drawing attention to Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's alleged role in the MUDA (Mysuru Urban Development Authority) scam, the Prime



Minister said that the Congress is completely entrenched in corruption.

He said: "It has only been two years, and just look at the Congress government in Karnataka. The Chief Minister is facing accusations of a land scam. When he appeared in the High Court, his plea was dismissed." Ten years ago when Haryana was ruled by the Congress, no job could be secured without cheating, and there was no organization free of corruption, the Prime Minister said. It is well known that wherever the Congress took control, corruption and nepotism followed.

The Congress always

rights. Whenever Congress has been in the government, it has snatched the rights of Dalits and backward classes," the Prime Minister said.

Mr Modi said the BJP has been in power in Haryana for the last 10 years, and no one has heard of any corruption charges against the BJP government. The BJP has put an end to all corruption in government interface with the public, he said.

"The BJP government in Haryana has decided to give MSP for 24 crops, but when the Congress was here, it hated to buy crops on MSP. This is the truth of the Congress party which the farmers need to learn. The BJP government continuously taking decisions in the interests of the farmers," the Prime Minister said.

He also reflected on economic development and infrastructure development in the state, highlighting better connectivity and construction of highways. Today products of the state are reaching different parts of the world, he said.

## 'Cong-NC coalition will give top priority to economic uplift, job creation in J&K'

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, 25 SEPTEMBER

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday said that a Congress-National Conference government will give top priority to economic uplift and job creation in Jammu and Kashmir.

Mr Gandhi, who interacted with more than 300 business owners and professionals here, promised that a Congress-NC alliance government would boost the business environment and reduce tax harassment. He provided a platform for open dialogue on challenges faced by them in J&K.

The Congress leader said that the coalition government would take export initiatives and improve access to capital for the micro, small and medium enterprises.

Later, Mr Gandhi addressed election rallies in Jammu and Sopore in North Kashmir. Targeting the BJP-led government at the centre, the Congress leader said that the INDIA alliance will use its full force within the Parliament and even hit the roads if the statehood to Jammu and Kashmir is not restored after the ongoing Assembly elections.

Addressing rallies in support of the party candidates whose constituencies will go to polls in the third and the final phase of the assembly election in J&K, Mr Gandhi said injustice



has been done with the people as Jammu and Kashmir was the first state that was downgraded into a Union Territory in the history of independent India.

He said splitting J&K into two UTs was a grave injustice with the people of Jammu and Kashmir. "It should have never happened and I guarantee you that if the BJP does not restore the statehood, we will use our full force in Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and even come on the streets for the restoration of statehood to J&K."

He alleged that the statehood was snatched from J&K to benefit "outsiders" through the Lt. Governor. "As long as the Lt. Governor is there, outsiders will benefit and the locals will be sidelined. This was the reason that statehood was snatched from J&K. They wanted J&K to be run by outsiders and not locals," he said.

Mr Gandhi said there was a systematic attack on small

and medium businesses in the rest of the country as well. "This government runs for Ambani and Adani. And the GST and demonetisation were weapons used to clear the road for them." He also criticised the government's 'Make in India' initiative, calling it 'make in Adani' programme, and claiming that all the contracts under the policy were being given to the Adani business conglomerate.

He accused the BJP government and the Lt. Governor of breaking the backbone of Jammu which was the central hub of Jammu and Kashmir, facilitating a smooth flow of the production chain from the Kashmir valley to the rest of the country.

He accused the BJP-RSS of spreading hatred across the country and added that "my" 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' aimed to convey the message to them that "if you can open the market of hate, we can open the shop of love".

## MUDA case: Special Court gives nod for probe by Lokayukta against CM Siddaramaiah

AGENCIES  
BENGALURU, 25 SEPTEMBER

In a major development, the Special Court for MLAs/MPs in Bengaluru on Wednesday gave the nod for an investigation against Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) scam case.

Judge Santhosh Gajanana Bhat passed the order and designated the Superintendent of Lokayukta, Mysuru district, to probe the case. The court has asked Mysuru Lokayukta to submit the report in three months, by 24 December. The court has stated that the case would be investigated under the provisions of 156 (3) of the CrPc. Snehamayi Krishna, one of the petitioners against CM Mr Siddaramaiah, had submitted a private complaint in the MUDA case with the court.

Following the order, an FIR will be lodged against CM Siddaramaiah and an



investigation will be launched. The investigation officer will have the power to question and arrest CM Siddaramaiah.

Snehamayi Krishna also had submitted a petition to the Governor, who gave his sanction for the prosecution of the chief minister. Karnataka High Court also upheld the order of the Governor. Mr Krishna on Wednesday submitted the order of the High Court to the Special Court. The inves-

tigating officer will now have the power to lodge an FIR against Mr Siddaramaiah, also take him into custody and arrest him. Laxmi Iyengar, senior counsel appearing for Snehamayi Krishna stated that this is the first step. The direction to Mysuru Lokayukta to register the FIR and proceed with the investigation has been given.

The Special Court for MLAs/MPs stated that the High Court has upheld Governor Thawarchand Gehlot's order to allow prosecution in the MUDA case. It also mentioned that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah should not hesitate for an investigation.

The court also mentioned the allegations by the petitioner against CM Siddaramaiah that he was in the positions of the CM, Dy CM and Leader of Opposition (LoP) when the key decisions were taken while the land allotment was made to his family.

## India-China ties key to Asia's future: Jaishankar

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has said that the India-China relationship is key to the future of Asia, adding the ties between these two neighbouring countries will not only influence the future of this continent but the entire world.

"Asia is very much at the cutting edge of change and within Asia India is part of leading that change," he said while addressing the Asia Society at the Asia Society Policy Institute in New York on Tuesday night.

"But that change is today stretching the fabric of the global order...I think the India-China relationship is key to the future of Asia. In a way, you can say if the world is to be multipolar, Asia has to be multipolar. And therefore, this relationship will influence not just the future of Asia but, in that way, perhaps the future of the world as well," he said. India, he said, has to prepare to rise amid volatility



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar in an engaging conversation at the Asia Society Policy Institute, in New York on Tuesday. ■ ANI

and unpredictability.

"India, which is rising, has to prepare to rise amidst volatility and unpredictability. Typically, when countries rise, when big powers rise, they hope for congenial circumstances," he added.

To describe today's world, Mr Jaishankar said, the word

"rebalancing" is an obvious choice and said that Asia played a key role in that process.

"Now when I speak about rebalancing, I think Asia has been very much key to that rebalancing when we talk. If one looks at, for example, at the last 20 economies

**"India, which is rising, has to prepare to rise amidst volatility and unpredictability. Typically, when countries rise, when big powers rise, they hope for congenial circumstances."**

of the world, there are many more Asian economies than there were a few decades ago. And even if one looks among the 20, the Asian ones have really risen much more strongly and impactfully. And among them, is India, which was a decade ago the 10th largest economy in the world, currently the 5th, likely to be the third by the end of the decade," he added.

The minister said the other world is "multipolar", as it is a consequence of the rebalancing as it overlaps and converges the international politics impacting the global architecture that was there during the initial years of the United Nations.

## Diplomats from 15 countries watch polling in Kashmir

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, 25 SEPTEMBER

Diplomats from 15 countries visited several polling booths in the Kashmir Valley Wednesday to witness the second phase of the assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

A high-level foreign delegation of diplomats from the USA, Mexico, Guyana, South Korea, Somalia, Panama, Singapore, Nigeria, Spain, South Africa, Norway, Tanzania, Rwanda, Algeria, and the Philippines flew to the Union Territory to observe the elections to the 90-member Legislative Assembly. The purpose of their visit is to "observe the polling process and assess how democracy is functioning on the ground," said an official. The diplomats visited a couple of polling booths in Srinagar and also in the Budgam district. (54.11 polling: Page 5)

## Bharat is unstoppable: PM Modi pens blog as 'Make in India' turns 10

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday hailed the completion of ten years of 'Make In India' initiative and said that the collective resolve of 140 crore Indians was transforming the nation into a manufacturing and innovation powerhouse.

Penning a blog on the milestones and landmarks achieved under the flagship scheme, PM Modi wrote: "The impact of Make in India shows that Bharat is unstoppable."

Mr Modi said that today was a moment to salute the country's vast talent pool for making the initiative a roaring success.

"Each of you is a pioneer, visionary and innovator, whose tireless efforts have fuelled the success of Make in India and thereby made our nation the focus of global attention as well as curiosity,"

he wrote. He further said that the initiative which was undertaken ten years ago is yielding big results, as is evident in the manufacturing sector and also in the country's big strides in the export sector. "The imprint of 'Make in India' has become visible across sectors, including areas where we never even dreamt of making an impact," he said.

PM Modi also cited some examples to explain the resounding success story of the Make in India initiative.

"Mobile manufacturing... we know how important mobile phones have now become, but what is startling is that in 2014, we had only two mobile manufacturing units in the entire country. Today, that number has risen to over 200. Our mobile exports have skyrocketed from a mere Rs 1,556 crore to an astounding Rs 1.2 lakh crore - a mind-boggling 7,500 per cent



increase! Today, 99 per cent of mobile phones used in India are Made in India. We've become the second-largest mobile manufacturer globally," PM Modi wrote, recalling the telecom revolution in the country in the past ten years.

Mr Modi further drew attention towards astronomical growth in sectors like energy and manufacturing.

"Look at Steel industry - We have become a net exporter of finished steel, with production increasing by over 50 per cent since 2014. Our semiconductor manufacturing sector has attracted investments worth over Rs 1.5 lakh crore, with five plants approved that will have a combined capacity of more than 7 crore chips per day. In renewable energy,

we are the 4th largest producer globally, with capacity increasing by 400 per cent in just a decade. Our electric vehicle industry, practically non-existent in 2014, is now worth \$3 billion," PM Modi wrote on his blog.

He further said that the defence production exports have soared from Rs 1,000 crore to Rs 21,000 crore, spanning across over 85 nations.

Mr Modi also took pride in the indigenous production of state-of-the-art trains, including Vande Bharat, and missiles like BrahMos and boasted about all of them having a 'Make In India' imprint. The Prime Minister further wrote: "Make in India initiative is special because it has given the poor the wings to dream big and aspire - it has given them the confidence that they can be wealth creators. Equally notable is the impact on the MSME sector."

He described Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes as one of the game-changers as it was enabling investments of thousands of crores and generating lakhs of jobs.

Mr Modi said that the country has emerged as a key player in the global supply chain and also boasted about the country's phenomenal Yuva Shakti as it is proving its mettle in the Start-Up industry, globally. The Prime Minister also called upon young Indians to come forward and join the Make In India initiative to take it to new heights. "The momentum is clearly in India's favour. Despite facing unprecedented challenges like the global pandemic, India has remained firmly on the growth track. Today, we are being seen as drivers of global growth. We all must strive for excellence. Zero defect should be our mantra," he said in a concluding note.

## India overtakes Japan to become third most powerful Asian nation

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER

India has overtaken Japan to become the third most powerful nation in Asia, as per the 2024 edition of Asia Power Index (API). According to it, India now stands third on the index after the USA and China.

Launched by Australia's Lowy Institute in 2018, the Asia Power Index is an annual measure of power dynamics in the Asia-Pacific region. It evaluates 27 countries across the Asia-Pacific, on eight parameters including military capability, defence networks, economic capability and relationships, diplomatic and cultural influence, resilience, and future resources.

In a press release issued here, the Ministry of Infor-



mation & Broadcasting said the current edition of the report offers one of the most comprehensive assessments of power distribution in the region to date. Timor-Leste has been included for the first time, reflecting its growing importance in Southeast Asia. Stating that even though India's "clout remains below the potential promised by its resources," the report said that the country has overtaken Japan to become the third-ranked power in Asia.



## THUMBNAILS



Union Minister JP Nadda pays tribute to Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya on his 107th birth anniversary at the BJP headquarters in the Capital on Wednesday.

**Trio held for duping people by impersonating Central agency staff:** Three people were arrested for duping people by impersonating officials of a Central agency by the Intelligence Fusion and Strategic Operations (IFSO) Unit of the Delhi Police, the police said on Wednesday. The accused, identified as Prabhath, Rajesh, and Arjun, were arrested following a complaint from a person who reported a loss of Rs 55 lakh in digital fraud. According to the police, on September 12, a complaint was received at the IFSO, a special call wherein the complainant stated that she received a call from a person who claimed to be an official from the Customs Department. He said a parcel belonging to her containing 16 fake passports, 58 ATM cards, and 40 grams of drugs, had been intercepted at Mumbai airport and an arrest warrant had been issued against her by the Mumbai Police. Elaborating further, she said the caller told her that a CBI investigation was underway against her.

**AWS enables NHA, GeM and public sector banks to accelerate digital services in India:** Amazon Web Services (AWS) India Private Limited on Wednesday announced that the National Health Authority (NHA), Government e Marketplace (GeM), and Public Sector Bank Alliance (PSBA) are adopting AWS technology to build innovative, scalable, and secure solutions to drive India's digital transformation journey. In addition, the PSBA—an umbrella organisation formed by 12 public sector banks—has empanelled AWS to offer flexible and optimised cloud computing services to India's public sector banks. The PSBA provides important customer-oriented services as envisaged in the government's Enhanced Access and Service Excellence (EASE) agenda. AWS shared these examples of supporting public sector customers in India at the AWS Empower India event held in New Delhi on Wednesday. The theme for this year's event is Viksit Bharat 2047, which represents the Indian government's vision to transform the nation into a developed entity by the centenary of its Independence (2047).

**Textiles, FMCG products account for about 90 per cent of illicit trade in India, finds FICCI CASCADE study:** The illicit market in textiles and apparel; packaged goods; personal and household care; alcohol; and tobacco has expanded faster in India and is undermining legitimate businesses, according to a report. As per the report, textiles and apparel accounted for over 50 per cent of the total illicit market in 2022-23. FMCG (Packaged foods) and FMCG (Personal and Household Care Goods) accounted for nearly 37 per cent of the total size of the illicit market. Industry body FICCI's Committee Against Smuggling and Counterfeiting Activities Destroying the Economy (CASCADE), in association with the Thought Arbitrage Research Institute (TARI), has launched a comprehensive report titled 'Consuming The Illicit: How Changing Factors of Consumption Affect Illicit Markets in 5 Key Industries' that pegs the size of illicit market in India at Rs 797.726 crore in 2022-23. Besides undermining the legitimate businesses, the report asserted that the illicit trade is distorting competition, and significantly eating into government tax revenues. The report attributed the burgeoning size of the illicit market to heightened consumption of high-value branded, luxury, high-end, taxed goods and services, especially among the expanding aspirational middle class, both in rural and urban India.

**Sobraniye 2024:** Rus Education has organised the grand pre-departure ceremony 'Sobraniye 2024, marking a significant milestone for Indian students embarking on their MBBS journey in Russia. The event held at Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi was a celebration of academic achievements and a heartfelt send-off for the students as they prepare to begin a new chapter in their lives. The event was graced by the presence of Mironchev Anton, Dean at Orenburg State Medical University, Olga Kroschkina, representative of the Russian House in New Delhi, Elena Barman, head of the education department at Russian House in New Delhi, and Nirmal Kumar Bhagat- Director at NITI Aayog.

# Delhi govt announces hike in minimum wages

## New rates to be applicable from October 1, says CM Atishi

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER

**A**head of the festive season, Delhi government has raised the minimum wages of workers in the city, with Chief Minister Atishi announcing new rates on Wednesday that are, Rs 18,066 for unskilled workers, Rs 19,929 for semi-skilled, and Rs 21,917 for skilled workers, an official statement said here.

The new rates for graduate workers will be Rs 23,836, and the increased rates will be applicable from October 1.

Highlighting that Delhi is at the top spot in wage rates nationwide, CM Atishi gave its credit to the ten years of AAP's governance under the leadership of Arvind Kejriwal.

She credited Kejriwal's leadership for improving the lives of the city's commoners, and promised that the progress will continue in the months to come.

Atishi stated her X handle:



PHOTO BY- SUBRATA DUTTA

"The Delhi government has once again decided to increase the minimum wage in Delhi. Delhi has the highest minimum wage in the entire country. With the new rates applicable from October 1, the minimum wage for unskilled workers has now increased to 18,066, semi-skilled workers to 19,929 and skilled workers to

21,917."

Addressing a press conference here, she said that Delhi has 24-hour electricity, the cheapest electricity in the country, excellent government schools, free tests and medicines in Mohalla Clinics and free bus travel for women, and now with this historic work, the city will have the highest

minimum wage as well, she added.

She further said, "The people who get minimum wages are from the poor class, they are laborers. To stop their exploitation, the Delhi government has worked to take the minimum wage to a historic level. BJP has always worked against the poor. When the Kejriwal government talked about increasing the minimum wage in Delhi in 2016-17, the BJP stopped it through its L-G."

"Arvind Kejriwal's government brought an order from the court and started increasing the minimum wage and put a provision in it that, just like the salary of government officers increases twice a year due to DA, it is necessary to increase the minimum wage twice a year," she added.

Meanwhile, Delhi Labor Minister Mukesh Ahlawat said that under the leadership of Kejriwal and CM Atishi, the government has increased the minimum wages of workers.

## House must discuss city issues: Delhi Cong chief



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER

A day before the commencement of the two day Assembly session, Delhi Congress president Devender Yadav on Wednesday demanded that the House should discuss issues concerning the national capital. Referring to the session, he said, "The two-day session of the Delhi Assembly, to be held on Thursday and Friday, being convened after a gap of one year, should be utilised

to discuss the problems affecting the people and the city by Chief Minister Atishi, and not to tell her 'mann ki baat' to glorify former chief minister Arvind Kejriwal." Yadav also demanded that the Chief Minister table the pending 11 Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) reports during the session.

"Atishi should table these 11 pending CAG reports in the Assembly, as directed by the Lieutenant Governor to discuss the findings of the CAG, which would expose the opaque financial dealings of the Kejriwal government, to bring on the public domain the misappropriation of funds," he said.

He further said, "The Assembly session should hold fruitful discussions to combat rising air pollution, carpeting of the broken roads, the matter of desilting of the drains and sewers, controlling price rise, improving the civic infrastructure, to take urgent measures to control vector-borne diseases like dengue and malaria, water shortage, inflated power bills and other such matters."

## LG Office directs CS to lay CAG reports in Assembly after apprising CM

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER

The Delhi lieutenant governor's office has written to Chief Secretary Dharmendra on Wednesday asking him to take up pending CAG reports with Chief Minister Atishi and present them in the Assembly during its September 26-27 session.

