

Fighting misinformation with hope

The New Indian Express Group believes that information is the foundation for knowledge and to make clear decisions. And it has always been its endeavour to provide its readers with news and facts.

We at The New Indian Express believe that the only way to fight the torrent of fake news is by giving you the facts – plain and simple. Triple checked for authenticity and with a good deal of sensibility.

The New Indian Express and City Union Bank bring you a digital version of TNIE straight to your smartphones/devices – every single day.

Meanwhile, if you'd like to keep track of news and happenings in real-time, log on to www.newindianexpress.com or check out our other group sites for your daily dose of art, culture, cinema, education and more.

Happy reading!



THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

CHENNAI • TUESDAY • OCTOBER 22, 2024 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 20 • LATE CITY EDITION



READ SHARE FOLLOW
newindianexpress.com
facebook.com/newindianexpress
twitter.com/newindianexpress
instagram.com/newindianexpress



GOLD PRICE SOARS, SILVER MOVES CLOSER TO ₹1 LAKH / KG MILESTONE

Gold price on Monday surged ₹750 to hit ₹80,650 per 10 grams (99.5% purity), while silver zoomed ₹5,000 to ₹99,500 per kg in the national capital

DIWALI, GEOPOLITICAL FACTORS PUSH DEMAND

Bullion traders attributed the jump in gold prices to pick-up in buying by local jewellers to meet increased demand in the festive and wedding season. According to experts tracking the commodities market, the price escalation is also driven by the rising tensions in West Asia and uncertainties related to the US elections, prompting investors to pool their money into safe-haven assets

PRECIOUS METALS SHINE IN FUTURES TRADE

Further, a positive trend in the overseas markets as well as a fall in equity markets boosted the gold's safe-haven appeal, experts said
In futures trades on the Multi Commodity Exchange, gold contracts for December delivery jumped ₹493 or 0.63% to ₹78,242 per 10 grams
Silver contracts bounced ₹2,822 or 2.96% to hit a high of ₹98,224 per kg

₹1,00,564

PRICE OF 1 KG SILVER ON MCX ON MONDAY FOR MARCH 5, 2025 DELIVERY CONTRACT

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THIRISSUR • KALABURGI



INDIA, CHINA IRON OUT WRINKLES

Both sides arrive at patrolling agreement on the LAC ■ Chances brighten for Modi-Xi talks

YESHI SELI & MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

FOREIGN Secretary Vikram Misri's primary briefing on Monday was about the upcoming 16th BRICS Summit in Kazan, Russia, but what was casually mentioned became the story of the day — that India and China have arrived at a patrolling agreement along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh.

The jaw-dropping announcement of the thaw in eastern Ladakh came in response to a question from this reporter on the buzz on the possibility of Prime Minister Narendra Modi having a bilateral meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit.

PRODUCT OF PATIENT DIPLOMACY: JAISHANKAR

"There are areas which for various reasons after 2020, they blocked us, we blocked them. We have now reached an understanding which will allow patrolling as we did till 2020... It is a positive development and I would say it is a product of very patient, very persevering diplomacy," Jaishankar said

At a different event later in the day, foreign minister S Jaishankar indicated that both sides had effectively gone back to the pre-2020 situation. "With that we can say the disengagement with China has been completed. Details will come out in due course," he said. It was in 2020 that 20 Indian jawans died after a brawl with PLA soldiers in the Galwan valley along the LAC. Bilateral ties became frigid ever since.

"Over the last several weeks, Indian and Chinese diplomatic

and military negotiators have been in close contact with each other in a variety of forums. As a result of these discussions, an agreement has been made for patrolling arrangements along the LAC leading to disengagement and a resolution of the issues that had arisen in these areas in 2020. We will be taking the next steps on this," Misri said.

Sources indicated that there is a strong likelihood of the Modi-Xi bilateral. The prime minister will also have bilateral meetings

with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Iranian President Dr Masoud Pezeshkian.

The announcement came days after the US law enforcement department unsealed the second indictment in the alleged murder-for-hire attempt against Khalistani radical Gurpatwant Singh Pannun on American soil, in which a former RAW officer was named and shamed.

The two sticking points on the LAC that had defied resolution for this long are at Depsang and Demchok. Multiple military sources said that things will take time to get clear as "not much has changed on ground". Troops continue to be stationed in the vicinity of the 832 km LAC on Eastern Ladakh.

RG KAR IMPASSE

Medics call off fast after 2-hr talks with Didi

SULAGNA SENGUPTA @ Kolkata

PROTESTING doctors in West Bengal called off their hunger strike on Monday following a two-hour meeting with Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

They also cancelled their proposed strike across hospitals in the state on Tuesday.

The decision was taken after a general body meeting of the doctors in the wake of their meeting with Banerjee in the state secretariat.

The doctors had launched the fast-unto-death protest on October 5 in response to the horrific rape-murder of their colleague at RG Kar Hospital in August. Their demands included safety and security within hospitals, systemic reforms in the health-care sector, and removal of West Bengal's health secretary.

Banerjee assured the doctors of her resolve to address their concerns but she refused to remove health secretary Narayan Nigam without evidence against him.

Dr Debasish Halder, speaking on behalf of the junior doctors, said they were not fully satisfied with the government's assurances but decided to call off stir out of respect for the RG Kar hospital victim's parents, who asked them to end the fast. Six doctors had to be hospitalised due to health complications.

While breaking the fast, Dr Rumelika Kumar said, "We are solely lifting the fast on request of the parents and the civil society. We are not doing it because of the government's requests or we are intimidated by them."

DEEPAVALI RUSH: TNSTC TO RUN 14K BUSES FROM OCT 28-30

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

A total of 14,086 government buses will be operated across Tamil Nadu from October 28 to 30, to help the public commute ahead of Deepavali, said Transport Minister S S Sivasankar on Monday. It is estimated that 5.83 lakh commuters will travel from Chennai during these three days.

Addressing reporters, Sivasankar stated that unlike last year, buses will only be operated from the Kalaingar Centenary Bus Terminus (KCBT) in Kilbakkam, Chennai Mofussil Bus Terminus (CMBT) in Koyambedu

and the Madhavaram Mofussil Bus Terminus. No services will run from temporary stands at Tambaram MEPZ, Poonamallee or other locations.

Importantly, to meet the increased demand, private buses will be hired by the Villupuram Corporation of TNSTC on a gross cost contract (GCC) basis and operated on mofussil routes from Chennai to various parts of the state, the minister said.

Under the GCC model, the transport corporation will collect ticket fares deploying a conductor, while private operators will cover the costs of bus maintenance and driver wag-

es, and will be compensated at a fixed rate. The rate for private buses has been set at ₹51 per kilometre. Recently, the Villupuram corporation operated five private buses on the Chennai - Tiruvannamalai route during the pooja holidays.

"The number of commuters opting to travel by bus has increased significantly. While we haven't finalised the exact number of buses to be operated during Deepavali, private buses will be deployed based on demand at government fare rates," Sivasankar said, adding that private bus operators have been asked to keep their buses ready.



We have scheduled a meeting with omni bus operators on October 24. Strict instructions will be issued to prevent them from overcharging

S S Sivasankar, TN transport minister

PRIVATE BUSES HIRED

To meet the festival-time demand, private buses will be hired by the Villupuram Corporation of TNSTC on a gross cost contract (GCC) basis and operated on mofussil routes from Chennai to various parts of the state. The rate for private buses has been set at ₹51 per kilometre.

Hoax callers to be put under no-fly list: Rammohan Naidu

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

TO deal with the menace of hoax bomb threats to airlines, the Centre plans to amend rules to place the culprits in the no-fly list and initiate criminal charges against them, Civil Aviation Minister K Rammohan Naidu said on Monday. He said such threats will be made a cognisable offence, which will attract punishment and fines.

Naidu said the government is considering amendments to the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against Safety of Civil Aviation Act, 1982, to strengthen measures. "Even though most of them are hoax threats, we cannot take them lightly. The lives of passengers are important, the security situation is impor-

tant, and protocol is important," he added.

These hoax bomb calls also caused financial loss to airlines that had to divert flights for safety reasons. An airline official said the financial loss due to frequent diversions ranges from a few lakh rupees to a couple of crores per flight, depending on the size of the plane.

The minister also announced the extension of affordable regional air connectivity scheme, UDAN, for 10 more years. Around 1.5 crore passengers have benefited so far.

Meanwhile, CISF and BCAS brass met Home Secretary Govind Mohan on Monday. Sources said the threats originated overseas but their exact location could not be traced so far.



ETERNAL PAIN

A woman mourns during the funeral of Dr Shah Nawaz, who was shot dead by terrorists in Jammu & Kashmir's Ganderbal district on Sunday evening, at Naidgam in Budgam district, on Monday. Six migrant workers were also killed in the targeted terror attack | P11 | P10

SC: Secularism part of statute's basic structure

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY @ New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Monday said secularism had always been held to be part and parcel of the basic structure of the Constitution. A two-judge bench of the court comprising justices Sanjiv Khanna and Sanjay Kumar made the observation while hearing a batch of petitions filed by former Rajya Sabha MP Subramanian Swamy, advocate Vishnu Shankar Jain and others, challenging the insertion of the words "socialist" and "secular" in the Preamble of the Constitution. The addition came through the 42nd constitutional amendment moved by the then Indira Gandhi government in 1976.

"This court has in a number of judgments held that secularism was always part of the basic structure of the Constitution. If one looks at the right to equality and the word 'fraternity' used in the Constitution, there is a clear indication that secularism has been held as the core feature of the Constitution," the bench said.

"When secularism was debated, there was only the French model. The Supreme Court has struck down statutes that go against secularism. You may look at Article 25. For socialism, we have not followed the Western concept and we are happy about it," Justice Khanna told the petitioners.

He said there were different meanings of socialism and one "should not take the meaning adopted in Western countries". "Socialism can also mean there has to be a fair opportunity for all — the concept of equality. Let us not take it as a Western concept. It can have some different meanings as well. Same goes with the word secularism," he said.

Swamy submitted that the Preamble was a declaration made on November 26, 1949 and therefore, adding further words to it through a subsequent amendment was arbitrary. He said it was wrong to say that according to the present Preamble, the Indian people agreed on November 26, 1949 to make the country a socialist and secular republic. The Preamble cannot be altered, varied or repealed, he argued. The bench said it would examine the matter and posted it for further hearing on November 18.



Retrospective effect challenge

Advocate Ashwini Upadhyay said he was not against the words "socialist", "secular" or "integrity" but was against their insertion into the Preamble in 1976 with retrospective effect from Nov 26, 1949

TN takes first step towards becoming accessible

SUBASHINI VIJAYAKUMAR @ Chennai

OVER two years have gone by since the Tamil Nadu government missed the June 2022 deadline set in the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act of 2016 to ensure all public buildings in the state are accessible. Now, the department for welfare of differently abled persons has finally taken a step towards fulfilling the goal by initiating the process to empanel agencies to conduct long-overdue access audits of public facilities, including transportation terminals, hospitals,



parks and government buildings, across the state.

"About three years ago, the department attempted to conduct access audits, but the effort was unsuccessful for various reasons, such as the lack of

presence of the selected agencies in certain locations. That is why we have now decided to empanel multiple agencies for the purpose. Once the agencies are empanelled, we will begin the audits. Government depart-

ments can also engage them to audit their buildings," said a senior department official.

The state could use one of the 17 organisations empanelled by the union government to audit how disabled-friendly its infrastructure is, but given the scale of the task at hand the department has invited Expressions of Interest (EOI) from agencies, organisations, NGOs, trusts and other entities to conduct these access audits.

Selected agencies will be empanelled for a period of seven years from the date of issuance of the selection order.

HC grants interim bail to double lifer convicted in 1996 Navarasu murder

R SIVAKUMAR @ Chennai

THE Madras High Court on Monday granted interim bail to John David, convicted and sentenced to double life in the infamous murder of medical student Pon Navarasu at Annamalai University in 1996, while quashing a Government Order rejecting his application for premature release.

David has been incarcerated for about 17 years and is currently in Puzhal Central Prison.

A division bench of Justices S M Subramaniam and V Sivagnanam passed the orders

on a petition filed by his mother Dr Esther. David's application for premature release had been accepted by the Tamil Nadu government but rejected by Governor R N Ravi. Subsequently, the government issued another G.O. rejecting the application.

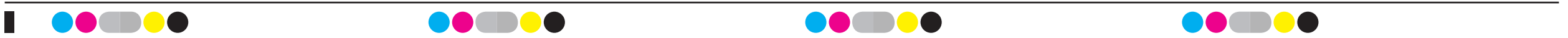
Holding that the governor is bound to accept the decision of the state cabinet under Article 161 of the Constitution, the bench found no justification for the governor's decision. Quashing the rejection order, the bench ordered the

government to reconsider the application as expeditiously as possible.

The murder of Navarasu, son of former University of Madras Vice-Chancellor Dr P K Ponnusamy, shook the state. His mutilated body parts were recovered from different places.

The gruesome murder was a fallout of ragging in the institution. David was Navarasu's senior.

In 1998, a Cuddalore court convicted and sentenced David to double life on two counts under sections 302 and 364 of the IPC.



YouTuber in soup for posting video of wife's delivery

Video shows him cutting umbilical cord of child in operation theatre of Chennai hosp

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

THE Directorate of Medical and Rural Health Services is considering filing a police complaint against YouTuber Mohammed Irfan for releasing a video of him cutting the umbilical cord of his newborn girl child in an operation theatre of a private hospital in Chennai.

Irfan shot the video of his wife's delivery and released it on his YouTube channel on October 19. The video was shot in July, covering his wife's hospital stay, and subsequent caesarean section. After the baby was born, the doctor was seen handing over the surgical scissors to the YouTuber who then went on to cut the umbilical cord.

Speaking to TNIE, Director of Medical and Rural Health Services Dr J Rajamoorthy said allowing him inside the operation theatre with a camera was a violation

of medical ethics and that a show cause notice would be issued to the hospital and the YouTuber. He urged the Tamil Nadu Medical Council to take action against the doctor who conducted the caesarean delivery.

"Since he is a third party we can only file a police complaint against him," he added.

The YouTuber in May posted a video in which he revealed the sex of his unborn child. The Directorate had then issued a show cause notice to Irfan for violating certain provisions of the Pre Conception and Pre Natal Diagnostic Techniques, Act 1994. He was let off after he tendered an apology.

Dr K Senthil, former President, of Tamil Nadu Medical Council said doctors should not fall prey to such gimmicks and unscientific requests by couples, mothers, YouTubers and other content creators, as far as medical procedures are concerned.

FINANCE ANGLE

NIA arrests 3 more suspects in 2022 Kovai car blast case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Coimbatore

THE National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Monday arrested three more suspects in the October 2022 car bomb blast case.

A press release from NIA New Delhi stated that with the arrest of Aboo Hanifa, Saran Mariappan and Pavas Rahman, the agency has unearthed the terror financing angle in the case. The total number of suspects arrested so far has gone up to 18. Four chargesheets have been filed against 14 suspects before the NIA Court at Poonamallee in Chennai.

The case relates to a Vehicle Borne IED (VBIED) explosion near the Kottai Sangameswarar temple in Ukadam on 23 October 2022. The prime suspect, Jamesha Mubeen, died in the incident.

The press release stated that NIA investigation revealed that the three suspects arrested on Monday had colluded to provide funds for the commission of the terror act. Aboo Hanifa was employed as a faculty in Kovai Arabic College, where Jamesha Mubeen and other suspects got radicalised in the ISIS ideology.

Six held for duping man of ₹14 cr by promising 500% return; probe into crypto transactions on

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

THE Tamil Nadu police's cyber crime wing has busted an organised network, which was involved in defrauding a person of ₹14 crore and siphoning it into cryptocurrency accounts.

An official release on Monday said that police arrested six members of the network, including a shop owner in Pulianthope, who converted the defrauded cash into USDT, a form of cryptocurrency, and two men working in the film industry. Measures are being taken to arrest the gang from north India, which, according to the police, masterminded the network.

The complainant in the case had been approached by a gang member in April, soliciting investment in a firm named 'Black Rock' by promising 500% returns in two months. The fraudster introduced himself as a representative of

Black Rock Asset Management Business School and claimed that Black Rock was SEBI-approved. He convinced the complainant to invest with a stipulation that he must pay a 20% service charge on the profits generated from the investment. The complainant was then persuaded to download a mobile application named Black Rock Co-branded IIFL Cooperative Platform (BR IIFL PRO) through a link and he invested ₹14 crore into various bank accounts.

When the complainant realised that the invested money was not being returned, he filed a complaint with the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal. Based on this, an FIR was registered at Cyber Crime Wing Headquarters, Chennai-State Cyber Crime Investigation Centre (SCCIC) and the 13 accounts, to which the money was transferred, were frozen.

Subsequently, police arrested accused V Subramanian from



EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

Chengalpattu, who is the first layer beneficiary ICICI Bank account holder of the fraudulent transaction, which was of ₹21.5 lakh. Based on his confession, officials unearthed the money trail and found that

Subramanian's bank account had been taken on rent by one Manikandan (30), who worked in a film producer's office. This had happened through Madan(43), a chit fund owner in T Nagar, R Saravanapriyan (34), an associate producer in the film industry and his friend Sathish Singh (46).

A portion of the defrauded money was sent by Manikandan from Subramanian's account to Shafahed (38), a shop owner in Pulianthope who converted currency into USDT in Dubai and Chennai, the release said. Police said all six have been arrested. Two cryptocurrency wallets have been frozen, while action is being taken to recover the defrauded money.

Police have advised people to avoid lending their bank accounts or cryptocurrency wallets as it can be misused for financial fraud by cyber fraudsters.



FOR A LUB-DUB

Children checking a dead tortoise found near Marina in Chennai on Monday | PRAVIKUMAR

Is HR&CE empowered to interfere in Podhu Dikshitar panel affairs: HC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

MADRAS High Court on Monday questioned whether the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (HR&CE) department is empowered to interfere in the affairs of the Podhu Dikshitar Committee of Chidambaram Natarajar Temple in Cuddalore district.

Justice M Dhandapani raised the question while hearing a petition filed by one of the Dikshitars, Nadaraja Dikshitar, regarding his suspension from the committee.

