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## Pulse Polio should be successful with the coordination of all departments

Rajanna Sirsilla District Additional Collector Pujari Gauthami has called for the success of the Pulse Polio program...

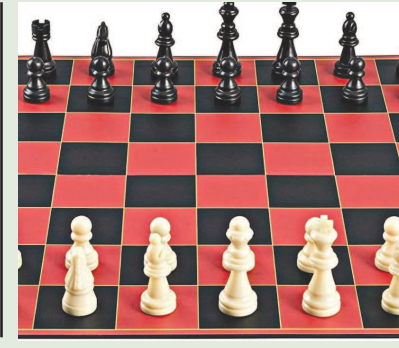
02



## Samsung retains top spot in global TV market for 18 straight years

Samsung Electronics said on Monday that it has retained its position as the top player in the global television market for the 18th consecutive year. The South Korean tech giant took...

07



## AICF should clarify the need for forensic audit: Chess Players Forum official

The All India Chess Federation (AICF) should openly state the reasons for its decision to have a forensic audit of its books of accounts, said a senior...

12

## CM Revanth directs officials to expedite launch of Musi Riverfront project

Hyderabad, Feb 19 (IANS) : Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has directed the officials to complete the exercise to launch the Musi Riverfront development project at the earliest. The Chief Minister held a review meeting on the Musi Riverfront Development Project with officials at Nanakramguda HMDA office, here on Monday. The officials explained the Chief Minister about the location sketch of Musi River boundaries and other important details. During the meeting, officials have been asked

to clean up the entire Musi before starting the works. Revanth Reddy ordered the officials to prepare the musli development plans ensuring to connect all the historical structures along the river in the city. He also suggested to divide the work between the officials to take up the Musi development works at a fast pace. The State government is undertaking a large-scale redevelopment of the Musi River Front. The project will have components of transport networks connecting the eastern

and western parts of the city, clean, flowing water, and river front beautification. Officials said that the proposed Musi Riverfront project would create people's plazas, pedestrian zones, hawker areas and green spaces all across the city. Moreover, it would revitalize old, heritage-rich parts of the city and make them more accessible. As part of its endeavour, the State government is studying national and international models to onboard the best practices and teams to work on this project.



## TSPSC cancels group-1 notification

Hyderabad, Feb.19 (IANS) : Telangana State Public Service Commission ( TSPSC) on Monday canceled the Group-1 notification for 503 vacancies. The Group-1 notification was issued in April, 2022 with 503 posts. About 3,50,000 candidates applied for the posts and around 2,80,000 appeared for the prelims examination. However, the paper leak in-

cident came to fore after announcing the results. With this, the examination was canceled. Later, the TSPSC conducted the Group-1 exam in June, 2023. Meanwhile, many candidates had approached the court stating that the rules were not followed in conducting the examination. With this, the court ruled that the exams should be cancelled. The TSPSC approached the Supreme Court on the subject, but the arguments

were not heard. Officials said the fresh announcement will be made soon regarding Group-1 notification which have already been canceled twice. The previous notification was given for 503 posts. In addition to this, the State government has recently given approval for another 60 posts. With this, the new notification will be a total of 563 posts.

## Govt whip injured in road accident

Jagtial, Feb 19 (IANS) : Government whip and Dharmapuri MLA Adhuri Laxman Kumar was injured in a road accident near Ambaripet village of Yendapalli mandal in Jagtial district early on Monday morning. In the incident, along with the MLA, his two gunmen and the car driver also sustained minor injuries. The incident occurred when the MLA's vehicle overturned while trying to avoid hitting a lorry coming from the opposite direction. Congress MLA Adhuri Laxman has been shifted to the Yashoda Hospital in Hyderabad for the better treatment.



## Govt gives priority for temple tourism : Jupally



Alampur, Feb 19 (IANS) : Minister for Tourism Jupally Krishna Rao has informed that the State government is giving priority for the temple tourism aimed at attracting a large number of people to various destinations across the Telangana State. Jupally Krishna Rao along with MLC Kuchukulla Damodhar Reddy, MLAs

Megha Reddy, Vamshi Krishna and Rajesh Reddy, Special Representative of the Telangana Government in New Delhi Dr. Mallu Ravi, former MLA Sampath Kumar, other elected representatives and officials visited Sri Jogulamba Ammavari temple at Alampur in Jogulamba district on Monday.



## MP Aravind ready to contest against Jeevan Reddy

Hyderabad, Feb 19 (IANS) : BJP MP Dharmapuri Arvind has thrown a sensational challenge to Congress leader Jeevan Reddy. "I am ready to contest against Jeevan Reddy in the next parliamentary elections. Jeevan Reddy's brother is distributing pamphlets against me as he is unable to face me politically," Arvind said.

## BJP to launch Vijaya Sankalpa Yatra from today: Kishan reddy

Hyderabad, Feb 19 (IANS) : The State BJP will launch Vijaya Sankalpa Rath Yatra in the State. BJP State president G Kishan Reddy has said the party will launch the 'Vijaya Sankalpa Rath Yatra' across the State from Tuesday. Speaking to media persons at the BJP State office here, Kishan Reddy revealed details about the program. He said Komarambheem Yatra

would begin with the blessings of Goddess Saraswati at Basara temple. The Rajarajeshwari Vijaya Sankalpa Yatra will continue covering the four parliamentary constituencies of Karimnagar, Medak, Zaheerabad and Chevella. It will cover 22 assembly constituencies. "We will also try to cover the remaining assembly constituencies.



## CPI leader Narayana slams BJP

Hyderabad, Feb 19 (IANS) : BJP and CPI leaders are competing to celebrate the birth anniversary celebrations of the founder of the Maratha Empire Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.

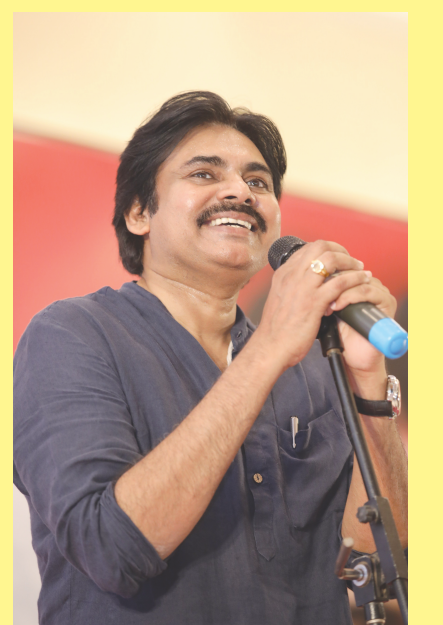
CPI National Secretary Narayana severely criticized the Lotus party leaders during the celebrations. Shivaji Jayanti celebrations were held at the CPI office on Monday.

## Our alliance coming to power: Pawan asserts

Visakhapatnam, Feb 19 (IANS) : Actor-turned-politician and Jana Sena Party president Pawan Kalyan today said the people of Andhra Pradesh were going to give a clear verdict. He made it clear that his party's alliance was coming to power in the next assembly elections. "We have to take advantage of our strength from the ground level and work in a planned manner to take the

alliance to victory. Personally, it's not about my win. From the very beginning, my strategy and steps have been for a collective victory," he said. Pawan Kalyan, who reached Visakhapatnam on Sunday night, first went to the house of party leaders Konatala Ramakrishna and paid a courtesy call. For nearly an hour, the two discussed the party's programmes and the policies being followed in the elections. He later held a meeting with the party's top leaders

from Visakhapatnam and Anapalli constituencies. The meeting was attended by the party's State general secretary Nagababu. On Monday morning, he held one-to-one meetings with the leaders of the undivided district. He held a meeting with the regional coordinators of Veera Mahila wing. On the occasion, Pawan Kalyan shared many things with the leaders.







## Pulse Polio should be successful with the coordination of all departments

Additional Collector Pujari Gauthami during the review meeting

**Rajanna Sirsilla, Feb 19 (TIM Bureau) :** Rajanna Sirsilla District Additional Collector Pujari Gauthami has called for the success of the Pulse Polio program to be held from March 3rd to 5th with the coordination of the officials of all departments. "A meeting was held on Monday at the Additional Collector's Chamber in the complex of Integrated District Offices

with the officials of Medical, ICDS, Municipal, Panchayati Raj, SES, Lions, Rotary Club, District Welfare Department and various departments on the management of pulse polio program. "Additional Collector spoke on the occasion. The officials of all departments are advised to participate in the Pulse Polio program to be held from 3rd to 5th of next month (March). It has been directed to advertise on vehicles during every school prayer, municipal and gram panchayat garbage collection. The officials are advised to educate the staff of women's associations and mothers who come to Anganwadis. The Additional Collector requested the cooperation of Rotary and Lions Club officials to put up posters and banners at bus stand, market and other busy areas and to give caps and food items to the medical staff on the days of pulse polio drops. Officials of all departments also want to create aware-

ness about the program. It was ordered to prepare activities to give polio drops to the children of laborers working in brick kilns and other works. He called for 100 percent success of this program. The Additional Collector called upon the parents of children under the age of five years to get their children vaccinated against polio. "Total children under five years in Rajanna Sirsilla district. "In-charge DMHO Dr. Rajitha said that there are 44,770 children under the age of five in the district. It was explained that a total of 394 centers will be set up in the district and children will be given polio drops. Rajitha, Deputy DMHO Dr. Mr. Ramulu, DPO Veera Butchaiah, Program Officer Dr. Naema, CDPOs Ellaiah, Alekha, Municipal EE Prasad, GCDO Padmaja, officials of respective departments and others participated.



## V Sridhar who has taken charge as Civil Relations Officer of Rajanna Sirsilla District

**Rajanna Sirsilla, Feb 19 (TIM Bureau) :** V Sridhar assumed charge as District Civic Relations Officer on Monday. "Sridhar, who is working as Civil Relations Officer in Bhupalapally district, has joined the duties today after he was transferred to Rajanna Sirsilla district in the recent transfers of the state government. "V. Sridhar took charge as District Civil Relations Officer on Monday from Assistant Director M Dasharatham who was working as District Public Relations Officer of Rajanna Sirsilla. Later, he will go on duty deputation at Sri Sammakka Saralamma Jatara in Medaram and will return to work as Civil Relations Officer of Sirsilla District from February 26.



## Students take to anti-sleep pills in exam season

**Lucknow, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Prajakta Swarup, a Class 10 student, underwent a major brain surgery for a clot that led to swelling of nerves, last week. The girl had been staying up all night preparing for her board examinations. Her mother had been giving her steaming cups of coffee to help her stay awake. Prajakta collapsed one evening and was hospitalised. Her parents later

found a bottleful of pills in her drawer and when they handed them over to the doctor, they were shocked to learn that their daughter had been on anti-sleep pills. "Shocking though it may sound, an increasing number of students, today, are taking these anti-sleep pills that help them stay awake during examinations.



## Another FIR filed against expelled BJP leader

**Kanpur, Feb 19 (IANS) :** A fresh FIR has been filed against expelled BJP leader Priyaranjan Ashu Diwakar, main accused in the suicide case of Kanpur farmer Babu Singh. The new FIR has been filed for threatening the family members of the deceased farmer. Singh's daughter, Ruby, had lodged a complaint at Chakeri police station, alleging that Diwakar was mounting pressure on the family to "settle" the case. She said that on February 19, she was returning home when unidentified persons stopped her and threatened that Diwakar had been granted bail, and if her family did not settle the case, she would be attacked with acid. Commissioner of Police Akhil Kumar said a case had been registered and the matter was being investigated. Singh, who died after jumping in front of a train on September 9, 2023, alleged in his suicide note that Diwakar had usurped his land. On a complaint by his wife, police had registered a case of cheating.

## Modi arrogant & Egoist, behaving like Adolf Hitler, says TPCC Leader

**Hyderabad, Feb 19 (IANS) :** TPCC senior vice-president & Chairman, Election Commission Coordination Committee today said the manner in which Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke at the BJP National Conference on Sunday was a proof of his arrogance and egoism. Speaking to media persons at Gandhi Bhavan here today, Niranjan said, Narendra Modi told his party men, "We will come to power again – the countries in the world know this. That is why every country is inviting. I don't want to come to power again. But if I sit in my house, who will take care of people? What about the houses to the people?" Niranjan astonished whether no one can benefit the country except him? It is an exaggeration to say that elders and children should be protected from Congress. "Let's not forget that the Congress is the party that saved the country from the British. "Modi says that the parties in the Congress and INDIA alliance are family parties, but Modi is making BJP as his pocket party.

**LOST OF DOCUMENT**  
I Chintalaphani Kamala, W/o. Ramana Reddy, R/o. USA, rep, by her GPA Holder Thakkalappally Ramesh, S/o. Madhusudhan Rao, R/o. H.No.1-1-845, Fathima Nagar Kazipet, Hanamakonda Dist., have lost my registered sale deed vide document No.852/1985, while travelling by bike from Fathima Nagar to Kazipet on dt: 16-12-2023.  
If anybody found please Contact: 9908770008

**CHANGE OF NAME**  
I KOLATI RADHA KRISHNA (Old name)S/o.KOLATI RAMA RAO H-no:8-2-128,Balaji Nagar Khanapuram Haveli Khammam (Urban) Khammam District,State Telangana.I have changed my name as KOLETI RADHA KRISHNA Here after my name as KOLETI RADHA KRISHNA S/o.KOLATI RAMA RAO.

**CHANGE OF NAME**  
I KOLATI RADHIKA (Old name)H/o. KOLATI RADHA KRISHNA H-no:-8-2-128, Balaji Nagar Khanapuram Haveli Khammam (Urban)Khammam District,State Telangana.I have changed my name as KOLETI RADHIKA. Here after my name as KOLETI RADHIKA H/o. KOLETI RADHA KRISHNA.



