

AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH

Title Code - UPENG04488

NATIONAL ENGLISH DAILY

MORNING EDITION PRAYAGRAJ

Tuesday 07 May, 2024

UNIQUE GIFT OF KRIYAYOGA ASHRAM AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE TO GIVE IMPETUS TO WORLD BUILDING AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT.

Cash seizure: PM says 'taking legal advice on returning looted corruption money to people

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said he was taking legal advice on how to return the money of poor people 'looted' in corruption as he cited the "mounds of cash" seized during ED raids in Jharkhand at the premises of a domestic help allegedly linked to the secretary of Congress minister Alamgir Alam. The probe agency has claimed to have recovered an estimated Rs 20-30 crore "unaccounted" cash during searches. Referring to the seizure, Modi wondered why such persons were "close to the Congress's first family" and sought answers from Rahul Gandhi. "Why is that those, from whom mounds of cash are recovered, are close to the Congress's first family? Was the seized cash meant for supply somewhere, is it that Congress's first family has created warehouses of black money? The country wants to know



from Congress shehzada," the PM said at an election rally in an apparent jibe at Rahul Gandhi. "They have made the worker's house a godown of corruption. This is not the first time as a bigger seizure was made from an MP (in Jharkhand) earlier also and it was such a big cache that even machines were tired of counting," PM Modi said. The Prime Minister alleged that the Congress and INDI alliance people 'abuse' him whenever he 'catches' their black money. However, he was worried not about the abuses, but the poor, "whose money these corrupt have looted." Prime Minister

'It is not right to comment on the raids'

There are several government employees and we usually appoint personal secretary based on experience. It is not right to comment on the raids before the ED investigation is completed," Alam said. The ED searches were linked to a money laundering case against the former chief engineer of the rural works department, Veerendra Kumar Ram, who was arrested last year. "Veerendra Kumar Ram, posted as chief engineer in the Rural Works Department in Ranchi, had generated proceeds of crime in the name of commission from contractors in lieu of allotment of tenders to them," the agency had alleged in a statement issued last year in April after it attached assets worth Rs 39 crore of the officer. erated were used by Veerendra Kumar Ram.

Mamata Banerjee's politics dirty, says West Bengal governor CV

NEW DELHI: West Bengal governor CV Ananda Bose responded to allegations of sexual harassment made against him by chief minister Mamata Banerjee, asserting that her politics is "dirty" and expressing his disappointment at being dragged into political controversies during the ongoing elections. Earlier, Mamata Banerjee slammed governor Bose for his alleged misconduct towards a woman employee at Raj Bhavan. Mamata expressed her shock at the governor's behavior, citing the woman's video testimony in which she claimed to have been harassed and called at odd hours. "Yesterday, a young woman who worked at Raj Bhavan came out and spoke against the governor's harassment...the tears of the woman broke my heart. I have seen her video testimony," said Mamata at an election rally in Purba



CM Siddaramaiah defends SIT in sexual assault probe against MP Prajwal Revanna

NEW DELHI: Karnataka chief minister Siddaramaiah on Monday defended the Special Investigation Team's (SIT) probe into sexual assault allegations against MP Prajwal Revanna, rejecting claims of government interference. He

accused BJP's Devaraj Gowda of making misleading accusations and urged central government cooperation to bring Revanna back to India. Siddaramaiah in his tweet said, to probe the allegations of sexual assault against MP Prajwal Revanna.

Bardhaman." The woman cried and walked out saying she was too scared to work at Raj Bhavan anymore. She said that she was called at odd hours and was subjected to harassment," she added. Referring to Mamata's remark

against him governor Bose said, "The Governor is supposed to stay away from politics. Now I am very sorry that the Chief Minister has dragged me into politics, especially at a time when the elections are going on..."

Manika Batra historic win against World No. 2 Wang Manyu

NEW DELHI: Indian table tennis star Manika Batra bested the current World No. 2 Wang Manyu of China to enter the last 16 of the ongoing Saudi Smash in Jeddah on Monday. Addressing the media following her monumental triumph, the Indian paddler celebrated the win as the "biggest achievement" of her career in singles. "It was my biggest achievement in my singles' career. I am really happy that I won against her. I have been working hard in my training sessions with my coach Aman Balgu, my practice partner and trainer. So I am really happy because I worked hard (for this result).

Maldives urges Indians to 'be a part' of its tourism, says country's economy

NEW DELHI: The Maldivian tourism minister, Ibrahim Faisal, has appealed to Indian tourists to continue visiting the archipelago nation, emphasising the historical ties between the two countries. In an interview with PTI Videos, Faisal stated, "We have a history. Our newly elected government also wants to work together (with India). We always promote peace and a friendly environment. d the government will give a warm welcome to Indian arrivals. As the Tourism Minister, I want to tell Indians to please be a part of Maldives' tourism. Our economy depends on tourism." The minister's plea comes amidst a significant decline in Indian tourist arrivals following derogatory remarks made by three Maldivian officials against India and Prime Minister Narendra Modi on social media. The backlash led to numerous cancellations and a drop in India's position from the top visitor country to the sixth position after January. According to a report by sun.mv, tourist arrivals from India declined by 42 per cent in the first four months of this year compared to the same period last year. The strained relations between India and the Maldives have been attributed to the new administration led by President Mohamed Muizzu, who is widely seen as a pro-China leader. Since assuming office in November last year, Muizzu has maintained his election promise of evicting Indian military personnel from the Maldives, forcing the withdrawal of 88 Indian military personnel manning three aviation platforms gifted by India. Muizzu has previously accused India of meddling in the affairs of the Maldives and won the presidential elections in September last year with an "India Out" campaign. Despite the current challenges, the Maldives remains a key maritime neighbour for India in the Indian Ocean Region and holds a special place in India's initiatives like 'SAGAR' and the 'Neighbourhood First Policy'.

'Terror funding': Delhi LG seeks NIA probe against AAP; 'political conspiracy', says party

NEW DELHI: Delhi Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena has sought an NIA probe into a complaint against the Arvind Kejriwal-led Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) for allegedly receiving political funding from the banned terrorist organisation 'Sikhs for Justice'. Reacting to the development, Delhi minister and AAP leader Saurabh Bharadwaj said that the "LG is an agent of BJP". "This is another



big conspiracy against CM Kejriwal by them at the behest of the BJP. The BJP is losing all the seven seats in Delhi and hence is upset. BJP had hatched this conspiracy even before the Punjab Assembly elections," said Bharadwaj. Delhi minister and AAP leader Gopal Rai said: "When Punjab elections were going on and the BJP was losing it, they played the same tape recorder, people of Punjab gave the reply

by badly defeating BJP. Today, the BJP is again losing and INDIA alliance is winning ... first they put Arvind Kejriwal in jail and when the whole of Delhi stood by him, they hatched a new conspiracy. People will give the answer to this conspiracy on May 25 with the power of vote. LG is an agent of BJP, whatever button is pressed, he speaks accordingly or else he will be removed."

No pilots needed: US Air Force set to have over 1,000 AI-flown

NEW DELHI: In the US Air Force, Artificial Intelligence is set to take the driver seat instead of a conventional pilot controlling the Air Force jet. US Air Force Secretary Frank Kendall flew a fighter jet on Friday that was piloted by AI over the deserts in California, as reported by Fox news. Last month, Kendall announced his intention to pilot an AI-controlled F-16 to the US Senate appropriations committee's defense



panel, discussing the future of air warfare relying on autonomously operated drones. On Friday, the senior Air Force leader carried out his plans, achieving what might be one of the most significant advancements in mili-

tary aviation since the introduction of stealth planes in the early 1990s. According to Fox news, the US Air Force plans to have more than 1,000 AI-flown planes in commission, with the first in operation by 2028.

Voting in 94 constituencies across 11 states and Union territories in Phase 3

NEW DELHI: Voting is set to be held in 94 constituencies spread over 11 states and Union territories on Tuesday, marking the third phase of Lok Sabha polls. The stakes are high, particularly for the BJP, which secured an overwhelming majority of these seats, including all in Gujarat, Karnataka, Bihar, and Madhya Pradesh, in the last election. Over 11 crore people will be eligible to vote in Phase 3.

Key candidates in fray
Over 1,300 candidates, including around 120 women, are contesting in this phase. Among the notable candidates are Union ministers Amit Shah (Gandhinagar),



Jyotiraditya Scindia (Guna), Mansukh Mandaviya (Porbandar), Parshottam Rupala (Rajkot), Pralhad Joshi (Dharwad) and SP Singh Baghel (Agra).
Polling details
With Surat already secured by the BJP unopposed, voting will take place in 25 seats in Prime Minister Modi's home state of Gujarat, 11 seats in Maharashtra, 10 seats in Uttar Pradesh, and the remaining 14 of the 28 in Karnataka.

Additionally, constituencies in Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Assam, West Bengal, Goa, and the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu will go to polls. Narendra Modi and Amit Shah are expected to cast their votes in Gujarat. Former Madhya Pradesh chief ministers Shivraj Singh Chouhan (Vidisha) and Digvijaya Singh (Rajgarh) have also returned to the Lok Sabha electoral fray this time.
Key contests

Odisha CM's helicopter makes emergency landing

BHUBANESWAR: A helicopter in which chief minister Naveen Patnaik and his trusted aide bureaucrat-turned politician V K Pandian were on board, couldn't land here at Biju Patnaik International Airport (BPIA) due to strong wind triggered by norwester. It had to return to Jharsuguda's Veer Surendra Sai Airport for priority landing. After a 20-minute wait at Jharsuguda, the helicopter with CM took off from Jharsuguda and landed in Bhubaneswar at 5.5 pm. "There was heavy wind and the air traffic control here didn't allow landing. The pilot took a call to take it to the nearest airport for safety. Bhubaneswar sky and had descended for landing," said airport director Prasanna Pradhan.

Can a candidate contest from two seats in Lok Sabha Elections?

NEW DELHI: In India, the concept of a candidate contesting from two seats or constituencies in the Lok Sabha Election is not uncommon, although with certain legal provisions and historical precedents. Recently, the question around dual candidature arose when Congress leader Rahul Gandhi filed his nomination from Uttar Pradesh's Rai Bareilly after contesting from Kerala's Wayanad in the second phase. Apart from Rahul Gandhi, in the Odisha assembly election, being held simultaneously, chief minister Naveen Patnaik has filed nominations from two seats -- Kantabanji and Hinjili s s e m b l y seats. According to the Representation of the People Act, of 1951, an individual is legally permitted to contest elec-

tions from two Lok Sabha constituencies simultaneously. However, if the candidate wins from both constituencies, they must vacate one seat within fourteen days, triggering a by-election in the constituency they choose to relinquish. This provision is in place to prevent an individual from holding multiple seats in the Lok Sabha, ensuring representation is not concentrated in the hands of one individual and promoting fairness in the electoral process. Historically, there have been instances where prominent politicians have contested from two constituencies in the Lok Sabha Elections. One notable example is former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who contested from Lucknow and Gandhinagar.

SPG (Special Purpose Group) squad formed for checking campaign in Prayagraj Div

Prayagraj: Divisional Railway Manager/Prayagraj, Himanshu Badoni to ensure better services to the railway passengers with safe, pleasant and comfortable journey. As per the instructions, under the leadership of Senior Divisional Commercial Manager/Coaching, Himanshu Shukla, the Commerce Department and Railway Protection Force for the campaign against illegal vending, chain pulling, ticketless travel, irregular travel, unbooked luggage, disabled coaches, women coaches, RMS and smoking. Together, SPG Squad (Special Purpose Group Squad) was formed. 04 Supervisors/Inspectors of Commerce Department and 01 Sub In-



spector, 02 Head Constables and 01 Constable of Railway Protection Force will work together in the SPG Squad. On 05.05.2024, SPG squad

conducted operation between Prayagraj - Fatehpur-Kanpur by train number 12311 Howrah-Kalka Netaji Superfast Express, 15483

Alipurduar - Sikkim Mahananda Express, 12488 Anand Vihar Terminal-Jogbani Seemanchal Superfast Express, 18101 Tata-

Jammuthavi Express, 12312 Kalka-Howrah Netaji Superfast Express and 12506 Anand Vihar Terminal-Kamakhya North East Su-

perfast Express were checked.

In this checking campaign, a total of Rs 67,873/- was recovered by charging 129 passengers. Of these, 27 passengers were caught without tickets and a recovery of Rs 16,915/-, 92 passengers were caught traveling irregularly and a recovery of Rs 40,570/- was done, 6 passengers were caught for littering and a recovery of Rs 1700/- was done without booking. 8688/- rupees were recovered by charging 4 passengers carrying luggage. North Central Railways appeals to all its respected railway passengers to travel with proper and valid railway tickets to avoid inconvenience and travel with dignity.

Voter awareness and signature campaign conducted

Prayagraj: Voter awareness and signature campaign was conducted under the joint aegis of Central Reserve Police Force 93 Battalion Prayagraj and Prime Rose Education Institute. Voter awareness and signature campaign was conducted at Gate No. 2 of Muderan Mandi



Prayagraj in which Central Reserve Police Force Commandant Mr. Anil Shukla and Assistant Commandant. This program was started by Shri Ajay Kumar. The program was conducted by Mr. Farhan Alam, Manager of Prim Rose Education Institute, along with CRPF and local people also raised slogans with placards, in which slogans like vote is our right, don't make it useless were written. Mainly in the program, Shivam Dua, Zakir Ali Khan, Prateek Tiwari, Himanshu, Manoj and the entire CRPF team were present.

Student felicitation ceremony organized at KP

Prayagraj: A student felicitation ceremony was organized at K.P Girls Inter College under the aegis of K.P. Alumni. Dr. Kamini Srivastava, an alumnus of the school, was the chief guest and Ravi Prakash, Ravindra



Srivastava, Lalji Kesari, Triveni Lal Srivastava, Sharadchandra Srivastava were present as special guests. Event conducted by Sneha Sudha. The program was presided over by the school principal, Amita Saxena and the vote of thanks was given by Dr. Rakhi Chaudhary. Intermediate Arts Class First - Tasmiya Qureshi Second - Khushi Kesarwani Third - Shivani Kumari Savita Science Class First - Nagita Second - Ishika Sonkar Third - Priya Kumari. High School 1st - Sejal Soni 2nd - Priyanka Kumari Rawat 3rd - Ishita Gupta.

Meraj Mehdi of SMC secures 91% in ICSE board exam

Prayagraj: Meraj Mehdi of St. Mary's Convent Inter College gave credit to the class teacher and parents for securing 91 percent marks in ICSE board. Meraj Mehdi, daughter of teacher Syed Mohammad Mehdi, working as a lecturer in a college in Azamgarh, and mother Durfeshan Abdi, working in the forest department. She brought glory to Prayagraj by securing 91 percent marks in Class 12 from CISCE Board while studying in St. Mary's Convent Inter College, Prayagraj. While reaching the house of Meraj Mehdi, resident of Koft Gran Tola Rani Mandi, people congratulated her mother on daughter's success and expressed their gratitude towards her. On the success, Meraj Mehdi gave the credit for it to the class teacher along with his parents. When asked by the journalists, she talked about continuing her further studies and joining the civil service. Social workers Syed Mohammad Askari, Zulqarnain Abdi, Darqshan Abdi, Syedain Abdi congratulated her.



Belstar Microfinance Ltd files DRHP with SEBI to raise up to Rs 1,300 crore

Varanasi: Belstar Microfinance Ltd has filed its draft red herring prospectus with market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India. The company offers a wide range of loan products such as micro enterprise, small enterprise, consumer goods, festival, education and emergency loans. The company plans to raise funds aggregating up to ? 13,000 million [? 1,300 crore] through an initial public offering of equity shares (face value ? 10 each). The total offer size comprises - (i) fresh issue of equity shares aggregating up to ? 10,000 million and (ii) offer for sale of equity shares aggregating up to ? 3,000 million. The Company proposes to use the net proceeds of the fresh issue to meet future capital requirements for estimated further borrowings of ?7,600 million in FY2025 and the balance for general corporate purposes.

The offer for sale comprises equity shares aggregating up to ?1,750 million by MAJ Invest Financial Inclusion Fund II K/S; also, equity shares aggregating up to ?970 million by Arum Holdings Limited and up to ?280 million by Augusta Investments Zero Pte Ltd. ICICI Securities Limited, Axis Capital Limited, HDFC Bank Limited and SBI Capital Markets Limited are the book running lead managers to the IPO issue. BML aims to be a socially responsible microfinance institution, driving financial inclusion across the country by furthering entrepreneurship and economic empowerment of women through the provision of credit in rural and semi-urban areas.

14-day Summer Theatre Workshop kicks off

Prayagraj: Eminent theatre group of the city, Vinod Rastogi Smriti Sansthan commenced a 14-day Summer Theatre Workshop from May 6 at Maharashtra Lok Sewa Mandal, Alopibagh from 8.00 am to 11.00 am. It will be quite beneficial for the young theatre artists because the workshop will cover almost all aspects of Indian and western theatre. Resource persons at this workshop will be Dr Mukesh Upadhyay Asst Prof Performing Arts, Haryana Central University Mahendragarh, and Arun Srivastava, research scholar in Theatre Arts, Rajasthan University, Jaipur. Besides academic lectures the workshop will include theatre related exercises and games to make it interesting. No fee is being charged in a bid to make theatre popular among the younger generation.

Pooja Jagannath Sonpakar gets PhD degree in education

Prayagraj: SHUATS scholar Pooja Jagannath Sonpakar was awarded PhD degree in education after completing her research work at Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture, Technology and Science (SHUATS). The chairperson in the final viva of Pooja Sonpakar was Professor (Dr.) Anshu while the external examiner was Prof.



Pratibha Upadhyay former Head, Department of Education, University of Allahabad. Pooja Sonpakar's PhD guide was Dr. Anupama Mehta. Pooja's research title was "Re-emergence of Vedic Education in Modern Era". Her thesis gives comprehensive information of ancient texts which can be decoded and can be used in present scenario. Associate Dean Dr. Samala S. Masih, SFMC Dean Dr. Ashish Alexander, Dr. Niharika Dennis, Dr. Anupama Mehta, Dr. Avis Chintamani, Dr. Prem Prabha, Dr. Chetna Pandey, Dr. Sangeeta Alfred, Dr. Kirti Cutting, Dr. Syeda Sara Aziz, Dr. Jyotsna Jaiswal, Dr. Prakshobh, Dr. Anjani Saxena etc. were present in final viva voce exam.

Candidate's victory, Advocate's victory: Jaivardhan Tripathi

Prayagraj: Lok Sabha elections are at its peak, even in the scorching heat, candidates and their supporting organizations are fully active. In this sequence, today's meeting of Law Cell Prayagraj, Lok Sabha Phulpur Central Office Elections for the support of candidate Praveen Patel ji. In the meeting held at the office of George Town Club, the entire team under the leadership of Legal Cell Metropolitan Convener Jaivardhan Tripathi took a pledge to work shoulder to shoulder in the elections. Jaivardhan Tripathi said that because our BJP candidates on both the Lok Sabha seats come from the advocate community. So his victory will not only be his or the BJP organization's victory but will also be called a victory for us advocates as well. This will increase the respect of the advocates. Therefore, it is our moral duty to set our targets for each advocate in the locality of a hundred houses and go to each house to check the candidate's name. As the

chief guest in the meeting, state co-coordinator Arvind Singh reminded the advocates of their power. Explaining many interesting incidents, he inspired the advocate community to participate strongly in the elec-



tions. Law Cell Kashi Area Convener Devendranath Mishra said that since Phulpur Lok Sabha seat also houses Allahabad High Court and District Court, hence there should be victory with record votes. Co-coordinator Kashi Area Ashutosh Pandey said that in the past too, big programs have been organized by the Law Cell continuously, assembly elections and municipal bodies. In the Lok

Sabha elections also, a bigger and grand program will be organized in the metropolis. State Working Committee Member BJP Mrityunjay Tiwari Former General Secretary BJP Shyam Chandra Hela Ravindra Tripathi also

expressed his views Newly elected Vice President of High Court Bar Association Gan Pandit Akhilesh Mishra Agnihotri Tripathi And Neeraj Tripathi was also present.

Akhilesh Mishra told that after taking oath in the High Court Executive, this is my first public program for which, while expressing my gratitude to Jaivardhan Tripathi ji, I want to tell that on your request, the entire

DRT AId quashes ADM Agra order under section 14 of SARFAESI Act

Lawyer Arif Iqbal argued on behalf on firm & action of bank considered null & void

Prayagraj: R. M. Kushwaha Presiding Officer Debts Recovery Tribunal, Allahabad has revoked the order passed by ADM Agra under section 14 of SARFAESI Act. The order categorically states that the SARFAESI Application filed by the S. Applicants is, hereby, allowed, the Symbolic Possession. Notice dated 17.11.2021 together with the entire subsequent actions including the order dated 11.01.2022 of the ADM is, hereby, set aside. Interim I.A./interim order, if any, stands disposed off/vacated.

Debts Recovery Tribunal (DRT), Allahabad has declared all the actions taken by the bank under SARFAESI Act involving M/s Jagdish and Sons. The bank took the process of recovery of its dues from M/s Jagdish & Sons, Agra, and took physical possession of the mortgaged property under SARFAESI Act. Under Section 14 of the Act, order was passed by ADM Agra on 11.1.22, which was challenged in DRT Allahabad that the action of the bank is against

of ADM, Agra is against the rules. The order was passed by the presiding officer R. M. Kushwaha after listening to the firm's lawyer Arif Iqbal and bank's advocate Lakit Prakash.

It is submitted by the Ld. Counsel for the respondent Financial Institution that the present SA is barred by limitation, as the S. Applicants have filed this SA on 27.06.2022, challenging the order dated 11.01.2022, passed by the Additional District Magistrate (F&R), Agra U/S 14 of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 together with the Symbolic Possession Notice dated 17.11.2021 and Demand Notice dated 20.04.2021. It is submitted that as per the SARFAESI Act, 2002, any person aggrieved by any of the action of the Bank may prefer SA but not beyond 45 days' and in the present case, the S.A. has been filed by the S. Applicants after more than 150 days, therefore, the SA is barred by limitation.

It is submitted by the Ld. Counsel for the S. Applicants that the present SA has been filed by the S. Applicants on 24.06.2022, challenging the order dated

11.01.2022, passed by the Additional District Magistrate (F&R), Agra U/S 14 of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 together with the Symbolic Possession Notice dated 17.11.2021 and Demand Notice dated 20.04.2021. It is further submitted that before passing the order dated 11.01.2022 U/S 14 of the SARFAESI Act, 2002, the Additional District Magistrate (F&R), Agra has never issued any notice to the S. Applicants and the order dated 11.01.2022 was an ex-parte order.

This SA has been filed by the S. Applicants, challenging the entire SARFAESI actions including order of the ADM dated 11.01.2022. The entire SARFAESI actions have been initiated by the respondent Financial Institution for recovery of Rs. 3,18,81,628.61 plus interest and other charges.

Reply of the SA has been filed by the respondent Financial Institution, denying all the allegations as levelled by the S. Applicants.

Ld. Counsels for the parties are heard on limitation aspect of the matter.

It is submitted by the

Ld. Counsel for the respondent Financial Institution that the present SA is barred by limitation, as the S. Applicants have filed this SA on 27.06.2022, challenging the order dated 11.01.2022, passed by the Additional District Magistrate (F&R), Agra U/S 14 of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 together with the Symbolic Possession Notice dated 17.11.2021 and Demand Notice dated 20.04.2021. It is submitted that as per the SARFAESI Act, 2002, any person aggrieved by any of the action of the Bank may prefer SA but not beyond 45 days' and in the present case, the S.A. has been filed by the S. Applicants after more than 150 days, therefore, the SA is barred by limitation.

It is submitted by the Ld. Counsel for the S. Applicants that the present SA has been filed by the S. Applicants on 24.06.2022, challenging the order dated 11.01.2022, passed by the Additional District Magistrate (F&R), Agra U/S 14 of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 together with the Symbolic Possession Notice dated 17.11.2021 and Demand Notice dated

20.04.2021. It is further submitted that before passing the order dated 11.01.2022 U/S 14 of the SARFAESI Act, 2002, the Additional District Magistrate (F&R), Agra has never issued any notice to the S. Applicants and the order dated 11.01.2022 was an ex-parte order. It is further submitted that the Officer of the respondent Financial Institution has informed to the Applicants about the aforesaid order on 10.06.2022 whereupon, the S. Applicants applied the order dated 11.01.2022 and obtained the same on 15.06.2022 and thereafter, the SA was filed on 24.06.2022 which is within 45 days from the date of knowledge. It is further submitted that during the pendency of the present SA, in pursuance of the order dated 11.01.2022 of the ADM, Agra, the City Magistrate, Agra has issued the notice dated 23.12.2023 for taking physical possession of the property in question which has also been challenged by the S. Applicants vide amendment. It is further submitted that since during the pendency of the

SA, the notice dated 23.12.2023 has been issued by the City Magistrate, Agra, therefore, as per the judgment passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the case of ARCE POLYMERS PRIVATE LIMITED, the SA has been filed within limitation.

Considered the rival submissions advanced on behalf of the parties and perused the record.

On perusal of record, it appears that the present SA has been filed by the S. Applicants before this Tribunal on 24.06.2022 vide which, the order dated 11.01.2022, of the ADM (F&R) passed U/S 14 of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 together with the Symbolic Possession Notice dated 17.11.2021 and Demand Notice dated 20.04.2021 has been challenged. Further, as per the S. Applicants on receiving information from the Officer of the respondent Financial Institution, they came to know about the aforesaid order dated 11.01.2022 on 10.06.2022 whereupon, they obtained the order dated 11.01.2022 on 15.06.2022 and they filed the present SA on 24.06.2022.

Golden opportunity to travel to South India via IRCTC's Bharat Gaurav Tourist Train

Prayagraj: Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited, IRCTC, is a Central Public Sector Enterprise under the Ministry of Railways, Government of India. IRCTC has been set up as an extended arm of Indian Railways to upgrade, professionalise and manage catering and hospitality services at stations, trains and other places and to promote domestic and international tourism. Government of India " Under the scheme "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat" and "Dekho Apna Desh" scheme, IRCTC has launched 'South India Tour' by Bharat Gaurav Tourist Train from Yoganagari Rishikesh to visit Mallikarjun Jyotirlinga, Tirupati Balaji Temple, Ramnath Swami Temple (Rameshwaram), Meenakshi Temple, Kanyakumari. Therefore, due to limited seats available, book your seat as soon as possible.

The main attractions of this journey are as follows: Travel date 07.06.2024 to 18.06.2024 (11 nights and 12 days) Category wise total number of berths - 76702 AC (total 49 seats), 03 AC (total 70 seats) and Sleeper (total 648 seats))Alighting/Deboarding Stations Yoganagari Rishikesh, Haridwar, Moradabad, Bareilly, Shahjahanpur, Hardoi, Lucknow, Rae Bareilly Jn., Prapatgarh, Prayagraj,

Jn Manikpur and Satna Destinations covered - Mallikarjuna Jyotirlinga Tirupati Balaji Temple, Tirupati Meenakshi Temple, Madurairamath Swamy Temple, Rameshwaram Local Sightseeing Venue,



Kanyakumari Features- This package includes train journey, hotel stay with all three meals and local excursion by buses. In economy class (sleeper class) the package price is Rs. 22250/- per person and the package price per child (5-11 years) is Rs. 20910/- (Sleeper class train travel,

accommodation in non-AC hotels on double/triple, wash and change in multi-share non-AC hotel rooms and arrangement for non-AC transport) Package price for accommodation in standard class (3AC class) - Rs. 37000 The package price per person and per child (5-11 years) is Rs.35430/- (3AC class train travel, accommodation in AC hotels on double/triple, wash and change in non-AC hotel rooms on double/triple and arrangement for non-AC transport) Package price for accommodation in comfort class (2AC class) - Rs. 49000. The package price per person and per child (5-11 years) is Rs. 47120/- (2 AC class train travel, accommodation in AC hotels on double/triple, wash and change in AC hotel rooms on double/triple and arrangement for AC transport).

LTC and EMI facility is also available in it. EMI facility can be availed from 14 government and non-government banks available on IRCTC portal. EMI is available at Rs 1079/- per person per month. Booking of this package will be done on 'first come first serve' basis. For booking of the said journey, online booking can also be done at the IRCTC office located at Paryatan Bhawan, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow and from IRCTC website www.irctctourism.com.

Voter awareness via free sherbet in Rajrooppur

Prayagraj: In view of this scorching heat, the organization - Poonam Sant Mahila Evam Vikas Samiti will provide the facility of continuous distribution of sherbet and drinking water for the general public at various places and the continuous distribution of sherbet in Rajrooppur continued like every day. President of the organization Poonam Sant said that this is a sacred work and more and more



people should participate in this work and keep distributing sherbet and water to get relief from the heat. Rickshaw pullers, working class people and common people are benefiting

from this noble cause. This is truly an act of social consciousness which every citizen should take the responsibility of doing. In today's work, organization's coordinator Isabel Brandish also distributed sherbet and water to the passers-by. A large number of women, mainly secretary of the organization Abhishek Sant, Shrishti Kumari, Prince Kumar, Chahat Tiwari, Satikala, Meera, Gudiy, Preeti Prajapati, Sanjana, Gunja Devi etc. participated in the program and provided support in this noble cause.

Boys' High School & College students continue to bask on glory of success

Prayagraj: It is a matter of great pride that the students of Boys' High School (BHS) and College have once again excelled in ICSE (10) and ISC (12) 2024 Board Examinations. The school has achieved cent percent result in the ICSE (10) and ISC (12) examination. In the ICSE, all the 527 students and in the ISC, 344 students who appeared for the examination passed with flying colours.

ICSE (10) 2024 TOPPERS: VINAYAK CHANDRA SRIVASTAVA 98%, SHREYASH KRISHNA 97, MOHD ANSARI 97, ANNIRUDHA MOHAN SRIVASTAVA 97, PRATYUSH PANDEY 96, SIDDHARTH TRIPATHI



96, ADITYA GUPTA 94, AARIZ KHAN 94, VEDANT GUPTA 94, SHIVANSHAGRAWAL 94, DIVYANSH KRISHNA 94, SHISHIR KUMAR SINGH 94 and YASH JAIN 94. ISC (12) 2024 TOPPERS: ANMOL KRISHNA SINGH 99, SAKSHAM PRAJAPATI 98, MADHUR KAPOOR 98, PRANAY

TRIPATHI 98, ARYAN TIWARI 98, TATSAT TIWARI 97, ARPIT SINGH 97, SHAURYA RAI 97, ABHINAV SINGH 97, SAUMYA TRIPATHI 97, ARNAV GUPTA 97, DIVYANSH DWIVEDI 97 and SATVIK DEORAH 97. The notable feature is that 104 students have secured more than 90% marks in the

ICSE examination. In the ISC examination, 31 students have secured more than 90% marks in the aggregate. The Principal Mr. D. A. Luke congratulated the achievers for their astounding success and keeping the flag of the school flying high. He applauded the efforts of teachers and parents in shaping the future of the students.

Girls of Unity Public School topped

ISC (SCIENCE)						
TAIBA ANSARI (92.25%)	FATMA AKHTAR (91.00%)	MAHEK KUSHWAHA (88.5%)	ZAINAB MOQUEM (87.25%)	SAMAD ALI (86.00%)	ZIKRA FATIMA (86.00%)	AFIFA FATIMA (82.50%)
ISC (COMMERCE)						
SYED SHAFAT HAIDER (96.75%)	SAMEENA ABIDI (92.25%)	ABEEHA RIZVI (89.50%)	ARFAT MEHBOOB (89.50%)	ABIYA RAZA (88.00%)	AMINA SARWAR (88.00%)	ZAINUL HASAN (88.00%)
ICSE (SCIENCE)						
SAFIYA JAMAL (94.20%)	FADIYA ANSARI (93.20%)	SIDRA INTEZAR (90.20%)	ALI MURTAZA (88.40%)	ALISHBA HASHIM (86.00%)		
ICSE (COMMERCE)						
AFNAN KHAN (92.80%)	FATIMA ZEHRA (87.80%)	ZAINAB FATMA (83.60%)	INSHA RASHID (82.40%)	MALIHA ABBAS (82.20%)		

Prayagraj: ICSE Board has announced the results of class 10th and 12th examination on Monday, in which the girls of class 10th and 12th of Unity Public School have brought success to the school and brought glory to their families by securing more than 90 marks.

By getting 87.7% marks in ICSE board, Vagisha brings laurels to school

Prayagraj: As soon as the ICSE Board 10th results were declared, the students jumped with joy. Vagisha Kesarwani, the twelfth student of Prayagraj IPM International School, has brought glory to the school as well as the society by securing 87.75 percent marks in the 12th board. Born in a very ordinary family, Vagisha's father Krishna Kesarwani is a businessman by profession, he is from Rajapur. He is also the General Secretary of the Trade Board. Along with business and social service, he spends time with his children and plays a very active role in their education and career. Vagisha told that she wants to become a Chartered Accountant (CA) later in her career but if she gets a chance, she also wants to serve the country by joining administrative service. She likes to visit philosophical places. There is an atmosphere of happiness in the family due to his success.



Assistant Registrar confiscates power of Morris Edgar Dan as Ahd High School Society chairman

Prayagraj: The Assistant Registrar by an order dated 03.05.2024 has restricted Morris Edgar Dan from taking any decision in terms of his earlier order dated 27.03.2024 until further orders. The Assistant Registrar has further fixed a date of hearing in the matter on 31st May 2024 to deal with the objections raised by various persons. With the sudden turn of events, Dan cannot claim himself to be the Chairman of the Allahabad High School Society.

According to an earlier order, Peter Baldev will remain Bishop. The civil judge has given the order after listening to Peter Baldev's advocate Hari Krishna Pandey alias Sunil and the opposition's advocate.

Synopsis of case: Peter

Baldev became Bishop after getting 20 votes out of 20 in the election of Church of North India on August 5, 2015. Peter Baldev's bail was accepted by the High Court on 20 February 2023. He went to jail in 2022 in a corruption case. When he was on bail, on the same day, Peter Baldev was wrongly and illegally dismissed by the Church of North India without giving him a chance to be heard by the Bishop. Dr. Peter filed an appeal before the Civil Judge Senior Category against the order against his dismissal. Baldev vs. Church of North India was filed, in which the civil judge passed an order to maintain the status quo on the above dismissal order on 3 May, 2023. Writs were filed against him in the op-

position High Court and a request was made to cancel the stay order passed by the civil judge. Dr. Peter



Baldev had filed a petition in the Supreme Court against the order of the High Court, in which his application was ordered to be disposed of.

After the order, it becomes clear that all the

rights and powers of the Bishop of Lucknow Diocese will be with Bishop Peter Baldev. It is noteworthy that after being dismissed from the post of Bishop, he had filed a case before the Civil Judge in which he was removed from the post. After listening to both the parties, it was again ordered that he will continue in his post. In this way, if Morris Dan writes Bishop in future, it will be contempt of court. Peter Baldev was elected Bishop in the Church of North India elections on 5 August 2015 by getting 20 out of 20 votes. Peter Baldev of Corruption was elected Bishop in the Church of North India elections on 5 August 2015 by getting 20 out of 20 votes. He had to go to jail in 2022 in a corruption case. On 20

February 2023, the High Court accepted the bail of Peter Baldev. When he was released on bail, Peter Baldev was dismissed from the post of bishop by the Church of North India on the same day without giving him a chance to be heard. Peter Baldev vs Church of North India was filed before the Civil Judge Senior Category against the above order of dismissal from Peter Baldev. In which on May 3, 2023, the civil judge passed an order to maintain the status quo on the above dismissal order. The opposition had filed a writ against him in the High Court and requested to cancel the stay order passed by the civil judge. Peter Baldev had filed a petition in the Supreme Court against the order of the High

Court, in which his application was ordered to be disposed of.

CNISOSES AGAIN BEFORE TRIAL COURT AGAINST PETER BALDEV: Civil suit 247/2023 Peter Baldev vs CNI was taken up for hearing. The trial court heard the application filed by CNI against the order of Status quo in favour of Peter Baldev dated 03.04.23. The said application has been dismissed by the trial court by an order dated 02.05.2024 against the CNI. The order in favour of Peter Baldev still stands and the reinstatement of Morris Edgar Dan stands invalidated as on date. So all steps and decisions taken by Dan have been unlawful and null from his appointment...his appointment itself is illegitimate.

Voter awareness rally organized Villagers made aware via street drama

Prayagraj: With the joint efforts of scout guides and teachers associated with the voter awareness campaign, in Madhesha upper primary school of development block Kaurihar, the children took out a voter awareness rally in which the teachers associated with the awareness program from the district performed street drama. Also made



the villagers aware by demonstrating. In this program, on behalf of the district team, Prem Narayan, Praveen Kumari, Gayatri, Kamal Kumari, Umesh Chand Dwivedi, Alka Seth Rashi Sharma, Shradha Srivastava, Pushpanjali, Madhurima, Amita, Vineet Rai and school staff, Principal Sudhir Kumar Nishad, Kamal Pal. All the teachers including Suman Devi Sushma Yadav, Lalit Verma, Ramnayan Singh, Vandana Dwivedi were present. The rally was flagged off by ARP Prabhshankar Sharma and Principal Sudhir Kumar.

Zakir-e-Ahle bait Zair Hussain remembered with tearful eyes Tears were shed in Yaad-Majlis-e-Tareem

Prayagraj: Majlis-e-Tarahim was organized by Zakir-e-Ahle bait on the death anniversary of late Zair Hussain in Imbarara Nazir Hussain located at Bakshi Bazaar. He is known for showing the path of humanity to everyone

Under the leadership of Shayar-e-Ahle bait, Safaree Hussainiyat, Mir-e-Manqabat, Bahlol-e-Hind, Aftab-e-Nizamat Najeeb Allahabadi, Syed Haider Mehndi and Alamdar Qazmi organized After reciting Soz and Salaam, Kharaje Aqidat was presented. Then Maulana Aamirur Rizvi Sahib Qibla addressed the Majlis and said that Zair Hussain was a great personality who used to engross himself in Zikr-e-Ahle bait in every small and big Majlis of the city, whether it was a Majlis or be it reading or Marsiyakhawani or Nauha, Zair Hussain Masruf-e-



Shodhaay Karbala, he used to stay everywhere. When Maulana described the martyrs of Karbala in a touching manner, tears started flowing from the eyes of the Azadars. Nauhakwan of Anjuman Guncha-e-Qasimya, Neyazul Hasan, Hashim Bandvi, Syed Haider Mehndi, Mirza Rahib, Abid Hussain, Alamdar Qazmi, Mohammad Kaif etc. read Purdard Nauha in the Majlis. Le bait Raza Abbas Zaidi, Rizwan Jawadi, Farid Raza, Zulqarnain Abdi, Taj Rizvi, Kazim Abbas, Ahmed Javed, Mirza Azadar Hussain, Syeda Azadar Hussain, Syed Mohammad Askari, Asghar Ali, Mohammad R. za Mahmood Taibapuri, Zeeshan Khan, Tayyabain Abdi, Mirza Wasi Hussain, Syedain Abdi, Mirza Danish, Zamin Hasan, Abbas Zaidi, Salman Mustafa, Safdar Hussain etc. were included.

Door-to-door campaigning conducted

Prayagraj: Daughter Shivangini Tripathi did public relations in Meerapur area in support of 52nd Lok Sabha Allahabad candidate Neeraj Tripathi. BJP media in-charge Gopal ji Malviya told that today, on May 6, door-to-door public relations campaign will be conducted in the Punjabi quarter Buddha Nagar, Harshvardhan Nagar area of Meerapur area in the presence of Shivangini Tripathi, daughter of 52nd Lok Sabha Allahabad candidate Neeraj Tripathi, senior former councilor, former general secretary, Mahanagar Giri Shankar Prabhakar. (Giri Baba), District Vice President Brijesh Mishra, Mirpur Regional Councilor Sahil Arora, Mandal President



Ranvijay, Manoj Mishra, former Mandal President, Kidganj, door-to-door public relations campaign was conducted. Mainly in the program, Mandal President Ranvijay Singh, Metropolitan Minister of Mahila Morcha, Rita Singh, Beauty Srivastava, Manjusha Singh, Mahila Morcha President Rekha Kanojia, Social Media Head Madhumita Nath, Social Media Head Shubhendu, Divisional Vice President Abhishek Thakur, Divisional Vice President Gyan Kushwaha, Ward President Subhash Tiwari, Sanjay Lama, Arun Nishad, Satyendra Sharma and a large number of workers were present. Program A large number of workers including Sadiyapur councilor Rishi Nishad, divisional minister Yogendra Kushwaha, divisional minister Anil Pandey, divisional treasurer Dinesh Kanojia were present.

Lodge election related complaint

Prayagraj: Any complaint or information related to corrupt conduct in relation to election expenditure can be registered in control room no. 0-0532-2990390, 0532-2990391, 0532-2990392. Chief Treasury Officer, Collectorate Treasury Mr. Pratyush Kumar has said that there is corruption in relation to election expenditure. A control room has been set up for conduct complaints, whose numbers are 0532-2990390, 0532-2990391, 0532-2990392. If any person wants to send any complaint or information related to corrupt practices regarding election expenditure for Lok Sabha General Election-2024, then he can contact on the numbers given above.

Editorial

India must kill terrorists.

Nijjar blowback shows it also needs laws to guide assassins

Two bullets had been fired into his gut, and one between his eyes: The assassins authored the end of the book Henry Liu had been writing. From his modest home in the suburbs of San Francisco, the investigative journalist had relentlessly attacked the Kuomintang dictatorship in Taiwan. The hit men—members of the crime cartel United Bamboo Gang, recruited by Taiwan's military intelligence chief Vice-Admiral Wang Hsi-ling—declined payment for the job, seeing themselves as patriots silencing a dangerous Communist agent. Later, his wife Helen Liu, offered a simple explanation for why her husband was murdered: "In Taiwan, people cannot speak freely. And he had a big mouth." Earlier this week, police in Canada arrested three Indian nationals for the murder of Sikh separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar, fuelling suspicions that India's Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW) has been targeting Khalistan operatives in the West. The men, alleged to be linked to the crime network of jailed gangster Lawrence Bishnoi, are being investigated for their ties to Indian intelligence officers that Canada has claimed were involved in Nijjar's assassination. The government of India has angrily denied the allegations—but in recent weeks, senior political leaders have seemed to defend the country's right to use covert means against its enemies overseas. "Terrorists will be killed in their homes," Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in one recent rally, amid reports that R&AW was eliminating terrorists in Pakistan. For many Indians—enraged by seeing the perpetrators of terrorist attacks from 1993 bombings to 2008 Mumbai attacks sheltering in safe havens in Pakistan, or Khalistan supporters openly calling for violence from the West—the use of covert means seems a legitimate exercise of power. This is not new. Following the bombing of the Indian embassy in Kabul in 2008, then National Security Advisor MK Narayanan demanded the country pay Pakistan back "in the same coin." Lawyers and political philosophers familiar with the complex history of assassinations by nation-states, though, would likely urge reflection on exactly when such force might be used—and what its consequences could be. "Although I may kill a man," the Renaissance jurist Alberico Gentili counselled the kings and princes of his violent times, "I may not do so by treachery." They listened, for good reasons. There is, no doubt, something profoundly spurious about the moral outrage that has surrounded India's alleged assassination campaign: The UK attempted to kill Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi, and murdered Irish terrorists at home and abroad and Israel has long staged targeted killings. The US, lawyer scholars Luis Chiesa and Alexander KA Greenawalt have persuasively argued, ignored international law to kill co-founder of Al-Qaeda Osama Bin Laden and Colombian drug cartel boss Pablo Escobar. For its part, Russia frequently—and crudely—kills regime opponents overseas. Like India, nation-states everywhere have struggled to deal with criminals and terrorists their adversaries choose not to act against. However, the absence of an ethical norm doesn't mean that the many powerful arguments against covert action can be ignored. For most of history, international relations scholar Ward Thomas writes, assassination was used without scruple. Leaders of the ancient world regarded killing for public purposes as a moral project, and murder was seen as a legitimate foreign policy tool in the 17th century. The American political scientist Hans Morgenthau noted that "the Republic of Venice, from 1415 to 1525, planned or attempted about two hundred assassinations for purposes of its foreign policy".

Narendra Modi, Opposition and International Media

The largest democratic process in the world, the Indian Lok Sabha elections 2024, has attracted the attention of one and all across the globe. This general election is a watershed moment for Bharat which will initiate the country towards its new self of 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047. Besides, it also holds the possibility of establishing India's dynamic presence on the global stage. In academic discourses, it is often said that in the last ten years, under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India, today is in the final stage of decolonisation. Under the visionary captaincy of Modi, Bharat, which was called "sone ki chidiya" i.e. the golden bird, in ancient times, is re-emerging as an economic power, recovering from hundreds of years of 'slavery' post-colonisation. Besides, it has also forged a new identity on the global stage with its scientific, strategic and 'soft' power. However, the anti-India international forces are not able to digest Bharat's new rise and are trying to hinder its advancement. The international media coverage, particularly news reports, articles, and editorials concerning Modi and the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, serves as one of the most reliable indicators of this negative approach towards Bharat. In



keeping with the idea that Bharat was called the golden bird once upon a time, the British economist Angus Maddison in his book *The World Economy: A Millennial Perspective* has shown that India was the richest country and the largest economy in the world till the 10th century, its GDP was more than one-third of the world's economy, which remained very high till the 16th-17th century. But on account of the loot by external forces and inappropriate domestic policies post-independence, the GDP gradually slumped to 2.6 per cent in 2014. It is only with the efficient implementation framework created by the Narendra Modi government that India jumped from the 10th largest economy of the world in 2014 to the fifth largest economy today. By 2027, hopefully, we are going to be the third-largest economy. Along with this, India's influ-

ence has also increased on global platforms, strategically and scientifically. With the successful launch of Chandrayaan-3 to the Moon, the nation has registered its presence strongly in the field of science and technology. It has also emerged as a major exporter in space industry and defence equipment. Also, providing Covid vaccines to the entire world during the pandemic and showcasing its prowess in the G20 meeting and other international platforms has added to India's prestige manifold in the world today. Unfortunately, India's rise has not gone well with certain vested interests, inimical to Bharat, in Pakistan, China, the Arab world as well as Western countries. These forces feel envious of India's remarkable progress under the leadership of Modi, marching towards Viksit Bharat @2047. That is why it can be seen that these anti-

India forces are trying to influence the Lok Sabha elections in an effort to stop Modi's visionary drive towards progress that he has envisaged for the country. There seems to be a sinister conspiracy to influence the Indian voters by running a 'well-planned campaign' at the global level. Naseem Javed, a corporate political philosopher and currently the president of the Canadian think tank Expothon Worldwide, in his book titled *Alpha Dreamers: The Five Billion Connected Alpha Dreamers Who Will Change the World in 2019* writes, the people in the world, today, are interconnected. Global public opinion is now an authentic voice. This global public opinion can be used by various forces to influence any country. It would be pertinent to note in this context the international media's attitude vis-a-vis current elections in India. Whether it's *The New York Times* of the US, *England's The Guardian*, *Qatar's (Arabia's) Al Jazeera*, *Pakistan's The Dawn* or *China's The People's Daily Online*, there is a common thread seen in all – the portrayal of Narendra Modi and the BJP as the villain, whereas no negative sentiment could be found against Rahul Gandhi and his Congress or other Opposition parties. However,

a paradox can be seen in all these newspapers as, despite their strong criticism, all of them believe "aega toh Modi hi" (only Modi will win again). *The New York Times* on April 20, 2024, wrote, "In this year's elections, the scion of India's most storied political family (Rahul Gandhi) is still trying to unseat Modi – and change the nation's course...he's modelling himself after Mahatma Gandhi. He doesn't want to take any position of power". Whereas, the publication on April 23, 2024, portrayed Modi as a villain, and commented that he abolished the semi-autonomy of the Muslim-majority state of Jammu and Kashmir; enacted a citizenship law (CAA) widely viewed as prejudiced against Muslims; and helped construct a grand Ram Mandir. These comments come at a time when it has been understood both at the national and international level that all these measures were taken to correct long-standing historical mistakes. It's not without reason that the public opinion of the nation remained in favour of Modi all this time. Similarly, *Al Jazeera* on April 12, 2024, was critical of Modi being portrayed as Bhisma Pitamah, the famous character of the epic Mahabharata, using Artificial Intelligence (AI).

"Trade, not aid' - Rao's 1991 reforms speech that changed India's economic landscape

When I spoke to you last, I promised quick and bold measures to restore our sick economy to health. We have taken the first step to fulfil that promise. This is the beginning. A further set of far-reaching changes and reforms is on the way. For the last eighteen months, there has been paralysis on the economic front. The last two governments postponed taking vital decisions. The fiscal position was allowed to deteriorate. The balance-of-payment crisis became unmanageable. Nonresident Indians and foreign leaders became more and more reluctant to lend money to India. Consequently, India's external reserves declined steeply, and we had no foreign exchange to import

even such essential commodities as diesel, kerosene, edible oil, and fertiliser. The net result was that when we came to power, we found the financial position of the country in a terrible mess. The Reserve Bank changed the exchange rate of rupee. This was done so that we can export more. More garments, more leather products, more gems and jewellery, more agricultural products made in India will be sold abroad. This will not only earn us Foreign Exchange but also create new employment at home. And why do we need to earn foreign exchange so badly? Not to import luxury items but to buy commodities like kerosene and diesel, fertilisers, edible oil, and steel. We produce these commodities, but

what we produce is not enough. We are stepping up our production, but for some time, we have to import. The adjustment in exchange rate will discourage the import of nonessential goods. And will therefore save foreign exchange for the imports of essential goods of consumption. It will also end uncertainty about the future of our currency and will encourage nonresident Indians to send more money to be deposited in their accounts in India. After changing the value of the rupee, we undertook a major overhaul of the trade policy. Our message was simple—you cannot import if you do not export. We cut down on the export licenses so that our exporters do not face hurdles.

Semiconductor Ecosystem: A Silent Revolution in India's High-Tech Manufacturing

As our lives become increasingly reliant on technology, semiconductors have become the essential foundation of society. These tiny chips are the powerhouses behind our electronic devices, communication systems, and even the functioning of our agricultural implements, medical equipment and vehicles. India has recognised the enormous socio-economic potential and strategic importance of this silent revolution of technology and is taking the lead in building a robust semiconductor ecosystem and developing a talented workforce. India's goal of becoming self-sufficient and a global leader in semiconductors is supported by the fact that the semiconductor industry is expected to generate over one million job opportunities for semiconductor design engineers, manufacturing engineers, R&D scientists, operators, technicians, and skilled workers in chip design and semiconductor fabrication, packaging, and sales facilities over the next five years. According to the National Association of Software and Service Companies (Nasscom) and Zinnov's latest report, "Around 30 per cent of the new global capability centres established in India

during the December quarter of last year were in the semiconductor space, indicating a growing interest in leveraging the local talent pool in areas such as front-end design, performance testing, and post-silicon validation." The world's leading chip design companies, including Intel, Texas Instruments, AMD, Nvidia, and Qualcomm, have design and R&D centres in India. AMD recently inaugurated its largest global design centre in Bengaluru. In March, an event – 'India's Techade: Chips for Viksit Bharat', witnessed the foundation stone of three semiconductor projects worth Rs 1.25 lakh crore. Tata Electronics in partnership with Taiwan's Power Chip Semiconductor Manufacturing Corporation (PSMC), set up the country's first semiconductor fab plant in Dholera (Gujarat) with an investment of Rs 91,000 crore and another plant in Morigaon (Assam) with an investment of Rs 27,000 crore, with the first chips to begin coming off the production line in 2026. US-based semiconductor manufacturer Micron India plant with an investment of Rs 22,500 crore in Sanand (Gujarat), is expected to roll out

the first "Made in India" memory chips by December. It is contributing its bit to the Chandrayaan-3 mission. Semiconductor Corporation of India (SCL) proposed to update and expand its chip facility in the Mohali plant with an investment of Rs 20,000 crore, to enhance its contribution to ISRO and to other space research organisations globally. Despite the upward trajectory of India's current semiconductor chip ecosystem, the country remains dependent on the US, Taiwan, China, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, and South Korea, with over 95 per cent of semiconductors.

imported from these countries. To reduce this dependency on imports, India recognised the strategic importance of a robust domestic semiconductor industry. It unveiled the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) offering 50 per cent capital expenditure support to new entrants, production-linked incentive (PLI), and design-linked incentive (DLI) schemes with an outlay of Rs 76,000 crore, as well as state government incentive support, international partnerships, and a focus on talent development.

Uddhav is writing a new story for Maharashtra

When Uddhav Thackeray took the dais and began his speech, the ground was enveloped in a hushed silence. The janta straightened in their chairs and listened to him with rapt attention and earnest seriousness. The crowd roared when he talked about the 'Maharashtrachi asmita', or the pride of Maharashtra; they hooted, whistled, and clapped when he thundered against Prime Minister Narendra Modi. There was fire in his belly, animation in his speech, and eloquence in his Marathi as he pointed out the wrong from the 'politically right'. On 30 April, I saw a Uddhav at the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) rally

in Pune on the eve of Maharashtra Day, who did not seem like the Shiv Sena (UBT) leader I had read about in newspapers or seen on television. From afar, you and I saw a lacklustre politician – a subdued, gentle soul who was expected to take charge with the same tenacity and political rigidity as his father, Bal Thackeray, the supremo of Maharashtra politics. In 2012, when Uddhav Thackeray took over the Shiv Sena after the death of his father, he did not seem equipped to handle the political manoeuvring required for greatness. He appeared a misfit to navigate and rise to the challenges and ugliness of

the new age politics. An affable personality, with the demeanour of a shy schoolboy, his charm was seen as politically incorrect. Uddhav was assumed to carry the 'bow and arrow' along the path set by Bal Thackeray. But he was ruled out, cut into pieces, and caged in the same bracket as Rahul Gandhi: a reluctant politician, an oddball to the tenacious legacy. The debacle of Maharashtra 2022 gave rise to a new Uddhav Thackeray—he has now dropped the 'charm' and gone full-throttle offensive. During the MVA rally in Pune, I saw Uddhav become the spirited and precocious neta (politician).

Sharing the stage with the maharishi of Indian politics, Sharad Pawar, Uddhav's aura was as invincible as Pawar's. Neither the heat of the sun nor that of politics had affected him. He didn't seem tired. With the same affable demeanour intact, Uddhav exuded confidence, being jhakaas (awesome) with his political rhetoric and bindaas (carefree) despite the soaring political heat. Uddhav was the last speaker of the evening, and the crowd stayed until the very end to listen to him. Young boys and girls, office-going men, and mothers sat through dinnertime, all just to listen to him.

Precision herbicides use essential for cotton protection – Godrej Agrovet

Bhatinda/ Mansa/ Fazilka: Cotton, a cornerstone of India's agricultural landscape, plays a pivotal role in the nation's economy. Contributing significantly to agriculture and industrial development, it also aids in employment generation. However, it faces a significant threat from weeds, causing substantial yield losses ranging from 40% to 85% thereby impacting the quality and increasing production costs. "To effectively manage weeds in cotton, it is imperative use both pre and early post and emergence herbicides smartly, especially during the crucial period when the crop and weeds compete. Hence using right herbicide at the right time and in right quantity aid control the weeds effectively. and at the right time knowing when weeds can be problematic is the foundation for sustainable and resilient farming," said Rajavelu NK, CEO- Crop Protection Business, Godrej Agrovet Limited. Highlighting the techniques that can aid reduce weed competition he said that manual weeding and frequent inter-cultivation, like hand hoeing have shown effective results. Farmers practicing hand weeding twice during critical growth stages observe a significant increase in cotton yield. Mechanical methods such as power weeding offer cost-effective weed control and improved soil aeration.

However, challenges arise from labor shortages and excess soil moisture, especially during frequent irrigation or heavy rains in the kharif season, hindering timely cultural practices. To overcome these, adopting herbicides during critical periods becomes essential for effective weed control, ensuring higher yields. "Identifying the critical period of weed competition is crucial for effective weed management in cotton. As a long-duration crop, cotton faces a critical weed competition period of up to 45 Days After Sowing (DAS), during which maintaining a weed-free condition is imperative for optimal results. This makes the need to protect cotton crop during early post-emergent phase viz. 5-15 DAS extremely crucial," added Rajavelu. Due to the varied weather patterns the weed emergence and type of weeds are changing. With effective weed management becoming a critical issue due to this, it is advisable that farmers select the right herbicide. Be it solo or scientific in-can mixture herbicides, it is important for farmers to go as per the label recommendation and avoid own tank mix combinations which may not be advisable given the uncertainties of weather and weed emergence that can happen at the farmer field.

Delhi high court orders parents to pay for school AC

Delhi: The Delhi High Court recently ruled that parents must pay for school air conditioning, just like laboratory costs. While dismissing a public interest litigation, the division bench of acting chief judge Manmohan and justice Manmeet Pritam Singh Arora made the comment. The petition asked the Delhi government's DoE to restrict a private school from charging for classroom air conditioning. Air conditioning is a school facility, thus parents must pay for it like lab and smart class fees. When choosing a school, parents must consider the facilities and expenses for their children. The bench ruled on May 2 that school management cannot bear the cost of such facilities. Manish Goel filed the PIL because his child's Delhi private school charged Rs 2,000 per month for AC. The petitioner said the school management should give AC to kids with its own funds. The bench heard from the DoE that it was investigating and asking for an action-taken report after



UP leads 2024 JEE (Advanced) aspirants at 11%

Delhi: Uttar Pradesh will have 11% of JEE-Advanced 2024 candidates, the entryway to 23 IITs. According to JEE (Main) qualification data, over 54% of the 2.5 lakh IIT entry candidates are from six states and approximately 73% from 10. Although over 75% of enrolled applicants took both the January and April sessions of the JEE (Main), an entrance test for centrally financed technical institutes and others, just 28% improved their scores in the second sitting. One of India's toughest competitive tests, JEE (Advanced), requires students to place in the top 2.5 lakh in JEE (Main) and vie for 17,000 IIT seats.

many complaints. "This petition includes respondent No. 5 school's 2023-24 fee receipt for air-conditioner charges in annexure P-2. Thus, after informing the DoE of the fee and charge schedule, the rates were likely raised. The court said there was no impro-

riety in the school's fee because the petitioner admitted that kids have air conditioning in their classrooms. Bench ruled the plea unmaintainable. "The DoE is investigating and awaiting the action report. The judge dismissed the PIL.

CAPSULES

Canada will limit international students' job dreams to 24 hours per week.

Delhi: The Minister of Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship of Canada has announced that international students can only work 24 hours per week. Marc Miller announced on social media X. "We removed the 20-hour/week work requirement for international students to aid post-pandemic rehabilitation. I stated today that this provision would be lifted and that off-campus student employment hours will be limited to 24 hours/week starting this autumn "on his official X account. International students might work more than 20 hours per week off campus under the old rule. The rule expired April 30, 2024. Miller added that kids on academic break can work unlimited hours. According to Miller, this adjustment will let students focus on their studies instead of working lengthy hours. International students come to Canada to study first. Students can work while focusing on class with this improvement. He claimed the program will remain strong while protecting youngsters. According to the Canadian government, recent US and Canadian studies have shown that students working more than 28 hours per week perform worse academically and are more likely to drop out. Most nations that accept international students have limited their working hours while studying. Australia now allows students to work 48 hours within two weeks.

US students must also meet additional standards before working off campus.

JNU VC: No faculty de-reservation

Delhi: Delhi University and Jawaharlal Nehru University oppose UGC's draft Guidelines for Implementation of Reservation Policy in Higher Education Institutes, which propose de-reserving SC, ST, and OBC faculty jobs if adequate reserved candidates are not available. The proposed rules, presented in the last week of December, are open for comments until January 28. The rules state: "Only SC, ST, or OBC candidates can fill SC, ST, or OBC vacancies. A reserved vacancy can be de-reserved and filled by following the de-reservation method." It adds "in rare and exceptional cases when a vacancy in a Group A service cannot be



allowed to remain vacant in public interest, the university concerned may prepare a proposal for de-reservation of the vacancy giving following information." No proposed rules have been withdrawn. Jawaharlal Nehru University vice-chancellor Santishree D. Pandit wrote: "As VC, JNU, I want to assure stakeholders that no JNU

positions have been de-reserved. We have excellent reserved candidates." The Supreme Court shared her sentiment, she said. UGC chairperson M Jagadesh Kumar said there will be no de-reservation of reserved category posts in central educational institutions. The ministry of education said the 2019 Act on central insti-

tution reservation forbids de-reservation. JNU Students' Union plans to burn Kumar's effigy. Delhi University registrar Vikas Gupta told "No de-reservation. There are enough SC, ST, and OBC candidates. Thus, DU will not de-reserve any above-category posts." Teachers' groups are worried.

The idea will aid discrimination against reserved category candidates and worsen representation if promoted, teachers claimed. They wanted the draft guidelines removed immediately. Promotion criteria state that "if sufficient numbers of SC and ST candidates... are not available, such vacancies may be de-reserved.

School fee hikes under scrutiny

Delhi: The vigilance directorate wrote to the director of education concerning fee hikes in 18 schools and five private, unaided institutions and certain schools' failure to fill the 25% economically weaker sections quota. The vigilance examination found that the charge hike was allowed in contravention of guidelines, with capital expenditure fees collected despite inadequate savings. Thirteen of the 18 fee raise orders were retrospective, straining parents financially.

The rules don't allow retrospective hikes. The vigilance agency noted that such hikes are intended to benefit school management at the expense of parents. The study also found that schools violated the Delhi School Education Act and Rules, 1973 by using collected monies. DOE announced charge structure recommendations for 2010-2011. "If the school must raise tuition, it must first consult with parents, the main stakeholders. Since parents pay for fee hikes, the school

must present its case for a fee hike with a detailed financial statement to the committee of the duly selected parents-teachers association and get their approval before the managing committee approves it "DOE's circular read. The education department has been asked to provide a tabular analysis of price hike instances for 2019-2024 sessions and explain why the hikes were permitted despite persistent regulation infractions. Admissions to EWS were also examined.

IIT grads are earning under Rs 10 lakh this year

Delhi: High-paying jobs at top Indian Institutes of Technology have been difficult to get this recruitment season. With corporations cutting employment and paying lesser salaries, tail-end students are getting annual packages below Rs 10 lakh. Colleges must contact additional companies since companies that would normally pick six students only chose two. Many pay Rs 10-15 lakh annually. Students who have taken college employment at lesser pay rates are still searching job sites and traveling to career fairs and interviews for better opportunities. "The global economic slowdown has hurt IIT Indore 2024 campus placements. The placement season has been difficult due to fewer recruiters than last year. IIT Indore

has sought alumni support and expanded its employer base, including PSUs, to mitigate the impact. "Professor Suhas Joshi, director, IIT Indore. IIT Bombay student: "Last year, companies hired 5-8 students; this year, 1-2. Not all are hired. Some were selected for phase 2 remuneration packages of Rs 60,000 to Rs 80,000 from coaching programs and start-ups." Spectrum Technologies offered trainee engineers Rs 3.6 lakh and trainee design engineers Rs 6 lakh," stated another IIT-Kharagpur student. Gem Machinery and Startoon Labs gave Rs 5.5 lakh yearly. Skyroot bid Rs 5 lakh. Sri Chaitanya and Next Education pay Rs 4.8-6 lakh annually. "The scenario now is that many students are taking up jobs

offering the bare minimum threshold salary of Rs 6 lakh a year but are looking for other jobs," said a source. Students and placement office workers are marketing to employers, negotiating with NGOs, contacting employment portals, and advising seniors. Praveen Tyagi, owner of IITians' Pace, an entrance exam tutorial, stated, "AI has lowered jobs and multinational FANG businesses didn't come to campus, but we saw this as an opportunity to recruit talent. Our IITian hiring test had hundreds of candidates. Good communicators were chosen for simulated online lectures. We've offered 25 kids Rs 12 lakh annually." Many IIT Delhi students still use the Office of Career Services to find work.

Canada is reducing the number of start-up visas it will accept, this year

Delhi: Although Canada attempted to improve the attractiveness of its start-up visa program in July of last year, an announcement tonight will terminate the aspirations of prospective immigrant entrepreneurs. In reality, a number of them who received early investment or assistance from business incubators can wind up in a limbo. Beginning on April 30, Canada will only accept petitions for permanent residency linked to ten or fewer startups per approved organization for processing each year. The Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) released a statement stating that this action was taken to expedite application processing and minimize backlogs. To put it simply, there are currently about 82 of these



approved organizations, which include company incubators, angel investors, and venture capital funds (VCFs). It follows that, if the number of these organizations stays the same, no more than 820 applications will be approved. Furthermore, as per the release, entrepreneurs whose start-up is backed by Canadian funding or a business incubator that is affiliated with Canada's Tech Network will be eligible for priority processing. In order to be eligible for permanent residence, entrepreneurs must demonstrate that they

have sufficient means to support themselves and their family upon arrival in Canada. The Startup Visa (SUV) program does not require applicants to invest any of their funds or have a minimum net worth. It's essential to have support from one or more of the approved partners, such as venture capital funds (VCF), angel investor groups (who must invest a minimum of CAD 200,00 and 75,000, respectively), or be accepted into a program offered by a business incubator. Under this policy, the goals for immigration

Centre considering NIFT overseas campus



Delhi: Two officials said the central government is considering opening a foreign campus of the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) soon, citing alliances with UK, Australia, Mauritius, Bangladesh, Finland, Sweden, and Nepal universities. Officials said NIFT may open an abroad campus in a place where the institute already has a relationship. The authorities added New Delhi is also in negotiations to collaborate with a Tashkent institute. Officials said NIFT's abroad initiatives are being coordinated by the textiles and commerce ministries under Piyush Goyal. "Textile ministry and other government ministries, especially commerce, are aiming to make NIFT an internationally recognized educational institute. It's ongoing "said one. The second official said NIFT has inked MoUs with universities in Mauritius, the UK, Bangladesh, and Nepal for semester and short-term student exchange programs. Bharat TEX 2024 in February saw NIFT sign 12 MoUs with international universities, which might lead to dual-degree arrangements. They declined to name NIFT's 19th campus in Varanasi, which will open this year. "NIFT has 13,698 students and 680 professors on 18 sites. The second official stated Varanasi campus will open this year.

BELSTAR MICROFINANCE LIMITED FILES DRHP WITH SEBI TO RAISE UP TO 1,300 CRORE



GURUGRAM : Belstar Microfinance Limited ("The Company" or "BML") has filed its Draft Red Herring Prospectus ("DRHP") with market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI"). The Company offers a wide range of loan products, such as micro enterprise, small enterprise, consumer goods, festival, education and emergency loans.

The Company plans to raise fund through Initial Public Offering of Equity Shares (Face Value 10 each) aggregating up to 13,000 million [1,300 crore]. ("Total Offer Size") The total offer size comprises of - (i) fresh issue of equity shares

aggregating up to 10,000 million [1,000 crore] ("Fresh Issue") and (ii) offer for sale of equity shares aggregating up to 3,000 million [300 crore] ("Offer for Sale").

The Company proposes to utilize the net proceeds of the fresh issue to meet future capital requirements towards onward lending estimated to be 7,600 million [760 crore] in FY 2025 and the balance amount towards general corporate purposes. ("The Objects of the Offer") The Offer for Sale comprises of Equity Shares aggregating up to 1,750 million [175 crore] by MAJ Invest Financial Inclusion Fund II K/S; up to 970 million [97 crore] by Arum

Holdings Limited and upto 280 million [28 crore] by Augusta Investments Zero Pte Ltd ("Investor Selling Shareholder"). (Combined the "Selling Shareholders") ICICI Securities Limited, Axis Capital Ltd, HDFC Bank Limited and SBI Capital Markets Limited are the Book Running Lead Managers of the IPO issue.

BML aims to be a socially responsible microfinance institution, driving financial inclusion across the country by furthering entrepreneurship and economic empowerment of women through the provision of loans in rural and semi-urban regions.

ICICI Bank enables NRI customers to use international mobile number to make UPI payments in India

GURUGRAM : ICICI Bank today announced that it has enabled NRI customers to use their international mobile number to make UPI payments instantly in India, thereby significantly enhancing their convenience of making everyday payments. With this facility, the NRI customers of the Bank can make payments for their utility bills, merchant and e-commerce transactions with their international mobile number registered with their NRE / NRO bank account held with ICICI Bank in India. The Bank has made this service available through its mobile banking app, iMobile Pay. Earlier, NRIs had to register an Indian mobile number with their banks to make UPI payments.

To bring forth this facility, ICICI Bank has leveraged on the international infrastructure laid down by National Payments Corporation of



India (NPCI) for convenient usage of UPI across countries. The Bank offers this facility across 10 countries namely USA, UK, UAE, Canada, Singapore, Australia, Hong Kong, Oman, Qatar and Saudi Arabia.

NRI customers of the Bank can make UPI payments by scanning any Indian QR code, sending money to a UPI ID or any Indian mobile number or Indian bank account.

Speaking on the initiative, Mr. Sidhartha Mishra, Head - Digital Channels and Partnerships, ICICI Bank said,

"We are delighted to partner with NPCI to launch the UPI facility on international mobile

number through iMobile Pay. With this facility, our NRI customers residing in 10 countries do not need to switch to an Indian mobile number to pay using UPI.

This launch reinforces our commitment to provide our NRI customers with innovative solutions, for them to have a safe, secure and hassle-free payment experience. We are witnessing a positive response from our NRI customers who have started using this facility. With this initiative, we intend to leverage on NPCI's UPI Infrastructure in strengthening and transforming the digital payments ecosystem globally".



Tata AIA Launches #VoteKarneKoTaiyaar Social Media campaign

Shimla : Tata AIA Life Insurance Co. Ltd. (Tata AIA), Tata AIA, a leading life insurance company in India, has recently introduced an innovative social media campaign titled #VoteKarneKoTaiyaar. The campaign encourages young Indians, particularly first-time voters, to immediately register themselves to vote and then go ahead & vote on the election day, in their respective location. The campaign aims to instill a sense of national responsibility and duty among the youth, leveraging their growing consciousness towards societal issues. In a time where Gen Z is increasingly demonstrating a heightened awareness towards matters like sustainability, road safety, and cyber awareness, Tata AIA recognizes the pivotal role they play in shaping the future of the nation.

Precision herbicides use essential for cotton protection – Godrej Agrovet

Bathinda/Mansa/Fazalika : Cotton, a cornerstone of India's agricultural landscape, plays a pivotal role in the nation's economy. Contributing significantly to agriculture and industrial development, it also aids in employment generation. However, it faces a significant threat from weeds, causing substantial yield losses ranging from 40% to 85% thereby impacting the quality and increasing production costs. "To effectively manage weeds in cotton, it is imperative use both pre and early post and emergence herbicides smartly, especially during the crucial period when the crop and weeds compete. Hence using right herbicide at the right time and in right quantity aid control the weeds effectively, and at the right time knowing when weeds can be problematic is the foundation for sustainable .

My real strength is the cooperation, support and blessings of people from 36 communities: Pala Ram Saini

Kaithal : Jananayak Janata Party's candidate from Kurukshetra Lok Sabha constituency, social worker Pala Ram Saini, during his election campaign, visited various villages, cities and shops of the Lok Sabha constituency and asked people of every section to vote in his favor. Appealed to. During this, people welcomed Pala Ram Saini with garlands of flowers and announced their support in the elections. Addressing the people, JJP candidate Pala Ram



Saini said that in every village and city of the Lok Sabha constituency, people of 36 communities are continuously getting full support, cooperation and blessings and with the blessings of the public, they will hoist the flag of victory in the elections. The public has come to

know that their interests are safe only in JJP. Pala Ram Saini said that the huge support, cooperation and blessings of the people of the parliamentary constituency is my real strength, which inspires me to move forward.

Along with hoisting the flag of vic-

tory in the elections, I will serve day and night for the all-round development of Kurukshetra parliamentary constituency and it will be made the number one area in the race for development. His victory will be a victory for the people of Kurukshetra. He alleged that BJP and Congress are two sides of the same coin, whose only objective from the beginning is to gain power and fulfill their selfish interests by exploiting the people.

Sarveshwar Foods Ltd Launches Free certified Sona Masuri Paddy Seeds Distribution Initiative in UT of Jammu & Kashmir

Chandigarh :

Sarveshwar Foods Ltd. has announced a pioneering initiative aimed at supporting farmers in the Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory through free distribution of certified Sona Masuri paddy seeds, known for their high quality and yield potential, to farmers across the region. Sarveshwar aims to empower the farming community by providing the seeds of export-oriented rice varieties. Free distribution of certified seed of Sona Masuri paddy will be done at Sarveshwar procurement facilitation center under this program.

This initiative reflects



Sarveshwar Foods' dedication to empowering local farming communities and promoting agricultural development in the area. In light of the economic challenges confronting farmers in Jammu & Kashmir, Mr. Rohit Gupta, Chairman of Sarveshwar Foods Ltd, has announced a compassionate initiative. Under the supervision of the

Agriculture Specialist team, Sarveshwar has resolved to distribute paddy seeds free of cost. This distribution will specifically target non-basmati growing areas of Jammu. The primary aim of this program is to extend support to the farmers, prioritizing their welfare and interests in the state. Sona Masuri Rice is a variety of medium-grain rice mainly grown in Southern India. One of the unique features of Sona Masuri rice is its ability to absorb flavors and spices easily, making it an ideal ingredient for preparing a variety of Indian dishes. Additionally, it has a lower

glycemic index compared to other varieties of rice, making it a healthier choice for people with diabetes. Sona Masuri Rice, due to its increasing popularity, is also finding its position in the international market, mostly exported to countries with a large Indian diaspora. The distribution will benefit around 1000 farmers across various regions, including Paragwal, Mirpur, Garkhal, Akhnoor East, Panjtoot, Khour, Jourian, Bakour, Hamirpur in Akhnoor West, and Paharpur, Maharajpur, Haripur, Chadwal, Hariachak, in the Kathua Sector. By

The Convergence Foundation and India Impact Sherpas Release a first-of-its-kind report on Systems Change in the Indian context



GURUGRAM : The Convergence Foundation, in collaboration with India Impact Sherpas, released their seminal report titled, 'Systemic Impact Exemplars: Unique Approaches Towards Solving India's Development Challenges.' This report aims to identify and learn from organizations that have achieved significant impact by adopting the systems change approach. These organizations—System Support Organisations (SSOs)—work in close

collaboration with governments at the Centre as well as State levels, to create impact at a large-scale. In addition to working with the governments and aiming for impact at population scale, systems change involves solving the problem at the root cause; no quick fixes or band-aid solutions. The report profiles 20 of India's leading SSOs, shedding light on their innovative strategies and impactful initiatives. By showcasing real-world examples, the report seeks to inspire and inform other non-

profits, providing valuable insights into what works in the Indian context. At the launch event, Vini Mahajan, Secretary, Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, commended the work and contributions of the 20 organizations profiled in the report. "Nonprofit organizations that have adopted the system change approach by implementing scalable pilots and working meaningfully with governments can contribute to large-scale change," she said.

Rahul Baba is running from one place to another to contest elections: Amit Shah

Chandigarh : Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation and senior BJP leader Amit Shah addressed a massive public meeting organised in Daman and Diu during the third phase of the Lok Sabha elections, targeting the Congress, especially Rahul Gandhi. Considered a school of politics in himself, Amit Shah clearly stated that, 'Rahul Baba is running from one place to another to contest elections. There is no problem with the seat, the problem lies with Rahul, wherever he goes, he will lose.' Amethi and Rae Bareilly have traditionally been strongholds for the Congress. The current state of the Congress is such that after losing in Amethi, Rahul Gandhi is attempting



to contest from Wayanad, and now in 2024, he is going to contest from Rae Bareilly. Those with a basic understanding of politics believe that Rahul Gandhi has been attempting to be launched for almost 20 years, but every time his launch has been unsuccessful. The Chanakya of Indian politics, Amit Shah, has even claimed that in the 21st attempt, Rahul's launch will fail. After Independence, Congress ruled the country for decades. During the Congress

era, terrorism, Naxalism, and extremism were at their peak. In the last 10 years, under the leadership of PM Modi and skilled guidance of Amit Shah, terrorism and Naxalism have been eradicated from across the country. The BJP government has proven that development work can also be done while preserving the symbols of faith. For example, the construction of the Ram Mandir, the establishment of the Kashi Vishwanath corridor,

and the golden temple of Maa Kali can be cited. Along with the protection of tradition, the Modi government has also provided a strong foundation for the country's infrastructure. Today, India is recognized globally in terms of its economy, moving from being the 11th largest to the 5th largest economy. Due to the Congress, freedom and democracy were delayed, and development did not reach here.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, tourism is being promoted and numerous projects for local development are underway. In terms of tourism, Daman and Diu have now become a separate identity in the world.

1.3 crore mutual fund accounts on hold owing to insufficient KYC

Delhi : KYC registration entities report 1.3 crore mutual accounts 'in hold' due to incomplete KYC. This is because people gave non-Aadhaar and non-OVDs during KYC registration. From April 1, 2024, SEBI will prohibit mutual fund transactions for investors having 'on hold' KYC status. This involves buying or redeeming mutual fund units. "After many investors' KYCs were still unupdated with PAN and Aadhar and the linkages were missing, KYCs had to be reclassified. Several of these KYCs used utility bills (electricity, telephone), bank account statements, etc., which Sebi no longer accepts." The report added, "7.9 crore investors (73%), have valid KYC. About 1.6 crore registered investors have limited investment access, and 12% can't manage their demat accounts and MF folios." KYC-verified status:.

Indian warship helps Pakistani crew onboard Iranian fishing vessel in Arabian Sea

NEW DELHI: The Indian Navy responded promptly to a distress call and provided critical medical aid to a Pakistani crew member aboard an Iranian fishing vessel, Al Rahmani, said an Indian Navy spokesperson.

The warship, INS Sumedha, deployed for anti-piracy operations in the Arabian Sea, intercepted the fishing vessel on April 30, as per the Indian Navy's statement. A team from the ship, along with medical specialists, boarded the fishing vessel and administered medical assistance to the crew member. "In a swift response to a distress call, #INSSumedha, mission deployed for #antipiracy ops in the #ArabianSea provided critical medical assistance to an Iranian FV (with 20 Pakistani crew), for a near drowning case of one of its crew member," the spokesperson con-



veyed.

The statement added, "Responding swiftly to the distress call, INS Sumedha intercepted FV Al Rahmani in early hours of #30Apr 24. Ship's boarding team & medical specialists boarded the FV & rendered medical assistance to the crew member, who was experiencing laboured breathing with active seizures." Following medical intervention, the crew member

regained consciousness and showed clinical improvement, as per the spokesperson.

"Post medical management, the patient was oriented, conscious and relieved clinically. Relentless efforts by mission deployed units of #IndianNavy symbolises its steadfast commitment towards safeguarding and assisting seafarers operating in the region," read the statement.

55% Covidshield recipients had mild side effects: AMCH study

GUWAHATI: A study conducted by physician-scientists from Assam Medical College Hospital (Dibrugarh), supported by ICMR-recognised multidisciplinary research laboratory, has revealed that 55% of Covidshield vaccine recipients experienced only minor side effects like fever and headache. These symptoms occurred within a week of getting inoculated with the first dose. Researchers confirmed no long-term adverse effects after a year. "In our study, we found that 55% experienced minor adverse events such as fever, headache, body ache and pain at the injection site. The remaining 45% of the recipients had no adverse events at all. After the second dose, only 6.8% showed minor adverse events following immunisation (AEFI). Most importantly, no participant showed any major adverse events during the entire one year period of study," said



associate professor of pathology at AMCH, Gayatri Gogoi, the principal investigator of the study done in Assam's Dibrugarh district. The major (serious and severe) adverse events were defined as disabling, rare life-threatening conditions that may lead to long-term problems.

'India is open & welcoming': EAM rebuts Biden's 'xenophobic' remark

NEW DELHI: External affairs minister S Jaishankar has rejected recent remarks by US Prez Joe Biden describing India as "xenophobic" and emphasised that the country has been open and welcoming to people from diverse societies. Jaishankar also refuted

the allegation that the Indian economy was faltering. Union minister said that the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) introduced by PM Narendra Modi-led govt showcases India's welcoming approach. On April 2, Biden had said the "xenophobic" nature of India, China,

Japan and Russia is responsible for their economic troubles and argued that America's economy is growing because it welcomes immigrants to its soil. He made the statement while campaigning for his re-election at Washington fundraising event.

CAPSULES

Man tears holy book, beaten to death in Punjab

Ferozepur: A youth was lynched by a mob after he was accused of tearing the Guru Granth Sahib at a gurdwara in Bandala village, Ferozepur district, Saturday. The mob allegedly beat Lakhwinder Singh to death on the spot. Apart from people visiting the gurdwara, locals also thrashed the youth. Lakhwinder was in his early 20s and lived in Talli Ghulam village. An FIR was registered at Arif Ke police station. Lakhwinder's father, Bakshish Singh, claimed his son was mentally upset and had received treatment in Delhi. After being beaten till he was unconscious, Lakhwinder was taken to hospital where he was declared brought dead.

Nalsa verdict: '10 years later, why are trans people still at red lights?'

Shreegauri Sawant's petition led to the transformative Nalsa judgment, but a decade later, challenges persist in implementing transgender rights, including social welfare inclusion, reservations, and ID card struggles, hindering the community's progress. When Shreegauri Sawant petitioned the Supreme Court to recognise the rights of transgender people a decade ago, she did not have much hope. To her surprise, the Nalsa (National Legal Services Authority) judgment became the bedrock of her community's civil liberties in India — recognising the sex-gender distinction, creating a legal third gender category and issuing directives to state and central governments.

SIT takes JD(S) MLA HD Revanna into custody

NEW DELHI: Janata Dal (Secular) party leader HD Revanna has been taken into custody by Special Investigation Team (SIT) officials in Karnataka on Sunday.

The arrest is related to a kidnapping case filed against him at the KR Nagar police station in Bengaluru.

The action was taken based on a complaint lodged by the son of a woman who was allegedly "abducted and sexually abused."

In his complaint filed, the man said his mother worked as a housemaid at HD Revanna's home for six years before returning to her village, where she worked as a daily wage labourer.

The man later discovered a video allegedly depicting



the sexual abuse of his mother by incumbent MP and Hassan Lok Sabha candidate Prajwal Revanna. He said that soon after the video was revealed, his

mother went missing. He then filed a kidnapping complaint against HD Revanna and Babanna on Thursday night. The Holenarsipura MLA and

his associate were booked under Sections 364A (kidnapping for ransom), 365 (kidnapping with intent to cause harm), and 34 (common intention) of the IPC. The FIR, registered by KR Nagar police, also lists HD Revanna as accused number one and another man, identified as Babanna, as accused number two.

Earlier in the day, the special court refused to grant interim anticipatory bail to the leader.

Special Judge Santhosh Gajanan Bhat, who heard the matter for about two hours, rejected the interlocutory application (IA) filed in this regard along with the anticipatory bail petition filed by HD Revanna. (Details awaited)

'No shortage of ...': Jaishankar rejects

Khan's claim of India's role in Pak killings

NEW DELHI: External affairs minister S Jaishankar on Saturday dismissed former Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan's accusation of India carrying out killings in their country.

In a column published in a UK daily, the imprisoned Pakistani politician claimed, "India has already admitted to undertaking assassinations inside of Pakistan and the international border with Afghanistan remains volatile.."

Jaishankar, in response to Khan's article, stated that Pakistan has an

abundance of terrorists and individuals involved in criminal activities. He pointed out that reports suggest some individuals with a background in terrorism have died under unusual circumstances, and it is a matter that Pakistan needs to investigate.

"What is happening in Pakistan, there is no shortage of terrorists and people involved in crimes out there. Now, from what we can see there are reports that some people who have a background in terrorism, some of them died in

pretty unusual circumstances. That is something they need to investigate," he said in Bhubaneswar.

The Union minister emphasized that Pakistan should first address the question of why there are so many terrorists within their borders and why the country is so protective of them. "First, they need to answer why there are so many terrorists in Pakistan. Terrorists are not very nice people. They could be doing things to each other. I am not entirely aware of the Khan article."

India's first indigenous bomber UAV unveiled in Bengaluru

BENGALURU: Flying Wedge Defence and Aerospace Technologies, an Indian defence and aerospace company, Friday marked a milestone in Bengaluru by unveiling the FWD-200B, pegged to be the country's first indigenous bomber unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV).

The FWD-200B is a medium-altitude, long-endurance (MALE) unmanned combat aerial vehicle designed and manufactured entirely in India. With a payload capacity of 100 kgs, it can carry optical surveillance payloads as well as precision air-strike weapons, the firm said. Addressing the unveiling ceremony in Bengaluru, Suhas Tejaskanda, founder, Flying Wedge Defence, said the FWD-200B fulfils India's long-awaited



dream of producing a combat UAV indigenously after years of failed attempts by agencies like the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). "A key highlight is the massive cost reduction achieved. While an imported US Predator drone costs a staggering Rs 250 crore, the Indian-made FWD-200B will be available for just Rs 25 crores — a tenth of the cost," the firm said. Tejaskanda added that this demonstrated the company's commit-

ment to self-reliance and positions India as a leader in cost-effective defence solutions. "With a 12-20 hour endurance, 200 kts/370 kmph max speed, and 200 km ground control station range, the FWD-200B is envisioned as the "nation's eagle eye" and an aerial shield against threats," the firm said, adding that its unveiling marks a major boost to India's initiative and reduces dependency on costly imports for strategic defence equipment like UAVs.

Former Delhi Congress chief Arvinder Singh Lovely joins BJP

NEW DELHI: Arvinder Singh Lovely on Saturday joined Bharatiya Janata Party days after he resigned as the Delhi Congress chief.

Lovely had resigned from Congress state president citing the alliance with AAP as his reason. He said that despite Aam Aadmi Party accusing the Congress over corruption, the grand old party allied with them. "We have been given an opportunity to fight for the people of Delhi under the banner of BJP and under the leadership of Prime Minister," Lovely said. I have full hope and there is no doubt about it that the BJP government is being formed in the country with an overwhelming majority. In the coming days, the flag of the BJP will fly in Delhi too," he added. Lovely joined BJP in the presence of Union minister Hardeep Singh Puri and party's



national general secretary Vinod Tawde. Few other congress leader including cabinet minister in Delhi government Raj Kumar Chauhan also joined the party. "I want to assure you that your services will be utilized and will be utilized very effectively. Our party needs people like you. You are joining our family and I want to welcome you and congratulate you," Union minister Puri said. Further, while speaking to reporters after the press conference, Lovely referred to former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's speech where she had said that every drop of her

blood is dedicated to the nation. "Indira ji ne bola tha Mere khoon ka katra katra iss desh ke liye hai. Katre Katre se Tukde Tukde pe aagye hain (Indira had said that every drop of her blood is dedicated to the nation. Now they are reduced to Tukde Tukde gang)," said Lovely, adding that he started feeling like a misfit in the party. "I had resigned from the post of Delhi Congress president and after that, I met all my colleagues and thousands of Congress workers. All those people said that you should not sit at home and should continue fighting."

Jaleel to contest from Aurangabad, says Owaisi

Jaleel to contest from Aurangabad, says Owaisi Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar: Putting an end to speculations of Aurangabad MP Imtiaz Jaleel contesting the Lok Sabha polls from Mumbai, All India Majlis-E-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) president Asaduddin Owaisi on Monday announced Jaleel's candidature from Aurangabad again. Owaisi took to X and announced that his party's Bihar president Akhtarul Iman would be the party's candidate from Kishanganj (Bihar) and Imtiaz Jaleel would contest from Aurangabad. Owaisi himself will contest from Hyderabad. During a media interaction in Hyderabad, Owaisi said: "In addition to these three candidates, party's state presidents in Maharashtra, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are working on finalising the number of seats to be contested. We will make an official announcement." When contacted, Jaleel said: "I thank the people of my constituency for letting me represent them in Parliament for five years. I did my best to raise the voice of the common people and fought hard against the wrong govt policies. Now, I will again approach people and if they feel I have done good work, then they would definitely stand with me. My initial two years as MP were lost because of Covid. Hope people will give me an opportunity to continue serving them." Jaleel, after winning the MLA elections in 2014, contested and won the LS elections against Shiv Sena's Chandrakant Khaire with a narrow margin in 2019 elections. He had openly expressed desire to contest the upcoming Lok Sabha polls from Mumbai. (North Central). Jaleel had cited communal violence on Thane's Mira Road during the Ram temple consecration, followed by civic body's action of demolishing several encroachments.

Paytm migrates merchants to UPI IDs

Delhi: Paytm founder Vijay Shekhar Sharma claimed merchant clients have migrated to the new PSP bank handles. Last week, the financial startup gained NPCI approval to begin user migration. Sharma launched the new sound box at a virtual press conference and said Yes Bank, a PSP bank, can elect to undertake additional due diligence on switching merchants. "Migration of merchants has been completed and the system is running with Yes Bank as the back end," he said. The new method transfers Paytm clients to PSP banks including Axis, HDFC, SBI, and Yes Bank. A PSP bank connects the UPI app to the banking channel. Only banks can be PSPs. Paytm previously settled with OCL-affiliated Paytm Payments Bank Ltd. (PPBL). The Reserve Bank of India ordered the payments bank to shut down basic banking services by 15



Swiggy moves closer to \$1.25 billion IPO

Delhi: Swiggy's shareholders have approved a \$1.2 billion initial public offering (IPO), according to Registrar of Companies papers sourced by Tofler. The documents claimed that the Bengaluru-based firm wants to raise up to Rs 3,750 crore (approximately \$450 million) through a fresh issue and up to Rs 6,664 crore (about \$800 million) through an OFS. In preparation for its IPO later this year, the business seeks Rs 750 crore from anchor investors. The company's shareholders consent and approve the creation, issue, offer, allot, and/or transfer of its equity shares up to Rs 3,750 crore by way of a fresh issue of equity shares up to Rs 6,664 crore by certain existing shareholders (OFS). Prosus owns 32% of Swiggy, SoftBank 8%, Accel 6.2, its founder group 6.7%, and Elevation Capital 4.4%. Tracxn, a market information platform, lists Norwest Venture Partners, Tencent, DST Global, and Alpha Wave.

March due to supervisory concerns and rule violations. Following RBI's order, Sharma resigned as

Paytm Payments Bank's non-executive chairman and board member in February.

The deadline for those who haven't linked their PAN and Aadhaar has been extended

Delhi: To alleviate burdens for taxpayers whose PAN and Aadhaar have not been linked, the income tax department has extended the deadline for levying penalties. PANs for individuals who failed to link the two forms of identification by the June 30, 2023 deadline were rendered invalid, and any party that withheld more money while deducting tax at source (TDS) or processing transactions that needed tax at source collection had to do so. For example, the TDS on house rent allowance jumped to 20% for people whose PAN stopped



working. Many of the tax collectors and deductors continued to collect or deduct taxes at the lower level without realizing the PAN was inactive, which resulted in penalties from the tax department. Many of them filed a petition with the government, which eventually changed the law to

release deductors and collectors from accountability for transactions completed up until last March as long as the PAN stops operating by the end of May. "For many who had to withhold or collect tax at a higher rate, this is a huge comfort... According to Kuldip Kumar, a partner at Mainstay Tax Advisors, "it is in the taxpayers' best interest to link their PAN with Aadhaar as soon as possible, if they haven't already. Until then, they will not receive any refunds that are owed to them and will also lose interest on their tax refunds."

E-tailers label 'health drinks' 'nutrition drinks'

Delhi: After a government recommendation against selling Bournvita, Horlicks, and Boost as "health drinks"—a non-existent category under food regulations—e-commerce companies have started calling them "nutrition drinks". BigBasket has removed "health drinks" from its

search terms. Consumers may still discover "health drinks" on other companies' websites and apps because full compliance will take a long time due to the large number of product listings and backend improvements, industry officials told TOI. E-commerce platforms and consumer goods cor-

porations are changing product positioning to comply with the government's requirement. Hindustan Unilever now calls Horlicks and Boost "functional nutrition drinks". In investor presentations until December, the brands were called health food drinks.

CAPSULES

Staff fraud costs M&M Financial Services 150cr

Delhi: Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services revealed a NorthEast branch fraud that could cost Rs 150 crore. Fraudsters forged automobile loan KYC documentation to steal corporate funds. Area business managers and other staff are under investigation, according to the corporation. After the announcement, firm shares fell 5.5%, resulting in a market cap loss of roughly Rs 1,700 crore. The corporation postponed its April 23 board meeting to discuss FY24 results. M&M Financial Services was regulated last year for recovery tactics. After the theft, Centrum financial indicated in a research report that the financial business had fewer provisions due to asset quality fluctuation. Macquarie's Vertelo invests \$1.5B in India for charging stations and EV loans.

Auctions for mobile spectrum to continue

Delhi: Union communications minister Ashwini Vaishnaw clarified a day after the government's application to the apex court on administrative allocation of spectrum in public interest or in pursuit of government function was mentioned in the 2G spectrum case that the government will continue to follow the auction process for spectrum allocation and was not seeking to modify the 2G judgment. Vaishnaw stated they would continue to follow the spectrum auction process for mobile services. The Telecommunications Act 2023, which was notified in the official gazette on December 24 but has not yet been enacted, requires the central government to auction all telecommunication spectrum except for activities listed in the First Schedule.

Air India CEO says India's aviation expansion might support another international hub

Delhi: Air India Ltd. CEO Campbell Wilson said India's airline business is growing quickly enough to accommodate at least one more international hub beyond Mumbai and Delhi. "India can be home to at least three hubs and plenty of point-to-point services," he said. The globe has few marketplaces like India. Southern India can flow Asia-Africa or Australia-Europe, while northern India flows east-west "added. Air India ordered 470 Airbus SE and Boeing Co. jets last year, one of the largest jet purchases in aviation history. Bloomberg says India's growing consumer class and economy might



make it a major travel market. IndiGo and Akasa are among the Indian airlines that have ordered over 1,100 aircraft and invested \$12 billion to build 72 new airports by 2025. Air India has received one new

aircraft every six days for six months and will continue to do so for 12 months. "11 Boeing 777s, three Airbus A350s, and 15 Boeing 737 Maxs arrived this month. Retrofitting widebodies

Vodafone Idea FPO subscribed 7x, largest fund-raise

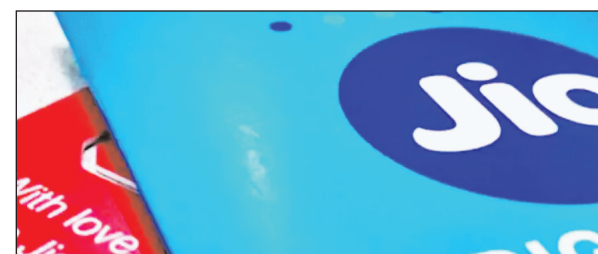
Delhi: Vodafone Idea's Rs 18,000-crore follow-on public offer (FPO) was subscribed seven times, the most popular fund-raising maneuver. The Rs 10-Rs 11 FPO, the largest in Indian history,

should finish in 2025 or 2026 "Wilson stated.

"At the time of privatization, Air India had 43 wide-body aircraft for a population of 1.3 billion," he said. Singapore has 150 wide-body planes, Dubai 250.

Jio needs two pricing hikes to catch Airtel in Arpu

Delhi: Reliance Analysts estimate that Jio, India's largest telecom operator by market share, would need two 15-20% rate hikes over the next three years to catch up to Bharti Airtel on average revenue per user (Arpu). Tariff rises and customer mix should boost Jio's Arpu to Rs 235 by FY27. However, Airtel's Arpu should reach Rs 286 in three years. Jio's Arpu at Rs 182 has been flat sequentially for the last three quarters, despite reporting January-March quarter earnings in line with experts' projections. JP Morgan



analysts claimed Jio's Arpu deflated because of early success in JioBharat feature phones at lower prices. Furthermore, free 5G is substantially reducing 4G data top-ups. Jio's 5G subscribers reached 108 million. Its 5G network handles 28% of wireless data traffic. Users receive 28% of data traffic for free from

the company. Analysts forecast a 20% tariff hike in July-September FY25 and another in FY27 after elections. A rate boost is vital for Jio, which is focussed on increasing users, as its free cash flow went negative Rs 15,100 crore in FY24 due to a huge spike in cash interest payments to Rs 13,600 crore.

TCS CEO says AI can kill most call centers

Delhi: Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) head K Krithivasan said artificial intelligence (AI) will reduce call center demand in Asia and beyond. While there has been no employment decrease, Krithivasan told the Financial Times that global companies using generative AI



will restructure customer contact centers in the coming days. Added, "We are in a situation where technology should be able to predict a call and address it accordingly". The TCS CEO reiterated that AI might replace many positions, including call center representatives and software developers. The statements of TCS CEO are noteworthy for India, as Nasscom reports

over 5 million IT and BPO workers. He stressed that while AI's immediate benefits have been overstated, its long-term impacts will be more significant. He also predicted a global demand for tech talents. According to Financial Times, Krithivasan stated TCS's generative AI projects quadrupled quarter over quarter to \$900 million in the fourth quarter.

RBI bans Kotak Mahindra from online and mobile customer acquisition

Delhi: The Reserve Bank of India has barred Kotak Mahindra Bank from onboarding new customers through its online and mobile banking channels and issuing new credit cards due to its failure to build IT systems and controls that grew with its growth and caused serious regulatory violations. As per RBI's announcement, RBI's press notice stated that the bank is "materially deficient in building necessary operational resilience on account of its failure to build IT systems and controls commensurate with its growth". Kotak Mahindra Bank's IT inventory management, patch and change management, user access management, vendor risk management, data security and leak prevention strategy, business continuity and disaster recovery rigour and drill had serious defi-



ciencies and non-compliances. Interestingly, the press notice noted that the bank's IT Risk and Information Security Governance fell short of regulatory criteria for two years. "During the subsequent assessments, the bank was found to be significantly non-compliant with the Corrective Action Plans issued by the Reserve Bank for 2022 and 2023, as the compliances submitted by the bank were found to be either inadequate, incorrect or not sustained". In the absence of a robust IT infrastructure and IT Risk Management.

Issue over digital competition now centers on targeted advt

Delhi: The main topic of discussion in India's planned legislation governing big digital companies is how tech companies use internet users' data to bombard them with adverts. Public comments on the Ministry of Corporate Affairs' proposed Digital Competition Bill are currently being accepted. It prohibits "inter-mixing or cross-using" data from various services provided by companies in the digital economy without the authorization of the users involved.

IndiGo orders 30 long-haul planes for \$9.5 billion



Delhi: In 2027, IndiGo will fly nonstop between India and remote locations using its own wide-body aircraft. The Rahul Bhatia-founded mega budget carrier "has agreed" to order 30 twin-aisle Airbus A350-900s worth over \$9.5 billion at list price and an option for 70 more. Indian travelers will have two domestic airlines, Air India and IndiGo, running medium to ultra long-haul routes on dual aisles (Vistara merges into AI this year), as well as many foreign carriers. IndiGo "agreed to order" 60 Trent XWB engines for 30 A350s. IndiGo evaluated the B787 Dreamliner, but Boeing's ongoing issues persuaded it to stick with Airbus, which has over 1,000 A320 family single aisles on order and is the world's largest A320 operator. Airbus controls India's single aisle market, but troubled Boeing is no longer the only wide body with Indian carriers. Since last year, Airbus has been receiving orders for big birds, starting with AI. IndiGo leased two B777s from Turkish Airlines to run a daily Delhi/Mumbai-Istanbul trip. After that experience, it ordered wide bodies for delivery in 2027, IndiGo's 21st year. Airlines can acquire 70 more A350-900 "at its discretion, for possible future needs under certain conditions," they say. IndiGo had over 10 crore passengers in 2023 on 350 planes.