The committee suspended Nadaraja Dikshitar in 2022 on the allegations of causing disturbances in the temple, following which he approached the HR&CE department. The joint commissioner of the department issued an order revoking the suspension but the committee did not accept it. Seeking orders for his reinstatement, he approached the court.

When the counsel for secretary of Podhu Dikshitar Committee, advocate Harishankar,



High Court closes petition filed by Nadaraja Dikshitar since the one year period of suspension had lapsed | EXPRESS

pointed that the department lacked powers to interfere with the affairs of the committee because it represents their community, the judge asked the special government pleader for HR&CE NRR Arun Natarajan of the source of power for interfering with the Committee's affair.

He replied that under section 56 of the HR&CE Act, the department is empowered to in-

terfere. But Harishankar contended that the section is not applicable to the committee. However, the judge said the question on the powers of the department is left open as a similar matter is pending with a special division bench for temple-related cases.

The judge closed the petition filed by Nadaraja Dikshitar since the one year period of suspension had lapsed.

Forest dept to geo-tag vultures to track their migration route

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Coimbatore

THE Tamil Nadu forest department has sent a proposal to the union government seeking permission to fix geo-tagging device on vultures after capturing them. This will enable forest department to track the migration route of the birds which will help in conservation activities. The project is already implemented in Madhya Pradesh and Assam. If all goes well, Tamil Nadu will be the first state in South India to do it.

Forest department sources said vultures would be captured in Moyar Valley in Mudumalai Tiger Reserve MTR in the Nilgiris and Sathymangalam Tiger Reserve (STR) in Erode district. Vultures would be captured using a mist net and the device would be fixed. Sources said device weighs 40 grams, which will not hamper its flying as a bird weighs between 10 to 12 kg.

The proposal to geo-tag vultures has been sent to the union ministry of forests and climate change through the Tamil Nadu government. The cost of the device is between ₹5 and ₹6 lakh. Since it is solar powered, the device will get charged on its own. "More number of white-rumped vultures would be captured since they are found in abundance when compared to other species in Tamil Nadu. We will get better understanding about the crucial sites of vultures," sources added.

Health secy told to file report on plea for more dialysis technicians in govt hosps

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Madurai

THE Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court on Monday sought a report from the health secretary on a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) petition filed to appoint sufficient dialysis technicians on permanent basis in government hospitals across the state.

The litigant, C Anand Raj of Madurai, stated in his petition that as per an RTI report received by him in 2017, there were only seven permanent dialysis technician posts across all the government hospitals in state. When he filed a PIL in that regard the same year, the court had urged the government to take necessary action

to appoint qualified dialysis technicians in all government hospitals. However, four years later, only 160 technicians were recruited and that too on a temporary basis, Raj claimed.

In the meantime, the number of dialysis procedures conducted in government hospitals in the state has tripled and the lack of technicians has seri-

ously affected the patients, he added. Citing that at present there are 2,050 dialysis machines at the government hospitals in the state and there should be one technician for every three machines, Raj claimed that the actual number of technicians available should be 683 now and sought the above direction.

When a bench comprising Justices R Subramanian and L Victoria Gowri heard the petition, the government counsel informed that a proposal had been sent to appoint more than 600 technicians. Recording this, the judges directed the health secretary to file a report on the time required to fill the said posts and adjourned the case to

October 28. The bench also called for a report from the government on a separate PIL filed by Raj's wife Veronica Mary seeking direction for providing adequate infrastructure and air conditioning for storing medicines in the government medical college hospitals in Madurai, Thanjavur, Tirunelveli and Tiruchy.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

22nd October: Can science prove astrology? I am often asked this question. The answer is that, although our daily biological cycles are linked to the Sun and Moon, every person is born at a unique moment and so has a relationship to the cosmos that can never be repeated. This is why many people call astrology an art rather than a science.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)
 Over the next few weeks, while the Sun remains so strong, you will be extending and deepening your social contacts. Some of you may even be developing political associations - in the broadest sense of course. It's all a matter of linking up with like-minded individuals.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
 Everyone, no matter what their birth sign, should be aware of a change of mood today. At least, that's the theory! You may feel it more deeply than most, and might even decide that your feelings for a particular person were misplaced. But, then, it's better that you find out now!

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
 It really is a time to ask not what others can do for you, but what you can do for them. There is a happy relationship in your chart between work and partnership, one which could see you making considerable progress towards a special goal. About time too!

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
 You may be growing increasingly agitated in at least one personal relationship, if not several. It is worth reminding you that this is a peak time for pointless arguments and that you should therefore always think carefully. Don't let others make the running - at least, not all the time!

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
 You may sort out home and family matters this morning and save time later in the day for simple pleasures. The only responsibilities which look likely to present you with extra demands are those which involve children or younger relations in general.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
 Although good fortune is forecast, it's up to you to help yourself. If you dig your feet in, resisting every opportunity to explore your talents and skills, you will miss out, whatever the stars say. Look at the big picture and think about where you'd like to be this time next year.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
 It's an excellent day to clear the air, not in any particularly deep or profound sense, but in terms of routine organisation and the simple running of your daily affairs. If entertaining is to be done, the best venue should be your home, all things being equal.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
 There is still a great deal to be said for facing reality at home. In fact, for the next two weeks at least even minor and apparently trivial events will contribute to a major long-term improvement in your circumstances. There is every possibility that you will be receiving positive news soon, though from an unlikely source.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
 The Moon gently adjusts its position today, hopefully clearing up a long-standing mystery. Perhaps even a lost item will return to its rightful place, as these things have a habit of doing! One way or another, you should find the big wide world a marginally easier place to handle.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
 If you're in a particularly busy phase, as your stars indicate you should be, you will now be realising that there is no point in pressing on by yourself, but that other people must be brought in to help. It's never too late to ask for assistance - so don't be proud.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
 There's a clear psychological process in your life at the moment. You may momentarily lose your self-confidence, or face seemingly gigantic material obstacles, but these difficulties motivate you to strive even harder and achieve even greater success.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
 Having dealt with questions like, who is responsible for what, and what your rights are in relation to colleagues and employers, you may throw yourself into a new professional or worldly ambition. You may follow your dreams - while you still have time!

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle

	6	1	2				
2	4	8				5	
9	5			4	6		
	9	5	3			2	
			4				
		3		5	7	4	
		2	7			5	1
		9				3	2
						2	9
						8	

SUDOKU MEDIUM
 TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3x3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS

- Blacked out so needed to be shown way home (3,4)
- Small computer used in atomic rockets (5)
- The performer rates it differently (7)
- One who retains magnetic influence (6)
- Difficult billiards shot reveals the fool in me (5)
- What I should have done if I were in your position (7,6)
- Yonkers moved to a Scottish location (7)
- One illness after another (7)
- Schoolboy's book case (7)
- Worked hard to convert voters (6)
- Mislay a ring inside, not tightly fastened (5)
- Shouts out agreement about a fifty-fifty arrangement (5)

DOWN

- Criminal file that's wrong put right (5)
- Cheating by giving two cards instead of one (6-7)
- The performer rates it differently (7)
- One who retains magnetic influence (6)
- Difficult billiards shot reveals the fool in me (5)
- What I should have done if I were in your position (7,6)
- Yonkers moved to a Scottish location (7)
- One illness after another (7)
- Schoolboy's book case (7)
- Worked hard to convert voters (6)
- Mislay a ring inside, not tightly fastened (5)
- Shouts out agreement about a fifty-fifty arrangement (5)

JUMBLE UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

PLMIE
 CPIHT
 DARRHE
 CETEDN

THE BAGGED SOIL WAS ON SALE FOR 90 PERCENT OFF, WHICH MADE IT

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Yesterday's Jumbles: FOAMY DOUBT CLENCH JUNGLE
 Answer: The decision to build a transatlantic telephone cable was a — GOOD CALL



File picture of Tambaram City Municipal Corporation office | EXPRESS

Gaps in Tambaram flood mitigation efforts slammed

During corpn meet, councillor breaks down while discussing water stagnation struggles

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

COUNCILLORS of the Tambaram City Municipal Corporation (TCMC) discussed erroneous assessments of properties for property taxes by corporation staff and the gaps in the civic body's flood mitigation measures, during the council meeting on Monday.

DMK councillor C Saranya, representing Ward 38, broke down while discussing her struggles in addressing water stagnation issues due to alleged official apathy. "Due to the lethargic attitude of the corporation officials, residents in my ward abused me and some even threatened me," she said, while also stating that a motor pump used to drain stagnant water was removed from her ward without her knowledge.

During the meeting, councillors from MMK and AIADMK staged a walk-out from the hall. MMK councillor M Yacoob, representing Ward 50, accused the corporation of failing to undertake necessary flood preven-

tion measures in his area despite repeated appeals.

Several councillors expressed concern over the suspension of desilting works mid-way which had left their constituencies vulnerable to flooding. They urged the officials to complete the desilting works and other flood mitigation works before the onset of the next rain spell.

A section of councillors also alleged that wrong assessments of properties were carried out while fixing property taxes. In response, Corporation Commissioner S Balachander said the local body is taking intensive steps to bring uniformity in taxation across the corporation.

"Currently, TCMC is losing approximately ₹60 crore annually due to improper collection of property taxes. We are now working intensively to assess the 35 lakh sq.ft of commercial properties that remain unassessed, which will help the corporation recover lost revenue," he said. Balachander also said the grievances of both councillors and residents would be resolved soon.

Portion of Greems Road caves in 10 feet during peak hours

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

A 10-foot-deep crater appeared on Greems Road near Thousand Lights on Monday around 5.30 pm, causing traffic disruptions during peak hours. The traffic police later barricaded the sinkhole.

According to metro water officials, the road has both underground drainage and drinking water supply pipelines. They suspect water leakage from the old underground drinking water pipeline may have led to the cave-in. They are currently in-

Collapse common in area

A corporation official said once the leak is identified and repairs are completed, the Bus Route Roads department will oversee the restoration of the road. The official acknowledged that such cave-ins are common in the area, and efforts are underway to determine the underlying causes

specting the site to identify the source of leakage.

A corporation official said once the leak is identified and repairs are completed, the Bus Route Roads (BRR) department

will oversee the restoration of the road. The official acknowledged that such cave-ins are common in the area, and efforts are underway to determine the underlying causes in order to prevent future incidents.

A portion of Radhakrishnan Salai near Mylapore had caved in seven feet on October 8. Meanwhile, the BRR department from the GCC has issued a tender for transport and installation of cold mix, wet mix macadam, and M40 concrete to repair potholes and emergency patches across 15 zones in the city, at a cost of ₹28.4 lakh.



Water leakage from pipeline may have led to cave-in on Greems Road | MARTIN LOUIS

EXPRESS READ

19-year-old girl dies in road accident at Akkarai

Chennai: A 19-year-old girl died when a private sewage tanker hit the two-wheeler in which she was travelling at Akkarai along the ECR. She fell on the road in the impact of the collision and a tanker ran over her. Her friend, who was riding the two-wheeler, survived with injuries. Police identified deceased as Catherine, a second-year engineering student. On Monday afternoon, she was riding pillion on a two-wheeler. The vehicle swerved right when another two-wheeler came in the opposite direction. As the person swerved, the tanker hit the vehicle from behind. Police are yet to identify the person who came in the opposite direction. The lorry driver was later arrested. ENS



Tamil Nadu Police observed the Police Commemoration Day at the DGP's office on Monday. DGP Shankar Jiwaj placed a wreath at the memorial | EXPRESS

Higher education minister a no-show at TNOU convocation

CHENNAI: Former Vice-Chancellor of IGNOU Nageshwar Rao on Monday advised students to keep abreast of latest technological developments to remain relevant in today's digital world. Addressing the 15th convocation of the TNOU, Rao urged students to keep learning to progress personally and professionally. University Chancellor and Governor R N Ravi presided over the convocation, while Higher Education Minister Govi Chezhian and Secretary K Gopal skipped the event.

According to varsity sources, the minister had agreed to attend the event following which his name was printed on the invites and even banners at the event, but surprisingly he did not turn up on Monday. According to a TNOU faculty member, "There has been no official communication as to why the minister skipped the convocation. However, the ongoing controversy involving Chief Minister and Governor regarding the Tamizh Thai Vaazhthu is suspected to be the reason." ENS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai



Duo held for creating ruckus on Loop Road

Chennai: Mylapore police arrested a man and a woman for creating a ruckus with police on Loop Road on Sunday night. Chandramohan (42) and Dhanalakshmi (41) were sitting in their car near the beach when patrol police asked them to step out. "The suspects argued with police and Chandramohan verbally abused the personnel. The duo then left in their car," a police source said. On Monday, a clip of the incident went viral on social media. Police registered a case against Chandramohan and Dhanalakshmi and arrested them. City police uploaded a video of Chandramohan apologising for his actions, on the X platform. ENS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

AS part of the security arrangements for Deepavali, the city police have deployed 18,000 police officers and personnel in major locations, where crowds are expected to gather, such as T Nagar, Pondy Bazaar, Purasawalkam, Mylapore, Flower Bazaar, NSC Bose Road, Washermenpet and Koyambedu, among others.

As many as seven temporary watchtowers have been set up at T Nagar, three in Washermenpet, three in Kilpauk, and four in Flower Bazaar. Police personnel will monitor them on a rotational basis. They have also set up five temporary police control rooms and 10 temporary help desks. Apart from this, the police will use 19 public address systems, four drone cameras, and a Face Recognition System to ensure celebrations pass off entirely without



Flower Bazaar. Police personnel in plain clothes will monitor crowds to nab anti-social elements. The police also said that firecracker shops are under surveillance.

18K cops to ensure Deepavali passes off sans incident

CONTROL ROOM CONTACT NUMBERS

T NAGAR
7358543058

PURASAWALKAM
7824867234

NSC BOSE ROAD
8122360906

Advertisement No. 105/2024

Government of India
Public Enterprises Selection Board
invites applications for the post of
Director (Way & Works)
In
Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL)

Last date of submission of application by the applicant is by 15:00 hours on
07/11/2024

Last date of forwarding of applications by the Nodal officers to PESB is by 15:00 hours on
18/11/2024

For details login to website
<https://pesb.gov.in>

UCO BANK
(A Govt of India Undertaking)

Zonal Office : No.328, 2nd Floor, Thambu Chetty Street, Parrys Corner, Chennai - 600001
Phone: (044) 43405540 E-mail: zochennai@ucobank.co.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

UCO Bank, Zonal Office, Chennai, Invites Sealed Offers (Technical & Financial) From Eligible Vendors For Undertaking Electrical Audit For Bank's Branches, ATMs And Offices Under Chennai Zone

Tender Floating Date: 22.10.2024
Pre Bid Meeting: 28.10.2024
Last Date For The Submission Of Bids: 05.11.2024.
For Further Details Please Visit www.ucobank.com/tenders.
The Tender Documents Are Also Available At Security Department, UCO Bank, Zonal Office, Chennai - 600 001.

Date: 19.10.2024 Zonal Manager

Canara Bank
THOUSAND LIGHTS BRANCH
No. 5, Greems Road, Thousand Lights, Chennai-600 006 Phone: 9486484646/ 9498346053. Mail: cb0941@canarabank.com

POSSESSION NOTICE (SECTION 13(4)) (For Immovable property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Canara Bank under Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated 09.08.2024 calling upon the Borrowers and Guarantors 1) M/s Seven Mobiles, No.6, Mohamed Hussain 1st Lane, Radio Market, Mount Road, Chennai Tamil Nadu 600002, 2) M/s Alpha Electronics, No. 1 Vivekananda Street Namangalam, Chengalpattu Tamil Nadu - 600117, 3) Mr. Sudesh Rajan R S/O Rajan, 11/202 MGR Street Medavakkam Post Kancheepuram-600100 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice, being of Rs. 2,24,77,304.61 (Rupees Two Crores Twenty Four Lakhs Seventy Seven Thousand Three Hundred Four and Sixty One Paise Only) with interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower/guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under section 13 (4) of the said Act, read with Rule 8 & 9 of the said Rule on this 19th day of October of the year 2024.

The borrower/guarantors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Canara Bank, Thousand Lights Branch, Chennai for an amount Rs. 2,24,77,304.61 (Rupees Two Crores Twenty Four Lakhs Seventy Seven Thousand Three Hundred Four and Sixty One Paise Only) with interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

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

Description of the Immovable Property: SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY

Details of security assets: Property 1: All that piece and parcel of House site with building, measuring an extent of 4347 square feet out of 10,631 square feet (988 square metre), comprised in Survey No.41/2, as per Patta No.232 New Survey No.41/2C, as per New Patta No.110 New Survey No.41/2C1, in 'Pillayar Kovil Street', situated at No.14 Perumattunallur Village, Chengalpatt Taluk, now Vandalar Taluk, Kancheepuram District, now Chengalpattu District and within the limits of Kattankulathur Panchayat Union and Perumattunallur Village Panchayat and Bounded on the: North by Subhramangala Nagar Layout, South by Pillayar Kovil Street, East by Land belongs to Mr. Yesunathan and other, West by Common Passage and Measuring on the Northern side 27 Feet, Southern side 27 Feet, Eastern side 161 Feet and Western side 161 Feet. The above property is situated within the Kattankulathur Panchayat Union and Perumattunallur Panchayat Limits and within the Registration District of Chengalpattu and Registration Sub-District of Joint II SRO Chengalpattu.

Property 2: All that piece and parcel of House site with building, bearing LIG Twin House No.28953, measuring an extent of 640 Sq.ft., together with 148 Sq.Ft., R.C.C. Teraced building including all its amenities and Electricity Service connection, Comprised in Survey No.588 (Part) as per TSLR Ward-H, Block No.29, T.S.No.314 in Tamilnadu Housing Board Muggappair west, situated at Moggappair Village, Ambattur Taluk, Thiruvallur District, North by Twin House No.892, South by BC3, East by Twin House No.894, West by 6 Feet Road. Measuring on the Northern side 40 Feet, Southern side 40 Feet, Eastern side 16 Feet, Western side 16 Feet. In all measuring 640 Sq.ft., together with building measuring 148 sq.ft., thereon and with the registration District of Chennai North and Sub Registration District of Konnur.