## 37 applications for Prajavani

**Rajanna Sirsilla, Feb 19 (TIM Bureau) :** Rajanna Sirsilla District Prajavani received 37 applications. "Additional Collectors Khimya Nayak and Pujari Gautami received applications from the public in a public address held in the auditorium of the integrated district office complex on Monday. Speaking on the occasion, they directed

the officials to provide speedy solutions to Prajavani applications. It is suggested that the applications received by the respective departments should be examined and resolved at the field level. They want to provide better services to people. 20 applications were received for the Revenue Department, 3 for the Survey De-

partment, two each for D MHO, Sirsilla Municipal and DPO offices, one each for DCSO, DRDO, Tangallapally MPDO, SP, Area Hospital, Employment Creation, Education Department and Mission Bhagiratha. "Sirisilla and Vemulawada RDOs Anand Kumar, Madhusudan, district officials and others participated in the public hearing. "Students of Tribal Welfare Degree College for Field Inspection of Collector's Office. "The students of Tribal Welfare Degree College at Tangallapally mandal center of Rajanna Sirsilla district came for field inspection of the integrated district office complex on Monday. Students visited all the offices in the office and observed the activities. On this

**SBI State Bank of India**  
KAMAREDDY BRANCH: 5-3-53, NH-7 Road, Kamareddy, PH.No.08468-293355

**Appendix - IV-A [See Proviso to rule 8 (6)]**  
**SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES**

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets Under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 Read With Provision to Rule 8(6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property has Encumbrance of/ been mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor State Bank of India, Kamareddy Branch (05073), Vide MODT No.6297/2014 Dt: 13/11/2014, which became NPA on Dt: 14-07-2023 with outstanding amount of Rs.3,75,22,236/- and the Constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of State Bank of India on Dt: 17-01-2024, the Secured Creditor, and will be sold on "As is Where is", "As is What is" and "Whatever there is" basis on Dt: 22.03.2024 (11.30 AM to 1.30 PM) ( mention date of the sale), for recovery of Rs.3,75,22,236/- (Rupees Three Crore Seventy Five Lakh Twenty Two Thousand Two Hundred and Thirty Six Only) as on 17-07-2023 and further interest, costs, etc., due to the State Bank of India, Secured Creditor from Borrower: M/s. Sri Srinivasa Binny Rice Mill, Rep. by its Managing Partner 1) Sri Katipally Pashupathinath, S/o. Dattaiah, Managing Partner 2) Sri Katipally Dattaiah, S/o. Vasarajah.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE SECURED ASSETS TO BE SOLD**

1) All that Land & Premises of Sri Srinivasa Binny Rice Mill bearing GP No.8-40/1, Main Road, Lingampet (M), Kamareddy (D)-503124 constructed over an open plot admeasuring 3811.50 Sq.yds.in Sy.No.953/R1 Vide Land conversion Proc.No.A4/2646/2014, Dated 17-07-2014. Bounded by: North: Petrol Pump, South: Road, East: Agra Land of Sattar, West: Road.  
RESERVE PRICE: Rs.2,60,00,000/- EMD: Rs.26,00,000/- BID INCREMENT AMOUNT: Rs.50,000/-

2) All the Fully Finished R.C.C Roof Flat No.401, in Third Floor in H.No.1-2-41, 1-2-42, 1-2-77, 1-2-78, 1-2-79, in "Laxmi Residency Apartment" Flat No.401, B-Block, Sirsilla Road, Kamareddy-503111, in North Block, admeasuring "The Plinth Area of which 1043.0 Sq.ft. Including with the Common Areas, with an Undivided Share of 22.95 Sq.yard. Bounded by: North: Open to Sky, South: 4.0ft Corridor then Flat No.402, East: Open to Sky, West: Open to Sky, The Flat No.407.  
RESERVE PRICE: Rs.29,00,000/- EMD: Rs.2,90,000/- BID INCREMENT AMOUNT: Rs.50,000/-

Auction date: 22.03.2024, Auction Time: 11.30 AM to 1.30 PM.

Date and Time of inspection of the immovable secured assets: Date: 20-03-2024, Time: 11.00 am to 2:00 PM Ranjit Kujur, S/o. Mangla Kujur, RMSME, Mob No.7849079613, Vinay Chandra Sai Matam, S/o. Sangameshwara Swamy, Branch Head Mob No.8309402301.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in State Bank of India, the Secured Creditor's website 1) <https://bankauctions.com> or M/s. C1 India Pvt. Ltd. at the web portal <https://bankauctions.com> (http: address of website)

Date: 19.02.2024 Place: Kamareddy Sd/- Authorised Officer State Bank of India

## DCA cancels licenses of two blood banks for illegal sale of human plasma

**Hyderabad, Feb 19 (IANS) :** The licenses of the Blood Banks 'Srikara Hospital Blood Centre' at Madinaguda, Miyapur, and 'New Life Educational Society Blood Centre' at Darulshifa, Hyderabad, have been cancelled by the Drugs Control Administration, in connection with the illegal plasma collection racket, which was busted at Moosapet on February 2, 2024. According to Drugs Control Administration Director General V.B. Kamalasan Reddy, IPS, on February 2, his officers, acting on a tip-off, raided 'Haemo Service Laboratories' operating in a residential building Door No. 11-5-176, Bhavani Nagar, Moosapet, Hyderabad. During the raid, the DCA officers detected a huge stock of human plasma bags stored in freezers. R. Raghavendra Naik

has been operating the firm within the apartment, illegally collecting plasma from various blood banks and stockpiling them for sale in an unauthorized manner. DCA officers found that 'Srikara Hospital Blood Bank' in Mythri Nagar, Madinaguda, Miyapur, Ranga Reddy District and the 'New Life Educational Society Blood Centre' at Abid Ali Khan Lions Eye Hospital, Darulshifa, illegally sold plasma to R. Raghavendra Naik of Haemo Service Laboratories, not adhering to the norms. DCA officers immediately raided Srikara Hospital Blood Centre (a unit of Venkateshwara Ortho Health Care Pvt. Ltd.), situated at D.No.222 & 223, 5th floor, Mythri Nagar, Phase-II, Madinaguda, Miyapur, and New Life Educational Society Blood Centre, situated at D. No. 22-1-

1038, First floor, Abid Ali Khan Lion Eye Hospital, Darulshifa, and confirmed the illegal sale of plasma to 'Haemo Service Laboratories' upon verification. At the blood banks, plasma is separated from whole blood, collected from donors, through a process called 'plasmapheresis'. After collection, it must be frozen within six hours to preserve its integrity. Plasma must be stored in freezers at temperatures below minus 30°C to maintain its stability and prevent degradation. Human plasma plays a crucial role in various medical treatments and therapies. Plasma transfusions are essential in treating patients with clotting disorders, such as hemophilia, and those who have undergone massive blood loss or trauma and also used in the treatment of immunodeficiency dis-

orders and autoimmune diseases. Plasma is also administered to patients in critical conditions, such as severe burns, to stabilize their condition and prevent complications. DCA Telangana issued show-cause notices to 'Srikara Hospital Blood Centre' in Madinaguda, Miyapur, and 'New Life Educational Society Blood Centre' in Darulshifa after inspections of the blood banks. The notices were issued regarding the illegal sale of plasma from the blood bank and for certain violations reported by DCA officers regarding non-conformity with blood bank norms. As the illegal sale of plasma by blood banks can have detrimental consequences on public health, the licenses of the two blood banks have been cancelled in the larger public interest.





## DMK agrees to give 7 LS seats to Congress in Tamil Nadu

**Chennai, Feb 19 (IANS) :** DMK has agreed to give seven Lok Sabha seats to Congress instead of 16 seats, which the grand-old party had demanded. The Congress had contested on nine seats in the 2019 general elections by being an alliance partner in the Secular Progressive Alliance (SPA) led by the DMK. The party had won eight seats while losing the Theni Lok Sabha seat where O.P. Raveendranathan of AIADMK won the seat by defeating senior Congress leader E.V.K.S. Elangovan. Sources said that the Congress' list of candidates was too large and the DMK team led by T.R. Baalu conveyed to the Congress leadership that it can only consider giving no more than seven seats. Earlier, DMK District Secretaries had conveyed to the party leadership that the Congress must be restricted to a smaller number of seats as it has limited strength on the ground. Sources said that the Congress state leadership is expecting that Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi will intervene and ask the DMK Chief to give the party a few more seats. A senior DMK leader told IANS that the strength of the Congress is minuscule in almost all the constituencies and that even the seven seats they got is more than sufficient.



## Snowfall in higher reaches of J&K

**Srinagar, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Snowfall started in the higher reaches as light rain lashed the plains in J&K on Monday. The Meteorological (MeT) Department has forecast widespread rain and snow in the union territory from Sunday till Wednesday. Srinagar had 5.8, Gulmarg minus 1.4 and Pahalgam 2.5 as the minimum temperature. Leh town in Ladakh region had minus 1.5 and Kargil 2.8 as the minimum temperature. Jammu city had 13, Katra 11.8, Batote 8.1, Baderwah 2.4 and Banihal 7 as the minimum temperature.



## We will make India world's 3rd largest economy in third term: Shah

**New Delhi, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday said that just as during the time of the Mahabharata, there were two factions -- the Pandavas and the Kauravas, similarly, in this Lok Sabha election, there are also two factions -- the NDA alliance led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and the 'Ghamandiya alliance' led by the Congress. Addressing the second day of the Bharatiya Janata Party's National Council Meet, Shah said the INDIA bloc is a sup-

porter of corruption, dynasty politics, and appeasement, while the BJP and NDA allies follow the principle of 'Nation First'. He also took a dig at the Congress for not participating in the Pran Pratishtha ceremony of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, giving credit to Prime Minister Modi for its construction. Shah claimed that by winning for the third time, they will make India the third largest economy in the world.

## IGP Kashmir chairs security review meeting ahead of 'coming events'

**Srinagar, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Inspector General of Police Kashmir Zone V. K. Birdi on Monday convened a meeting which was attended by senior officers of various security agencies to comprehensively review and strengthen security arrangements in anticipation of visits by VVIPs to the UT of J&K, as well as other events in offing, a police statement said. "During the meeting comprehensive briefing was given by participating officers on the security plans devised in the backdrop of coming events. Recognising the importance of maintaining a delicate balance between security needs and the smooth conduct of events, IGP Kashmir directed officers to ensure heightened vigilance, particularly during night-hours, to mitigate the risk of terrorist threats," the statement said. Emphasising the imperative to bolster intelligence gathering and anti-terror operations, IGP Kashmir urged officers to minimise the risk of untoward incidents by strengthening security at vulner-



able points, especially during significant events. "Special attention was given to enhancing security along the National Highway, tunnels, minority pickets and other critical pockets," the statement said. "Furthermore, specific directives were issued to intensify security/ surprise naka measures in both uptown and downtown areas of Srinagar, with 24x7 patrolling and increased presence at entry and exit points of the district. The IGP also stressed the importance of briefing personnel to take care of SOP.

## Film actor Suman visited Sri Rajarajeswara Swamy

**Vemulawada (Rajanna Sirisilla) February 19 (TIM Bureau) :** Rajanna Sirisilla District Vemulawada Sri Rajarajeswara Swamy Famous film actor Suman visited the Swami on Monday. After participating in the special pujas of Sri Rajarajeswara Swami, the priests offered the Vedokta blessing in the Nagireddy mandapam. Srinivas, a Brahmin of the temple, gave the Prasad of Sri Swamivari. Sirigiri Sriramulu, superintendent of temple protocol. Vemulawada is a glorious shrine. Film actor Suman said that Vemulawada Sri Rajarajeswara Swamy's Devasthanam is the most glorious shrine. After vis-



iting Sri Rajarajeswara Swami on Monday, he said that Vemulawada Sri Rajarajeswara Swami is the most glorious deity and that is why thousands of devotees are coming every day to have darshan of Sri Rajarajeswara Swami. Suman said that he wanted Sri Rajarajeswara Swami to be happy and happy for all the people.



## In PM Kisan Samman scheme

**V Sridhar assumed charge as District Civic Relations Officer on Monday.**

**6 thousand crop assistance to farmers**  
**Eligible farmers should undergo e-KYC**

**Sirisilla, February 19 (TIM Bureau) :** Rajanna Sirisilla District Agriculture Officer V. Bhaskar revealed that the central government is providing crop assistance to farmers through the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Yojana scheme. To this extent, instructions were given to the farmers about this scheme on Monday. Every year under crop assistance to eligible farmers Rs. 6 thousand and it will be released in three installments once every four months, he said. Farmers who are eligible for PM Kisan scheme in the district must complete e-KYC to receive PM Kisan money. Farmers are requested to get E-KYC by contacting the Agricultural Extension Officer of your cluster or your village or get EKYC at Common Service Centres.

**SHIRAM FINANCE LIMITED**  
(Formerly Known as Shiram Transport Finance Company Limited)  
Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032 Administrative Office: 6th Floor(level 2), Building No.02, Aurum Q parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710.

**SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE**

Where as, the undersigned being the authorised officer of Shiram Finance Limited, (Formerly know as Shiram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shiram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shiram Transport Finance Company Limited name Changed as Shiram Finance Limited, by its Incorporation dt.30-11-2022) 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 Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic 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 19th day of February, 2024.

Borrower Name and Address	Amount due as per Demand Notice
1) Anji Puvvada S/O Krishna, Age:54yrs, R/O:H.No.5-1-191/553, Kaviraj Nagar, Near R&B Office, Collectorate, Khammam. Pincode:507002	Rs.31,75,618/- (Rupees Thirty one Lakh Seventy five Thousand Six Hundred Eighteen Only)
2) Puvvada Amrutha W/o Anji, Age:51yrs, R/O:H.No.5-1-191/553, Kaviraj Nagar, Near R&B Office, Collectorate, Khammam. Pin:507002	
3) Puvvada Krishna S/o Chinnu Narasimha Rao, Age:81yrs, R/O:H.No.5-1-191/553, Kaviraj Nagar, Near R&B Office, Ballepalli, Khammam. Pincode:507002	
4) Puvvada Pushpa W/o Krishna, Age:71yrs, R/O:H.No.5-1-191/553, Kaviraj Nagar, Near R&B Office, Collectorate, Khammam. Pin:507002	
5) Myneni Sridhar S/o Ram Mohan Rao, Age:49yrs, R/O:H.No.3-85, Jaggavaram(V), Kunavaram(Md), Chuchirevilagudem(Po), East Godavari Dt. Pincode:507121	

**KHAMMATF1803290005 - DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY** Property Holder Name: Puvvada Krishna, Puvvada Pushpa With Document No: 3558/2018. Item No.1) All that house bearing No.5-5-16/1(Part) admeasuring 99.33sq.Yards equivalent to 33.05sq.Mtrs. Plinth area 731.15 Sq.Ft Situated at Mustafa Nagar, Khammam town and District and Bounded as Follows: Towards East: H.No.5-5-15/A of Asha Sulthana, Towards West : Municipal Road, Towards North: House of Puvvada Pushpa Towards South : Municipal Road. Item No.2) All That House Bearing No.5-5-16/1(Part), admeasuring 126.67sq.Yards equivalent to 102.91sq.Mtrs plinth area 851.56sq.Ft situated at Mustafa Nagar, Khammam town and district is bounded as Follows: Towards East : House of Asha Sulthana, H.No.5-5-15/A Towards West : Municipal Road Towards North : House of Ghani Moosa Towards South: House of V.Narayana Rao.

This notice is also hereby to caution the general public at large that the authorized officer of SFL is in the lawful Symbolic Possession of the immovable property mentioned herein above and the Borrowers or any person shall not after receipt of this notice transfer 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: Khammam Date: 19-02-2024 - Sd/- Authorized Officer Shiram Finance Limited

**pnb** पंजाब नैशनल बैंक Punjab National Bank

Recovery Department, Circle Office Secunderabad - 103, Door No. 8-2-248/A, Maharsi House, Road No.3, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad-500034.

**POSSESSION NOTICE**  
(For Immovable Property) (Under Rule 8 (1))

WHEREAS, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Punjab National Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notice dated: 06.12.2023 calling upon the Borrower Smt. Chandrakala Naikoti (Borrower and Mortgagee) & Co-Borrower N.Sunil Kumar (A/C Nos.: 2114300003797 & 658700870000245) at our B.Sangareddy repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.4,40,182.00 (Rupees Four Lakhs Forty Thousand One Hundred Eighty Two only) as on 30.11.2023 with further interest, charges, expenses etc. from 01-12-2023 thereon 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/ guarantors/mortgagees and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section 4 of section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules, 2002 on 15th of February, 2024.

The borrower/guarantors/mortgagees in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of Punjab National Bank for an amount of Rs.3,64,860/- (Rupees Three Lacs Sixty Four Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty only) as on 31.01.2024 with further interest, charges, expenses etc. from 01-02-2024 less the amount already paid during or after the period of demand notice. The borrower's attention is invited to Provisions of sub-section (9) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

**DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY**

All that part and parcel of Residential house at House no : 4-8-31, on plot no 54, Survey no : 210, Admeasuring 127.44 Sq.yds (out of 345 Sq.yds) With an plinth area of 512.00 sq.feet (out of 990 Sq.feet) roof covered with Rcc , situated at Manjeeranagar, Kalvakunta(V), under the city municipal limits of Sangareddy Town and mandal Registration Sub district Sangareddy, Registration District sangareddy and bounded by East: Road, West: Remaining House of Vendors, North: Vendors Property, South: House of Kista Reddy

Property stands in the name of Smt. Naikoti Chandrakala W/o Naikoti Sunil Kuma Date: 15.02.2024 Sd/- Chief Manager, Authorized Officer Place: Sangareddy Punjab National Bank

**बैंक ऑफ बरोडा** Bank of Baroda  
MARREDPALLI BRANCH  
Prakash Arcade, 1st Floor, West Marredpally-26, Secunderabad. Tel:040-27801753

**SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF MOVABLE ITEMS**  
"APPENDIX- IV-A (See proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6))

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of movable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

With reference to our Registered Post-dated 01.02.2024 vide Reference RN032920566IN In our registered letter we request you to clear the inventory as mentioned in Annexure 8 in the same letter.

Hence, This Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower that the below described Movable Items seized by the Secured Creditor in the account of Mrs Sai Nandini Valavanoor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Bank of Baroda, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on dt. 21.03.2024 at Branch Premises for recovery of below mentioned accounts. The details of Borrower/s/Guarantor/s/Seized Asset/s/Dues/Reserve Price/e-Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are as mentioned below:

**Name of Borrower: Mrs Sai Nandini Valavanoor, Flat No. 51451 Floor, Lotus Block -F, ARK Homes, Turkapally, Medchal- Malkajiri, Telangana- 500044**

**DESCRIPTION OF THE MOVABLE ITEMS-TAKEN POSSESSION ON 16.05.2023**

Sr.No	Description of the movable item	Quantity	Reserve Price
1	Smart TV and Remote	1	2000
2	Sofa Set 5 Seater Wall/ table	1 Set	600
3	Tube electric TL	1	50
4	Dinning Table with 6 chairs SS FRAMED GLASS TOP	1 Set	1500
5	Electric Fan Wall/Table	1	400
6	Fridge Whirlpool 2 door	1	1000
7	Electric Fan Wall/Table	1	350
8	Tube electric TL	1	50
9	Bed Single Coat mattress	1	500
10	Gyesser AO Smith working	1	2500
11	Water purifier scrap	1	200
12	AC Samsung Split Dismantled	1	3000
13	Single Coat Wooden	2	2000
14	Electric Fan Ceiling	2	700
15	Electric Tube TL	1	50
16	Diwan Cot	1	400
17	Plastic Chairs 1 Big + 1 Small	2	200
18	Glass Teapoy	1	200
19	Utensils & Household items 20 kgs	LS	700
20	Gas Cylinder HP Empty	1	1000

**Total Dues: Rs. 3,40,316/- (Rupees Three Lakhs forty Thousand Three hundred sixteen only)** as on dt 14.02.2024 plus unapplied interest thereon from dt 14.02.2024 plus charges if any till realization.

**Date & time of Public auction: 21.03.2024 between 3.00 pm to 5:00 P.M**

Reserve Price: As mentioned above

**EMD: 10% of Reserve Price** for each item to be deposited on or before 12.30 PM on 21.03.2024

**Bid incremental amount Rs. 1,000/- (Rupees One thousand only)**

Status of possession (constructive/physical): Physical

**Property inspection date & time: 06.03.2024** during bank working hours

- The EMD of the successful bidders shall be retained and EMD of un-successful bidders shall be refunded within 7 days. The EMD shall not bear any interest. The successful bidder shall have to deposit 100% of the sale price, after adjusting EMD already paid within 2 working days of acceptance of the bid price by Bank. In case of default in payment by the successful bidder the amount already deposited by the bidder shall be liable to be forfeited. The items will be sold to H1 bidder who has submitted the highest offer for the respective items.
- The Bank is not bound to accept the highest offer and has the absolute right to accept or reject any or all offer/s) or adjourn/postpone/cancel the auction without assigning any reason thereof.
- On acceptance of offer, the delivery of the items will be given only after the full payment is realized.
- All the cost and expenses in connection with the transfer/shifting of the items will be borne by the bidders.
- The delivery of items will be given from our Office within -7- days from the date of the balance amount of offered price.
- For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please visit the branch. Prospective bidders may contact the authorized officer on Mobile No. 7993316558.

**Date : 19.02.2024** Sd/- Authorized Officer, Place: Hyderabad BANK OF BARODA

**SHIRAM FINANCE LIMITED**  
(Formerly Known as Shiram Transport Finance Company Limited)  
Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032 Administrative Office: 6th Floor(level 2), Building No.02, Aurum Q parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710.

**SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE**

Where as, the undersigned being the authorised officer of Shiram Finance Limited, (Shiram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shiram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shiram Transport Finance Company Limited name Changed as Shiram Finance Limited, by its Incorporation Certificate dt.13-11-2022) a corporate body registered and incorporated as a company under the Indian companies Act 1956, is doing Non-Banking financial activities, having its Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600 032 and having its administrative office at 6th Floor (level 2), Building No.02, Aurum Q Parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710, 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 Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic 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 14th day of February, 2024.

Borrower Name and Address	Amount due as per Demand Notice
1) Mohd Gulam Murtuza, S/o: Abdul Qudus @Alias M A Qudus, Age 70 Years, Occ: Self Employee, R/O: Address I: H.No: 10-2-349/6, Ward No: 10, Circle-05, Asif Nagar, Hyderabad-500028, Address II: H.No: 1-4-880/A, Bakaram, Hyderabad, B/O: " Global Metals & Minerals ", At # Plot No: 71, Ida, Mallapur, Nacharam, Hyderabad, 2) Mohd Farhan, S/o: Mohd Gulam Murtuza, Age 38 Years, Occ: Self Employee, R/O: H.No: 10-2-349/6, Ward No: 10, Circle-05, Asif Nagar, Hyderabad-500028, Address II: H.No.10-3-311/3, Castle Hills, Masab Tank, Road No.2, Nmdc, Hyderabad, B/O: " Global Metals & Minerals ", At # Plot No: 71, Ida, Mallapur, Nacharam, Hyderabad, 3) Syed Ayub, S/o: Syed Abdul Gaffar @Alias Syed Ayub Gaffar, Age 65 Years, Occ: Self Employee, R/O: H.No: 1-4-734, Bholakpur, Musheerabad, Hyderabad-500020, B/O: " Scrap Business ", ....Barrowers/Co-Borrower/Guarantors/Legal Heirs	Rs.4,12,01,430/- (Rupees Four Crore Twelve Lakhs One Thousand Four hundred and Thirty only)

**DLSKNTE1206300008 - DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY : Property holder Name is MD GULAM MURTUZA, Mortgage deed dated 21.06.2012 Registered as Document No 2359/2012 on the file of the office of Sub-Registrar at GOLCONDA. Item No.1: All that the house bearing D.No.10-3-311/3 On Plot No.34/C in Sy.No.9, Admeasuring 272 Sq. Yards or 227.42 Sq. Mts., situated at Masab Tank (Mallepally) Hyderabad within the Limits of Sub-Registrar Golkonda and Bounded as Follows: Towards East: Road. Towards West: Road Towards North: Road Towards South: House No:10-3-311/4**

This notice is also hereby to caution the general public at large that the authorized officer of SFL is in the lawful Symbolic Possession of the immovable property mentioned herein above and the Borrowers or any person shall not after receipt of this notice transfer 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: Hyderabad** Date: 19-02-2024 - Sd/- Authorized Officer Shiram Finance Limited



OPINIONmail



INDIA'S SURGING TIES WITH UAE  
HAVE SPECIAL POLITICAL  
SIGNIFICANCE IN PRESENT SITUATION

India's Foreign Secretary, Vinay Kwatra, has described the relationship with the UAE as one of India's most comprehensive and expansive partnerships, spanning the full spectrum of economic activity. This strengthening of ties is seen as a significant success of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's international policy, experts told Sputnik. Notably, this enhancement in relations has been marked since Modi's first visit to the Gulf nation in 2015. The Prime Minister's recent seventh visit to the UAE underscores this, as it is the most he has visited any single country during his tenure.

In a recent meeting, Prime Minister Modi and UAE President Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan witnessed the signing of ten key agreements ranging from transportation, energy trade, energy security, to financial technology collaboration. An investment treaty exchanged between the leaders is expected to further boost the UAE's already substantial investments in India, where it is the fourth largest investor.

Sudheendra Kulkarni, a former advisor to the Indian Prime Minister, has identified five factors that have contributed to the deepening of ties between New Delhi and Abu Dhabi over the last decade. A significant aspect of this relationship is the large Indian diaspora about 35 lakh Indians in the UAE, which constitutes nearly 40 percent of the UAE's population, making it the largest expatriate community. This community, while mostly part of the working class, includes some of the UAE's wealthiest residents, second only to Emirati nationals.

The Indian diaspora sent \$20 billion in remittances to India in 2022, demonstrating their economic influence. Their favoured status in the UAE is attributed to their reputation as law-abiding citizens who pose no threat to local governance.

The growing security and counter-terrorism cooperation between the two nations is driven by their shared concerns about terrorism. Both countries, particularly the UAE and its fellow oil-rich Arab nations in West Asia, are vigilant against radical ideologies threatening internal stability.

The UAE has notably shifted its policy from previously grouping India with Pakistan, to now seeking a closer bilateral relationship with India alone. The UAE recognizes India as an emerging Asian power and a significant market, necessitating stronger bilateral ties.

Highlighting the UAE's commitment to interfaith dialogue and harmony, the Indian expert recalled the historic invitation to Pope Francis by President Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan four years ago, marking the first papal visit to an Arab country.

This ethos of religious tolerance was further emphasized when the Indian Prime Minister inaugurated the "Bochasanwasi Shri Akshar Purushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha (BAPS)" Hindu Temple in Abu Dhabi, marking the first traditional stone Hindu temple in the Middle East, symbolizing the broadening cultural exchange between India and the UAE.

"Expert Highlights Importance of UAE Funding for India's Growth," noting that the bilateral trade between the two nations soared to \$85 billion following the signing of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) in 2022. This boost in trade has positioned the Gulf country as India's third most significant trading ally.

The wealthy Gulf monarchy of the UAE has pledged to channel close to \$75 billion into India's infrastructure sector over an extended timeline. This substantial investment is aimed at supporting New Delhi's objective of achieving comprehensive and efficient connectivity, a crucial step towards India's goal of attaining developed nation status by 2047.

Niranjan Marjani, a researcher with the Kalinga Institute of Indo-Pacific Studies (KIIPS), an Indian policy institute, emphasized the growing significance of Emirati investments to India. He pointed out that as the two nations aim to expand their partnership beyond the usual domain of energy exports from the UAE, these investments gain importance. His views were conveyed in a discussion with Sputnik.

(By Girish Linganna)

EDITORIAL  
the indian mail



CONGRATULATIONS SUPREME  
COURT, ELECTORAL  
BOND ORDER HAS  
STRENGTHENED DEMOCRACY

Congratulations to the Supreme Court bench led by the Chief Justice of India Dr. D Y Chandrachud for finally declaring the electoral bond scheme of the Narendra Modi government as 'unconstitutional', since the bonds are violative of the right to information under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution. The State Bank of India, the issuer of the bonds on behalf of the union government, has been asked to stop the issuance of further bonds and to submit the list of the bonds issued and the purchasers from the day of its interim order issued on April 12, 2019 to the Election Commission. ECI is tasked with publishing the SBI list on its website by March 13 this year.

It is not clear what will happen to the electoral bonds issued after April 12, 2019, the day Supreme Court issued the interim order. Legal observers expected that an interim stay would be issued on the sale of the electoral bonds.



INDONESIAN PRESIDENTIAL  
POLLS : NATIONALIST FORCES GAIN ACCEPTABILITY

Defence Minister Prabowo Subianto, ex-general known for committing human rights atrocities in the past, who was once banned by the United States from entering for two decades for his human rights record, has claimed victory in Indonesia's presidential election, getting more than 58 percent vote. Ever since the electoral process began, it was almost sure that Subianto and his running mate, Gibran Rakabuming Raka, the son of the current President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo, will trounce their opponents. He is the chief of the Gerindra Party (acronym for Gerakan Indonesia Raya, 'Great Indonesia Movement') a nationalist, right-wing populist political party.

Incidentally, his challengers Anies Baswedan and Ganjar Pranowo trailed with about 25 percent and 17 percent, respectively, though they are acknowledged as heavyweights. While Anies is backed by Muslim conservatives, Ganjar is supported by the country's biggest political party, Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle.

His victory however has given rise to conjecture whether he would rule Indonesia on his own terms, or play safe by

pursuing the line of Widodo. Amidst this scenario of indistinct nature of policies, the verdict makes it explicit that the polity of the country is taking a rightist turn and in future it would witness acute escalation of war of attrition between China and USA, two superpowers vying to claim supremacy on the region.

Though rightist forces have been active for decades around the globe, it is the ills of unregulated globalisation that has forced large numbers of people closer to populist right-wing nationalism rather than mainstream liberalism and social democracy.

HINDUTVA-BASED POPULATION  
POLICY IS FUNDAMENTALLY DISCRIMINATORY

The finance minister, Nirmala Sitharaman, in her interim budget speech announced the setting up of a high-powered committee "to study the challenges of fast population growth and demographic changes". The announcement of such a committee in a budget speech was itself a curious one. If the government intended to frame a new population policy based on a committee to study population growth, it should have

found a mention in the president's address to parliament. The purpose of the high-powered committee is also unclear as the fact of "fast population growth" is itself a contestable one. Further, without the census being conducted, where is the hard data which can be relied upon by the committee. One has to view the background in which such a step in the sphere of population control and policy is being taken. In his Vijayadashami address in October 2022, the RSS chief, Mohan Bhagwat, had called for a population control law that



would be "equally applicable to all". He had warned of the dangers of "religion-based population imbalance" saying that it could lead to creation of new countries such as happened in East Timor, South

Sudan and Kosovo. He had concluded that: "Along with population control, population balance on a religious basis is also a matter of importance which cannot be ignored".

GERMAN GOVT'S STRICT MEASURES  
AGAINST FAR RIGHT SIGNAL VICTORY OF LEFT

Finally, the Social Democratic Chancellor Olaf Scholz has shown some guts by taking strict measures against the far right including the neo fascists, following the massive demonstrations organized by the left parties, trade unions, the Social Democrats and other sections of the civil society. The huge participation of the common German people in the continuing demonstrations during week end in major cities of the country, surprised the political watchers.

Interior Minister Nancy Faeser said the protests had been "an encouragement and a mandate" to act politically. "We want to use all instruments of rule of law to protect our democracy. "We want to break up right-wing extremist networks, cut their funding and take away their weapons," she said. The 13 point plan includes laws that

include freezing bank accounts, cut funding models for the extremist organisations and target their donors. The interior minister said that this 13 point programme would certainly combat right extremism which she described as the biggest threat facing the German society.

The government also plans to ban right-wing extremist events more easily and far-right activists will be stopped from entering or leaving Germany whenever possible.

German government sources say that there are around 38,000 right wing extremists in Germany and out of them, around 14,000 are potentially violent. Sources said that the official agencies are monitoring the movements and activities of these extremists and if they fail to get the funds from their donors, their anti-national activities, will come down.

The freezing of bank accounts is an important step to deal with the extremists because in recent years, they got strengthened because of the huge financial help from pro

fascist business people and rich donors. In Hitler's Germany also in 1930's the Nazi party got big support from some industry people, especially arms and weapons manufacturers and this helped the party in expanding the organisation as also funding the Gestapo with huge resources. The Left parties as also the Greens, a member of the federal coalition have been demanding the freezing of the bank accounts of the extremist groups for long. That way, the government agreeing to the demand is a victory for the Left.

Though the official far right party AFD operates as a legal political party, many of its members have neo-fascist past and they are more active in the organization now as the AFD is fighting hard to win more seats in the coming elections for European Parliament slated in June this year.

(IPA Service)

LEGAL GUARANTEE  
FOR MSP THAT MODI  
GOVERNMENT IS  
UNWILLING TO GRANT

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been distributing all sorts of "Modi's Guarantees", but perhaps without an iota of suspicion that farmers will come forward and demand "Legal Guarantees" for Minimum Support Price (MSP), and would not be satisfied with mere assurances, being committed to take their agitation to logical end. Two rounds of talks between the Centre and the farmers' representatives have already failed since launch of the Delhi Chalo agitation on February 12. Modi government does not want to give "legal guarantee" while farmers refused to settle for any less. Why are the farmers so adamant and taking Modi government's assurances with a pinch of salt? The answer is well known to all farmers because PM Modi have been in the habit of promising extravagantly, such as "doubling farmers' income by 2022", which proved to be a rhetorical trick played on our land tillers.





## 27 poll workers died throughout Indonesia's 2024 election

**Jakarta, Feb 19 (IANS) :** A total of 27 poll workers died throughout Indonesia's 2024 general election, according to the health ministry on Monday. The ministry's spokesperson Siti Nadia Tarmizi said they died before, during, and after the vote, based on reports the ministry received from February 10 to 15. "The main cause is heart attacks, the number of cases reached nine," stated Tarmizi. Other causes are vehicle accidents (4), septic shock (2), acute respiratory distress syndrome (1), and hypertension (1), while 10 are in the process of being confirmed, Xinhua news agency reported. Central

Java is the province with the highest number of deaths of poll workers, seven cases, followed by East Java and West Java with five cases each. Indonesia's general elections on Wednesday involved more than 204 million voters through 823,220 stations with more than 5.74 million poll workers, according to the General Election Commission. Cases of poll workers who died in the 2019 general elections reached 894. To prevent deaths, the government has implemented health screening and requires a maximum age limit of 55 for poll workers.



## German insolvencies keep rising amid weak economy

**Berlin, Feb 19 (IANS) :** The number of insolvencies in Germany rose 26.2 per cent year-on-year in January amid a weak economy, preliminary figures published by the Federal Statistical Office (Destatis) show on Monday. Double-digit year-on-year growth rates have thus been observed consistently since June 2023. In the first 11 months of last year, the number of corporate insolvencies rose by 23.2 per cent, Destatis was quoted as saying by Xinhua news agency. "We see a significant increase in corporate insolvencies, but still on the basis of a historically low

starting point," Christoph Niering, insolvency administrator and chairman of the Registered Association of Insolvency Administrators (VID), said on Monday. High-interest rates were "particularly affecting the construction and real estate industry," Niering added. This sector could only react slowly to changes. "The past year was already difficult -- in 2024 there will probably be even more corporate insolvencies," credit agency Creditreform warned at the beginning of the year. Healthcare, textile trade and gastronomy are particularly affected due to price increases and

weak consumer sentiment. To relieve the catering sector during the pandemic and the energy crisis, the German government temporarily reduced the tax rate for food in restaurants from 19 per cent to 7 per cent. Since the beginning of this year, however, the regular tax rate has applied again. Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Action Robert Habeck said on Wednesday that the government would significantly lower its economic forecast for this year, expecting only 0.2 per cent growth. This is "dramatically bad," Habeck said. "We can't go on like this."

## Iranian gas pipelines damaged in 'terrorist blasts' resume operation

**Teheran, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Iran's National Iranian Gas Company (NIGC) has announced the nationwide natural gas transfer pipelines that were damaged in recent "terrorist blasts" have been repaired and become operational. "The repair work of those sections of the nationwide gas transfer pipelines in Khorrambid County (in Fars province) and Borujen County (in Chaharmahal and Bakhtiari province), which had been damaged in an act of terror, has been completed and the pipelines have become operational," NIGC's Dispatching Director Saeid Aqli said on Saturday in a statement published on the NIGC's website.

The blasts occurred at around 1:00 a.m. on Monday local time at two separate points along the national natural gas transfer network in the two provinces.



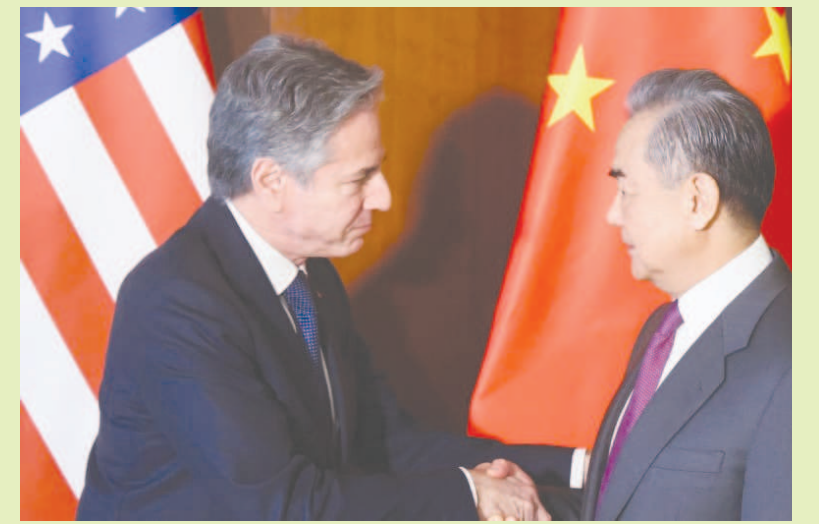
## Blinken, China's Foreign Minister discuss Taiwan, Ukraine war

**Washington, Feb 19 (IANS) :** US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi discussed a range of regional and global issues, including the Korean Peninsula, Taiwan and Russia's war in Ukraine during their talks in Germany on Saturday, a US State Department spokesperson said. They met on the sidelines of the Munich Security Conference on Monday as Washington has been doubling down on its

drive to "responsibly" manage strategic competition with China through improved bilateral communication and other measures, Yonhap news agency reported. "The two sides also exchanged views on the situation in the Middle East and on the Korean Peninsula and affirmed that their respective senior officials should meet to follow up on these discussions," State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller said in a readout.

Miller did not elaborate on the Korea-related topic, but the two sides were expected to touch on North Korea's evolving military threats. Blinken emphasized the importance of maintaining peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait and in the South China Sea, while raising concerns over China's support for Russia's war against Ukraine, including support for Russia's defence industrial base, according to Miller. The secretary also highlighted the

importance of continuing to implement the progress made by President Joe Biden and Chinese President Xi Jinping at their summit in November in California, including counternarcotics cooperation and military-to-military communications. "The secretary reiterated that the United States will stand up for our interests and values and those of our allies and partners," Miller said. Both sides recognized the importance of maintaining open lines of



communication across a range of strategic issues, including consultations and high-level meetings in key areas in the coming months, according to the spokesperson.

## Israel's fighting in Gaza may continue during Ramadan: Minister

**Jerusalem, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Israel's Wartime Cabinet Minister Benny Gantz has warned that fighting in the Gaza Strip will continue during Ramadan, the Islamic holy month of fasting, if Israeli hostages are not released. "Either the hostages will be returned, or we will extend the fighting to Rafah," he said in a video statement. Ramadan 2024 is expected to begin on or around March 11. Israel will keep in touch with Egypt and other countries and evacuate residents in Rafah before launching ground operations into the southernmost city in Gaza, Xinhua news agency reported, citing Gantz. "There will not be a ceasefire of even one day until the hostages are returned" and Israeli goals are achieved, he added.



## Moderate Democratic Senator Joe Manchin not to run for US President

**Washington, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Senator Joe Manchin of West Virginia, a moderate Democrat, has announced that he is not running for US President, putting an end to prolonged speculation regarding his potential candidacy outside the two major parties. Since the 76-year-old Senator declared in November that he would not pursue re-election, speculation kept surging about whether he would pursue a presidential bid, Xinhua news agency reported. Specifically, he had considered the possibility of being the candidate for No Labels, a centrist organization seeking to establish a third alternative against both President Joe Biden and former President Donald Trump.



The possibility of Manchin's candidacy had caused concern among Democrats, who worried that he could have detracted votes from Biden and disrupted the 2024 presidential election outcome. "I will not be seeking a third-party run. I will not be involved in a presidential run," Manchin said during a speech after debating for months whether to run for the White House as a third-party candidate. "I will not be a deal breaker or a spoiler," Manchin said. "I will be involved in making sure that we secure a president that has the knowledge and has the passion and has the ability to bring this country together," he noted.

### Ukraine orders withdrawal of troops from Avdiivka town

**Kiev, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Ukrainian Armed Forces commander-in-chief Oleksandr Syrsky on Monday said that the country has ordered withdrawal of troops from Avdiivka town. In a post on social media, Syrsky said: "To avoid encirclement and preserve the lives and health of servicemen, I decided to withdraw our units from the city and move to defence on more favorable lines."

**SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED**  
Reg. Off: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032  
Administrative Office: 6th Floor (Level-2), Building No. Q2, Aurum Q parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710.

### DEMAND NOTICE

Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD. (Formerly known as Shriram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited name changed as Shriram Finance Limited) We state that despite having availed the financial assistance, the borrowers/guarantors have committed various defaults in repayment of interest and principal amounts as per due dates. The account has been classified as Non-Performing Asset in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India, consequent to the Authorized Officer of SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD. under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices on respective dates mentioned herein below under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon the following borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors to repay the amount mentioned in the notices together with further interest at the contractual rate on the amount mentioned in the notices and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc. until the date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of notices.

The notices issued to them on their last known addresses have returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same.

The borrower's 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.

**Name of the borrower(S) Co-Borrower(S) Guarantors: 1. A. Bhagyamma, W/o Prabhakar Goud, Aged About 40 Years, R/O OCC - Sri Venkateswara Wines, R/O Hno. 3-07, Kyasaram(V), Patancheru(MD), Medak Dist - 502319, 2. A. Prabhakar Goud, S/o Veera Goud, Aged About 45 Years, R/O Hno. 3-07, Kyasaram(V), Patancheru(MD), Medak Dist - 502319, 3. Madipalli, Jyothika Rathnam, W/o Madipalli Prem Kumar, Aged - 36 Years, R/O H.No. 1-4-945-960, Flat No. - 520, Janapriya Abodes, Gandhinagar, Hyderabad-80. ... Borrowers/Co-borrower/Guarantors/Legal heirs**

**NPA DATE - 13.06.2012, DATE OF DEMAND NOTICE - 05.02.2024 LOAN AMOUNT Rs. 2,41,42,637/- OUTSTANDING AMOUNT: Rs. 60,00,000/-**

**DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY: SNGRYTF11260003 - Medak District, Sangareddy Sub-District, Patancheru Mandal, Isnapoor Gram Panchayat, and Village Accounts, Sy.No.246 and 247, Plot No. 19, Site measuring an extent of 433 Sq. yards or 361.9 sq.mts. in that House bearing Door No. 6-75/1, bounded on the East : 80 Feet Wide Road, West: 20 Feet Wide Road, North: Plot No.20, South: Plot No.18**

In the circumstances as aforesaid, the notice is hereby given to the above borrowers, co-borrowers and/or their guarantors (where ever applicable) to pay the outstanding dues as mentioned above along with future interest and applicable charges within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days of the date of this notice against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the borrowers and the mortgagors under Section 13(4) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the applicable rules there under.

Please note that under Section 13 (13) of the said Act, no Borrower shall, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.

**Date : 19.02.2024, Place: Isnapur, Patancheru Sd/-Authorized Officer, Shriram Finance Limited**

**CAN FIN HOMES LTD. POSSESSION NOTICE**  
Address: 2-52/88 Sai Teja Enclave, Indira Nagar, Gachibowli, Hyderabad, Telangana -500032 Landline :040-40179219, Mobile No.7625079155, Mail id.gachi.bowli@canfinhomes.com, CIN:185110ka1987plc008699 (for immovable property (Rule 8(1)))

The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of Can Fin Homes Ltd. under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of the powers under the said Act and Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a demand notice on the below mentioned dates calling upon the following borrower(s)/co-borrowers/guarantors to repay the amount mentioned in the notice with further interest at contractual rates till date of realization within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers 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, against each borrower, in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on dates mentioned hereinafter.

No.	Name of Borrowers/ Guarantors	Description of the Property	Date of Demand Notice	Outstanding Amount	Date of Possession
1	1. Mr. Venkatanagabhusan G (Applicant) 2. Mrs. Radha G (Co-Applicant)	All that the Municipal Door No. 1-10-1/218 & 219/408, Flat No. 408, fourth floor, "Nature Nest", Block-B, Survey No. 218 & 219, Situated at Kushaiguda, Kapra Mandal, Medchal Malkajgiri District, Ts. Land Boundaries: North: Neighbours Land, South: Land Belongs to M. Saraswathi & others, East: Open Jail, West: Common Area For Block-A & Block-B and Flat Boundaries: North: Open to Sky, South: Duct & Flat No. 407, East: Corridor, West: Open to Sky	05-12-2023	56,85,839/-	16-02-2024
2	1. Mr. Gutla Prudhvi Raj (Applicant) 2. Mr. Gutla Jeevarathnam (Co-Applicant) 3. Mrs. Gutla Marygrace (Guarantor - 1) 4. Mr. Matthi Varaprasad (Guarantor - 2)	All that the plot no. 185/A/Part, in Survey No. 63 & 66, Covered in MCK Block No. 2, Admeasuring 132.0 Square Yards, Situated at Mahesh Rural Co-Operative Housing Society Ltd, Hydemagar Village, Kukatapalli Mandal, Medchal Malkajgiri, TS, Land Boundaries: North: Neighbour's Land, South: Plot No. 185/A/Part, East: Plot No. 184 & 183, West: 20' Wide Road	05-12-2023	51,52,573/-	16-02-2024

The borrower's 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. The borrowers 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 CFHL for the amount mentioned against each property along with further interest thereon till the date of realization.

**Date: 17.02.2024, Place: Gachibowli - Hyderabad Sd/- Authorised Officer, Can Fin Homes Ltd.**





## Bharatiya Kisan Union calls for tractor march on Feb 21

**Muzaffarnagar (Uttar Pradesh), Feb 19 (IANS) :** The Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) has announced that a tractor march would be held at all district headquarters of Uttar Pradesh on February 21. Farmers would park their tractors on highways going towards Delhi on February 26 and 27 in support of protesting farmers and their demands, including minimum support price. Addressing a Mahapanchayat at its headquarters in Sisauli, Muzaffarnagar, on Monday, BKU leader Rakesh Tikait appealed to farmers to show their full strength during the tractor

march on February 21. Addressing a huge gathering of farmers, Tikait made a scathing attack on the ruling BJP government and said, "It is a battle to protect 'nasal and fasal' (generation and crop)." Tikait appealed to farmers to show their full strength during the tractor march on February 21 and then park tractors on highways from Haridwar to Delhi on February 26 and 27 without disturbing traffic. The farmer leader accused vested interests of hatching a conspiracy to take over 'roti' through the ruling government because they had understood that the business of 'roti' was more

profitable. People ate 'roti' 700 times a year while gold was worn by women barely 17 times a year on festivals and during celebrations. He warned farmers that the government may try to break the unity of farmers but they should be ready to foil any such attempt. Tikait claimed that he was also approached and asked what he wanted but he said the Sanyukt Kisan Morcha should be contacted instead of an individual. The BKU leader asked the gathering to be ready to spend one-year earnings on the movement because it was a battle of farmers' survival.

## 'Fake' guide accompanies US envoy to Fatehpur Sikri

**Agra, Feb 19 (IANS) :** In a serious breach of security, US Ambassador to India, Eric Michael Garcetti, was accompanied by an unlicensed guide during his visit to Fatehpur Sikri in Agra two days ago. The guide, Shadab, went along with the envoy, who was on a tour to Agra with his family. In a purported video recorded by a licensed guide, Shadab, a local resident, was seen escorting Garcetti and his family in the presence of police personnel accompanying the guests. Superintending archaeologist, Rajkumar Patel, confirmed that they got information about an unauthorised tourist guide taking VVIPs around the monument. "It is for police to take action against such unauthorised guides. They are responsible for VVIP security here. This matter will be investigated in detail," Patel added. As per norms, only licenced guides are allowed to operate in Taj complex and other ASI-protected monuments.



## Prior sanction not needed for FIR against civil servants : Allahabad HC

**Prayagraj, Feb 19 (IANS) :** The Allahabad High Court has ruled that it is not mandatory to procure prior sanction for the lodging of an FIR and investigation against civil servants. The court also observed that even if sanction is required for initiating legal proceedings, it should be obtained while submitting the charge sheet before a Magistrate and when the Magistrate takes cognisance of the matter. The High Court gave this ruling while dismissing an anticipatory bail plea filed by one Ranjeet, who had allegedly obtained three passports under different names. In passing the order, Justice Krishan Pahal observed, "For the institution of FIR and investigation thereupon, there is no obligatory requirement to secure prior sanction even against a

public servant, as per the mandate of the Code of Criminal Procedure. It shall equally apply to persons charged under the Passport Act, 1967." The applicant had sought anticipatory bail in connection with an FIR against him for alleged offences under Section 420 (cheating) and other sections of the IPC and under Section 12 of the Passport Act. The FIR was lodged at Barhalganj police station in Gorakhpur. The High Court referred to the case of P. Prathapachandran Vs CBI (2002) and noted that the relevant time for sanction to prosecute under the Passport Act is when the court is about to take cognisance of the offence. Therefore, the applicant's objections to the validity of the sanction and the authority of the officer who granted it are unfounded.

## K'taka : Cong calls upon cadres to mobilise support for LS polls

**Bengaluru, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister and state unit Congress president D.K. Shivakumar on Monday called upon the party cadres to go from door-to-door to mobilise support for the grand old party for the upcoming Lok Sabha polls. Shivakumar said this was addressing the party cadres at the Congress Party Workers' Convention in Mangaluru on Saturday.

"The women of the region will support Congress this time as they are happy about the guarantee schemes. We are confident of winning at least 20 seats in the upcoming general elections," he stated. He also urged the party workers to go out and seek votes, saying "we have implemented all our promises". "No other government has managed to implement schemes like this. My friends in Mangaluru region should not lose hope. Do not think that you have

won only two seats in the district in the assembly elections and will not be able to increase the tally? When Sadananda Gowda was the Chief Minister, we fielded our candidate and secured a win. Why the JD-S and the BJP have joined hands now? Deve Gowda had said that he would leave the country if Narendra Modi became the Prime Minister, and he has joined hands with him now. "In politics, what matters is the ideology, belief and principles. Let's work on those

principles. We need to take people from all sections of the society with us. Prime Minister Modi may say he will win 370 seats, but that is not possible. Rahul Gandhi is doing yatra across the country and the country is looking for new leadership," Shivakumar said. He further said Congress national president Mallikarjuna Kharge from Karnataka is sitting on the same chair which was once occupied by Mahatma Gandhi, Indira Gandhi and Sonia Gandhi.



## Magisterial probe ordered to find out 'hidden agenda' behind mob attack on SP, DC offices in Manipur

**Imphal, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh said on Monday that a magisterial inquiry has been ordered to find out if there was some 'hidden agenda' behind the mob attack on the offices of Deputy Commissioner and Superintendent of Police on February 15 in Churachandpur district. Without naming the MLA, the Chief Minister said the police will book a Churachandpur

legislator on charges of inciting violence in the district. Two persons were killed and over 40 others were injured in Churachandpur after security forces fired at a mob that stormed a government compound, which houses the offices of the SP and DC late on Thursday night. Singh said the loss of lives in the arson in Churachandpur and the attempt to loot weapons from the Manipur Police Training College (MPTC) at Pangei and the 5th



Battalion of Manipur Rifles complex in Chingarel were unfortunate, and that the government condemns the incidents in the strongest terms.

"Magisterial inquiries would be conducted into the two incidents. Actions according to the law will be taken against anyone found guilty.

## Second prime accused in Sandeshkhali sexual harassment case arrested

**Kolkata, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Shibu Hazra, a local Trinamool Congress leader and one of the two prime accused in the alleged sexual harassment of women at Sandeshkhali in West Bengal's North 24 Parganas district, has been arrested by the state police on Monday evening. His arrest from a hideout at Sandeshkhali, as told by the police, came just hours after the cops registered cases under rape and attempt to murder charges against Hazra and another key accused, Uttam Sardar. While Sardar is already in police custody, Hazra was absconding for the past one week after the local women protesting at Sandeshkhali burnt down his farmhouse and poultry farm.

Hazra will be produced before a district court on Sunday. However, the political mentor of the duo and the mastermind behind the attack on ED and CAPF personnel at Sandeshkhali on January 5, Sheikh Shahjahan, is still absconding ever since the day of the attack. Meanwhile, acting DGP of West Bengal Police, Rajeev Kumar, said on Saturday that when the state police launched the probe into the matter, the ED went to the court following which a stay was put on the investigation process. The DGP was probably referring to the investigation order by a joint special investigation team (SIT) of the state police and CBI, which was passed by the Calcutta High Court's single-judge bench of Justice Jay Sengupta.



## Man spotted doing inappropriate act by women in Delhi park; FIR lodged

**New Delhi, Feb 19 (IANS) :** A 25-year-old man was allegedly spotted engaging in an inappropriate act in the open at a park by a group of women in south Delhi's Saket area, an official said.

## Four govt hospitals in Lucknow to go paperless

**Lucknow, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Patients visiting four government hospitals in Lucknow will soon be among the first to experience paperless OPDs, where barcodes or unique numbers will replace traditional OPD tickets. Under this digital OPD system, doctors will open online prescriptions on their desktop computers, outlining necessary tests and medications. This information will transfer to pathology and pharmacy departments. The Lok Bandhu Raj Narain hospital, along with Balrampur hospital, Avantibai and Jhalkaribai

hospitals, are piloting this paperless system for patients. Dr Ajai Shankar Tripathi, medical superintendent of the Lok Bandhu hospital, said, "We will start this system in one OPD chamber. The aim is to find the hurdles, from both hospital and patient end, in implementing the system." Explaining the benefits under the new system, Dr Himanshu Chaturvedi, medical superintendent of the Balrampur hospital said: "Even if paper documents, including prescriptions and diagnostic reports, go missing, we will still have records that can be recalled via



barcode." He said that instead of receiving a traditional paper outpatient department (OPD) ticket at the hospital's counter, patients will be given a barcode or unique number. This unique identifier marks their participation in a digital OPD trial, a new initiative that is being tested.



## Novartis India shares jump more than 6% after parent company announces strategic review

**New Delhi, Feb 19 (IANS):** Novartis India shares jumped more than 6 per cent on Monday after the parent company, Novartis AG announced a strategic review of its Indian arm. Novartis India was trading at Rs 1,100, up 6.23 per cent on BSE. Earlier in the day it hit a 52 week high. According to reports Dr Reddy's is likely in a race to acquire Novartis AG's stake. Dr Reddy's said: "In this regard, please note that the company does not comment on market speculations and there

is currently no such event or information which requires a disclosure under Regulation 30 of the SEBI Listing Regulations. In compliance with Regulation 30 of the SEBI Listing Regulations, the company makes prompt disclosures, as and when any event or information is considered material or warrants such disclosure under the said Regulations." Earlier, the board of directors of Novartis India took note of the communication received from Novartis AG, Holding Company & Promoter, regarding their intention to conduct a strategic

review to unlock value of their shareholding in the company. "After some deliberations, the Board agreed to support Novartis AG, as may be required, in evaluating their strategic options", Novartis India said. Novartis AG announced a strategic review of Novartis India Limited, a public company listed on Bombay Stock Exchange. The strategic review will include an assessment of the 70.68 per cent shareholding of Novartis AG in the company. Novartis India Limited is separate from Novartis Healthcare Private

Limited, the wholly owned subsidiary of the Novartis group in India. Novartis Healthcare Private Limited includes the Novartis Corporate Center in Hyderabad, the commercial arm of Novartis in India, and R&D teams, which currently conduct clinical trials at more than 300 trial sites in the country. The strategic review will not impact Novartis Healthcare Private Limited. "There can be no assurance that the strategic review of Novartis India Limited will be completed



in 2024, or that the outcome would result in the implementation of any transaction," the company said. "Novartis remains deeply committed to India with a footprint that has expanded significantly in recent years. Today Novartis proudly employs more than 8,100 associates in India," it said.



## Samsung retains top spot in global TV market for 18 straight years

**Seoul, Feb 19 (IANS):** Samsung Electronics said on Monday that it has retained its position as the top player in the global television market for the 18th consecutive year. The South Korean tech giant took up 30.1 percent of the world TV market in terms of revenue last year, remaining at the top since 2006, according to Samsung Electronics, citing the market research firm Omdia. Its flagship QLED TVs have contributed to the company's strong performance, with sales reaching 8.31 million units last year, reports Yonhap news agency. Since the introduction of QLED technology in 2017, Samsung Electronics has cumulatively sold 44 million units. In the premium segment for TVs valued at \$2,500 or higher, Samsung had a share of 60.5 per cent in 2023, up from 48.3 per cent the previous year. The company also maintained a strong presence in the market for

large TVs, posting a market share of 33.9 per cent last year, driven by robust sales of the company's largest Neo QLED, its 98-inch model. In the OLED TV segment, Samsung Electronics accounted for 22.4 percent of the global market in terms of revenue last year, with sales exceeding 2 million units over the past two years. Meanwhile, LG Electronics Co. said it has maintained its leadership position in the global OLED TV market for 11 years in a row. The South Korean home appliances maker shipped around 3 million units of OLED TVs last year, accounting for 53 percent of the world's total shipments. In the large-sized OLED TV segment, in particular, LG Electronics posted a market share of 60 percent last year on rising popularity of wireless 97-, 83- and 77-inch models in North America and Europe.

## Nifty at all-time high

**New Delhi, Feb 19 (IANS):** Nifty 50 reached an all-time high of 22,171 largely propelled by the performance of financial and energy stocks, says Shailesh Saraf, smallcase Manager and Founder Value Stocks. Following the recent decline in the Indian Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and banking stocks, investors are seeking bargains in these stocks during the ongoing market upturn, indicating that the PSU sector remains of interest to bullish investors, he said. Technically the Nifty

PSE index had rebounded from the 20 SMA level on February 13 and is currently trading near its all-time high levels of 9,564. Additionally, small-cap and mid-cap indices continue to outperform the primary benchmark indices. This can be seen in the intraday performance of power and railway stocks, he said. The Nifty energy index also saw a 0.7 per cent increase, intraday. Tata Power Company witnessed a 2 per cent surge following the receipt of a letter of intent for the acquisition of a power project valued at 8.38 billion INR (\$101 million). Titagarh Rail Systems Ltd



witnessed a surge of more than 8 per cent after announcing that it secured an order from the defence ministry for the purchase of 250 specialized wagons. Titagarh Rail Systems' stock rose sharply by 8.5 per cent to Rs 1037.55, he said.



## NIIF invests Rs 207 cr in Bengaluru-based PE firm Amicus Capital

**Mumbai, Feb 19 (IANS):** The National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) on Monday said to commit Rs 207 crore (\$25 million) in Bengaluru-based early growth capital company Amicus Capital. Founded in 2016 by private equity (PE) professionals Sunil Theckath Vasudevan and Mahesh Parasuraman, Amicus Capital has assets under management of \$259 million across two funds. "We believe that the Amicus

Capital team has the potential to deliver high returns while driving development in India through their investments and look forward to a successful partnership," said Anand Unnikrishnan, Managing Partner - Private Markets, NIIF. With a target size of \$200 million, Amicus Capital Fund II expects to support businesses in sectors such as specialty manufacturing, technology and business services, healthcare, financial services and other sectors. "Including NIIF's commitment, our second fund has raised \$171 million (Rs 1,415 crore) as of today. NIIF's expertise and network will be invaluable as we continue to identify and support promising businesses early in their growth cycle," said Mahesh Parasuraman, Partner and Co-founder, Amicus Capital. Amicus Capital has invested early in companies like insurance aggregator RenewBuy and microfinancier Capital Small Finance Bank.



## Domestic manufacturing set to pick up in India: Capitalmind's Deepak Shenoj

**New Delhi, Feb 19 (IANS):** Buoyed by the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes offered by the government and increased spending on infrastructure, domestic manufacturing activities are expected to pick up in the country, says Deepak Shenoj, CEO of Capitalmind Financial Services Pvt. "There will be, I think, a marked increase in activity for domestic manufacturers specifically in the infrastructure sector, the machinery sector, in B2B, commerce and perhaps later down the road, in domestic consumption as well," Shenoj told NDTV Profit. India's manufacturing sector has emerged as the main growth driver as the country continues to be a bright spot with an over seven per cent GDP growth amid the global slowdown.

## Small and mid cap index continue to outperform large cap index

**New Delhi, Feb 19 (IANS):** Mid-cap and small cap index continue to outperform the large cap index on both one month and one year period, as per a report by Tata Mutual Fund. For the year ending January 2024, Realty (108%) and PSU Bank (57%) made the highest gains while Bank (13%) was

the lowest performer, the report said. Indian benchmark equity indices broke a two-month gaining streak on back of mixed corporate earnings results, profit booking and easing expectations of rate cuts by the US Fed, Nifty Bank was flat in January 2024, the report said.



## Tata Group to invest Rs 2,300 crore in Karnataka

**Bengaluru, Feb 19 (IANS):** Tata Group companies Air India and Tata Advanced Systems Ltd (TASL) are planning to invest Rs 2,300 crore in Karnataka in projects that are expected to create employment for 1,650 people, the state government announced on Monday. According to the MoU that has been signed, Air India

will set up a facility to carry out maintenance, repairs, and overhaul of planes at the Bengaluru airport. The project entails an investment of around Rs 1,300 crore that will generate employment for 1,200 people. Tata Advanced Systems, which makes doors for European giant Airbus's A320neo planes, will set up manufacturing and research & development facilities in the state. The company



will invest in three projects near Bengaluru Airport and in Kolar with a total investment of Rs 1,030 crore. These include a passenger to freighter aircraft conversion facility (Rs 420 crore), gun manufacturing facility (Rs 310 crore).





## 26,746 power connections disconnected in Kashmir over non-payment of dues

**Srinagar, Feb 19 (IANS) :** J&K officials on Monday said that at least 26,746 consumers power connection have been disconnected in the month of January for non-payment of electricity dues while Rs 7.50 crore have also been collected on account of penalties imposed on those consumers who were stealing power by “unauthorized” means. A review meeting

chaired by Managing Director (MD) Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) with Sub Divisional Officers of KPDCL was also held on Saturday which reviewed the feeder-wise AT&C (Aggregate Technical and Commercial) losses in Kashmir Division. An official said that during the review meeting,

## Amid speculation of 'switch', can Kamal Nath save family bastion Chhindwara for son Nakul?

**Bhopal, Feb 19 (IANS) :** There are talks in the political circles about veteran Congress leader Kamal Nath and his son Nakul Nath's probable shift to the BJP, which is being linked to the party's recent Assembly election debacle in Madhya Pradesh and the subsequent handing over of the state unit's charge to Jitu Patwari. Also, Nakul Nath removing 'INC' (Indian National Congress) from his social media bio on Monday has only added fuel to the fire. The dismal election results also reportedly paved the way for a 'rift' between former

Chief Minister Kamal Nath and senior party leader Rahul Gandhi. Though sidelined, Patwari's predecessor Kamal Nath apparently kept pushing to resolve the issue with the help of Sonia Gandhi. But Rahul Gandhi reportedly maintained the distance and even stopped communicating with Kamal Nath. While all these speculation can be cited as the key trigger if Nakul Nath or his father, or both, joins the BJP, all eyes are on how the veteran leader saves his family bastion Chhindwara and the political future of his son. Nakul Nath (49) made his political debut from Chhindwara when he was elected to the Lok Sabha



from there in 2019. In fact, he was the only Congress candidate to taste success in in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections from Madhya Pradesh, as the BJP rode on a massive (Narendra) Modi wave to sweep the remaining 28 seats in the state, one more than its 2014 tally. Now, looking at Congress' poor performance in the Assembly elections held in November

last year, there are talks in certain circles that Kamal Nath's son might lose the family bastion in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. While Kamal Nath managed to retain Chhindwara from 1998 to 2014 before his son won from there in 2019, the BJP this time seems prepared to wrest the family bastion from the veteran Congress leader.



## Need for international air law specialists : Justice Karol

**Chandigarh, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Advocating the need for the international air law specialists, Supreme Court Judge, Justice Sanjay Karol, on Monday inaugurated the AIL Sarin National Rounds of the 15th Sarin International Air Law Moot Court Competition, the only one in the world, at the Army Institute of Law in Mohali. Delivering the inaugural address, Justice Karol, commended the Sarin Memorial Legal Aid Foundation for preparing young lawyers in a specialised arena of air law in association with the Nether-

lands' Leiden University. Addressing the young lawyers and participating teams from across the country, he emphasised the need for every professional should be to serve society and its people by upholding the cause of justice for larger public good. He emphasised the need for the international air law specialists to consider the impact of the aviation industry on global environment, an area hitherto not studied. He said that with nearly 4.17 lakh people travelling daily on domestic circuits, the aviation industry's responsibility grows to ensure safety, efficiency, and security.

He said that there should be legal check on refund policies as well as the unbridled escalated pricing of air tickets by airlines during crisis situations especially when air travel is becoming a necessity and is no longer a rich man's prerogative. "There is a need also to make the air booking apps more useful for the masses by making them vernacular language friendly," he said.

Justice G.S. Sandhawalia, acting Chief Justice, Punjab and Haryana High Court, in his presidential remarks advised the young lawyers to believe in themselves, master the research and presentation skills, develop good memory, intern and litigate in the courts to become the best in their fields.

Twelve teams from the top national law universities of India participated for the Indian national rounds out of which three teams qualified who would be participating in the international moot court competition from April 18-20 in Mexico City. The day-long proceedings of the competition was judged by a panel of 35 experts, including four judges from the Punjab and Haryana High Court, including Justice Deepak Sibal, Justice Vikas Bahl, Justice Vikas Suri and Justice Aman Chaudhary. Senior Advocate and secretary general of the foundation, M.L. Sarin, expressed gratitude to the Army Institute of Law for hosting this event regularly since its inception and the Leiden University which partnered with the Sarin Foundation to organise this unique moot court competition on air law.



## Miffed over frequent arrests by Lankan Navy, Rameswaram fishermen to boycott fishing

**Chennai, Feb 19 (IANS) :** The fishermen's associations in Tamil Nadu's Ramanathapuram district have announced to boycott fishing along the Palk Bay for an indefinite period following the increasing number of arrests of fishermen from Tamil Nadu by the Sri Lankan Navy. The fishermen's associations have also announced to boycott the two-day annual festival of St George church in Katchatheevu to be held on February 23-24. All the six associations of Tamil fishermen have announced the boycott. The association leaders also said that black flags would be hoisted atop the dwellings of the fishermen as a mark of protest against the continuing attack on Tamil fishermen by Sri Lankan Navy. The announcement was made after an emergency meeting in Rameswaram on Saturday, which was attended by fishermen and their families in large numbers. The meeting that lasted for more than an hour was presided over by fishermen association leader R. Sagayam. Another fishermen association leader, P. Jesu Raja, told mediapersons that it has become a routine affair for the Sri Lankan Navy to arrest fishermen from Tamil Nadu on

charges of poaching. "We are within our rights. We have been fishing along this stretch since time immemorial," he said. On February 4, in two separate incidents, 42 fishermen were held by the Sri Lankan Navy and four trawlers belonging to them were impounded. The arrested fishermen were later remanded to judicial custody in the island nation. A Sri Lankan court freed 20 of these fishermen on Monday, with a warning to not violate the IMBL (International Maritime Boundary Line) agreement. The court also awarded prison terms to two boatmen and one fisherman for having repeated the offence.

## Congress to hold National Unity Conference in B'loru on Feb 24-25

**Bengaluru, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said on Monday that a two-day National Unity Conference will be held in Bengaluru on February 24-25. Addressing a press conference at the Vidhana Soudha on Saturday, Siddaramaiah said that two conferences -- on Indian Constitution and National Unity -- have been organised on February 24 and 25 to create awareness on striving for social justice and opportunities. To celebrate the 75th anniversary of the adoption of the Indian Constitution in a meaningful way, the Karnataka government is holding Constitution awareness campaigns in 31 districts across the state from January 26, which will conclude on February 23.



## Manipur girl bags prestigious scholarship from Egypt institute

**Imphal, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Amid the ethnic conflict that has besieged Manipur, a Class XI student from the northeastern state has selected for a scholarship for the prestigious AFS Global Stem Academy in Egypt. Aira Thoudam is presently studying in Tezpur-based Assam Valley School. Her mother Meena Longjam is a well-known Manipuri filmmaker. A resident of Imphal West district, Aira has made it to the group of top 150 scholars selected from a pool of 6,000 applicants from 15 countries

for the AFS global STEM Academy. "I am extremely excited to be selected for the scholarship in my first attempt. I received my selection letter via email on Monday," a delighted Aira said on Saturday. She added: "I have been preparing for months for this, though I was bit nervous during the interview. I would like to thank my school teacher Raya Mukhopadhyay without whose guidance this wouldn't have been possible. I am also very proud of my mom, who is always very supportive and is my inspiration."



## Once friends, they will now fight it out for Kottayam Lok Sabha seat

**Thiruvananthapuram, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Though the upcoming Lok Sabha polls are yet to be announced, the traditional rival political fronts, here have announced their candidates who will fight it out for the prestigious Kottayam parliamentary seat. The seat is presently represented by Kerala Congress' (Mani) Thomas Chazhikadan from the ruling CPI-M-led Left Democratic Front. On Monday, the name of Chazhikadan was announced by his party. With Monday's announce-

ment naming Francis George as candidate by party chairman P.J. Joseph of Kerala Congress, the die has been cast for what is going to be an intense electoral fight to finish between once former party colleagues and good friends. A look into the rival candidates reveals that they have more similarities than differences. The similarities include both come from the dominant Catholic community, are former bankers, have been in the Lok Sabha in the past.

## Goa gov't withdraws notification issued to medical staff over eateries using STP water

**Panaji, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Goa government on Monday withdrew the notification in which it had cautioned the medical staff that the eateries outside the Super Speciality Block and Goa Medical College are using Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) water and had asked the staff member to be careful. "The water from outdoor Garden Faucets is not very safe for drinking and to cook food. It can have certain bacteria or a mixture of different chemicals, unhygienic to some extent and it is not meant to be used for cooking and drinking purposes," the notification had warned.





## Wildlife activists demand strong action against man who chased young wild elephant in TN forest reserve

**Chennai, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Wildlife and social activists of Tamil Nadu are seeking stringent action against a person who chased a young wild elephant in a forest reserve of the state in his vehicle. Palanisami Muthuraman, a wildlife enthusiast and social activist from Coimbatore told IANS, "Stringent action will be taken against the person who chased a young elephant in his vehicle at night in the reserve. He scared the hapless young animal by blowing the horn incessantly, putting on loud music and fog lights of his vehicle

in the pitch dark in contravention of all rules of the reserve." This incident is a clear violation of the Wild Life Protection Act and can lead to an imprisonment of three years. The violation took place at the core tiger reserve area Navamalai in Anamalai Tiger Reserve (ATR) on Monday night. The incident came to light after the offender Mithun, who hails from Kottur in Tamil Nadu, uploaded the video of him chasing the wild elephant in his white Scorpio. The forest department has already commenced a preliminary investigation into the matter. It has to be seen how Mithun was

able to enter the core tiger reserve area without crossing the Aliyar and Monkey Fall checkpoints where stringent night bans are in place. Palanisami told IANS that vehicles cannot be allowed into the forest area and crossing the Aliyar and Monkey Fall checkpoints without the permission of the authorities was impossible. He said that in Navamalai there were only a few houses and that Aliyar and Monkey Falls checkpost officials have a list of the people who live inside Navamalai and their vehicle numbers. C Rajeev, Director, Centre for Policy and Development Studies (CPDS), a think tank



based out of Chennai called for strong action against the offender for harassing the young elephant in his own home which is a protected area. He said that the violation was grave and a matter of serious concern. C Rajeev said that this would fall under the gambit of wildlife

hunting. Meanwhile Chief Wildlife Warden of the Tamil Nadu Forest Department told media persons that the act the offender indulged in was a serious offense and that necessary action would be taken against him.



## Bullets fired in Delhi's Dwarka, police probe extortion bid

**New Delhi, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Bullets were fired on a medical store owner's car in Delhi's Dwarka area, an official said on Monday, adding that they are investigating the incident with all angles including personal enmity and extortion bid. According to police, a police control room (PCR) call was received on Saturday in JP Kalan police station that someone had fired two rounds on the caller's car during the night hours. Upon reaching the spot, a Mahindra Scorpio was found parked on roadside at Kajipur village at the backside of a primary school. "The driver side glasspane was broken.

## Deposit deficit amounts or face revocation of projects: RERA

**Gurugram, Feb 19 (IANS) :** In a strong message to the promoter of affordable housing projects of Mahira Homes, Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) Gurugram has asked it to deposit deficit amounts or face revocation of its projects. RERA Chairman Arun Kumar told homebuyers that the Authority has decided to proceed with the process for revocation of the RERA registration of all its five projects since Mahira promoter has failed to complete the projects and deliver the units to allottees as per the Affordable Housing policy of the Haryana Government. He said that Mahira promoter has been asked to deposit the deficit amount which was di-

verted from the RERA accounts for considering unfreezing of its accounts. He said that an FIR under the relevant sections of law has been registered against the Mahira promoter. He said that they have roped in an agency to conduct techno economic feasibility of these stalled projects to prepare a comprehensive action plan for completing of the projects at the earliest. In the first of its kind of transparent interactive session, more than a hundred aggrieved homebuyers representing the five projects of Mahira developer were given an opportunity for a direct conversation with RERA Chairman and the three members. The objective of the open meeting between the Authority and allottees was to hear out their grievances and figure out a mean-



ingful resolution as per the provisions of the RERA Act. The representatives of all five projects such as Sector 63A, 68, 95, 103 and 104 turned up in good numbers to attend the meeting. During the session, the allottees of Mahira 68 said that the construction has happened 60 to 70 per cent and they have paid almost the full amount to the builder. The allottees said that the project was registered with RERA Panchkula in 2017 and it is still incomplete.



## K'taka govt ensured release of Hubballi riot accused: Pralhad Joshi

**Bengaluru, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Minister for Mine, Coal and Law Pralhad Joshi on Monday said that the Congress government has ensured the release of the accused in Hubballi riot case. "Congress government has always been sympathetic to the accused of the Hubballi riot incident.

They did not place the arguments efficiently before the court and in process ensured their release. They will have to pay a heavy price for it," Joshi told media persons. He said that the accused faced sedition charges but they were freed by the Congress government.



## AAP wants its three Lok Sabha candidates to represent INDIA bloc in Assam

**Guwahati, Feb 19 (IANS) :** The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) wants to contest three seats in Assam from the Opposition INDIA bloc in which the party has unilaterally declared its candidates for the forthcoming Lok Sabha polls. Bhaben Choudhury, President of AAP's Assam unit told IANS, "We have already announced our candidates' names for three Lok Sabha seats in the state. I have sent a letter to the Assam Congress President Bhupen Borah mentioning that we want to contest the Guwahati, Dibrugarh and Jorhat seats on behalf of the INDIA Opposition bloc." According to him, the AAP has a good support base in these three seats and the party would be able to challenge the BJP.

## Man nabbed for making a hoax call to blast IGIA

**New Delhi, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Delhi Police arrested a 38-year-old man for allegedly making a hoax call last month to blast the IGI Airport, an official said on Monday. The accused was identified as Krishno Mahto, a resident of West Champaran, Bihar and the call was made by him intentionally under the influence of liquor, said the official.



## LS polls: ECI chooses police Nodal Officer in Bengal rejecting first choices of Govt

**Kolkata, Feb 19 (IANS) :** In a major departure from established norms, the Election Commission of India (ECI) has chosen the Nodal Officer of police for the forthcoming Lok Sabha elections, instead of assigning that responsibility to the Additional Director General (Law & Order), in West Bengal. Anand Kumar, who is currently the Additional Director General (Legal) of state police, has been appointed as the Nodal Officer, after rejecting

the first choice of the state government on this count. Veterans in the state government with long experience of conducting elections say that this is a deviation from the long-followed practice of the state police Additional Director General (Law & Order) playing the role of the Nodal Officer of police for any election in West Bengal. It is learnt that on the ECI's demand, the West Bengal Government recommended the names of three Indian Police Service (IPS) officers but the commission re-



jected all three names. Thereafter, sources said, the government had recommended the names of three other IPS officers and Kumar's name was on that list. Finally, the ECI approved Kumar's name. Observers say that the develop-

ment is quite significant as the ECI has conveyed to the state government that it will be keeping a close eye on the administration during the forthcoming Lok Sabha polls.

## 20 tech firms pledge to curb deepfakes during global elections this year

**New Delhi, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Twenty leading tech companies like Microsoft, Meta, Google, X, Amazon and OpenAI have pledged to help prevent deceptive AI content, or deepfakes, from interfering with global elections this year, including in India. More than four billion people in over 40 countries will vote this year. At the Munich Security Conference (MSC), the companies signed a tech accord to combat deceptive use of AI in 2024 elections. The "Tech Accord to Combat

Deceptive Use of AI in 2024 Elections" is a set of commitments to deploy technology countering harmful AI-generated content meant to deceive voters, they said in a statement. Digital content addressed by the accord consists of AI-generated audio, video, and images that deceptively fake or alter the appearance, voice, or actions of political candidates, election officials, and other key stakeholders in democratic election, or that provide false information to voters about when, where, and how they can vote. The accord signatories are Adobe,

Amazon, Anthropic, Arm, ElevenLabs, Google, IBM, Inflection AI, LinkedIn, McAfee, Meta, Microsoft, Nota, OpenAI, Snap Inc., Stability AI, TikTok, Trend Micro, Truepic, and X. "Google has been supporting election integrity for years and the accord reflects an industry-side commitment against AI-generated election misinformation that erodes trust," said Kent Walker, President, Global Affairs at Google. Participating companies agreed to commitments like developing and implementing technology to mitigate risks related to deceptive AI



Election content, including open-source tools where appropriate and assessing models in scope of this accord to understand the risks they may present regarding "Deceptive AI Election Content". "Elections are the beating heart of democracies. The Tech Accord to Combat Deceptive Use of AI in 2024 elections is a crucial step in advancing election integrity.

## GSF Cossipore to supply air defence guns for Next Generation Missile Vessels

**Kolkata, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Cochin Shipyard Ltd has ordered a dozen 30-mm AK-630M Close-In Weapons System (CIWS) naval guns for Next Generation Missile Vessels (NGMVs) being built by it. These guns will be manufactured by Gun and Shell Factory (GSF), Cossipore, in Kolkata. GSF Cossipore is now a part of Advanced Weapons and Equipment Ltd (AWEIL), Kanpur, one of the companies that came up in 2021 after restructuring and corporatisation of the Ordnance Factory

Board. The Rs 274.76 crore order for the guns is to be executed over a period of four years. This order will further establish capabilities of AWEIL and GSF Cossipore to meet demands for a wide range of weapons systems for India's defence forces. "The fully automatic 30 mm AK-630 CIWS rotary canon has six barrels and a high rate of fire of 4,000-5,000 rounds per minute. The system is mounted in an enclosed automatic turret and directed by radar and electro-opto detection and tracking.



## UK Deputy High Commissioner inaugurates University of Leeds and JGU Conference on public health

**Sonapat, Feb 19 (IANS) :** The University of Leeds (UK) and O. P. Jindal Global University (JGU) hosted a joint conference titled 'Reimagining Priorities in Global Public Health' recently.

The opening day of the conference was inaugurated by Christina Scott, UK Deputy High Commissioner to Delhi and Dr Himangi Bhardwaj, Senior Health Advisor to Foreign Commonwealth Development Office of the UK government.

They provided an overview of collaborations and project between the UK and India focusing on health, with special reference to antimicrobial resistance, digital health sys-

tem strengthening and climate change. Leya Furtado, representing the Lancet Citizen's Commission on Reimagining India's Public Health System, outlined the challenges to global health post-pandemic, and reviewed the work streams and research areas of the Lancet Commission and the reforms to be proposed in its final report.

The event was being hosted by the Jindal School of Public Health and Human Development (JSPH), JGU's recently established interdisciplinary school offering a Masters in Public Health, in collaboration with three faculties of the University of Leeds, namely the Faculty of Medicine and Health, the Faculty of Arts Humanities and Culture and the Fac-

ulty of Social Sciences.

The Founding Vice Chancellor of JGU, Prof. (Dr.) C. Raj Kumar, described this conference as "an extraordinary opportunity both to strengthen collaboration between higher education institutions in the UK and India for enhanced research and innovation but also to address the urgent need to move forward on the commitments of India and other governments to meet the global challenges in public health. We are ready to build on this collaboration with the University of Leeds as an exemplary institutional partnership to develop skills and knowledge, seeking solutions to critical global challenges through high quality research, teaching, and learning." Following the inauguration, Prof

Sanjoy Bhattacharya, Head of School of History, University of Leeds spoke about the historical lessons from infectious disease control for the response to the COVID 19 pandemic. The conference then explored new approaches to equitable access to health, including a presentation on pandemic preparedness and religious practices by Prof. Emma Tomalin, Director of the Centre for Religion and Public Life at Leeds.

Professor Indranil Mukhopadhyay from the Jindal School of Government and Public Policy examined what he called "fragmented health financing and a broken health system," noting high out-of-pocket expenditures and the low level of public health expenditure in India,



compared, for example, with China. Prof. Dibyadyuti Roy, Assistant Professor in Cultural Studies, Media Studies, and Digital Humanities at Leeds, discussed pathways, possibilities, and perils of digital (health) humanities from a historical perspective. Prof. Sonia Kumar, Associate Dean of Community Engagement and Professor of Medical Education at Leeds, spoke online about the challenges to the healthcare workforce, including the fact that

90% of healthcare delivery is primary care and that a similar percentage of health outcomes are the result of the social determinants of health. The second day of the Conference took place on the JGU campus in Sonapat, Haryana, and brought together scholars, experts and students from the two institutions for an exchange of research in strategic areas of interdisciplinary research in public health.



## IAF's Chinook helicopter makes precautionary landing in Punjab

**Chandigarh, Feb 19 (IANS) :** A Chinook helicopter of the Indian Air Force (IAF) on Monday made a safe precautionary landing near Barnala town in Punjab's Sangrur dis-

trict, an official said. The helicopter landed on open ground and both crew members were safe, a police officer said. The recovery team has reached the site, he added.

## Delhi L-G inaugurates two All-Women Police Posts

**New Delhi, Feb 19 (IANS) :** For the first time, two All-Women Police Posts have been set up in national capital's Shradhanand Marg and Khan Market which are equipped with all necessary gadgets, an official said on Monday, adding the police posts would be managed by well-trained women police personnel.

The police posts were inaugurated by Lt Governor V.K. Saxena in the presence of Delhi Police Commissioner Sanjay Arora on Sunday. Sub-Inspector Puja Saini has been posted as in-charge of Khan Market Police Post. She

would be assisted by nine subordinate women police officers. Khan Market is renowned for its cosmopolitan ambiance, bustling atmosphere and international appeal. The market attracts a lot of people, including foreign visitors. It hosts a myriad of restaurants, shops, and residences.

"The establishment of the All-Women Police Posts underscores a commitment to gender equality and empowerment within law enforcement, ensuring effective management of duties ranging from crime prevention to community engagement. The Khan Market Police Post was established in 2016 and it has been central to maintaining law and

order in this dynamic locale," said a police spokesperson. "The All-Women Police Post, Shradhanand Marg has been inaugurated in a bid to facilitate women complainants, to ensure women police presence and to address per-

sistent concerns of women," said the official. "S-I Kiran Sethi has been posted as incharge of Shradhanand Marg Police Post supported by women staff," the official added.



## ED moves court seeking to be party in Sheikh Shahjahan's anticipatory bail plea case

**Kolkata, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Determined to prevent Sheikh Shahjahan, the mastermind behind the attack on ED and CAPF personnel at Sandeshkhali in North 24 Parganas district on January 5, from securing anticipatory bail, the central agency on Monday moved a district court seeking to be a party in the case.

## Drama unfolds at Kerala University Senate meet over choice of new V-C

**Thiruvananthapuram, Feb 19 (IANS) :** The difference of opinion between the Chancellor (Governor Arif Mohammed Khan) and the Kerala government spilled over to the Senate meeting of the Kerala University, which was mired by a standoff between Higher Education Minister R. Bindhu, who is also the Pro-chancellor, and Mohan Kunnumel, the acting Vice-Chancellor.

The special Senate meeting was called to nominate one member to the search committee to select the new VC

of the Kerala University, which has to be forwarded to the Chancellor. Right from the start of the meeting, Bindhu and Kunnumel were at loggerheads with each accusing the other of working against the law.

Incidentally, in the 106-member Kerala University Senate, there are three clear-cut factions presently -- the majority led by the CPI-M, followed by the Congress-led UDF members, and a third front that emerged after Governor Khan nominated 11 persons to the Senate. Incidentally, the Pro-chancellor attends a Senate meeting on rare occasions. Bindhu said that



as soon as the meeting began, one member raised a point with regard to the selection of a member to the search committee saying the issue being sub-judice, it will be illegal. "After that a resolution to this effect was passed and the meeting was wound up. In the absence of

the Chancellor, the Pro-chancellor normally presides over such meetings," said Bindhu. However, Kunnumel claimed that being the VC, he will be overseeing the conduct of the Senate meeting.

## EU asks Israeli government not to take military action in Rafah

**Brussels, Feb 19 (IANS) :** The European Union (EU)'s foreign policy chief has urged the Israeli government not to take military action in Rafah, Gaza's southernmost city, which shelters more than 1.3 million displaced Palestinians.



## Meghalaya needs 11.5% annual growth to become \$10 bn economy by 2028 : CM Sangma

**Shillong, February 19 (IANS) :** Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma said on Monday that the state needs to achieve 11.5 per cent annual growth (GDP) to fructify its ambitious target of touching the \$10 billion economy by 2028. "At present, the state has an economy of Rs 45,000 crore, which needs to be improved. It is a herculean task, but as a government, we have planned the roadmap to achieve the target," Sangma said after laying the foundation for a Rs 100 crore bulk water supply

project at Ballonggre in West Garo Hills district. The Chief Minister said that the government has envisaged a vision for the state and is making investments in that direction. He asserted that investments are being made to create a better and sustainable infrastructure, job creation through entrepreneurship and innovative policies and programmes to double the farmers' income. "Thrust has been given to improving the overall rural economy by focusing on enterprises that will leverage the potential of the rich natural resources of the state," Sangma said. Talking about the poor perfor-



mance of Meghalaya in various sectors, he said that in the past five years, the state government has been able to address different challenges. The Chief Minister also said that Meghalaya is marching ahead and has been recognised as the 'best performer' in the implementation of various schemes of the Central govern-

ment. "Prior to 2019, the PHE department had less than Rs 50 crore as budget. At present, the budget has increased to Rs 3,000 crore and the focus is on creation of better infrastructure to overcome various challenges related to adequate water supply," he said.

## Govt doubles FCI's authorised capital to Rs 21,000 cr in big boost to farm sector

**New Delhi, Feb 19 (IANS) :** The Government has announced an increase in the authorized capital of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) from Rs 10,000 crore to Rs 21,000 crore in a major step to bolster the agricultural sector and benefit farmers. The FCI plays a key role in

the country's food security system, including the procurement of foodgrains at Minimum Support Price (MSP), maintenance of strategic food grain stocks, distribution to state governments and Union Territories (UTs), and stabilisation of food grain prices in the market.







## February on course to break many global heat records

**London, Feb 19 (IANS) :** February is on course to break a record number of heat records, meteorologists say, as human-made global heating and the natural El Nino climate pattern drive up temperatures on land and oceans around the world, media reported. A little over halfway into the shortest month of the year, the heating spike has become so pronounced that climate charts are entering new territory, particularly for sea-surface temperatures that have persisted and accelerated to the point where expert observers are struggling to explain how the

change is happening, The Guardian reported. "The planet is warming at an accelerating rate. We are seeing rapid temperature increases in the ocean, the climate's largest reservoir of heat," said Dr Joel Hirschi, the associate head of marine systems modelling at the UK National Oceanography Centre. "The amplitude by which previous sea surface temperatures records were beaten in 2023 and now 2024 exceed expectations, though understanding why this is, is the subject of ongoing research."



## Judge orders Trump to pay \$355 million in New York civil fraud case

**New York, Feb 19 (IANS) :** A New York judge has ordered Donald Trump to pay a fine of nearly \$355 million in a civil fraud case. The bombshell ruling from Justice Arthur Engoron came on Monday after a civil trial in New York that was filled with drama, the BBC reported. Trump and his lawyers repeatedly clashed with

the judge both inside and outside the courtroom. The former US President has also been banned from doing business in New York for the next three years. The ruling stems from fraudulent business practices used by the Trump Organization to secure favourable loans. Trump and his two sons -- Donald Trump Jr and Eric Trump -- were found to have massively inflated the value of their properties

by hundreds of millions of dollars to get better loans, the British news broadcaster reported. Trump Jr and Eric Trump have been fined \$4 million each. They have been also banned from doing business in New York for the next two years. Trump's team said that they will appeal the ruling, which the Trump Organization called a "gross miscarriage of justice".



## Hamis accuses Israel of obstructing efforts to reach ceasefire in Gaza

**Gaza, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh has accused Israel of impeding efforts to achieve a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip. In a press statement sent to Xinhua news agency, Haniyeh said on Monday that his movement responded to efforts of mediation "all the time in a positive spirit and high responsibility" in order to "stop the aggression against our people, end the unjust siege, and allow the flow of aid and reconstruction". "We showed full flexibility in dealing with these issues, but it is clear so far that Israel continues to procrastinate in the negotiations," he added as quoted by Xinhua news agency report.



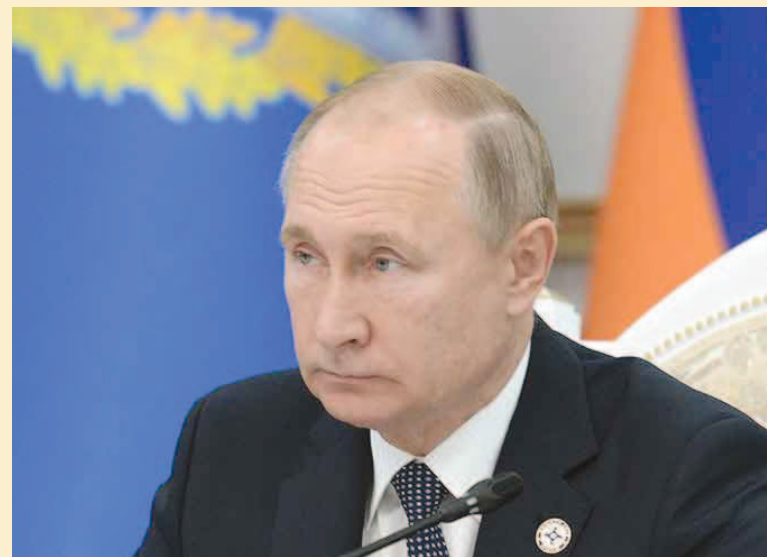
## Sri Lanka rolls out projects to attract high-end tourists

**Colombo, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Sri Lanka has rolled out infrastructure development projects and innovative tourism promotion programmes in a bid to attract high-end tourists, the President's Media Division (PMD) said. The PMD said in a press statement that President Ranil Wickremesinghe conducted a tour of Tangalle and Galle areas on Monday to assess tourism industry resurgence on the southern coast of the country, Xinhua news agency reported. During the tour, the President visited several tourist hotels, talking with owners to understand their challenges first hand, the PMD added. The PMD said the tourism sector in Sri Lanka faced a rapid downturn due to the Covid-19 pandemic and economic challenges.

## Landslide death toll climbs to 98 in Philippines

**Manila, Feb 19 (IANS) :** The death toll from a landslide in a mining town in Davao de Oro province in southern Philippines has climbed to 98, a regional disaster prevention office said. The Maco Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office said on Monday that rescuers continue to search for nine others who remained missing, Xinhua news agency reported. Rocks, soil and debris triggered by days of rain slid from mountainside on the evening of February 6, burying houses and vehicles on its path,

including two buses that were used to ferry workers to and from a nearby mining firm in Maco town. The miners on the buses were among the dead. Thirty-two people sustained injuries. The World Risk Index 2022 put the Philippines at number one spot for the most disaster-prone countries in the world. Located in the Pacific Ring of Fire, the archipelago is frequently battered by powerful typhoons, which trigger flash floods and landslides, and rocked by earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.



## Vladimir Putin's foes, critics often met with violent deaths

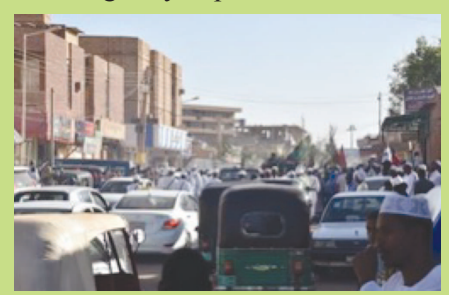
**London, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Russian President Vladimir Putin's foes and critics have often met with violent deaths at the very peak of their conflicts with the Kremlin leader during his nearly quarter-century in power, a media report said. Alexei Navalny's death, which many foreign leaders and supporters say is murder, came after he was banished to an Arctic Circle prison, where he was regularly thrown in a punishment cell, exposed to the

elements and significantly malnourished. Putin's other foes have been targeted in diverse ways: shootings, poisonings and even a plane crash. Many of the deaths are never solved and remain listed as accidents and suicides, leaving open the question of just how many of his enemies Putin has dispatched with over the years, The Guardian reported. A number of former members of the Russian intelligence services who defected to the west have been targeted in poisonings since

2000. Putin's dark methods first came to international attention during the case of Alexander Litvinenko, a former member of the FSB security services who had become an opponent of Putin and died of polonium-210 poisoning in London in 2006. His killers, who both had links to the intelligence services, were accused of lacing his tea with a radioactive element, The Guardian reported. The former head of the Wagner paramilitary group Yevgeny Prigozhin was on poor terms with Putin when he arrived in Moscow in August last year. He was there for talks with Putin after an aborted mutiny that saw his mercenaries seize the city of Rostov and march toward Moscow. He appeared to have negotiated a truce with the Kremlin, agreeing to evacuate his troops to Belarus and focus on the group's activities outside Ukraine. But an explosion aboard his Embraer Legacy 600 business jet sent the plane spiralling to the ground, killing Prigozhin, the field commander Dmitry Utkin and eight others on board, The Guardian reported.

## Sudanese army breaks siege on important base in Omdurman

**Khartoum, Feb 19 (IANS) :** The Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) has announced that it has broken the siege imposed by the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) on the Engineers Corps in Omdurman, west of the capital Khartoum. Video clips released by the army early Monday showed the arrival of the SAF Commander Abdel Fattah Al-Burhan in Omdurman, Xinhua news agency reported.



## Labour protests in China increase rapidly amid economic slowdown

**Washington, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Labour protests in China have increased rapidly since August of last year, according to rights groups, especially in the lead-up to the Lunar New Year, which began late last week, a media report said. Labour protests more than tripled in the fourth quarter of 2023 compared to the same period in 2022, according to data collected by New York-based international rights group Freedom House's China Dis-

sent Monitor, which tracks protests in China, VOA reported. Analysts say this unrest is linked to poor working conditions and China's ongoing economic difficulties, the report said. The China Dissent Monitor recorded 777 labour protests in China between September and December 2023, compared to 245 in the same period of 2022. Independent data from the Hong Kong-based China Labour Bulletin, which promotes Chinese workers' rights, recorded an additional 183 protests between January 1 and February 3, 2024, including 40 in Guangdong province alone, VOA reported. Kevin Slaten, who leads the China Dissent Monitor, said worker protests are often linked to wage disputes and occupational safety.

Li Qiang, Founder and Executive Director of New York-based China Labour Watch, which advocates for the Chinese labour movement, said that in addition to China's economic slowdown, an "implosion" in the real-estate sector and reduced manufacturing was also a factor, VOA reported. "China's high-level economic problems ultimately set the foun-

deration of the increase in labour protests this year," Li said, adding, "Due to the decrease of manufacturing orders, among other things, a lot of companies face financial challenges that trickle down to workers," VOA reported.



## British-Indian jailed for life over murder committed 30 years ago

**London, Feb 19 (IANS) :** A 51-year-old Indian-origin man, who murdered a mother of two children 30 years ago, has been sentenced to life after new DNA techniques used on a single hair left at the scene proved he was the killer. Sandip Patel, who stabbed 39-year-old Marina Koppel more than 140 times in a flat in Westminster on August 8, 1994, was convicted of murder and sentenced at the Old Bailey court, the BBC reported on Monday.

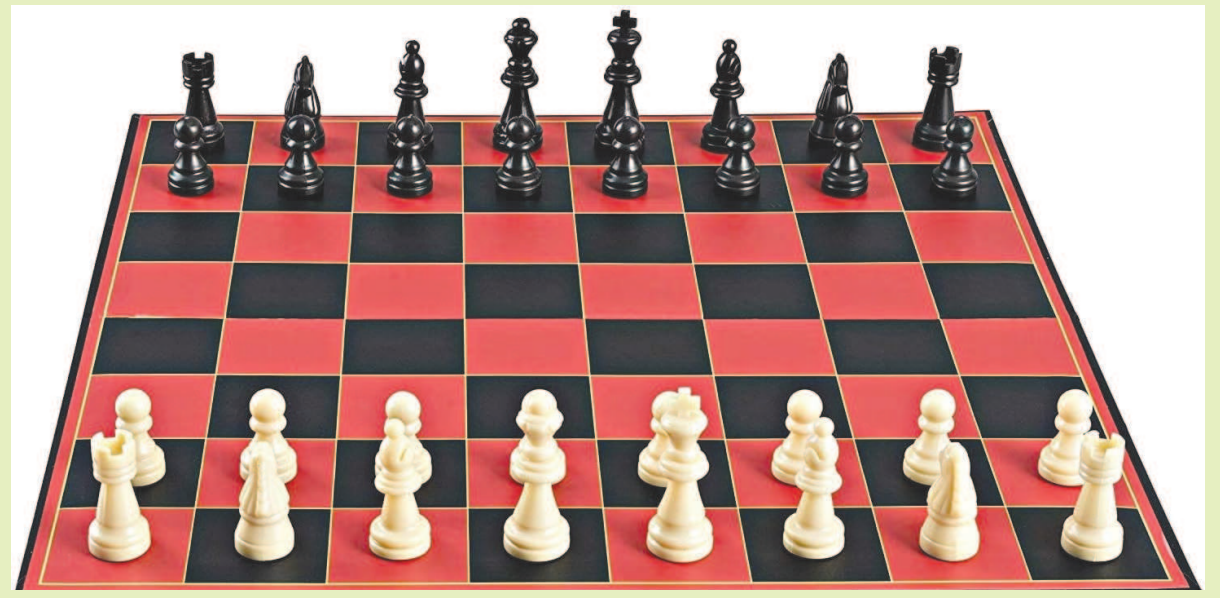


## AICF should clarify the need for forensic audit: Chess Players Forum official

**Chennai, Feb 19 (IANS) :** The All India Chess Federation (AICF) should openly state the reasons for its decision to have a forensic audit of its books of accounts, said a senior official of Chess Players Forum. He also said several tournaments were not held this year and the reasons are unknown. "The chess body should tell transparently why it thinks a forensic audit is necessary and what is the financial irregularity that will be probed," International Master (IM) Venkat Saravanan, joint secretary of

Chess Players Forum, told IANS. He said the allegations should be properly spelt out. Saravanan said the affairs of AICF are in a sorry state. According to AICF's Interim Secretary Ajeet Kumar Verma the chess body plans to have a forensic audit of its accounts by hiring an external auditor as some of the papers are missing from its office. "We found some of the papers, inventories missing from the AICF office. It was decided to appoint an external auditor to audit the accounts. If need be, forensic audit will also be carried out. The proposed audit will also check on

the payments made to various people," Verma told IANS. The decision to appoint another audit firm was taken at the AICF's urgent General Body Meeting held on December 28 in Guwahati. The meeting was called to discuss matters relating to the officer-bearers' election, the financial health of the AICF, various court cases, formation of a legal committee and appointment of law firm Prout solicitors LLP. Verma said the AICF accounts were audited by ARSAN & Co. Meanwhile, Saravanan said



the infighting and other developments in AICF took the players by surprise and also shocked them. Just three years ago, new office

bearers were elected for AICF and now there is severe infighting at a time when five players- three in the open category and two in the

women's section-will be competing in the Candidates Tournament to be held in Canada, Saravanan added.

## 'Anyone who thinks T20 is a better game than the 50-over game is off their rocker', says Ian Chappell

**New Delhi, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Former Australia captain Ian Chappell said he fears for the future of the 50-over format due to the attitude of the administrators. His comments come after the Chappell-Hadlee Trophy would be contested for T20s for the first time through the upcoming series between Australia and New Zealand, starting in Wellington on Wednesday. Since its inception in 2004, the Chappell-Hadlee Trophy was always for ODIs between Australia and New Zealand. State-

ments from Cricket Australia (CA) and New Zealand Cricket (NZC) said a points system will also be used for future back-to-back ODI and T20I series between the Trans-Tasman rivals. "They certainly have T20 cricket at the top of the pole, and there's more and more T20 cricket being played and less and less 50-over cricket. Anyone who thinks T20 is a better game than the 50-over game is off their rocker. The administrators have let 50-over cricket go, and I think they've let it go to the point where they may not be able to resurrect it," said Chappell on Wide World of Sports (WWOS). Australia are the current holders of the Chappell-Hadlee trophy, which was last contested for three ODIs in Cairns in September 2022. Chappell is also not convinced the 50-over format can ever regain the popularity it once held previously. "I'd like to think that you'll get good crowds at the 50-over game because it's a very good game of cricket - the next best thing to a Test match.



## Enjoyed hitting Anderson for three sixes: Yashasvi Jaiswal

**Rajkot, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Left-handed opener Yashasvi Jaiswal, who hit an unbeaten 214 in India's 434-run win over England in the third Test, said he enjoyed hitting veteran fast-bowler James Ander-

son for three sixes during his enthralling knock. After retiring hurt on 104 due to back cramps on day three's play, Jaiswal made 214 off 236 balls in India's second innings total of 430/4 declared.



## 'England doesn't need to move away from Bazball approach', opines Nasser Hussain

**New Delhi, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Following England's heavy 434-run defeat to India in the third Test at Rajkot, former captain Nasser Hussain has said Ben Stokes & Co need not move away from their Bazball approach of playing the game and urged them to do introspection ahead of next two games. England conceded a 126-run lead to India and were put under the pump in all departments to lose the match by 434 runs inside four days at the Niranjan Shah Stadium. England are now 2-1 behind in the five-match series against India.

## Rajkot Test loss has to be a wake-up call for Stokes & Co: Vaughan

**New Delhi, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Former England captain Michael Vaughan believes that the heavy 434-run defeat to India in the third Test at Rajkot has to be a wake-up call for Ben Stokes and his players. In what was also Stokes' 100th Test match, England conceded a 126-run lead to India and were put under the

pump in all departments to lose the match by 434 runs inside four days at the Niranjan Shah Stadium. England are now 2-1 behind in the five-match series against India. "This England team are a bundle of energy and have already brought us huge excitement and joy. But surely a defeat this heavy has to be a wake-up call for Ben Stokes and his players. The way

they played this week has gifted India a victory. I couldn't believe my eyes the way they batted on day three, especially Joe Root's shot," wrote Vaughan in his column for The Telegraph. He was also taken aback by opener Ben Duckett's comments on how England should be given the credit for Yashasvi Jaiswal's explosive batting style while making 214 in the second innings of the match.



## Faiz Fazal, Vidarbha's two-time Ranji Trophy winning captain, announces retirement from professional cricket

**Nagpur, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Opener Faiz Fazal, the two-time Ranji Trophy winning captain of Vidarbha, has announced that he will retire from professional cricket after his side's match against Haryana in the prestigious first-class tournament, where he walked out to a guard of honour from all players on the field.



## We have the best team in Pro Kabaddi League, says Dabang Delhi KC head coach Rambir Singh Khokhar

**Panchkula (Haryana), Feb 19 (IANS) :** The Dabang Delhi KC continued their brilliant form as they finished the league stage of Pro Kabaddi League Season 10 on a high with a 46-38 victory over Bengaluru Bulls. Speaking about the match, Dabang Delhi KC head coach Rambir Singh Khokhar said, "We started the match very well. We made a few small

mistakes, but Ashu picked up the required points for us. We tried a few new players against Bengaluru Bulls, and they played well." Furthermore, Rambir Singh said that they have the best side in the tournament, "We've played many close games this season. Most of our encounters have been neck-and-neck. We are ready to take on any team in the Playoffs."



## WPL: 'Our team balance has improved this season', says RCB captain Smriti Mandhana

**Bengaluru, Feb 19 (IANS) :** Smriti Mandhana, the captain of Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) in the Women's Premier League (WPL), believes the balance of her side has improved ahead of the 2024 season. Despite many star players, RCB failed to enter the knockouts in the inaugural

season of the WPL last year, finishing at fourth place in the points table. The franchise will commence their 2024 WPL season when they play their first game on February 24 against the UP Warriorz at their home ground M Chinnaswamy Stadium. "I would definitely want it to be better than the first season.

