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Telangana and Kerala ministers explore collaborative rice procurement for mutual benefit
Kerala's Minister for Food & Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs & Legal Metrology, G.R. Anil, visited Hyderabad on Friday for a crucial meeting with Telangana's Minister for Irrigation... **02**



2nd Test: Jaiswal eyes double hundred on Day 2; says Dravid, Rohit gave him confidence to go for a big score
India batter Yashasvi Jaiswal credited the "session by session" approach that helped him score his highest score of 179 runs.. **12**



Zoho reports Rs 8,703 cr revenue in FY23, profit crosses Rs 2,800 cr
Global software-as-a-service (SaaS) company Zoho has reported consolidated revenue of Rs 8,703 crore in the financial year 2023 (FY23), up nearly 30 per cent (year-on-year). **07**



15,000 constable posts to be filled in next 15 days : CM Revanth

Adilabad, Feb.2 (IANS) : Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has reiterated that the Congress government is committed to fill up all vacant posts in Telangana and as part of its endeavour, 15,000 police constable posts will be filled in next 15 days. Addressing the public meeting

at Indervelly mandal headquarters in Adilabad district on Friday, the Chief Minister said that the Congress government would take a responsibility of filling 2 lakh vacant posts in the State and reminded that it had already given 7,000 jobs since it came to power.



PM visits an exhibition on Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2024 at Bharat Mandapam, in New Delhi on February 02, 2024



Kishan Reddy welcomes congress party leaders from Khammam into BJP

Hyderabad, Feb 2 (IANS) : Congress party leaders from the district Ankireddy Sudheer Reddy and Bollapu Surender Reddy from Khammam district joined the BJP in the presence of BJP state president and Union Minister Kishan Reddy at the BJP state office in the city today . Speaking to the media on the occasion, Kishan Reddy said that Sudheer Reddy, who has been in the Congress party for many years in Khammam district, joined the BJP along with his supporters.

Continued on pg 02

Congress government should help the auto rickshaw drivers : KTR Writes open letter to CM Revanth

Hyderabad, Feb 2 (IANS) : BRS Working President Kalvakuntla Taraka Rama Rao today wrote an open letter to CM Revanth Reddy and demanded him to come to the rescue of auto rickshaw drivers . In his letter, he said that the state government, which came to power with sweeping promises of bringing people's rule,

had become anti-people. "The way you are seriously hurting another section in the rush to implement one promise with unthinking policies is a reflection of the failure of your administration. The crisis of auto rickshaw drivers in the state is worsening day by day," KTR said.

Continued on pg 02



Defeat is not permanent : Harish Rao

Yadadri Bhuvanagiri, Feb.2 (IANS) : Former minister Harish Rao today said that their defeat was not permanent and added that it was the beginning of their party's victory in the days to come . He also termed the defeat of their party as a mere speed breaker. He was accompanied by MLA Jagadish Reddy at a

meeting of BRS party workers of Bhuvanagiri assembly constituency review meeting on Friday. Speaking on the occasion, Harish Rao said that It was a sign of their strength that so many people had come to the meeting in a lost assembly constituency. He said that People were watching the Congress government for not keeping its poll promises. "After coming to power, there has been growing intolerance among the people against the Congress party for lying during the election campaign.," he said.

Continued on pg 02

Former MLA janardhan reddy to leave BRS party?

Nagarkurnool, Feb 2 (NSS): Will former MLA of Nagar Kurnool Marri Janardhan Reddy give a shock to BRS party ? It is reported that he is planning to leave the BRS party. Janardhan Reddy, who was defeated in the Assembly elections with a small majority, is reportedly planning to contest in the upcoming the Parliament elections. It is learnt that he held A lot of discussions with the congress party leader to contest from Malkajgiri MP seat as the ruling party candidate .

AP CM's cousin Y S Sunitha files complaint with Cyberabad police over death threats

Hyderabad, Feb 2 (IANS) : Y S Sunitha, daughter of late Minister Y S Viveka Reddy lodged a complaint with the Cyberabad police alleging that some persons were threatening to kill her.

Sunitha, alleged that the threats increased after she met Y S Sharmila, sister of A.P Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy recently. In her complaint, Sunitha alleged that some people are making abusive and threatening posts



on social media platforms including facebook targeting to kill her and the family. She suspected one V Ravindra Reddy of targeting and threatening her. Cyberabad DCP (Cybercrimes) said that Sunitha, had lodged a complaint and a case is being booked and it will be investigated by the police.



The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu at the inauguration of the 37th Surajkund International Crafts Mela at Surajkund, in Haryana on February 02, 2024.



Jharkhand MLAs arrive in Hyderabad

Hyderabad, Feb 2 (IANS) : After the arrest of JMM chief Hemant Soren and his subsequent resignation as the Chief Minister of Jharkhand, MLAs

from the JMM-led alliance arrived at Leonia resort in Hyderabad on Friday due to a delay in the formation of the government in the state.

KALYAN NAGAR BRANCH:
D.No.8-3-167/D/216, Plot No.216, Phase-1,
Kalyannagar, Hyderabad-500038.

(RULE 8(1)) POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable property)

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of Union Bank of India, Kalyan Nagar Branch (erstwhile Andhra Bank), Hyderabad, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement Security Interest (Second) Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 04.11.2023 calling upon the borrower/ Guarantors 1(a) Mrs. M Adilaxmi, W/o. M. Balaji (Borrower), Flat No.301, Plot No.155/156, Lina Residency, Opp. Hanuman Temple, Srinivasa Colony, Nizampet, Hyderabad-500072. 1(b) Mr. M. Balaji, S/o. Mr. M. Vittal (Borrower), Flat No.301, Plot No.155/156, Lina Residency, Opp. Hanuman Temple, Srinivasa Colony, Nizampet, Hyderabad-500072. Mr. M. Anil Kumar, S/o. Mr. M. Vittal (Co-Obligant), Block-1, 4th Floor, DLF Building, Gachibowli, Hyderabad-500090, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.12,06,389.00 (Rupees Twelve Lakhs Six Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Nine Only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower as well as guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on this 30.01.2024.

The borrower/ guarantors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Union Bank of India, Kalyan Nagar Branch for the amount being Rs.12,06,389.00 (Rupees Twelve Lakhs Six Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Nine Only) together with contractual rate of interest from 04.11.2023 and costs thereon.

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

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Nature of Securities: Collateral
EM of All that the Flat bearing No.403 in Fourth Floor in the building known as "SUVAN ARCADE" with plinth area of 1240 Sq.feet in Survey No.5, 36, 37, 39, 46, 51, 52, 53, 54, 73, 74 & 364 situated at Nizampet Village and Gram Panchayat, Quthbullapur Mandal, Rangareddy District. **Boundaries: North:** 20 feet wide Road and 30 feet wall Road, **East:** Plot No.410, **South:** Plot No.21. **West:** 30 feet wide Road.

Date: 30.01.2024, Place: Hyderabad Sd/- Authorised Officer, Union Bank of India

FORM NO. 14 [See Regulation 33(2)]
OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER - I/II
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL HYDERABAD (DRT 2)
1st Floor, Triveni Complex Abids, Hyderabad-500001.

DEMAND NOTICE

NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961.

RC749/2019 02-01-2024

Bank of India
Versus
Suresh Shenoy And Others

To
(CD 1) Suresh Shenoy S/o. Umesh Madhav Shenoy, R/o Flat No.402, Habitat Apartments, Plot No. 307, Defense Colony, Sainikpuri, Secunderabad-500 094
(CD 2) Smt Vinaya Ramanath Pai W/o Suresh Shenoy, Flat No.402, Habitat Apartments, Plot No.307 Defense colony, Sainikpuri, Secunderabad-500094
(CD 3) Alliance Developers Private Limited Plot No.56 and 57, Vittal Rao Nagar, Madhapur, Hyderabad - 500 081

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL HYDERABAD (DRT2) in OA/306/2019 an amount of Rs.27,25,431/- (Rupees Twenty Seven Lakhs Twenty Five Thousands Four Hundred and Thirty One Only) along with pendent-lite and future interest @ 10.70% simple Interest Yearly w.e.f. 28-11-2019 till realization and costs of Rs.0 (Only) has become due against you (Jointly and Severally/Fully/Limited).

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

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

4. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on 19-02-2024 at 10:30 a.m. for further proceedings.

5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay:
(a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate / execution proceedings
(b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processes and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due. Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this date: 02-01-2024

Sd/- Recovery Officer
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL HYDERABAD(DRT 2)

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED
Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032.
Administrative Office: 6th Floor(level 2), Building No.Q2, Aaurum Q parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Gansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710 Branch office at: CHERIAL

DEMAND NOTICE

Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from M/s. Shriram Finance Limited (Shriram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited name changed as Shriram 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.Q2, Aaurum Q Parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Gansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710. and Branch office at CHERIAL (hereinafter referred as We/ the Company/ Lender). 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.

S.No.	Name of the Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)	PROPERTY ADDRESS OF SECURED ASSETS	NPA Date: 10.03.2023
1	Ramesh Suddala S/o. Yellaiah, Age: 41 Years, Occ: Srilaxmi Narasimha Poultry Farm, R/o. H.No.2-92, Dhoolmitla (V&M), Siddipet Dist-506367. And Also At: Ramesh Suddala S/o. Yellaiah, Age: 41 Years, Occ: Srilaxmi Narasimha Poultry Farm, # H.No: 8-8/1/2, Cheriyal Village, Cheriyal Mandal, Siddipet District. 2) Merugu Anjanma W/o. Ramesh, Age: 33 Years, R/o. H.No.2-92, Dhoolmitla (V&M), Siddipet Dist-506367. 3) Merugu Yellaiah S/o. Ramaiah, Age: 61 Years, R/o. H.No.2-92, Dhoolmitla (V&M), Siddipet Dist -506 367. 4) Bade Raju S/o Venkatesh, Age: 31 Years, R/o. H.No.7-53, Balasaraswathi Nagar, Near Pola Linganna Temple, Malkajigiri, Hyderabad, Rangareddy Dist -500047.	CHRIITF2203310008- Description of the Immovable Property: (Property holder Name is SUDDALA RAMESH Mortgage deed dated 07.04.2022 Registered as Document No.1999/2022 on the file of the office of Sub-Registrar at CHERIAL) House bearing No: 8-8/1/2, along with his vacant site admeasuring 220.0 sq. Yards, equivalent to 192.30 sq. Meters, with construction of RCC Roof plinth area of 247.0 sq.Feet, equivalent to 27.5 sq.Yards, or 22.99 Sq.meters, remaining open place to a extent of 202.5 Sq. Yards, or 169-31 Sq. meters, situated at Cheriyal village of Cheriyal Mandal, Siddipet District, within the jurisdiction of Sub-Registrar, Cheriyal, District Registrar: Siddipet, bounded by: North: Open place of Kamalapuram Kishitiah, South: House of Gurjakunta Laxmi, East: 6.0 Feet wide Road, West:Road leads from cheriyal to Akunur.	Date of Demand Notice: 12.01.2024 Amount Outstanding: Rs. 34,39,878/-

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: 03-02-2024, Place: Cherial Sd/- Authorised Officer, Shriram Finance Limited

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED
Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032.
Administrative office: 6th Floor(level 2), Building No.Q2, Aaurum Q parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Gansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710 Branch office at: NARSAMPET

DEMAND NOTICE

1. Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from M/s. Shriram Finance Limited (Shriram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited name changed as Shriram 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.Q2, Aaurum Q Parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Gansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710. and Branch office at NARSAMPET (hereinafter referred as We/ the Company/ Lender). 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.

S.No.	Name of the Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s)	NPA Date	Date of Demand Notice
1	Pardhu Balne S/o Upender, Age: 38 Years, R/O H.No.2-101, Nekkonda (V&M), Warangal Dist - 506 122. 2) Balne Sujatha W/o Upender, Age: 66 Years, R/O H.No.2-101, Nekkonda (V&M), Warangal Dist - 506 122. 3) Konda Bathula Eashwar Kumar S/o Bixamath, Age: 63years, Occ: School Assistant Teacher, Mahabubabad R/O.H.No.8-4-67, Mahabubabad, Warangal Dist - 506 101. 4) R.Vijayender Reddy, S/o Venktram Reddy, R/o.D.No.5-163, & 164, Main Road, Nekkonda (V & M), Warangal Dist - 506 122.	13-06-2016	22-01-2024

NRSMT1F209290004- DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY (Property holder Name is BAINE SUJATHA Mortgage deed dated 24.09.2012 Registered as Document No.3296/2012 on the file of the office of Sub-Registrar at IWARANGAL) Warangal District, Narsampet Sub - District, Nekkonda Mandal, Nekkonda Gram Panchayat and Village accounts, in ward No.1 an extent of 260 Sq. Yards of vacant site and in it constructed RCC building bearing old H.No.1-98 and new 2-101, bounded as above: East: PWD Road, West: Vacant site of Md.Moulana, North : House of Amjad Annrulla South: Joint wall and site of Komraveli Dathramma

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:02-02-2024 Place: Narsampet Sd/- Authorised Officer, Shriram Finance Limited

Telangana and Kerala ministers explore collaborative rice procurement for mutual benefit

Hyderabad, Feb 2 (IANS) : Kerala's Minister for Food & Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs & Legal Metrology, G.R. Anil, visited Hyderabad on Friday for a crucial meeting with Telangana's Minister for Irrigation, CAD, CAF & Civil Supplies, N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, at his office in the Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat. The meeting delved into potential collaborations and the exploration of Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) between the two states. The primary focus was on Kerala's specific requirements for a preferred variety of rice, cultivated in Telangana. Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy provided assurance that Telangana could readily meet Kerala's rice needs at a competitive price.



A review meeting was conducted by Principal Secretary Environment Department Vani Prasad on regulatory measures for improving Air Quality in the state, working on implementation of directions of National Green Tribunal, initiating state level regulation of restricting single use plastics and measures to control pollution in Medaram Jatara. Construction and demolition waste management, sewage treatment in the state, working of PUC machines were reviewed. Buddhaprakash Jyoti Member Secretary and other senior officers in the Board were present on the occasion.



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DEMAND NOTICE

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Date: 03-02-2024, Place: Cherial Sd/- Authorised Officer, Shriram Finance Limited

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED
Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032.
Administrative Office: 6th Floor(level 2), Building No.Q2, Aaurum Q parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Gansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710 Branch office at: CHERIAL

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Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from M/s. Shriram Finance Limited (Shriram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited name changed as Shriram 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.Q2, Aaurum Q Parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Gansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710. and Branch office at CHERIAL (hereinafter referred as We/ the Company/ Lender). 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.

S.No.	Name of the Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)	PROPERTY ADDRESS OF SECURED ASSETS	NPA Date: 10.03.2023
1	Ramesh Suddala S/o. Yellaiah, Age: 41 Years, Occ: Srilaxmi Narasimha Poultry Farm, R/o. H.No.2-92, Dhoolmitla (V&M), Siddipet Dist-506367. And Also At: Ramesh Suddala S/o. Yellaiah, Age: 41 Years, Occ: Srilaxmi Narasimha Poultry Farm, # H.No: 8-8/1/2, Cheriyal Village, Cheriyal Mandal, Siddipet District. 2) Merugu Anjanma W/o. Ramesh, Age: 33 Years, R/o. H.No.2-92, Dhoolmitla (V&M), Siddipet Dist-506367. 3) Merugu Yellaiah S/o. Ramaiah, Age: 61 Years, R/o. H.No.2-92, Dhoolmitla (V&M), Siddipet Dist -506 367. 4) Bade Raju S/o Venkatesh, Age: 31 Years, R/o. H.No.7-53, Balasaraswathi Nagar, Near Pola Linganna Temple, Malkajigiri, Hyderabad, Rangareddy Dist -500047.	CHRIITF2203310008- Description of the Immovable Property: (Property holder Name is SUDDALA RAMESH Mortgage deed dated 07.04.2022 Registered as Document No.1999/2022 on the file of the office of Sub-Registrar at CHERIAL) House bearing No: 8-8/1/2, along with his vacant site admeasuring 220.0 sq. Yards, equivalent to 192.30 sq. Meters, with construction of RCC Roof plinth area of 247.0 sq.Feet, equivalent to 27.5 sq.Yards, or 22.99 Sq.meters, remaining open place to a extent of 202.5 Sq. Yards, or 169-31 Sq. meters, situated at Cheriyal village of Cheriyal Mandal, Siddipet District, within the jurisdiction of Sub-Registrar, Cheriyal, District Registrar: Siddipet, bounded by: North: Open place of Kamalapuram Kishitiah, South: House of Gurjakunta Laxmi, East: 6.0 Feet wide Road, West:Road leads from cheriyal to Akunur.	Date of Demand Notice: 12.01.2024 Amount Outstanding: Rs. 34,39,878/-

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: 03-02-2024, Place: Cherial Sd/- Authorised Officer, Shriram Finance Limited

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED
Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032.
Administrative office: 6th Floor(level 2), Building No.Q2, Aaurum Q parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Gansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710 Branch office at: NARSAMPET

DEMAND NOTICE

1. Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from M/s. Shriram Finance Limited (Shriram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited name changed as Shriram 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.Q2, Aaurum Q Parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Gansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710. and Branch office at NARSAMPET (hereinafter referred as We/ the Company/ Lender). 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.

S.No.	Name of the Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s)	NPA Date	Date of Demand Notice
1	Pardhu Balne S/o Upender, Age: 38 Years, R/O H.No.2-101, Nekkonda (V&M), Warangal Dist - 506 122. 2) Balne Sujatha W/o Upender, Age: 66 Years, R/O H.No.2-101, Nekkonda (V&M), Warangal Dist - 506 122. 3) Konda Bathula Eashwar Kumar S/o Bixamath, Age: 63years, Occ: School Assistant Teacher, Mahabubabad R/O.H.No.8-4-67, Mahabubabad, Warangal Dist - 506 101. 4) R.Vijayender Reddy, S/o Venktram Reddy, R/o.D.No.5-163, & 164, Main Road, Nekkonda (V & M), Warangal Dist - 506 122.	13-06-2016	22-01-2024

NRSMT1F209290004- DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY (Property holder Name is BAINE SUJATHA Mortgage deed dated 24.09.2012 Registered as Document No.3296/2012 on the file of the office of Sub-Registrar at IWARANGAL) Warangal District, Narsampet Sub - District, Nekkonda Mandal, Nekkonda Gram Panchayat and Village accounts, in ward No.1 an extent of 260 Sq. Yards of vacant site and in it constructed RCC building bearing old H.No.1-98 and new 2-101, bounded as above: East: PWD Road, West: Vacant site of Md.Moulana, North : House of Amjad Annrulla South: Joint wall and site of Komraveli Dathramma

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:02-02-2024 Place: Narsampet Sd/- Authorised Officer, Shriram Finance Limited

The intention of the government is that women should live with self-respect

Adilabad, Feb 2 (TIM Bureau) : State Chief Minister Enumula Revanth Reddy said that it is the intention of the government that women should live with self-respect. On Friday, the Chief Minister of the state held an interview with women self help groups at Nagoba Durbar Hall in Keslapur, Indraveli mandal of Adilabad district. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister reminded that when he was YSR CM in the past, he had given loans to women at a nominal interest. He said that when Kiran Kumar Reddy was the CM, he gave loans at zero interest. He said that currently the price of a gas cylinder is Rs.1200, but soon the government will give a gas cylinder to women for Rs.500. He assured that only self-help groups will be given the opportunity to sew school uniforms.



He announced that the electricity bills are also getting high and on behalf of the state government, soon up to 200 units of free electricity will be given to the poor with white ration cards. Under the auspices of the department, over Rs.60 crore loans have been disbursed to 1450 DWCRAs societies under CM Bank linkage.



Kishan Reddy welcomes congress party leaders from Khammam into BJP

Continued From pg 01

He said that In the month of February, there would be induction programmes in the BJP from the village level to the state level. Reddy said that The party had decided to induct youth, farmers, farm labourers and women into the party at every polling booth level. He said that On every BJP leader would be invited to join the party after interacting with the people at the village level for 24 hours.

"We have seen 10 years of BRS party rule in Telangana. For many years before that, we have also seen the Congress party rule again. We are once again seeing the congress party rule . The people were determined to defeat the BRS party . It is not that they voted for the Congress party to ensure its victory," he said .

Reddy said that People were not confident that their problems would be resolved under the Congress party's rule. He said that CM Revanth Reddy went to villages and spoke about corruption of BRS MLAs before coming into power and added that the CM had also said that an inquiry would be conducted into the corruption that took place during the BRS regime. "But after coming to power, they are doing dupe fighting to mislead people .

There is a need to investigate the illegal transactions related to lands in and around Hyderabad during the KCR government's rule. They need to be thoroughly investigated. But the Congress government has not yet conducted an inquiry. The Congress party has a history of corruption and irregularities. That is why the people of the country are ready to boycott the Congress party," he said .

He said that The Bharatiya Janata Party would get the maximum number of seats in the upcoming parliamentary elections. "Wherever you go to Telangana. Modi's mantra is being heard. They are supporting Narendra Modi.

Defeat is not permanent : Harish Rao

Continued From pg 01

He alleged that the rythu bandhu scheme benefit was not being credited into the bank accounts of farmers of the state. "When our party's ZP chairman Sandeep Reddy asked for an answer from the state government, he was sent out with the police by state minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy . If Komatireddy Venkat Reddy has a love for Nalgonda district , he should speak on irrigation projects," he said.

He expressed anguish that handing over the Srisailem and Nagarjuna Sagar projects to KRMB would cause severe damage to Nalgonda district . "The Congress has told blatant lies about us in the elections. The congress party leaders are campaigning by doubling the original debt to evade their election promises.," he said .

Canara Bank
Branch Office: Jubilee Hills-II Hyderabad. Ph: 040-23551009

DEMAND NOTICE

Notice issued under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation & Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Name of the Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor: 1) Sri Rakesh Reddy Kothur S/o. Sri Nagender Reddy Flat No.302, 3rd Floor 8-2-120/112/A/17/A Road No.9 Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad 2) Sri Nagender Reddy Kothur S/o Late Sri Neelam Reddy Flat No.302, 3rd Floor 8-2-120/112/A/17/A Road no.9 Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad.

NPA Date:29-01-2024 Demand Notice Date: 31-01-2024

Outstanding Amount: Rs. 1,42,71,825.96 (Rupees One crore Forty Two Lakhs, Seventy One Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty Five and paisa ninety Six only) as together with further interest and incidental expenses and costs.

Immovable Property (Name of Title holder: Sri Rakesh Reddy Kothur and Sri Nagender Reddy Kothur

Details of Secured Assets : Immovable: All that part and parcel of residential flat no.302 in third floor having a total built up area of 3055 Sq.ft. including common areas including single reserved car parking slot with proportionate an undivided share of land 108 sq.yards out of 1100 sq.yards in the apartment having premises no.8-2-120/112/A/17 and 8-2-120/112/A/17/A, Road 9 Sy.No.403 on plot no. 5&6 situated at Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad , Telangana. Boundaries of Plot: North:open to Sky, South: Corridor and Stair Case, East: Open to Sky West:Open to Sky.

If you, the aforementioned persons fail to repay the above mentioned amount due by you with future interest and incidental expenses cost as stated above in terms of this notice under section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, within sixty days from the date of this notice, failing which we shall exercise all or any of the rights under section 13(4) of the subject Act, further, you are hereby restrained from dealing with any of the secured assets mentioned in the schedule in any matter whatsoever, without our prior consent. This is without prejudice to any other rights available to us under the subject Act and/or any other law in force. your attention is invited to provision of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, in respect of time available , to redeem the secured assets. The demand notice had also been issued to you by Registered post Ack due to your last known address available in the Branch record.

Date: 02-02-2024, Place: Hyderabad Sd/- Authorised Officer, Canara Bank

Congress government should help the auto rickshaw drivers : KTR Writes open letter to CM Revanth

Continued From pg 01

He also said that In just 55 days of Revanth's rule, many sections of the society were coming to a halt. "Auto rickshaws belonging to the poorest of the poor and weaker sections across the state have taken to the road today because of revanth reddy . The situation of auto rick

Mass marriage fraud unearthed in UP's Ballia

Ballia (Uttar Pradesh), Feb 2 (IANS) : In a shocking revelation, an alleged scam has come to light in Ballia regarding the Uttar Pradesh government's community wedding scheme, the police said. A man who came to witness the community wedding, alleged that he was made to pose as a groom in exchange of Rs 2,000 to 3,000. Bablu, a resident of Ballia, said

that he went as a spectator at the community programme on January 25. However, he alleged he was later told to pose as a groom in exchange of money. He also said that the programme co-ordinators made other men to pose as grooms. The scandal erupted when a video surfaced, exposing brides garlanding them-

selves. Ballia District Magistrate Ravindra Kumar said that the allocated funds for beneficiaries have not been disbursed as intended. An immediate investigation has been launched and an FIR has been registered against nine individuals, including the Assistant Development Officer (ADO) of Social Welfare Department.



Sachin Pilot questions Raj govt over ERCP, says documents should be placed in Assembly

Jaipur, Feb 2 (IANS) : Senior Congress leader and former Rajasthan Deputy CM Sachin Pilot on Friday launched a scathing attack on the Bhajan Lal Sharma-led state government, terming it a "government of confusion". Pilot also raised the demand to clarify the MoU on Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP) in the Assembly. "The discussion on the ERCP on Wednesday remained incomplete. The MoU that has been signed should be placed on the table of the House," he said during his visit to Bundi. "Dialogue happens when there is a document right in front of us. Seeing the increasing population, we hoped that

there would be a better working settlement on the ERCP and the document in this regard will be shared in a transparent manner. "However, it is just being said that sufficient water will be available. I do not consider it right that the matter which was pending for so many years is just being ended somehow before the Lok Sabha elections... we will not be able to influence the people by spreading confusion among the people," he added. Pilot also said that the construction of Ram temple has been done after the decision of the Supreme Court and it was welcomed by everyone.



No Ram Rajya in Goa, people faced with pressing issues: Vijai Sardesai

Panaji, Feb 2 (IANS) : Goa Forward President Party and MLA Vijai Sardesai said on Friday that there is no 'Ram Rajya' in Goa, where people are suffering from unemployment, price rise and threat to their identity. Addressing a presser here, Sardesai said that he will raise all the issues concerning the state during the forthcoming budget session. "The government is in a celebratory mode. They think Ram Rajya has arrived. But the reality is that Goans continue to suffer from unemployment, price rise and threat to their identity," Sardesai said. Sardesai expressed deep concern over many compelling issues plaguing the state, as he stressed the limited timeframe of the Assembly session, which always proves to be insufficient for comprehensive debates and discussions on the government's progress, to hold them accountable.

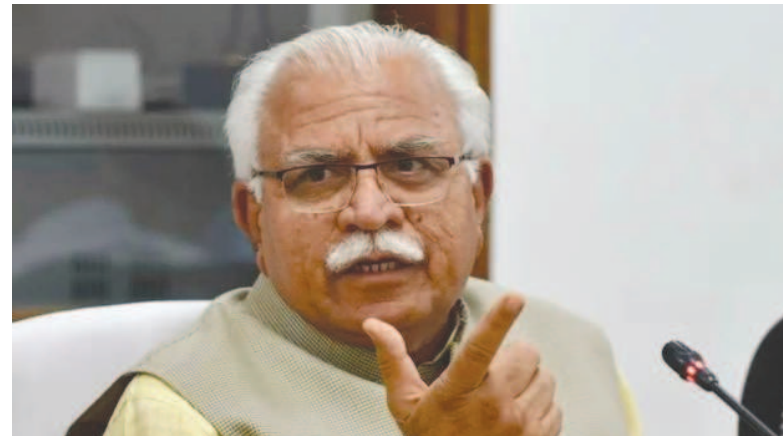


BJP MP Kirti Vardhan Singh booked for grabbing property

Ayodhya (UP), Feb 2 (IANS) : On the orders of the MP/MLA Court, a case has been registered against 12 people, including Gonda MP Kirti Vardhan Singh a.k.a Raja Bhaiya and inspectors of Mankapur Kotwali police station for the illegal occupation and

looting of a Gurudwara located in Mankapur. According to reports, one Gurbachan Kaur had filed an application in court alleging that her father-in-law, Mohar Singh, purchased land from the MP in Bhagat Singh Nagar and constructed a house with a Gurudwara inside. She

alleged that on September 13, 2023, Kirti Singh arrived at Mohar Singh's place with the then in-charge of Mankapur Kotwali, inspector Sudhir Kumar Singh, crime inspector Arun Kumar Rai, and others, and threatened Mohar Singh to vacate the house.



Sikh museum will be constructed in Pipli, says Haryana CM

Chandigarh, Feb 2 (IANS) : In a significant move towards preserving the rich traditions of Sikh gurus, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Friday said a museum near Pipli in Kurukshetra district would be constructed. Emphasising the importance of safeguarding the symbols and memories associated with all Sikh gurus in the state, the Chief Minister envisions this museum to serve as a repository of inspiration for future generations. "The aim is to impart the eternal message of humanity's service, echoing through the lives of the gurus among the youth," said Khattar while addressing the audience after releasing the book at an event in Kurukshetra University in Kurukshetra. The Chief Minister suggested

changing the title of the book to the author. Now, the title of the book is "Guruvani ki Seekh -- Sewa aur Sewak Manohar Lal". The Chief Minister shared the book covers steps taken by the present government in preserving the rich traditions and values of Sikh gurus in the past nine and a half years, includes various programs related to Prakash Parv of Guru Nanak Dev, Guru Gobind Singh, and Baba Banda Singh Bahadur. He praised the author, Prabhleen Singh, and acknowledged the efforts of the Director General, Information, Public Relations, Language, and Culture Department, Mandip Singh Brar, for the publication of the book. The book is available in English, Hindi, and Punjabi.



J&K: Rs 5 lakh assistance announced for kin of 8 killed in accident

Jammu, Feb 2 (IANS) : Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha has announced an ex-gratia of Rs 5 lakh each for the next of kin of those killed in the road accidents in Baramulla and Kishtwar on Friday. "Deeply saddened by the tragic accidents in Baramulla & Kishtwar. My thoughts are with the families who have lost their loved ones. Praying for the speedy recovery of those injured," he posted on X. An ex-gratia of Rs 5 lakh to be given to the next of kin of those who have lost their lives in the tragedies. The injured would be given Rs 1 lakh. Directed the district administrations to provide all possible assistance to the families expeditiously.



Eight-foot-long crocodile rescued in Firozabad

Agra, Feb 2 (IANS) : In a collaborative effort, the Wildlife SOS and the Uttar Pradesh Forest Department successfully rescued an eight-foot-long mugger crocodile from Udesar Gajadhar Singh village in Firozabad, Uttar Pradesh. Working seamlessly with the forest officials, the NGO's Rapid Response Unit ensured the safe rescue and relocation of the reptile. The rescue mission was carried out after villagers reported the sighting of a mug-

ger crocodile and promptly contacted the Forest Department. Recognising the urgency, the Forest Department reached out to Wildlife SOS, which immediately dispatched a team. Carefully employing a trap cage, the Rapid Response Unit captured the crocodile, which was found in a field. Following a careful extraction, the crocodile underwent a thorough on-site medical examination to assess its health. Once deemed fit, the reptile was released back into its natural habitat. Ashish Kumar, Range Forest Officer, Jsrana, said, "This res-

cue underscores the importance of swift action in wildlife emergencies. The well-coordinated efforts of the Wildlife SOS and the Forest Department highlights the effectiveness of collaborative initiatives in aiding distressed wildlife." Kartick Satyanarayan, Wildlife SOS' Co-founder and CEO, pointed out, "Wildlife SOS actively engages in diverse awareness programs and educating communities about the significance of peacefully coexisting with wildlife.



Goa CM reviews preparations of PM Modi's Feb 6 visit

Panaji, Feb 2 (IANS) : Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant said on Friday that more than 50,000 people will attend the public meeting of Prime Minister Narendra scheduled in the state on February 6. "We will present before the

Prime Minister the works we have done in the last 10 years. More than 50,000 people will attend the meeting," Sawant said after reviewing the preparations for the meeting and the Prime Minister's visit.

JD-U MLA won't hesitate to take bribe if offered

Patna, Feb 2 (IANS) : JD-U MLA in Bihar, Gopal Mandal, claimed on Friday that he has no hesitation in taking bribe if anyone offers it to him. Reacting to the ED action against RJD chief Lalu Prasad and his family members in the land-for-jobs case, Mandal told mediapersons in Bhagalpur: "If anyone gives me Rs 5 crore and asks me to keep it.



OPINIONmail

Young Scientists Induction
Training Programme Launched

The Capacity Building Commission (CBC) in collaboration with the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (Office of PSA) to the Government of India launched the Young Scientists Induction Training Programme on January 29, 2024 at the Indian Institute of Management Visakhapatnam (IIM-V). This is a first-of-its-kind training programme that envisages honing the capacities of young scientists and science administrators in managing S&T programmes, projects, products, and people; promoting cross-fertilization of ideas among participants; providing practical exposure to new-age research and technology concepts and enhancing functional, behavioural and domain skills. This programme was initiated at the behest of Honourable Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology Dr. Jitendra Singh to institutionalize early career training opportunities for young scientists across the S&T sectors. It is a hybrid training module designed and curated by IIM-V with a mix of online and on-campus activities delving into aspects such as strategy and policy skills, system skills, soft skills, and societal relevance skills.

Prof. M. Chandrasekhar, Director, IIM Vizag welcomed all participants and provided a brief snapshot of the programme and speakers. He informed that experts from across the country have been co-opted to impart the various training modules which will be ultimately uploaded on the iGOT platform for reach across the government. This was followed by a presentation by Mr. Shyama Prasad Roy, Secretary, Capacity Building Commission about the evolving role of the state from a provider of services to a participatory government mechanism. He outlined the importance of capacity building under Mission Karmayogi in achieving governance targets and activities performed across the government to rationalize demand and supply gaps, and the implementation of unique capacity-building models, including the role of the iGOT platform for providing wider access to various training modules for capacity building.

Dr. Arabinda Mitra, Honorary Distinguished Fellow, Office of PSA in his keynote address emphasized the need for all scientific departments and laboratories to keep their doors open towards adopting new age capacities and skills for its workforce. This will be critical in achieving contemporary national goals and meeting the aspirations of the people and polity using science, technology, and innovation.

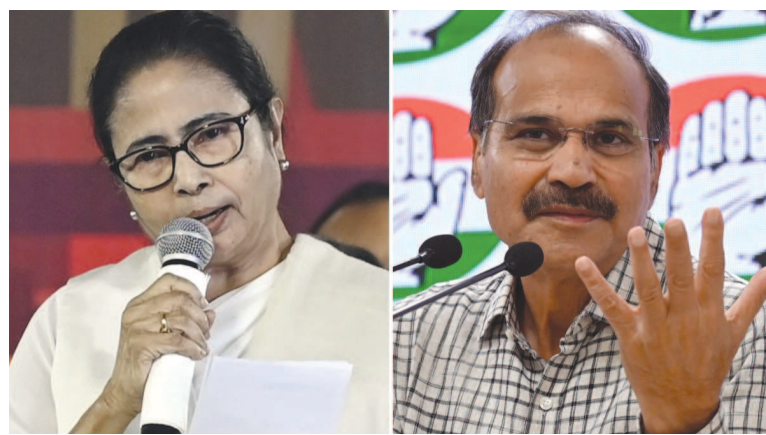
Dr. Parvinder Maini, Scientific Secretary, Office of PSA in her inaugural address asserted that capacity building exercise for young scientists is a watershed moment that will help them to reassess and re-align their thought process and work trajectory to deliver on national priorities and missions.

Due to the rapidly evolving technology landscape and associated ecosystem, training and learning must be a continuous process to empower our future scientific workforce. This would help in driving the creation of new technologies, products, and solutions that address local and global challenges and achieve the socio-economic growth of the country.

The first cohort for this programme is being attended by over 55 young scientists from different labs and centres of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). Participants shall undergo training spread across four modules involving activities like expert interaction, visits to labs and research facilities, collaborative exercises, etc. A year-round calendar is being developed by IIM-V to cover the scientific workforce spread across the country.



EDITORIAL
the indian mail



CONGRESS-TMC SPAT IN BENGAL HAS ITS
ORIGIN IN OLD MAMATA-ADHIR PERSONAL RIVALRY

A fragile peace prevails between Congress and Trinamool Congress even as Rahul Gandhi-led Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra (BJNY) has restarted in West Bengal coinciding with TMC supremo Mamata Banerjee's north Bengal tour, both likely to criss cross almost the same turf. After her fusillades against the Congress leadership for not informing her beforehand about the BJNY, the TMC chief is holding her fire following conciliatory moves from Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge. But as BJNY progresses and Banerjee's caravan rolls on, of the two political outfits especially Congress is treading softly. On the face of it, the Congress has its reasons of not reading the riot act to TMC, apprehending further cracks in the already wobbly INDIA alliance weakened by desertion of Nitish Kumar-led Janata Dal-U to BJP-led NDA. But the reason of the TMC chief

being irate with the party she broke away from in 1998 on a January day lies elsewhere. It is a manifestation of personalised political rivalry between state Congress chief Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and the TMC chief dating back to the previous millennium. It is a history of bad blood from the time when both Chowdhury and Banerjee were agitating against the Left Front monolith. But their camps differed and so did their leaders. Banerjee initially took her instructions from Subrata Mukherjee and then Siddhartha Sankar Ray. On the other hand, Chowdhury maintained his loyalty to Somen Mitra, an arch rival of Banerjee in the state Congress at that period. The duo had their share of intra-party skirmishes. The intra-party battle reached its climax when Banerjee staked her claim to the state Congress chief's post even as her senior in the Congress, Mitra rivalled her claim.

(IPA Service)

MALDIVES' PRESIDENT MUIZZU MAY LOSE
CHAIR AFTER IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS

The Maldives' China-loving, newly elected President, Mohamed Muizzu, is likely to face impeachment proceedings in Parliament soon. This means that the incumbent president is facing the threat of losing his post. The Maldivian Constitution states that a third of the Majlis members should approve the resolution for removal of the president. This development comes close on the heels of a day when utter chaos prevailed in the House during a crucial vote to approve members of the incumbent president's Cabinet as rival MPs came to blows on the floor of the House. The main Opposition, the Maldivian Democratic Party (MDP), which holds a majority in the House, says it has gathered enough signatures to put the proceedings into motion as a total of 34 members, including those representing both the MDP and Democrats, have signalled support for Muizzu's impeachment. The MDP's parliamentary group, at its meeting held on Monday (January 29, 2024), unanimously decided to submit the impeachment motion. Following the MDP and the Democrats' refusal to approve the appointment of four minis-



ters—Attorney-General Ahmed Usham; Minister for Housing, Land and Urban Development Ali Haidar; Minister for Islamic Affairs Mohamed Shaheem Ali Saeed; and Minister for Economic Development and Trade Mohamed Saeed—MPs of the rul-

ing coalition—the Progressive Party of Maldives (PPM) and Muizzu's People's National Congress (PNC)—claimed that denial of such approval was tantamount to obstructing government services for its citizens.

(IPA Service)

ISRAEL-HAMAS WAR
EXPANDS TO JORDAN
INVOLVING SIX
COUNTRIES OF THE REGION

With the killing of three US soldiers in its military base in Jordan on Monday, the Israel Hamas war has spread to one more country in the Middle East region, apart from involving Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Yemen and Syria. The US military has talked of a consequent action meaning, there will be more severe retaliation by the United States. The Pentagon has ignored the order of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) which notified its verdict on January 26 asking Israel to stop its genocide in Gaza strip and to report to the ICJ within one month on its steps taken to implement the order. The Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has ridiculed the order and the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) has announced that Israeli will not stop its operations in Gaza until Hamas militants are fully eliminated. A fringe group of militias calling itself the Islamic Resistance in Iraq said it was responsible for the drone attack on the site known as Tower 22.



FOR NIKKI HALEY, HER MAHA BATTLE WILL
BE FOUGHT AGAINST TRUMP IN HER OWN STATE

South Carolina's Republican voters have to decide between Nikki Haley and Donald Trump. But where Nikki is "liked", Donald is "loved". And therein lies the rub for Haley, for whom winning her home state is a matter of prestige. However, prestige stands no chance against prejudice. South Carolina's conservatives, the majority of them, are prejudiced in favour of Trump, doesn't matter that Nikki was twice elected South Carolina Governor by these same Republicans. The Oval Office looks distant for Nikki Haley and Trump, as everybody knows, has a love-hate relationship with the White House.

So Haley was wonderful as governor — but Trump did great things as President, say even Nikki supporters. Trump t-shirts and MAGA hats outnumber Haley stuff. That is one measure of who is ahead, who will take the state, the first regular primary. Iowa and New Hampshire were only appetizers. Showing loyalty with t-shirts is an American election thing. In India, only candidate Rahul Gandhi sported a t-shirt and none of the people who tagged along with him now and before took a cue. The South Carolina primary is set for February 24 and Haley is still to convince voters she is the present if Trump is the past.

(IPA Service)

NEPAL BALANCING
WELL ITS ECONOMIC
RELATIONS BETWEEN
CHINA AND INDIA

In recent weeks, Nepal has taken several major steps to firm up its faltering economy during the difficult post Ukraine war period. In the process, two of its recent decisions in terms of their diplomatic impact, can be perceived as a reminder to giant neighbours India and China, that Kathmandu prefers to pursue its own independent course on economic issues — it can play the balancing game between major competing powers as well as anyone in South Asia. For India the good news is that a bilateral long term agreement in the power generating sector has been signed with Nepal following several rounds of official talks. Over the next decade, India will purchase at least 10,000 megawatts of mainly hydro-power from its Himalayan neighbour. A number of green environment-friendly hydro-power generation projects have been currently under way in Nepal for some years now. Some of these mega investment projects are being executed with Indian financial/technological help and advice.



Myanmar extends state of emergency for 6 more months

Yangon, Feb 2 (IANS) : Myanmar's National Defence and Security Council (NDSC) has extended the state of emergency in the Southeast Asian country for six more months, the council's information team said. According to media report, Acting President U Myint Swe declared the extension of the state of emergency for six months during the NDSC's meeting on Friday as quoted by Xinhua news agency report. The extension was made in accordance with the Section 425 of the State Constitution due to unusual circumstances in the country, the report said. The meeting also discussed matters on combating telecom frauds, development of the country and promotion of education sector.

Morocco, US held meeting to discuss cooperation in proliferation prevention

Rabat, Feb 2 (IANS) : A meeting on preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in Africa began on Friday in the southern Moroccan city of Marrakech, the media reported. The meeting, which runs until February 2, is co-chaired by Morocco and the US and is part of the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI), a global effort to stop the trafficking of dangerous materials by land, air and sea, Xinhua news agency reported.

UNRWA totally 'infiltrated' by Hamas: Israel

Tel Aviv, Feb 2 (IANS) : Israel has said that the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in Near East (UNRWA) is "totally infiltrated" by Hamas and wants it to be replaced by another aid agency. Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had conveyed this to the Ambassadors of the UN during a meeting with them on Friday at Jerusalem, a statement issued by Israel Prime Minister's Office said. Israel had conveyed to the UN

and funding countries that 12 UNRWA staff members had directly participated in the October 7 attack when Hamas terrorists swarmed into Israel killing 1,200 people and holding 253 hostage. Israel has in its report presented before the UN stated that of the 12 UNRWA staff who had directly participated in the attack, seven were UNRWA teachers, two were educational consultants and others were administrative staff of the Agency. The UNRWA has also said that it was extremely important to conduct an independent investigation

into Israeli allegations that 12 of its employees were involved in the October 7 Hamas onslaught against Israel. According to a statement from Israel Government Press Office, Netanyahu told the UN ambassadors that the UNRWA has been in the service of Hamas, in its schools and many other things. Israel Prime Minister said: "I say this with great regret because we hoped that there would be an objective and constructive body to offer aid.



US addressing 'questions' lawmakers have on drone deal with India

Washington, Feb 2 (IANS) : A US State Department Spokesperson on Friday did not deny or confirm a news report that the proposed sale of MQ-9B SeaGuardian drones to India was being blocked by lawmakers but did say that officials "routinely consult" with members of the foreign relations committees of the US Congress and address any "questions" that they may have before they are formally notified in the final stage of the approval process. News site 'The Wire' reported that the sale of 31 of these armed drones to India for \$3 billion was being blocked by lawmakers to ensure India cooperated

with US investigation into allegations that an Indian businessman had tried to arrange the killing of a US-based Khalistani activist at the direction of an official in India. Although the report cited a joint statement issued by the five Indian-descent members of US Congress that threatened long-term damage to the relationship if India came up short in cooperating with the US investigation, the outrage felt on Capitol Hill, home to US Congress, over the alleged assassination attempt was much broader. The proposed sale of these SeaGuardian drones was among two big-ticket announcements by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Joe Biden in June.

Halting funds to UN Palestinian refugee agency will be catastrophic : WHO

Geneva, Feb 2 (IANS) : The head of the WHO has warned that cutting funds to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) would have "catastrophic consequences" for people in war-torn Gaza. "No other entity has the capacity to deliver the scale and breadth of assistance that 2.2 million people in Gaza urgently need," WHO

Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told a press conference on Friday in Geneva. "Decisions by various countries to pause funds for UNRWA, the largest supplier of humanitarian aid in this crisis, will have catastrophic consequences for the people of Gaza," Tedros said. Speaking of the situation in Gaza, he added that the WHO faces significant challenges in supporting health systems and



workers there, with more than 100,000 people having restricted access to healthcare due to fierce fighting, Xinhua news agency re-

ported. Most hospitals in Gaza have already ceased functioning due to heavy bombardments and shortages of fuel and supplies. The Nasser Hospital in central Gaza is only minimally functional, the UN has said. The risk of famine increases due to persistent hostilities and limited humanitarian access. The WHO urges reconsideration of funding cuts, emphasising the urgent need for assistance, safe access to humanitarian aid, release of hostages, protection of healthcare facilities, and a ceasefire.



Police arrest 91 as protesting farmers force into Paris food market

Paris, Feb 2 (IANS) : French Police have arrested 91 people in a standoff with protesting farmers, who blocked motorways with tractors and briefly broke into the main wholesale food market Rungis. The people were put under custody after they made a brief intrusion into a storage area of Rungis and caused damage, Paris police prefect Laurent Nunez said on Friday. Earlier on Friday, 15 farmers were arrested for obstructing traffic on the A6 motorway, a few kilometre from Rungis, Xinhua news agency reported. Across the country, nearly 6,000 farmers with 4,500 pieces of

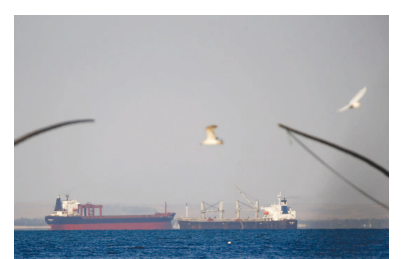
machinery have set up 80 blocking points by Wednesday noon, according to the police source. Since farmers initiated the protests last week against rising prices, bureaucracy and the influx of imports from Ukraine, the French government has promised to simplify administrative procedures, control fuel prices for farming machinery and give additional aid to wine growers. Facing similar farmer fury in Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany and Italy, the European Commission announced two concessions on Friday: temporary exemptions on the "fallow obligations."

3 Indo-Canadians to be extradited to US for drug trafficking

Toronto, Feb 2 (IANS) : Three Indian-origin men have been arrested in Canada and will be extradited for trial in the US for their alleged links with a network trafficking drugs between Mexico and the North American nations. A joint operation between the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), dubbed "Operation Dead Hand", saw 19 people charged in two US federal indictments for their al-

leged roles in the organized crime ring. Ayush Sharma, 25, and Guramrit Sandhu, 60, both from Brampton, and Subham Kumar, 29, from Calgary, were arrested under an international arrest warrant, the RCMP said in a release on Friday. "Drug trafficking is a global problem being driven by sophisticated, organised crime groups who put profits over people's lives. Motivated by greed, these criminals destroy lives, devastate families, and wreak havoc in our commu-

nity," said US Attorney Martin Estrada for the Central District of California. Investigators developed information indicating the organised crime group used Canadian "handlers" and "dispatchers" who travelled from Canada to Los Angeles for short amounts of time, a Department of Justice release noted. The handlers coordinated the pick-up and delivery of large shipments of cocaine and methamphetamine.



Yemen's Houthis claim new attack on US vessel in Gulf of Aden

Sanaa, Feb 2 (IANS) : Yemen's Houthi group has said that they launched a missile attack on a US commercial ship in the Gulf of Aden, claiming a "direct hit". The group added on Friday that they targeted the vessel KOI, a container ship that was heading to Israeli ports, "in support of the Palestinians in Gaza and response to the US-British aggression against Yemen," according to a statement released by Houthi military spokesman Yahya Sarea. Sarea said the attack was carried out with "several suitable naval missiles that directly hit the target". He added the attack came hours after the group fired missiles at a US destroyer, the USS Gravelly, in the Red Sea, Xinhua news agency reported. He noted the Houthis would confront "any US-British escalation with escalation" and would not hesitate to launch more attacks in retaliation for any "foolishness" against Yemen.

TN Cong minority wing chief files complaint against Annamalai's Yatra

Chennai, Feb 2 (IANS) : The Chairman of the minority department of the Tamil Nadu Congress Committee (TNCC) filed an online complaint on Friday against the Yatra of state BJP chief K. Annamalai. The minority department chief J. Aslam Basha has registered the complaint in the Tamil Nadu citizen portal against the 'En Mann En Makkal' Yatra

of Annamalai. In the complaint, the Congress leader said that the Yatra will reach Vanniyambadi and Ambattur towns in Tiruppur district on February 2, which is a Friday. Public nuisance was cited as the reason in the complaint against the planned roadshow by Annamalai. It may be noted that Annamalai will be visiting Vaniyambadi, Ambur and Gudiyatham towns on Febru-



ary 2 and Katpadi and Vellore towns on February 3. Basha in his complaint said, "He (Annamalai) can visit the towns any day except on Fridays as a lot of people go to

mosques in the area on that day to offer prayers. The busy stretches in these towns will get congested. However, Albert John, the Superintendent of Police (SP), Tirupattur, said that the planned roadshow will be held on the identified routes in Vanniyambadi and Ambattur towns on Friday. He also said that adequate police force will be deployed during the Yatra. The SP said that political meetings cannot be banned, but added that the complaint would be considered based on merit.



IIMC attains deemed-to-be-university status

New Delhi, Feb 2 (IANS) : The Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), a leading institution for journalism and mass communication, on Friday attained deemed-to-be-university status. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting said that with this new status, IIMC is now authorised to offer degrees, including doctoral degrees. The declaration extends to IIMC New Delhi and its five regional campuses located in Jammu

(Jammu and Kashmir), Amravati (Maharashtra), Aizawl (Mizoram), Kottayam (Kerala), and Dhenkanal (Odisha). The ministry informed that the deemed-to-be-university status has been declared by the Ministry of Education. The University Grant Commission (UGC), the regulatory body for higher educational institutions, had given the advice to the Ministry of Education to grant IIMC the status of deemed-to-be-university under distinct category.

2020 riots 'larger conspiracy' case: 4 years down, Delhi Police probe still pending, Kalita, Narwal tell court

New Delhi, Feb 2 (IANS) : A Delhi court heard arguments from counsel for 2020 Delhi riots "larger conspiracy" case accused Natasha Narwal and Devangana Kalita, who said that despite four years passing since the FIR's registration, the investigation by Delhi Police is still pending in the case. Additional Sessions Judge Sameer Bajpai was hearing an application seeking clarity on the Delhi Police's investigation in the "larger conspiracy: case before proceeding with arguments on the charges.



PMLA case: Delhi HC seeks ED response on Supertech Chairman's regular bail plea

New Delhi, Feb 2 (IANS) : The Delhi High Court on Friday sought the Enforcement Directorate's (ED) response on a plea by Supertech Group Chairman R.K. Arora, arrested in a case under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), challenging a trial court order denying him regular bail. Justice Manoj Kumar Ohri issued notice to the probe agency and listed the matter for further hearing on February 21. On January 24, Additional Sessions Judge Devender Kumar Jangala of Patiala House Courts had dismissed the regular bail plea of Arora. The court had granted Arora 30 days interim bail on January 16. The ED had then challenged Jangala's January 16 order granting him interim bail. Noting that Arora had already

been released from jail after receiving interim bail from a trial court, the high court had scheduled the matter for further hearing on February 9. Jangala had allowed bail, holding that the top court has recognised the right of the accused to obtain the treatment even from a private hospital at his own cost and expenditure. The judge granted him relief on a personal bail bond of Rs one lakh and a surety of Rs two lakh. Arora had moved the court on January 10 seeking three months' interim bail, citing health issues, and had informed the court that he has lost around 10 kg since his arrest and needs urgent medical assistance. His plea said that he was referred to the state-run Dr Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital by jail authorities, where he underwent examinations and received prescriptions. Despite medical attention, the doc-



tors at the hospital noted a lack of improvement in Arora's health. The plea argued for his immediate release on interim bail to facilitate accurate diagnosis and urgent medical treatment and said that prolonged custody could jeopardise Arora's health, leading to intolerable consequences for him and his family. It also underscored the disparity between medical facilities in prisons and those available in private hospitals, stating that jail facilities are inadequate for monitoring the health of an individual suffering from multiple serious ailments.

AIIMS doctor summoned in rape case; evidence deemed 'prima facie sufficient' by court

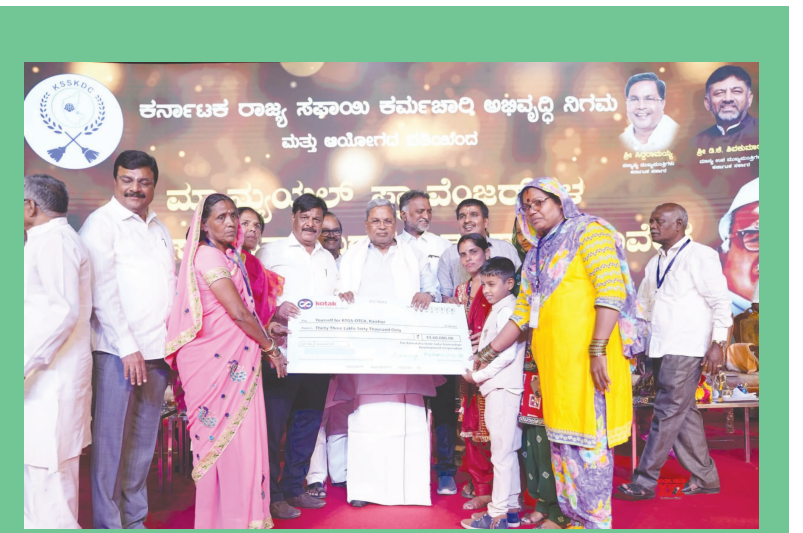
New Delhi, Feb 2 (IANS) : A Delhi court has summoned a doctor from the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) accused of raping another doctor on the pretext of marriage. Metropolitan Magistrate Vijayshree Rathore of Saket Courts, however, deemed the evidence on record "prima facie sufficient" to proceed with the case against Dr. Deepak Gupta. The Hauz Khas police station registered the case under Indian Penal Code sections 376 (rape), 377 (unnatural offences), 313

(causing miscarriage without a woman's consent), and 506 (criminal intimidation). Having examined a few crucial paper, the magistrate stated: "Accordingly, I take cognisance of the offence under sections 376, 377, 313, and 506 of the IPC against the accused. "I have gone through the challan u/s 173 Cr.P.C. and statements and documents annexed alongwith it. Perusal of the same reveals that the allegations levelled against the accused and the material on record is prima facie sufficient to proceed with the case," the judge said. The court directed the summon-



ing of Dr. Deepak Gupta on February 26 through the station house officer (SHO) concerned. However, the court did not summon the accused's two sisters and brother, citing that the marriage between Gupta and the complainant was not solemnised. "Perusal of the record shows that

there is no specific allegations against suspected persons placed in column no. 12 i.e. Mohan Lal Gupta, Uma Gupta and Baby Gupta as the marriage ceremony between the complainant and accused Dr. Deepak Gupta was never solemnised," the court said.



Siddaramaiah warns of strict legal action over manual scavenging

Bengaluru, Feb 2 (IANS) : Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday warned of strict legal action if anyone is found engaging any individual in manual scavenging, while saying there should be no manual scavengers in the state. He said this while speaking at a programme in which some people who were engaged in manual scavenging were identified and paid a compensation of Rs 40,000 each. Speaking at the programme, the Karnataka chief minister said: "It is our party's as well as the government's commitment to ensure civic workers live with dignity. Therefore, I raised the salary of Safai Karmacharis from Rs 7,000 to Rs 17,000 immediately after

becoming the Chief Minister. Manual scavenging is not allowed in the state." The senior Congress leader further said: "It is our government that implemented a scheme to provide Rs 7.5 lakh assistance to build houses to construction workers. I implemented these programmes as Chief Minister." Social Welfare Minister HC Mahadevappa, Malavalli MLA Narendraswamy, Mayakonda MLA Basantappa, Nelamangala MLA Srinivas were also present at the programme organised by Social Welfare Department and Karnataka State Safai Karmachari Development Corporation. Financial assistance was distributed to more than 4,000 Safai Karmacharis.

Smuggled in from Myanmar, drugs worth Rs 30 cr seized in Mizoram; 2 held

Aizawl, Feb 2 (IANS) : The Assam Rifles along with other law enforcing agencies in separate raids have recovered drugs worth over Rs 30.17 crore in Mizoram and apprehended two drug peddlers, officials said on Friday. The Assam Rifles along with the officials of Special Narcotics Police Station, CID (Crime), recovered 34.99 gm heroin valued at Rs 17.49 lakh from the Zemabawk area in Aizawl and apprehended one person on Friday night.

SC imposes Rs 12 lakh cost on 6 Maharashtra cops for illegally detaining three persons

New Delhi, Feb 2 (IANS) : The Supreme Court has imposed a cost of Rs 12 lakh on six Maharashtra Police personnel for conspiring and abetting illegal detention of three persons and getting their rented property demolished without any court order. "Out of the six police personnel, three are constables, one is a Head Constable, one is a Sub Inspector, and one is an Inspector. They shall suffer a cost of Rs 50,000 per constable, Rs 1 lakh by the Head Constable, Rs 1.50 lakh by the Sub-Inspector, and Rs 2 lakh by the Inspector, totalling Rs 6 lakh for each case with the above distribution,"



said a bench of Justices Vikram Nath and S.C. Sharma. The bench said that this amount will be deposited within 4 weeks in the Armed Forces Battle Casualties Welfare Fund and thereupon, the proceedings of the two

complaint cases will stand closed. If the proof of deposit is not filed within the stipulated time, the petitions filed before the Supreme Court by the police personnel would stand dismissed, it added.

Nitish Kumar to talk to PM, HM over Manipur situation : JD(U) MLA

Imphal, Feb 2 (IANS) : Bihar Chief Minister and JD(U) chief Nitish Kumar has reportedly expressed serious concerns over the ethnic turmoil in Manipur, and assured the lone JD(U) MLA from the northeastern state that he would urge Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah to make all-out efforts to bring back peace in the state at the earliest. JD(U) MLA Md Abdul Nasir on Friday met Nitish Kumar in Patna and discussed the prevailing situation in strife-torn Manipur. Nasir

later said that during the meeting, Nitish Kumar expressed grave concern about the ongoing ethnic crisis in Manipur. "He (Nitish) assured me that he would request the Prime Minister and the Home Minister to make all-out efforts to bring back peace and restore normalcy in Manipur at the earliest," Nasir said. He added: "I called on Nitish-ji at his official residence in Patna to congratulate him for being appointed as the Chief Minister of Bihar for the ninth time under the new alliance with the BJP.

Aadhar Housing Finance Limited files DRHP with SEBI for an IPO

Hyderabad, Feb 2 (TIM Bureau) : Aadhar Housing Finance Limited has filed a draft red herring prospectus (DRHP) proposing an IPO comprising fresh issue of Equity Shares of up to Rs. 10000 million and an Offer for Sale of up to Rs. 40,000 million by BCP Topco VII Pte. Ltd. (Promoter Selling Shareholder). Since June 2019, BCP Topco, which is the Promoter, and is an affiliate of funds managed and/or advised by affiliates of Blackstone Group Inc (collectively "Blackstone"), currently holds 98.7% of the pre-Offer issued, subscribed and paid-up Equity Share capital. The Company proposes to utilize the Net Proceeds towards the following: (i) To meet future capital

requirements towards regional lending; and (ii) General corporate purposes. The Company is an HFC focused on the low income housing segment (ticket size less than 1.5 million) in India and we had the highest AUM and net worth among our analyzed peers in six months ended September 30, 2023, according to CRISIL. It offers a range of mortgage-related loan products, including loans for residential property purchase and construction; home improvement and extension loans; and loans for commercial property construction and acquisition. It has an extensive network of 471 branches* including 91 sales offices, as of September 30, 2023.

Zoho reports Rs 8,703 cr revenue in FY23, profit crosses Rs 2,800 cr

New Delhi, Feb 2 (IANS) : Global software-as-a-service (SaaS) company Zoho has reported consolidated revenue of Rs 8,703 crore in the financial year 2023 (FY23), up nearly 30 per cent (year-on-year). The Sridhar Vembu-led Zoho's consolidated net profit was at Rs 2,836 crore, which increased marginally by 3 per cent (year-on-year) due to an increase in expenses, according to its consolidated financial statements with the Registrar of Companies (RoC). In FY22, Zoho recorded a consolidated revenue of Rs

6,711 crore, reports Entracker. The company primarily generated revenue through the sale of its own enterprise IT management software and business application software, namely Manage Engine and Zoho. In FY23, it additionally earned Rs 16.6 crore from its other operating activities. Moreover, the company earned Rs 455 crore from interest and gains on financial assets in FY23, bringing its total revenue to Rs 9,158.9 crore, the report mentioned. According to TheKredible, employee benefit spending accounted for 50.5 per cent of total expenditure. This cost increased



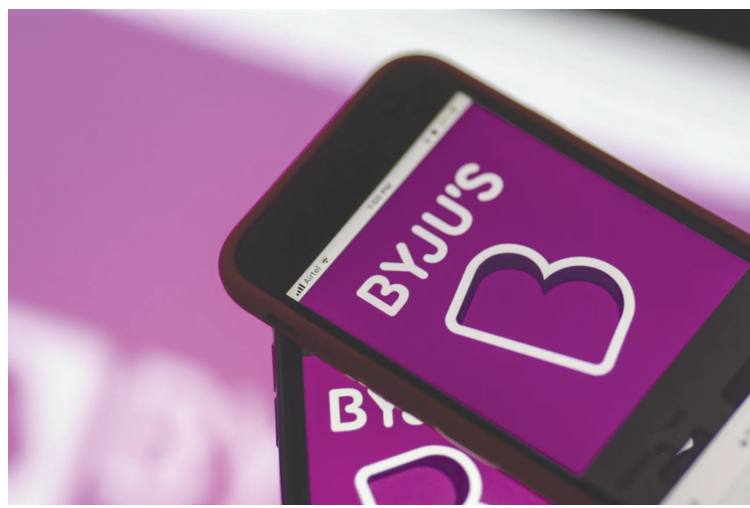
49 per cent to Rs 2,722 crore in FY23, from Rs 1,827 crore in FY22. Other notable costs included advertising and promotional spending, which increased by 89.4 per cent to Rs 1,354 crore in FY23 from Rs 714.8 crore in

FY22. During FY23, Zoho also incurred web hosting, data centre, legal, and other expenses, resulting in a 51 per cent spike in total expenses from Rs 3,572 crore in FY22 to Rs 5,393 crore in FY23.

Investors have no voting rights on CEO change : Byju's

New Delhi, Feb 2 (IANS) : Embattling edtech company Byju's on Friday said investors have no voting rights on CEO change, after statements from a select few investors surfaced, calling for an extraordinary general meeting (EGM) to replace founder and group CEO Byju Raveendran. Think & Learn Private Limited, the parent of Byju's, said it will continue with the proposed \$200 million rights issue after receiving encouraging responses from multiple investors. In a separate letter to employees seen by IANS, the company accused certain investors of "conspiring" against the company in this

time of crisis. The company hit back at the investors a day after they launched the campaign to oust its leadership. "Certain investors, seeing the crisis we faced, saw it as an opportunity to conspire and demand the stepping down of our founder as the Group CEO of Byju's," the company said in a letter seen by IANS. "We are pained to see this action from a few of the investors who should have supported us in our fight at these challenging times, instead of directly speaking to the media. The founders are the largest investors and the greatest fighters for Byju's," it added. The company also mentioned that the \$200 million rights issue has "already received commitments



for more than 100 per cent of the proposed amount". In the letter, the edtech firm also noted "a slight delay in salary disbursements this month because of the artificially induced crisis by these select investors". The company assured employees that the salaries will be paid in a phased manner starting February 2 and the process will be completed by Monday, i.e. February 5.

"Byju sir has personally shouldered the responsibility of paying our salaries over the past several months, including pledging his only home to ensure our financial security. This month is no different," the letter read. Byju's has reportedly delayed salaries of its employees for the month of January.

Tata Motors Q3 net profit surges more than 2-fold to Rs 7,025 cr

New Delhi, Feb 2 (IANS) : Tata Motors on Friday announced a more than two-fold increase in its consolidated net profit at Rs 7,025 crore for the October-December quarter of the current financial year driven by strong sales in its UK luxury car unit Jaguar Land Rover (JLR). The company had recorded a net

profit of Rs 2,958 crore in the same quarter of the previous fiscal. JLR's sales rose 27 per cent in the global market in the third quarter, accounting for two-third of the revenue. "It is satisfying to see our businesses execute well on their differentiated strategies and deliver a strong set of results for the quarter.



Sensex up by more than 700 points a day after Interim Budget

New Delhi, Feb 2 (IANS) : BSE Sensex jumped more than 700 points to cross the 72k mark on Friday, a day after the presentation of the Interim Budget 2024-25. Sensex was trading at 72,422.09 points, up 776.79 points or 1.08 per cent. Powergrid is the top gainer, up by more than 4 per cent. Infosys

is up more than 2 per cent. The Nifty top gainers are BPCL, Adani Ports, up by more than 4 per cent. V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Financial Services said the non-populist Budget focused on fiscal consolidation is a big positive.



Apple made it 'very difficult' to build rival app stores in EU: Zuckerberg

San Francisco, Feb 2 (IANS) : Apple has made it very difficult for others to build rival app stores in the European Union (EU), Meta founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg has said. Apple maintains that side-loading represents a security threat. However, the EU's upcoming Digital Markets Act (DMA) has forced the tech giant to make App store changes in the region, including new fees.



"I don't think that the Apple thing is going to have any difference for us. Because I think that the way they have implemented it, I would

be very surprised if any developer chose to go into the alternative app stores that they have."



Apple iPhone revenue reaches \$69.7 bn in Dec quarter, up 6%

New Delhi, Feb 2 (IANS) : Apple has registered \$69.7 billion revenue for iPhones in the December quarter of 2023, a 6 per cent growth year-over-year. The company set all-time records in several countries and regions, including Latin America, Western Europe, the Middle East, and Korea, as well as December quarter records in India and Indonesia. "Our iPhone active install base grew to a new all-time high, and we had an all-time record number of iPhone upgraders during the quarter," said Luca Maestri, Apple CFO. According to a survey from Kantar, iPhones were four out of the top five models in the U.S. and Japan, four out of the top six models in urban China and the UK, and all top five models in Australia. Apple

services revenue also set an all-time record of \$23.1 billion, up 11 per cent year-over-year. "We're very pleased with our services performance in both developed and emerging markets, with all-time revenue records in the Americas, Europe, and rest of Asia-Pacific," said Maestri. Mac generated revenue of \$7.8 billion and returned to growth, despite one less week of sales this year. "Customer response to our latest iMac and MacBook Pro models powered by the M3 chips has been great and our Mac install base reached an all-time high, with almost half of Mac buyers during the quarter being new to the product," said the company. iPad was \$7 billion in revenue, down 25 per cent year over year. "iPad faced a difficult compare, be-

cause during the December quarter last year, we launched the new iPad Pro and iPad 10th generation, and we had an extra week of sales," said Maestri. Wearables, Home and Accessories revenue was \$12 billion, down 11 per cent year over year due to a challenging launch compare and the extra week a year ago. With the upcoming launch of Apple Vision Pro, the company is seeing strong excitement in enterprise. "Leading organisations across many industries, such as Walmart, Nike, Vanguard, Striker, Bloomberg and SAP have started leveraging and investing in Apple Vision Pro as the new platform to bring innovative spatial computing experiences to their customers and employees," said the company.

RBI issues warning against fraud through KYC trick

Mumbai, Feb 2 (IANS) : The Reserve Bank RBI on Friday cautioned the general public against frauds in the name of KYC updation as more incidents are being reported of customers being cheated through this malicious practice. The modus operandi for such frauds usually involves customers receiving unsolicited communications, including phone calls/SMS/emails, through which they are manipulated into revealing personal information, account/login details, or installing unauthorised or unverified apps through links provided in the messages. Such communications often employ tactics of creating a false urgency and threatening of account freezing/blocking/closure, if the customer fails to comply. When customers share essential personal or login details, fraudsters gain unauthorised access to their accounts and engage in fraudulent activities.





Lalan Singh slams Rahul Gandhi for his claim on Bihar caste survey

Patna, Feb 2 (IANS) : Former JD-U national president and MP from Munger, Lalan Singh on Friday slammed Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for speaking lies on the caste survey in Bihar. Rahul Gandhi, during a speech in Purnea's Rang Bhumi ground on Friday, claimed that the caste based survey was conducted in Bihar following the pressure applied by him on Chief Minister Nitish Kumar. "The statement of Rahul Gandhi on caste based survey was absolutely false. You may not know but I want to tell you that Nitish Kumar will not work under the pressure of anyone. The caste based survey was the commitment of Nitish Kumar. He had

Last session of Arunachal Pradesh Assembly on Feb 8-9

Itanagar, Feb 2 (IANS) : A two-day session of the Arunachal Pradesh Assembly would be held on February 8 and 9, an official said on Friday. The elections to the 60-member Arunachal Pradesh assembly are most likely to be held simultaneously with the Lok Sabha polls in April or May, sources said. The five-year term of the assembly ends on June 2. Assembly officials said that Governor Lt General (Retd) K.T. Parnaik has summoned the session. Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein, who holds the Finance portfolio, is likely to present an interim budget or vote-on-account for the financial year 2024-25 on February 9.



45 IPS officers transferred in Bengal ahead of Lok Sabha polls

Kolkata, Feb 2 (IANS) : The West Bengal government on Friday announced a major reshuffle of IPS officers in the state by transferring as many as 45 officers in one go, with months to go before the Lok Sabha polls. The most significant transfer was in the rank of Additional Director General (Law & Order), where veteran IPS officer and the current ADG (Intelligence Branch), Manoj Kumar Verma, replaced Javed Shamim, as the latter took over as ADG (Intelligence Branch). Another significant transfer was in the rank of Superintendent of Basirhat District Police, J. Tho-

mas, who has been transferred as police superintendent of Islampur. Thomas has been replaced by the erstwhile superintendent of the counter insurgency force of the state police.

There is a buzz that Thomas' transfer has some links with the recent attack on ED and CAPF personnel at Sandeshkhali, which comes under the jurisdiction of Basirhat District Police.

However, state government officials have described the transfers as routine transfers. Sources in the state administration said that most of them had been in their earlier postings for a period of three years or more.

As per the rules, before any election, be it Lok Sabha or that of state Assembly, the transfer of officers completing three years or more in a particular posting is mandatory.

CPI-M responsible for spoiling Trinamool's relationship with Congress: Mamata

Kolkata, Feb 2 (IANS) : West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Friday accused the CPI-M of being responsible for deterioration of her Trinamool Congress' "amicable" relationship with the Congress. "I was with the Congress at one point of time. My understanding with Congress leadership was quite amicable. But because of the CPI-M, our relationship with Congress got spoiled," she said

while addressing an administrative review meeting at Malda district. Again holding the Congress responsible for the failed seat-sharing arrangement, Banerjee said excessive demands from the section of its leaders ultimately prompted her to take a decision of moving alone in West Bengal. "I thought of working together for the sake of the bigger national interest. They do not have a representative in the West Bengal As-

sembly. They just have two Lok Sabha seats from the state. So I was willing to offer two. I also ensured their victory from those two seats. But they refused to accept that offer. Then I thought it was enough. I will not be able to move along with the CPI-M, which conspired to kill me again and again. They have killed so many people in West Bengal," she said. Banerjee also said that the Congress's understanding with the



CPI-M will actually benefit the BJP in West Bengal. "So it is better that the Trinamool Congress contests alone and make an all-out

effort to defeat BJP," she said. Referring to the smashing of the rear windscreen of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's vehicle

during the Nyay Yatra rally on Wednesday morning, the Chief Minister said that the incident actually happened in Bihar just before they entered West Bengal. "I do not support such acts. I condemn attacks on anybody. But later I learnt that the incident happened at Katihar in Bihar. The particular vehicle entered West Bengal with that smashed windscreen. Nitish Kumar's party in Bihar has just moved to BJP's side. On the other hand, others are united. So it is possible that it might have happened there," she said.

Prakash Ambedkar claims VBA still not part of MVA

Akola (Maharashtra), Feb 2 (IANS) : The Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi (VBA) President Prakash Ambedkar claimed here on Friday that his party is still not included in the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA). Ambedkar said that it is still not clear whether Maharashtra unit Congress president Nana Patole has been vested with the authority, but he is corresponding with the VBA on the issue. "We were told by AICC General Secretary Ramesh Chennithala that ex-CM Ashok Chavan.



Yet to take a decision on contesting LS polls, says TTV Dhinakaran

Chennai, Feb 2 (IANS) : Amma Makkal Munnetra Kazhagam (AMMK) founder and former MLA, TTV Dhinakaran, has said that he has not taken any decision on contesting 2024 general elections. He was responding to a question at Madurai airport on Friday. While speaking to reporters, Dhinakaran said, "Personally I'm not interested but my cadres want me to contest and we have a strong base at Theni. However I am yet to take a decision."

The senior leader, who is also the nephew of VK Shashikala, former aide of late Chief Minister J. Jayalalithaa, said that he was contemplating for an alliance in the 2024 general elections.

He also said that he and former Chief Minister, O. Panneerselvam have decided to join together and to chart the political journey together.



Lashing out at the DMK, he said, "The DMK is deceiving the people by not fulfilling its election promises. Despite the strong alliance that the DMK is bound to form, the public mood is against the government. Our campaign will target the anti-incumbency votes." Dhinakaran also said that the AIADMK would not win big in the ensuing general elections.

It may be noted that AMMK was formed after VK Shashikala was expelled from the AIADMK and has a support base in southern Tamil Nadu. Former Chief Minister OPS, VK Shashikala and TTV Dhinakaran hail from the Thevar community and Dhinakaran is expecting this vote bank for a win in Southern Tamil Nadu.



Earlier the target was my wife, now it's my daughter, my hands are clean: Pinarayi Vijayan

Thiruvananthapuram, Feb 2 (IANS) : Breaking his silence on the affairs of his daughter's IT firm Exalogic, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan told the Kerala Assembly on Friday that his hands were clean. "Before it was against my wife, now the allegations are directed to-

wards my daughter. My daughter started a small IT firm using the retirement amount which my wife received. I am not going to be fazed by all this as my hands are clean. (he raised both his hands)," said Vijayan while concluding his speech on the motion of thanks to the Governor's address.

Kerala Lok Sabha constituency, where Sabarimala temple is located, could see triangular fight of Christian candidates

Thiruvananthapuram, Feb 2 (IANS) : Kerala's Pathanamthitta Lok Sabha constituency, where the famed Hindu temple of Sabarimala is located, will, in all likelihood, witness a triangular fight of three Christian candidates representing the three political fronts in Kerala in the upcoming general elections. This became evident on Friday, when seven-time former

legislator P.C. George was admitted into the BJP in Delhi in the presence of General Secretary in charge of state Prakash Javadekar and Union Ministers V. Muraleedharan and Rajiv Chandrasekhar.

George, in his 33 years as a legislator, represented the Poonjar constituency, which is part of the Pathanamthitta Lok Sabha constituency and hence, the BJP which is expecting to reach out to the Christian community



through George, hopes with he being the local boy, it could spell credence to Javadekar's repeated statements that this time the BJP will win a minimum 5

seats out of the state's 20. However, this can be seen as an ardent wish as the BJP has no seat in the 140-member Assembly.

Boy kidnapped in Bihar's Sitamarhi

Patna, Feb 2 (IANS) : A 10-year-old boy was kidnapped at gunpoint by unidentified men in Bihar's Sitamarhi district, police said. The incident occurred at Pachrahiya Mor under Sonbarsa police station in Sitamarhi district when brick kiln operator Vijay Kumar, along with his son Abhishek Kumar, were returning home on Friday night and some unidentified persons intercepted them. They took the father-son duo to

an undisclosed location and then freed Vijay Kumar and took away Abhishek Kumar with them. "We have registered an FIR in this connection and the matter is under investigation. We are making efforts to rescue the child safely," SDPO, Sitamarhi Sadar, Sri Ram Krishna, said. The place where the crime occurred is very near the Nepal border and police suspecting that the accused may have crossed over. No ransom call has been received.



Army chief Gen Pande unveils expanded Bombay Sappers memorial, postage stamp

Pune, Feb 2 (IANS) : Chief of Army Staff, Gen Manoj Pande here on Friday dedicated the expanded Bombay Sappers War Memorial at the Bombay Engineer Group and Centre in Kirkee, and released a commemorative postage stamp as part of its centenary celebrations. Addressing a gathering of over 3,000 personnel including soldiers of the Sikh Light Infantry and Maratha Light Infantry Marching Contingents, Gen. Pande praised the role of the Bombay Sappers for their outstanding professionalism to render combat engineering support to the field formations of the Indian Army and in nation building exercises. The Bombay Sappers War Memorial is a hallowed structure standing tall in memory of the soldiers who have made the supreme sacrifice. The expanded War Memorial includes two arched rows

of ascending walls bearing names of each of the bravehearts and a digital kiosk established to locate each name for the visitors. The CoAS also lauded the training imparted to the first two batches of Agniveer at the training centre here and expressed satisfaction over new training methods and technology like simulators and video-based training during the 31-week duration. Gen Pande exhorted the Commanding Officers to ensure their smooth integration in the units and expressed confidence that they will excel while in service and prove to be model citizens when they step out of uniform. He interacted with members of the expedition teams who were part of three challenging expeditions undertaken to commemorate the War Memorial Centenary.

Stalin outlines similarities between jallikattu and bull fighting, Tamil and Spanish languages

Chennai, Feb 2 (IANS) : Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, who is on an eight-day visit to Spain, said that there were similarities between the Tamil and Spanish languages. He stated that jallikattu of Tamil Nadu was similar to the bull fighting of Spain and added that there were cultural similarities between the people of the two places. The Chief Minister's Office in a statement on Friday said that Stalin was speaking at a function in Madrid for wooing investments for Tamil Nadu on

Tuesday evening. Stalin while speaking at the 'Tamil Nadu Investors First Port of Call' event in Madrid, commenced his speech in Spanish before switching to Tamil. He told the gathering he was visiting Spain for the first time and was charmed by its beauty. Stalin said that he was proud of the Tamil language and Jallikattu and added that the Spanish language was the second largest language in the world and Spain a land of bull tamers.



Advocates' association opposes proposal to move Kerala HC to Kalamassery

Kochi, Feb 2 (IANS) : The Kerala High Court Advocates Association (KHCAA) has opposed the proposal to move the High Court to Kalamassery, about 15 km from the present location. The KHCAA, at its general body meeting, has passed a resolution opposing the proposal. The resolution also demanded the High Court to set

up a committee to secure 17 acres of Housing Board land available near the current High Court location for future expansion. The High Court was first established at Ram Mohan Palace, a two-storied building that was built in the mid-1930s. In 2006, the High Court was moved to the present building adjacent to the old one. In January 2023, the Registrar General of the Kerala High Court



informed KHCAA that there was no proposal to shift the location, instead, the High Court had only requested the state government to allot additional land to it for further development.

Why didn't Nitish Kumar provide jobs in 17 years in Bihar: RJD

Patna, Feb 2 (IANS) : After Nitish Kumar claimed on Friday that the recruitment of teachers in the state was done at his behest, Manoj Jha, the RJD's Rajya Sabha MP asked why the Bihar Chief Minister had not provided jobs in the last 17 years of his rule. "The Mahagathbandhan government was formed in August 2022 after the RJD extracted a promise that four lakh jobs would be provided to the people of Bihar. When Nitish Kumar came to Lalu Prasad Yadav and said that the BJP was trying to break his party, the RJD supremo realised that he should

be protected and hence he agreed to form the government in Bihar. "At that time, Tejashwi Yadav had put a condition of providing four lakh jobs to the people of the state before Nitish Kumar. He said that the RJD had made a poll promise to give 10 lakh government jobs. When Nitish Kumar accepted the condition, then the government was formed," Jha claimed. "Nitish Kumar had ruled for 17 years before that. Why did he not do the recruitments at that time? "Today, the youth, and every caste and community is disappointed by the change of government. We developed road infrastructure, conducted the caste-based survey and reservation was extended in Bihar," Jha said. "Tejashwi Yadav has created 1.35 lakh jobs in the health sector. The signatures on the files are complete.



Odisha: W&CD dept asks district collectors to stop sorcery-related crimes

Bhubaneswar, Feb 2 (IANS) : Following the directions of the Odisha Human Rights Commission (OHRC), the Department of Women & Child Development (W&CD) in the state has asked the district collectors to submit detailed reports regarding the steps taken to stop the menace of sorcery-related crimes in their respective jurisdictions. The OHRC, while hearing a plea filed by rights activist Biswapriya Kanungo, had earlier sought the response of the different departments, including the W&CD department, regarding the actions taken to check the rising cases of witch-hunting and related crimes. The department has asked the collectors to submit details regarding the number of cases reported from different districts relating to witchcraft and the present status of the cases filed between 2018 and 2022. The steps have been taken to spread awareness about the menace as per the composite action plan formulated by the state Home Department in 2017 and the funds spent for the awareness campaigns in different districts.

Thane hospital got aid from Maharashtra CM on forged papers, reveals RTI query

Mumbai, Feb 2 (IANS) : In a shocking revelation under RTI, it has come to light that a Thane hospital allegedly secured financial assistance from the Maharashtra Chief Minister's Relief Fund on the basis of forged documents, an activist said here on Friday. The RTI crusader, Anil Galgali, had sought details from the office of Chief Min-

ister Eknath Shinde about fake or cheating cases pertaining to the CM Relief Fund in the last two years, after he (CM) took office. In the reply, the CM Relief Fund Assistant Accounts Officer, Sanjay Tambe has admitted the case pertaining to one Dr. Anudurg Dhoni of Ganapati Multispeciality Hospital at Ambivali in Thane east - which is Shinde's hometown. The CMO has said that Dr.

Dhoni's hospital, his staff and others associated with them are suspected to have received the financial aid on the basis of fake documents submitted to the government. However, the exact amount of the monetary help, for what purpose, or when it was disbursed to the alleged fake beneficiary, what kind of fake documents were submitted and other relevant details



are not provided in the RTI reply to Galgali. After the matter came to light, the CMO promptly asked the Mumbai Commissioner of Police to investigate the matter and file a case as required, on November 6, 2023, said the reply.

Amartya Sen vs Visva-Bharati : Lower court rules in favour of economist

Kolkata, Feb 2 (IANS) : Nobel laureate economist Amartya Sen on Friday won the first round of legal battle against the Visva-Bharati University in Santiniketan, with a district court in West Bengal's Birbhum dismissing the notice of eviction issued by the university authorities against Sen last year. In April last year, Sen had approached the district court after the eviction notice was issued against him in a dispute over 13 decimals of the land within

the university campus. The authorities claimed that the Nobel laureate economist illegally occupied that portion of the land. Finally, the district court on Friday delivered its judgment in the matter and dismissed the eviction notice issued by the university authorities. Till the time of filing of this report, there was no reaction from the Visva Bharati authorities on the court order. "We have won. Amartya Sen will not have to vacate the land. The court observed that the eviction notice against him lacks factual

basis," Sen's counsel said after the order was passed. To recall, The dispute over the 13 decimals of land started when then Vice Chancellor of Visva-Bharati University, Bidyut Chakraborty, started accusing Sen of illegally occupying 1.38 acres of land which is in excess of his legal entitlement of 1.25 acres. However, Sen refuted the allegation, claiming the original 1.25 acres were gifted to his grandfather late Kshitimohan Sen, who was



the second VC of Visva-Bharati University. Later, Sen's father late Asutosh Sen, who was also a professor with the same university, purchased the remaining 13 decimals of land, which is at the centre of the dispute. The West Bengal government had recently transferred leasehold rights of the entire 1.38 acres of land to Sen to thwart any eviction attempt by the university authorities.

TN village panchayat president's husband, five others held for extortion bid

Chennai, Feb 2 (IANS) : Six people, including the husband of a village panchayat president, were arrested by the Tamil Nadu Police in a case related to extortion and threats. The six were arrested by the Tambaram Police on Friday evening. Bhagavathi has been elected as the President of Kattankulathur village in Tambaram of Chennai. She got elected as an independent candidate. Ever since she became president recently due to change of regime in the



panchayat, her husband Nagarajan who is a real estate businessman has been interfering in the affairs of the panchayat. Shopkeepers and wayside businessmen and women who used to sell flowers, vegetables.

Political tongues wag in Maharashtra as Raghuram Rajan drops in to meet Thackeray

Mumbai, Feb 2 (IANS) : Well-known economist and ex-Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, Raghuram Rajan called on former Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, at his house late on Friday night, setting tongues wagging in political circles in the state. The meeting, described as a "courtesy call", nevertheless fueled intense political speculation, though Shiv Sena (UBT) leaders and other Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) bigwigs remained tight-lipped

about it. Rajan, 60, was welcomed warmly with a bouquet of flowers by Uddhav, wife Rashmi and their children, Yuva Sena chief and Worli MLA Aditya besides environmentalist Tejas, at the family home, 'Matoshri' in Bandra east. Party officials claimed that issues of mutual interest were discussed at the meeting held in a cordial atmosphere, though details were not revealed. Rajan was appointed as the 23rd RBI Governor in September 2013 by the erstwhile UPA Government

of former Prime Minister, Dr Manmohan Singh. His tenure was till September 2016 and then he was succeeded by Urjit Patel, who was appointed by the NDA Government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Barely two months later on November 8, 2016, the country witnessed the historic demonetisation exercise, which was first openly opposed by the then NDA ally and undivided Shiv Sena chieftain Thackeray, and he still remains a staunch critic of the move.



As cost spikes, number of Haj applicants from UP goes down

Lucknow, Feb 2 (IANS) : Following an increase in cost and post-Covid rules, there has been a visible decline in the number of people applying for Haj from Uttar Pradesh. According to the data from the state Haj committee, this year, the state could not even fill its allocated quota despite extending the application deadline by a month, which contrasts with the previous system of selecting pilgrims through a lottery. By January 15, only 19,702 people had applied for Haj, compared to 26,786 last year.

Uttar Pradesh is allocated a quota of 30,000 devotees. By the original deadline of December 20 last year, only 6,737 applications were received, prompting an extension of the deadline to January 15. A Haj official said, "The continuous increase in the cost of Haj and the new conditions imposed after the pandemic are major reasons behind this decline. Last year, one person's Haj cost was Rs 4.24 lakh, excluding the cost of sacrifice."



Kerala: After years of stealing women footwear, thief caught on CCTV

Thiruvananthapuram, Feb 2 (IANS) : A thief, who has been stealing footwear of young women from homes in and around Thamarassery town in Kerala's Kozhikode district, has been caught on CCTV. A woman on condition of anonymity said this has been happening for several years and despite the best efforts, none including the police had any clue. "The thief only steals the footwear of young women, leaving the footwear of males aside," said the woman who had experienced it.

Hanuman flag controversy escalates, objections on green flags in public places puts K'taka Govt in fix

Bengaluru, Feb 2 (IANS) : The removal of a Hanuman flag from a public place in Mandya district of Karnataka has taken a turn for the worse, with demands being raised on Friday for the removal of green flags installed in public places in the state. The Karnataka Government is in a fix over the develop-

ment. In one social media post that went viral, one Shashank JS has questioned Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, asking them why there was a green flag opposite the JJ Nagar police station in the Chamrajpet Assembly constituency of Bengaluru city. In the post, he also tagged BJP

State President, BY Vijayendra and BJP MLA Basanagouda Patil Yatnal. Objections were also raised by BJP state leaders over the hoisting of a green flag at Chandini Chowk in Shivajinagar in Bengaluru. A picture of the flag has also gone viral on social media.



Yogi govt to build residential facility for temple security personnel in Ayodhya

Lucknow, Feb 2 (IANS) : The Uttar Pradesh government has acquired over 18 acres of land of the Education Department in Ayodhya to build residential facilities for the personnel of the state Special Security Force (UPSSF), Provincial Armed Constabulary (PAC) and others deployed for the security of the Ram temple. "Amendments will be made to revenue records and its information will be provided to the government within a week. The

available land parcels, which belong to the secondary education department and are located in Malikpur and Ganja villages in Ayodhya Sadar Tehsil, have been transferred to the home department after a no-objection certificate was issued by the education department," a senior officer in the Home Department said. "At present, there is no permanent arrangement for the personnel deployed for the security of Ram temple. They have been accommodated at different places and in

government schools. Security has also been bolstered in view of the influx of a large number of devotees," he said. Additional Director General of Police, Lucknow zone, Piyush Mordia said, "An additional force of 3,000 personnel has been deployed in Ayodhya. The measure will ensure that devotees face no problem during their visit to the temple town." A tight vigil will be maintained as several religious events are lined up in Ayodhya for the next six months.



Property dealer shot dead in Bihar

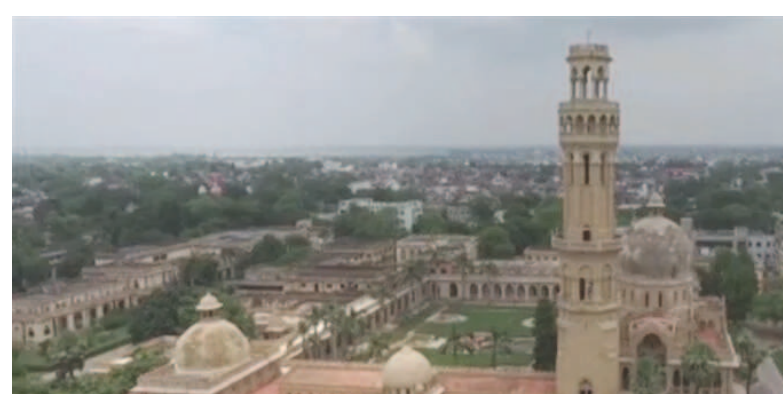
Patna, Feb 2 (IANS) : A property dealer was shot dead in Bihar's Muzaffarpur district, police said on Friday. The deceased was identified as Kumar Mukesh, a resident of Kamla Gram. The accused fled the scene after committing the crime. "We have got information about a murder of a property dealer in the Kamla Gram area. Accordingly, a team of Sadar police station reached the spot and investigated the matter. We have recovered the body and sent it for the post-mortem to SKMCH. The gunshot injury was found in the back side of Mukesh's head," said Awadesh Saroj Dixit, SDPO of Sadar police station.



Gujarat Assembly set for budget session with 11 critical Bills on table

Gandhinagar, Feb 2 (IANS) : The Gujarat Assembly is set to embark on its Budget session, with the state government preparing to introduce approximately 11 bills to enhance governance and address administrative sectors. High on the agenda is the introduction of the Family ID Bill, a strategic initiative targeting the reinforcement of the state's welfare programs by mitigating systemic inefficiencies and leakages. In tandem, the Gujarat Electricity Duty Bill is expected to be tabled, assigning the responsibility of electricity dues recovery to the commercial tax

department, marking a move in the state's fiscal management. Another critical piece of legislation, the Gujarat Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Laws (Amendment) Bill, is anticipated to be presented. This amendment seeks to streamline the agricultural land transaction process by discarding outdated and obstructive clauses, and promoting agricultural and economic development. The legislative docket for the session includes The Gujarat University of Health Sciences Bill 2023, focusing on healthcare education reforms; The Gujarat Public Trust (Amendment) Bill 2023.



AU removes hostel assistant superintendent accused of assaulting student

Prayagraj, Feb 2 (IANS) : The Allahabad University (AU) administration has ordered the removal of an assistant superintendent of a hostel after a group of varsity students continued their protest on the second consecutive day on Friday against an alleged assault on a fellow student. The students were demanding suspension of assistant superintendent of SSL hostel, the proctor and AU police outpost in-charge Vinay Singh.

Light snowfall in hills, rain in plains of J&K

Light snowfall in hills, rain in plains of J&K

Srinagar, Feb 2 (IANS) : Breaking the unprecedented dry spell, light snowfall in the hills and rain in the plains occurred in Jammu and Kashmir on Friday. Met department has forecast moderate to heavy snowfall in the higher reaches and light to moderate snow/rain in the plains of J&K over the next 36 hours. Srinagar recorded 2.2, Gulmarg minus 3.2 and Pahalgam 0.1 as the minimum temperature today.





195 Russian soldiers return from Kiev-controlled territory after talks

Moscow, Feb 2 (IANS) : A total of 195 Russian soldiers have returned from Kiev-controlled territory, the Russian Defence Ministry said. The Russian soldiers in captivity were released and returned on January 31 as a result of negotiations, according to a statement by the Ministry on Friday as quoted by Xinhua news agency report. A total of 195 Ukrainian war prisoners will also be released within the framework of the deal.

Suspected dangerous object found at Israeli embassy in Stockholm

Stockholm, Feb 2 (IANS) : A suspected dangerous object has been found outside the Israeli embassy in Stockholm, the media reported. Rebecca Landberg, Press Spokesperson of the Swedish police was quoted by Swedish Television (SVT) as saying on Friday that the object was assessed as a genuine explosive device, and it had been destroyed on the spot. Landberg told SVT that the object was placed by the fence of the embassy area, and that it was the embassy personnel who found the item, Xinhua news agency reported. The police have reportedly started a preliminary investigation.



How US will retaliate against Iran-backed militants' Jordan attack

Washington, Feb 2 (IANS) : Lawmakers in the Congress across the aisle and citizens alike are now wondering how and in which form US President Joe Biden will "strike back" to contain Iran-backed militants who managed to penetrate Pentagon's defence systems in Jordan and killed three US troops. A direct attack on Iran is unlikely, experts say. "It's pretty safe to say that deterrence, to date, has not worked well," said retired Army Maj. Gen. Mark Quantock, who served as chief of intelligence for US

Central Command. Quantock said: "The tricky part is to do something without escalating the conflict. But every action - to include no action - has a consequence." Most military leaders rule out any direct strike on Iran but a subterfuge attack is most likely as both President Biden and Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin have vowed to "respond at a time and place of their own choice". Since the drone attack in Jordan killed three American soldiers, the Pentagon's response will likely involve air strikes, sea-launched missiles and raids targeting leadership of the Iran-backed militants

who have mounted more than 200 assaults on US troops and commercial shipping across the Middle East, current and key former officials of the US administration said. The US military response is likely to repel the militants' ability to attack, punish their leadership and beef up defences in the region to help protect the thousands of American forces there, the officials said. Operations could extend from Yemen to Iraq where the White House and Pentagon suspects Iran supports local militias.



China's top rocket scientist eased out in wide military purge

Hong Kong, Feb 2 (IANS) : China has expelled its leading rocket scientist Wang Xiaojun from its top political advisory body, signalling the communist state's widening purge from among the Chinese military's missile force and aerospace contractors. The Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) removed him at a meeting in Beijing on Friday - a year after he was appointed a member, state news agency Xinhua reported, without as-

signing reasons. Wang, 54, until recently led the China Academy of Launch Vehicle Technology (CALT), a prestigious state-run institute known as the birthplace of China's aerospace industry. The CALT hails itself as the nation's "oldest and largest base for the development, testing and production of missile weapons and launch vehicles", according to its official website. Wang spent his nearly three-decades-long career designing rockets at the CALT, a subsidiary of

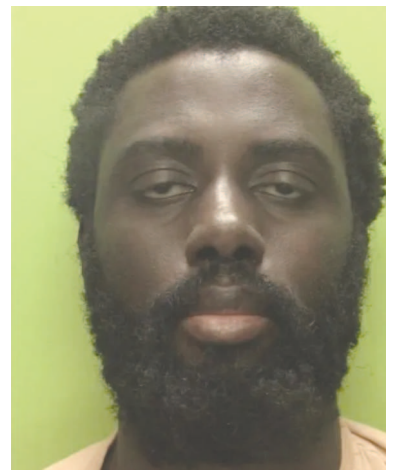
the main contractor of the Chinese space program, the state-owned China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation. Wang's dismissal from the elite political body is the latest shakeup in China's military-industrial complex. In December, three aerospace executives, including the chairman of China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation - were stripped of their roles in the CPPCC.

UN chief calls for urgent steps to de-escalate situation in Gaza, surrounding areas

United Nations, Feb 2 (IANS) : UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has urgently appealed for measures to reduce tensions in Gaza and its neighbouring regions. "I call for urgent steps to de-escalate the situation and spare the region from more violence before it is too late," the top UN official told the meeting of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People on Friday. "As we seek to address mounting needs in Gaza, we also remain focused on the deteriorating situation in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem," said the Secretary-General. "I am extremely alarmed by the high levels of settler violence in the occupied West Bank. Palestinian attacks against Israelis also continue." "All of this violence must stop, and the perpetrators held accountable," he added. The Secretary-General com-



mended the vital role of the committee amid the protracted question of Palestine and escalating violence, particularly highlighted by the October 7 attack by Hamas in Israel and Israel's ensuing military operations in Gaza, Xinhua news agency reported. Describing the aftermath in Gaza as "a scar on our shared humanity and conscience," the Secretary-General lamented the "death, destruction, displacement, hunger, loss, and grief" over the past 120 days. Highlighting the relentless bombardment and conflict, he said, "The ongoing conflict and relentless bombardment by Israeli forces across Gaza have resulted in killings of civilians and destruction at a pace.



Review ordered into decision to accept manslaughter pleas of British-Indian teen's killer

London, Feb 2 (IANS) : An independent review has been ordered into prosecutors' decision to accept the manslaughter pleas of a 32-year-old attacker who stabbed an Indian-origin teen and two others to death in the UK last year. Valdo Calocane, a dual Guinea-Bissau/Portuguese national, killed 19-year-old students, Grace O'Malley-Kumar and Barnaby Webber, and 65-year-old school caretaker Ian Coates during an incident near Nottingham University on June 13, 2023.



Imran Khan, Bushra Bibi sentenced to 14-year imprisonment in Toshakhana case

Rawalpindi, Feb 2 (IANS) : An accountability court on Friday sentenced former Pakistan premier Imran Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi to 14 years imprisonment in the Toshakhana case, local media reported. The verdict comes a day after the PTI founder was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment in the cipher case by a special court established under the Official Secrets Act. Accountability court judge Mohammad Bashir presided over the hearing at Rawalpindi's Adiala jail, where the former Khan is incarcerated, The Express Tribune reported. Imran and Bushra were also

barred from holding any public office for the next 10 years and were fined around Rs1,574 million, The Express Tribune reported. The judge also asked the two to record their statements under Section 342 of the Code of Criminal Procedure and closed the right of cross-examination of the prosecution witnesses. The couple were indicted in the reference on January 9. Reacting strongly to the verdict, the PTI termed it as "complete destruction of every law" and claimed the former premier and first lady have faced "yet another kangaroo trial".

Nepal deports head of Chinese NGO for 'overstaying'

Kathmandu, Feb 2 (IANS) : The government of Nepal recently deported a Chinese lady who was running an NGO inside Nepal and staying illegally in the country. Zou Zhiqiang, who was heading an NGO named 'China Foundation for Rural Development', triggered a controversy after a Maoist leader, Gorakh Bahadur KC, allegedly beat her up during relief distribution at Jajarkot in Western Nepal. Zhiqiang, on behalf of the Chinese NGO, had reached Jajarkot for relief distribution but the local Maoist leaders, including KC, refused to accept the relief materials calling them substandard items which did not come through proper government channels.



Sudanese army chief says no political process until 'rebellion ends'

Khartoum, Feb 2 (IANS) : Abdel Fattah Al-Burhan, general commander of the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), has said that no political process can take place in Sudan until the "rebel-

lion is quelled". Al-Burhan, who also heads the transitional Sovereign Council, made the remarks on Friday addressing officers and soldiers at the Blue Nile military base in the central city of Sennar,

Xinhua news agency reported. He expressed the army's determination to end the "rebellion" and allow the people to return to their homes, adding that "signs of victory are emerging".



2nd Test: Jaiswal eyes double hundred on Day 2; says Dravid, Rohit gave him confidence to go for a big score

Visakhapatnam, Feb 2 (IANS) : India batter Yashasvi Jaiswal credited the "session by session" approach that helped him score his highest score of 179 runs during the second Test match against England, at the Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy ACA-VDCA Cricket Stadium here on Friday. Jaiswal scored 179 off 257 deliveries propelling India to 336 for 6 at the end of Day 1 of the second Test. Jaiswal batted through the 93 overs, showing a precocious variety of Test-match gears to finish

unbeaten, scoring his second Test hundred and his second big hundred -- his previous best was a lovely, unhurried 171 on debut in Dominica against West Indies. Jaiswal's 179 is the joint-second highest score by an Indian batter in a single day's play against England in a Test match after Karun Nair's 232 in a day's play in Chennai in 2016. Gavaskar had also scored 179 in a day's play against England in London in 1979. "I wanted to play it session by session. When they were bowling well,

I just wanted to get through that spell. Initially, the wicket was damp and there was spin and bounce, with a bit of seam. However, I wanted to convert the loose balls, and play till the end," said Jaiswal to the broadcaster. Jaiswal gave credit to team head coach Rahul Dravid and skipper Rohit Sharma, who helped him gain confidence on the ever-changing pitch. Jaiswal now eyes the psychological mark of 200 which he missed on the tour of West Indies.



In-form Hitaashee ends 22-month title drought with win in 3rd leg of women's pro Tour

Kolkata, Feb 2 (IANS) : Hitaashee Bakshi showed that she is ready to make waves once again, as she topped the third leg of the Women's Pro Golf Tour with a fine performance at the Tollygunge Club here on Friday. Hitaashee won three times in 2022, but then had a winless 2023 during which she was also injured.

Ferrari confirm Lewis Hamilton as driver for 2025 F1 season

Maranello (Italy), Feb 2 (IANS) : Seven-time F1 world champion Lewis Hamilton will make a sensational switch from Mercedes to Ferrari next year on a multi-year contract, the Italian team confirmed. "Scuderia Ferrari is pleased to announce that Lewis Hamilton will be joining the team in 2025, on a multi-year contract," the team's statement read.



'Difficult to explain my relationship with him': Pant on his deep connection with Dhoni

New Delhi, Feb 2 (IANS) : India star wicket-keeper Rishabh Pant has revealed about his deep connection with former captain M S Dhoni, emphasizing the open communication and the valuable learning experiences he has had with him. Amidst the storm of comparisons, a silver lining emerged in the form of an unshakeable bond between Pant and Dhoni. Despite the external pressures, the two kept their camaraderie intact. Pant spoke fondly of his relationship with the former captain, emphasizing the depth of their connection. "I always find it difficult to explain my relationship with MS. Dhoni. There are some with whom you can talk freely. I discuss everything with MSD. I have learned so much from him. I discuss things with him that I wouldn't discuss with anybody else.



PKL 10: UP Yoddhas hope to return to winning ways against U Mumba

New Delhi, Feb 2 (IANS) : UP Yoddhas are aiming for a turnaround in their campaign as they seek to return to winning ways in their reverse fixture against U Mumba in Match 102 of Pro Kabaddi League (PKL) Season 10 at the Thyagaraj Indoor Stadium here on Saturday. The two teams faced each other on the opening day of the ongoing season where the Yoddhas closely missed out on a victory, losing 31-34. The Yoddhas are currently winless in their last eight matches and are sitting at 11th in the points table with 23 points

and a score difference of -63. The UP Yoddhas, the GMR Group-owned franchise, went down 36-27 against Dabang Delhi K.C. in their previous match. On the other hand, U Mumba also lost their last match against Tamil Thalaivas, going down 34-50. The Mumbai franchisee will be desperate for a win on Saturday as they too have been winless in their previous eight games and are currently placed in 9th position with 40 points and a score difference of -19.

'There's so much more failure than success' says Megan Schutt ahead of 200th int'l match

Adelaide, Feb 2 (IANS) : On the verge of completing 200 international appearances for Australia during their ODI series opener against South Africa at her home ground Adelaide Oval on Saturday,

pacester Megan Schutt feels that despite the game having more failure than success, she just loves being in the sport. Megan will become just the sixth women's cricketer from Australia to play 200 international matches.



Ravi Shastri warns Shubman Gill after his dismissal, says: 'Don't forget, Pujara is waiting'

Visakhapatnam, Feb 2 (IANS) : Former India cricket captain and head coach Ravi Shastri warned young batter Shubman Gill after he got dismissed by James Anderson for 34 during the second Test match between India and England at Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy ACA-VDCA Cricket Stadium here on Friday.

"It's a fresh side, a young side. These youngsters have to prove themselves. Don't forget, Pujara is waiting. He is grinding it out at the Ranji Trophy and is always on the radar," said Shastri during the commentary. Gill made a promising start, an enticing 34-run knock off 46 deliveries, yet the failure to convert it into a big knock left a lingering question mark over his place in the side. The promising right-handed batter had been given

a pivotal role in the reshaped batting order; a move that saw him replace the stalwart Cheteshwar Pujara. The seasoned Pujara, currently displaying his prowess in the Ranji Trophy playing for Saurashtra, had set the stage ablaze with a double hundred and a season brimming with runs. He currently has 538 runs in seven innings at 89.66 this term.