Place: Chennai Date: 19.10.2024
Authorised Officer Canara Bank, Chennai

Canara Bank
THOUSAND LIGHTS BRANCH
No. 5, Greems Road, Thousand Lights, Chennai-600 006 Phone: 9486484646/ 9498346053. Mail: cb0941@canarabank.com

POSSESSION NOTICE (SECTION 13(4)) (For Immovable property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Canara Bank under Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated 09.08.2024 calling upon the Borrowers and Guarantors 1) M/s MH Electronics, 32/24 Ground Floor, Venkata Street, Mannadi, Chennai - 600001, 2) M/s Hai Electronics, No.131/132, 1 Nagar, 2nd Street Panaiyur, Sholinganallur, Chennai - 600119, 3) Halima, No.30, Venkata Street AB House Chennai - 600001 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice, being of Rs. 2,85,53,745.76 (Rupees Two Crores Eighty Five Lakhs Fifty Three Thousand Seven Hundred Forty Five and Seventy Six Paise) with interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower/guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under section 13 (4) of the said Act, read with Rule 8 & 9 of the said Rule on this 19th day of October of the year 2024.

The borrower/guarantors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Canara Bank, Thousand Lights Branch, Chennai for an amount Rs. 3,84,39,408.31 (Rupees Three Crores Eighty Four Lakhs Thirty Nine Thousand Four Hundred and Eight and Thirty One paise) and further interest thereon.

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

Description of the Immovable Property SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY

Property: All that piece and Parcel of Land situate at Sornambigal Nagar, Virugambakkam, Chennai-600092, Comprised in Survey No.70/2, as per TSLR Block No.23, T.S.No.12, Survey No.70/2A1 measuring an extent of 2841 Sq.ft of Vacant Land Corporation Division No.65 in No.104, Virugambakkam Village, Mambalam Taluk, Chennai District and being bounded on the: North by: Door No.16, Old No.25-A belonging to Mrs. Amarigathi together with 9 Feet passage leading to 24 Feet Wide Road in Sornambigal Nagar, South by: New Door No.14, Old No.7, belongs to Mr.S.Natarajan, East by: Vacant Land belonging to Mrs. Padmavathi Viswanathan, West by: House No. 14 belonging to Late Swaminathan Krishnamoorthi. Measuring: North Side : 12.8 M & 2.9 M (42'0" & 9'6"), South Side : 5.7 M & 12.4 M (18'5" & 40'6"), East Side 28.7 M (94'0" & 9'6"), West Side : 10.6 M & 17.4 M (34'9" & 57'0"). Admeasuring 2841 Sq.ft of Vacant Land and situated within Sub-registration District of Virugambakkam and the Registration District South Chennai.

Place: Chennai Date: 19.10.2024
Authorised Officer Canara Bank, Chennai

Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.
Corporate Office : 802, Natraj By Rustomjee, Western Express Highway, Sir M.V. Road, Andheri East, Mumbai - 400069, Maharashtra.

Chennai Branch : Challa Mall, 3rd Floor, Unit No.305, New Door No.11 and 11A, New Property Tax Door No.17/50, Old Door No.11/50, Old Property Tax Door No.11/50, Survey number 6537/2, Block No.140, Sir Theyagaraya Road, T Nagar, Village, Guindy Taluk, Chennai - 600017, TN.

Tambaram Branch : NO.55B, Ward No-C, Block No-8, TS No.111/2 (Old No-314Part), Gandhi Road, Ragunatha Puram, Chengalpatt District, Tambaram, Chennai - 600045.

APPENDIX IV POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (AHFL) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, Demand Notice(s) issued by the Authorised Officer of the company to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of the Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement rules, 2002. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of AHFL for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon.

Sl No.	Name of the Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower	Description of Secured Asset (Immovable Property)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Date of Possession
1	(COMBINE LOAN CODE NO. 19700002868 Chennai Branch) Kavitha V (Borrower) Vinothkumar M (Co Borrower) Ramachandran D (Guarantor)	All that piece and parcel of the land and building, extent 2542 sq.ft., within 686 building, EB including, (Acres 0.05,83 cents) out of acre 0.05 cents, old Patta No.43, in Survey No.39/11, New Patta No.1177 in Survey No.39/11F, situated in No.117, Senji village, Tiruvallur taluk and district, within the sub registration office Perambakkam, District Registration Kancheepuram now Tiruvallur and bounded on the: East By : Bajajani koiil street and 4 feet passage, West By : Thanjan land, North By : Mallika plot And South By : Palmash canal.	16-04-2021 ₹ 16,07,471.00	17-10-2024
2	(COMBINE LOAN CODE NO. 19710000131 Chennai Branch) Kalavaini Murali (Borrower) Murali M (Co Borrower)	All that pice and parcel of vacant land situated at village No.193, bearing Plot No.178, and Kasturi bai street, Brindavan colony, Gandhi Road, Choolaimedu, Chennai-600094, land measuring 1620 sq.ft., comprised in Old Survey No.156/2A, DTCP.No.432/1990, Patta No.953, as per patta vise New Survey No.156/2A1A, situated at Adhanur village, layout named as "M.G.Nagar Part-XII" Sriperumbudur taluk, now kundrathur taluk, kancheepuram district and bounded on the Plot No.178 measuring on the East to West on the Northern side : 60 feet, East to West on the Southern side : 60 feet, North to South on the Eastern side : 27 feet, North to South on the western side : 27 feet and bounded on the : East By : Plot No.177, West By : Plot No.179, North By : Vacant land And South By : 30 Feet Road.	10-07-2021 ₹ 19,23,011.00	18-10-2024
3	(COMBINE LOAN CODE NO. 25600000052 Tambaram Branch) Karpagam G (Borrower) Anbarasan G (Co Borrower) Karthiyayini S (Guarantor)	All that piece and parcel of land measuring 600 sq.ft., on the eastern side of Plot No.12 and land measuring 600 sq.ft., on the western side of Plot No.11, together measuring 1200 sq.ft., including 72 sq.ft., i.e. 1/2 share in the passage measuring 144 sq.ft., comprised in Paimash No.109, S.No.14/4, Patta No.4365, as per Patta New S.No.14/16, situated at Srinivasa Nagar, Neelankarai Village, Tambaram taluk, Kancheepuram district, the land measuring 22 ft, on the northern side, 22 ft, on the southern side 24 ft, on the eastern side and 24 ft, on the western side, in all measuring an extent of 528 sq.ft., along with 72 sq.ft., of share in the passage, altogether measuring 600 sq.ft., and bounded on the: East By : 3 feet passage and eastern side of Plot No.11, West By : Western side of Plot No.12, North By : Property on the northern side owned by Selvasundari And South By : Survey No.14/5d.	10-07-2021 ₹ 5,05,178.00	18-10-2024

Place : Chennai and Tambaram
Date : 22.10.2024
Authorised Officer Aadhar Housing Finance Limited

Delimitation makes us wonder whether having fewer kids is good idea, quips CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

CHIEF Minister MK Stalin, who presided over a wedding ceremony of 31 couples organised by the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department on Monday, said in a lighter vein that the delimitation exercise planned by the union government has made people of Tamil Nadu question whether it was wise to have fewer children.

Expressing his wishes to the couples, Stalin said, in the olden days, elders used to wish the newly weds to get 16 types of wealth and prosper while some misunderstand them as 16 children. Stating that the wish offered generally in the present day is to give birth to fewer children and live with prosperity, Stalin remarked that with the possibility of number of parliamentary constituencies getting reduced due to delimitation exercise (which is based on population), a situation has



Chief Minister MK Stalin solemnising the wedding of 31 couples at an event organised by HR & CE department in Chennai on Monday | P JAWAHAR

arisen as to why the people of Tamil Nadu can also not give birth to 16 children.

He underscored the DMK government's efforts in temple renovation and management and highlighted that true devotees have lauded these initiatives while those who use devotion for political gain are not able to tolerate the good work of the government.

He quoted the famous dialogue from the film 'Parasakthi' penned by former chief

minister M Karunanidhi, which said, "Our policy is not to oppose temples. Our aim is to ensure that temples do not become the abodes of scoundrels".

Listing a number of initiatives taken by the government for the development of temples, Stalin said it has completed renovation and consecration ceremonies at 2,226 temples in the last three years.

Stalin outlined other major

achievements of the HR&CE Department, which included retrieving temple lands worth ₹6,792 crore from encroachment, fencing 1.75 lakh acres of temple lands, and establishing health centres at 17 temples across the state. These facilities cater to the medical needs of devotees and others visiting the temples.

Additionally, the chief minister noted that the government is actively pursuing legal cases in favour of the HR&CE Department, including those related to temple administration and the appointment of priests from all castes.

"We are keenly focused on winning these cases to uphold fairness and inclusivity in temple practices," Stalin added. He lauded the work of HR & CE Minister PK Sekarababu for his contributions to the department.

Ministers K Ponmudi, Ma Subramanian and other elected representatives also participated in the event.

TN reservoirs 64% full

Storage stood only at 35.58% during the same period last year

S GURUVANMIKANTHAN @ Chennai

TAMIL Nadu's 90 reservoirs hold 143,804 tmcft of water which is 64.11% of their total capacity of 224,297 tmcft as of Monday. This is significantly higher compared to the same period last year when the storage level was just 79,514 tmcft (35.58%).

According to data from the Water Resources Department (WRD), storage in Mettur reservoir reached 62,140 million cubic feet (mcf) on Monday which is 384% higher than the storage the same time last year. Similarly, Bhavanisagar reservoir recorded storage of 21,141 mcf, also showing a 210% increase from the previous year. These reser-

voirs play a key role in irrigation in the region.

A senior official told TNIE, "Compared to last year, rainfall and inflow from Karnataka have been much higher. As per the Supreme Court's order, Karnataka was supposed to release 134.2284 tmcft of water between June and October 17. However, due to heavy rain in the Cauvery river's catchment areas, Karnataka released 221.1125 tmcft, which is 86.8842 tmcft more. Last year, Tamil Nadu received only 53,7209 tmcft in this period."

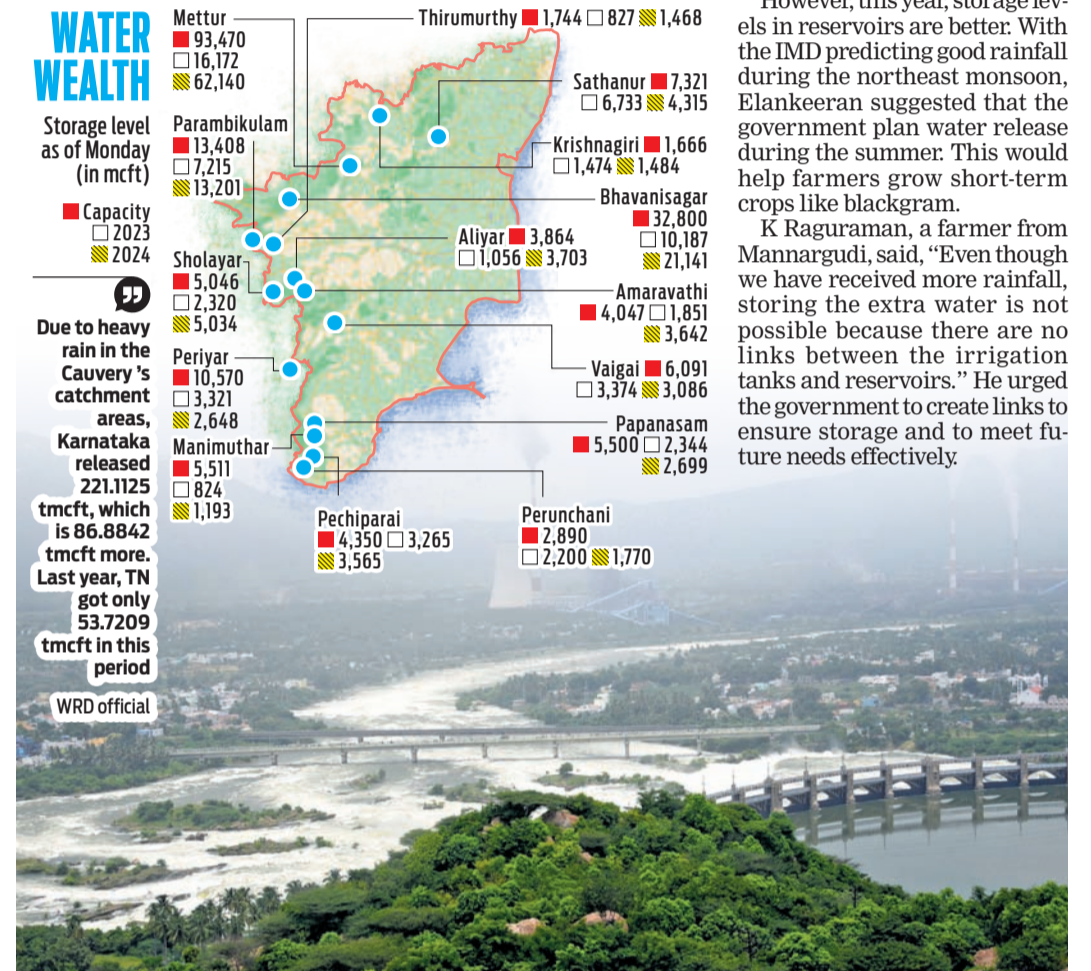
Expressing optimism over the northeast monsoon, the official said, "We expect additional water, and this should make it easier to meet drinking water needs

during summer next year." Officials will continuously monitor the reservoirs and will plan for the controlled release of water through surplus channels to keep adequate storage as a precaution for flood mitigation.

Meanwhile, farmers have urged the state government to ensure water release for agricultural activities during summer months. KV Elankeeran, president of the Federation of Cauvery Delta Farmers Association, highlighted the challenges faced by farmers in the delta region. He said, "Farmers usually cultivate only two seasons out of three every year due to lack of water. During summer, there is usually no water, and farming activities drop significantly."

However, this year, storage levels in reservoirs are better. With the IMD predicting good rainfall during the northeast monsoon, Elankeeran suggested that the government plan water release during the summer. This would help farmers grow short-term crops like blackgram.

K Raguraman, a farmer from Mannargudi, said, "Even though we have received more rainfall, storing the extra water is not possible because there are no links between the irrigation tanks and reservoirs." He urged the government to create links to ensure storage and to meet future needs effectively.



Nobody can impose Hindi on TN: Udhaya

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Dindigul/Chennai

PEOPLE of Tamil Nadu will never allow the imposition of Hindi at any cost, Deputy CM Udhayanidhi Stalin said on Monday.

Speaking at a meeting in Dindigul, Udhayanidhi said, "Many people are trying to impose Hindi in Tamil Nadu, and are desperate. As they cannot do it directly, they are interfering with the 'Tamil Thai Vaazhthu' and have removed certain words from the song. Under the guise of the New Education Policy, they attempted to impose Hindi, but it failed due to counter-action by Chief Minister MK Stalin. Now, some are attempting to remove the word 'Dravidam' from the 'Tamil Thai Vaazhthu', but we will not allow that to happen. Until the last DMK cadre or the last person from Tamil Nadu is alive, nobody can dare touch 'Dravidam', Tamil Nadu or Tamil."

"Social reformer Periyar fought against the social evil of Sati. When I spoke about this culture, my remarks were twisted and cases were filed against me throughout the country, despite which I refused to bow down. Self-respect marriages were given legal recognition by former chief minister CN Annadurai. Women were given an

equal share in ancestral properties 30 years ago by the late DMK supremo M Karunanidhi. Following his footsteps, the chief minister has implemented several schemes for women's welfare. The free bus travel scheme has benefited crores of women, and many states were inspired by the scheme and plan on implementing the same. This is the Dravidian model of governance."

Responding to Edappadi K Palaniswami's comment that he had become deputy chief minister in a short while bypassing several DMK leaders, Udhayanidhi told reporters at Chennai airport earlier in the day that Palaniswami too had become CM bypassing several senior AIADMK leaders.

On accusations levelled by Palaniswami regarding the importance being given to Udhayanidhi, the latter said, "He is free to criticise me. I have always welcomed criticism. He has more political experience than me, so I respect his right to criticise me."

Commenting on the AIADMK government under Palaniswami, Udhayanidhi said their priority was to share power among themselves to protect the government. "After losing power, the party fragmented into multiple groups," he said.

Edappadi Palaniswami is free to criticise me. I have always welcomed criticism. He has more political experience than me. So, I respect his right to criticise me. Udhayanidhi Stalin



EXPRESS READ

'EPS daydreaming on weakening DMK front'

Pudukkottai: AIADMK general secretary Edappadi Palaniswami is daydreaming about the DMK alliance falling apart, said Law Minister S Regupathy on Monday. Hitting back at EPS for his statement that DMK's allies are skeptical about continuing in the alliance, he said, "No one can break the DMK alliance. It is impossible to weaken or disrupt it. Palaniswami, whose leadership has become weak, is making such statements out of frustration." Regupathy further emphasised that no party is willing to accept AIADMK's leadership, and there is no faith in the AIADMK alliance. "TN and Dravidian ideology cannot be separated, and Dravidianism can't be avoided," he said. ENS

Trust in 'Murasoli' Selvam's name soon

Chennai: CM MK Stalin said on Monday that a trust will be established in the name of former *Murasoli* editor Selvam to honour writers of the Dravidian movement and their works. The announcement was made during a commemorative function for Selvam, where Stalin also unveiled the late editor's portrait. Stalin said the trust would annually present awards to writers which would be distributed during the party's annual 'Mupperum Vizha'. The chief minister recalled Selvam's long association with *Murasoli* and the DMK, dating back to his youth. Stalin also recalled Selvam's role as a mentor in helping him develop political acumen and speaking skills. ENS

Windmill repowering hit by high development cost

S GURUVANMIKANTHAN @ Chennai

THE government's new wind repowering and life extension policy, introduced on September 4 to modernise aging windmills, has seen limited uptake, with wind energy generators (WEGs) citing high development charges as a deterrent.

According to data from TNGEC accessed by TNIE, the corporation had planned to repower windmills with a combined capacity of 7,386.5 MW. However, to date, windmills with a total capacity of only 30 MW have sought repowering.

The policy divides wind repowering projects into two categories: standalone projects (for individual owners) and aggregation projects (for multiple owners). Windmill owners must pay

a development charge of ₹30 lakh per MW to repower their machines. This high cost has generated widespread opposition from many WEGs.

Official sources revealed that over 5,000 old windmills are nearing the end of their power purchase agreements with the power utility. For these agreements to be extended by TNGEC, the windmills need to be repowered.

V Ganesh, a windmill owner from Tirunelveli, said, "Repowering requires an investment of at least ₹3-5 crore per MW. In addition, we have to pay ₹30 lakh as development charges to the power utility. There will also be no income during the repowering period, making it challenging."

Ganesh further emphasised that the state could offer incen-



tives to support WEGs during this period. "Many WEGs feel pressured to repower their windmills. This could force many small, older windmills out of the market," he added. Another windmill owner, who wished to remain anonymous,

said Tamil Nadu has significant potential for wind energy, more than its neighbouring states. Since most wind power installations are on privately owned land that is not fully utilised, the government could consider allowing a cooperative model of generation. "This would reduce the cost for individual players and make better use of the available land. The cost of land would become equity for landowners, and the utility could continue its power purchase agreements with them," he argued.

A senior TNGEC official said, "We are in discussions with wind energy generators. But, reducing development charges and providing incentives would require a policy decision." The official expressed hope that WEGs would cooperate.

TN's GSDP growth surpasses national average

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

TN reported a GSDP of ₹15,71,368 crore at constant prices for FY 23-24, reflecting a growth rate of 8.23%, as per data released by the Department of Economics and Statistics, a release from the Additional Chief Secretary (Planning & Development) said on Monday. The growth rate for all India GDP at constant prices was 8.15% in FY 23-24.

For FY 22-23, Tamil Nadu recorded GSDP of ₹14,51,929 crore, showing a growth of 8.13%, compared with national average of 6.99%. At current prices, the state's GSDP stood at ₹23,93,364 crore for FY 22-23 and ₹27,21,571 crore for FY 23-24.

Going by these figures, the state ranked 3rd in GSDP at constant prices for FY 22-23 trailing behind Maharashtra and Gujarat. In 2023-24, relative ranking could not be estimated as the GSDP data for a few other states have not been released. The state's inflation rate of 5.37% for FY 23-24 was slightly less than the all India rate of 5.38%.

58-year-old leather company worker in Ambur receives ₹2.3-cr GST notice

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Tirupattur

RANI Babu, a 58-year-old housekeeper from Ambur, is distressed after she received a GST notice of ₹2.39 crore from the Commercial Taxes Department, Palakkara Assessment Circle, Tiruchy, on Saturday. She works at a leather company and earns ₹9,000 a month. She lives in a rented house with her grandchildren in Krishnavaram. Her son B Shankar (40) works at a shoe sole manufacturing company, and earns only ₹9,000 a month.

The mother and son said they plan to file a complaint at the Superintendent of Police office in Tirupattur. The notice names Rani as the proprietor of a company named Modern Enterprises, operating from "1/81, Malaiappatti Manapparai Road, Kallikudy North, Tiruchi, with GSTIN 33FEPPR4120N1Z1".

Several cases have emerged in Ambur and Vaniyambadi in which Aadhaar cards, PAN cards, and bank accounts of daily wagers and housewives are be-



The mother and son said they plan to file a complaint at the Superintendent of Police office in Tirupattur | EXPRESS

ing misused for running companies and evading GST. Tirupattur SP Shreya Gupta told TNIE that the district crime branch is investigating the cases in coordination with the cyber crime wing. "We are yet to receive a complaint regarding Rani's case. Once we do, we will start investigation," she said.

On similar cases, Gupta said, "Some cases are four to five years old, so investigation is taking

time. We need to identify heavy volume transactions and work backwards. In one case, there were 50 suspects. This is being done by multiple people and not one group. We are likely to resolve one case within a month."

A district cyber crime wing official said, "It is difficult to investigate as the email addresses, phone numbers and bank accounts associated with a company often belong to different individuals. Additionally, there are cases where affected parties would have willingly provided their details and settled for a specific amount with the person starting the company. When the company fails and they do not receive their share, they come forward to complain."

Officials say such crimes often occur when individuals like Rani provide their details to those promising monetary benefits through community welfare schemes. Since GST registration is entirely online, it is easy for anyone to misuse these details, they said.

Allow our wards to study at 'tainted' NEET centre: Parents to Nellai collector

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Tirunelveli

AFTER NEET aspirants were beaten up by the owner-cum-trainer of a private academy, parents of some students petitioned Collector KP Karthikayan, requesting him to facilitate the students to continue their studies at the same centre, on Monday.

"Though we are aware of the incident of students being beaten up and footwear thrown at them, we have no qualms. A staff member of the academy brought these incidents to light for his own benefit, spoiling the future of our kids," said T Vinothini of Tirunelveli and Ameena Narkey of Kadayannallur, whose children were allegedly beaten up by Jalal Ahmad of Jal Neet Academy.

They added that if their children's continued studies at the same centre, it will help them prepare for NEET. "The video

clip that went viral depicted that my son was being tortured. By releasing it, the staff member has upset us. More than 16 students of this centre have cleared NEET," they said.

Meanwhile, the Tirunelveli city police intensified their inquiry with the students and staff of the academy and camped in Kerala to arrest Ahmad. Officials of the social welfare department closed student hostels for boys and girls, which were allegedly being run without permission. Sources said trainers of the centre began teaching a section of the students online after the incident. After the videos of Ahmad beating boys with a stick and throwing footwear at girls went viral on Friday, the city police registered a case against him. The State Human Rights Commission member V Kannadasan inspected the centre and conducted an inquiry.

CPI calls for 'white paper' on 1.8K MW project at Arasampattu

RAJALAKSHMI SAMPATH @ Vellore

THE CPI has called for the release of a 'white paper' to ensure transparency in the Adani Green company which has been proposed at Arasampattu village in Vellore district to generate 1,800 MW power using three reservoirs in Alleri. CPI district secretary G Latha submitted a petition in this regard to Collector VR Subbulaxmi at a grievance meeting on Monday.

According to sources, the Adani Group signed MoUs during the Global Investors Meet in January for investments exceeding ₹42,700 crore. Adani Green Energy Ltd, as part of these agreements, plans to diversify its operations in Tamil Nadu by setting up pumped storage plants which use gravity for power generation.

The company targets a total capacity of 4,900 MW through its facilities in Thenmalai, Alleri and Aliyar, creating over 4,400 jobs with an investment of approximately ₹25,000 crore.

Latha said in the petition, "We are concerned that 724.48 hectares of land, including parts of the Arasampattu forest, are likely to be acquired for the project. Tribals in Palampattu, Jhardhaankollai, Peenjamandhal and other panchayats under the Anaicut constituency received proper roads recently after 75 years of independence. Around 3,000 residents of the three hill blocks have applied for land rights under the Forest Rights Act, but the forest department has denied their claims. Besides, the forest department has also refused to build a road in Alleri, affecting the tribals."

The petition expressed dismay over the allocation of 700 hectares of forest land to private projects when the rightful claims of tribal communities are being ignored.



उत्तराखण्ड शासन



DISCOVER NEW EXPERIENCES AND A SENSE OF BELONGING IN *Uttarakhand*



**EXPERIENCE THE AMAZING
CONFLUENCE OF DEVOTION,
CULTURE AND ADVENTURE**

“Under the guidance of Honorable Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, we are committed to harnessing the overall development, natural beauty, rich cultural heritage and immense potential of the state. Our aim is to make Uttarakhand a model of progress, where tradition and innovation meet and every person contributes towards the prosperity and welfare of the state.”

Pushkar Singh Dhami
Chief Minister, Uttarakhand

“Uttarakhand is the land of gods. The way this state is moving on the path of development by keeping law and order at the forefront is praiseworthy. This effort is also necessary to maintain the identity of Devbhoomi. Therefore, I believe that in the near future, Devbhoomi Uttarakhand will become the centre of attraction for the spiritual consciousness of the entire world and we have to develop Uttarakhand according to this potential.”

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister



Uttarakhand Tourism Sector

Provides best incentives
for investment.

For weddings, it has become a New Destination.

Devbhoomi is a religious, spiritual, beautiful destination with lush green and snowy fort of mountains which has better connectivity, excellent infrastructure and all the necessary facilities. Dhami Sarkar along with pilgrimage and tourism in the state, at present this place is giving special emphasis on promoting the tradition of destination wedding and the facilities are constantly being developed. People are taking interest in organizing destination weddings at the holy religious, spiritual and natural places of Uttarakhand. But, after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's appeal, he expressed hope that in the coming time, Uttarakhand will gain prominence in the near future as a prime destination wedding location.

Devbhoomi Uttarakhand is a holy place which is famous for marriage celebrations. Now Shri Triyuginarayan temple located in Triyuginarayan village of Rudraprayag district of Uttarakhand is one of them. It is believed that this is the place where Lord Shiva circumambulated the sacred fire with Mother Parvati. This is why every year a large number of couples get married in the sacred bond of marriage in this place. This place is establishing a new identity as a destination wedding location. Similarly, in the sacred city of Haridwar, a large number of couples tie the knot in the sacred bond of matrimony at Shantikunj every year, following all traditional rituals. Speaking of the pilgrimage town of Rishikesh, it is currently emerging as a major wedding destination for both Indian and international youth. Mussoorie, Nainital, and Ramnagar are among the luxurious venues with all modern amenities, where the trend of destination weddings is gaining popularity both domestically and abroad. Uttarakhand also offers hill stations like Auli, known as 'Mini Switzerland', for those looking to marry in the lap of nature. Due to the developed facilities for tourism and pilgrimage in Uttarakhand, the attraction towards wedding destinations here is increasing. After the Prime Minister's slogan 'Wed in India', it is now expected that the Dhami government will work swiftly in this direction. The 'Wed in India' movement will, in the coming times, establish Uttarakhand as the perfect destination for weddings. This will not only boost local businesses but also create new livelihood opportunities.

A State of Pilgrimage and Tourism, Something Special for Every Age

You must visit these charming places:

These picturesque places situated in the lap of nature will touch your heart.

There are many such places in the charming natural wealth of Uttarakhand, which are no less than a treasure. If you come to Devbhoomi then definitely visit these places. Away from the hustle and bustle of tourists, these lesser-known destinations make your trip more exciting. You are able to connect directly with nature. From the picturesque Kartikeya Swamy Temple to the tranquil village of Peora, the breathtaking views of Khirsu and the untouched beauty of Mandal, places like this have a unique charm. Don't forget to enjoy birdwatching among the birds in the lush green delightful Pangot of Chaukori. The peaceful atmosphere of Gwaldamakh Abbott Mount, Shitalkhet and Nagathat are places that provide coolness to the mind. These hidden treasures of Uttarakhand are inviting you to go on a unique journey. Surely you will be impressed by the peace and natural beauty of this place. Believe it, you will be able to reach such a place, which



you haven't even imagined before. A visit to these places will give you an experience to be remembered throughout your life. Sachin Kurve, CEO of Uttarakhand Tourism Development Board, says that these lesser-known destinations of Uttarakhand offer a glimpse of the rich cultural heritage of the state. For example, Kartikeya Swami Temple is situated in the beautiful landscape of Uttarakhand. It reflects traditional architecture and spiritual significance. We are promoting offbeat destinations in every nook and corner of the state and our aim is to provide unique experiences to tourists and promote sustainable tourism development.

Uttarakhand is called the 'land of gods'. The state not only boasts of breathtaking natural beauty, but also offers travelers a unique opportunity to experience the local culture and traditions through homestays. In such a situation, the homestay running under 'Deendayal Upadhyay Grih Awas Yojana' has not only provided self-employment to the local people, but it is also making a significant contribution to the economy of the state. The homestay system has gained momentum under the 'Deendayal Upadhyay Grih Awas Yojana' started by the Uttarakhand government. The objective of this scheme is to uplift the economic condition of the local people by providing them a sustainable source of income. Under the scheme, local people get the opportunity to host domestic and foreign tourists at their own homes. In this way tourists get an opportunity to understand the indigenous cuisine, local culture, historical heritage, traditional hill lifestyle and art of Uttarakhand. Through this they are reaching places about which they had not heard before.

Ranging from cozy cottages to traditional wooden houses that reflect the architecture of the region, each homestay offers tourists a comfortable and welcoming environment, allowing them to connect with the local community.

The development of homestays in Uttarakhand has had a positive impact on the economy of the state. These accommodations provide tourists with not only unique and presently with Uttarakhand Tourism Department there are around 5000 registered homestays listed. Nestled in the lap of Himalayas in these homestays provide comfortable cottages to traditional wooden houses that reflect the region's architectural style, each homestay offers tourists a welcoming and comfortable environment, allowing them to connect with the local community. The development of homestays in Uttarakhand has had a positive impact on the state's economy. These accommodations provide tourists with not only a unique and personalized experiences but also promote local businesses by creating employment opportunities. As a result, their contribution is strengthening the local economy. Homestay owners often collaborate with local artisans, farmers, and service providers. This promotes local supply chains and sustainable development. Homestays have played a crucial role in curbing migration from the state. Homestays have played a significant role in preventing migration

A UNIQUE CONFLUENCE OF UNSEEN ADVENTURES

Uttarakhand provides a unique
experience to adventure
sports lovers around the world.

When it comes to adventure tourism in the country, Uttarakhand has become a favorite destination for adventure lovers due to its diverse landscapes. There is no dearth of exciting activities here. You get to play many exciting sports here and that is why this state provides an extraordinary experience for adventure lovers around the world. Many tourists come to Uttarakhand only to participate in these activities. For adventure lovers, there are many exciting sports and activities available here including river rafting, trekking, hiking and bungee jumping.

TREKKING AND HIKING

You can travel to remote places of Uttarakhand through trekking and hiking. Here one can enjoy trekking on the traditional Roopkund track amidst lush green forests and grasslands or

passing through the valley of flowers can give a pleasant feeling. For long walkers, Kedarkantha and Gaumukh Tapovan tracks provide a memorable experience of a lifetime.

BUNGEE JUMPING

Also known as the Yoga Capital of the World, Rishikesh is also known for its high-intensity adventures as it is the site of the highest bungee jumping in the entire country. Thrill lovers who want to defy gravity come here to go bungee jumping amidst the spectacular Himalayan hills.

SKIING

Auli, located in Chamoli district, is known as the center of skiing lovers. Adventure lovers visit Auli to find their way through its winter wonderland with snow-capped mountain slopes. This spectacular venue is also famous

Continuous development of rural tourism with Uttarakhand Homestay Scheme

Due to the efforts of the government, the local population has got employment through tourism schemes in Uttarakhand. Besides, this initiative has also strengthened the economy of the state.



In 2024, the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, awarded the title of Best Tourism Village to four villages in Uttarakhand: Jakhoul village and Harsil village in Uttarkashi district, Gunji village in the border area of Pithoragarh district, and Supi village in Bageshwar district.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has stated that rural areas are becoming centers of tourism. Additionally, every tourist destination can develop its own revenue model. To boost the rural economy, we need to promote businesses like homestays and small hotels.

from the state. It must be said that this initiative has not only increased income but also provided a solid foundation for local people to stay, promote, and develop their communities. It has helped preserve the state's cultural heritage and traditions, ensuring that future generations remain connected to their roots. The popularity of homestays in Uttarakhand is in itself proof that this initiative is touching the hearts of travelers. Tourists are not just seeking comfortable accommodation; they also enjoy strengthening connections with new destinations and people. The homestay initiative is connecting tourists with the local way of life and presenting a fresh image of the state in their minds. They are leaving with happy memories after staying here.

for hosting the National Winter Games, where athletes get the perfect opportunity to showcase their prowess.

RIVER RAFTING

The rivers of Uttarakhand not only enhance the beauty of the state but also excite the lovers of white water rafting who come here for the thrill. When tourists conquer the rapids through white water rafting or boat on the water during a serene canoeing or kayaking in the Ganges, Tons and Alaknanda rivers, they definitely get to experience different thrills.



PARAGLIDING

Thrill lovers can also take a trip to the sky here and enjoy the grandeur of Uttarakhand by paragliding. They can also take a sky flight from the scenic spots of Nainital, Mukteshwar, or Pithoragarh and view the magnificent Himalayan regions. Apart from adventure, the tourism sector of Uttarakhand has also brought prosperity to the local residents and created employment opportunities. This has also encouraged the development of adventure tourism infrastructure.



#ExploreUttarkhand

DVAC books disproportionate assets case against DMK councillor, husband

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

A Kancheepuram district councillor from the DMK, her husband and both their mothers have been booked by the DVAC in a disproportionate assets case. The FIR filed by DVAC's Kancheepuram detachment on October 3 identified the accused as assistant engineer in lower Palar sub-division in Chengalpattu irrigation section D Gujaraj (45), his wife and Walajabad Panchayat Union ward member S Rajalakshmi (38), his mother D Tamilarasi (77) and his sister S Rajeswari (58), who is also Rajalakshmi's mother.



jabad Panchayat Union in 2010. Rajeswari also secured contracts for civil engineering works from government and private agencies, DVAC said.

According to calculations made by DVAC for the check period of April 2016 to 2021, the value of all assets acquired by Gujaraj and family was ₹5.21 crore, of which ₹3.98 crore worth assets were deemed to be disproportionate to their known sources of income. So, the agency deemed their percentage of disproportion as 145 in the five years.

DVAC took into account various properties such as plots, farm and vehicles bought by the family, including a high-end luxury car, for the calculations. Based on this, the sleuths alleged that Gujaraj committed offences of criminal misconduct by intentionally enriching himself illicitly during the period of his office in his name and names of family members.

Rajeswari's husband, who is now deceased, had started a business concern named 'Rajalakshmi Agencies', of which Rajeswari was the proprietor. The company was registered as a first-class contractor in the circle highways department in Chengalpattu in 2009 and in Wala-

Senior doctor arrested for sexual harassment

Chennai: The Thirumangalam All Women Police (AWPS) have arrested Dr Ulhas M Panduranghi, the Chief of Cardiac Electrophysiology and Pacing at Madras Medical Mission, for allegedly sexually harassing a woman who was employed at the same hospital. He was nabbed in Tirupati on Saturday and brought to Chennai. A police source said that the victim had lodged a police complaint saying that Ulhas has been allegedly sexually harassing her since she started working at the hospital. The woman had also written a letter to the National Commission for Women and the Chennai District Collector about her ordeal. Thirumangalam AWPS conducted an inquiry and arrested the doctor. ENS

7.17 gm meth seized; six held in three cases

Chennai: Police have arrested six persons in three separate cases at Ayanavaram and Arumbakkam for allegedly smuggling a total of 7.17 gm of methamphetamine. Based on a tip-off, the police conducted a search at Ayanavaram on Saturday. Upon checking a gang, the police found 5 gm of meth in their possession. V Arun Lakshmanan (19), G Balaganesan (20) and V Ranjith (27) were arrested in connection with the incident. Meanwhile, the police found a couple in possession of 0.80 gm meth at Arumbakkam on Friday. They were arrested and identified as K Deepak (31) and Dolly Mehta (27). On the following day, the police arrested V Muthukumar (25) for allegedly possessing 1.37 gm of the drug. ENS



RIVER OF DREAMS

A dredging boat cleaning Cooum, with people enjoying a ride on giant wheel at Island Grounds in background | SHIBA PRASAD SAHU

EXPRESS READ

Rela Hospital docs perform bilateral lung transplant on Thoothukudi girl

Chennai: Doctors at Rela Hospital performed a complex bilateral lung transplant on an 18-year-old girl from Thoothukudi who had been battling Post TB bilateral bronchiectasis. This condition appears after TB damages the lungs. According to a release, the girl was initially treated with medication in her hometown. But, her condition worsened. She required non-invasive oxygen support and was eventually hospitalised for around-the-clock oxygen support. The lungs were harvested from a brain-dead patient in Thanjavur and brought to Rela. After the surgery, the patient was discharged. She is now able to engage in daily life activities. ENS

Former AIADMK councillor among 4 booked for abusing daughter-in-law

Thoothukudi: An AIADMK functionary and three of his family members were booked for allegedly misbehaving with his daughter-in-law and cheating her of 80 sovereigns of gold. The accused were identified as Ponraj, Kaviram, Geetha and Leelavathi, residents of Thoothukudi. The victim Thiyva Dharsini (25), a native of Sivanthakulam, said that she got married to Kaviram, son of Ponraj, former Thoothukudi corporation councillor, on December 10, 2023. She alleged Ponraj misbehaved with her on January 11, when she was alone in her bedroom. When she complained, Kaviram and her in-laws threatened not to tell others, she said. ENS

Container theft: Man who gave forged docu to gang held

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

THE Harbour police have arrested one more man in connection with the theft of a container carrying 5,230 computer tablets worth ₹35 crore from Chennai Port last month. While six people were arrested in Sep-

tember itself, the suspect who provided a forged document that helped the gang steal the container was arrested on Saturday. The police recovered four tablets from him.

The suspect was identified as K Ilavarasan (38) of Thiruvotiyur. He was an employee of the cargo company through

which the container was brought to Chennai on September 7. Ilavarasan allegedly gave a forged document to G Manikandan (31), one of the six men who were arrested earlier, and using this document the theft was carried out.

The issue came to light on September 11 when the opera-

tions manager of the cargo company came to retrieve the container and found it missing. Following a complaint, the police traced the trailer and recovered 5,207 tablets. On October 13, the police arrested another person V Chinmasamy alias Vicky (29) in connection with the case.

HDFC Bank Limited, Head Office: HDFC Bank House, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai - 400 013
We understand your world

DEPARTMENT FOR SPECIAL OPERATIONS
768 & 769, 5th Floor, "A" Wing, Phase - III, Spencer Plaza, Anna Salai, Chennai - 600002.

POSSESSION NOTICE
(Under Sec. 13(4) & as per Appendix IV read with rule 8(1) of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002)
Please take note that, we hereby recall the possession notice issued under Sec. 13(4) & as per Appendix IV read with rule 8(1) of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 dated 18.04.2024 & 05.10.2024 due to various reasons. Now we hereby issue this Fresh notice to you under Sec. 13(4) & as per Appendix IV read with rule 8(1) of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the HDFC Bank Ltd., under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued the following 5 Demand Notice Dated 29.01.2024, calling upon the Borrower: 1.Ms.Right Health Platter Private Limited, Rep by its Directors Having its Registered Office at, No.115/63, Dr. Radhakrishnan Salai, 3rd Floor, North Flat, Mylapore, Chennai - 600 004. Also at, No.124, AL Block, 12th Main Road, 2nd Street, Anna Nagar, Chennai-600040. Guarantor: 2.Mr.Ramnath Arumugam, Ms.Right Health Platter Private Limited, No. 115/63, Dr. Radhakrishnan Salai, 3rd Floor, North Flat, Mylapore, Chennai - 600004. Also at, Flat No. 2A, Shivalaya Apartments, No.33/38, Sarangapani Street, T.Nagar, Chennai - 600017. Door No. 5115, TVH Apprt, Kazhipattur Village, Padur, Chengalpattu, Kanchipuram - 601003. Corporation: Sagarputur / Mortgage: 3.M/s. KPMI. Finance Advisors: LLP, Rep by its Authorized Signatories, Ms.Right Health Platter Private Limited having its Registered Office at, Door No. 5115, TVH Apprt, Kazhipattur Village, Padur, Chengalpattu-603001. Guarantors: 4.Mr.Gopal Padia, M/s Right Health Platter Private Limited, No. 81, Meyers Road, #07-02 Singapore -437908. 5.Mr.Pankaj Dalmia, M/s Right Health Platter Private Limited, Plot No.1816, New No. 130, Flat No.2, 13th Main Road, Anna Nagar West, Chennai - 600040 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being ₹ 46,55,78,002.10 (Rupees Forty Six Crore Fifty Five Lakhs Seventy Eight Thousand Two and Ten Paise Only) as on 30.09.2023 along with interest, charges, costs etc.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, this notice is hereby given to the borrowers, in particular and the public, in general, that the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act on this 19th day of October 2024.

The borrowers in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of the HDFC Bank Ltd., net total for an amount of ₹ 46,55,78,002.10 (Rupees Forty Six Crore Fifty Five Lakhs Seventy Eight Thousand Two and Ten Paise Only) as on 30.09.2023 interest thereon together with expenses and charges etc.

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
Property No.1: "UNIHOMES" Flat No -G04, Ground Floor in Block / Tower No -T-19, S.No-229/1 part, 229/2 A part, 229/2B Part, 230/1 Part, 230/2 A1 Part, 230/2A2 part, 230/2B Part, 231/1, 231/2, 231/3A, 231/3B, 231/1, 2, 233/1 Part, 233/2, 234 part 235, 236/1, 236/2A, 2B, 3, 237/1 2 part, 237/3A part, 237/3B1 part, 237/3B2, 238/1 part, 238/2, 241/1 part 241/2 part, 241/2A part, 241/2B1, 307/1 part, 307/2 part, 307/3 part, 4A1 part, 4A2 part, 4 B part, 5A Part, 5B, 6A Part, 6B part, 6C part, 307/6D part, 308/1, 309 part, Nallambakkam Village, Chengalpattu Taluk, Guduvancheri SRO, Chennai South Registration District. Total extent of 12.577 Acres (547854.12 Sq ft) in this UDS 477.59 Sq Ft 700 Sq Ft Built up Area. Bounded by: North: 18 Meter wide road and lands in S.No 307/1 Part and 308/2, South: 12 Meter wide road, East: Lands in S.No -241/1 Part, 2 A part, 241/2B1 part, 230/2 A2 part, 230/2 B part, 230/2 B part, 230/1 Part, 229/2A part and 229/2 B part. West: 12 Meter wide road. With all easements' rights and pathway.

Property No.2: "UNIHOMES" Flat No -201, 2nd Floor in Block / Tower No -T-08, S.No-229/1 part, 229/2 A part, 229/2B Part, 230/1 Part, 230/2 A1 Part, 230/2A2 part, 230/2B Part, 231/1, 231/2, 231/3A, 231/3B, 231/1, 2, 233/1 Part, 233/2, 234 part 235, 236/1, 236/2A, 2B, 3, 237/1 2 part, 237/3A part, 237/3B1 part, 237/3B2, 238/1 part, 238/2, 241/1 part, 241/2 part, 241/2A part, 241/2B1, 307/1 part, 307/2 part, 307/3 part, 4A1 part, 4A2 part, 4 B part, 5A Part, 5B, 6A Part, 6B part, 6C part, 307/6D part, 308/1, 309, Nallambakkam Village, Chengalpattu Taluk, Guduvancheri SRO, Chennai South Registration District. Total extent of 12.577 Acres (547854.12 Sq ft) in this UDS 477.59 Sq Ft 700 Sq Ft Built up Area. Bounded by: North: 18 Meter wide Road and Lands in S.No 307/1 Part and 308/2, South: 12-Meter-wide road, East: Lands in S.No -241/1 Part, 2 A part, 241/2B1 part, 230/2 A2 part, 230/2 B part, 230/1 Part, 229/2A part and 229/2 B part. West: 12 Meter wide road. With all easements' rights and pathway.

Property No.3: "UNIHOMES" Flat No -104, 1st Floor in Block / Tower No -T-08, S.No-229/1 part, 229/2 A part, 229/2B Part, 230/1 Part, 230/2 A1 Part, 230/2A2 part, 230/2B Part, 231/1, 231/2, 231/3A, 231/3B, 232/1, 2, 233/1 Part, 233/2, 234 part 235, 236/1, 236/2A, 2B, 3, 237/1 2 part, 237/3A part, 237/3B1 part, 237/3B2, 238/1 part, 238/2, 241/1 part, 241/2 part, 241/2A part, 241/2B1, 307/1 part, 307/2 part, 307/3 part, 4A1 part, 4A2 part, 4 B part, 5A Part, 5B, 6A Part, 6B part, 6C part, 307/6D part, 308/1, 309, Nallambakkam Village, Chengalpattu Taluk, Guduvancheri SRO, Chennai South Registration District. Total extent of 12.577 Acres (547854.12 Sq ft) in this UDS 477.59 Sq Ft 700 Sq Ft Built up Area. Bounded by: North: 18-Meter-wide Road and Lands in S.No 307/1 Part and 308/2, South: 12-Meter-wide road, East: Lands in S.No -241/1 Part, 2 A part, 241/2B1 part, 230/2 A2 part, 230/2 B part, 230/1 Part, 229/2A part and 229/2 B part. West: 12 Meter wide road. With all easements' rights and pathway.

Property No.4: "UNIHOMES" Flat No -204, 2nd Floor in Block / Tower No -T-08, S.No-229/1 part, 229/2 A part, 229/2B Part, 230/1 Part, 230/2 A1 Part, 230/2A2 part, 230/2B Part, 231/1, 231/2, 231/3A, 231/3B, 231/1, 2, 233/1 Part, 233/2, 234 part 235, 236/1, 236/2A, 2B, 3, 237/1 2 part, 237/3A part, 237/3B1 part, 237/3B2, 238/1 part, 238/2, 241/1 part, 241/2 part, 241/2A part, 241/2B1, 307/1 part, 307/2 part, 307/3 part, 4A1 part, 4A2 part, 4 B part, 5A Part, 5B, 6A Part, 6B part, 6C part, 307/6D part, 308/1, 309, Nallambakkam Village, Chengalpattu Taluk, Guduvancheri SRO, Chennai South Registration District. Total extent of 12.577 Acres (547854.12 Sq ft) in this UDS 477.59 Sq Ft 700 Sq Ft Built up Area. Bounded by: North: 18-Meter-wide Road and Lands in S.No 307/1 Part and 308/2, South: 12-Meter-wide road, East: Lands in S.No -241/1 Part, 2 A part, 241/2B1 part, 230/2 A2 part, 230/2 B part, 230/1 Part, 229/2A part and 229/2 B part. West: 12 Meter wide road. With all easements' rights and pathway.

Place: Chennai
Date: 19.10.2024

Authorised Officer,
HDFC Bank Ltd.

Students risk lives to clear block in RWH system on school roof



District school education department officials on Monday ordered an inquiry after photos of four students of a government school in Periyakumarapalayam carrying out plumbwork on top of the school building at the behest of some teachers went viral.

Sources said four Class 8 students of the government middle school functioning in Periyakumarapalayam village were seen climbing on to the concrete surface of their school building using a ladder to clear block in the rainwater harvesting pipeline. Seeing this, some villagers took photos and posted them on social media. Subse-

quently, the Kundadam police conducted an investigation. A police officer said, "As rainwater was stagnant on the surface of the school building, students climbed up the building to drain the water and remove the blockage in the pipeline. The School Education Department officials conducted an inquiry and have told us

that they will send a report to the higher officials in this regard. However, the photos clearly show that the students were cutting the rainwater pipe using a steel blade." M Uthayakumar, Tiruppur Chief Educational Officer, said, "An inquiry has been ordered in this matter. Appropriate action will be taken after probe."

GIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD. (CIN: L65922MH1989PLC054583)
REGD OFFICE: National Insurance Building, 8th Floor, 14, Jambai Road, Crurichate, Yumbai - 400020
TAMBARAM BRANCH: No.20, Sooraa Street, Adhi Nagar, Tambaram (East) - 600056
Contact No: 044-40056991 E-Mail: id: tambaram@gicfincoia.com Website: www.gicfincoia.com

DEMAND NOTICE
(IN PURSUANCE WITH SECTION 13(2) OF THE SARFAESI ACT, ACT 2002)
GIC Housing Finance Ltd. (GICHFL) has sanctioned loans to the following borrowers for residential premises by creating equitable mortgage in favour of GICHFL. The repayment of the loan(s) is irregular and the account(s) is finally classified as Non-Performing Asset in accordance with directions and guidelines of National Housing Bank.

GICHFL Ltd has therefore invoked its rights under section 13(2) of the SARFAESI ACT, 2002 and called upon the borrowers to repay the total outstanding mentioned against each within 60 days from the date of demand notice in pursuance to Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule 2002. The borrowers have not acknowledged receipt of the notice. The following borrowers are hereby called upon again publicly to pay the total dues mentioned against them, plus the charges & interest accrued till date within 60 days from today failing with GICHFL Ltd shall resort to all or any of the legal rights to take possession of the premises, dispose it and adjust the proceeds against the overdue amount. The borrowers are also restrained from alienating or creating third party interest on the ownership of the properties.

Sr. No.	File no/Name of the Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s) & Guarantors	Date of NPA	Address of the property mortgaged	Outstanding amt. as per 13/2 Notice	Demand Notice Date
01	TN0530600000175 Rajesh M (Borrower) Vijayalakshmi R (Co-Borrower)	29-07-2024	S.No.397/4, Sri Vedha Vinayagar Street, Veppampattu, Tiruvallur Taluk & Dist - 602024 Bounded On- North By: Iyengara's Land, South By: 5th Common Passage, East By: Rajasekaran's Land, West By: Remaining Land in S.No.397/4B Measuring: 656.50 Sq. Ft Land Extent With Super Structure Building There on.	Rs. 17,73,372/-	03-09-2024
02	TN0530600000417 Anand.R (Co-Borrower)	28-09-2024	Plot No.1 (1A & 1B), Flat No. F2, First Floor, M G Nagar Part VII A, Urapakkam, Adhanur Village, Siperumbudur Taluk, Kanchipuram Dist - 603202 Bounded On- North By: 23 Feet Wide Road, South By: Vacant Land, East By: Plot No.2, West By: Vacant Land Measuring: 2bhk Flat UDS 315 Sq.ft and Super Built Up Area 793 Sq.ft. With Amenities There On.	Rs. 25,17,263/-	18-10-2024
03	TN0530600000250 P. Arunkavignesh (Borrower) P. Mervin Prabhakaran (Co-Borrower) Frances Mary (Co-Borrower)	29-05-2024	Old S.No.39 & New S.No.59/11, Patta No.200, Pillaiyalar Koll Street, Kasapuram Village, Selayur Post, Tambaram Taluk, Chengalpattu Dist - 600126 Bounded On- North By: Murugan's Plot in Survey No 59/12, South By: 24 Ft. Road, East By: Survey No 59/26, West By: Balance Portion of Vacant Land Owned By V.Selvam Measuring: 682.50 Sq. Ft Land Extent With Super Structure Building There On.	Rs. 37,33,022/-	18-10-2024

THIS NOTICE WILL ALSO BE PASTED ON THE MORTGAGED PROPERTY

Date: 22.10.2024
Place: Tambaram

For GIC Housing Finance Ltd.
Sd/-
Authorised Officer

GIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD. (CIN: L65922MH1989PLC054583)
HEAD OFFICE: National Insurance Building, 8th Floor, 14, Jambai Road, Crurichate, Yumbai - 400020
PORUR BRANCH: No.132/25 "A" Top, Veda Pochanrales High Road, Nr. Yyapanthangal Bus Depot, Yyapanthangal, Chennai - 600056. Ph: 044-98571149 | Email: porur@gicfl.com

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE
UNDER SUB-SECTION (1) OF RULE 8 OF RULES UNDER SARFAESI ACT, 2002

WHEREAS the undersigned being the Authorized officer of GICHFL, pursuant to the demand notice issued on its respective dates, under section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act 2002 calling upon you/Borrowers, the under named, to pay outstanding dues within 60 days from the date of receipt of the respective notices. You all have failed to pay the said outstanding dues within stipulated time, hence GICHFL is in exercise and having right as conferred under the provisions of sub section (4) of section 13 of SARFAESI ACT, 2002 read with rules thereunder, taken SYMBOLIC POSSESSION of the Secured Assets as mentioned herein below.

Sr. No.	File no/Name of the Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s) & Guarantors	Date of NPA	Address of the property mortgaged	Demand Notice Date & Published on	Outstanding amt. as per 13/2 Notice	Symbolic Possession date
01	TN0640600000098 VS PRASAD (Borrower) VP GEETHANJALI (Co-Borrower)	29-07-2022	Lulus Phase-1, House No: 223, Second Floor, S.No.79/2a1, Devi Nagar Ameez Street, Vao Office Back Side, Nemicherry, Thiruvallur-602024. & Bounded On- North By: Survey No.79/1 Part, South By: Survey Nos.77 and 78, East By: 40 Feet Road, West By: Survey No.73 Measuring: UDS- 188.54 Sq. Ft, Built Up- 455 Sq. Ft.	15-07-2024 & 26-07-2024	Rs. 15,99,768/-	22-10-2024
02	TN0640600000195 R PAULRAJ (Borrower) P GNANAMANI (Co-Borrower)	29-06-2024	No.1156, GSF Vasantham Flat, F2, First Floor, S.No.58/112A, Maniamman Kovil Street, Manapakam, Chennai - 600125. Bounded On- North By: Land Belonging To M. Jayanthi, South By: Maniamman Kovil Street, East By: Land Belonging To Mr. Shanmuga Mudaliar, West By: Land Belonging To Mr. Dhanrikachalam Mudaliar. Measuring: Uds- 428 Sq.ft, Built Up- 740 Sq.ft.	15-07-2024 & 26-07-2024	Rs. 37,11,825/-	22-10-2024

FURTHER, to this notice, the Borrowers/Mortgagor are hereby called upon to hand over vacant and peaceful possession of the respective secured assets to GICHFL within 7 (Seven) days from the date of this notice, else the undersigned shall be constrained to proceed to take PHYSICAL POSSESSION of the above properties forcibly and/or shall proceed to sale the above said properties after a period of 30 days from the date hereby or by adopting methods provided under the SARFAESI Act 2002 and rules there to.

THE BORROWER and the PUBLIC IN GENERAL is hereby cautioned not to deal with the above referred Properties/Secured Assets or any part thereof and any dealing with the Properties/Secured Assets will be subject to charge of GICHFL for the amount mentioned herein above against property / Secured Assets which is payable with the further interest thereon until payment is full.

THIS NOTICE WILL ALSO BE PASTED ON THE MORTGAGED PROPERTY

Date: 22.10.2024, Place: Chennai

For GIC Housing Finance Ltd.
Sd/-
Authorised Officer

TAMILNAD MERCANTILE BANK LTD (Regd. office at 57, V.E.Road, Thoothukudi)
CHITLAPAKKAM BRANCH
D.No.46/87, 1st Floor, Plot No.1, Gayathri Nagar, Hasthinapuram, Chitlapakkam, Chennai - 64.

AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) & 9 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) M/s.Aagna Corporate Services Private Limited, Door No.672-476, Temple Tower, Anna Salai, Nandanam, Chennai - 600 035 / No.10, E V P Padma Avenue, Vallancheri, Chennai-603 202 and Guarantors, Mrs.C.Amudha Kumaran W/o.Mr.Kumaran, No.12, Sarathi 2 Street, Bharathipuram, Chrompet, Chennai-600 044, Mr.K.Vijayakumar S/o.Mr.Kanagarajan, No.13-7, Rajai Street, Ayanavaram, Chennai-600 023, Mr.Kumaran Palani S/o.Mr.Palani, No.12, Sarathi 2nd Street, Bharathipuram, Chrompet, Chennai - 600 044 and Mr.K.Sambamoorthy S/o.Mr.Kanagarajan, No.13-7, Rajai Street, Ayanavaram, Chennai-600 023 that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Limited, Chitlapakkam Branch will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis on 06.11.2024 for recovery of Rs.1,75,36,013.59 (Rupees One Crore Seventy Five Lakh Thirty Six Thousand Thirteen and Paise Fifty Nine Only) (OD - Rs.1,22,35,680.65, TL - 1 - Rs.34,90,969.94 and TL - 19 - Rs.18,09,383.00) as on 14.10.2024 due to the Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Limited, Chitlapakkam Branch with subsequent interest and expenses. The Reserve Price will be Rs.1,11,00,000/- (Rupees One Crore Eleven Lakh Only) and the Earnest Money Deposit will be Rs.11,10,000/- (Rupees Eleven Lakh Ten Thousand Only)

Description of the Property: (Latitude & Longitude: 13.089626, 80.231169) : On equitable mortgage of the land to the extent of 1300 sq.ft situated at Chennai-23, Ayanavaram Village, Raju Naiken Street, comprised in Paimash Number 1137, Block No.19, T.S.No.97 & 86, vide Patta C.A.No.528/2003-2004, S.T.No.198/2003-2004, as per Patta T.S.No.97 and 86/3, 86/1, and building thereon (717 sq.ft) bearing Old D.No.77/12, New D.No.18/7, common passage of UDS 278 sq.ft in 556 sq.ft. The above property is situated within the Registration District of Central Chennai, Sub-Registration District of Anna Nagar standing in the name of Mr. K.Sambamoorthy and Mr.K.Vijayakumar. Boundaries: North by: Door No.7A Rajunaicken Street, South by: Door No.6, Rajunaicken Street, East by: Remaining property of the foundation and 8 feet passage link to Street, West by: Amsaveni Property.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in secured creditors website (www.tmb.in)

Authorised Officer
Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Ltd
(For Chitlapakkam Branch)
Date: 15.10.2024
(Call: 95781 77700 / 99766 34444)

SHRIRAM Finance
No.6 Sorrento Building, L.B Road, Adayar, Chennai-20. Phone: 044 - 40414600

POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer M/s. SHRIRAM CITY UNION FINANCE LTD., (since amalgamated with M/s. SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED), under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of Power conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice calling upon the below mentioned Borrowers/ Mortgagor and Guarantors to repay the amount as mentioned herein below with further interest on Enterprise Finance Loan Agreement as per the Loan Account Number and date within 60 days from the date of receipt of said notice.

Pursuant to the Scheme of Amalgamation approved by the Hon'ble NCLT, Chennai on 09.11.2022 in C.P.No. 69-76 of 2022, M/s. Shiram City Union Finance merged with M/s. Shiram Transport Finance Company Limited stands changed to M/s. Shiram Finance Limited with effect from 30.11.2022 as per "Certificate of Incorporation Pursuant to change of Name" as certified by the Registrar of Companies under Ministry of Corporate Affairs. Hence, the present notice is issued by M/s. Shiram Finance Limited, the Secured Creditor in existence as on date.

The Borrowers/ Mortgagor and Guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers/ Mortgagor/ Guarantors 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 rule on this 16th Day of October 2024.

The Borrowers/ Mortgagor/ 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 M/s. SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD, for an amount as mentioned herein below with further interest on Enterprise Finance Account.

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

Name and Address of the Borrower/ Mortgagor/ Guarantor: i) Mr. Thyagu, A S/o. Arulanandham (Borrower/ Mortgagor), ii) Mr. A. Madhusudhanan, S/o. Mr. Arulanandham, (Guarantor), iii) Mr. M. Gomathi, W/o. Mr. A. Madhusudhanan, (Guarantor), iv) Mrs. A. Devamani, W/o. Mr. Arulanandham, (Guarantor), all residing at No. 143, Hari Doss, 1st Cross Street, Opposite of Grace Matric School, Kolathur, Chennai - 600 099. Date of Demand Notice: 17.01.2023, Loan Account No. KKN27F1704110009, Loan Agreement Date: 12.04.2017, Total Outstanding Amount: Rs.83,97,752/- (Rupees Eighty Three Lakhs Ninety Seven Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Two Only) as on 17.01.2023 with further interest from 17.01.2023 on Enterprise Finance Loan Agreement. Date of Possession: 16.10.2024 (12.25 PM)

Description of Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of land bearing as per patta door no. 125C, Seventh Street, SRP Colony, Chennai-600082, measuring 1470 Sq.ft., comprised in as per patta Survey No. 3414, Old Survey No. 206/3 part, T.S.No.34, Block 13, Peravallur Village, Perambur-Purasawalkam Taluk, Chennai District, bounded on the North by land owned by M/s. Mohanaputhur, South by Plot no. 43A, East by 7th Street, SRP Colony, West by land owned by M/s. Mohanaputhur, Measuring: Northern side: 23 feet, Southern side: 50 feet, Eastern side: 50 feet, Western side: 30 1/2 feet, measuring 1470 Sq. ft. (137 Sq.mtrs), And within the Registration District of Chennai North and Sub-Registration district of Sembiam.

Date: 16.10.2024
Time: 12:25 PM

Authorised Officer
Shriram Finance Ltd
Secured Creditor

800 contract workers at Tata plant asked to resign: DVK

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Krishnagiri

DRAVIDAR Viduthalai Kazhagam (DVK) on Monday submitted a petition to district administration alleging that 800 people who joined Tata Electronics Private Limited (TEPL) in Hosur as contract workers through a private agency have been asked to resign in the past ten days.

In the petition addressed to collector K M Sarayu, DVK's Krishnagiri district president, P Vanjinathan said, "A consultancy named SITICS is recruiting employees for TEPL near Koothanapalli. It has recruited around 1, 200 people from Nagamangalam, Uddanapalli and Ayyarapalli panchayats for the company. Several people whose lands were acquired for the plant were also recruited and are working for around three years. In the last one month, without giving prior information, 800 employees were terminated. Of this, over 300 employees were allegedly told to give a letter stating they quitting voluntarily." He urged the district administration and State government to intervene and ensure their jobs.

When TNIE contacted collector Sarayu, she said, "Option for another workplace was given to the people and a few who refused may have resigned."

Murali, an administrative level staff in SITICS sought time to comment, but never replied. A representative from the agency handling the manufacturer said the workers contracts had ended.

Dana danger looms large on Odisha, coasts on high alert

Cyclone may cross between Puri & Sagar Island on October 24 night

ASISH MEHTA @ Bhubaneswar

The impending cyclone over the Bay of Bengal is expected to hit north coastal Odisha on October 24 night or early next morning as a severe cyclonic storm, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said here on Monday.

Though the IMD has not yet projected the cyclone's landfall point, the national forecaster said the system may approach the east coast between Odisha and West Bengal packing wind 100 km to 110 km per hour, gusting up to 120 km. The official word by the national agency was the cyclone may cross between Puri and Sagar Island as a severe category storm.

However, the coordinates provided by the national weather agency pointed the rapidly developing system may cross the coast somewhere between



The cyclone preparedness meeting at Loka Seva Bhawan in Bhubaneswar | EXPRESS

Paradip and Dhamra. But the IMD said any marginal deviation in the system's path cannot be ruled out.

On the day, a low pressure area formed over east-central Bay of Bengal and adjoining north Andaman Sea. IMD DG Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said the system is likely to move in a west-north-west direction and

intensify into a depression by Tuesday morning before turning into a cyclonic storm a day later over east-central Bay of Bengal.

"Thereafter, it is expected to move north-westwards and reach north-west Bay of Bengal off Odisha-West Bengal coast by Thursday morning as a severe cyclonic storm," he added.

9 shifted from shelter after woman attacked

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Sivaganga

In the wake of a video circulating on social media platforms in which a woman with mental illness is mistreated by the staff at a care home, the district administration on Monday conducted an investigation and shifted nine inmates to other institutions.

As many as 28 patients have been residing in the private home in Panagudi Road in Sivaganga town run by Pushparaj. In the video which has

gone viral on social media, a mentally ill inmate can be seen being beaten and scolded by one of the staff Komathi. When questioned, Pushparaj said that the video was taken by an inmate of the home a few months ago. He added that Komathi beat the patient to discipline her. Senior official from the Department of Welfare of Differently Aabled Persons said that the home was inspected by Collector Asha Ajith. After inspection, they found that the institution has only been authorised to ac-

commodate persons with disabilities. Of the total 28 patients in the home, 19 were people with disabilities and nine others fall under other categories (elderly, people with mental illness or speech-impaired). Hence, nine of them were shifted to their respective category homes. "Concerning the issue of ill-treatment, the department will submit a report to the collector and lodge a complaint with the police. A notice was also issued to the home seeking an explanation," said the official.

'Prison officials have certified David for good conduct'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

THE HC overturned the verdict in 2001 but the Supreme Court, on an appeal, reversed the HC order, and confirmed the trial court verdict in 2011. David sought premature release in

2018 but his application was rejected.

He applied again in early 2024, and the TN government accepted his plea but the governor rejected it. The HC granted interim bail on a petition filed by David's mother seeking to quash

the GO. (559) of the home department, passed on May 8, 2024, rejecting the application for premature release. Appearing for the petitioner, advocate S Manoharan, submitted that government has formulated a scheme under the 2023 GO (430) for pre-

mature release and David has fulfilled eligibility criteria. There are no grounds to reject the application. Moreover, he pointed out that David has been certified for good conduct by prison officials and is ready for reinstatement into society.

'Aim to prevent commuters from using omni buses with high fares'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

HE emphasised that it aims to prevent commuters from choosing omni buses, whose operators often charge excessive fares. "We have scheduled a meeting with omni bus operators on October 24, during which instructions will be issued to prevent over-charging," he said.

The transport commissioner will take stringent action in case of violations. Sivasankar announced that 4,900 special government buses will run from Chennai to other parts of the state between October 28 and 30. An additional 2,092 regular buses will be in operation during this period to assist commuters. Furthermore, 2,910 special buses will be operated from locations outside of Chennai. For the return journey after Deepavali, 3,165 special buses running to Chennai will be available, alongside 2,092 regular services daily, between November 2 and 4. Another 3,165 buses will cater to destinations outside of Chennai. The minister stated that 1.02 lakh passengers have already reserved seats for travel between October 25 and November 2. Buses to Andhra and Ponneri will depart from MMBT, while services to ECR, Vellore, Kancheepuram, and Bengaluru will depart from CMBT.

Buses heading to Pudukchery, Cuddalore, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur, Tiruchy, Madurai and other destinations will depart from KCBT. MTC buses will run around the clock between KCBT and CMBT, he added. Moreover, state government has requested the NHAI to open two additional toll counters at Paranur and Athur plazas to reduce congestion, he said. Transport Secretary K Phanindra Reddy and other officials attended the meeting.

For complaints against omni buses, contact toll-free number 1800 425 6151, or 044-24749002, 044-2628045, 044-2628161. Travellers can call 94450 14436 for assistance with government buses, an official statement said

'RIGHTS project needs to gain focus'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

THE agencies will be responsible for conducting audits to ensure compliance with the accessibility standards outlined in the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Rules, 2017, and the Harmonised Guidelines and Standards for Universal Accessibility in India, 2021. Subsequently, they will submit reports identifying areas of non-compliance and recommending corrective actions.

Additionally, these agencies will also be tasked with monitoring and evaluating implementation of recommended measures to ensure that the improvements are incorporated. In collaboration with the Directorate for Welfare of the Differently Aabled (DWDA), they will also conduct workshops for various stakeholders involved in the design, construction and maintenance of built environments to raise awareness. Each access audit team will consist of a civil engineer as team leader, an architect as deputy team leader and individuals experienced in access auditing, alongside persons with disabilities. The department will also require the agencies to employ a sufficient number of access auditors, proportional to the volume of public spaces in need of auditing.

Officials said that while the agencies are required to conduct audits and ensure accessibility in all buildings as per the RPwD Act and an HC order, they will initially focus on a list of public buildings that have high footfall. This effort is being undertaken as part of the World Bank-funded RIGHTS project.

However, disability rights activists are sceptical. "The RIGHTS project, which has a budget of over ₹1,700 crore, needs to gain focus," said Professor Deepak Nathan of the December 3 Movement, who is also a member of the RIGHTS project's steering committee. "To ensure impact, the project should be brought under the special programme implementation department," he said. Nathan added the department should consider training persons with disabilities to conduct the audits, rather than relying solely on empanelled agencies. "Empowering disabled persons to carry out these audits would be a more inclusive approach," he added.

Smitha Sadasivan, who is part of Disability Rights Alliance, welcomed government's decision to empanel agencies but emphasised the need for publicity to encourage organisations to participate. She concurred that the government should also consider empanelling individuals with disabilities, who might have the expertise, but are not part of any organisation.

Bank of Baroda AVADI N.M. ROAD BRANCH

NOTICE TO BORROWER

(UNDER SUB-SECTION (2) OF SECTION 13 OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002) Mrs Virudhakshmi G (Borrower), W/o J Gunasekaran, No.30 Murugambadu Main Road, Auto Lock Colony, Abirami 1st Street, Kalikuppam, Ambattur, Chennai - 600053. (2) Mr. J Gunasekaran (Co-Borrower), S/o Jagannathan, No.30 Murugambadu Main Road, Auto Lock Colony, Abirami 1st Street, Kalikuppam, Ambattur, Chennai - 600053.

RE: Credit facilities with our N.M. Road Avadi Branch, 1. We refer to our letter No RL/2016/30180000211 dated 04.05.2016 conveying sanction of credit facilities and the terms of sanction. Pursuant to the above sanction you have availed and started utilizing the credit facilities after providing security for the same, as hereinafter stated. The present outstanding in various loan/credit facility accounts and the security interests created for such liability are as under :

Table with 5 columns: S. No., Nature and type of facility, Limit (in Rs.), Rates of Interest, and O/s as on 30-09-2024 + Plus unapplied interest + expenses thereon.

Security agreement with brief description of securities

All that piece and parcel of land and building bearing plot no.31 C, in the layout called as "St. Peter's Nagar" Comprised in Survey No. 191/5, Situated at Thirumalaivoyal Village, Ambattur Taluk, Thiruvallur District measuring an extent 800 Sq Ft Within the limits of avadi Township and Bounded on the North by: Plot No 31 Part (Plot of K Usha), South by: Plot No 29C, East by: 20 Feet wide Road, West by: Plot No 29A.

2. In the letter of acknowledgement of debt dated 03.12.2021 you have acknowledged your liability to the Bank to the tune of Rs. 14,46,976.74 as on 03.12.2021. The outstanding stated above include further drawings and interest upto 30.11.2021. Other charges debited to the account are Rs.NIL

3. As you are aware, you have committed defaults in payment of interest on above loans/outstanding for the month ended November 2023 and December 2023. You have also defaulted in the payment of installment of term loan /demand loan which have fallen due for payment on 30.06.2024 and thereafter.

4. Consequent upon the defaults committed by you, your loan account has been classified as non-performing asset on 28.09.2024 in accordance with the Reserve Bank of India directives and guidelines. In spite of our repeated requests and demands you have not repaid the overdue loans including interest thereon.

5. Having regard to your inability to meet your liabilities in respect of the credit facilities duly secured by various securities mentioned in para 1 above, and classification of your account as a non-performing asset, we hereby give you notice under sub-section (2) of section 13 of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and call upon you to pay in full and discharge your liabilities to the Bank aggregating Rs. 13,73,548.51/- (Rupees thirteen lac Seventy three thousand five hundred forty eight and fifty one paise Only) Plus unapplied interest + expenses thereon as stated in para 1 above, within 60 days from the date of this notice. We further give you notice that failing payment of the above amount with interest till the date of payment, we shall be free to exercise all or any of the rights under sub-section (4) of section 13 of the said Act, which please note.

Date : 06.10.2024 (Authorised Officer) Bank of Baroda

KSEB KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED - E-TENDER NOTICE

BEFORE THE HON'BLE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - II, CHENNAI

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-TENDER NOTICE

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-TENDER NOTICE

M/s. Peach Trees, Represented by its Proprietrix : Mrs. E. Kokila, No.2, K B Dasan Road, Alwarpet, Chennai - 600 018 and Two others

GUJARAT MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LIMITED

UJVN LIMITED

It is submitted that in the above OA No.144/2024, have been filed by the Applicant Bank for recovery of sum of Rs.2,71,55,488.22 (Rupees Two crores seventy one lakhs fifty five thousand four hundred eighty eight and paise twenty two only) being the amount due as on 01.01.2024 together with respective contractual rate of interest thereon with monthly rests from date of filing of OA to full realization in full, against all the defendants and Summons sent to the defendants by RPAD were returned un-served, hence the Hon'ble Tribunal ordered substituted service of paper publication to Defendants on 18.10.2024, for your appearance, returnable by 26.11.2024.

TENDER NOTICE NO: GMSCL/D-11/2024-25

AJMER VIDYUT VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED

C. RAMAIAH, Advocate

JODHPUR VIDYUT VITRAN NIGAM LTD.

E-Tender Notice

High Court Chambers, Esplanade, Chennai - 600 104.

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

All the news. In just a click. Log to www.newindianexpress.com

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

Details regarding district/Lot wise scope of work, Tender cost, Earnest money, Date of tender opening etc. are available websites

Details regarding district/Lot wise scope of work, Tender cost, Earnest money, Date of tender opening etc. are available websites

Details regarding district/Lot wise scope of work, Tender cost, Earnest money, Date of tender opening etc. are available websites

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Rammath Goenka

SHIFT TO PRICE-BASED GST STRUCTURE A BOON FOR THE COMMON MAN

In its recent meeting in New Delhi, the group of ministers (GoM) on GST rate rationalisation has recommended tax slabs based on the pricing of products, with more expensive goods and services of the same sort attracting higher tax rates. This is not completely new for the GST regime—there are already product categories where the rates are based on maximum retail prices. But the latest recommendations seem to be a major shift towards a price-based tax structure.

If the recommendations are accepted by the GST Council, which sets the rates, the new system would be complex and cumbersome in terms of compliance. At the same time, it would give some respite to people with lower incomes. It might look like a populist move, but will address the anger of a large section of the people who feel unduly overtaxed. If seen closely, the GoM's recommendations try to keep the goods and services used by a larger section of the people in the middle- or lower-income categories in lower tax brackets. For example, the panel has recommended lowering the rate on 20-litre drinking water containers, bicycles and notebooks from the current 18 percent to 5 percent. The GST on bicycles costing less than ₹10,000 is recommended to be lowered from 12 percent to 5 percent. However, some items in the 18 percent category—such as hair dryers, curlers and some make-up kits—could be back in the 28 percent bracket, the highest. Similarly, shoes and watches above ₹15,000 would attract 28 percent. The GoM has made similarly graded recommendations on health insurance—no tax on premiums for policies insuring sums up to ₹5 lakh, but 18 percent for those insuring higher amounts.

Going by the recommendations, it is quite clear that the policy-makers are not looking for a simplified GST structure. A pricing-based rate structure would only lead to more complications and compliance headaches. There would be further sub-categorisation within similar product and service categories, and hence the need to use more HSN or harmonised system of nomenclature codes. This could lead to more litigation in future. However, if accepted, the recommendations would give some respite to the common man.

HIL 2.0 REBOOT WELCOME, SUSTENANCE A CHALLENGE

INDIAN hockey recently received a fillip to keep its newfound momentum going. After being consigned to the bin for seven years, the auction for the resurrected Hockey India League (HIL) saw several hockey medallists being snapped up for big bucks. Harmanpreet Singh, who has won back-to-back medals at the Olympics, was signed for ₹78 lakh. Midfielder Hardik Singh was signed for ₹70 lakh, while Abhishek, the forward who could be a national team mainstay for the next decade, was snapped up for ₹72 lakh.

While the money always helps, HIL serves a bigger purpose. Its comeback—with new teams, new faces and more international stars—gives young players the perfect platform to learn. Take the Tamil Nadu Dragons. The young-but-inconsistent Karthi Selvam will rub shoulders with the likes of Blake Govers and Jip Janssen. At the Kalinga Lancers, young Sanjay will continue to learn the art of defending from the likes of Arthur van Doren, one of the best in the business. With Indian players not playing in foreign leagues, this will give them another perspective. It's what happened when the HIL was first commissioned. India, not among the world's elite back then, learned from the best and upskilled soon. A lot of the established Indian internationals at present—including the likes Manpreet Singh and Harmanpreet Singh—have come on record to say how it helped them during their younger days.

Hockey India will hope HIL 2.0 does the same thing for the next generation of players. The onus is now on Hockey India and the clubs to find a way to keep this going for the foreseeable future. Making money may be a challenge for the teams, but it is not impossible to become profitable down the line. The other good thing Hockey India has done is bringing in a women's league as well. While it's a blow that there is only going to be four teams to start (to be raised to six from 2026), it's a start. While the men's team are riding on a high, the women's league could act as the booster shot they need. With the 2026 Commonwealth Games unlikely to feature hockey, this will also offer high-level exposure to all Indian players in a critical year; as the 2026 Asian Games will act as an Olympic qualifier. The next challenge is to keep the whole enterprise going.

QUICK TAKE

TACKLING DEMOGRAPHIC DISADVANTAGE

AFTER Andhra Pradesh's Chandrababu Naidu, it was Tamil Nadu's MK Stalin's turn to suggest that the southern states should increase their fertility rates. Speaking at a mass wedding on Monday, the Tamil Nadu chief minister joked, "Why not aim for 16 children?" Behind the quip is a quandary. The southern states rightly feel aggrieved that their success at controlling population growth is leading to disadvantages in fund devolution. The other serious consequence is a greying population. But faster population growth is not the answer. The need is to tailor fund-sharing to include the states' need for elder care and make it easier for workers from other states to migrate.

OMAR Abdullah has once again ascended the hot seat as the head of J&K government through a transparent, free and credible electoral process. Many have commented to say it was immaterial who came to power in J&K. That such an electoral process could be carried out in a proxy war zone without an incident of violence or repoll is itself a certification of what the nation has achieved. There are times when we need to sit back and observe what we did right without too much critiquing and negativising, notwithstanding the attack at Z-Morh which is an after event.

Most striking is the fact that whenever the international community intercedes in conflicts around the world, it aims at a drawdown among the contestants, then an election, to get a people's elected government in the seat of power. It's not often this happens successfully and if it does, it rarely lasts. Cambodia and Mozambique were two good examples of UN interventions and both had an Indian peacekeeping presence.

The recent parliamentary and assembly elections in J&K need to be examined from the angle of the success of the Indian model of conflict management, which betters almost all other models. We rarely give ourselves credit for this, but it's not any one agency or domain that has succeeded in achieving what may have at one time appeared as an impossible task; it's the Indian system and its conciliatory approach that many are critical of.

Consider the environment we faced in 1989-90. A cascading insurgency sponsored from across the borders that moved into the realm of terror, a virtual genocidal eviction of a minority with a helpless administration looking on, atrocities afresh, mountain infiltration routes converted to highways, and the populace in the streets baying for the blood of soldiers and policemen. A gleeful adversary watching its handiwork succeed beyond expectations, with half its army sitting in deployment areas in a massive exercise called Zarb-e-Momin. This was January-February 1990.

We inducted untrained troops and used brute power; all necessary if the fires had to be doused. The Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA-1990) was legislated to give additional powers to central forces. It remains in place as a contentious instrument used by anti-national forces as a propaganda tool. We resisted that right through and maintained the empowerment of the Army, without which the task would have been well nigh impossible.

We defeated the early phases of the lo-

It was possible to conduct elections in the strife-torn area in a free manner because of the lessons learnt over the years. It's necessary to sustain the momentum now

INDIA'S GAINS WITH CONCILIATORY SECURITY IN J&K

LT GEN SYED ATA HASNAIN (RETD)



Former Commander, Srinagar-based 15 Corps. Now Chancellor, Central University of Kashmir



SOURAV ROY

cal uprising but, could do little against the rising alienation. The adversary inducted foreign terrorists in hundreds along the infiltration highways. We then raised a counter-insurgency (CI) and counter-terrorism (CT) force drawn from the Army itself and called it the Rashtriya Rifles (RR), one of our boldest military experiments. It succeeded due to the permanence it brought to the CI and CT grid, where earlier units were turning over even before they settled in.

This domain of military and quasi-military operations needed permanence for stabilisation. The Jammu & Kashmir Police gained more experience by the day and proved as effective and loyal as any other. It raised the Special Operations Group, which worked closely with the

RR, giving it the local advantage and hence force-multiplying intelligence.

Later, the Army went and raised the Territorial Army (Home & Hearth) units, with the sons of the soil concept that helped in direct outreach to villages and small towns as our influence operations. The local Army regiment, the J&K Light Infantry provided liaison and outreach facilitation through local soldiers, many of whom also suffered the consequences.

Quite early, the senior hierarchy realised that the proxy war could not be controlled without considering the local population as the centre of gravity. The years 1996-97 were crucial. We fought back against international efforts to label us undemocratic and violators of human rights. The 1996 elections and the government that came to

THE BATTLE FOR THE SOUL OF BRICS

E D MATHEW



Former spokesperson, United Nations

MEETING when the world's first 'live-streamed genocide' in West Asia and the Russia-Ukraine war are in the backdrop, one would expect the two issues to dominate the BRICS summit opening in the Russian city of Kazan on Tuesday. But these issues are unlikely to take the centre-stage. Instead, that space is likely to be claimed by the politics behind the group's expansion, the battle for leadership of the Global South between China and India, and whether BRICS should evolve as an anti-Western bloc spearheaded by Beijing and Moscow.

The acronym BRIC—Brazil, Russia, India, China—was coined in 2001 to club together the four countries as attractive investment destinations. In 2010, the group was expanded to include South Africa, thus becoming BRICS. This year, four members were added—Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran and the UAE. Although not formally a member yet, Saudi Arabia participates in the group's activities.

These 10 countries represent 35.6 percent of global GDP in purchasing power parity terms and 45 percent of the world's population. It's projected to expand further—with more than 40 countries having expressed interest in joining, including emerging powers Indonesia, Malaysia and Cambodia. Thus the battle for its leadership assumes global importance.

As the US seeks to isolate China geopolitically, China looks at the Global South for its future. Although an upper-middle-income country, China positions itself as a member of the developing world, standing in solidarity with the poor and the oppressed—especially through its Belt and Road Initiative. Therefore, for Beijing, the leadership of BRICS will be a major diplomatic win.

Beijing also made notable strides in global diplomacy. For example, it brokered a historic deal in March 2023 bringing together arch-rivals Saudi Arabia and Iran to resume diplomatic relations. It has also brokered relations between rival Palestinian factions.

Meanwhile, by hosting the summit, Russian President Vladimir Putin could claim that not only has the West's effort to isolate Moscow failed, but it remains an important member of a group spearheading the Global South that is capable of influencing the future of the global order shifting away from a US-led unipolarity.

However, beneath the bloc's growing prominence lies a deepening leadership struggle, particularly between India and

China. A major point of contention is the group's expansion. For India, it's a challenge as China intends to use BRICS enlargement to enhance its strategic influence in the developing world.

Since China's initial push in 2017 for a broader membership under the 'BRICS Plus' initiative, there has been a noticeable divide within the group with India



BRICS—now a group of 10 nations representing over a third of global GDP—is important in the transition to a multipolar world. Hence its leadership assumes global significance. Both Delhi and Beijing see it as an opportunity to position themselves as champions of the Global South

and Brazil expressing reservations about the move. Both countries were initially wary of expanding the bloc, fearing it could dilute their influence. However, in the face of China's intensified push in 2023, India and Brazil acquiesced.

India's decision to support enlargement reflects its desire to maintain its standing in the Global South while balancing its growing rivalry with China. New Delhi recognised the strategic benefits of remaining engaged with BRICS, especially as China's influence continues to rise. Beijing's diplomatic heft and argument that blocking expansion would stifle the rise of other developing nations forced Brazil to relent.

There are ideological cleavages among BRICS members, too. China and Russia—

and now Iran—are keen to position the group against the West and the global order crafted by Washington and Brussels.

However, non-aligned countries such as India, Brazil and South Africa do not have any appetite for such a binary confrontation between the East and the West. For India, this is particularly crucial as it seeks to maintain strong ties with the US and its allies, while also balancing its growing competition with China. President Lula da Silva of Brazil often reiterates that BRICS is "against no one".

However, as BRICS expands and diversifies, this binary dilemma is likely to grow. This is a quandary for countries like Saudi Arabia, which seeks to maintain strong ties with both the US and China, and for Latin American nations looking to diversify their foreign relations without severing traditional ties with the West.

Despite these internal divisions, most BRICS countries view the global shift to multipolarity as a crucial process to ensure a more stable and equitable international order. The group's shared interest in challenging Western hegemony remains a powerful unifying force that explains why the bloc continues to be attractive to many nations in the Global South, which see BRICS as an alternative to Western-dominated institutions.

It's also an appealing forum for many middle- and low-income nations, or "bystander countries" as South Africa calls them, that are deprived of a seat at the high table.

As Narendra Modi engages other BRICS leaders in Kazan, the first summit since the bloc's expansion, India has an opportunity to present its credentials as a leader of the Global South, including New Delhi's successful initiative last year to bring Africa into the G20 fold.

It is also an opportunity for New Delhi to play its non-alignment card to prevent BRICS from becoming a platform of US-China rivalry or an echo chamber of the Sino-Russian axis. This ideological battle between the anti-Western countries and the non-aligned ones will determine the future of BRICS.

(Views are personal)

MAIL BAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Trudeau's travesty

Ref: *Trudeau's pathetic posturing without proof is showing* (Oct 21). What Canada PM Justin Trudeau has done is put the bilateral relations between India and Canada on edge. For a long time, India was an ally of Canada. But now, for his personal gains, Justin Trudeau put the cordial relationship in jeopardy. This shows immaturity of political acumen. **Jaikishan N, Kengeri**

Lake destruction

Ref: *Urban flooding calls for systemic solutions* (Oct 21). Be it Chennai or Bengaluru, the destruction of lake ecosystems is the root cause for flash floods. Politicians alone are not to blame. The common people are alleged to bribe politicians via contractors to get plan approvals. People get the rulers they deserve. **G Nataraja Perumal, Elathur**

Besides Balakot

Ref: *Nawaz's last shy at peace with India* (Oct 21). The reasoning of attributing Narendra Modi's victory in 2019 to Balakot is over-simplistic and without any empirical evidence. Indian election results are multifaceted and not amenable to any rational, scientific or statistical analysis, as is evident from the recently concluded Haryana polls. **OP Swaminathan, Bengaluru**

Merit, mettle

Ref: *Being nicer to women as a society* (Oct 21). Not gender, but merit and mettle should be given the top billing. Generosity and gentleness are required in men to recognise the sterling qualities of women. Any society that fails to acknowledge the role of women is bound to fail in achieving the required progress. **CG Kuriakose, Kothamangalam**

Equal partners

Women having no share in parental property is a bit of the stigma still attached to Hindu women. Women have overcome many slavish attachments by excelling in various fields. We are nicer to women, but treating them equally as a partner in every Hindu family is paramount to exploit their potential further. **Jayachandran C, Chennai**

Bomb bluffs

Ref: *90 and counting as 25 more Indian flights get hoax bomb threats* (Oct 21). Major Indian carriers continue to receive hoax threats, leading to the disruption of services and inconvenience to travellers. This mystery needs to be unravelled to expose the culprits behind these sadistic jokes. **K R Parvathy, Mysuru**



Yogendra Yadav @YogendraYadav
The attack on me and my colleagues of Bharat Jodo Abhiyan in Akola (Maharashtra) today is a matter of grave concern for every democracy lover.



Omar Abdullah @OmarAbdullah
I'm eternally grateful to the people of Budgam for voting for me. I'm sorry the rules dictated that I had to vacate one of the two seats.

Disengagement likely after agreement

Experts say will take time for the agreements to take shape on the ground along friction points in Eastern Ladakh

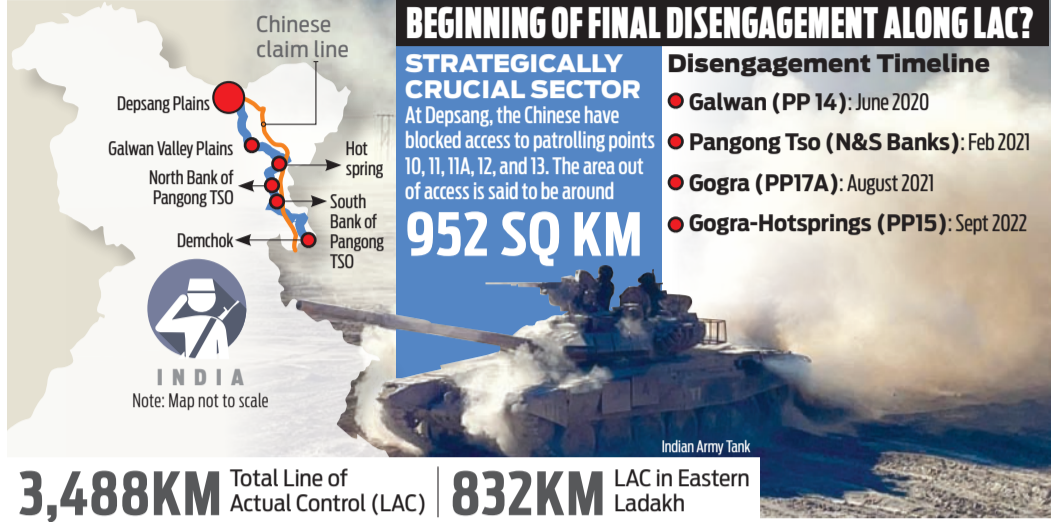
MAYANK SINGH @NewDelhi

IN a significant turn of events on Monday, India and China reached an agreement to go back to the pre-2020 position along the Line of Actual Control in eastern Ladakh. However, there have been words of caution till the time fine prints are confirmed.

"We reached an agreement on patrolling, and we have gone back to the 2020 position. With that we can say the disengagement with China has been completed. Details will come out in due course," Foreign Minister S Jaishankar said while he was speaking at a media summit.

"There are areas which for various reasons after 2020, they blocked us, we blocked them. We have now reached an understanding which will allow patrolling as we had been doing till 2020," Jaishankar said.

With the new agreement, the standoff between the ground forces of the Indian Army and the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) will affect two points Depsang and Demchok. The military has been consistent



in its interpretation of the processes of disengagement from Galwan, Gogra, Hotsprings and North and south banks of Pangong Tso which "does not change India's claim over the alignment of LAC." Sources have been saying that "all disengagements carried out earlier also have been done on the basis of mutual and equal security with no prej-

udice to LAC claims by either side." But the standoff at Depsang is of much significance because Chinese troops have blocked access to PPs 10, 11, 12, and 13. The area out of access, as per the sources, is around 952 sq km.

Sub-Sector North, of which Depsang is a part, is strategically most important. The terrain is such that large-scale

armour operations are possible. China has multiple roads feeding this area while India has only one functioning road — the DSDBO road — and is working on developing alternate routes.

By sitting at the Y Junction, China can obstruct India's movement. Briefing earlier on the issue, foreign secretary Vikram Misri said at a media

briefing, "Over the last several weeks, Indian and Chinese diplomatic and military negotiators have been in close contact with each other in a variety of forums."

"As a result of these discussions, an agreement has been arrived at about patrolling arrangements along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China border areas, leading to disengagement and a resolution of the issues that had arisen in these areas in 2020," he said.

"We will be taking the next steps on this," Misri added.

But the lack of trust in a compelling cautionary approach has been underlined by the military. Multiple military sources said that things will take time to get clear as "not much has changed on ground" for the troops, from both sides.

Explaining things on ground another source said: "Pre-April Indian Army was patrolling till its line of perception and so were the Chinese PLA troops. Whether we will touch those areas will only get clear once the fine prints are released."

'There is no short cut to success'

THE Supreme Court had recently intervened to help an 18-year-old Dalit youth, Atul Kumar, from Uttar Pradesh, by directing the IIT Dhanbad, seat allocation authority to admit him into the electronics engineering programme there. Kumar belongs to a poor family (his father being a daily wageer). He had lost his seat in IIT Dhanbad after missing the deadline to deposit a fee of ₹17,500. In an interview with Suchitra Kalyan Mohanty, Kumar spoke about his journey of struggle and financial difficulties. Excerpts:



short cut to success.

What could have happened had the SC not come to your rescue?

There is no doubt that the SC came to my rescue and helped me. The CJI's order has been very helpful in my getting admission in IIT Dhanbad. Otherwise, I could not have got through. The CJI had said that there should not be any hurdle to any successful candidate. I am indebted and grateful to our CJI sir. Due to him I got my seat back there.

There are many talents like you, and due to their financial troubles, they have to suffer a lot...

The government should help such talents and achievers. NGOs should also do their bit. I can say about my father: he always found a way out for me, despite his serious financial woes.

How did your parents contribute to your studies? My parents have wholeheartedly supported my studies, irrespective of my situation.

They always encouraged me in my studies. I was having one aim: study hard and do well.

Did you have any options if the SC had not given a sympathetic hearing in your case?

If the SC could not have ordered this, then I could have had some regret in my life and couldn't have done my B Tech, from IIT Dhanbad. On the other hand, I could have tried to sit for JEE Mains 2025.

Did you expect that you would get good marks and admission in a good institute?

There are certain ups and downs in the preparations. It is difficult to predict the current year's questions. But I prepared in-depth and secured good marks as a result of my hard work. There is no

Which is your favourite subject? Till Standard 12, it was Maths. But when I started taking coaching for advanced JEE, the difficulties associated with Math became even more serious. After that Chemistry became my favourite subject. But I did not neglect Maths.

After you complete your studies, what's your plan? After my B Tech, I would like to work for a company in a good position and after completing certain years, I would try to initiate a start-up, provided I have some funds.

NIA probe ordered as LeT wing claims responsibility for Ganderbal strikes

MUKESH RANJAN @NewDelhi

THE Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has handed over the probe into the attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Ganderbal district, in which a doctor and six migrant workers were killed late on Sunday evening, to the National Investigation Agency (NIA), as a four-member-team has left for the Union Territory (UT), sources said on Monday.

The sources said, preliminary investigation revealed that the terrorists involved in the attack belonged to the Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba's (LeT) offshoot present in the Valley The Resistance Front (TRF), as its chief Sheikh Sajjad Gul "is suspected to be the mastermind and his group's local module at his behest carried out the attack".

It is to be noted here that TRF chief Gul is wanted by the NIA in another terror case, the sources said, adding that the attack by the outfit targeting Kashmiris and non-Kashmiris together has been noticed for the first time in the recent past. In 2022, the NIA had announced a ₹10 lakh reward each for information leading to the arrest of Gul and three others, who were residents of Pakistan.



TRF chief Gul wanted

It is to be noted here that TRF chief Gul is wanted by the NIA in another terror case, the sources said, adding that the attack by the outfit targeting Kashmiris and non-Kashmiris together has been noticed for the first time in the recent past. In 2022, the NIA had announced a ₹10 lakh reward each for information leading to the arrest of Gul and three others, who were residents of Pakistan.

terror activities in the UT.

In the recent past, TRF has been active in J&K and has been targeting Kashmiri Pandits, Sikhs and non-locals, but the Sunday evening attack shows a change in the outfit's strategy, as one of the locals also fell victim to the attack.

The terror group had carried

out a reeve of the attack site - a construction site in the Sonamarg area of Ganderbal district - for the last one month, sources said, adding that two to three terrorists executed the targeted killings. Sources in the MHA said, the NIA team visited the attack site in the afternoon and they will in due course be handed over the probe. According to initial reports, the doctor, identified as Dr Shahnawaz, a resident of Naigdam in central Kashmir's Budgam district and the migrant workers attacked were part of the construction team working on the Z-Morh tunnel, which connects Gaganer to Sonamarg.

The terrorists carried out the attack when the labourers and other staff working had returned to their camp.

'VPN chaining making task of agencies difficult in hoax bomb threat calls'

MUKESH RANJAN @NewDelhi

THE Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has stepped in to deal with the spate of hoax bomb threats to the airlines last week with Home Secretary Govind Monhan on Monday meeting top officials of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) and Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS).

Officials briefed the home secretary about the hoax bomb threats to airlines, leading to diversions, cancellations and passenger inconvenience, as these bore a cost to the civil aviation sector, sources said.

They said during the briefing, the top officials of the two agencies, responsible for providing security to the airlines and airports, noted that most of such threats originated from abroad and 'VPN chaining' is suspected to make it "almost impossible" for Indian agencies to trace the exact location of their origin.

Sources said BCAS DG Zulfiqar Hasan and CISF chief Rajwinder Singh Bhatti met the home secretary at his office at North Block. The three remained closeted for about half an hour. A senior official said Hasan and Bhatti briefed Mo-

han about the incidents of bomb threats and the steps taken to check such incidents. As many as 25 flights received bomb threats on Sunday taking such incidents to 100 over the past seven days affecting the schedule of over 90 domestic and international flights.

The BCAS coordinates, monitors, inspects and trains personnel in civil aviation security matters thereby maximising effectiveness of aviation security and minimising acts of unlawful interference with civil aviation operations. The CISF guards 68 civilian airports in the country by deploying about 40,000 personnel who provide counter-terror security cover, frisk passengers and screen luggage.

Sources said the agencies have not been able to trace the actual IP address from which the threats were issued. Cyber security experts, who are involved in the digital probe, have found that the accused are not the same in all cases. "In one instance, a note was found on an Udaipur-Mumbai flight written on a tissue paper. In other cases, threats were generated digitally. In some cases, threats were made through social media, while in others, emails were sent," a source said.

SC restrains states, UTs from acting on NCPCR move to close madrasas

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY @NewDelhi

THE SC on Monday stayed the recent orders of UP and Tripura governments which directed that all students in unrecognised madrasas and non-Muslim students studying in government-aided madrasas be shifted to government schools.

A three-judge bench of Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud and Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, in its interim order, stayed the operation of the communication issued by the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) to states to shift students from unrecognised madrasas, which are not complying with the Right to Education Act, to government schools.

The top court gave then order after hearing the submissions from senior lawyer Indira Jaising on behalf of Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind. The Muslim organisation had challenged the action of UP and Tripura governments. While directing Jaising to implead all the states

ALSO IN TOP COURT

SC rejects Kejriwal's summons plea

In a major setback to former Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal, the SC on Monday rejected his plea seeking quashing of summons issued against him in a defamation case filed by the Gujarat varsity registrar over his remarks about academic degree of Modi.

and union territories to the petition, the SC stayed the UP and Tripura orders.

"The communications of June 07, 2024 and June 25 of NCPCR and the consequential communications of June 26 of the Chief Secretary of UP and one of July 10, issued by the Secretary, Department of Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education and communication of August 28, issued by the government of Tripura shall not be acted upon," the court said.

Modi says India a beacon of hope amid global challenges

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @NewDelhi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said India stands out as a beacon of hope amid global uncertainties, emphasising a prevailing sense of positivity in the country.

"As India progresses, the world will benefit even more. And India's century will become a victory for all of humanity," he said. "This is a century in which India's initiatives contribute to a more stable world and enhance global peace," the PM said.

Speaking at a summit, titled "The India Century", organised by a media house here, Modi said the recent Haryana assembly election result is a testament to the people's trust in India's rapid progress towards becoming Viksit Bharat. Modi also pointed out India's unique advantage of harnessing both Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Aspirational India (AI) to drive growth.

"India is now progressing with a forward-looking vision as one of the youngest countries in the world, with the po-



tential to achieve great heights," Modi said. Amid the Canada-India diplomatic row, the PM delivered a strong message without taking the name of any country. "The foundation of India's relationships is trust and reliability; it does not believe in taking relationships for granted, and the world is also understanding this," he said.

"India is a country whose progress does not invoke envy or jealousy from others. The world rejoices in our progress because the entire world benefits from it."

The PM said India could not

capitalise on the industrial revolution due to colonisation. "But this is the era of Industry 4.0. India is no longer a slave. It has been 75 years since we gained independence, and therefore, now we are ready with our belts tightened," he said, adding the urgent needs of today's era are stability, sustainability, and solutions. Modi highlighted how India helped other countries during the Covid pandemic with medicines and vaccines. "India could have earned millions of dollars from essential medicines and vaccines... but humanity would have lost," he said.

Dhankhar says Indian art forms bring in inclusivity in conflict-ridden world

PARVEZ SULTAN @NewDelhi

INDIAN art forms, particularly dance, offer a model of inclusivity in a world increasingly divided by conflicts and discord, said Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Monday.

Underlining the power of India's rich cultural heritage to unite people across boundaries, he stated, "In a world grappling with conflicts, transgressions, and discord, Indian art offers a ray of light. When the tunnel is filled with challenges and divisiveness, it is culture, dance, and music that unite us across barriers. However divisive the world may be, the unity brought about by our culture is impregnable, soothing, and lasting." He was addressing the gathering at the International Festival on Indian Dance, organized by the Sangeet Natak Akademi in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture and the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR).

Dhankar said that performing arts have the power to unite, heal, inspire, and motivate.

"Dance artists are cultural and peace ambassadors, promoting dialogue and laying the groundwork for soothing diplomatic maneuvers. Dance is a great facet of cultural diplomacy, fostering understanding and connection across boundaries," the vice president added.

"Bharat is a gold mine of fine arts. Our cultural revival integrates ancient wisdom with contemporary practices. The world witnessed this during our G20 Presidency. Culture, dance, and music are the universal languages of mankind."

The Vice President also emphasized India's historical influence on global culture, particularly through its epics. "Art does not define dominance; it defines integration. The Ramayana's spread to Southeast Asia, visible at Angkor Wat, stands as a testament to our cultural diplomacy. When I visited Angkor Wat, I was awestruck by the intricate carvings—it's as if the stone was speaking. This showcases Indian art's potential for cultural diplomacy."

Police have arrested four persons allegedly involved in the theft of several mobile phones during a musical concert in Maharashtra's Pune city and recovered 14 gadgets from them, an official said on Monday.

3 BUFFALOES

DIE OF ELECTROCUTION IN PALGHAR



Table with weather forecasts for various cities including Ahmedabad, Bhopal, Jaipur, Amritsar, Chennai, Kolkata, Srinagar, Mumbai, Panaji, Patna, Lucknow, Port Blair, Imphal, and Chandigarh.

Uddhav Thackeray's Sena confident of deal with Cong ■ Stalemate in MVA seat-sharing talks over 15 constituencies

Raut meets Shah, denies joining hands with BJP

GRIPPED by a fear of loss in its seat-share talks with Congress a day after letting it be known that it was nursing extreme ideas about its MVA association in Maharashtra, Uddhav Thackeray's Shiv Sena appeared to move back from the brink. Then, on Monday, it turned to BJP to reinforce its MVA cover with Sanjay Raut going some length to dismiss his reported meeting with Union minister Amit Shah.



(UBT) is the party of self-respecting people. If we want to do something, we'll do it openly," said Raut. He said people were deliberately spreading rumors to defame our party and widen the gap among MVA alliance partners.

Cong deposes Thorat to iron out Maha differences

AS the standoff over seat-sharing between the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) partners Congress and Shiv Sena (UBT) continues, the Congress leadership on Monday deployed state legislature party leader Balasaheb Thorat to mediate on the contentious seats.



Speaking to the media after the meeting, AICC Maharashtra in charge Ramesh Chennithala said the party would hold another CEC meeting on October 25. "Final decisions will be taken on 25," he said.

BY POLLS

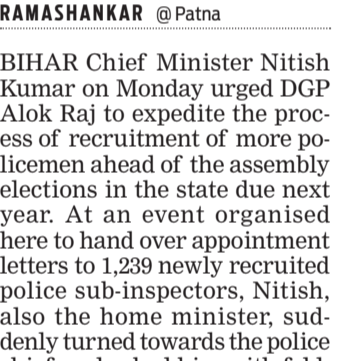
Cracks in INDIA bloc as Cong, SP announce candidates for Budhni

CRACKS are out in the open in INDIA bloc in BJP-ruled Madhya Pradesh. Surprising its ally Congress surprised, the SP has named its candidate for the Budhni assembly bypoll.

Rajasthan BJP faces internal strife over distribution of tickets

THE ruling BJP in Rajasthan is facing internal strife following the announcement of candidates for six out of seven assembly seats where by-elections will be held on November 13.

Nitish at it again, asks DGP to recruit cops with folded hands



BIHAR Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Monday urged DGP Alok Raj to expedite the process of recruitment of more policemen ahead of the assembly elections in the state due next year.



This is not the first time when Nitish Kumar folded hands before top bureaucrats. On July 10 this year, he folded his hands and moved to touch the feet of an IAS officer during an event, asking him to expedite a road project in Patna.

Another senior cop shunted for failing to reach Bahraich communal clash site

ACTIONS against police officials of the trouble-torn central UP district of Bahraich, which witnessed communal conflagration resulting in the loss of life on October 13 and 14, continued on Monday with the removal of the Additional Superintendent of Police (ASP) (Rural) Pavitra Mohan Tripathi.

Among other junior rank cops, a police station in-charge of Hardi, SK Verma, and Sub-Inspector Shiv Kumar, who was in charge of the Maharajanji police outpost, were suspended for dereliction of duty.



Violence gripped Bahraich following a dispute between two communities over DJ music on October 13 in the Mahsi area in which Ram Gopal Mishra, 24, was shot dead.

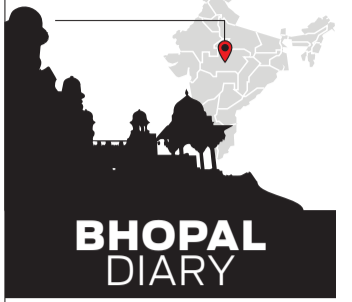
Decks cleared for grand Simhastha-'28 in Ujjain

CHIEF Minister Mohan Yadav on Monday announced a comprehensive plan which will allow the 13 akharas and other sadhus and sanyasis to build permanent ashrams in Madhya Pradesh's holy city, Ujjain, on the lines of Haridwar.



The development assumes significance as it is part of the preparations for next Simhastha (Kumbh Mela) to be held on the banks of the sacred river Kshipra in Ujjain during 2028. The Simhastha is held once every 12 years in Ujjain.

structure will also be built for basic facilities like roads, electricity, drinking water, drainage, etc., so that problems caused by temporary construction do not arise, he added.



BHOPAL DIARY ANURAAG SINGH Our correspondent in Madhya Pradesh singhanuraag.jaurno@gmail.com

Whistleblower in Vyapam scam joins Cong Former state government doctor Anand Rai, one of the three whistleblowers on the multi-layered Vyapam scam in Madhya Pradesh in 2013, is now a Congress leader.



E-double decker buses for cleanest city Indore Country's cleanest and MP's most populated place, Indore, has become the state's first city to embark on a trial of electric double-decker bus.

Battle of turncoats in Vijaypur assembly Two turncoat politicians, Ramniwas Rawat and Mukesh Malhotra will battle in the November 13 by-poll to Vijaypur assembly constituency.

TAMILNAD MERCANTILE BANK LTD
(Regd. Office at 57, V.E. Road, Thoothukudi)
CHENNAI AMINJIKARAI BRANCH
D.No.650, Poonamalle High Road, Aminjikarai, Chennai - 600 029.

AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets mortgaged / charged to the Bank under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (b) and 9 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower Mr. J. Jeyaraj S/o. Mr. Jayabal Stephen, Prop. M/s. J.S. Enterprises, No. 25, Kalpana Chawla Street, