

THE INDIAN MAIL

ENGLISH DAILY

SATURDAY, 10 February 2024

VOLUME : 14 ISSUE : 164 PAGES : 12 ₹ 4

PUBLISHED FROM HYDERABAD, VIJAYAWADA



Chaudhary Charan Singh, Narasimha Rao, Swaminathan conferred with Bharat Ratna

New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS) : Former Prime Ministers Chaudhary Charan Singh and P.V. Narasimha Rao, and legendary agricultural scientist Dr M.S. Swaminathan will be honoured with the Bharat Ratna, announced Prime Minister Narendra Modi on

Friday. The Prime Minister announced this on his X handle. "Delighted to share that our former Prime Minister, Shri PV Narasimha Rao Garu, will be honoured with the Bharat Ratna. "As a distinguished scholar and statesman, Narasimha Rao Garu

served India extensively in various capacities. He is equally remembered for the work he did as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Union Minister, and as a Member of Parliament and Legislative Assembly for many years.

CM Revanth welcomes Bharat Ratna award for PV Narasimha Rao



Hyderabad, Feb 9 (IANS) : Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has expressed happiness for conferring the India's highest civilian award of Bharat Ratna on former Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao by the Union Government. Revanth Reddy said PV Narasimha Rao is a distinguished person who introduced economic reforms and moved the country on the path of development. " We welcome the announcement of Bharat Ratna award to PV Narasimha Rao. Though long delayed, it is a pride moment that PV is honoured with the India's highest civilian award".



BRS party MLAs demand justice to auto rikshaw drivers, stage dharna

Hyderabad, Feb 9 (IANS) : Ahead of the budget session, the MLAs and MLCs of BRS party rushed to the State Assembly in autos rickshaws. The event was held in protest against the Congress government's stand on auto rickshaw drivers. They travelled from Hyderguda MLA quarters to the assembly. They displayed placards urging the State government to help the auto rikshaw workers. Former minister and Siddipet MLA Harish Rao demanded. 10,000 per month for 6.5 lakh auto-rikshaw drivers, who fell on the road due to the implementation of free bus travel scheme of the State government for all the women of Telangana. He also sought a compensation of Rs 10 lakh for the families of the deceased auto-rikshaw drivers.

తెలంగాణ ప్రభుత్వం

శ్రీ సమ్మక్క - సారలమ్మ మహా జాతర- 2024






గౌ|| శ్రీ భట్టి విక్రమార్కు మల్లు గారు
ఉప ముఖ్యమంత్రివర్గములు

గౌ|| శ్రీపాంగులేటి శ్రీనివాస్ రెడ్డి గారు
రెవెన్యూ, గృహ నిర్మాణ, సమాచార మరియు పౌర సంబంధాల శాఖామూల్యములు

గౌ|| శ్రీమతి కొండా సురేఖ గారు
అటవీ, పర్యావరణం మరియు ఎండోమెంట్ శాఖామూల్యములు

గౌ|| శ్రీ ధనసలి సీతక్క గారు
పంచాయతీరాజ్, గ్రామీణాభివృద్ధి మరియు మహిళా, శిశు సంరక్షణ శాఖామూల్యములు

గౌ|| శ్రీ ఎనుముల రేవంత్ రెడ్డి గారు
తెలంగాణ రాష్ట్ర ముఖ్యమంత్రివర్గములు




జాతర కార్యక్రమాలు

తేదీ : 21-02-2024 (బుధవారం) సా . 4 గం .లకు .శ్రీ సారలమ్మ దేవత గద్దెకు వచ్చుట

తేదీ : 22-02-2024 (గురువారం) సా . 5 గం .లకు .శ్రీ సమ్మక్క దేవత గద్దెకు వచ్చుట

తేదీ : 23-02-2024 (శుక్రవారం) అమ్మవార్లకు మొక్కుల చెల్లింపులు

తేదీ : 24-02-2024 (శనివారం) శ్రీ సమ్మక్క సారలమ్మ దేవతలు తిరిగి వన ప్రవేశం

- జాతరలో మెరుగైన సదుపాయాలకు రూ.105 కోట్లతో అభివృద్ధి పనులు
- ప్రత్యేక వైద్య శిబిరాలు ఏర్పాటు
- భక్తులకు త్రాగు నీరు, పాలిశుద్ధ్య సదుపాయాల కల్పన
- మెరుగైన రవాణాకు 6000కు పైగా ప్రత్యేక RTC బస్సులు

గిరిజనుల సంస్కృతి, సంప్రదాయాలకు ప్రతీక





Chiranjeevi felicitated by Governor

Hyderabad, Feb 9 (IANS) : Renowned film actor and recent Padma Vibhushan awardee Konidela Chiranjeevi, was felicitated today by Governor and Lt. Governor of Puducherry Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan, at Raj Bhavan. During the event, the Governor extended her best wishes for Chiranjeevi's continued success in the future.

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED
(Formerly known as Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited)
Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.144, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Gulindy, Chennai-600032
Branch Office: M G Road, Warangal, Warangal (Dist.)- 506002

RULE-8(3) POSSESSION NOTICE

Note: "It is informed that "SHRIRAM CITY UNION FINANCE LIMITED" has been amalgamated with "SHRIRAM TRANSPORT FINANCE LIMITED" as per order of NCLT, Chennai. Subsequently the name of "SHRIRAM TRANSPORT FINANCE LIMITED" was changed as "SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED" with effect from 30.11.2022 vide Certificate of Incorporation pursuant to change of name dated 30-11-2022. Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of Shriram Finance Limited (SFL) under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (said Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (said Rules) issued demand notices to the Borrowers details of which are mentioned in the table below to repay the amount mentioned in the said demand notices. The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower and the public in general that the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of SFL has been handed over the physical possession of the mortgaged Properties described herein below in pursuance of the order passed by the Hon'ble Chief Judicial Magistrate, at Bhupalpally, in Cr.M.P. NO. 44/2023, under Section 14 of the said Act and Rules, on this 8th Day of February' 2024.

Borrower Name and Address	Amount due as per Demand Notice
1) Prameela Rani Thota, W/o Thota Prasad, Age: 51 Years, Occ: Kakatiya Cotton Industries Business, # 11-24-26/11/3, Sreeram Towers, M V Colony Deshaipet Road, Warangal, 2) Prasad Thota, S/o Laxmaiah, Age: 59 Years, Occ: Kakatiya Cotton Industries Business, # 11-24-26/11/3, Sreeram Towers, M V Colony Deshaipet Road, Warangal. 3) Kiran Kumar Thota, S/o Prabhakar, Age: 42 Years, Occ: Business, # Flat No 402, Chaitra Plaza, Bandari Layout, Near Panchayath Office, Nizampet, Bachupally, Rangareddy. And Also At Kiran Kumar Thota, S/o Prabhakar, Age: 42 Years, # House And Open Place H.No.3-173, Kosurupally Vill, Chityal Mdl, Bhupalpally, Jayashankar Bhupalpally Dist. 4) Sruvan Kumar Thota, S/o Prasad, Age: 32 Years, Occ: Business, # 11-24-26/11/3, Sreeram Towers, M V Colony Deshaipet Road, Warangal. And Also At Sruvan Kumar Thota, S/o Prasad, Age: 32 Years, # House And Open Place H.No.3-173, Kosurupally Vill, Chityal Mdl, Bhupalpally, Jayashankar Bhupalpally Dist. 5) Rajesh Bhuria, S/o Srinivas, Age: 33 Years, Occ: Business, # 2-33, Thogarral, Manamadhapur, Duggondi, Warangal	Rs. 59,06,889/- (Fifty Nine Lakhs Six Thousand Eight Hundred And Eighty Nine Only)

House and open place bearing GP H.No.3-173 3082.44 Sq.Yards or 2577.22 Sq.Mtrs situated at Kosurupally village and GP, Chityal Mandal of Bhupalpally Jayashankar District, Within the District Registrar, Warangal and within the jurisdiction of Mulugu, is located within the following boundaries : East: Land of T.Veeriah West: 50 Ft Wide Road North: Land of A.Mogili South : 2 Ft CC Road

This notice is also hereby to caution the general public at large that the authorized officer of SFL, is in the lawful Physical Possession of the immovable properties mentioned herein above and the Borrowers or any persons shall not effect any transfer of the said properties by way of sale, lease or otherwise deal with/ alienate any of the above mentioned secured assets referred to in this notice, without prior written consent of SFL.

Place: Bhupalpally Date: 09-02-2024 Sd/- Authorised Officer Shriram Finance Limited

The propaganda coming on social media that children are being taken away from the district is not true : SP Akhil Mahajan

Rajanna Sirisilla, Feb 9 (TIM Bureau) : The issue being spread on social media in Rajanna Sirisilla district is that people from other states are roaming around villages and towns in our district and picking up small children. Don't believe such false propaganda. Don't believe such false propaganda. Videos and photos related to incidents in other areas are being posted on social media in the district to scare people. District SP Akhil Mahajan said not to do it. "The information, complaints and evidence regarding the kidnapping of small children have been coming on social media for the past two days, but the police have not received

them. They are constantly monitoring and patrolling throughout the district. Blue Colt vehicles are patrolling 24/7 in urban and rural areas. In all the roads entering the district, He said that there is surveillance of CC cameras in the towns..No one should believe the rumors coming on social media that they are not true, if such incidents have happened, if you have information, call the concerned police officers or dial 100 and give the information, the police will in-



investigate the facts and take appropriate action. District SP Akhil Mahajan said that police will also keep an eye on those who are terrorizing people by posting false rumors on social media.



For free driving training

Rajanna Sirisilla Feb 9 (TIM Bureau) : Tides Principal Raghavan said that under the auspices of Telangana Institute of Driving Education and Skills (tides), free training will be given to rural youth in Light

Motor Vehicle (LMV) and Heavy Motor Vehicle (HMV). "Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kausalya Yojana, Employment Genera-

tion and Marketing Mission will conduct a 3-month free training program under the joint auspices of Rajanna Sirisilla District Tangallapalli Mandal Mandepalli Tides. Tides is for the youth attending the training "Free accommodation will be provided. He said that the age of the candidates applying for the free driving training should be between 20 to 28 years. Belonging to a rural area, it doesn't matter if you pass or fail class 10. It has been clarified that the height of the candidate should be above 160 cm and ready to

work anywhere in the country. He said that the candidates who have completed the training will be an apprentice for three months. Those who have completed one year of LMH license will be given HMV training. Interested candidates are advised to bring 10th class certificate, Aadhaar, Ration Card, Caste, Income, bank account xerox copies, 6 photographs. For details contact 89854 31720. He asked the youth to take advantage of this opportunity.

OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER -III DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL HYDERABAD (DRT 2) 1st Floor, Triveni Complex Abids, Hyderabad-500001

DEMAND NOTICE

NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961. RC/309/2023 11-01-2024

Bank of Baroda Versus Asyuraju Gajjala And Another

To: (CD 1) Asyuraju Gajjala S/o. Sri Ananda Rao Gajjala, Flat No.1801, Tower No.17, Prajya Magapolis, Hafeezpet, KPHB 13 Phase, Hyderabad, T.S-500 085. (CD 2) Satti Priyanka D/o. Sri Satti Padmakara Reddy, Flat No. 101, Hard Rock Classic View Apartments, Behind Global Erudite School, Raghavendra Colony, Hyderabad, Telangana

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL HYDERABAD (DRT 2) in OA/473/2022 an amount of Rs.38,31,193/- (Rupees Thirty Eight Lakhs Thirty One Thousands One Hundred Ninety Three Only) along with pendente lite and future interest @ of 8.95 % Simple Interest Yearly w.e.f. 15/07/2022 till realization and costs Rs.1,58,635/- (Rupees One Lakh Fifty Eight Thousand Six Hundred Thirty Five Only) has become due against you (Jointly and severally/ Fully/Limited).

2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 and Rules there under.

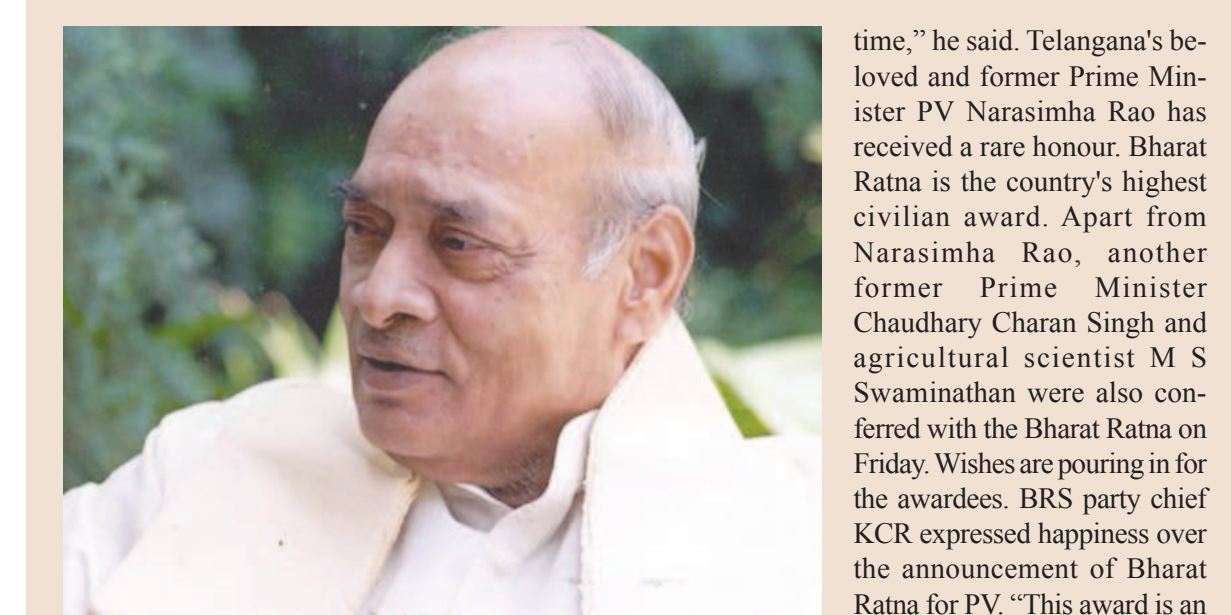
3. You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of yours assets on or before the next date of hearing.

4. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on 29/02/2024 at 10:30 a.m. for further proceedings.

5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay: (a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate / execution proceedings. (b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processes and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due. Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this date: 11/01/2024 Sd/- Recovery Officer DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL HYDERABAD (DRT-2)

Sridhar Babu assures to resolve problems of auto drivers

Hyderabad, Feb 9 (IANS) : Minister for IT and Industries D Sridhar Babu has reiterated that the State government is committed to the welfare of auto drivers in Telangana. During the debate on the motion of thanks for the Governor's speech, Sridhar Babu said that the State government would take all measures to protect the interests of auto drivers and all the issues related to auto drivers would be addressed in a phased manner.



Political leaders thank Centre for conferring Bharata Ratna on PV

Hyderabad, Feb 9 (IANS) : The Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka today welcomed the decision of the Union government to confer Bharata Ratna on former Prime Minister late P V Narasimha Rao. He said PV had worked hard till his last breath in making India an economically strong nation in the world through his economic reforms and globalization of the crumbling Indian economy. He said it was as a result of the foundations of

economic reforms laid by P.V. Narasimha Rao that today India had become the fourth most economically strong country in the world. "It is a matter of pride for the Congress party that the Bharat Ratna has been conferred on the late PV Narasimha Rao, a great statesman and multilingual person from Telangana State. I would like to thank the Central government for recognising the Congress party's struggle to declare Bharat Ratna on the late Prime Minister PV, who put the country's economy on track after a long

time," he said. Telangana's beloved and former Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao has received a rare honour. Bharat Ratna is the country's highest civilian award. Apart from Narasimha Rao, another former Prime Minister Chaudhary Charan Singh and agricultural scientist M S Swaminathan were also conferred with the Bharat Ratna on Friday. Wishes are pouring in for the awardees. BRS party chief KCR expressed happiness over the announcement of Bharat Ratna for PV. "This award is an honour for the people of Telangana," KCR said while thanking the Central government for honouring the demand of the BRS party to confer the Bharat Ratna on PV. Union Minister Kishan Reddy also reacted to the announcement of Bharat Ratna to PV. "It is a matter of pride for all the people of the country that P.V. Narasimha Rao, a prominent nationalist, statesman, multi-faceted personality and former Prime Minister of India, has been selected for the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award. His services in various capacities to India as a far-sighted leader have received due recognition.

HDB Financial Services Ltd. E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Registered Office: Radhika, 2nd Floor, Law Garden Road, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad-380009. Branch Office: Shree Balaji PSR Tower, 1st Floor H.No.1-8-616, 1, Prakash Nagar, Begumpet, Hyderabad, Telangana-500016

The Undersigned as Authorized Officer of HDB Financial Services Limited has Taken Over Symbolic Possession of the following Property Pursuant to the Notice issued U/S 13(2) of the Securitisation And Reconstruction of the Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 in the following Loan Accounts with a Right to sell the same on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" for Realization of Company's Dues.

1. Borrower/S & Guarantor/S Name & Address.	Description Of The Property	1. Date & Time of E-Auction	1. Reserve Price
1) Jagan Ramu Poultry Farm, H.No.4-68, Kuntapally Sangem, Sangem, Warangal-506142, Telangana. And also H.No.2-75/1C, Corresponding its GWMC H.No.30-2-188, Constructed in an Open Plot Admeasuring 133.33 Sq.yd Warangal-506002. 2) Gundekari Sunitha, H.No.30-2-188, Madikonda, Kazipeta Mandal, Warangal-506002, Telangana. 3) Gudekari Raghun, H.No.30-2-188, Madikonda, Kazipeta Mandal, Warangal-506002, Telangana. 2) Loan Account No.'s: 18672151, 4807193 3) Total Outstanding Amount: Rs.26,75,010/- (Rupees Twenty Six Lakh Seventy Five Thousand & Ten Only) as of 14 February 2023 with further interest/ incidental expenses /costs till the date of full payment.	Schedule of the Securities-1: All that RCC Residential its GP H.No.2-75/1C Corresponding its GWMC H.No.30-2-188 Constructed in Ana Open Plot Admeasuring 133.33 Sq.yds (or 0 111.46 Sq.mtrs, situated at Madikonda Village, Kazipet Mandal, Warangal District, Telangana. Bounded by: North: 15ft wide Road, South: Plot of Chanramogil II, East: Plot of D. Narayana and Others, West: Plot of P. Chakrapani Nad Others.	1) E-AUCTION Date: 14.03.2024 11.00 AM to 12.00 Noon with unlimited extension of 5 minutes 2) Last Date of Submission of EMD with KYC 13.03.2024 till 5 PM	Rs.40,60,760/- (Rupees Forty Lakhs Sixty Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty Only) EMD Amount (in INR) : Rs.4,06,076/- (Rupees Four Lakhs Six Thousand Seventy Six Only) Bid Incremental: Rs.1,00,00/- (Rupees One Lakh Only)

The intending bidders are advised to visit the Branch and the properties put up on Auction, and obtain necessary information regarding charges, encumbrances. The purchaser shall make his own enquiry and ascertain the additional charges, encumbrances and any third party interests and satisfy himself/ herself/ itself in all aspects thereof. All statutory dues like property taxes, electricity dues and any other dues, if any, attached to the property should be ascertained and paid by the successful bidder(s) prospective purchaser(s). The bidder(s) prospective purchaser(s) are requested, in their own interest, to satisfy himself/ herself/ itself with regard to the above and the other relevant details pertaining to the above mentioned property/ Properties, before submitting the bids.

Terms & Conditions of Online Tender/ Auction: 1) The auction sale shall be "online e-auction" bidding through website <https://www.bankauctions.com> Or Auction Tiger Mobile APP on the dates as mentioned in the table above with Unlimited Extension of 5 Minutes. 2) The interested bidders shall submit their EMD through Web Portal: <https://www.bankauctions.com> (the user ID & Password can be obtained free of cost by registering name with <https://www.bankauctions.com>) through Login ID & Password. The interested bidders who require assistance in creating Login ID & Password, uploading data, submitting Bid Documents, Training/ Demonstration on Online Intra Bidding etc., may contact M/s. (C1 India Pvt. Ltd., Udyog Vihar, Phase 2, Gulf Petrochem Building, Building No.301, Gurgaon, Haryana. Pin:122015, E-mail ID: support@bankauctions.com, Support Helpline Numbers: 124-402020/ 21/ 22/ 23, 7291981124/ 1125/ 1126, Sales Enquiries: sales@bankauctions.com, 7291981129, 9948182222 and for any property related query may contact Authorised Officer: MR. A. NARSINGRAO (9703554646) & P. KRISHNAPRADEEP (9059000515), during the working hours from Monday to Saturday. 3) The intending purchaser/ bidder is required to submit amount of the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) by way of Demand Draft/ PAY ORDER drawn on any nationalized or scheduled Commercial Bank in favour of "HDB FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED" payable at Hyderabad on or before date and time mentioned above (Please refer to the details mentioned in table above). 4) Bids that are not filled up or Bids received beyond last date will be considered as invalid Bid and shall be summarily rejected. No interest shall be paid on the EMD. Once the bid is submitted by the Bidder, same cannot be withdrawn. If the bidder does not participate in the bid process, EMD deposited by the Bidder shall be forfeited without further recourse. However, EMD deposited by the unsuccessful bidder shall be refunded without interest. 5) The bid price to be submitted shall be above the Reserve Price along with increment value of Rs.20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousand only) and the bidder shall further improve their offer in multiple of Rs.20,000/- (Rupees twenty thousand only). The property shall not be sold below the Reserve Price set by the Authorised Officer. 6) The successful bidder is required to deposit 25% of the sale price (inclusive of EMD) immediately but not later than next working day by Demand Draft drawn in favour of "HDB FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED" payable AT HYDERABAD or NEFT/RTGS in the account of "HDBFS GENERAL COLLNS"; Account No 00210310002748; IFSC Code- HDFC0000021; MICR CODE: MICR500240002; Branch: LAKDIPKAPUL, HYDERABAD and the balance amount of sale price shall be paid by the successful bidder within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale by the Company. The EMD as well as Sale Price paid by the interested bidders shall carry no interest. The deposit of EMD or 10% of sale price, whatever may be the case shall be forfeited by the Company, if the successful bidder fails to adhere to terms of sale or commits any default. 7) On compliance of terms of Sale, Authorised officer shall issue "Sale Certificate" in favour of highest bidder. All the expenses related to stamp duty, registration charges, conveyance, TDS etc. to be borne by the purchaser. 8) Company does not take any responsibility to procure permission/ NOC from any authority or under any other law in force in respect of property offered or any other dues i.e. outstanding water/electricity dues, property tax or other charges, if any. 9) The successful bidder shall bear all expenses including pending dues of any Development Authority, if any/ taxes/ utility bills etc. to the Municipal Corporation or any other authority/ agency and fees payable for stamp duty registration fees etc. for registration of the Sale Certificate. 10) The Authorised Officer reserves the absolute right and discretion to accept or reject any or all the offers/bids or adjourn/cancel the sale without assigning any reason or modify any terms of sale without any prior notice. The immovable property shall be sold to the highest bidder. However, the Authorised Officer reserves the absolute discretion to allow inter-se bidding, if deemed necessary. 11) To the best of its knowledge and information, the Company is not aware of any encumbrances on the property to be sold except of the Company. However, interested bidders should make their own assessment of the property to their satisfaction. The Company does not in any way guarantee or makes any representation with regard to the fitness/title of the aforesaid property. For any other information, the Authorised Officer shall not be held responsible for any charge, lien, encumbrances, property tax or any other dues to the Government or anybody in respect of the aforesaid property. 12) Further interest will be charged as applicable, as per the loan documents on the amount outstanding in the notice and incidental expenses, costs, etc. is due and payable till its actual realization. Online E-auction participation is mandatory in the auction process by making application in prescribed format which is available along-with the offer/tender document on the website. Bidders are advised to go through the website <https://www.bankauctions.com> for detailed terms and conditions of auction sale before submitting their bids and taking part in e-auction sale proceedings. Online bidding will take place at web-site of organization as mentioned herein above, and shall be subject to the terms and conditions contained in the tender document. The Tender Document and detailed Terms and Conditions for the Auction may be downloaded from the website <https://www.bankauctions.com> or the same may also be collected from the concerned Branch office of HDB Financial Services Limited. A copy of the Bid form with the enclosure submitted online (also mentioning UTR Number) shall be handed over to Concerned Manager MR. A. NARSINGRAO (9703554646) & P. KRISHNAPRADEEP (9059000515) at M/s. HDB Financial Services Ltd., Address: Shree Balaji PSR Tower, 1st Floor, H.No.1-8-616, 1, Prakash Nagar, Begumpet, Hyderabad, Telangana-500016. 13) On or before date and time mentioned above, (Please refer to the details mentioned in table above). 14) The property shall be sold on "As is Where is Basis" and "As is What is Basis" condition and the intending bidder should make discreet enquiries as regards encumbrances, charge and statutory outstanding on the property of any authority besides the Company's charges and should satisfy themselves about the title, extent, quality and quantity of the property before submitting their bid. No claim of whatsoever nature regarding the property put for sale, charges and encumbrances over the property or any other matter etc. will not be entertained after submission of the online bid and at any stage thereafter. The Company shall not be responsible for anything whatsoever. 15) This publication is also a '30' (Thirty) days' notice to the Borrower/ Mortgage/ Guarantors of the above said loan account pursuant to Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, to discharge the liability in full and pay the dues as mentioned above along with upto date interest and expenses within 30 days from the date of this notice failing which the Secured asset will be sold as per the terms and conditions mentioned above. 16) The Authorised Officer has absolute right to accept or reject Tender or Bid any or all the offers and adjourn/postpone/cancel the Auction without assigning any reason thereof and also modify any terms and conditions of the sale without assigning any reason thereof and also to modify any terms and conditions of the sale without any prior notice.

Date: 08.02.2024, Place: Hyderabad Sd/- Authorized Officer, For HDB Financial Services Limited

Drunken Lorry driver sent to jail for causing death of two persons

Hyderabad, Feb 9 (IANS) : Ranga Reddy IX ADJ Court at LB Nagar has convicted and sentenced a lorry driver Mallsetty Yeshwanth of Rajiv Colony, Tandur village and mandal of Vikarabad District to undergo 10 years RI and fined Rs 26,000/- for rash and negligent driving under influence of alcohol causing death of two persons and grievously injuring one on December 7, 2021 at 1915 hrs near Ayyappa temple, Nandigama (V) & (M) of Ranga

Reddy District. Nimmagadda Divakar, son of Sreedhar, aged 22 years, of Nandigama lodged a complaint with the police stating that accused Mallsetty Yeshwanth drove his lorry in rash and negligent manner with high speed and hit a roadside tree resulting in the tree falling on Sreedhar, who stood beside the tree. The complainant also said the accused lorry driver hit another two persons, who stood along with scooty near the tree.

Shriram Life Insurance profit after tax jumps 43% in Q3FY24

Hyderabad, Feb 9 (IANS) : Steered by robust sales and new partnerships, Shriram Life Insurance Company Ltd on Friday announced that it earned a profit after tax (PAT) of Rs 50 crore in its October to December 2023 quarter, a 43% rise over its second quarter this fiscal. The company's premium from group business up to Q3FY24 more than doubled to Rs 693 crore from Rs 324 crore in the year-ago period. Shriram Life reported a PAT of Rs 31 crore for Q3FY23.

Masjid Committee objects to survey of remaining Gyanvapi cellars



Varanasi, Feb 9 (IANS) : The Anjuman Intezamia Masjid Committee (AIMC), which manages the Gyanvapi mosque, has objected to a plea seeking ASI survey, arguing that the exercise will damage the cellars. The objections were made on Friday during the hearing of a plea seeking an ASI survey of all other closed cellars in the Gyanvapi mosque complex by using ground penetrating radar (GPR) and other modern techniques.



Three associates of terrorists Landa, Rinda held in Punjab

Chandigarh, Feb 9 (IANS) : In a major breakthrough, Punjab Police's Anti-Gangster Task Force (AGTF) has arrested three associates of terrorists Lakbir Landa and Harwinder Rinda, both based in Canada and Pakistan, respectively, Director General of Police Gaurav Yadav said on Friday.



K'taka CM's allegations of injustice a deliberate distortion of the truth : Amit Malviya

Bengaluru, Feb 9 (IANS) : BJP's IT cell chief Amit Malviya has hit out at Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah for alleging "unfair" allocation of funds by the Centre to the state.

Taking to the micro-blogging site 'X' ahead of the Siddaramaiah-led Congress protest in New Delhi, Malviya said, "Siddaramaiah's expectation of 15 per cent growth rate in tax revenue is a joke and a lie, given that Covid hit state GDP for two years. He ignores the life-saving mobility restrictions and uses a flawed indicator of tax performance. "Tax buoyancy is a better indicator to measure, which shows how tax revenue responds to GDP growth. It has soared from 0.72 before GST to 1.22 after it, proving GST's positive effect on tax efficiency and compliance. His view is a deliberate distortion of the truth and an insult to the GST's benefits. "The devolution of funds to states is based on rational criteria, laid out in Article 280. It ensures fair distribution of resources. Centre's tax devolution to Karnataka has increased by 245.7 per cent, reaching Rs 2.82 lakh crore (under Modi Govt), compared to Rs 81,795 crore under the UPA, he said.



Restrictions imposed on Internet, mob gathering in J&K's Poonch & Rajouri

Jammu, Feb 9 (IANS) : After Parliament gave nod to the grant of Scheduled Tribe status to the Pahari community in J&K, authorities on Friday imposed restrictions on Internet and mob gathering in Poonch and Rajouri districts. Parliament on Friday passed the grant of scheduled tribe (ST) status to the Pahari community living in different parts of J&K. So far, Gujjar/Bakerwal community had the Scheduled Tribe status with 9 per cent reservation in government jobs for members of this community. Gujjar/Bakerwal community has opposed the grant of ST status to Paharis claiming that they would cut into the reservations made for Gujjar/Bakerwal community and also that the Paharis are a well settled community in the UT. Along with the Paharis, Parliament has passed the bill granting ST status to Padari tribe, Kolis and Gadda Brahmins of the UT. Raja Aijaz Ali, retired IGP, is a prominent member of the Pahari community.

Cong will split in a month after PM Modi assumes power for third time: Bommai

Bengaluru, Feb 9 (IANS) : Former Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Friday said that the Congress will split up within a month after Prime Minister Narendra Modi retains power for the third consecutive time following the upcoming Lok Sabha polls. He said this while addressing a rally organised here by the BJP to protest against the failures of the Siddaramaiah-led government on "all fronts". He said that "no government in the past has played a drama like the incumbent government". "Chief Minister Siddaramaiah was trying to save his position by flouting all ideologies and philosophy," the former CM said. Bommai said no development work was taken up while the distribution of the drought relief money to farmers was also not done. "With what morality the CM and his team were protesting in Delhi. They



should be ashamed of themselves," he said, adding: "In fact, Karnataka has received more than Rs 2 lakh crore from the NDA government." Bommai further said: "They have emptied the Treasury and staged dharna in Delhi to mislead people.

CAN FIN HOMES LTD. DEMAND NOTICE. Under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (SARFAESI Act) read with Rule 3(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (Rules). Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of Can Fin Homes Ltd., under SARFAESI Act and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3, issued Demand Notice under Section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the Borrowers/Guarantors listed hereunder (hereinafter referred to as the 'Borrowers'), to repay the amounts mentioned in the Notice, within 60 days from the date of receipt of Notice, as per details given below. The said Notices have been returned undelivered by the postal authorities/ have not been duly acknowledged by the borrowers. Hence the Company by way of abundant caution is effecting this publication of the demand notice (as per the provisions of Rule 3 (1)). The undersigned has, therefore, caused these Notices to be pasted on the premises of the last known addresses of the said Borrowers, as per the said Act. As security for due repayment of the loan, the following assets have been mortgaged to the Company by the respective parties as detailed below.

HDB Financial Services Ltd. E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE. The Undersigned as Authorized Officer of HDB Financial Services Limited has Taken Over Symbolic Possession of the following Property Pursuant to the Notice issued U/S 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 in the following Loan Accounts with a Right to sell the same on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" for Realization of Company's Dues.

OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER -JII DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL HYDERABAD(DRT 2) DEMAND NOTICE. NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961. UCO Bank Versus Kollai Nagesh And Others. To: (CD 1) Kollai Nagesh S/o K. Naganna, #2-2-50611 Bagh Amberpet, Amberpet Mandal, Hyderabad -500 076 (CD 2) Kollai Padmavathi W/o Mr. Kollai Nagesh, #2-2-50611, Bagh Amberpet, Amberpet Mandal, Hyderabad-500 076 (CD 3) Narahari Satyanarayana Flat No.202, Second Floor, byre Village Block No.5, Plot No.54 and 55 Sy No.33/12, Chengaharla Village, Hyderabad. This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL HYDERABAD(DRT 2) in OA/783/2018 an amount of Rs 3166075.73 (Rupees Thirty One Lakhs Sixty Six Thousands Seventy Five And Paise Seventy Three Only) along with pendente lite and future interest @ 10.20 % Simple Interest Yearly w.e.f. 19.06.2019 till realization and costs of Rs 0 (Only) has become due against you (Jointly and severally/ Fully/Individually).

STATE BANK OF INDIA Stressed Assets Recovery Branch-II (20945) H.No.1-8-563/1, First Floor, Opp: Sandhya Theatre, RTC X Roads, Chikkadpally, Hyderabad- 500020 POSSESSION NOTICE (RULE - 8 (1) (For immovable property)). Whereas The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the State Bank of India under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated 22.11.2023 calling upon the Borrower/MS D Credits Dental Lab Partners, 1, Sri Yamanchi Srinivas s/o Sri Yamanchi Nageswara Rao and 2) Ms. Yamanchi Harmiti d/o Sri Yamanchi Srinivas to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.51,49,151.00 (Rupees Fifty One Lakh Forty Nine Thousand One Hundred Fifty One Only) as on 21.11.2023 and interest from 22.11.2023 within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/Guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this 08th day of February of the year 2024. The Borrower/Guarantor in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the State Bank of India for an amount of Rs.51,49,151.00 (Rupees Fifty One Lakh Forty Nine Thousand One Hundred Fifty One Only) as on 21.11.2023 and further interest from 22.11.2023, costs, etc. thereon. The borrowers attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section(8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets. Description of the immovable property owned by: Mr. Yamanchi Srinivas Immovable Property (Covered under Doc. No.2874/2022 dated 24.02.2022) All that part and parcel of Residential Flat No.303, Third Floor, in the building complex "Anthali Enclave" on plot no.20 Part and 21, in survey No.-148/Part, (as per link document 148/A), covered by HUDA layout permit no.8/MP2/plg/H/05 and file No.5731/MP2/HUDA/2004 in Gangasthan, situated at Dollapally village under kompally municipality, dundigudi, gandamahisama mandal, Medchal-Malkajgiri District with built up area 1135 sq ft., including common area along with UDS of land to an extent of 38 Sq. yards., out 897 Sq. Yards stand in the name of Yamanchi Srinivas and ownership converted to him vide Registered Sale Deed 2874/2022 dated 24.02.2022. Boundaries of the Flat No.13, North: Open to Sky, East: Corridor, South: Flat No.304, West: Open to Sky. Date: 08-02-2024 Place: Hyderabad Sd/- Authorised Officer, State Bank of India

Union Bank POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable property) (RULE 8(1) OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002). Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Union Bank of India, Hal Colony Gajularamam Branch (erstwhile Andhra Branch), Hyderabad, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 03.11.2023 calling upon the Borrower/Guarantors details mentioned as under in the NPA Loan Account of M/s Nandi Narahari Sons Account no. 12630100101786. Name of the Borrower/Guarantor: 1.M/s Nandi Narahari Sons,Shop no. C15, Bowenpally Agri Market Committee Yard, Bowenpally, Secunderabad-500011. Security Address: Residential Flat No. 302 on Third Floor measuring 1850 Sft. including common areas, car parking, forming part of the said residential complex, along with undivided share of land 60 Sq. yards., in Premises bearing MCH Nos. 1-1-466, 1-1-467 and 1-1-460/1, known as "SURYA MERIDIAM" situated at Gandhi Nagar, Bakaram, Hyderabad. 2.Mr. Nandi Vishwa Manav S/o Nandi Narahari (Proprietor), Flat No.302, 3rd floor, Surya Meridian, Municipal No. 1-1-466, 1-1-467 & 1-1-460/1, Gandhi Nagar, Bakaram, Hyderabad-500020. 3.Mr. Nandi Narahari S/o Shankar Nandi (late) (Co Obligant), Flat no. 302, 3rd floor, surya Meridian, Municipal No. 1-1-466, 1-1-467 & 1-1-460/1, Gandhi Nagar, Bakaram, Hyderabad-500020. 4.Mr. Sara Shiva Kumar S/o Sara Balaiha (Co-Obligant), 1-4-586/66, Bholakpur, Indiranagar, Musheerabad, Hyderabad-500020 to repay the amounts mentioned in the notices being Rs.49,85,358.76 (Rupees Forty nine Lakh Eighty five thousands three hundred fifty eight and seventy six paise only) together with contractual rate of interest from 30-04-2022 within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower as well as guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and Guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 9 of the said rules on this 08th day of February 2024. The borrower/guarantors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of the Union Bank of India, Hal Colony Gajularamam Branch for the amounts Rs.49,85,358.76(RupeesForty nine Lakh Eighty five thousands three hundred fifty eight and seventy six paise only) together with contractual rate of interest from 03.11.2022and costs thereon. The Borrower's Attention is invited to provisions of Section 13(8) of the Act, in respect of time available to the borrower to redeem the secured asset. DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY: All that the Residential Flat No. 302 on Third Floor measuring 1850 Sft. including common areas, car parking, forming part of the said residential complex, along with undivided share of land 60 Sq. yards., in Premises bearing MCH Nos. 1-1-466, 1-1-467 and 1-1-460/1, known as "SURYA MERIDIAM" situated at Gandhi Nagar, Bakaram, Hyderabad. Boundaries For Flat: North: Corridor, South: Open To Sky, East: Open To Sky, West: Duct Boundaries For Land: North: Road, South: House Of Ramayya And Brothers And Sai Maruthi Anand Enclave, East: Road, West: Road Sd/-Authorised Officer, UNION BANK OF INDIA Date: 08.02.2024, Place: Hyderabad

HDB Financial Services Ltd. E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE. The Undersigned as Authorized Officer of HDB Financial Services Limited has Taken Over Symbolic Possession of the following Property Pursuant to the Notice issued U/S 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 in the following Loan Accounts with a Right to sell the same on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" for Realization of Company's Dues.

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OPINIONmail



NARENDRA MODI GOVT HAS BEEN SPREADING MYTHS IN THE LAST TEN YEARS

No one believed when Copernicus proposed that the Sun was the centre of the solar system and the Earth and other planets revolved around it or when Galileo proposed the principle of the pendulum and the law of falling bodies. They were demonised and persecuted because they said something which was against the popular philosophical religious discourse at that time. Science, which in broad terms means inquisitiveness, rationality, urge to discover and invent, to find the truth and not to believe in what has been told even for centuries without evidence. Discussion and debate are the means to reach a conclusion and not imposition or aggression. Therefore many a times there has been contradiction, even conflict between those who believe in the philosophy of divinity & eternal and those who look for the reasons about the happenings in nature. Belief systems have been prevalent in every society. The rationalist thought has to struggle to counter them with evidence. Belief to seek blessings of the divine, will stay for long time to come because the nature is so vast and endless that we will never be able to explore it fully. In the ancient times the events in nature were attributed to the celestial happenings and powers beyond our control. Belief in the unknown became a dictum, so must we fear from it. This fear was perpetuated through centuries of propaganda. Those who came up with different ideas were demonized as evil. Questioning would meet aggression, verbal or physical. We have the example of Rishi Charvak in our ancient times who was burnt alive when he tried to question the prevailing Brahminical discourse. Similarly Socrates was made to drink poison for his rational thoughts. But such people never relented from speaking the truth.

As the number of those who questioned has been less, the majority got swayed away by the constant propaganda of belief and fear of the unknown. Slowly this propaganda got organised and took the form of what became to be called as religion. Though the basic concept of religion was belief in the divine and fear of the unknown, the principles and practices varied in different parts of the world. To sustain in public life the religion tried to preach the values system. Whereas science believed in change, the philosophy of divinity was made dogmatic.

The ruling classes have used this to retain and cling to power. King was declared to be God sent. He cannot be questioned or opposed. This was done through clique between the clergy and the ruling circles. As the society advanced, particularly after the period of renaissance, when new technological developments took place, the voice of rationality and reasoning increased. This has been reflected in some modern philosophies. The inimical forces however have not taken this lying down. They have used different strategies and there is persistent effort to keep their thoughts alive by eulogising our ancient past, of which every citizen is naturally proud of. Several stories about our ancient past have been manufactured and propagated to appear as truth. Effort is being made to replace science by the Pseudo-science. The Prime Minister and his bandwagon have taken up this task. They have also promoted some religious preachers to serve them. Even the healthcare has not been left out. We have the statements about using Cow urine and cow dung as treatment for COVID even though they are the waste products with no medicinal value. Worse was that people were made to clap, bang thalies and light Diyas to get rid of COVID in 21 days. In the recent past such effort has increased manifold. The Prime Minister immediately after the elections in 2014, while addressing a meeting of the doctors in Mumbai, had said that science in ancient India was so much advanced that we could transplant elephants head on human body.

(By Dr Arun Mitra)

EDITORIAL
the indian mail



URGENT MEASURES NEEDED TO TACKLE WIDESPREAD STRAY DOG MENACE IN INDIA

A 55-year-old teacher, Paresh Doshi, filed an FIR against himself after his wife lost her life in a car crash caused by an attempt to save a stray dog. Paresh Doshi and his wife Amita were returning from the Ambaji Temple in Gujarat's Banaskantha district when tragedy struck on

the Sabarkantha highway. Reports suggest that a stray dog suddenly appeared in front of their car, prompting Paresh to swerve and crash into makeshift pillars and barricades on the highway. The impact was so severe that the barricades pierced through the passenger window, tragically pinning Amita, who was in the front passenger seat. Onlookers rushed to

the accident site to assist, but the auto lock system of the car, activated by the impact, made it challenging to rescue the trapped couple. Despite their efforts, Amita succumbed to her injuries after being rushed to a nearby hospital. Overwhelmed by emotional turmoil and guilt for the loss of his wife, Paresh Doshi registered an FIR against himself, taking re-

sponsibility for the accident. He insisted that the accident occurred due to his attempt to save the stray dog, requesting charges of rash driving and death by negligence be brought against him.

This incident in Gujarat is not an isolated case. Stray dog menace has been a growing concern in various parts of the country, leading to injuries, property damage, and loss of life.

The unchecked population of stray animals roaming the streets poses a serious threat to public safety and demands urgent attention from authorities. The incident prompts us to reflect on the need for comprehensive measures to address the stray dog menace. Local authorities must implement effective strategies for population control, including sterilization programs and responsible rehoming initiatives. Furthermore, public awareness campaigns on responsible pet ownership and reporting mechanisms for dealing with stray animals are crucial in preventing such tragic incidents.

(IPA Service)

OPPOSITION'S POINTS RAISED DURING DEBATE ON 'MOTION OF THANKS' UNANSWERED

Since the Presidential address in the Parliament is supposed to summarise the government's achievements and intentions followed by meaningful debate, in which opposition raises points of concern, the Prime Minister is expected to address them during his reply to the 'Motion of Thanks'. However, in reply to the scathing attack by opposition on government policies, Prime Minister Narendra Modi chiefly slammed and lampooned the opposition, indulged in self-praise, and by and large evaded any direct reply to the points raised by the opposition. His reply was just like an election speech on the eve of Lok Sabha election 2024. When the opposition has raised many issues during the debate which included high level of unemployment, breach of federal principles,



TWO YEARS INTO THE UKRAINE WAR, EUROPE HAS NO CLUE FOR CEASEFIRE

After ratcheting up pressure on Hungary in recent weeks, European leaders have convinced premier Viktor Orbán to stop blocking a crucial extension of aid for Ukraine's war effort. The deal emerged from a meeting of the European Council in Brussels this Thursday, where European Union (EU) heads of government agreed on an aid package in the form of a four-year, €50 billion lifeline to Ukraine. With the Russia-Ukraine conflict descending into a near-hopeless war of attrition in recent months,

support for Kyiv from the United States and Europe has appeared increasingly fragile. In Washington, Ukraine funding is caught in the mire of Republican efforts to exact steep concessions from congressional Democrats and the



Biden administration on immigration.

The EU debate also saw Ukraine become a bargaining chip. Orbán's far-right government, which has faced a series of fiscal sanctions from Brussels for its attacks on civil society and the judiciary, has been desperate for leverage over EU planners in its efforts to unwind frozen EU funds destined for Hungary as part of the bloc's recent stimulus packages. The European Council had last met to discuss Ukraine funding in December, when Hungary blocked an agreement.

CJI CHANDRACHUD'S OBSERVATION ON CHANDIGARH MAYORAL POLLS EXPOSES BJP

Was the manner in which the Chandigarh mayoral election conducted a symptom or the disease itself, a crooked system at play? The country's top court has spoken—the previous week's mayoral poll in the Union Territory was openly tampered with by a seemingly biased Presiding Officer to ensure the "victory" of the Bharatiya Janata Party's Manoj Sonkar and the defeat of the Aam Aadmi Party's Kuldeep Kumar. Sonkar "won" by four votes.

Kuldeep Kumar broke out in tears. Eight votes of the AAP were declared "invalid", allegedly "without cause", and since then, a controversy rages with the Supreme Court terming the election "murder of democracy", in which case the onus is on the BJP to prove innocence. Now, the Supreme Court has intervened and ordered remedies, asking the Punjab and Haryana High Court to get hold of all material pertaining to the election. Needless to say, the tampering and the controversy that followed has left its indelible mark on everybody connected with the election, including the BJP top



brass. Was Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who would later in Parliament speak of the high standards set by the BJP ever since Modi became Prime Minister, aware of the Supreme Court raising Cain over the Presiding Officer's allegedly biased actions caught on camera? Was Prime Minister Narendra Modi aware of the video showing Presiding Of-

ficer Anil Masih of the BJP's Minority Cell fiddling with ballot papers of AAP councillors? The video showing Masih in action was singled out for severe criticism from all and sundry, with even the Supreme Court of India taking note of Masih's total capitulation to what looked like a BJP plot gone wrong?



British-Indian fined for demanding cash from Environment Agency officers

London, Feb 9 (IANS) : An Indian-origin owner of a waste treatment plant in East London has been fined for barring environment inspectors from entering the site twice unless they paid her thousands of pounds in bogus fees.

Keep Green at Atcost Road in Barking, was ordered to pay a fine of 3,000 pounds, another 3,000 in cost, and a victim surcharge of 1,200 pounds. The Barkingside magistrates' court heard that between February 24 and April 18, 2023, Athwal intentionally obstructed Environ-

ment Agency officers in "the exercise or performance of their powers or duties". The court was told that one of the officers called Keep Green in February 2023 as the Environment Agency was concerned about the amount of waste stored at the site since the last visual check six months before. The officer wanted to check operations were within the conditions of Keep Green's environmental permit to treat household, commercial, and industrial waste and that pollution-control measures were in place, a government release stated on Friday. It said, Athwal stopped the officer from entering the premises and demanded 500 pounds and insurance documents to let her in. The officer left, having explained to Athwal why she was there, but the 51-year-old wouldn't listen or look at the officer's authorisation card, which listed her powers as an Environment Agency member of

staff. "One of the most direct ways the Environment Agency can ensure companies like Keep Green operate without harming the environment is through inspecting waste sites and other commercial operations," Barry Russell, environment manager for the Environment Agency in north and east London, said. "Athwal intentionally obstructed Environment Agency staff (from) carrying out their work to keep communities safe," he added. Athwal later made several unsubstantiated claims about the officer in writing, saying she abused her position, adding the Environment Agency official had lied about being denied access to the site. When asked to follow-up the allegations in detail by the Environment Agency, she failed to do so, according to the release.



SpaceX under investigation for discrimination, sexual harassment

San Francisco, Feb 9 (IANS) : Elon Musk-run SpaceX is being investigated in the US for discrimination and sexual harassment, the media reported. Seven former employees alleged that SpaceX executives joked about sexual harassment and fired workers for raising concerns, according to multiple reports. The California Civil Rights Department is now investigating complaints by workers that SpaceX executives discriminated against women. In the

SpaceX complaints, employees cite a pattern of discrimination, as well as inappropriate tweets by Musk that they said they could not easily avoid because he uses the platform for important company announcements. One former employee said she received a performance review accusing her of being "too emotional" and suggesting she "should be more humble" after she raised concerns about one of her male coworkers taking credit for her work, according to a filing reviewed by Bloomberg.

Israel confirms deaths of 31 hostages in Hamas custody

Tel Aviv, Feb 9 (IANS) : Israel has confirmed the death of 31 of the 136 hostages in the custody of Hamas in Gaza. The army has informed families of those hostages about the death of their loved ones, IDF said in a statement on Friday. The Israel army, military Intelligence and Intelligence agencies have communicated this matter to the international negotiators including the US, Qatar and Egypt who are working over time for a ceasefire to the ongoing war between Israel and Hamas. Israel and Hamas had agreed upon for a one week ceasefire from November 24 to December 1 due to the efforts of the US, Qatar and Egypt. During the brief one week truce, 105 of the 253 hostages in Hamas custody were released and 324 Palestine prisoners in Israel jails were also

released as a reciprocity gesture. Meanwhile, Qatar Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed Al-Thani has in a statement said that the discussions for a second ceasefire is at an advanced stage and that he expect an end to the confusion in a few days from now. Israel has agreed upon for a month long truce wherein 35 of the Israeli hostages in Hamas custody would be released. Israel would also release a good number of Palestinians from Israeli prisons as part of the deal. However, according to Qatar and Egyptian negotiators, Hamas wants a permanent end of the war and the withdrawal of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), which has been denied by Israel. With the negotiations and mediatory talks taking place at a feverish pace.



US House Republicans fail to impeach Homeland Security Secretary

Washington, Feb 9 (IANS) : In a major blow to Republicans, US Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas has survived an impeachment vote over the border security issue in the House of Representatives. The lower chamber voted 214 to 216, with four Republicans defecting from their party and joining Democrats to vote against the impeachment of the Biden administration's top border official, Xinhua news agency reported. In a letter to his colleagues, Rep. Tom McClintock of California argued that the GOP articles against Mayorkas stretched how the founders would define an impeachable offence.



Received Hamas' response to proposed Gaza ceasefire framework : Egypt

Cairo, Feb 9 (IANS) : Egypt has received Hamas' response to a Gaza ceasefire proposal nailed during a recent meeting in France, Chairman of Egypt's State Information Service (SIS) Diaa Rashwan has said. Egypt will continue to exert its utmost efforts to reach a ceasefire agreement in the war-ravaged Gaza Strip soon, he said in a statement on Friday. He stressed that Egypt will discuss all the details of the proposed framework with the concerned parties as soon as possible, Xinhua news agency reported. Rashwan stated that Egypt had recently put forward a framework aimed at bringing viewpoints closer between all concerned parties to stop Palestinian bloodshed, reach a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip, and restore peace and stability to the region. Accordingly, he said, Palestinian prisoners and Israeli detainees will be exchanged in stages, and humanitarian support for Palestinians in the Gaza Strip will be intensified.

Philippines' unemployment rate drops to decades-low in Dec, 2023

Manila, Feb 9 (IANS) : Philippines logged drop in unemployment rate to 3.1 per cent in December, 2023, the lowest since 2005, the country's statistics authority said on Friday. Addressing a press conference, Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) head Dennis Mapa said: "The full-year unemployment rate for 2023 was 4.3 per cent compared to 5.4 per cent in 2022," About 1.60 million were jobless in December last

year, Mapa said, Xinhua news agency reported. "This was lower than the reported number of unemployed persons in December 2022 of 2.22 million and in November 2023 of 1.83 million," Mapa added. The country's labour market "remains robust, with the lowest unemployment rate in nearly two decades", National Economic and Development Authority Secretary Arsenio Balisacan said. "We welcome the news of a record-low unemployment rate signifying the economy's sustained momentum and resiliency," he said, adding the government will ramp up "social and physical infrastructure investments and dramatically improve human capital to strengthen the employment prospects.



Zimbabwe sees drop in cholera cases



Harare, Feb 9 (IANS) : Zimbabwe recorded drop in cholera cases after implementation of a raft of measures by the government to control the outbreak. Addressing media, Information, Publicity and Broadcasting Services Minister Jenfan Muswere said: "The Ministry of Health and Child Care is continuing to institute control measures to curb the outbreak." The country also started an oral cholera vaccination

campaign targeting hotspot areas throughout the country, Xinhua news agency reported. Muswere said in the next 12 weeks, the government's anti-cholera efforts will focus on vaccination in hotspots, procurement of cholera response medicines, supplies and commodities, and mobilisation of additional funding to support the cholera response at national and sub-national levels.

BANK OF BARODA
Branch: Marketpally, VIII, Mandal dist Nalgonda - 508254 (Telangana) Ph: 91-7993316595

DEMAND NOTICE
(UNDER SUB-SECTION (2) OF SECTION 13 OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002)
We Bank of Baroda had issued Demand Notice dated herein under Sec.13(2) of SARFAESI Act to the addresses furnished by you. Since you are not found in the addresses furnished by you/notice returned/not acknowledged properly, this paper publication is being made. The contents of the said notice are that you had committed default in payment of dues in the various loans granted to you. The outstanding amount along with further interest, costs etc., are mentioned hereunder.

Name of the Borrower: Mrs. K. Saroja (W/o Late Mr Kethavath Poolasingh) H.No. 4-101/16/5 Plot No.18 Sri Ram Nagar Colony, Turkayamzall K.V. Rangareddy, Telangana
Non Performing Asset on: 07-10-2022 **Demand Notice Dated:** 23-11-2022
Outstanding Amount: Rs.11,75,593.36 (Inclusive of interest upto 07-10-2022) + further interest & other charges.

Security Agreement with Brief Description of Securities: Mortgage created via Doc.No.1684/2016 dated 11-03-2016 at SRO Vanasthalipuram. Mortgage of the property situated at Door No.4-135 plot no.18, survey no.198, inside residential zone, comprising total area as per the plan 150.00 Sq.yards, 125.41 Sq.mtrs, plinth area 3125 sq.feet roof R.C.C. at Turkayamzall Vill, Hayathnagar Revenue, Mandal, Rangareddy Dist. Telangana North: Plot no.17, South: Plot no.19, East: 25' Wide Road West: Plot no.25

In case you fail to make the payment as aforesaid, Bank shall be constrained to take recourse in terms of the provisions of the said Act against all or any one or more of the secured assets, entirely at your risk as to costs and consequences thereof. The powers available to Bank of Baroda under the Act include (i) power to take possession of the secured assets of the borrower including the rights to transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale for realising secured asset (ii) take over the management of the secured asset including the rights to transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale and realise the secured asset and any transfer of secured asset by Bank of Baroda shall vest in the all rights or in relation to the secured asset transferred as if the transfer has been made by you. Please note that after receipt of this notice in terms of Section 13(1) of the SARFAESI Act you shall not transfer any of the aforesaid secured assets, by way of sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of your business) without the prior written consent of Bank of Baroda. Then non-compliance with the above provision as contained in Section 13(13) of SARFAESI Act is an offence punishable under Section 29 of the SARFAESI Act. This notice is issued in terms of Section 13(2) of the said Act. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Section 13(8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Date: 09-02-2024 **Sd/- Authorised Officer,**
Place: Hyderabad **Bank of Baroda**

Indian Overseas Bank
KUKATPALLY BRANCH, HIG-20/06, KPHB Phase - 6, Near Malaysian Town ship, Kukatpally, Hyderabad -500085.

APPENDIX-IV
(RULE 8(1)) POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable property)
Whereas the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Indian Overseas Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated 25.10.2023 calling upon the borrowers / mortgagors **Shri R. Hemant Panji Kumar S/o Shri B Mohan Rao**, Flat no-405 4th floor, Door no- 6-3-51/405, Sy no-120, Abhishek Tower, Balanagar, Kukatpally Municipality, Hyderabad, Rangareddy District, PIN-500018 and also at H No-57, Plot no-28, Akshya Enclave, Shobana Colony, Balanagar, Rangareddy District, Kukatpally Municipality, Hyderabad-500018 (herein after referred as 'borrowers') to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs.29,44,634.20** as on 30.09.2023 with further interest at contractual rates and rests, charges etc till date of realization within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

(1) The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this **07th day of February of the year 2024**.

(2) The borrowers in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Indian Overseas Bank for an amount of **Rs.29,44,634.20** as on 30.09.2023 with interest thereon at contractual rates & rests as agreed, charges etc., from the aforesaid date mentioned in the demand notice till date of payment less repayments, if any, made after issuance of Demand Notice. The dues payable as on the date of taking possession is **Rs.30,52,788.20** payable with further interest at contractual rates & rests, charges etc. till date of payment.

(3) The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of the Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to him, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Flat No.405, Door no-6-3-51/405, in fourth floor of Abhishek Tower, with built up area 860.00 sqft along with UDS of land admeasuring 20.00 sqyds or 16.72 sqmts out of 929.76 sq. yds constructed in the premises bearing house no-3-51. In survey No 120 situated at Balanagar village and Mandal, Kukatpally Municipality, Rangareddy District, Telangana State.

Boundaries of the Flat: North: Open to Sky, South: Flat No.406, East: Open to sky, West :Corridor. **Boundaries of Land:** North: 21'lane, South: Vimal Theatre, East: Vimal Theatre, West: House No.3-51/182

Date : 07.02.2024 **Sd/- Authorised Officer,**
Place: Hyderabad **INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK**

UCO BANK AMB Hyderabad Branch: Somajiguda, Hyderabad, Telangana.

POSSESSION NOTICE (for Immovable Property) [Rule- 8(1)]
Where as, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the UCO Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notice dated 19-11-2012 by Registered Post calling upon borrowers **Mrs. Sowmya Stationers**, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs.10,93,381/- (Rupees Ten Lakhs Ninety Three Thousands Three Hundred and Eighty One Only)** with interest up to 31-03-2004 plus interest and other charges from 01-04-2004. As on 06-02-2023 balance outstanding of **Rs.11,65,814/- (Rupees Eleven Lakhs Sixty Five Thousands Eight Hundred and Fourteen Only)** plus interest and charges from 01-04-2004 within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower and/or Guarantor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub Section (4) of section 13 of the Act read with rule 8 of the security interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this **5th Day of February of the year 2024**.

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the UCO Bank for an amount of **Rs.10,93,381/- (Rupees Ten Lakhs Ninety Three Thousands Three Hundred and Eighty One Only)** with interest up to 31-03-2004 plus interest and other charges from 01-04-2004. As on 31-03-2004 balance outstanding of **Rs.10,93,381/- (Rupees Ten Lakhs Ninety Three Thousands Three Hundred and Eighty One Only)** plus interest and charges from 01-04-2004 till realization of entire dues.

The borrower's and/or Guarantor's attention is invited to provisions of sub section 13 of the Act in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
1) All that piece and parcel of Plot No.748 admeasuring 500 Sq.yards in Survey No.100, 101 and 105 situated at Padmanagar Colony II, Qutbulla Village and Mandal Ranga Reddy District belongs to **Mr. Movva Bapaiah, S/o. Mr. Tirupathiah and Bounded by:** North: Plot No.747, South: Plot of No.749, East: 30' wide Road, West: Plot No.756. (Covered by Sale Deed No.7351/1996 Dated: 07/12/1996 SRO of Medchal)

Date: 05.02.2024, **Place:** Hyderabad **Sd/- Authorised Officer, UCO Bank**

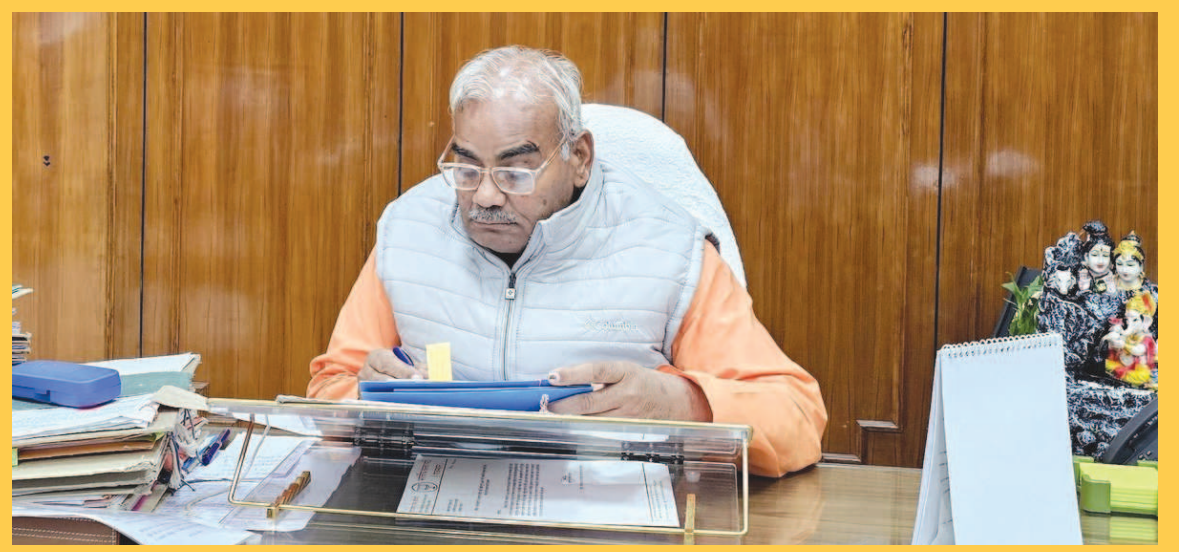
K'taka BJP to stage protest against Cong in B'luru

Bengaluru, Feb 9 (IANS) : As Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramiah is leading a stir at Jantar Mantar in Delhi, the state BJP unit is staging a protest at the Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Friday to highlight the Congress government's failures.. All BJP MLAs and MLCs will take part in the agitation to condemn the failure of the Congress government. The protest would be staged opposite the Mahatma Gandhi statue in the premises of the state legislature. State President B.Y. Vijayendra said the state government had declared more than 222 taluks in Karnataka as drought prone. However, the Congress government has not initiated any relief measures, including the drinking water crisis. Condemning this, all BJP MLAs and MLCs are staging a protest at 11 a.m. against the anti-farmer policies of the government, Vijayendra stated. On the other hand, Congress MLAs, MLCs and Rajya Sabha members are staging a protest under the leadership of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi at 11 a.m against the Centre.



Seers threaten to self-immolate if illegal mining not stopped in Raj

Jaipur, Feb 9 (IANS) : Seers in Rajasthan have threatened to self-immolate if the illegal mining in the state is not stopped. The seers reached a public hearing camp of Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma and submitted a memorandum to the CM regarding the illegal mining at Kaliya Baba Pahad in the Bhusawar area. In the memorandum, the seers said that if the illegal mining was not stopped, 11 seers will self-immolate. Seer Bhagwan Das said that there are many temples on Kailya Baba Pahad, however, the illegal mining on this hillock was posing threat to these temples too.



Rajasthan govt planning to introduce UCC soon, hints state minister

Jaipur, Feb 9 (IANS) : After Uttarakhand, Rajasthan government is also planning to bring in Uniform Civil Code bill in the Assembly, sources said. The formation of a draft committee for UCC in Rajasthan is likely to be announced soon, said sources, adding that internal preparations for this have been started. The proposal to form a draft committee for UCC can be submitted in the cabinet soon.

In a letter to Gujarat's social activist Tanjim Merani, who had staged a protest in Jaipur demanding ban on hijab in educational institutes, Education Minister Madan Dilawar spoke on bringing in the UCC. In his letter, he said, "The subject of forming a draft committee regarding the Uniform Civil Code will soon be placed in the meeting of the Council of Ministers. Further action will be taken as per the constitutional process." "The whole country should be

one, there should be uniformity. If not today, then tomorrow the government will bring UCC," he told the media. Sources said that a committee will be formed to prepare the draft of the UCC bill. Ministers, legal experts and officers will be kept in this committee. A draft will be prepared and suggestions will be sought from the public on it. Then it will be presented as a bill in the Assembly.



Ram brings us together : Devdutt Pattanaik

New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS) : In times when Lord Ram has ceased to be just God, author Devdutt Pattanaik, who has to his credit around 50 books on mythology stresses that for him, he symbolizes the eternal soul and someone who believes in taking everyone along. "It cannot get more inclusive than Him. Let us not forget that he is the Maryada Purshottam. For him, dharma is paramount. As a king, he always follows the path of righteousness, no matter what

the consequences," the author says. Talk to him about the fact that in these highly polarised times, when anyone talking about mythology and the richness of Indian culture can be branded right-wing, Patnaik tells IANS, "Honestly, Right thinks I am Left, and vice versa. What needs to be understood is that we do not need such binaries in a country like India. After all, Shiva is on the right and Shakti sits on the left. They have to be together. This divide is foolish. The king must take everyone together. Left means goddess,

right is god. The sad part is that some people try to contain me in political ideologies without even reading my books or listening to lectures. Anyways, everyone is free to brand me anything -- just buy my books." Even as the cloud of homogeneity looms supreme when it comes to mythology and culture, Pattanaik opines that whoever claims to have arrived at the 'truth' is lying. "We all are trying to get to the 'truth'. It will always be an eternal journey. Hindu religion has multiple layers, and everyone in-

terprets its different facets in his/her way -- which lends richness. I have always said, it is not important to seek out the original as everything is interpretation," says the author who was at the Jaipur Literature Festival (JLF)-2024 to talk about his latest book 'Bahubali: 63 Insights Into Jainism' (HarperCollins India). Pattanaik feels that there is an intense focus on Hindu mythology and little interest in understanding others like Jainism and Buddhism. In recent times, when several historians have pointed out the ten-

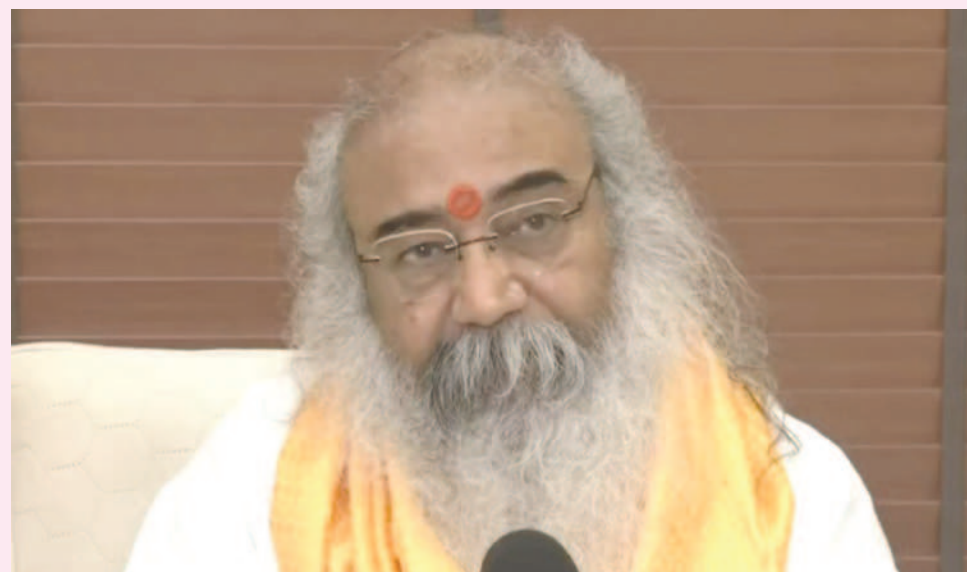
dency to paint mythology as history, the writer, a doctor by education, says, "Well, what can you do if someone is determined not to be convinced? History is about the past while mythology lives in the past, present and future. History is about events, and mythologies are about ideas. While the former deals with facts.



Delhi HC reserves order on bail plea of NewsClick's HR Head in UAPA case

New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS) : The Delhi High Court on Friday reserved its order on the bail plea of NewsClick's Human Resources head Amit Chakravarty, in a case lodged under the provisions of the UAPA over allegations that the media outlet received money to spread pro-China propaganda. On January 9, Delhi's Patiala House Court had granted permission to Chakravarty to become an approver in the case after he filed an application before Special Judge Hardeep Kaur, seeking pardon in the ongoing case. Before Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma, Chakravarty's lawyer said that his client has been granted pardon by the trial court and has

been fully cooperating with the investigation. "Despite being in custody since October 3, 2023, the case is still under investigation, and no charge sheet has been filed yet," Chakravarty's counsel informed the court. The trial court had, on January 29, extended till February 17 judicial custody of NewsClick founder-editor Prabir Purkayastha and Chakravarty in the case. Earlier, the special judge had allowed Chakravarty, who claimed to possess material information that he was willing to disclose to the Delhi Police, to turn an approver in the case.



Acharya Pramod Krishnam preparing to quit Congress: Sources

Lucknow, Feb 9 (IANS) : Spiritual leader Acharya Pramod Krishnam, who contested the 2019 Lok Sabha elections on the Congress' ticket from Lucknow, is likely to part ways with the grand old party, say sources close to him. Though Krishnam has neither denied nor confirmed the speculation about his likely exit from the Congress, sources close to him claim that a decision has been made in this regard.

"Politics is a game of possibilities. As of now, neither have I left the Congress nor has the Congress left me," Krishnam stated. The spiritual leader made waves recently when he supported the BJP on the Ram temple issue and then invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi to lay the foundation stone of the Kalki Dham temple in Sambhal on February 19. Krishnam had recently attended the 'Prana Pratishtha' ceremony of Ram Lalla in Ayodhya. "There is no bar on attending the consecration ceremony of Ram Lalla, so being there was not a crime. Similarly, there is no restriction on meeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi or Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. However, if the Congress feels that I have committed a crime, I am ready to accept any punishment," said Krishnam.

Oppn leaders forced to switch to BJP for development politics : Assam Minister

Guwahati, Feb 9 (IANS) : As many leaders from the Congress and other parties have switched to BJP in Assam recently, the state Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Pijush Hazarika claimed that opposition leaders were forced to join the saffron camp due to the immense development work done by the ruling fold. He asserted that this trend will continue in the coming days. Angkita Dutta, the former Assam youth Congress president who was expelled from the party after she brought harassment allegations against the national youth Congress president Srinivas B.V., joined the BJP last week. Along with Dutta, former Congress minister in Assam, Bismita Gogoi and ex-president of All Assam Students Union (AASU), Dipanka Nath also joined the saffron camp. Hazarika told reporters here on Tuesday evening: "The leaders were lined up for coming to our party because the BJP has done unprecedented development in the state. The opposition leaders have seen that people are with us."





MRF logs Q3 PAT of Rs 508.02 cr, declares second interim dividend

Chennai, Feb 9 (IANS) : Closing the third quarter with a net profit of Rs 508.02 crore, tyre major MRF Ltd has declared second interim dividend of Rs 3 per equity share. In a regulatory filing, MRF said for the third quarter ended December 31, 2023, it has booked an operational revenue of Rs

6,047.79 crore (Q3FY23 Rs 5,534.92 crore) and an after tax profit of Rs 508.02 crore (Rs 169.22 crore). The Board of Directors of the company at their meeting on Friday declared a Second Interim Dividend of Rs 3 per equity share (30 per cent) for the financial year ending March 31, 2024.



Musk plans to discontinue phone number, only X for texts, calls

New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS) : Tech billionaire Elon Musk on Friday said that he plans to discontinue his phone number and use only social media platform X for messages, audio and video calls. "In a few months, I will discontinue my phone number and only use X for texts and audio/video calls," Musk wrote on X. Musk's move is seen as an ef-

fort to promote the audio and video calling capabilities of X. These features were initially released in October of last year. Since then, Musk has been actively pushing for X to become an all-encompassing app. Last year, the app launched a preliminary version of its audio and video calling functionality, which was made available to select users.

India's foreign exchange reserves jump by \$5.7 bn

Mumbai, Feb 9 (IANS) : India's foreign exchange reserves jumped by \$5.7 billion to \$622.5 billion for the week ended February 2, RBI data released on Friday showed. In the previous week, the overall reserves had increased by \$591 million to \$616.7 billion. Rising foreign exchange reserves are a positive for the economy as they help strengthen the rupee. An increase in foreign exchange reserves props up the macroeconomic fundamentals and helps the RBI stabilise the rupee when it turns volatile. The RBI intervenes in the spot and forward currency markets by releasing more dollars to prevent the rupee from going into a free fall when it comes under pressure.



Snapchat faces major outage globally, including India

New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS) : Popular social media platform Snapchat on Friday suffered a major outage globally, including in India, with users reporting that they were unable to send messages, including texts and snaps, to each other. According to the outage monitor website DownDetector, over 76 per cent of people reported problems while using the application, 19 per cent with login, and 5 per cent while using the website. Numerous users went on to X and Reddit to report the issue. "People turning airplane mode on and off before realising Snapchat server is down. #snapchatdown," a user wrote.



Google joins global coalition to bring transparency to digital content in AI era

New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS) : The Coalition for Content Provenance and Authenticity (C2PA), a global standards body advancing transparency online through certifying the provenance of digital content, on Friday announced that Google has joined as a steering committee member and support Content Credentials to bring transparency to digital content in the AI era. Google will collaborate with other steering committee members like Adobe, BBC, Intel, Microsoft, Publicis Groupe, Sony, and Truepic to develop the technical standard for Content Credentials. Content Credentials is the C2PA's technical standard for tamper-resistant metadata that can be attached to digital content, showing how and when the con-

tent was created or modified. "In the critical context of this year's global elections where the threat of misinformation looms larger than ever, the urgency to increase trust in the digital ecosystem has never been more pressing," Dana Rao, General Counsel and Chief Trust Officer, Adobe and Co-founder of the C2PA, said in a statement. "Google's membership will help accelerate the adoption of Content Credentials everywhere, from content creation to consumption," he added. Additionally, Google's participation, which includes YouTube, will help increase awareness of Content Credentials as a key resource to help people understand the content they're viewing and trust the digital ecosystem. "At Google, a critical part of our

responsible approach to AI involves working with others in the industry to help increase transparency around digital content," said Laurie Richardson, VP of Trust and Safety at Google. "It builds on our work in this space -- including Google DeepMind's SynthID, Search's About this Image and YouTube's labels denoting content that is altered or synthetic -- to provide important context to people, helping them make more informed decisions," she added. Content Credentials are essentially a "nutrition label" for digital content -- showing when a piece of content is created and modified. Content Credentials are free, open-source technology leveraging the C2PA open technical standard that anyone can incorporate into their own products and platforms.



Samsung Galaxy Book 4 series set to launch in India this month

New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS) : Samsung is all set to launch its Galaxy Book4 series of notebooks in India this month. Sources told IANS that Samsung will likely announce pre-bookings of its Galaxy Book4 series in the middle of February, and the new notebooks will likely go on sale in the last week of this month. The India launch comes weeks after Samsung announced the Galaxy Book4 Ultra, Book4 Pro and Book4 Pro 360 globally, touting these devices as its most intelligent PC lineup yet. The sources also mentioned that the Galaxy Book4 Ultra might not go on sale im-

mediately in the country but the Book4 Pro and Book4 Pro 360 and Book4 360 sales will likely start this month. Galaxy Book4 series comes with a new intelligent processor, a more vivid and interactive display and a robust security system -- beginning a new era of AI PCs that offer ultimate productivity, mobility and connectivity. The company introduced the series in December last year and made it available starting in Korea in January 2024. The series featured a new Intel Core Ultra 9 processor that combines a faster central processing unit (CPU).

Performance Update for Nine Months ended December 31st 2023 (9M FY24)

Mumbai, Feb 9 (TIM Bureau) : The Board of Directors of Life Insurance Corporation of India ("LIC") approved and adopted the standalone and consolidated financial results for the nine months ending December 31st, 2023. Below are the key highlights of our standalone results. The Profit after Tax (PAT) for the nine months period ended December 31st, 2023 was Rs. 26,913 crore. The current period profit includes an amount of Rs. 21,461 crore (Net of Tax), pertaining to the accretions on the available solvency margin, transferred from Non Par fund to shareholders account. The PAT for similar nine months period ended December 31st, 2022 was Rs. 22,970 crore is not comparable since it included an amount of Rs. 4,542 crore (Net of Tax) pertaining to the accretions on the Available Solvency Margin for the last quarter of FY 2021-22 which was transferred from Non Par fund to shareholders account on September 30th 2022.



In terms of market share measured by First Year Premium Income (FYPI) (as per IRDAI), LIC continues to be the market leader by market share in Indian life insurance business with overall market share of 58.90%. For nine months ended December 31st 2023, LIC had a market share of 38.74 % in Individual business and 72.24% in the group business. The Total Premium Income for nine months period ended December 31st 2023 was Rs. 3,22,776 crore as compared to Rs. 3,42,244 crore for the nine month period ended December 31st 2022 during the previous year. The Total Individual Business Premium for the nine months period ended December 31st 2023 increased to Rs. 2,09,719 crore from Rs. 2,00,429 crore for the comparable 2 period of previous year. The Group Business total premium income for nine months ended De-

bruary 31st 2023 was Rs. 1,13,057 crores as compared to Rs 1,41,815 crore for nine months ended December 31st 2022. A total of 1,25,56,046 policies were sold in the individual segment during the nine months period ended December 31st, 2023 as compared to 1,28,90,843 policies sold during the nine months ended December 31st, 2022. On an Annualized Premium Equivalent (APE) basis, the total premium was Rs 35,790 crore for the nine months period ended December 31st 2023. Of this 65.67% (Rs. 23,503 crore) was accounted for by the Individual Business and 34.33% (Rs. 12,287 crore) by the Group Business. Within the Individual Business the share of Par products on APE basis was 85.96% (Rs. 20,203 crore).



Vi Business Launches IoT Smart Central, the Most Advanced, Fully Integrated, Self-Care Platform for IoT Asset Management

Mumbai, Feb 9 (TIM Bureau) : Vi Business, the enterprise arm of Vi, a leading telecom player and one of the largest IoT players in India, has launched Vi Business IoT Smart Central - a future-ready, fully integrated, self-care IoT connectivity and device management platform. The newly launched Vi Business IoT Smart Central platform empowers enterprises to control, monitor, and manage IoT assets remotely on a real-time basis. Vi Business IoT Smart Central provides a comprehensive view of all IoT assets and enables enterprises to remotely manage and control the SIM lifecycle of everything from easy to complex projects across various industries such as automobiles.



Sandeshkhali attack case: Mastermind Shahjahan ducks 2nd summons

Kolkata, Feb 9 (IANS) : The Friday 12 noon deadline as set by the Enforcement Directorate for Sheikh Shahjahan to appear at the central agency's Salt Lake office here and surrender in the Sandeshkhali attack case, was once again not complied by him. Shahjahan is the absconding Trinamool Congress leader and mastermind in the January 5 Sandeshkhali attack on ED and CAPF sleuths. Sources said that necessary arrangements were kept ready at ED's Salt Lake office in case the absconding Trinamool Congress leader appears there honouring the notice. However, till the time the report was filed, the accused leader did not turn up at the central agency office. This

is the second time that Shahjahan has ducked the ED summons on this count. The earlier summons from ED to the mastermind was on January 29. Shahjahan has remained absconding since the attack on the ED and CAPF personnel took place in front of his residence at Sandeshkhali in North 24 Parganas district of West Bengal on the morning of January 5. Although he has remained absconding since then, he had appealed for anticipatory bail at two different courts in the state through his counsel. Now the question that has surfaced is about the ED's next course of action following two consecutive events of absence from appearance at the central agency office.

Scindia starts extensive outreach in Guna, launches fresh attack on Congress

Bhopal, Feb 9 (IANS) : Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia has launched an extensive outreach programme in his family bastion Guna-Shivpuri constituency for the last few days.

However, it is not yet clear whether he will be contesting the upcoming Lok Sabha election or not as BJP is yet to announce the candidates for 29 seats in the state.

In Guna, the minister was seen beating drums and dancing with tribals during a programme.

On Friday, the minister was seen trying his hands at a traditional Indian game — 'gilli danda'. "I have played a lot of cricket, today I had a lot

of fun playing gilli-danda," he said. He also launched a fresh attack on Congress saying the grand-old party gave only slogans for 'elimination of poverty' but did nothing during its long 65 years of regime.

"First they (Congress) gave a slogan 'gareebi hatao' (eliminate poverty) and then, came out with another slogan -- 'roti, kapda aur makan'. The Congress has always cheated the tribals during its 65 years of power in the country, but did nothing for tribals," the minister said.

Addressing the gathering during a programme in Shivpuri, Scindia was heard appealing to tribals, saying,



Omar Abdullah welcomes ST status to Paharis, says should not affect Gujjars/Bakarwals

Jammu, Feb 9 (IANS) : Former J&K chief minister and vice president of the National Conference (NC) Omar Abdullah said on Friday that his party welcomed the grant of ST status to Paharis, but this should not affect the reservation rights of Gujjars and Bakarwals.

Speaking to the media here, Omar said, "I was not allowed to go to Sunderbani (Rajouri) where my party men had worked hard to organise a public meeting today.

"Police locked the doors of my home and I was told that because of the law and order situation I cannot go to Sunderbani.

"It was the habit of the police

in the Valley to lock homes and then deny any such thing, but now the same is done by the police in Jammu. "Even to go to my party headquarters, I had to seek the permission of the concerned SDPO". Omar said that democracy in the country ends where J&K starts.

"They claim that everything is normal and then they enforce restrictions on people", Omar alleged. He said his party welcomes the grant of ST status to Paharis, but this should not affect the rights of Gujjars and Bakarwals.

"The government is silent on this issue. Even the bill passed in Parliament does not mention how it would be implemented," he said.

BJP punches holes in Kerala govt's claims of Centre's 'biased fiscal policy'

New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS) : Southern states of Karnataka and Kerala have joined hands to corner the Centre over latter's fiscal policy and have alleged partisan approach in allocating GST share and grants to the Opposition-ruled states. Taking the 'tax fight' to Delhi, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday hit the Delhi streets along

with his ministers to rally against the Centre's alleged ignorance towards the Congress-ruled state. On Friday, the LDF-led Kerala government has also planned similar protest in the national capital. Amid the clamour of 'step-motherly treatment' by Opposition-ruled states, the Kerala BJP on Friday punched holes in the 'exaggerated and unsubstantiated' claims by the two governments.

Prakash Javadekar, the BJP MP and Kerala's election-in charge, released a detailed press note to debunk the litany of charges and allegations. He accused the Pinarayi Vijayan government in Kerala of shifting blame to Centre for its own failures and shortcomings and said that there was palpable anger among locals due to the hiked taxes in the state government's budget. Javadekar



said that Kerala government was allocated more than 300 per cent funds under BJP-led NDA, as compared to Cong-led UPA but the Vijayan government failed in capitalising on the opportunity and has now resorted to political mudslinging for saving its face. Giving a detailed break-up of Centre's fund and grants allocation to the state, Javadekar said that the Modi government accepted Finance Commission's recommendation to raise devolution from 32 per cent during UPA govt to 42 per cent.

MoS Defence holds talks with Saudi Defence Minister

New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS) : MoS Defence Ajay Bhatt on Friday held talks with Saudi Arabia Defence Minister Prince Khalid bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud on the sidelines of World Defence Show (WDS) 2024, being held in Riyadh.

"The two diplomats discussed various aspects of bilateral defence cooperation," the Ministry of Defence said.

The ministry said that the WDS is a five-day event which commenced on February 4 and Ajay Bhatt is heading the Indian delegation in Saudi.

The ministry said that the event is showcasing the latest advancements in defence technology serving as a vital platform for international collaboration amongst the participating com-

panies. The ministry said that Ajay Bhatt also held talks with the Assistant Minister of Defence of Saudi Arabia Dr Khaled Al-Bayari, with whom he discussed ways to further strengthen the long-standing and multi-faceted defence cooperation between the two countries. "The discussions centred around exploring avenues for collaboration in areas of mutual interest, including increasing the scope of joint training exercises, technology transfer and exchange of expertise," the ministry said. It said that Ajay Bhatt also held a meeting with the Governor of Saudi Arabia's General Authority for Military Industries (GAMI) Ahmad Abdulaziz Al-Ohali.



K'taka districts put on high alert after tracking of Maoist movement

Udupi (Karnataka), Feb 9 (IANS) : Following the tracking of movement of Maoists in the coastal and hilly regions of Karnataka, the authorities have sounded high alert in the area. Sources confirmed that the police and the Anti Naxal Force (ANF) have heightened the vigilance in Udupi and Chikkamagalur districts. A team of Maoists headed by Vikram Gowda have reportedly come to the Baindur region in Udupi district and parts of Chikkamagalur district from Kerala, the sources said. The authorities have received information that the Maoist team visited houses in Kollur, Mudur, Jadkal and Belkal villages, carrying weapons with them. Sources said the Maoists were planning to celebrate the 'Red Salute Day' in memory of Saket Rajan, a prominent Maoist leader killed in an encounter by the Karnataka police on February 5, 2005.

Delhi cops bust interstate gunrunning racket; one held, 20 pistols seized

New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS) : Delhi Police's Special Cell has arrested a key member of a Madhya Pradesh-based interstate illegal firearms syndicate and recovered 20 semi-automatic pistols which were to be supplied to criminals in the national Capital, an official said on Friday. The accused was identified as Gandh Das Dawar (27), a resident of Burhanpur District in MP. The Deputy Commissioner of Police (Special Cell), Manoj C, said that to curb the cases of terrorism, illegal arms and other heinous cases in Delhi,

a team is working round-the-clock to thwart the nefarious designs of anti-national elements.

"Teams are continuously collecting information about illegal firearms suppliers and their associates, active in MP and Delhi-NCR," said the DCP.

On February 3, on the basis of specific information, a trap was laid near Dwarkadheesh Apartment, Sector 11, Rohini, and one member of this arms syndicate, Dawar was apprehended when he reached there to deliver a consignment.



Sanjay Singh produced in Sultanpur court in 2008 case

Sultanpur (UP), Feb 9 (IANS) : Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Sanjay Singh was brought to an MP-MLA court here on Friday for a hearing in a 2008 case registered against him during a protest. Singh was produced before Special Magistrate Yogesh Yadav amid tight security and his statement was recorded, his counsel Madan Singh said. The court has fixed February 14 as the next date of hearing, he added. Singh, who is in judicial custody after being arrested by the Enforcement Directorate in a money laundering case linked to the alleged Delhi Excise policy scam, was brought by train this morning and taken back after the hearing. The 2008 case was lodged against Singh at the city police station following a "Ghera Dalo, Dera Dalo" campaign.



Fake visa racket busted in Delhi, lawyer among three held after year-long chase

New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS) : With the arrest of three agents from Haryana and Delhi after a hunt for over a year, a racket of fake international visas running under the cover of Advocate & travel agency was busted in the national capital, an official said on Friday. The accused were identified as Udit Moghav (32), a resident of Janakpuri, Sagar Dabas (25), a resident of Ladpur, and Kewal Singh (45), a resident of district Kaithal, Haryana. The officials said that all three were involved in a syndicate

which used to lure victims on the pretext of sending people abroad by offering approved Passports/Visas of foreign countries at lucrative prices. Their arrest came after three Indian nationals namely Gurmeet Singh, Sahil Kumar and Vikram Singh arrived as deportees from Istanbul by a flight at the IGI Airport in 2022 and a probe was initiated to unearth the whole conspiracy. "During scrutiny of their travel documents, it was noticed that the pax Gurpreet departed from IGI airport on November 7, 2022, pax Sahil departed from Jaipur on No-

vember 16, 2022 and Vikram also departed from Jaipur on November 14, 2022 and they all departed to Baku (Azerbaijan) and from there they reached Istanbul on November 18, 2022 where their entry was denied on the ground of fake Guyana Visa," said the Deputy Commissioner of Police (IGI airport) Usha Rangnani.

During the probe, Sahil disclosed that he wanted to go abroad to earn livelihood and his journey was arranged by agent namely Kewal Singh and his associate agents Udit Moga and Sagar Dabas in lieu of Rs 20 lakh out of which Rs two lakh was paid to them in cash in advance and it was agreed that the remaining amount would be paid after reaching Guyana. "With the help of technical surveillance, one absconding agent Udit Mogha was arrested from one of his hide-outs in Delhi. The accused confessed his crime and disclosed that he is post-graduate in MCA and is owner of Rupali Travels Pvt Ltd, Mahipalpur," said the DCP.



Waqf Board case: Amanatullah Khan withdraws plea against ED summons from Delhi HC

New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS) : AAP MLA and Waqf Board chief Amanatullah Khan on Friday withdrew from the Delhi High Court his plea challenging the summons issued by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in a Rs 36 crore property case. On February 1, the court had refused to stay the summons, and had earlier refused to give immediate relief to Khan against the summons saying that relief cannot be sought at the last minute. The division bench of Justices

Rekha Palli and Rajnish Bhatnagar now dismissed the plea as withdrawn. The court had earlier also sought clarification on when the summons was initially issued. Khan had challenged the constitutional validity of Section 50 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) and has also sought a directive to quash the cases filed by the Anti-Corruption Branch (ACB) and the ED. The bench had refused to issue notice on Khan's plea challeng-

ing the FIR registered by ACB, and the summons and investigation in the matter. "While adjourning the matter at the request of the counsel appearing for the petitioner, it is made clear that neither the court has issued notice in the petition nor any interim order has been granted," the court had said. Special Judge Rakesh Syal, of the Rouse Avenue Courts, had recently taken cognisance of an ED charge sheet filed in the case.

Merit in demand for separate HC for Nagaland: Parliamentary panel

New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS) : Presenting its report to both the Houses of Parliament, a Parliamentary Committee on Friday said that there was merit in the demand for a separate High Court by the state of Nagaland. The Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice in its 141st report 'Judicial Infrastructure in the North-Eastern States of India' noted that the State of Nagaland does not have its own High Court and has been under the jurisdiction

of Gauhati High Court since 1963. During interactions, the President of the Kohima Bar Association informed the parliamentary panel that the states like Tripura, Meghalaya and Manipur which came under the jurisdiction of Gauhati High Court in 1971 have now established their own High Courts but the state of Nagaland does not have its own High Court. In its report, the Standing Committee, chaired by BJP Rajya Sabha MP Sushil Kumar Modi said that there is merit in the demand for a separate High Court by the State of Nagaland and the Union Ministry of Law and Jus-



tice must coordinate with the Ministry of Home Affairs to address the demand. Further, the Committee said that the status of judicial infrastructure in the north-eastern states can at best be termed as work in progress and a lot of work still needs to be done to meet the requirement at the lower end of the spectrum.

"Although, the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary is a ray of hope in otherwise gloomy scenario, it is imperative to enhance the share of North Eastern States under the Scheme," it said.



Bihar Speaker Awadh Bihari Choudhary calls meeting of secretariat officials

Patna, Feb 9 (IANS) : Despite facing no-confidence motion, Speaker Awadh Bihari Choudhary has called a meeting of senior officials of Bihar secretariat on Friday. After the formation of the NDA government in Bihar, senior BJP MLA from Patna Sahib, Nand Kishore Yadav, had moved a no-confidence motion against Choudhary. Choudhary recently met RJD chief Lalu Prasad Yadav in Patna and discussed

this matter. Sources have said that Lalu Prasad Yadav has given an instruction to not to step back until no-confidence motion would not be brought in the House. Following the meeting of senior officials, he will also hold the meeting of the press advisory committee in Bihar assembly on Friday. At present, NDA has 128 MLAs while Mahagathbandhan has 114 while one MLA of AIMIM may come in favour of Mahagathbandhan.

Headmistress, teacher suspended in TN school for delay in serving breakfast for kids

Chennai, Feb 9 (IANS) : The district education department has suspended two teachers of a government lower primary school in Tamil Nadu's Vellore corporation's premises for delay in serving breakfast to children on time.

One of the suspended teachers is the headmistress of the school. It is to be noted that under the Tamil Nadu Chief Ministers Breakfast Scheme, food has to be served between 8.15 a.m. and 8.45 a.m. As per the government order, the breakfast time can be extended to a maximum of five minutes but beyond that is a grave offence.

The delay in serving breakfast was found during a surprise inspection by Vellore district Collector V.R. Subbulaxmi at the school campus on Friday. Vellore district education department officials told.



Change criterion in 16th Finance Commission to divide taxes among states : K'taka CM

New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS) : Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah urged the central government on Friday to change the criterion for the 16th Finance Commission concerning the allotment of tax money to states. He made this plea while addressing a protest at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi organised by the Karnataka Congress Government, highlighting alleged injustice to Karnataka in the Interim Budget. CM Siddaramaiah emphasised the need for the central government to release the Rs 1.87

lakh crore loss incurred by the state since 2014. "I am making this demand on behalf of the seven crore people of Karnataka. This historical protest is not against any specific party. I want to make it clear that it's not against the BJP. That's why I have written letters to BJP MLAs and MPs to participate in the protest. Although I expected their presence, they did not turn up," he stated.

"We are raising the issue of discrimination against the state of Karnataka and other south Indian states by the Government of India. It is our duty to voice

our concerns against injustice. We are not advocating for weakening the federal structure," CM Siddaramaiah added. Under the devolution of taxes, Karnataka was initially given a 4.71 per cent share, which subsequently decreased to 3.64 per cent. This reduction resulted in a 1.07 per cent loss, amounting to Rs 62,098 crore for the state in tax devolution. Siddaramaiah questioned, "Should we not protest against this injustice? The 15th Finance Commission considered the 2011 Census.

Bootcamp to be held on Fintech in six UP cities

Lucknow, Feb 9 (IANS) : The Indian Institute of Management-Lucknow's Enterprise Incubation Centre (IIML EIC) and Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) are organising a UP Fintech Futurepreneurs Bootcamp in six cities beginning February 9.

This is designed to democratise access to Fintech education and resources and unlock UP's potential for growth and development.

The bootcamp organised in collaboration with StartinUP will help foster the growth of aspiring entrepreneurs in the Fintech sector across UP.

It will be held in six cities — Gorakhpur, Varanasi, Kanpur, Lucknow, Meerut and Noida. The camp will provide participants with an immersive learning experience, equipping them with the skills and knowledge needed to navigate the dynamic landscape of financial technology.



Samba paddy procurement in TN on expected lines : Officials

Chennai, Feb 9 (IANS) : Tamil Nadu Food and Civil Supplies Department officials said that the Samba paddy procurement in the state is on expected lines.

The officials said that the Kuruvai paddy procurement in the state was a disaster as the monsoon failure and lack of irrigation from Cauvery waters

led to a fall in production and hence procurement.

Tamil Nadu Minister for Food and Civil Supplies R Sakkarpani has also said that unlike the Kuruvai paddy procurement, the state is on course on expected lines in the procurement of Samba paddy.

The officials said that the Tamil Nadu government is operating 1493 Direct Procurement Cen-

tres (DPCs) for Samba paddy procurement in the Delta districts of Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam, Mayiladuthurai and Cuddalore.

“We have already procured 6.08 lakh tonnes of Samba paddy from approximately 95,000 farmers through the DPCs operating in the Delta districts of the state,” Minister for Food and



Civil Supplies R Sakkarpani told IANS. He said that the demands put forward by farmers on procuring 1000 tonnes of paddy by each DPC have also been given a go ahead by the state government.

“The government is keen that the farmers do not suffer due to any unnecessary delays in procurement of paddy. The DPCs will be functioning on Sundays also,” the minister said.



As crimes peak, Kerala HC unhappy with delay in forensic reports

Kochi, Feb 9 (IANS) : The Kerala High Court on Friday expressed its displeasure in the delay in getting forensic reports in criminal cases, even as the crime rate surges.

Justice CS Dias said, “We have moved into the 75th year of Independence. It is common knowledge that investigation agencies now heavily depend on scientific evidence and technology for the investigation of crimes. In these times, we cannot put up our hands and cry about the dearth of staff and lack of infrastructure.”

He added, “With the alarming and exponential increase in crimes in recent years, it is high time that we ensure that facilities for the dispensation of justice are put in place, especially given the entitle-

ment of the accused to a speedy trial.

“If the scientific analysis is inordinately delayed, like in the present case, the accused may take it as a valuable defence, and the same will be detrimental to the larger public interest.”

Justice Dias made this point while considering a bail application filed by a man from West Bengal who has been charged with murder under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). The petitioner claimed innocence and emphasised his financial hardships and prolonged custody. However, the prosecution opposed his bail plea citing the severity of the offence and also alleged that the accused was a flight risk.

PMK acts as negotiator in patch up bid between AIADMK & BJP

Chennai, Feb 9 (IANS) : The Pattali Makkal Katchi (PMK), the political arm of the powerful Vanniyar community, has joined the team of negotiators for a possible patch up deal between Tamil Nadu’s principal opposition party AIADMK and the BJP.

AIADMK leader C Ve Shanmugam, who is a close confidant of party general secretary Edappadi K. Palaniswami (EPS), met the Pattali Makkal Katchi (PMK) founder leader, S. Ramadoss at the latter’s Tindivanam residence on Friday.

It may be noted that Shanmugam is an MP and a former law minister of Tamil Nadu. The meeting between Shanmugam and Dr Ramdoss lasted for more than an hour.

Sources in PMK privy to the conversation told IANS that the meeting was indeed for a patch up bid between the AIADMK and the BJP.

Tamil Manila Congress leader and former Union Minister GK Vasan, who is a coalition partner of the BJP in Tamil Nadu, had also met senior AIADMK leaders for a truce between the AIADMK and the BJP in the state.

The Vanniyar community of Tamil Nadu is very strong and has huge strength in central and Western regions of the state. The PMK is the political arm of the Vanniyaars who have a strength of 16% of the total population of Tamil Nadu and no political party can brush aside the significance of Vanniyaars and PMK in the political landscape of Tamil Nadu.

It may be recalled that AIADMK, which was the lead partner of the National Democratic Al-



liance (NDA) in Tamil Nadu, snapped ties with the BJP in September 2023.

The arrogance of new BJP state president K. Annamalai, who is an IPS officer-turned politician, was cited as the main reason for the Dravidian major to cut its ties with the BJP.

The AIADMK had then alleged that Annamalai was using derogatory terms in public against iconic leaders of the Dravidian movement including the first Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu from a Dravidian political party, late CN Annadurai as well as late Chief Minister, J. Jayalalithaa. While negotiations are taking place on the one side, the AIADMK has publicly stated that it won't enter into any negotiations with the BJP in Tamil Nadu.



ECI full bench to be in Bengal next month to review poll preparedness

Kolkata, Feb 9 (IANS) : The full bench of the Election Commission of India (ECI) is scheduled to visit West Bengal in the beginning of March to review the poll preparedness in the wake of the forthcoming Lok Sabha election, insiders from the office of the Chief Electoral officer (CEO) said on Friday.

According to them, the purpose of the visit of the full bench is to review the law and order situation in the state. “During the visit the full-bench members will hold meetings with the administrative and police officials of the state and will take stock of the situation,” sources said. According to him, although the exact date of the visit of the full-bench is yet to be finalised, in all probability it will be the first week of March. Sources said that during the meetings with the administrative and police officers, the full-bench of ECI is also expected to brief about the commission’s recent stand on the exploitation of children by different political parties in the process of poll campaign.

OSD appointments become the talking point in Rajasthan

Jaipur, Feb 9 (IANS) : Suspense continues in Rajasthan over the appointment of officers on special duty and special assistants for ministers as two months after the formation of the new government, the Chief Minister and his cabinet colleagues are yet to get their teams.

The issue came out in public after there were instances when the OSDs for a few ministers were appointed but their appointments were cancelled. Besides these delayed appointments, the High Court rebuked the state government as well for its delay in appointment of Advocate General. And it was 49 days after the establishment of the new dispensation that the BJP government on Saturday appointed

senior advocate of the High Court Rajendra Prasad Gupta as the Advocate General of the state. Rajasthan Governor Kalraj Mishra approved the proposal put forth by Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma and issued necessary orders in this regard. The state government initiated the move after a petition was filed in the High Court regarding the delay in the appointment of the Advocate General. The High Court had sought answers from the state government regarding the delay in the appointment of the Advocate General. Meanwhile, the delay in the appointment of OSDs is now being commented upon by the opposition as well.



We will win all 28 K'taka LS seats : Yediyurappa

Bengaluru, Feb 9 (IANS) : Former Karnataka Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa on Friday said that BJP will win all 28 Lok Sabha seats in Karnataka. “Amit Shah will visit Karnataka next week. All the issues will be discussed with him and also a final call will be taken on the candidates,” he told media persons. He said that the people in Karnataka will stand with PM Modi.

“People believe in his slogan Sab ka Saath Sab Ka Vikas and justice to all classes of the society. There is a strong support for BJP in all 28 Lok Sabha seats in Karnataka,” he said.

He also criticised Congress for “Chalo Delhi” programme. He said that the state is facing a severe drought situation and there is a drinking water crisis in the state.

Spain trip useful, agreements for investments worth Rs 3,440 crore signed: Stalin

Chennai, Feb 9 (IANS) : Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin said on Friday that his eight-day-long visit to Spain was fruitful and agreements for investments to the tune of Rs 3,440 crore were signed during the trip. Stalin, who was addressing media persons at Chennai international airport, said he was

expecting an inflow of more investments into the state. The Chief Minister said that the German shipping and container transportation major Hapag-Lloyd AG had signed agreements to invest Rs 2500 crore. He added that the Spain-based Edibon that designs and manufactures technical teaching and research equipment has also inked a pact to invest Rs 540 crore.



Inmate dies under mysterious circumstances in Tihar Jail

New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS) : An inmate died under mysterious circumstances at Delhi’s Tihar Jail, an official said on Friday. The official said that Gurdeep was arrested under the provisions of the Arms Act and police had also recovered stolen items in a case registered at Vikasपुरi police station in October/November 2023.



SC deprecates ex parte orders by NGT; says it must tread carefully

New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS) : The practice of passing ex parte orders and the imposition of damages amounting to crores of rupees by the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has irked the Supreme Court. A Bench of Justices PS Narasimha and Aravind Kumar said that the

green tribunal must tread carefully in its zealous quest for justice. It added that the practice of ex parte orders and the imposition of damages amounting to crores of rupees have proven to be a counterproductive force in the broader mission of environmental protection.

California Civil Rights Department accepts caste not essential part of Hinduism

New York, Feb 9 (IANS) : In a victory for Hindu Americans, the California Civil Rights Department has amended a 2020 complaint and stated that caste and caste-based discrimination are not an essential part of Hinduism.

The department voluntarily filed a motion in the first weeks of December to amend their complaint against Cisco Systems alleging that caste discrimination occurred at the Silicon Valley tech giant, a statement released by the Hindu American Foundation (HAF) said on Friday. The amended complaint removes the erroneous and unconstitutional assertion that caste and caste discrimination is an essential part of Hindu religious teachings and practices.

"We believe this is a significant step forward in protecting the First Amendment religious rights of Hindu Americans. As we argued in our Motion to Intervene, the California Civil Rights Department is constitutionally prohibited from defining Hinduism or any religion for that matter," HAF Managing Director Samir Kalra said. However, the Washington-based Hindu advocacy group said that several problematic statements and citations in the complaint remain.



Turmoil in Pakistan if polls stand disputed, says report

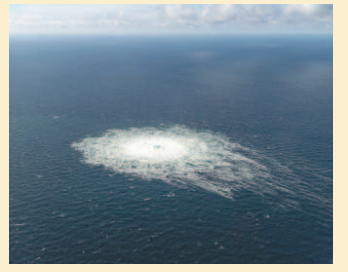
Islamabad, Feb 9 (IANS) : With Pakistan's 10th general elections set to take place, a report by the International Crisis Group (ICG) predicts the country is inching towards contested polls, the media reported on Friday.

The report mentioned that there are chances of damaging the incoming government's legitimacy no matter which party assumes power, as opportunities to address the flaws in the process are fast shrinking. Therefore, the election day could be marred by disputed polls, The News reported.

The report points out that amid the deep polarisation in the country, the superior judiciary has removed some

of the hurdles that lie in the way of a reasonably competitive election, but, on the other hand, the Supreme Court's support for the election commission's decision to deny the PTI a common election symbol has sparked fierce controversy. "Pakistan is holding general elections in a climate of deep political polarisation and a military crackdown on former prime minister Imran Khan's PTI. "The election commission must ensure that all parties, including the PTI, contest the polls and all voters, particularly women, are able to cast their ballots. A disputed poll

would damage the incoming government's legitimacy, leaving it ill-equipped to deal with the political and economic instability that is sure to follow," says ICG Asia Director Huong Le Thu, The News reported. Pointing to what it says is the country's economic survival which states that a standby agreement with the IMF, which ends in March, was a short-term fix, aimed at ensuring that the economy did not collapse before a new government is chosen.



Sweden closes Nord Stream gas pipelines probe

Stockholm, Feb 9 (IANS) : Swedish prosecution authority announced on Friday that its investigation into the Nord Stream gas pipelines explosions under the Baltic sea is closed, without any result.

"The investigation into gross sabotage against the gas pipelines Nord Stream 1 and 2 is closed," Swedish Public Prosecution Authority said in a statement, Xinhua news agency reported.

The Nord Stream pipelines, which transported gas from Russia to Germany were ruptured by a series of explosions in September 2022.



5.5 tons of radioactive water leaked from Fukushima nuclear plant

Tokyo, Feb 9 (IANS) : Approximately 5.5 tons of water containing radioactive materials have leaked from equipment at Japan's Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, local media reported. Workers discovered water leaking from the outlet of a device used to purify nuclear-contaminated water, Fukushima Central Television reported, citing the plant's operator Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO). TEPCO estimates that the amount of water that leaked was approximately 5.5 tons, which may contain 22 billion becquerels of radioactive materials such as cesium and strontium, Xinhua news agency reported quoting local media.

US House fails to impeach Homeland Security Secretary; shows GOP 'vulnerability'

Washington, Feb 9 (IANS) : The Republicans led House of Representatives failed to impeach the Homeland Security Secretary Alejandra Mayorkas on charges of treason, bribery or high crimes and misdemeanours, which shows the GOPs "vulnerability" and speaker Mike Johnson's "incompetence".

"Once Johnson's speakership was merely implausible. Now it looks incompetent," media reports said. The back bencher, comparatively new to the high-profile job in the house, legislators dubbed the Louisiana Republican as a "rookie", already

struggling to wield a tiny, extreme and malfunctioning majority.

Johnson suffered a spectacular embarrassment on Friday night in a failed vote to impeach Mayorkas.

The theatrics in the house completely undermined what seemed an already questionable case for impeachment – more over policy disagreements than the constitutional standard of treason, bribery or high crimes and misdemeanours, the CNN reported.

The narrative was that of a divided party and a House in utter disarray. Setting up a high-stakes, televised tour de force for the impeachment of a Cabinet official for only the second time in his-

tory was a daring act. But failing to actually pull it off by a couple of votes broke the cardinal rule of not putting a bill on the floor until the numbers are rock solid, media reports said. The result was a debacle that made the House leadership a laughing stock, CNN said, adding, the failure played into the hands of a White House that delights in portraying Johnson's majority as an engine for Donald Trump's political stunts more than a serious governing force.

GOP came under a shadow for its ability to pull off another politicised maneuver designed to please the former president -- an impeachment of President Joe Biden, that was to follow in days



to come. The "malpractice" of Johnson's impeachment team was encapsulated by Democrats out manoeuvring them to bring a shoeless Rep. Al Green, who was recovering from surgery, to the chamber in a wheelchair to cast the dramatic vote to derail the impeachment process, reports said.

Moments after the Mayorkas im-

peachment failed, Johnson was also unable to pass a standalone bill containing billions of dollars in aid for Israel. It was another busted gambit to jam the Biden administration. The president had threatened to veto the bill protesting Johnson's refusal to hold votes on a broader package that also included aid to Ukraine and Taiwan.



Campaigning draws to a close in Pakistan after ECP's advisory

Islamabad, Feb 9 (IANS) : Poll campaigning in Pakistan has concluded after country's election commission issued an advisory restraining political parties from electioneering for the general elections, scheduled on Friday. The campaigning ended on Friday midnight.

The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) issued a statement saying that any candidate and political party participating in the general elections found at-

tending any meeting, procession, corner meeting, or any event after the said time will be dealt with according to laws. "After the above-mentioned time, the publication of election campaigns, advertisements and other written materials on electronic and print media, which may be suspected of supporting or opposing a particular political party or candidate, is prohibited," said the poll panel.

South Korea's nuclear envoy, Swedish counterpart discuss North Korea threats

Seoul, Feb 9 (IANS) : South Korea's chief nuclear envoy vowed unwavering efforts to stop North Korea's missile provocations and make it return to dialogue during his talks with his Swedish counterpart on Friday. Kim Gunn, special representative for the Korean Peninsula peace and security affairs, made the point in the meeting with Peter Semneby, who was visiting South Korea this week, the ministry said in a release, Yonhap news agency reported.



Trump to challenge appeals court order denying him immunity in legal cases

Washington, Feb 9 (IANS) : Former President Donald Trump has decided to file a plea in the US supreme court against a ruling of the appeals court that rejected all of his presidential immunity defences. The appeals court set a time limit for a Supreme Court appeal to prevent delay as the elections were just 10 months away. Trump is ap-

pealing shortly to the apex court in keeping with the appeals court deadline. The former president "respectfully disagrees" with the ruling, according to a statement from campaign spokesman Steven Cheung. Cheung said that "without complete immunity, a President of the US would not be able to function properly." Trump will move the Supreme Court, where he can hold out hope that the con-

servative majority - three members of which he appointed - will rule in his favour.

The federal appeals court ruling Friday denying Trump's ability to invoke presidential immunity in the face of criminal charges is the latest legal blow for the former president even as he marches triumphantly towards being the most likely GOP nominee in the 2024 election, though Nikki Halley is the last woman standing before him.

The unanimous decision by a three-judge panel of the US Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit held Trump cannot invoke immunity as a defense against charges connected to his attempts to overturn the 2020 presidential election and a violent insurrection at the Capitol in January 6, 2021. The panel rejected "all three potential bases for immunity both as a categorical defence to federal criminal prosecutions of former Presidents.



KCR hails Bharat Ratna for Narasimha Rao

Hyderabad, Feb 9 (IANS) : Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) president and former Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao has hailed the decision of the Government of India to confer Bharat Ratna on former Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao. KCR, in a statement, described this as an honour for the people of Telangana.

CM Revanth finds fault with KCR for not attending Assembly

Hyderabad, Feb 9 (IANS) : Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has criticised former chief minister and leader of the Opposition in Assembly K Chandrashekar Rao for not attending the budget sessions. Addressing the discussion on the motion of thanks for the Governor's speech, the Chief Minister said that it would have been better for KCR to attend the Assembly session, but he didn't turn up. "The previous BRS government has suppressed all sections of the people during its nine and a half year tenure and misused everything as much as possible. That's the reason, the people have opted the change of helm, giving an opportunity to the Congress party. Unfortunately, the Opposition leader did not come to the Assembly today. KCR is a genius who has read over 80,000 books. We thought that he will give good suggestions for the development of Telangana State. But, it isn't good for the Opposition leader's seat to be empty like this," Revanth Reddy pointed out. Stating that the decisions have been made during the BRS government in a very flawed manner, the Chief Minister said the Congress government is going forward by correcting the mistakes done by the BRS party. The Chief Minister also slammed the BRS leaders



for criticising the Congress government which has not completed even two months since his government came to power. "The previous BRS government has plunged the State into debt and bankrupted Telangana. Despite the blunders being done by the previous BRS government, we are giving salaries to the employees on the first date, Revanth Reddy said. Finding fault with the BRS party for repeatedly talking about Rythu Bandhu, the Chief Minister reminded that the Rythu Bandhu was given to farmers in 2018-19 after the five months the crop season has started.



South India gets its first transgender railway ticket inspector

Chennai, Feb 9 (IANS) : Sindhu, a transgender from Tamil Nadu is the first from the community to become a railway ticket inspector in South India. The transgender who joined the railways 19 years ago in Ernakulam got transferred to Dindigul, Tamil Nadu and has been working there for the last 14 years. Sindhu, however got injured in an accident and was relocated to the commercial department of the railways. Sindhu while speaking to media persons on Friday said, "Transgender people must study hard to achieve respectable positions in society and I strongly believe that any heights can be achieved through education and hard work."



Both Secretariat mosques have been relocated, size reduced: Shabbir

Hyderabad, Feb.9 (NSS): Advisor to the Government of Telangana (SC, ST, BC, and Minorities) Mohammed Ali Shabbir has strongly criticized the previous BRS regime, led by K Chandrashekar Rao, accusing it of betraying the Muslim community in the matter of the Secretariat mosques. Shabbir Ali, accompanied by other prominent religious figures,

participated in Friday prayers at the Secretariat Mosque and subsequently inspected the premises. He also interacted with the worshippers who came to offer Friday prayers. In a media briefing following the visit, Shabbir Ali alleged that the former BRS Government, under K Chandrashekar Rao's leadership, had betrayed the entire Muslim community by demolishing the

Masjid Hashmi and Masjid-e-Moatamadi in July 2020 to make way for the construction of a new Secretariat. Initially, KCR denied the demolition of the mosques, attributing damage to debris from other buildings in the Old Secretariat. Later, he admitted to their demolition but assured the construction of new mosques at the same location.



Andhra Pradesh CM calls on PM, seeks release of pending funds

Amaravati/New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS) : Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi at his chambers in Parliament on Friday and requested him to expedite several issues related to the state.

Reminding the Prime Minister that the Finance Ministry has already agreed to remove component-wise expenditure ceiling on Polavaram Project and release Rs 12,911 crore for its first phase completion, he urged him to get Cabinet approval for the two pending issues. According to a statement

from Chief Minister's Office (CMO), Jagan Mohan Reddy also urged the Prime Minister to release, on a priority basis, Rs 17,144 crore for speedy completion of the first phase of Polavaram project, the proposal of which was pending in the Jal Shakti Ministry.

CM Revanth announces increase in age limit for Group-1 posts

Hyderabad, Feb.9 (IANS) : Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has informed a good news to Group-1 candidates in Telangana, stating that the age limit will be increased to 46 years and Group-1 examination will be held soon. He made this announcement in the Legislative Assembly on Friday and said that all the vacant posts will be filled in a stipulated period. The Chief Minister said a no-

tification will be issued to fill 15,000 posts in the Police department in the next 15 days. "Due to some provisions, the revival of Telangana State Public Service Commission (TSPSC) has been delayed. The Opposition leaders are talking about 2 lakh jobs in the grief of losing the jobs of four people. We are not the ones who fill the jobs by selling question papers in xerox centers.



Dattatraya delighted over Bharat Ratna awards to PV, Charan Singh & MS Swaminathan

Chandigarh, Feb 9 (NSS): Haryana Governor Bandaru Dattatraya today expressed his delight that the highest civilian award of Bharat Ratna is being conferred upon former Prime Ministers Late PV Narasimha Rao, Late Chaudhary Charan Singh, and Late MS Swaminathan. Bandaru Dattatraya said as iconic figures in Indian history, they have left an indelible mark in their respective fields.

Harish Rao lashes out at CM Revanth

Hyderabad, Feb 9 (NSS): BRS party MLA Harish Rao today lashed out at Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for trying to mislead the people of the State. He said it was not right to make any allegations against the Opposition party. He lashed out at Revanth for saying that their behaviour was not right. Speaking during a discussion on the motion of thanks to the Governor's address in the Legislative Assembly, he said,

"Revanth said he was lucky to be the CM at a very young age. Therefore, I would suggest the CM not to let go of the sarcasm and focus on the matter. There is a lot of irony in your words. The behaviour of the CM has been lowered," Harish Rao said while making it clear that they will cooperate if the CM speaks well. He said today it is a matter of pride for all the people of the State that former PM PV had been awarded the Bharat Ratna Award. "If the BRS government passed a



unanimous resolution to give Bharat Ratna to PV Narasimha Rao, the State government should pass a resolution in the House and thank the Centre for giving PV the Bharat Ratna award. We need to increase the dignity of PV. The Congress government did not take care of PV. The BRS government has set up the PV ghat. We have put up a picture of PV in the assembly. PV's daughter Surabhi Vani Devi has been made an MLC. PV's birth anniversary celebrations were celebrated in a grand manner.