According to officials, the LG Secretariat has also written to the principal secretary (Finance) to ensure the laying of the 'Performance Audit Report of the CAG on Public Health Infrastructure and Management of Health Services relating to the GNCTD'.

A high officer's secretariat asked the concerned official to bring to the notice of the CM constitutional and statutory provisions of Article 151 of the Constitution, Section 48 of the GNCTD Act, and Regulation 210 of the Audit & Accounts Regulations, 2007, which provide for the mandatory

laying of the reports of the CAG by the Delhi government in the Assembly.

According to the LG office, as per constitutional and statutory provisions, the CAG has been forwarding its reports on the state finances and performance in various sectors related to governance in Delhi.

The CAG, while forwarding the audit reports, very categorically asked the Delhi government to submit the same to the LG under the relevant law for laying these reports before the Assembly, the LG office said. The communications regarding these reports have been forwarded by the LG office to the Delhi government's Finance Department for initiating the process for presenting the reports in the Assembly.

As of now, there are 12 such reports, pending since 2021, and the matter has been taken up by the LG with the Finance Department, Assembly Speaker, and the CM on various occasions.

## NSUI carries out march while ABVP focuses on women security as campaigning ends for DUSU polls on Sept 27

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER

As the campaigning ended on Wednesday for the September 27 Delhi University Students' Union (DUSU) polls, the National Students' Union of India (NSUI) carried out a march in the university campus while the Akhil Bharatiya Vidhyarthi Parishad (ABVP) alleged NSUI of forcefully entering a women's college with male supporters and compromising the security of female students.

To gather support for the candidates, NSUI organized a march led by its President, Varun Choudhary in the university campus emphasizing on the need of a strong leadership to voice the key student issues in front of the admin-

istration. "We are marching in support of our candidates, who represent the change that DU desperately needs and NSUI will ensure that once elected, all initiatives mentioned in our manifesto will be implemented," stated Choudhary.

During the march, he highlighted one of the key promises of the organization, which is to introduce 12-day menstrual leave for female students in the university. "Women's health is a priority for NSUI and we are committed to make sure that women students receive 12 days of menstrual leave, ensuring they are supported in both their academic and personal lives," he added.

Meanwhile, the ABVP alleged NSUI of forcefully entering into the Miranda

House College with male supporters and compromising on the security of the female students. In a statement, it alleged that the DUSU constitution allows only four students with the candidates during campaigning in female colleges of the university. However, the NSUI candidate entered the Miranda House College forcibly along with his male supporters which is a big compromise in the security of the female students and was against the rules.

In response to these allegations, NSUI in a statement stated, "Deviating from the issue and creating false stories is the reality of ABVP, our women manifesto is the answer to their allegations".

The ABVP on the last day of campaigning engaged

with students and highlighted their achievements of the last year panel including successful running of the University special buses, approval and initiation of the students' center and installation of sanitary pad vending machines in colleges across DU.

During the campaigning, ABVP Vice-President Candidate Bhanu Pratap Singh highlighted the organization's commitment to work for the holistic development of the student community. "Our Manifesto for DUSU reflects upon our commitment to the betterment of the students in DU and with a strong track record of success, we have stood victorious every time in DUSU. This year will not be any different," he added.

## Family feud leads to firing, 3 held in Dwarka

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER

Three people were arrested for firing upon a relative following a family feud in South-West Delhi's Dwarka area, Police said on Wednesday.

The incident occurred on September 18, when the police received a call at Police station Jaffarpur, Dwarka that firing had taken place.

Following the call, a team rushed to the spot and recovered an empty shell and the person injured in the incident was admitted to Rao Tularam Memorial Hospital.

The complainant told cops that a person named Chirag had fired upon him with the intention to kill him. He further said that both he and Chirag are distant relatives and both the families are involved in a conflict.

Based on the complaint, the police nabbed Chirag along with his two associates, Rohit and Deepak. The weapon along with a bullet which was used in the commission of the crime was also recovered from their possession, the police said.

## BJP will raise public issues in Delhi Assembly session: Vijender Gupta

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER

Leader of Opposition in Delhi Assembly Vijender Gupta on Wednesday said the BJP MLAs will raise issues concerning the people of the capital during the two-day Assembly session commencing Thursday.

Addressing a press conference at the state party office here, he said, "All the BJP MLAs will compel the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government to discuss the problems of Delhi's 20 million citizens and hold them accountable in the Assembly session starting tomorrow." He asserted the Opposition will take an aggressive stance against the state government over several burning issues in the capital.

Attacking the ruling dispensation, he said, "AAP government in Delhi has now turned into a 'corrupt' government. Its leaders who claim to be the most honest while traveling the world, have not spared any department from corruption in their 10 years of misrule."

Referring to deaths due to rain related incidents, Gupta claimed that some 50 people died during the monsoon rains but not a single minister from the government spoke up.

On alleged pending Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) reports, the Leader of Opposition said, Alleging that for the past five years, 11 reports from the CAG have been buried in files



and not presented in the House, he demanded that they should be now presented in the House.

Among other issues, while mentioning ration cards, Gupta said, "Under the Central government's 'Antyodaya Anna Yojana,' the AAP government has denied ration cards to 95,000 poor and marginalised people in Delhi, depriving them of 35 kg of free grain."

He alleged the state government is discriminating against his party MLAs by not providing the necessary funds for development work in their constituencies. CCTV cameras are being installed across the city, but not a single camera has been placed in the constituencies of BJP MLAs," he charged.

"The opposition wants to discuss all these issues and demand answers from the government, but it is unwilling to allow any discussion on them," Gupta said.

## AIIMS celebrates 69th Foundation Day



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER

All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi on Wednesday celebrated its 69th Foundation Day, marking nearly seven decades of commitment to medical education, research and healthcare service.

Founded in 1956, the premier institute was established to provide high-quality medical education and accessible healthcare. Over the years, it has grown into a leading institution, recognised globally for its contributions to medical science and public health.

Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Prataprao Ganpatrao Jadhav graced the occasion.

In his address, the Minister said the Delhi AIIMS is a pioneer in the field of medical education, research and healthcare in India whose legacy of excellence continues to inspire medical institutions worldwide.

He said the premier institute has achieved remarkable milestones and is determined to achieve its goal of being one of the top-ranked medical institutions in the world.

Highlighting that for the seventh consecutive year since the National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF), AIIMS Delhi has been ranked number one among medical institutions of India, Jadhav said, "This Institute's continuous unchallenged status is a remarkable achievement."

Citing that the AIIMS, Delhi now serves as the National Resource Centre of the National Medical College

Network (NMCN) of the Union Ministry of Health and Family welfare, he said, "This has enabled linkages with more than 100 medical colleges for enhancing undergraduate, postgraduate and continuing medical education. This objective is being facilitated by the creation of a National Learning Management and Information System, SAKSHYAM, which was launched last year."

Informing that the AIIMS Delhi has established a Centre of Excellence for development of artificial intelligence in healthcare, the Minister said, "This centre is expected to deliver AI based solutions for evaluation of chest x-rays, early detection of diabetic retinopathy, and identification of skin lesions, among other tools, for enhancing national programs."

He informed that the AIIMS is set to be the biggest robotic surgery skill training centre with two state-of-the-art robotic surgery equipment dedicated for training of surgeons.

Delhi AIIMS Director M Srinivas said, "AIIMS has already received NABH certification for some of its blocks and centers and is in the process of NABH certification of all the centers including the main hospital."

He also informed that the AIIMS has also been the forerunner in the implementation of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM).

"It has overcome various challenges and has been a role model for the country by creating more than 7 lakh ABHA IDs and more than 20 lakh scan and share tokens," added Srinivas.

## Rai unveils anti-pollution winter action plan for city

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER

Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai on Wednesday unveiled the state government's anti-pollution Winter Action Plan (WAP) with measures like air quality monitoring at hotspots through drones, a campaign to curb dust, new anti-pollution task forces, and other ways to combat the rise in pollution during the cold season.

Rai said for the first time pollution would be monitored by drones at hotspots while a six-member special task force would be formed to implement the anti-pollution measures.

He credited the ten historic



PHOTO BY- SUBRATA DUTTA

steps taken by the Delhi government for air pollution level in the national capital coming down by 34.6 per

cent. Beginning in November, mobile anti-smog guns will be deployed on roads in three

**'Free spraying of bio-decomposer will be conducted on over 5,000 acres of farmland in Delhi'**

shifts, Rai added.

As part of the plan, Odd-Even and artificial rain have been kept on standby as emergency measures, while work from home will be encouraged during the rise in pollution levels, the minister added. Rai informed that a letter has been written to the Union Environment Minister to convene a meeting of all relevant departments to discuss artificial rain.

According to the minister, 360 teams have been formed

to control pollution caused by vehicles, and will also monitor construction sites, while 588 teams will be formed to stop burning garbage in the open. "Advanced Green War Room will be created and the city's residents will also be able to complain on the Green Delhi App," he added.

Declaring that Delhi is fully prepared to tackle the winter pollution, he said this time, free spraying of bio-decomposer will be conducted on over 5,000 acres of farmland in Delhi.

According to the minister, all construction sites over 500 square meters must be registered on the Dust Control web portal for monitoring by the government, and for

the implementation of the 14-point Dust Control rules, 523 teams will regularly inspect these sites.

Traffic Police teams will be deployed on 134 congested roads to reduce congestion, and alternate routes will be suggested to the public.

The minister said all 1,959 registered industrial units in Delhi are now powered by piped natural gas (PNG), and as per plan, 58 teams will inspect these units to ensure they are not using unauthorised and polluting fuels.

A Real-Time Source Apportionment Study regarding pollution will be conducted under the supervision of the DPCC to identify pollution sources in real-time, the minister added.



THUMBNAILS

**Justice Suresh Kait new Chief Justice of MP High Court:** Justice Suresh Kumar Kait took oath on Wednesday, as the new Chief Justice of the Madhya Pradesh High Court. The state Governor Mangubhai Patel administered the oath to the Chief Justice at the swearing-in ceremony organised at the Raj Bhavan here. Justice Kait is the 28th Chief Justice of MP High Court. He was a justice in the Delhi High Court before President Droupadi Murmu issued the notification appointing him the new Chief Justice of MP. The Chief Minister Dr Mohan Yadav was among others also present on the occasion. Both the Governor and CM greeted and wished the newly appointed Chief Justice by presenting him with a bouquet of flowers after the swearing-in ceremony.

**JP Nadda's Odisha visit to accelerate membership drive today:** BJP President Jagat Prakash Nadda is scheduled to reach Bhubaneswar on a one-day visit to Odisha on Thursday. The party's general secretary Jatin Mohanty told the media persons here on Wednesday that Nadda is likely to reach Bhubaneswar at 10.30 a.m. on Thursday. He will participate in different party programmes before leaving for New Delhi in the afternoon.

# 54.11 pc voting recorded in 2nd phase of J&K polls

The turnout of voters was higher in the Jammu region than Kashmir valley



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, 25 SEPTEMBER

Assembly constituencies along the Line of Control (LOC) in the Jammu region recorded brisk polling on Wednesday with 54.11% voting recorded across the 26 assembly seats of Jammu and Kashmir where elections were held in the second phase.

Chief Electoral Officer PK Pole said the elections passed off peacefully with no major untoward incident reported from anywhere. The district-wise polling percentage was Budgam 58.97%, Ganderbal 58.81%, Poonch

71.59%, Rajouri 68.22%, Reasi 71.81% and Srinagar 27.37%.

The turnout of voters was higher in the Jammu region than what was witnessed in the Kashmir valley.

Long queues of men and women were seen at the polling booths across the Union Territory (UT) since early morning when polling started at 7 am.

Two constituencies, Ganderbal and Budgam, from where the former chief minister Omar Abdullah is contesting, recorded 53.44% and 47.18% polling respectively. Omar accompanied his father and NC chief Dr. Farooq Abdullah to cast his vote early in the morning in

the Burn Hall School in Srinagar.

After a slow start in the morning, polling picked up in all constituencies in the Kashmir valley as the day advanced.

The newly created Shri Mata Vaishnodevi constituency recorded the highest polling of 75.29%.

The constituencies along the LOC in the Jammu region, Mendhar (ST), Poonch Haveli, and Surankote (ST) saw a 69.67%, 72.71%, and 72.18% turnout of voters respectively. The Gulabgarh (ST) constituency in the Reasi district recorded 72.19% polling till 5 pm.

However, polling in Sri-

nagar's downtown constituencies, Habbakadal and Khanyar was low at 15.8% and 24%, respectively.

The polling in the other constituencies of the Srinagar district was also low with 30.24% in Hazratbal, 30.44% in Lal Chowk, 26.95% in Chhanpora, 28.36% Zadibal, 34.65% in Eidgah and 29.09% in Central Shalteng.

Among the 239 candidates, Omar Abdullah (NC), Tariq Hameed Karra (Congress), Altaf Bukhari (Apni Party) and Ravinder Raina (BJP) are the key contestants.

Special polling stations were set up for Kashmiri migrants.

The polling began in all 3,502 booths at 7 am for the 2nd phase of General Elections to the J&K Legislative Assembly in 26 Assembly Constituencies (ACs) across six districts of Jammu & Kashmir including Ganderbal, Srinagar, and Budgam in Kashmir Division; and Reasi, Rajouri, and Poonch in Jammu Division.

In this phase, 25,78,099 lakh voters were eligible to cast their ballot, comprising 13,12,730 lakh male voters, 12,65,316 lakh female voters, and 53 third-gender voters.

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Wednesday said the Jammu and Kashmir is on the cusp of change, as the voting for the second phase of Assembly polls in the Union Territory gets underway.

He appealed to the people to come out in large numbers and exercise their franchise.

Kharge, who is also the Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha in a social media post wrote, "Jammu and Kashmir is on the cusp of change. Today, as the second phase of voting gets underway for 26 seats, I exhort the people of the Jammu and Kashmir to come out in large numbers to exercise their Democratic rights."

"When you press the voting button on the EVM, do think about how your decade was lost in betrayal. A state was downgraded to a Union Territory for the first time in history. There is widespread unemployment and rampant corruption, with land rights and social justice issues becoming prevalent," he said.

Stating that a vote for positive change will secure their future and guarantee unbridled welfare in the Union Territory, the Congress chief said, "One single vote will secure your Constitutional rights. I warmly welcome the



first time voters, who look forward to a better future."

Kharge asserted that these elections are a turning point for Jammu and Kashmir and called upon the people to use the power of Democracy to make that change happen.

Former Congress chief and Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi also appealed to people to exercise their democratic right.

In a post on X, he wrote, "My brothers and sisters of Jammu and Kashmir, today is the second phase of voting, come out in large numbers and vote for your rights, prosperity and blessings. Vote for INDIA."

Attacking the BJP, he said, "By snatching your statehood from you, the BJP government has insulted you and played with your constitutional rights. Your every vote to INDIA will break this circle of injustice created by BJP and

bring Jammu and Kashmir on the path of prosperity".

The National Conference (NC) and Congress sealed an agreement under which the NC is contesting on 51 seats and Congress on 32 constituencies in Jammu and Kashmir.

Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir is being held in three phases. The third phase of voting is scheduled to be held on 1st October. The counting of votes in Jammu and Kashmir will take place along with Haryana on 8th October. Notably, in December last, the Supreme Court had ordered the Commission to hold Assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir by 30th September, 2024, while pronouncing the judgement in the cases concerning the abrogation of Article 370.

This is the first Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir after the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019.

# 9-year-old brutally raped in MP, accused arrested



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE BHOPAL, 25 SEPTEMBER

A 36-year-old man allegedly raped a nine-year-old girl and left her severely injured before fleeing in the Porsa area of Morena district in Madhya Pradesh.

The police have arrested the accused, identified as Udayveer Gurjar, while the

child has been admitted in a serious condition for treatment at a hospital.

According to the police, the girl had gone to graze goats in the outskirts of her village and the accused had also come to the spot with his cattle on Monday evening. He took the child to a deserted spot and sexually brutalised her. He fled the spot after raping and injuring

her to a police station and lodged a complaint. From there, she was rushed to a hospital for treatment. According to Morena SP Sameer Saurabh, the accused has been arrested and the child admitted to the ICU of a hospital for treatment. MP Congress Chief Jitu Patwari on Wednesday accused CM Dr Mohan Yadav, who is also the state's home minister, of failing to ensure law and order, particularly the safety of women and girls in Madhya Pradesh. Patwari charged that "the CM was asleep and needs to be shaken out of his slumber".

The family members took her to a police station and lodged a complaint. From there, she was rushed to a hospital for treatment. According to Morena SP Sameer Saurabh, the accused has been arrested and the child admitted to the ICU of a hospital for treatment. MP Congress Chief Jitu Patwari on Wednesday accused CM Dr Mohan Yadav, who is also the state's home minister, of failing to ensure law and order, particularly the safety of women and girls in Madhya Pradesh. Patwari charged that "the CM was asleep and needs to be shaken out of his slumber".

# NCP-SP leader Anil Deshmukh accuses BJP of hiding Badlapur encounter facts from public

AGENCIES NAGPUR, 25 SEPTEMBER

The Maharashtra opposition parties continue to corner the state government over the encounter of Badlapur rape accused Akshay Shinde. Former Maharashtra Home Minister and NCP-SP leader Anil Deshmukh claimed on Wednesday that he had found out from police officers that it was difficult to operate a policeman's gun.

Akshay Shinde was being brought from Talaja Central Jail to the Thane Crime branch office under transit remand when he allegedly opened fire on the police after snatching their revolver near the Mumbra bypass, he was then killed in retaliatory fire by the cops.

Speaking to a news agency, Deshmukh said "I had inquired about how one can open fire using a policeman's gun. On inquiry, I found out that it is really difficult for a common man to open fire from a gun without having the technical knowledge and proper training. The whole matter is suspicious. The owner of the Badlapur school where the incident occurred is a BJP member. From the very first day, the BJP has been trying to save them."

Further, Deshmukh alleged that the police had failed to file an FIR in the matter of the sexual assault on the two minors for three days. "The public came to know about the matter but the victim's parents were made

to wait for three days before the FIR was filed, and then the CCTV camera footage of the school was missing. The day when the accused was being taken to the Badlapur Jail, the routes were changed. From the very first day, the matter has seemed suspicious. Who is the main accused, Akshay Shinde or the school owner? People are still confused. A proper inquiry needs to be taken to find out the accused." Deshmukh also said that the law passed by the Aghadi government during his tenure as the home minister that had a provision for the death penalty for rape accused and the provision of a fast track court to ensure a verdict in 21 days is pending in the court.

"It's difficult to believe... A layman cannot fire from a pistol as it needs strength. A weak person cannot do it as it's not as easy as a revolver. Prima facie there is foul play," said Justice Chavan.

The court asked the police why they were so negligent with an accused, if the pistol was already loaded, why it was unlocked, whether the accused (Shinde) was handcuffed, and also if the police were in uniforms or not. Justice Chavan said that as per the police version, he (Akshay Shinde) fired three bullets, but only one hit, whether it was a direct aim at the policeman or it ricocheted, and where did the other two bullets land?

The Bombay High Court on Wednesday came down heavily on the Thane Police for the September 23 'encounter' of Akshay A. Shinde -- the prime accused in the shocking rape case of two nursery school girls in Maharashtra's Badlapur town.

The tough observations, by a division bench comprising Justice Revati Mohite-Dere and Justice Prithviraj K. Chavan, came during a hearing of a petition filed by Anna Shinde through his lawyer Amit Katarnavare.

Among other things, Shinde has termed his son Akshay's killing as a fake encounter, demanding an SIT probe and related aspects of the Monday 'encounter', said Advocate Katarnavare.

During the hearing, the court and the appellant's lawyer asked some unnerving questions to the police and government lawyer, while posting the matter for the next hearing on October 3.

The court picked many holes in the police contentions of 'retaliatory firing' at Akshay Shinde in self-defence that led to his death near the Mumbra Bypass Road when he was being shifted from Talaja Jail (Raigad) to Badlapur (Thane). "It's difficult to believe... A layman cannot fire from a pistol as it needs strength. A weak person cannot do it as it's not as easy as a revolver. Prima facie there is foul play," said Justice Chavan.

**RJD, Cong MLAs slam officers for failing to tackle floods in Bihar's Bhagalpur:** The leaders of Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) and Congress criticised the officials of flood control and disaster management of Bhagalpur for inadequate measures to tackle the situation in the district. Aij Ashraf Siddiqui, RJD MLA from the Nathnagar constituency, claimed that 13 Gram Panchayats are completely submerged by floodwaters, affecting over 39,000 villagers. He expressed concern about severe soil erosion in the district, particularly in his constituency. "The local officials of flood control and disaster management are using cement bags filled with clay, which are ineffective in preventing erosion," Siddiqui said. Siddiqui stressed the need for Geo bags - special bags filled with sand that are used to combat soil erosion by stabilising riverbanks. He further noted that sand, crucial for the proper use of Geo bags, is not available in the district, casting doubt on any official claims that sand is being used in erosion prevention efforts. Aijit Sharma, Congress MLA from Bhagalpur, echoed similar views regarding the disaster management and flood control efforts in his district. He alleged that flood-prevention measures were inadequate, particularly in addressing soil erosion. "How officials claim to be combating soil erosion with sand-filled bags when sand is unavailable in the district. The officials are instead using bags filled with clay, which are ineffective in controlling erosion," Sharma said. He also condemned the district administration and flood control department for failing to take preventive measures, despite floods being a recurring issue in Bhagalpur. He specifically mentioned the absence of an anti-siltation drive, which is essential to clean the river.

# 'Prima facie there is foul play', Bombay High Court asks tough questions on Badlapur encounter

AGENCIES MUMBAI, 25 SEPTEMBER

The Bombay High Court on Wednesday came down heavily on the Thane Police for the September 23 'encounter' of Akshay A. Shinde -- the prime accused in the shocking rape case of two nursery school girls in Maharashtra's Badlapur town.

The tough observations, by a division bench comprising Justice Revati Mohite-Dere and Justice Prithviraj K. Chavan, came during a hearing of a petition filed by Anna Shinde through his lawyer Amit Katarnavare.

Among other things, Shinde has termed his son Akshay's killing as a fake encounter, demanding an SIT probe and related aspects of the Monday 'encounter', said Advocate Katarnavare.

During the hearing, the court and the appellant's lawyer asked some unnerving questions to the police and government lawyer, while posting the matter for the next hearing on October 3.

The court picked many holes in the police contentions of 'retaliatory firing' at Akshay Shinde in self-defence that led to his death near the Mumbra Bypass Road when he was being shifted from Talaja Jail (Raigad) to Badlapur (Thane). "It's difficult to believe... A layman cannot fire from a pistol as it needs strength. A weak person cannot do it as it's not as easy as a revolver. Prima facie there is foul play," said Justice Chavan.

The court asked the police why they were so negligent with an accused, if the pistol was already loaded, why it was unlocked, whether the accused (Shinde) was handcuffed, and also if the police were in uniforms or not. Justice Chavan said that as per the police version, he (Akshay Shinde) fired three bullets, but only one hit, whether it was a direct aim at the policeman or it ricocheted, and where did the other two bullets land?

The court asked the police why they were so negligent with an accused, if the pistol was already loaded, why it was unlocked, whether the accused (Shinde) was handcuffed, and also if the police were in uniforms or not. Justice Chavan said that as per the police version, he (Akshay Shinde) fired three bullets, but only one hit, whether it was a direct aim at the policeman or it ricocheted, and where did the other two bullets land?

**DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-I, DELHI**  
4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001

OA No. 348/2023

**PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK**  
Vs  
**MS ADITYA OVERSEAS AND ORS.**

To:  
(1) Ms Aditya Overseas (Through its Prop. Mrs. Madana Jain, D-Block, 105, 1st Floor, Barodia Tower, D-Block Prashant Vihar, New Delhi-110085) Also at: A-Block, Shubham Garden Complex, Murtal Road, Sonapat, Haryana 131001 Also at: Veersons Building Gohana Road, Sonapat Haryana 131001 Also at: Office No. 3, Door N. 20-08-18, Near Giel College Junction, HN-5 Road, Anakapalle, Distt. Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh 531002  
(2) Mrs. Vandana Jain W/o Mr. Atul Jain, R/o 22, Maltri Apartment, Sector-9, Rohini Delhi 110085 Also at: House No. 62, Sector-15, Sonapat Haryana 131001 Also at: D1002-1003, 10th Floor, White Lili, Village-Kumaspur, Sector-8, Sonapat, Haryana  
(3) Mr. Atul Jain Slo Sh. Mahavir Prasad Jain, R/o 22, Maltri Apartment, Sector-9, Rohini Delhi 110085 Also at: House No. 62, Sector-15, Sonapat Haryana 131001 Also at: D1002-1003, 10th Floor, White Lili, Village-Kumaspur, Sector-8, Sonapat, Haryana  
(4) Mrs. Shanta Jain W/o Sh. Mahavir Prasad Jain, R/o House No. 62, Sector-15, Sonapat, Haryana 131001

Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case for recovery of Rs. 5,87,66,567.87 (Rs. Five Crore Eighty Seven Lakh Sixty Six Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Seven and Eighty Seven Paise Only) against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance before Ld. Registrar on 27.01.2024 at 10:30 A.M. for further details kindly visit DRT website www.drttribunal.gov.in Phone Number: 011-23748473 Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence.

All the matters will be taken up through Video Conferencing and for that purpose:- All the Advocates/Litigants shall download the "Cisco Webex" application/Software; "Meeting ID" and "Password" for the next date of hearing qua cases to be taken by "Registrar/Recovery Officer-I" and "Recovery Officer-II" shall be available one day prior to the next date at DRT Official Portal i.e. "drt.gov.in" under the Public Notice Head. In any exigency qua that, the Advocates/Litigants can contact the concerned official at Ph. No. 011-23748473.

Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on this 11th Sept 2024.

By order of this Tribunal  
Assistant Registrar

Respondent may contact under mention Phone number for further enquiry.  
Ld. Registrar DRT-I, Phone No: 011-23748473, Email Id: drt1delhi-dfs@nic.in

**DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-I, DELHI**  
4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001

O.A. No. 851/2023

**BANK OF BARODA** ...Applicant  
Vs  
**MEENAKSHI GUPTA** ...Defendants

To:  
(1) Meenakshi Gupta Prop. Mis. Krishna Packaging And Machine, 199 Rajendra Nagar Industrial Area Sonapat UP 201007 Also at: Kharsa No. 1176, Krishna Nagar Baba Nagar, Meerut Road Srinagar Ghazipur UP 201003 Also at: E-225 A Gali No. 9, Near M.C.D. School, East Vinod Nagar Chilla Saroda Khadar Patarganj, Pratek Vihar, East Delhi 110081, Also at: 350, Rajender Nagar Industrial Area Mehra Nagar Ghazipur UP 201007 Also at: D-58 Gali No. 2, East Vinod Nagar Delhi 110081

Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case for recovery of Rs. 25,35,649.92 (Rupees Twenty Five Lakh Thirty Five Thousand Six Hundred Forty Nine and Ninety Two Paise only) against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance before Hon'ble PO on 04-02-2025 at 10:30 A.M. for further details kindly visit DRT website www.drttribunal.gov.in Phone No. 011-23748473. Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence.

All the matters will be taken up through Video Conferencing and for that purpose:- (i) All the Advocates/Litigants shall download the "Cisco Webex" application/Software; (ii) "Meeting ID" and "Password" for the next date of hearing qua cases to be taken by "Registrar/Recovery Officer-I and Recovery Officer-II" shall be available one day prior to the next date at DRT Official Portal i.e. "https://drt.gov.in" under the Public Notice Head.

(iii) In any exigency qua that, the Advocates/Litigants can contact the concerned official at Ph. No. 011-23748473. Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on this 20th Sept. 2024.

By order of this Tribunal  
Respondent may contact under mention phone number for further enquiry.  
Ld. Registrar, DRT-I, New Delhi Ph. No.: 011-23748473, Email: drt1delhi-dfs@nic.in

**DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-I, DELHI**  
4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001

O.A. No. 607/2023

**BANK OF BARODA** ...Applicant  
Vs  
**RAJESH KAPOOR AND ORS.** ...Defendants

To:  
(1) Rajesh Kapoor And Ans, R/o C-85, Gali No. 10, Basti Chinnot, Mullani Dhandra, Paharganj, Central Delhi 110055. Also at: R/o 9437, Gali No. 10, Mullani Dhandra, Paharganj, Central, Delhi-110055  
(2) Manju Kapoor W/o Rajesh Kapoor, R/o C-83, Gali No. 10, Basti Chinnot, Mullani Dhandra, Paharganj, Central, Delhi-110055, R/o 9437, Gali No. 10, Mullani Dhandra, Paharganj, Central, Delhi-110055

Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case for recovery of Rs. 29,86,000/- (Rupees Twenty Nine Lakh Eighty Six Thousand only) against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance before Ld. Registrar on 14-11-2024 at 10:30 A.M. for further details kindly visit DRT website www.drttribunal.gov.in Phone No. 011-23748473. Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence.

All the matters will be taken up through Video Conferencing and for that purpose:- (i) All the Advocates/Litigants shall download the "Cisco Webex" application/Software; (ii) "Meeting ID" and "Password" for the next date of hearing qua cases to be taken by "Registrar/Recovery Officer-I and Recovery Officer-II" shall be available one day prior to the next date at DRT Official Portal i.e. "https://drt.gov.in" under the Public Notice Head.

(iii) In any exigency qua that, the Advocates/Litigants can contact the concerned official at Ph. No. 011-23748473. Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on this 11th Sept. 2024.

By order of this Tribunal  
Respondent may contact under mention phone number for further enquiry.  
Ld. Registrar, DRT-I, New Delhi Ph. No.: 011-23748473, Email: drt1delhi-dfs@nic.in

**Community Forestry & Water Conservation Society - Manipur (CF&WCS-M)**

Forest Head Office, Sanjenthong, Imphal

**ADVERTISEMENT NO. 1/2024/CF&WCS-M**  
Imphal, the 23rd September 2024

No. 2/23/2022/CF&WCS-M(Rec)/Forest Applications are invited from Indian citizens to fill up 1 (One) post of Administrative Officer on contract basis from the open market or retired Central/State Government officer or on deputation with consolidated pay of Rs 80,000/- per month for implementation of the EAP "Community-based Sustainable Forest Management for Water Resource Conservation in Manipur" funded by the KfW Indo-German Financial Cooperation

Other details can be seen on the website of the State Forest Department, Manipur at [forest.manipurforest.gov.in](http://forest.manipurforest.gov.in)

The last date for submission of the application is 15th October 2024 (5.00 PM).

(L. Joykumar Singh)  
Project Director  
CF & WCS-Manipur

**BABA FARID UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, FARIDKOT**

**Admission Notice**  
Admission to MD/MS/PG Diploma/Six months training in Ultrasonography /DNB courses under NEET PG-2024

This is in reference to ONLINE MEETING held on 20.09.2024 with National Board of Examination (NBE) and Medical Counseling Committee (MCC), Govt. of India for admission to NEET PG-2024. Keeping in view the instructions given by NBE all the NEET PG aspirants are apprised that there would be single time registration of candidates for online counseling in State of Punjab and no further registration would be allowed for further rounds. The online portal for registration will open till 30.09.2024.

All the inservice PCMS candidates are informed to produce the NOC from the Secretary to Govt. of Punjab, Department of Health & Family Welfare up to 30.9.2024 positively for grant of incentive marks. The same must be sent to the university through email [pgadmissions@fuhis@gmail.com](mailto:pgadmissions@fuhis@gmail.com) and also upload on university online portal. The list of all the candidates including the PCMS candidates eligible for grant of incentive marks will be forwarded to NBE, New Delhi to prepare the merit list of the candidates under NEET PG-2024, as per the directions. University will not be in a position to consider any request for registration/ addition of incentive marks after this cutoff date.

Registrar

**Standard Chartered Bank**

**POSSESSION NOTICE**  
Appendix IV (Rule 8 (1)) of the SARFAESI Act (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, The undersigned being the authorized officer of Standard Chartered Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(1)(c) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 16.07.2024 calling upon the borrower/co-borrower **M.S. R S TRAVEL AND TOURS INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED / MR. KRISHAN KUMAR JAIN / MRS. NISHA JAIN** having Home Loan Number 52222135 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice of Rs. 34,459,510.56/- (Rupees Three Crore Four Lacs Five Nine Thousand Five Hundred Ten and Fifty Six Paise Only) within 60 days from the date of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that, the undersigned has taken **Symbolic Possession** of the property described herebelow in exercise of the 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 this **23rd day of September of the year 2024**.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of the time available, to redeem the secured assets. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Standard Chartered Bank for an amount of **Rs.34,459,510.56/- (Rupees Three Crore Four Lacs Five Nine Thousand Five Hundred Ten and Fifty Six Paise Only)** and interest thereon.

**Description of the Immovable Property:**  
ALL THAT PART AND PARCEL OF FREE HOLD PROPERTY BEARING NO. MP-105, SITUATED IN MP BLOCK, MAURVA ENCLAVE, PITAMPURA, DELHI-110034.

BOUNDED AS UNDER:  
ON THE NORTH BY: AS PER TITLE DEED  
ON THE SOUTH BY: AS PER TITLE DEED  
ON THE EAST BY: AS PER TITLE DEED  
ON THE WEST BY: AS PER TITLE DEED

Date: 23.09.2024  
Place: Delhi

Sd/-  
Authorized Officer  
Standard Chartered Bank



# The Statesman

Incorporating and directly descended from THE FRIEND OF INDIA - Founded 1818

## Business slows

India's business growth in September 2024 has slowed to a nine-month low, signalling potential challenges for the economy as demand cools and input costs rise. The Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), compiled by S&P Global, dropped to 59.3 from 60.7 in August, marking the slowest growth this year. While the numbers still reflect expansion, with the PMI above the 50-mark that separates growth from contraction, the decline points to a slight softening in economic activity. Both the manufacturing and services sectors followed similar trends in September, though the services sector saw a more pronounced dip, falling to 58.9 from August's 60.9. This is the sector's lowest point since November 2023, reflecting reduced momentum. Manufacturing, too, saw a slight decrease, cooling to an eight-month low of 56.7. This deceleration in both sectors highlights the impact of a softer rise in new business and orders, crucial indicators of domestic and international demand. One key factor in the slowdown has been the reluctance of companies to pass on rising input costs to customers. While businesses faced increasing costs for raw materials and electricity, they chose to absorb much of these hikes rather than significantly raising prices. This trend, while beneficial for consumers, puts pressure on company margins, especially in manufacturing, where firms are experiencing greater compression in profit margins.

While the slight easing in growth might raise concerns, it is important to note that the broader picture remains positive. India has enjoyed more than three years of uninterrupted expansion, and the current PMI levels are still well above the long-term average. This reflects resilience in the economy, even as it navigates rising costs and fluctuating demand. The slowdown in September's business growth is also likely to capture the attention of policymakers, particularly the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). With inflation uncertainty looming despite recent declines in price pressures, the central bank may tread cautiously in its upcoming policy meetings. The RBI will need to balance the risks of inflation with the need to support growth.

Any sharp rise in inflation due to sustained input cost pressures could force the bank to consider tightening monetary policy, which could further impact business growth. Despite the challenges, optimism remains high in the business community. Companies have continued hiring new staff, with employment growth in the services sector at its highest in two years. Manufacturing jobs also rose for the seventh consecutive month, though at a slightly slower pace. The on-going expansion in employment suggests that firms are confident about securing new business in the months ahead, underscoring a positive outlook for future growth. The current slowdown appears more like a recalibration than a serious downturn. However, the pressures of rising costs and softer demand will need careful management. Policymakers, businesses, and consumers alike will have to remain vigilant as the economy adjusts to these new challenges in the months ahead.

## Tighter controls

The recent remarks by France's new interior minister, Bruno Retailleau, signal a profound shift in the country's immigration policy, reflecting not only his party's agenda but also the broader socio-political landscape. With the ascendance of Ms Marine Le Pen's far-right National Rally (RN) following the recent legislative elections, the French government appears poised to adopt increasingly stringent immigration measures, catering to a public that has clearly expressed its desire for tougher policies. Mr Retailleau's intentions to bolster asylum restrictions, enhance deportations, and modify outdated EU immigration laws are more than just political posturing; they represent a response to a public sentiment that has grown weary of perceived immigration challenges.

The fact that the RN has gained such influence and power in shaping government policy is indicative of a significant shift in the French electorate's views. This aligns with a broader trend across Europe, where populist and far-right parties have gained traction by capitalising on fears surrounding immigration, national identity, and security. The new interior minister's assertion that France must "stop illegal entries" and "increase exits" resonates with a populace that is increasingly supportive of harsher immigration controls. Mr Retailleau's focus on regional prefects to expedite deportations and reduce regularisation efforts reveals prioritisation of punitive measures over compassionate solutions. This approach risks exacerbating societal divisions and fostering an environment of mistrust among communities, particularly against migrants who are often scapegoated for broader socio-economic challenges.

Moreover, the minister's call for collaboration with other European nations to enforce stricter immigration laws highlights a troubling willingness to sacrifice the principles of humanitarianism for political expediency. By aligning with countries that have already tightened their immigration policies, France risks undermining its historical commitment to being a sanctuary for those seeking refuge. The conversation around migration needs to shift from one of fear and exclusion to one that recognises the complexities of global displacement and the importance of shared responsibility among nations. Mr Retailleau's declaration that "the French too have given us their roadmap" implies a government willing to bend to the whims of populist sentiment, even if it contradicts France's foundational values of liberty, equality, and fraternity. The acknowledgment of the RN's pivotal role in the new coalition raises concerns about the normalisation of far-right ideologies within mainstream politics. This situation calls for vigilance, as it may further embolden extremist rhetoric and actions. As France embarks on this new chapter in its immigration policy, it is crucial for its leaders to remember the lessons of history. The path of exclusion and division has only led to greater societal turmoil and strife. Instead, a commitment to inclusive dialogue, mutual understanding, and comprehensive immigration reform must take precedence over mere populist appeasement. Only by doing so can France assert its legacy as a beacon of hope and tolerance in an increasingly polarised world.

# Jayadeva's Genius ~ II

Jayadeva's Gita Govinda is considered to be one of the finest examples of Sanskrit poetry and contains some of the sweetest lyrics ever written in any language. Within two-three centuries of the Jayadeva era, this masterpiece became highly popular throughout the sub-continent. It has been translated into all the major Indian and many European languages

From the historical, archaeological, lithographic and literary evidences and the Odissi dance and music traditions, it is fairly established that Jayadeva belonged to Odisha and was born in a Brahmin family in village Kenduli Sasan (formerly Kendu Bilva) in Prachi valley near the famous temple city of Puri.

The poet's parents were Bhojadeva and Vamadevi initiated in Vaishnavism. After childhood education at Kenduli Sasan, Jayadeva moved to Kurmapataka near Konark for further studies in Sanskrit literature and the Shastras.

Soon he became a member of the teaching faculty in the school at Kurmapataka where he composed *Gita Govinda* around the age of 20, which is supported by the fact that the earliest commentary on *Gita-Govinda* appeared in 1190 CE by Udayanacharya.

Later, he became an integral part of the Jagannath temple at Puri. He introduced a new dance and music form based on his *Gita Govinda* (which evolved into classical Odissi dance and music) and himself performed in the temple on a regular basis along with his Devadasi wife, Padmavati who herself was an accomplished dancer.

Jayadeva also institutionalized the system of Devadasi, a system of being offered to the Deity. This system was abolished during the British Raj.

While recent research throws considerable light on Jayadeva's early life and his umbilical association with the Jagannath temple, nothing is known about this great poet's post-temple life - his inheritors if any, date and place of his death and his final resting place.

Some people believe that after he finished his duties in Puri, he must have returned to his village, Kenduli Sasan where he finally settled down.

There are others who believe that he migrated to Vrindavan, the mecca of all the Vaishnava sects and died there.

According to folklore, at the invitation of the Raja and Queen of Kashi (Varanasi), Jayadeva along with his wife, Padmavati went to Kashi where they spent the last few years of their lives. In the absence of any contemporary memorial, any plaque or written document, this still remains a mystery.

The world knows Jayadeva as a solitary-literary-work celebrity for his *Gita-Govinda* epic poem.

But for a genius like Jayadeva, to rest with only one creation is simply unthinkable; he must have composed many more poems and songs, which might have been lost in an age when there was no paper, pen or printing technology and everything was generally written with great dexterity on materials like the palm leaves, bird-feather pens and charcoal ink, preservation of which for generations had been a herculean task.

That Jayadeva created many more things is proved by the fact



that a few poems written by him in archaic Odissi language have been published by the Odisha government.

Moreover, Jayadeva was instrumental in popularising the Hindu concept of Dasavatara, the ten incarnations of Lord Vishnu in another composition, *Dasa-kritikrike*.

In his version of Dasavatara, Jayadeva has made Buddha an avatar of Vishnu (ninth avatar) while Krishna is not incorporated because Krishna (Keshava) is the source of all incarnations and he incarnated himself as Buddha. Jayadeva also wrote *Piyusha Larari*, a Sanskrit Goshiti Rupaka based on the romantic love of Radha and Krishna, very similar to *Gita Govinda*.

While many Western scholars and a number India's Sanskrit Pundits including Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar and Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay criticized *Gita Govinda* for its profanities, others are enchanted with the beauty of the poems and interpreted the love songs as expressions of divine love. Kabiguru Rabindranath Tagore was also influenced by Jayadeva's poems as much as he admired Kalidasa, Bhavabhuti Vidyapati and Chandida. Irrespective of conflicting appreciations, it is universally accepted that *Gita Govinda* is one of the great masterpieces in world literature.

*Gita Govinda* became an instant success at the Jagannath temple where Jayadeva himself performed creating his own music

with different ragas and new talas and a dance form which later evolved into the famous Odissi classical dance.

The Maharisi or Devadasi were meticulously trained to perform along with him and one of the accomplished Devadasi danseuses became his wife. Both of them devoted their lives to the service of Lord Jagannath.

The musical poetry of *Gita Govinda* and the cult of Vaishnavism practiced by him swept Odisha and soon spread to Bengal, South India, Maharashtra and all over the sub-continent.

The structure of *Gita Govinda* is unique - it is divided into 12 Cantos (chapters) depicting twelve moods of Krishna. Each chapter is further sub-divided into 24 divisions called *Prabandhas*.

The *Prabandhas* contain couplets grouped into sets of eight known as *Ashtapadis* depicting eight moods of the heroine Radha, the Ashta Nayika. The lyrics (still in manuscripts of palm leaves) became so popular that they were translated in many Indian and Western languages.

It is not known when the original Sanskrit version saw the light in a printed book form although the first printing press in India was installed in 1556 in Saint Paul's College, Old Goa.

In 1806-07 one Babu Ram started a printing press in Kolkata for publication of Sanskrit books in Devnagari script and only thereafter, *Gita Govinda* could be published in Sanskrit in a book form.



**PARIMAL BRAHMA**  
The writer is a former Dy. Comptroller & Auditor General of India and a former Ombudsman of Reserve Bank of India. He is also a writer of several books and can be reached at brahmas@gmail.com

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

editor@thestatesman.com

## Verdict in Lanka

**SIR,** Apropos the editorial "Lanka's Challenge", published today, Sri Lanka's presidential election reinforced a global trend in which parties based on old frames of thinking are no longer acceptable to the public.

This is due to their inability to provide solutions to peoples everyday difficulties. Such an approach has gained traction in traditional thinking, and the interests of the 'economy' and the common man have begun to appear incompatible.

On the one hand, the economy develops or performs better, while the everyday existence of the average person deteriorates. Following the Aragayala (people's uprising) of 2022, Sri Lanka's ruling system appointed Ranil Wickremesinghe, the head of the party that won only one seat in the previous parliamentary election, as President.

Wickremesinghe attempted to solve the extraordinary economic crisis by finding sanctuary in the IMF. The Wickremesinghe govern-

ment accepted the IMF's tough requirements and obtained a loan from them. This eliminated all subsidies, including those for food and electricity. The tax burden on the middle class and the average man has increased.

As a result, most people are said to be poorer than in 2022. Given Wickremesinghe's high unpopularity, the traditional forces backed opposition leader Sajitha Premadasa in the presidential election. Premadasa positioned himself as a savior without proposing any alternative policies.

Meanwhile, more than 20 organisations banded together to form the National People's Power (NPP), which was led by the Marxist party Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP).

Breaking from the norm, the NPP presented voters with an alternative strategy that included ordinary people-centric economic ideas. Anura Kumara Disanayake, 56, the charismatic head of the JVP and an NPP candidate, has been elected President

of the country. Wickremesinghe was widely hailed in the international media for getting the 'economy' back on track.

However, the people of Sri Lanka have rejected him harshly. He could not even receive 20 per cent of the vote. Premadasa, on the other side, received only about 30 per cent of the vote.

Yours, etc., Abhijit Roy, Jamshedpur, 24 September.

### THIRST FOR CHANGE

**SIR,** With reference to your editorial, "Lanka's challenge" published today, the urge for change is palpable across geographies. Sri Lanka is the latest to ride the wagon. It was Bangladesh the other day and Pakistan is unable to put down Imran Khan's movement. Democracy has ever remained intangible in the saga of civilised human socio-political intercourse. It was dispensed as a concession under feudalism, socialism saw it as an obligation. Even as capitalism construed it as a license to generate wealth, communism took to address the inequality that followed it. Western nations seemed no longer enthusiastic on right-wing politics even

Till then, Jayadeva's *Gita Govinda* was confined to manuscripts written on palm leaves, paintings (patachitras) and later in handmade paper.

Interestingly, Odisha has a long tradition of writing manuscripts of *Gita Govinda* in different forms and shapes and illustrated using palm leaves, bamboo leaves, ivory and handmade paper.

In the archives of Odisha State Museum exists an astonishing number of various versions of *Gita Govinda* manuscripts numbering two hundred and ten - twenty-one illustrated, one hundred and eighty non-illustrated and nine manuscripts of different shapes like garland, fish and dagger. Eighteen different commentaries authored by medieval writers have also been preserved in the museum.

Jayadeva's *Gita Govinda* is considered to be one of the finest examples of Sanskrit poetry and contains some of the sweetest lyrics ever written in any language. Within two-three centuries of the Jayadeva era, this masterpiece became highly popular throughout the sub-continent.

It has been translated in all the major Indian and many European languages. It was Sir Williams Jones, the great connoisseur of Indian culture and literature, who translated Kalidasa's *Abhijnana Sakuntalam*, who also translated *Gita Govinda* into English in 1792 followed by a German version by F. H. van Dalberg (which Goethe read) based on Jones' translation.

German poet, Friedrich Ruckart completed a verse version during 1829-1837 based on the edited Sanskrit and Latin translations of C. Lassen. Guimet museum in Paris houses a manuscript in Devanagari script, in superbly decorated folios, telling the love story of Krishna and Radha.

In addition to a large number of commentaries on it, *Gita Govinda* has been translated into English by a number of eminent people. Notable among the translators are Edwin Arnold, George Keyl, Harold Peiris, S. Lakshminarasimha Sastri, Barbara Stoler Miller, and Lee Siegel.

The genius of Jayadeva should not be judged only by his beautiful epic of *Gita Govinda*. He had a lasting contribution to Indian culture and society.

He is the creator and originator of what is known as the classical Odissi dance and music. He was an integral part of the Jagannath temple and his efforts made it the fountain head of Odissi culture.

His cult of Vaishnavism based on the divine love of Radha-Krishna swept Orissa, Bengal, Andhra, Maharashtra and the whole of the subcontinent.

Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu was himself greatly influenced by him. In away, he is the precursor of the great Bhakti movement spearheaded by Guru Nanak, Sant Kabir and Sri Chaitanya three hundred years later - a kind of renaissance of love.

(Concluded)

A MEMBER OF THE ANN ASIA NEWS NETWORK

## ASIAN VOICES

### WHO support for health sector needs in the aftermath of Typhoon Yagi

On behalf of WHO Viet Nam, I (Dr Angela Pratt, the World Health Organisation's Representative to Viet Nam), would like to first express WHO's deepest sympathies for those who have lost loved ones during the typhoon and in its aftermath. Our thoughts also continue to be with those that have family members still missing and the many people that are facing great hardship caused by the destruction of Typhoon Yagi. Communities right across northern Viet Nam have been devastated by the strongest storm to hit Viet Nam in three decades, with more than 330 people killed or still missing, hundreds more injured and thousands displaced.

The typhoon also damaged 130,000 homes and over 550 health care facilities. In many places, the storm has disrupted essential water supplies to many households and health care facilities, with floods, landslides, strong winds and falling trees damaging water and electricity infrastructure that could take weeks or even longer to be repaired. Over the past two weeks, WHO has been supporting the Government health sector response, including through participating in joint assessment teams deployed in coordination with Government, other UN agencies and partners, to understand the extent of damage and assess needs, to ensure targeted assistance is made available. Health care facility infrastructure and equipment, including water supplies and stocks of basic medicines, has

## Việt Nam News

www.vietnamnews.com

been extensively damaged or destroyed in the areas hardest hit by the typhoon, severely affecting the provision of essential health services in some areas. In addition, with floods and landslides affecting many areas (and more heavy rain due to come soon), there is an increased risk of disease outbreaks from food and water-borne diseases in these areas. To help support health care services to resume basic service delivery, as well as prepare for and respond to any disease outbreaks which emerge, typhoon-affected areas need support for restoring supplies of clean water, essential medicines, vaccines, and medical equipment. The mental health impacts of the typhoon and its aftermath are also significant. In the coming weeks and months, affected communities will need psychosocial support services. In response, WHO, in close collaboration with other UN agencies and partners, is supporting Government and local authority response efforts, with a three-phased response approach to address immediate, short/medium term and longer-term needs: Immediate and urgent: ensure access to clean water (and electricity) for affected health care facilities and support the restoration of essential health services.

Short/medium term: monitor and make best efforts to prevent and if needed, respond to disease outbreaks, ensure availability of essential medicines and equipment to resume and maintain essential healthcare services, including chronic disease management and routine immunisation.

Longer term: 'build back better', by supporting the rebuilding of health care infrastructure with a focus on strengthening resilience, so that health care facilities are better able to withstand climate shocks and extreme weather events in the future.

Typhoon Yagi delivered extremely heavy rainfall, contributing to flood levels in some areas, exceeding historical peaks. Floods that destroyed lives and livelihoods, are now threatening health with stagnating and contaminated water posing a risk of infectious diseases such as acute diarrhoea, dysentery and typhoid.

### SYSTEM FAILS

**SIR,** Adulteration of food items has become a widespread and troubling issue, compromising both consumer safety and trust. The recent Laddu adulteration case at the Tirupati temple exemplifies this problem in a particularly distressing way. The Tirupati Laddu, a sacred offering with deep spiritual and cultural significance, was found to be adulterated, raising concerns about the safety and purity of even religious prasad. Such incidents reveal a broader systemic failure in food safety regulations, where profit motives override ethical considerations. Beyond violating public health standards, adulteration in this context also breaches the trust of millions of devotees, making the issue not just a legal or health concern but a deeply emotional and moral one. This case highlights the urgent need for stricter quality control, especially in contexts where food carries symbolic and religious importance.

Yours, etc., Narayanan Kizhmundayur, Thrissur, 23 September.

as runaway inflation roused the lesser privileged to a perceptible shift to Leftist leanings, be it in Latin America, Southeast Asia or the Indian sub continent. Sweden, Denmark and Finland have given the Nordic left a clean sweep. Further south in Europe, the socialists run Spain and Portugal and Germany has anointed social democratic Olof Scholz.

Nations, big and small, keep waging a struggle towards socio-political resurgence and to redefine the sum and substance of a state's

true well being. Though the Arab Spring and Occupy Wall Street were transient, nevertheless these were required in an evolving and impacting society, their degree of relevance and impact varying as per need of the times.

Each nation would then slip into a predictable cycle of socio-political change. Give me a simmering cause and I will give you the cadre, Left or Right, is perhaps an unstated adage.

Yours, etc., R.Narayanan, Navi Mumbai, 24 September.



# Civil society has a role to play

TAPAN KUMAR CHATTOPADHYAY

The heinous crime in the rape and murder of a doctor of the R.G.Kar Medical College and Hospital, Kolkata, in the late hours of 8 August, has led to widespread protests not only all over West Bengal, but throughout the country, as well as in various other countries. An unprecedented mass response occurred in the form of an appeal to women citizens to 'reclaim the night' by capturing the streets throughout West Bengal at midnight on 14 August, 2024, in protest against the administration's announcement that women should stay at home at night and should not be given night duties at workplaces.

People from all walks of life, particularly women, came out of their homes to the streets at midnight and demonstrated through the night by lighting candles, blowing conch shells and demanding, through slogans, impartial investigation of that horrible crime. The movement continues, to demand proper justice. As the movement gained momentum, it was discovered that R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital is actually a den of corrupt and anti-social activities.

The one-and-a-half-month old movement reveals three unique features. Firstly, such overwhelming participation of women of all ages is unprecedented in the history of popular resistance in India. Secondly, the movement has been launched and is being carried on predominantly by non-party civil society organizations by using the national flag instead of any party flag. This shows that citizens, in general, are alienated from established political

parties. And, finally, political parties have realized that their fellow beings are alienated from them and, therefore, when they request people to join processions organized by them, they announce that they will not carry any party flag.

These non-party civil society organizations which have sprung up in different places can be called 'demand groups' or 'pressure groups'. In that sense, they are non-political in structure. But, functionally they are political since any movement against a government department (in this case, the health department) and/or against a government institution (in this case, a state-run hospital) is nothing but a political activity.

While political parties are also launching campaigns against the government on the same issues, there is a fundamental difference between them and the pressure groups. In fact, the basic difference between a political party and a pressure group is that while the ultimate aim of the former is to oust an existing government from power and to seize power for itself through election or otherwise, the goal of a pressure group is simply to force the government to react to an injustice and to redress a particular grievance. What, then, will happen when the government withdraws or steps back from a proposed policy or action which a pressure group regards as wrongful? Will the group then wither away, its demands having been fulfilled? This is a vital question today for all the non-party groups which are fighting for justice.

The direction in which the CBI investigation is moving in the RG Kar case, people are becoming hopeful that ultimately justice shall prevail and all wrong-doers shall be

identified and punished. What will happen then? Will the innumerable protest groups, not affiliated to any political party, meet their natural death? Or, will a new political party emerge from these pressure groups? Both these possibilities are there and in both cases, if they occur, people will remain under the domination of party politics.

The time has come, therefore, to think of a third alternative. These pressure groups, not affiliated to any political party, may unite to form a State-wide non-party civil society organization with local branches. The objective of this broad organisation would be to keep a vigil on governmental activities, cooperate and help the government in implementing good policies and fighting against the government whenever it commits or supports wrongful actions.

It may fight against, for example, corruption in the higher echelons of the administration, against mismanagement of the rationing system, against the syndicate raj in various sectors (particularly real estate), against soaring prices of essential items, against exorbitantly high power tariffs, against extortion for services rendered by government departments and municipalities, against extortion by the police from poor rickshaw pullers, vegetable vendors, and others.

But such movements must be conducted in non-violent ways as otherwise the Government will be justified in using coercive apparatus to deal with them. Moreover, movements on popular issues are likely to gain mass support and, thereby, social legitimacy, if they are non-violent. There is enough historical evidence to show that for any



government, anywhere in the world, it is easier to suppress a violent movement than a mass non-violent movement.

The fact, however, is that the multi-party parliamentary system has come to stay and, admittedly, it is superior to totalitarianism or a one-party system. Given this situation, the task of non-party civil society organizations is not only to fight against wrongs done by the government, but to do, at the same time, constructive work at the grassroots level in order to help people to solve their local problems through popular initiatives. Such constructive work will awaken

the people from their deep slumber and will make them realize that power springs neither from any political party nor from the State machinery, but from the people.

Finally, such a civil society organization should regard itself not as a commander but as a Servant of the People. It should not regard the government as an eternal foe but should cooperate with the government when it makes policies aimed at the well-being of people in general and, particularly, at the amelioration of the poor.

(The writer is a retired Professor of Political Science, Calcutta University.)

100 YEARS AGO

OCCASIONAL NOTE

WE regret to announce the sudden death at his home in Limpsfield, Surrey, of Sir Cyril Jackson, who was recently in India as a member of the Lee Commission. Born in 1863 and educated at Charterhouse and New College, Oxford, he became identified during a busy life with three special interests, namely, education, the London County Council, and Australia. After leaving Oxford he was called to the Bar and spent some years at Toynbee Hall. In 1891 Sir Cyril Jackson became a member of the old London School Board, and six years later went out to Western Australia as Director of Education. His energetic work at Perth led to his appointment in 1903 as Chief Inspector to the Board of Education in London, which post he resigned after a few years to devote himself to public life. In 1907 he was elected to the London County Council, becoming Chairman of its Education Committee, and in 1911 he was appointed Acting Agent for Western Australia, in which year also he became leader of the Municipal Reform Party in the County Council. He was made a K.B.E. in 1917.

NEWS ITEMS

CABINET'S DILEMMA

LIBERALS AND RUSSIAN TREATY

POINTING out Hint the Liberal leaders are now united in opposition to that section of the Russian Treaty dealing with the proposal to guarantee a loan, the Times Political correspondent says it remains to be seen whether the Cabinet can appease its Liberal allies, as it must do, if the Treaty is ever to go through.

Mr. MacDonald has repeatedly stated that Parliament can amend the Treaty, but doubt is expressed whether constitutionally this can be done. It is can be amended without the sanction of the representatives of the Soviet. Be that as it may, the fact remains that it stands little chance of acceptance without some amendment.

The Labourites still believe a compromise of some sort can be reached. They decline to believe that an election will be forced on this issue, particularly as reports from the country are divided regarding the wisdom of such a course from the Government's own point of view.

HOSTILITY TO SOVIET?

POWERS' "INTERFERENCE" RESENTED

IN an interview Chicherin complained that imperialistic countries were conducting a general offensive against the Soviet and using the League of Nations for that purpose. He declared that the joint resolution of the British, French and Belgian delegations at Geneva was a flagrant case of interference with the internal affairs of the Soviet, inasmuch as Georgia was a free and voluntary associate of the Union of Soviet Republics. The League of Nations, he said passed over silently events in India, Syria, the Sudan and China, but was only too ready to pass resolutions hostile to the sovereignty of the Soviet.

TATA IRON & STEEL

PROFIT OF 31 1/3 LAKHS LAST YEAR

THE annual Report of the Tata Iron and Steel Company shows a net profit for the year amounting to Rs. 31,32,000, nearly the whole of which the Directors have appropriated to depreciation. There is to be no dividend even on preference shares. The benefits afforded by the Steel Industries Protection Act 1924, the Directors observe, have not been yet realized by the Company owing to the very low prices at which foreign steel is being imported and owing to adverse fluctuations of the exchange. Representations have been made to Government to that effect.

Greater extensions are nearing completion. All the five furnaces have been in full blast throughout, the last being blown in January, 1924. The total production was 4,42,571 tons against 2,42,083 tons in 1922-23. The total output of steel ingots increased to 2,35,038 tons from 1,55,604 tons last year. Production for rail and structural and bar mills also substantially increased. Some of the subsidiary companies are not able to make progress owing to want of necessary funds for carrying out improvements.

# Liberal democracies under a threat

WANG SON-TAEK

Recently, a headline captured global attention: another assassination attempt on Donald Trump, the Republican candidate for the US presidency. Fortunately, the attempt failed, and Trump remains unharmed. However, the incident raises serious concerns about the state of democracy today. Why is Trump a target again, and who benefits from this chaos? More critically, what does this say about the health of American democracy and its liberal traditions? This event is not an isolated act of violence; it reflects a deeper, more systemic issue. Liberal democracy, both in the US and globally, is under strain. By examining this through the lenses of civilization, democracy and liberalism, we can grasp how these essential principles are being eroded and what must be done to restore them.

Political violence, including assassination attempts, is simply barbarism. It attacks not only the individual but also the very core of civilization. For centuries, humanity has sought to replace violence with reason, creating norms, laws and institutions that promote peaceful conflict resolution. Civilization is defined by moving beyond the "might makes right" mentality of ancient times, favouring reasoned debate over bloodshed. History offers numerous examples of societies evolving from violent conquests to diplomatic negotiations.

In the past, rulers often gained power through assassination or coups. However, as societies matured, governance systems emerged that prioritized discussion and compromise. The establishment of courts, parliaments and peaceful transitions of power are testaments to this progress. Assassination and other forms of political violence seek to undo these advances, dragging society back to a more savage state.

Today, violence isn't limited to physical acts. It also manifests in psychological and verbal aggression, where political discourse devolves into hate speech, verbal threats and character assassination. This trend has become more pronounced globally as political campaigns rely on vilification rather than constructive dialogue. The breakdown of reasoned debate threatens the very essence of civilization, which depends on mutual respect and open discussion to thrive.

Assassination is not only an attack on individuals but also on democracy itself. In a democratic system, power lies with the people, who express their will through free and fair elections. When violence, intimidation or manipulation interfere with this process, democracy is under threat. The attempt on Trump's life wasn't just an attack on him personally; it was an assault on the democratic process and the people's right to choose their leaders.

The storming of the US Capitol on 6 January 2021 is a stark reminder of democracy's fragility. That event wasn't merely a chaotic protest but a symbolic attack on democratic institutions. The mob sought to disrupt the certification of a democratically elected president, displaying a dangerous willingness to use violence for political ends. The damage inflicted wasn't just physical; it was a blow to the principles of democracy itself. The breakdown of principles in democracy might have influenced the recent assassination attempt on Trump.

The US is not the only country where political violence is on the rise, threatening democracy. South Korea, for instance, recently saw an assassination attempt on opposition leader Lee Jae-myung. The attacker, driven by extreme political fervour, viewed Lee as a threat to the nation. This highlights a disturbing rise in political violence, even in established democracies.

When political violence becomes normalized, the consequences are severe. It fosters fear and distrust, deterring individuals from participating in politics. If political leaders cannot campaign without fear for their safety, and if citizens hesitate to express their views due to the threat of violence, democracy has no choice but to die.

Political violence also threatens liberalism, emphasizing individual freedom, human rights and

the rule of law. Liberalism asserts that every person should have the right to express their views and participate in public life free from coercion or violence. It recognizes that personal freedoms must be balanced with the rights of others. Assassination is a direct affront to these principles. It strips individuals of their most fundamental rights, including the right to life. In a liberal society, freedom of speech does not permit anyone to use violence to silence opposing views. Political disagreements are inevitable but must be resolved through dialogue, not threats or force. Excessive use of public power also contributes to the erosion of liberalism. Recently, security personnel at the Korean presidential office violently subdued a lawmaker and students who voiced dissent against the president. They were kicked out from the venue thuggishly with their mouths muzzled. This excessive response by the presidential security team left a dark mark on liberal democracy in South Korea, showcasing how the misuse of power can suppress freedom of expression.

Acts of political violence breach the social contract that underpins liberalism. Such acts aren't just political -- they are existential threats to liberalism's values, which depend on peaceful coexistence amidst differences. The rise of political violence threatens individual

freedoms and the rule of law, a cornerstone of any functioning liberal democracy.

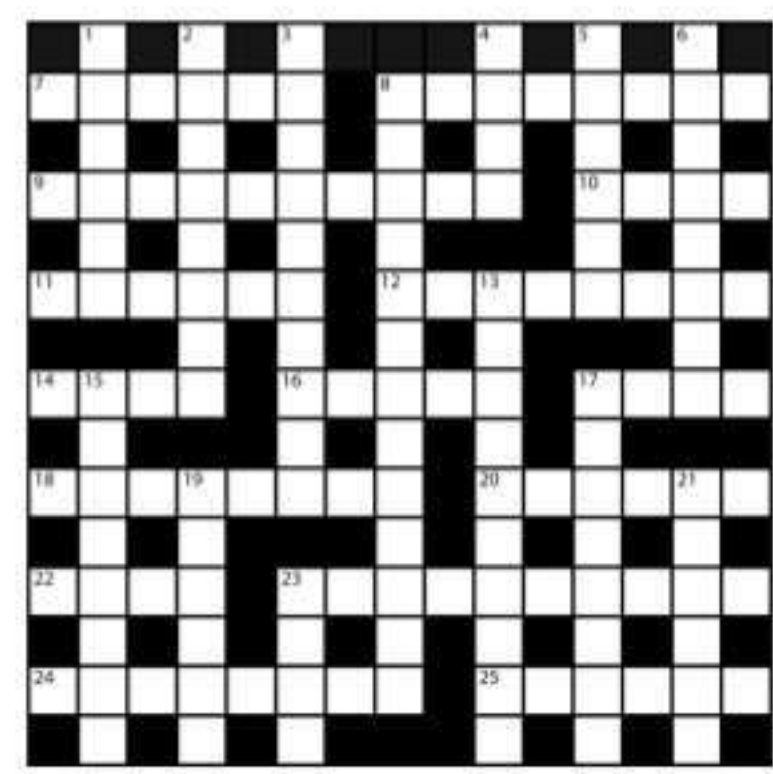
The surge in political violence, both in the US and globally, requires urgent action. The solution lies not in responding with more violence but in reaffirming civilization, democracy and liberalism. We must prioritize dialogue over conflict, reason over force, and law over chaos to safeguard these ideals. Defending democracy means protecting the integrity of elections and ensuring that political power remains in the hands of the people, not those who seek to undermine it through intimidation. Upholding liberalism requires a renewed commitment to individual freedom and the rule of law, recognizing that true freedom cannot coexist with violence.

The enemies of democracy and liberalism are not just those who commit violent acts but also those who allow these values to erode unchecked. To protect the pillars of civilization, we must all take responsibility for defending them. This requires fostering peaceful conflict resolution, respecting democratic processes and protecting individual rights. Only through a collective commitment to these values can we prevent further erosion and restore faith in liberal democracy.

The Korea Herald/ANN.

CROSSWORD

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YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

FOSSILICK BEARCUB  
TANGOR ZETGETIST  
METROPOLITIS ACRE  
AECW AHB  
SLEADINGLADY  
SSANCGT  
CITYSLICKER  
RMTMEUS  
ARIDSAACROSACT  
PAROTISI  
PAROCHIALINTER  
EHEHOEE  
RUNDOWN DENUDEED

ACROSS

- 7 Gondola, out of its depth, capsized in lake (6)
- 8 Way of working on part of test in addition (8)
- 9 In possession of intelligence American leaked about men I'd compromised (4-6)
- 10 Controversial artist scandalised crowds (4)
- 11 Train group of swimmers (6)
- 12 Runners enlist doctor after training (8)

- 14 Singer's last to join rescue vessel (4)
- 16 Reporter's incapable of producing issue for boss? (5)
- 17 Airs broadcast showing coverage of Indian women (4)
- 18 Curse three different articles by old lady (8)
- 20 Lady wanting boy makes wishes (6)
- 22 Worshipped woman with two lives (4)
- 23 Informer taped other suspect (4,6)

- 24 Converse for example with people outside (8)
- 25 Prime minister cutting head of state's hair (6)

DOWN

- 1 Author is writer of particular kind of verse (6)
- 2 College backed up reserve computer (8)
- 3 Novel alibi could be immune to challenge (10)

- 4 Stepped right over naked body (4)
- 5 Carry on deregulating banks over there (6)
- 6 University lecturer buried in vault with separate compartments (8)
- 8 After outlying event, this essentially sees arid remnant transformed (13)
- 13 Controlling regime votes against accepting new head of National Gallery (5,5)

- 15 Henry abandons anguished unorthodox Christian figure (5,3)
- 17 Member of 11 nicking side of face with blade in the morning (5,5)
- 19 Turbulent state revolutionised dated model (6)
- 21 Sister finally separating expert's head from body shows subtlety (6)
- 23 Platform said to have upset extremists (4)

NOTE: Figures in parentheses denote the number of letters in the words required. (By arrangement with The Independent, London)





## THUMBNAILS



**Punjab Engineering College signs MoU with Punjab State Power Corporation Limited for Technical Collaboration and Research:** Punjab Engineering College (Deemed to be University), Chandigarh, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL) today, aimed at fostering technical support and research collaborations. The delegation from PSPCL, led by Er. Ravinder Singh Saini (Director HR), Er. Parmjeet Singh (Director - Generation), and Er. Abhiraj Singh Randhawa (Principal Technical Training Institute), Er. Anupam Joshi (Director, The/Nudge Institute) was warmly welcomed by Prof. Rajesh Kumar Bhatia, Director PEC, along with Prof. Rajesh Kanda (Head, Alumni, Corporate & International Relations), Prof. J.D. Sharma (Head, MMED), Prof. Uma Batra (Dean Faculty Affairs), Prof. Jimmy Karloopia (Professor-in-Charge, ACIR), and Ms. Rajinder Kaur (Manager, ACIR) from PEC.

**AIIMS Bhubaneswar gets new campus:** The AIIMS campus Branch Bhubaneswar has been shifted to a more spacious area within the AIIMS campus. The new premises was inaugurated by Dr. Ashutosh Biswas, Director AIIMS, Bhubaneswar. Dinesh Pruthi, Chief General Manager of Bhubaneswar Circle was present with other senior Bank officials like Shri Ponnambalam Murugan, GM-H, Shri Prasanna Kumar DGM(B&O), Bhubaneswar Administrative Office and Shri. Shiba Sundar Sahoo, Regional Manager, RBO Bhubaneswar South. Lt. Col. Abhijit Sarkar, Deputy Director AIIMS and Dr. Dillip Kumar Parida, Superintendent AIIMS were also present. CGM Shri Pruthi addressed the gathering of customers and staff about facilities and customer centric initiatives taken by SBI.

# Nifty closes above 26,000 for first time led by energy, metal & media

Nifty 50 surged by 0.35 per cent, reaching a fresh record high of 26,032 points in trade before closing with a gain of 0.25 per cent at 26,004 points

**STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER

The record run of benchmark indices continued on Wednesday as the Nifty index managed to close above 26,000 for the first time led by energy, metal and media names. Nifty 50 surged by 0.35 per cent, reaching a fresh record high of 26,032 points in trade before closing with a gain of 0.25 per cent at 26,004 points. Sensex reached a new all-time high of 85,247 points, rising by 0.34 per cent.

At close, the Sensex was up 255.83 points or 0.30 per cent at 85,169.87, and the Nifty was up 63.75 points or 0.25 per cent at 26,004.15.

On Nifty, Power Grid Corp, NTPC, Axis Bank, Grasim Industries, Bajaj Finserv were among the top gainers.

LTIMindtree, Tech Mahindra, Tata Consumer, Tata Motors and Titan Company were on the losing side.

On BSE, as many as 267 stocks, including Mahindra and Mahindra (M&M), NTPC, Power Grid, Bajaj Finserv, Hindalco, Trent and TVS Motor



Company, hit their fresh one-year highs in intraday trade.

Among the stocks that rose to their 52-week highs were

Bosch, CG Power and Industrial Solutions, Ipca Labs, Tata Communications, United Breweries, Blue Star, Ceat, Craftsman Automation, Eclerx Services, Lloyds Metals and Energy and Metropolis Healthcare.

BSE Midcap and Smallcap indices closed the day lower by 0.53 per cent and 0.35 per cent, respectively.

The overall market capitalisation of the firms listed on the BSE dropped to nearly Rs 475 lakh crore from nearly Rs 476 lakh crore in the previous session.

On the sectoral front, power, metal, media and realty indices up 0.5-3 per cent, while FMCG, PSU Bank and IT were down 0.5-1 per cent.

Media stocks remained top performers with Saregama India soaring 16.2 per cent, Zee Entertainment by 5.7 per cent while Tips Industries and Dish TV India recorded gains exceeding 2 per cent each.

Shares of Reliance Power surged 5 per cent as a block deal involving shares worth Rs 357 crore of Reliance Power took place on the exchanges on Wednesday.

EaseMyTrip cracked 16 per cent after a block deal involving shares worth Rs 176.5 crore of EaseMyTrip (Easy Trip Planners Ltd) took place on the exchanges.

Shares of Dabur slipped over 4 per cent after Swiss brokerage UBS downgraded the FMCG major to 'hold' from 'buy' earlier.

Experts have believed that the domestic market may face short-term challenges owing to a decline in FII inflow and shift of funds to other emerging markets due to their cheap valuation.

## Petrol and diesel prices may fall after 5 October: Report



**STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER

Petrol and diesel prices may be reduced for the first time since March 2024 after October 5, according to CLSA.

The remarks came after the comments from India's Oil Secretary, Pankaj Jain, suggesting a price drop last month and media reports indicating that the Maharashtra's state elections are expected in early November.

CLSA notes that Maharashtra is a crucial battleground, and the BJP-led alliance may consider lowering fuel prices as a populist move.

Notably, the fuel prices have not changed since March 2024.

According to media reports, Jain said that the state-run oil marketing companies (OMCs) may consider reducing petrol and diesel prices if international crude prices stay low for an extended period.

CLSA also believes that

the government may also raise excise duty on petrol and diesel, along with any retail fuel price cut. Excise duty is a type of indirect tax levied on the manufacture or production of goods within a country.

In the context of petrol and diesel, excise duty is a tax imposed by the central government on the production or sale of these fuels within India.

As per the brokerage, Brent crude prices have cooled off below \$75 per barrel, despite OPEC's proactive steps to keep prices high. CLSA notes that the government may opportunistically raise excise duty.

The report said the sharp decline in crude oil prices is positive for Indian oil marketing companies like Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum Corporation and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation.

However, a potential rate cut and excise duty hike make these oil marketing companies vulnerable.

Central government levies an excise duty of Rs 19.8 and Rs 15.8 per liter on petrol and diesel, respectively.

These duties stand 40 per cent and 50 per cent lower compared to their peak levels in 2021. This duty was last cut when oil prices were above \$100 per barrel.

## ADB forecasts 7 per cent spike in India's GDP for FY24, 7.2 per cent for FY25

**STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) forecasted a 7 per cent increase in gross domestic product (GDP) for the financial year 2024 and 7.2 per cent for FY2025 for India's economy.

The projections were out-

lined in the bank's Asian Development Outlook report for September 2024.

It further indicated that above-average monsoon across much of India is expected to stimulate strong agricultural growth, positively impacting the rural economy in FY2024. ADB maintains a positive

outlook for the industrial and services sectors, along with private investments and urban consumption for both FY2024 and FY2025.

The global bank further said that a new government initiative providing employment-linked incentives for workers and companies could

boost labour demand and facilitate job creation starting in FY2025.

ADB report mentioned that due to the government's efforts toward fiscal consolidation, central government debt is projected to decline from 58.2 per cent of GDP in FY2023 to 56.8 per cent in FY2024.

"The general government deficit, which includes state governments, is expected to fall below 8 per cent of GDP in FY2024," it said.

Consumer inflation is expected to rise to 4.7 per cent in FY2024, driven by high food prices, despite the anticipated increase in agricultural output.

## Piyush Goyal announces setting up of office for trade promotion in Australia

**STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER

Union Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal announced the setting up of an office for trade promotion in Sydney, Australia.

The office will have representatives of Invest India, NICDC, ECGC, other officials related to trade and tourism along with the private sector represented by CII. While addressing a joint press conference at Adelaide along with Don Farrell, Minister for Trade & Tourism, Australia, Minister Goyal said these offices will act as a bridge between investors and businesses on both sides.

He said the focus is to upscale the partnerships in trade, investment, tourism and technology. The Commerce Minister stated that India celebrates '10 years of Make in India' today. The programme provided a whole

of the approach in addressing the challenges of the manufacturing sector, he said. It provided provisions for 'Plug and play' for infrastructure, single window system for approvals, easing compliance burden, decriminalising laws, opening up FDI in newer sectors and encouraging the startup ecosystem, signifying a multi-pronged approach to attract manufacturing in India.

Piyush Goyal noted a lot of promise between the Make in India Programme of India and the Make in Australia programme of Australia to exchange technologies, opportunities and encourage businesses to work with each other. He added that enhanced cooperation in education, skill development, investment, tourism, critical minerals, green ecosystem for sustainability are areas where the partnership holds significant potential.

## Govt interacts with forecasters & economists on GDP, CPI in Mumbai



**STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, 24 SEPTEMBER:

Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) organized the interaction with Forecasters & Economists of GDP and CPI in Mumbai, it said in a statement on Wednesday.

At the event, Dr. Saurabh Garg, Secretary, MoSPI, highlighted various macro-economic indicators released by the ministry and also updated about the Base Year revision initiated for GDP, CPI and IIP.

He also appraised the participants about the newly launched eSankhyiki portal for easy access of time series data on the released indicators.

Secretary, MoSPI further informed the participants that MoSPI is planning to launch web-based CAPEX survey to fill the gap in the Private Sector investment.

Further at the event, two subject specific presentation detailing present methodology and updates on base revision exercises undertaken for GDP and CPI. Dr. V Anantha Nageswaran, Chief Economic Advisor, appreciated the initiative of MoSPI for CAPEX Survey.

An open house discussion ensued afterwards which witnessed enthusiastic participation from the forecasters and economists.

## Uttar Pradesh to get semiconductor manufacturing unit: Jitin Prasada

**STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER

Union Minister of State for Commerce & Industry Jitin Prasada has announced that Uttar Pradesh is all set to get a semiconductor manufacturing unit, adding that the state will be among the few places to have such niche facilities.

"India is a major investment destination across sectors including semiconductor and within the country. Uttar Pradesh is among the top states and would turn out to be the 'growth engine of India' going ahead," Prasada said.

"We will start work on a semiconductor plant in Uttar Pradesh also," the



minister said while addressing the 21st Indo-US Economic Summit organised by the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce (IACC). Prasada's statement holds importance as it comes just days after India and the US tied up to set up a semiconductor fabrication plant in the country.

"The Prime Minister recently signed a MoU for

chip manufacturing with the US. The focus is that these technologies will be more and more visible in the day-to-day life of people going ahead and it's necessary that we understand these technologies at the earliest," he said, adding that semiconductor are key to India's digital transformation goals.

He also emphasised on the Union government's focus of taking the technology's benefit across the country and to the interior and rural areas. Noting that convergence and partnership are key for the growth of semiconductor development, the Minister said, "The India-US partnership will have far reaching impact."

## The Lalit bets big on Hilsa cravings to boost F&B topline

**RITWIK MUKHERJEE**  
KOLKATA, 25 SEPTEMBER

There is nothing fishy about it! The Lalit Great Eastern, one of Kolkata's best known heritage hotel properties turned into a plush five star hotel, from the stable of Lalit Suri Group, is now betting big on Bengali's craving for Hilsa (Ilish) and add to push it F&B topline. The hotel chain has organised a Hilsa festival, offering a number Hilsa delicacies to connoisseurs of food, which will be followed by "Pujor Adda" during the Durga Puja days.

The hotel chain's rationale behind this move stems from the fact that Hilsa, known as the "king of fish" because of its unique flavor, soft texture, and oily richness, is a fundamental part of Bengali culinary



culture, and is often served at special events like Durga Puja and Poila Boishakh. Even, a pair of hilsa, called jora-Ilish, is offered during Saraswati Puja. Interestingly, Hilsa has its socio-economic importance in the region as well. It is the source of livelihood for 0.46 million fishers of West Bengal in India.

Hilsa is a torpedo-shaped silvery premium table fish with a slightly darker tint, contributes uniquely to the

societal and economic significance of artisanal fisheries of the country. The major distribution of the fish species in India lies in the Bhagirathi-Hooghly component of the Ganga River system.

From smoked Hilsa boneless with arugula and white asparagus, Doi sorsey Ilish bhapa with Goindohoghat, Kalo Jeere foron diye Ilish beguner teljhol with Tulshibhoghat, Muung daer khichudi with kara haja Ilish, Stone ground mustard paste sous vide cooked with Ilish darne to Ilish Pulao, Lao chachhari Ilish and Chingri-Ilish er Kola Koli—the mouthwatering Hilsa palates have increased the footfalls at the restaurant including foreign guests, if Sous Chef Krishan Chadda, is to be believed. The strategy seems to have paid off.

## TENDER

### 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.irps.gov.in](http://www.irps.gov.in)) for leasing of parcel space of SLR compartments and Parcel Vans (on round trip basis) 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	25.09.2024 at 10:30 A.M.	12011 (F1), 12017 (F1), 12029 (F1), 12040 (F1), 12148 (F1 & F2), 12455 (F1), 13430 (F1), 14041 (F1), 14053 (F2), 22454 (F1, F2 & R1)
2	26.09.2024 at 10:30 A.M.	04304 (F1, F2 & R1), 12013 (F1), 12015 (F1), 12031 (F1), 12034 (F1), 12432 (F1), 12448 (F1), 12459 (F1), 14316 (F2), 15035 (F2), 22414 (F1), 22472 (F1, F2 & R1), 22654 (F1)
3	27.09.2024 at 10:30 A.M.	12045 (F1), 12265 (F1), 12754 (F1), 14053 (F1), 14152 (F1), 14164 (F1), 14681 (F1), 20938 (F1 & R1), 22401 (F1), 22634 (F1)
4	30.09.2024 at 10:30 A.M.	12394 (F1), 12442 (F1), 12463 (F1), 12584 (F1), 14035 (F1, F2 & R1), 14521 (F1, F2 & R1), 22210 (F1)
5	04.10.2024 at 10:30 A.M.	12191 (F1, F2 & R1), 12457 (F1, F2 & R1), 12918 (F1), 12963 (F1), 14041 (R1), 14316 (F1), 14507 (F1, F2 & R1), 15035 (F1 & R1), 19338 (F1), 20914 (F1), 20946 (F1), 22429 (F1), 22463 (F1)
6	07.10.2024 at 10:30 A.M.	12066 (F1), 14087 (F1, F2 & R1), 14089 (F1, F2 & R1), 14316 (R1), 14731 (F1 & R1), 15060 (F1 & R1), 20473 (F1 & R1), 20488 (F1), 22168 (F1 & F2), 22950 (F1), 22986 (F1)

**Important notes:** 1. For more information, requirement and various aspects regarding these e-Auctions, interested bidders are advised to visit [https://www.irps.gov.in/html/helpdesk/learning\\_centre.html](https://www.irps.gov.in/html/helpdesk/learning_centre.html). (E-Auction leasing section). 2. **Earnest Money Deposit (EMD):** 5% of the total contractual bid value to be deposited online during the auction. EMD of the successful bidder will be retained as Security Deposit. 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. 2974/2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

### PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJNA NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)

The Chief Engineer (SZ) HPPWD Shimla on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh invites the item rate bids, in electronic tendering system for construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna for each of the following works including their maintenance for five years from the eligible and approved contractors registered with HPPWD/CPWD/P&T/Railways/Other State Govt./Central Govt. Agencies. Non registered bidders may submit bid, however, the successful bidder has to register in appropriate class with appropriate authority in HPPWD.

Sr. No.	Name of Dist.	Package No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost (in lacs) Excluding 18% GST		Total cost (in lacs)	Period of completion on	Bid Security
				Const. Cost	Maint. cost			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Shimla	HP-09-354	C/O Balance work of Dhara Kokoi Khangteri road km 0/0 to 7/720 (SH - C/O R/B walls CD works, PCC Drain, PCC parapets, logo Sign Board M/T, KM Stone etc. and five years routine maintenance under pkg. HP09-354)	250.01	43.36	293.37	18 months	5.87

1. Date of release of invitation for bids through e-procurement 25.09.2024  
2. **Cost of bid from cost of Bid form Rs.5000 (non-refundable)** in shape of Demand draft in favour of Executive Engineer HPPWD Division Rohru.  
3. **Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission:** The bid document is available online and bid should be submitted online on website [www.pmgstenders.gov.in](http://www.pmgstenders.gov.in). The bidder would be required to register in the website which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have valid digital signature certificate (DSC) from one of the authorised certifying authorities (CA) Assigning bidder who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in PMGSY may obtain the same from the website: [www.pmgstenders.gov.in](http://www.pmgstenders.gov.in). Digital signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering bidders already processing the valid digital signature issued from authorised CAs can use the same in this tender.

\* Non registered bidders may submit bids: the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.

4. **Submission of original documents:** The bidders are required to submit (a) original demand draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) original bid security in approved form and (c) original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provision of clause 4-B(a) (ii) ITB with Superintending Engineer 14<sup>th</sup> circle HPPWD Rohru address and detail of office where to be submitted on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the bid either by registered post or by hand.  
5. **Last date/Time for receipt of bid through e-tendering last date/time for receipt of bids through e-tendering on dated 30.09.2024 up to 6:00PM**  
6. The site for the work is available.  
7. Only online submission of bids is permitted, therefore bids must be submitted online on website [www.pmgstenders.gov.in](http://www.pmgstenders.gov.in). The technical qualification part of the bids will be opened online at 11:00 A.M. on 01-10-2024 in the office of Superintending Engineer 14<sup>th</sup> circle HPPWD Rohru by the authorized officers. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened online on the next working day at the same time.  
8. The bidder is not required to quote his rate for routine maintenance. The rates to be paid for routine maintenance are indicated in the bill of quantities. Further, the payment for routine maintenance to the contractor shall be regulated based on his performance of maintenance activities.  
9. **All the required materials like Cement/Steel/Bitumen/Explosive etc shall be arranged by contractor at his own level.**  
10. The bids for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than ninety days after the deadline date for bid submission.  
11. To qualify for a package of contract made up of this for which bids are invited in the same NIT, the bidder must demonstrate having experience and resources sufficient to meet the aggregate of the qualifying criteria for the individual contracts.  
12. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents. The Employer shall not be held liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any update, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidders' responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the tender.

(Pramod Kumar Upreti)  
Superintending Engineer  
14<sup>th</sup> circle HPPWD Rohru Tel  
01781241713, 249921  
email-[hp-shi2@nic.in](mailto:hp-shi2@nic.in)  
For Chief Engineer HPPWD  
Nigam Vihar Shimla-171002  
2316/2024-2025/Him Suchna Avam Jan Sampark







PM Modi's US visit has boosted India's global image as a positive force: Yogi

CM Yogi stated that in today's world, leaders from war-torn nations look to Prime Minister Modi for conflict resolution

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW, 25 SEPTEMBER

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Wednesday extended his congratulations to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the success of his three-day visit to the US.

He commended the Prime Minister's diplomatic efforts, stating, "This visit has further strengthened India's image as a positive and transformative force on the global stage."

Addressing reporters, CM Adityanath remarked, "The world's most popular leader, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is returning to India after a highly successful three-day US visit. This visit has been not only a major success in terms of foreign policy but has also elevated the credibility of 'Brand India' on the global stage."

The CM highlighted a key aspect of the visit, noting, "During the 'Cancer Moonshot' program at the QUAD Leaders Summit, the Prime Minister pledged USD 7.5 million in aid and 40 million vaccine doses to combat cervical cancer in the Indo-Pacific region. This reflects the spirit of India's 'Rishi' tradition, 'Sarve Santu Niramaya' (May all be free from disease)."

"Additionally, an extraordinary example of silicon diplomacy was witnessed during this visit. In a historic collaboration, the US Army and India launched the 'Shakti' semiconductor manufacturing plant, the first of its kind within the Quad group."

CM Adityanath noted that similar to previous visits, this US trip also resulted in the return of rare Indian artefacts to India due to the Prime Minister's efforts. "Among these artefacts is a statue that



is 4,000 years old. To date, 578 artefacts have been repatriated to India from the United States. Undoubtedly, under Prime Minister Modi's leadership, India is witnessing a cultural renaissance in this Amrit Kaal."

Referring to a special agreement between India and the United States to promote micro, small, and medium

enterprises (MSMEs) during the visit, CM Adityanath highlighted that the agreement symbolises the Prime Minister's commitment to the vision of a self-reliant India. He emphasised that this initiative will provide a significant boost to the MSME sector in states like Uttar Pradesh.

Taking a dig at the opposition, Adityanath stated, "A

new geopolitical equation has rapidly emerged following the COVID-19 period. In today's multipolar world, no global group is considered complete without India's presence. While the Prime Minister is working tirelessly to elevate India to the status of a global leader, opposition leaders are damaging the nation's image by aligning with anti-national forces. In their opposition to India's core ideology, these leaders have essentially become anti-national themselves."

Praising the Prime Minister, the CM stated that in today's world, leaders from war-torn nations look to Prime Minister Modi for conflict resolution. He extended his gratitude to the Prime Minister "for establishing a credible identity for Brand India, for elevating the image of Mother India on the international stage, and for enhancing India's standing

globally". CM Adityanath also took to the social media platform X to congratulate PM Modi, stating, "Prime Minister Modi's exemplary diplomacy has reinforced India's image on the global stage as a strong, positive, transformative, development-oriented, and efficient leader. Under your successful leadership, the message of India's Sanatan culture -- 'One Earth, One Family, One Future' -- is resonating worldwide. Your vision for public welfare and constructive engagement during the Quad Summit 'Modi and US' mega community event has positioned 'New India' as a solution to global challenges. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to you, Prime Minister, for giving new dimensions to India-US friendship and elevating our nation on the global horizon."

Centre provides 1,379 MT rice to Mizoram for Myanmar, B'desh refugees

AGENCIES AIZAWL, 25 SEPTEMBER

The Centre allowed the Mizoram government to procure 1,379.34 metric tonnes (MT) of rice from the Food Corporation of India (FCI) godowns for over 44,000 refugees from Manipur as well as neighbouring nations of Myanmar and Bangladesh living in the northeastern state since a long period of time, an official said on Wednesday.

According to a senior Mizoram government official, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) would bear the cost of the rice (Rs 5 crore) while transportation of the rice would be arranged by the Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Ministry and the Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs department of the state government.

The official said that after procurement of the rice from FCI godowns, the Deputy Commissioners of Mizoram's 11 districts would ensure that it reaches the refugees.

After a hectic persuasion by the Mizoram government, the Centre had earlier provided Rs 3 crore as humanitarian assistance for Myanmar refugees when the Mizoram National Front was in power.

The Central government also assured to provide Rs 5 crore for the refugees after



the Zoram People's Movement-led government came to power in November last year.

According to the officials, around 34,000 refugees from Myanmar took shelter in Mizoram in phases after the military takeover in the conflict-ridden country in February 2021, while more than 2,000 Bangladeshi tribals have been staying in Mizoram since November 2022 after they fled Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) following ethnic troubles in the neighbouring country.

Currently, there are around 8,000 refugees from Manipur who have taken shelter in several districts of Mizoram after the ethnic violence broke out in the neighbouring state in May last year.

The refugees from Myanmar, Bangladesh and Manipur belong to the Kuki-Zo-Chin-Hmar tribal community who also share ethnic, traditional, cultural and linguistic ties with the Mizos of Mizoram.

Will start movement against smart meters from 1 Oct: RJD

AGENCIES PATNA, 25 SEPTEMBER

The RJD said on Wednesday that they will start the movement against the pre-paid smart meter from October 1 and also appealed to the people of Bihar to participate in the movement.

"People should stop the installation of smart meters in their homes. The power distribution companies are exploiting the public through these devices and Chief Minister Nitish Kumar is accountable for the situation," RJD state president Jagadanand Singh.

"I am urging people to give them (smart meters) two months and if the situ-



ation remains unresolved, I would appeal to people to physically remove the smart meters from their homes," Singh said.

Singh also accused the power distribution companies of excessively charging residents in both urban and rural areas. He further claimed that the electricity tariff in Bihar is the highest in the country compared to other states.

Doesn't 75-yr rule apply to PM Modi: Kejriwal writes to RSS chief

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER

Aam Aadmi Party national convener Arvind Kejriwal has written to the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat, asking whether the Sangh agrees to Amit Shah saying that the 75 years age retirement rule in the BJP does not apply to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Kejriwal in his letter to Bhagwat questioned, "You had a law that leaders will retire after 75 years...which applied to veterans like LK Advani and Murali Manohar Joshi, but Amit Shah is saying that this rule will not apply to Modi. Do you agree to this," AAP chief asked Bhagwat.



Alleging that BJP led central government is taking the country and politics into a dangerous direction where democracy is at stake, AAP chief questioned Bhagwat whether the Sangh agrees to the way opposition leaders are being threatened with the use of the central agencies like CBI - ED, governments being toppled, and majority being attained by unfair means.

Kejriwal further expressed in his letter that if things continue in the same way, soon the democracy will be



over and the country will be finished.

AAP supremo further said that the political parties and leaders may come and go, but the country will remain, and to ensure that the Tricolor is always high with pride, is everyone's responsibility, Kejriwal added.

Former Delhi CM has sought answers to five questions regarding the saffron and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's style of politics from Bhagwat.

He further wrote that PM and the Home Minister them-

selves termed some of the leaders as corrupt, and later they were taken in to BJP's fold after some days, and asked Bhagwat, "whether such things are acceptable to the RSS, and whether the organization ever imagined that the BJP would become like this, Kejriwal said. "BJP was born from the womb of RSS, it is the responsibility of RSS to ensure that BJP does not go astray. Did you ever stop Modi ji from doing wrong things?" AAP chief asked RSS chief.

He also raised a question regarding BJP president JP Nadda's statement about the RSS saying that BJP does not need RSS, and asked the Sangh chief whether the statement did not make him sad.

PM to inaugurate Solapur Airport, launch ₹22,600-cr projects in Maharashtra today

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, 25 SEPTEMBER

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Maharashtra on Thursday and lay the foundation stone and dedicate to the nation various projects worth over Rs 22,600 crore, including initiatives of the petroleum and natural gas sector worth Rs 10,400 crore.

During his visit, Mr Modi will inaugurate the Solapur Airport which will significantly improve connectivity, making Solapur more accessible to tourists, business travellers, and investors. The existing terminal building of the Solapur Airport has been revamped to serve around 4.1 lakh pas-

sengers annually.

The Prime Minister will dedicate to the nation the Bidkin Industrial Area, a transformative project covering an expansive 7,855 acres under the National Industrial Corridor Development Program of the Central government, situated 20 km south of Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar in Maharashtra.

The project developed under the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor holds immense potential as a vibrant economic hub in the Marathwada region. The Central Government has approved this project with an overall project cost of over Rs 6,400 crore for development in



three phases.

In Pune, earlier, the prime minister will flag off from the District Court Metro Station the Metro train scheduled to run from District Court to Swargate, Pune. The inauguration of the project will mark the completion of Phase 1 of the Pune Metro Rail Project. The cost of the underground section between the

District Court to Swargate is around Rs 1,810 crore.

Mr Modi will then lay the foundation stone for the Swargate-Katraj Extension of Pune Metro Phase-1 to be developed at the cost of around Rs 2,950 crore. This southern extension of around 5.46 km is completely underground with three stations, Market Yard, Padmavati, and Katraj. The

prime minister will lay the foundation stone for the Memorial of Kranti Jyoti Savitribai Phule's First Girls' School at Bhidewada.

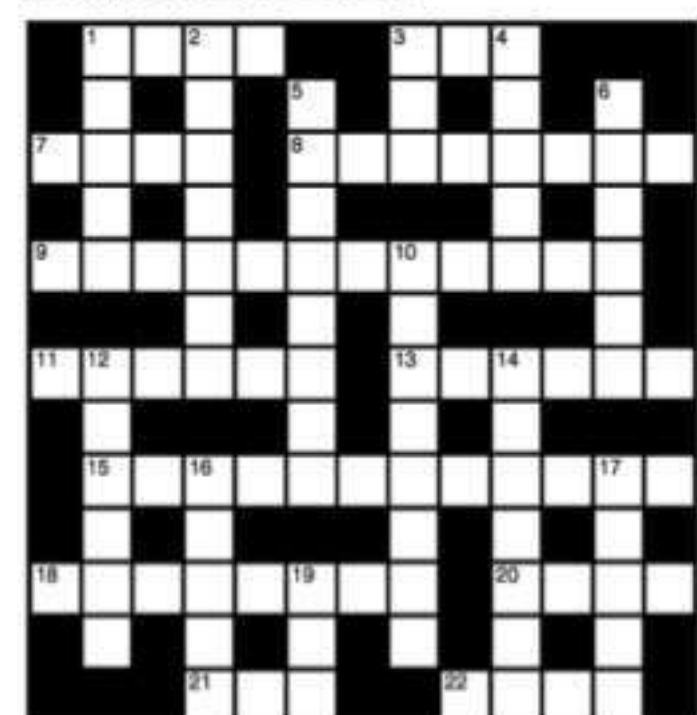
In line with his commitment to make India self-reliant in the field of Supercomputing technology, the prime minister will dedicate to the nation three PARAM Rudra Supercomputers worth around Rs 130 crore, developed indigenously under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM). These supercomputers have been deployed in Pune, Delhi and Kolkata to facilitate pioneering scientific research. The Giant Metre Radio Telescope (GMRT) in Pune will leverage

the supercomputer to explore Fast Radio Bursts (FRBs) and other astronomical phenomena. The Inter-University Accelerator Centre (IUAC) in Delhi will enhance research in fields like material science and atomic physics. S.N. Bose Centre in Kolkata will drive advanced research in areas such as physics, cosmology, and earth sciences.

The Prime Minister will also inaugurate a High-Performance Computing (HPC) system tailored for weather and climate research. This project represents an investment of Rs 850 crore, marking a significant leap in India's computational capabilities for meteorological applications.

LEISURE

10 MINUTE CROSSWORD



ACROSS: 1 Fly upwards (4), 3 Knight's title (3), 7 Ceremonial splendour (4), 8 Anticipated (8), 9 Recollection (12), 11 Aft (6), 13 Hearken (6), 15 Senior naval rating (6-2-4), 18 Wishful (8), 20 Dog's cry (4), 21 Consume (3), 22 Repast (4). DOWN: 1 Large shop (5), 2 Inform (7), 3 Bribe (3), 4 Toxic substance (5), 5 Open resistance (8), 6 Tranquil (6), 10 Cave in (8), 12 Cook gently (6) (6-2-4), 14 Walk awkwardly (7), 16 Pungent substance (5), 17 Ethical (5), 19 Not at home (3).

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD: ACROSS: 13 Malapropism, 14 Animate, 17 Agitated, 2 Aorta, 18 Toga, 3 Sink, 16 Papers, 21 Khazi, 4 Hornpipe, 19 Onion, 22 Utmost, 5 Redress, 20 Cite, 10 Oral, 24 Tennis, 7 Brief.

BETLE BAILEY/Mort Walker



RED EYE/Bill Yates & Mel Casson



DADDY DAZE/John Kovalski



NEED TO KNOW

HOSPITALS: AAIMS 26588500, 26588900; Moolchand Medcity (formerly Hospital) 42000000 & 24-hour Chemist Shop 42000447; Vidyasagar Institute for Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences 26924300, 26924304; Batra Hospital & Medical Research Centre 29051280, 29958747; Deen Dayal Upadhyay 25496320, 25494403; Guru Tegh Bahadur 22586262, 22585007. RAILWAY INQUIRY: General Inquiry 139; Toll Free No. 1800112511; SMS Inquiry No. 57886, 54959, 5676747. ROADWAYS INQUIRY: ISBT (General Inquiry): 23868836, 23865181; Haryana Roadways 23861262; Himachal Roadways 23717473, 23325320; Punjab Roadways 23867842, 2386626; Rajasthan Roadways 23864470; U.P. Roadways 23868709.

SCRABBLE

PAR SCORE 175-185 by JUDD. GATEWAY: 80; EPILOD: 72; ARTILER: 18; FAMILING: 36. JUDD'S TOTAL: 216.

SUDOKU

Difficulty Level ★★★. Answer to previous puzzle: 5 7 9 4 1 8 2 6 9; 6 7 8 3 7 1 4 5 1; 1 4 6 2 5 9 3 8 7; 3 6 7 9 6 1 4 5 2; 2 8 9 1 7 4 3 9 6; 4 8 1 1 5 2 6 7 3 8; 9 3 2 8 6 4 5 7 1; 7 1 8 3 9 6 2 4; 8 5 4 1 7 2 8 9 3.



# More than a debt recovery tool

**Does the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code fix debt or fuel the economy, asks Debarshi Chakraborty**

Ludwig Wittgenstein, the 20th-century Austrian philosopher, observed that words do more than communicate; they shape the way we see the world. This idea finds striking relevance in the context of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC). Consider the word 'resolution,' which suggests images of experts working to save a struggling business. Replace it with 'recovery,' and the tone shifts entirely. Now, it feels less like a rescue mission and more like creditors gathering at the debtor's door, demanding their dues. This is not just a semantic nuance – it reveals a deeper tension within the IBC.

**IBC's Dual Role**

When Finance Minister Nirmala Sitaraman praised the IBC for resolving over 1,000 companies in her budget speech, swiftly followed by the mention of Rs. 3.3 lac crore recovered, it was more than just a celebratory footnote – it encapsulated the duality at the heart of IBC. The IBC, as introduced by the late Arun Jaitley in 2015, was designed not only as a cor-

porate lifeline but also as a mechanism for creditors to recover dues. From the outset, the IBC has been clear about this balance between rescue and recovery.

Whenever a creditor – whether a financial lender owed a loan or an operational supplier awaiting payment – files an insolvency petition, the corporate debtor is immediately thrust into a precarious position, beneath the proverbial Damocles' sword. Each tick of the clock weakens the thread holding it in place, amplifying the pressure. For the creditor, the expectation is simple – the mere presence of this threat should push the debtor towards a swift settlement to avert commercial collapse. The debtor, however, clings to a different hope – that the sword's blade might be dulled by time, or that a legal defence could deflect it before it strikes.

**From Private to Public**

Once the corporate debtor is admitted into insolvency, the nature of the process transforms dramatically from private negotiation to a collective, public endeavour. The Supreme Court's ruling in *Swiss Ribbons v. UOI* (2019) and subsequent cases highlights that pre-admission, the petitioning creditor's claims and the debtor's obligations are a private affair. However, post-admission, the process evolves into an 'in rem' procedure, engaging all stakeholders – creditors, suppliers, and employees.

This transition is vital keeping in mind the IBC's goal of comprehensive resolution of financial distress, while maximising value for all involved.

The rules governing insolvency underscore a clear distinction between pre-admission and post-admission scenarios. Rule 8 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy (Application to Adjudicating Authority) Rules, 2016, grants the National Company Law Tribunals (NCLT) the discretion to permit withdrawal of an insolvency petition if requested by the creditor or debtor before it is admitted. However, the process becomes significantly more rigorous after admission. Section 12A of the IBC mandates that withdrawal of an admitted petition requires the approval of 90 per cent of the Committee of Creditors (CoC). In practice, this often leads to suspended management challenging the insolvency admission order before the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT), seeking a stay on the formation of the CoC, while negotiating settlement with the petitioning creditor to bypass CoC scrutiny and regain control.

In typical settlement scenarios, parties often strike agreements where the management undertakes to initiate steps under the IBC to withdraw insolvency proceedings before the CoC is even formed. This tactic effectively bypasses the rigorous requirements of Section 12A, allowing the debtor to sidestep CoC approval entirely. While this manoeuvre might appear effective when dealing with



a single creditor, the situation becomes considerably more complex when the debtor owes multiple creditors. Settling solely with the petitioning creditor while neglecting others amounts to a 'robbing Peter to pay Paul' approach, leading to superficial resolutions that unfairly disadvantage other creditors.

For operational creditors, early settlements offer a pragmatic advantage, given their subordinate position in the payout hierarchy. If the debtor enters liquidation, these creditors often receive a mere fraction – or nothing – of their dues. Opting to settle early ensures at least partial recovery, avoiding the uncertainty and meagre returns that liquidation offers. However, this approach, though beneficial to the immediate

parties, exposes a deeper flaw in the insolvency framework. It bypasses the collective resolution intent of the IBC, allowing individual settlements to undermine the integrity of the process.

**Byju's Case**

The ongoing Byju case, before the Supreme Court, highlights this tension. By swiftly settling a Rs. 158 crore debt with the Board of Cricket Control for India (BCCI) – petitioning (operational) creditor – before the CoC could be formed, Byju's management skirted the safeguards meant to ensure fair distribution of resources. This strategic prioritisation of one creditor – potentially to secure control or avoid deeper scrutiny – sparked sharp objections from GLAS, a financial cred-

itor. The crux of GLAS's grievance lies in the misuse of pre-CoC dynamics, whereby Byju's management allegedly diverted resources that should have been equitably allocated to all creditors. The Supreme Court's stay on the NCLAT's order in Byju's case has brought the spotlight back on a foundational tenet of IBC – sanctity of collective creditor resolution. The Court's intervention, though succinct, underscored that insolvency is not a pick-and-choose process; every creditor's claim, big or small, must be accounted for within the collective framework.

**Setting Sail for Stability**

The Byju's case is a textbook illustration of Mancur Olson's 'Collective Action' theory,

where individual creditors manipulate insolvency proceedings to settle personal debts, thus jeopardising the collective interests of all creditors. This highlights the need for insolvency petitions to represent a broader financial community rather than just the petitioner. Section 7(1) of the IBC already contemplates this by allowing financial creditors to initiate insolvency proceedings even in cases where the default belongs to another creditor. Once a default is identified by the adjudicating authority, the process should focus on addressing the distress of the debtor as a whole, not merely the claims of the petitioner. In the same vein, Section 12A, which permits withdrawal from insolvency, should only apply where a comprehensive

settlement with all creditors is achieved.

This reminds that IBC is more than just a debt recovery tool – it is a safeguard for the economy. Debt recovery is crucial, but as Olson warns, unchecked self-interest can upend the system. Wittgenstein's language theory drives it home – by prioritising 'resolution' over 'recovery,' the IBC ensures businesses not only clear their debts but thrive. It is a fine balance, but like a well-steered ship, it propels the economy forward, with creditors and stakeholders reaping the rewards. In the end, it is not just about staying afloat – it is about setting sail.

(The writer is an Advocate at the Delhi High Court.)



# Goodbye, My Lord

**As Britain readies to abolish hereditary peers from the House of Lords, MEG RUSSELL looks at the reforms that brought the country to this moment.**

Having made a pre-election pledge to do so, the British government is moving forward with the House of Lords (hereditary peers) bill, a piece of legislation that will remove the remaining hereditary peers from the House of Lords. The bill is almost certain to pass through parliament, ending a centuries-old tradition of hereditary membership in the House of Lords. But who are these hereditary peers, and how did they come to sit in parliament in the first place? Some of the answers may be surprising. The House of Lords has ancient roots – though it has changed very fundamentally over the years. The original precursor of the English (and subsequently UK) parliament was a single-chamber body, bringing together the powerful in the land to advise the monarch. It is difficult to put a date on when this began but it included representatives of the nobility and the church. Initially, there was no presumption that those invited to participate in one session of parliament would be invited to the next, but gradually arrangements became more fixed. The "temporal" (as

opposed to "spiritual") members of parliament became the holders of hereditary titles, which would be passed down through their family line. Over time, the members of what became the House of Commons split off, with the two chambers regularly sitting separately from the 14th century.

Some modern preoccupations about the House of Lords can be traced back centuries. By the time of Charles I, there were already concerns that too many new peerages were being created and that the chamber was growing too large. There was even talk of money changing hands in some cases. As early as 1719, a bill was proposed to cap the size of the House of Lords, and allow new peerage creations only when existing lines died out. That bill was, however, unsuccessful.

By the late 18th century, the monarch was following prime ministerial advice in creating peerages. William Pitt the Younger became a prolific distributor of titles, roughly doubling the number of Lords temporal from 212 to 314. In the mid-19th century, the House of Lords stood at around 450 members, and by the early 20th century, it exceeded 600 members. Immediately before it was

reformed by Tony Blair's government in 1999, its size was double that.

In the late 19th century, under prime ministers William Gladstone and Lord Salisbury, there were deliberate moves to broaden the peerage and move it away from landed interests. Titles were awarded to industrialists, former diplomats, military personnel and civil servants. Notable appointees in this period included the artist Frederic Leighton, the surgeon Joseph Lister, and the former House of Commons clerk Thomas Erskine May. This helped to boost the "crossbenches" in the Lords, and build the chamber's reputation for expertise.

Nonetheless, in another pattern familiar today, around two-thirds of those appointed were former MPs. Prominent among them were those who had held high office – routinely including former prime ministers and speakers of the House of Commons.

The hereditary nature of titles created an obvious difficulty with size – that a seat created for a person did not die with them, but was passed to their (exclusively male) successors. Every peerage awarded (with a small exception for those with legal expertise under the Appellate Jurisdiction Act 1876) was a hered-

itary peerage, and large numbers continued to be created.

While some lines died out due to lack of male successors, pressure grew for the creation of life peerages rather than allowing members to pass their seat in the Lords on. The first bill to allow such appointments was introduced in 1849, but it was not until the Life Peerages Act 1958 that change finally occurred.

By 1957, the year before the act, half of members (who by now exceeded 800) owed their hereditary peerages to 20th-century creations. Among them were the descendants of Asquith, Lloyd George, Stanley Baldwin and Field Marshal Montgomery. Even Labour's Clement Attlee (who, upon assuming office in 1945, faced a House of Lords containing just 16 Labour members) was given a hereditary peerage in 1955. His grandson still serves in the House of Lords.

After 1958, the creation of new hereditary peerages became much rarer. It was, notably, only at this point that women entered the chamber for the first time – and only in 1963 that women inheriting the few hereditary titles not travelling purely down the male line were allowed to take seats in the chamber. An interesting

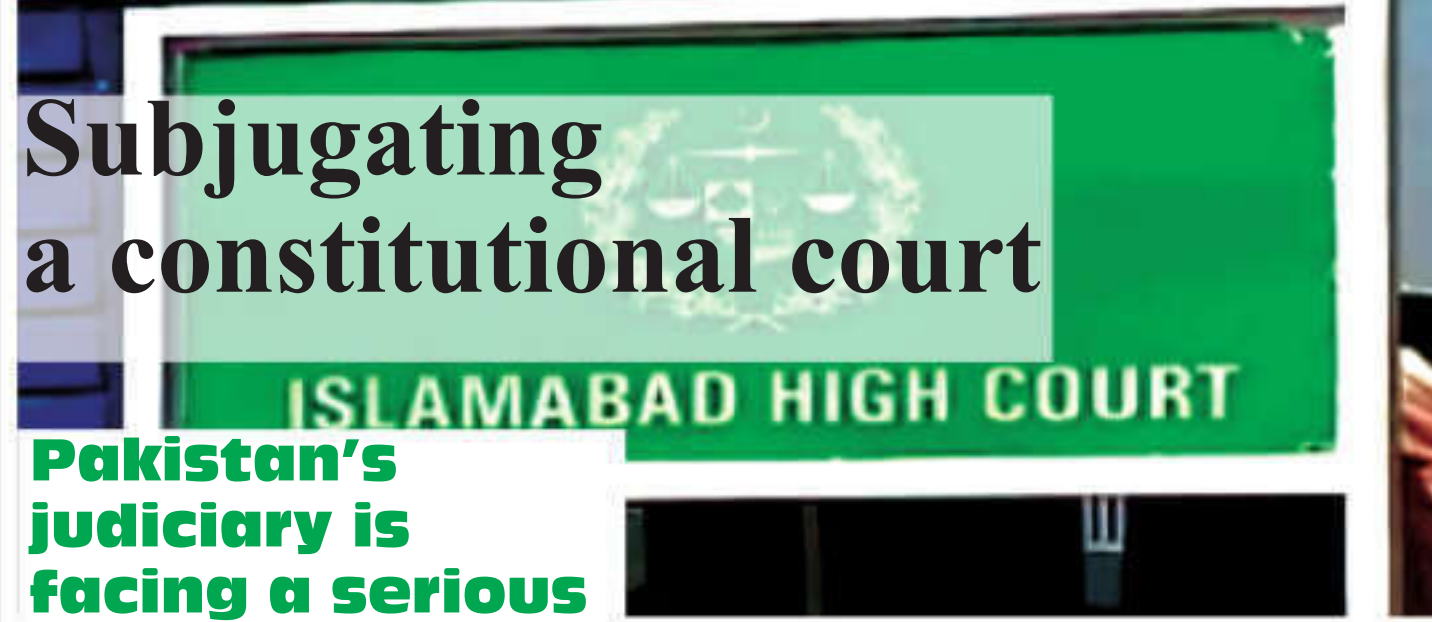
anomaly was Margaret Thatcher's bestowal of a hereditary peerage on her former home secretary and de facto deputy prime minister, Willie Whitelaw, in 1983 – the first such awarded for 18 years. Having only daughters, Whitelaw did not pass his peerage on.

The reform implemented by the Blair government in 1999 was originally intended to sweep away all of the hereditary peers. But while over 650 departed, a deal between the parties allowed 92 to remain – with replacements when these peers died or retired largely filled by a bizarre system of by-elections, where the only eligible candidates were hereditary peers.

These by-elections were recently halted in expectation of the bill, leaving 88 hereditary peers currently serving in the chamber. All of them are men, 45 are Conservative (and only four Labour), while 43 (49 per cent) hold peerages created only in the 20th century.

This group is anomalous, and long overdue reform. It is also less historic in certain respects than many might assume.

(The writer is Professor of British and Comparative Politics and Director of the Constitution Unit, UCL. This article was published on www.theconversation.com)



# Subjugating a constitutional court

**Pakistan's judiciary is facing a serious onslaught on its independence, says Sameer Khosa.**

Recent moves by Pakistan's government leave no doubt that the judiciary is facing one of the most serious onslaughts in its history. Although attempts to tame the courts have been afoot for a while, as seen by the letter written by six judges of the Islamabad High Court, these have only met with mixed success. Various courts in the country have continued to pass strict observations in cases of enforced disappearances, granted bail to persons that the state is unwilling to release, and zeroed in on the phenomenon of audio leaks. Most significantly, a 13-member bench of the Supreme Court denied the government its extra reserved seats in parliament.

Faced with a judiciary refusing to declare total submission, the government first attempted to pass a constitutional amendment proposing widespread changes to the structure of the judiciary. Having failed to achieve that for the time being, the president promulgated the Supreme Court (Practice and Procedure) Amendment Ordinance, 2024.

The contents of the proposed constitutional amendment are now well known: all the significant constitutional powers of the Supreme Court would stand transferred to a federal constitutional court (FCC), which would effectively be handpicked by the government. Judges of the high courts would face being transferred to another court without their consent. The powers of the high courts in matters related to laws in relation to national security would stand eliminated. The government would also have the power to bypass the senior most

judge in appointing the chief justice.

Now, the ordinance issued by the president demonstrates that the government remains undeterred. Through the ordinance, the government has changed the composition of the committee that forms benches and fixes cases under the original Supreme Court (Practice and Procedure) Act, 2023. The committee originally consisted of the chief justice and two senior-most judges of the court. Now it will consist of the chief justice, the next most senior judge, and a judge picked by the chief justice.

The promulgation of the ordinance is problematic in several respects. For one, the Constitution does not envisage the president as a lawmaker except in exceptional circumstances when parliament cannot be summoned. No exceptional circumstances seem apparent given that the original committee was functional and available.

For another, it seems to be yet another attempt to interfere in the functioning of the judiciary. In recent weeks, the chief justice has found himself out-voted on matters that are important to the government's ability to pass the constitutional amendment. In particular, the chief justice unsuccessfully attempted to fix a review petition related to the reserved seats verdict and the Article 63A verdict (related to floor crossing). In case either of these review cases is successful, the government's ability to pass a constitutional amendment would greatly increase (either through reserved seats, or defections).

Instead of respecting the Supreme Court and the committee, the government decided to modify the committee to strengthen the chief justice so that it could change outcomes for itself. It is a dan-

gerous game for the government to contract and expand the powers of the chief justice at will depending only on its preferred temporary outcomes.

Unfortunately, instead of sticking to the original committee, within hours the chief justice changed the formation of the committee by skipping the third and fourth most senior judges of the court. The composition of the committee is particularly important at this time because if the government can successfully pass the constitutional amendment, then any challenge to the amendment filed in the Supreme Court would be subject to the decision of this committee as to whether it is heard, when, and by whom. In effect, the chief justice would now control this process.

Add to this the fact that, according to an official press release of the Supreme Court, the government already made its interest in extending the tenure of the chief justice clear several months ago. The clear intent is, therefore, to ensure that the chief justice, who himself potentially stands to be one of the intended beneficiaries of this whole exercise (in the form of an extended tenure at the FCC), can control any challenge to the proposed amendment.

Last year, when the government was in no mood to implement the Supreme Court's decision related to elections in Punjab and KP, it brought in the Practice and Procedure Act to thwart the chief justice. This year, when it is in no mood to implement the reserved seats case, it has brought in the ordinance to retain the chief justice's control.

Behind all of the government's claims, there is only one real aim: subjugating the Supreme Court.

(The writer is a Lahore-based lawyer.)  
Dawn/ANN.





## MANU BHAKER SLAMS SOCIAL MEDIA TROLLS

Paris Olympics double bronze medallist shooter Manu Bhaker responded to internet trolls, that targeted her for flaunting her medals too much, saying "it's my way of sharing my beautiful journey". Manu made history by winning two bronze medals at the Games -- women's 10m air pistol and mixed team event. With these victories, she became the first Indian athlete to clinch more than one medal in a single edition of the Olympics. She opened India's medal tally at the Games and won two out of the six medals India brought home.

For more updates [www.thestatesman.com](http://www.thestatesman.com)

### THUMBNAILS

**England announce equal pay for women's domestic cricket:** England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) have announced that minimum starting salaries will be equalised across men's and women's professional domestic cricket from 2025. The starting salaries and salary budget details have been approved by the ECB's Professional Game Committee (PGC), which features representatives from FCCs, the Professional Cricketers' Association (PCA) and the ECB, it said. The move will apply both at 'Rookie' level, which is being introduced into the women's game for the first time and which will typically be a player's first professional contract, and at 'Senior Pro' level for players who have established themselves in first teams. This decision comes in the wake of the 2023 Independent Commission for Equity in Cricket (ICEC) report, which called for a comprehensive overhaul of pay structures within women's cricket. Besides the salary changes, the ECB has confirmed that from 2025, the eight Tier 1 counties in the new women's competition will have minimum squad sizes of 15 contracted players. These counties will have to invest at least 500,000 pounds in players' salary.

## Pant returns to Test rankings top-10; Ashwin, Jadeja also rise

Wicketkeeper-batsman makes dramatic gains after century in first Test against Bangladesh

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEP 25

Back with a bang in Test whites after a gap of over 700 days, Rishabh Pant made a re-entry in the top-10 batting rankings, while fellow centurions of the opening Test against Bangladesh in Chennai — Shubman Gill and Ravichandran Ashwin — also gained in the latest ICC rankings.

Meanwhile, Yashasvi Jaiswal remained the highest ranked Indian Test batter after gaining a spot to rise to fifth. Pant has re-entered the rankings in sixth position after scores of 39 and 109 while Gill has five places northward to a career-best 14th after his unbeaten 119 in the second innings while Ravichandran Ashwin's crucial 113 in the first innings has lifted him seven places to 72nd position.

However, India skipper Rohit Sharma and his predecessor Virat Kohli lost five places each after a below-par outing in the first Test, and as a result Rohit finds himself at the bottom of the top-10 while Kohli slipped



to 12th. Ashwin and along with Ravindra Jadeja, who partnered in a decisive 199-run first innings partnership to build the base for India's

280-run victory, have gained across the ranking lists. Jadeja's contribution of 86 in that partnership has helped him gain three places to 37th

position in the batting rankings. Meanwhile, Ashwin, who had match-inning figures of 6/88, has consolidated his position at the top of the

ICC Test bowling rankings by gaining one rating point and Jadeja has moved up a spot to sixth after taking five wickets in the match.

## Shakib is eligible for Kanpur Test: Bangladesh head coach

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEP 25

Dispelling doubts over Shakib Al Hasan's availability for the second Test against India, starting on Friday in Kanpur, Bangladesh head coach Chandika Hathurusinghe on Wednesday confirmed that the star all-rounder is "eligible for selection".

Shakib, who briefly took part in Bangladesh's training session in Kanpur on Wednesday, failed to inspire Bangladesh in the opening Test that the visitors lost by 280 runs in Chennai. There were also question marks after his bowling was sparingly used across both innings.

There were also discussions on the broadcast that Shakib may have been struggling with a finger injury, but Bangladesh's batting coach David Hemp had downplayed it saying he was unaware of that in Chennai and Hathurusinghe reiterated that stance in Kanpur.

"I haven't heard anything officially or any complaints. There is no doubt about that at the moment. I haven't heard from my physio or from anyone. He's still eligible for selection," Hathurusinghe said.

Shakib returned figures of 0 for 50 in eight overs and 0 for 79 in 13 overs in Chennai, and scored 32 and 25. On



being probed if the veteran's performance had disappointed him, Hathurusinghe said, "I'm not. I'm upset not about his performance but our overall performance, we could have done better. I'm sure that he also thinks that he can perform better. We all know what he's capable of. I think he batted really well in the second innings. He couldn't go on. Not because of lack of pride. It's the sheer quality of the opposition." Hathurusinghe said there were discussions on the team's shortcomings in Chennai, and it was about "whether we're able to do that in the middle. We have our KPIs, what we want, and we normally talk about it if you make a start, make it big. In cricket, it's the hardest thing to get in. But then, India, has been posing different challenges. So we have to be better for longer."

## Brook hits maiden ODI century as England end Aussie winning run



AGENCIES  
CHESTER-LE-STREET, SEP 25

Harry Brook (110 not out off 94) slammed the maiden ODI ton as England halted Australia's winning streak in the format, ending a 14-match run, with a 46-run

win by DLS Method in the third ODI. England were 254-4, on course for victory, needing 51 runs from 74 balls, when rain curtailed the finish. The result also ended England's seven-game losing streak to their rivals in ODIs. With Alex Carey's unbeaten

77 along with Steve Smith's (60 off 82) hard-fought half-century and cameos from Cameron Green (42 off 49) and Aaron Hardie (44 off 26), Australia set a 305-run target. England will look to level the five-match series at 2-2 in the fourth ODI.

## Afridi returns as Pakistan name squad for first Test

AGENCIES  
FAISALABAD, SEP 25

The Pakistan cricket selectors have brought back star pacer Shaheen Shah Afridi for the first Test against England set to take place in Multan from October 7-11. The selectors announced a 15-player squad on Tuesday bringing in left-arm spinner Noman Ali for the injured Khurram Shahzad.

Afridi was dropped from the squad following the first Test against Bangladesh. The left-arm pacer was considered one of the reasons for Pakistan's debacle in the opening Test as the four pacers selected failed to make an impact.

"Following the squad announcement and based on the recommendation of head coach Jason Gillespie, the selected players have been withdrawn from the Champions One-Day Cup playoffs to allow them some rest ahead of the series. The squad will assemble in Multan on September 30 with a training camp commencing on October 1," the Pakistan Cricket Board informed in a release on Tuesday. Left-arm spinner Noman

Ali, who has taken 47 wickets in 15 Tests, has replaced fast bowler Khurram Shahzad, who is injured.

"Kamran Ghulam and Mohammad Ali, who were part of the squad for the Bangladesh Tests, remain firmly in the selectors' plans. However, due to the selection policy's emphasis on consistency and continuity, and the belief that 15 players are sufficient for a Test, they have been advised and encouraged to continue representing their teams in the Champions One-Day Cup and the President's Cup, starting on 3 October, to ensure they stay match-ready through competitive cricket," the release said.

Pakistan coach Jason Gillespie said they are looking forward to the series against England. "With a busy cricket schedule, it makes sense to give our players some much-needed rest ahead of the Test series against England. We are very much looking forward to the series against England here in Pakistan and cannot wait for it to begin. We are excited about playing in front of our wonderful supporters," said the former Australia pacer.

## I'm not thinking too far ahead, says Akash Deep as Team India gears up for second Test



TRIDIB BAPARNASH  
NEW DELHI, SEP 25

Ever since making an impressive Test debut against England in Ranchi earlier this year, Akash Deep is making rapid strides in international cricket, and based on his brilliant show in the first round of Duleep Trophy (match haul of 9 for 116 for India A), the Bihar-born Bengal pacer was deservedly named in the squad for the two-match Test series against Bangladesh.

Deep justified his selection by returning with two wickets in India's 280-run win against Bangladesh in the opening Test in Chennai, and looked on course to cement his side for the second Test in Kanpur. However, as it appears that the track might be a spin-friendly one in Kanpur, and thus India might be tempted to add an additional spinner in the line-up.

In that scenario, it could be a toss-up between Deep and Mohammed Siraj to pair up with pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah. But going by the national team's media activity on Wednesday, it appears that the Bengal seamer might edge his Hyderabad teammate. Deep was sent to the press conference on Wednesday.

The 27-year-old, who once struggled to get games for Bengal and was the third in

the state side's pecking order of pacers behind Ishan Porel and Mukesh Kumar, has arguably sealed his place in the Test side, with impressive performances in limited opportunities.

However, Deep, who went against his family's wishes to pursue a career in cricket, with a dream of representing India, believes in keeping things simple without putting too much pressure on himself.

With India set to play three more Tests against New Zealand at home next month, before travelling Down Under for a gruelling five-Test series later this year, Deep could prove to be one of India's potent weapons as Rohit Sharma & Co aims to retain the Border-Gavaskar trophy.

"I'm not thinking too far ahead. I try to keep things simple and not put myself under pressure. For the last two seasons, I have played a lot of cricket. I have worked on my strengths," said Deep. Hailing from a nondescript Dehri village in Bihar's Sasaram, Deep lost both his father and elder brother due to lack of proper medical facilities back in the village. Despite the setbacks, he continued in his pursuit of representing India at the highest level.

Recollecting the moment when his name was

announced in the Test side for the England series, Deep said to himself, "Every kid dreams about playing for India. The goal is always to live up to the standards."

The right-arter now aims to imbibe the dedication and hard work from the two stalwarts of Indian cricket - Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma.

"They are legends of the game. Still, the dedication they show and the hard work they put in every day... I have been learning about dedication and hard work from Virat bhai and Rohit bhaiya. I consider myself lucky to play under Rohit bhaiya. He has never put me under any pressure. He has always backed me to play freely," said Deep.

Akash revealed that the surface in Kanpur appears a sporting one, where the batters and bowlers will not get enough help but it won't deteriorate as well. He expects a healthy competition and mentioned that the bowlers will need to maintain their line and length to find success in the second Test.

"I think this is a sporting pitch. Not very helpful, not docile either. At the end of the day, you have to bowl in the right areas," Deep said while fondly recalling a childhood memory of how the name "Green Park" made him think everything around the stadium would be green.

## From 'Nanha' to national star: How Pro Kabaddi transformed Narender's life

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEP 25

In Haryana's nondescript Budain village, a young boy nicknamed Nanha would spend his days watching older kids practise kabaddi. During those days, little did anyone imagine that the curious kid, named Narender, would one day go on to become one of the sport's rising stars.

The youngster will now enter his third season with the Tamil Thalaivas, having made his debut with the side in season 9. The side will kick start their campaign against the Telugu Titans on October 19. "Even now, in the village, everyone who used to play with me calls me by my nickname Nanha. I wasn't very tall as a kid, which is why the name stuck. Now I have a decent height, but the name still remains," Narender fondly recalled in an interaction ahead of the 11th season of the Pro Kabaddi League. Narender's journey



into kabaddi began like a scene from a heartwarming sports movie. "As a kid, I was drawn to the kabaddi grounds where the older boys played. What started as fun with the senior players soon became a passion. Initially, I was just a spectator who didn't have

many friends, but before I knew it, kabaddi gave me a family," he recollected.

His dedication caught the eye of Sandeep Kandola, a local kabaddi coach, who took him under his wings, and went on to fine-tune the youngster's skills. "A small

kid used to come to watch the senior players practice with a lot of dedication. Seeing him showing such interest in the sport, I pushed him to play every day," shared Kandola.

Narender acknowledged the contribution of his family

and coach in shaping his career. "My family and my coach have been very important in my development as a kabaddi player. My coach, who had a government job, was also a kabaddi player. He has kept up the tradition of the sport in our village."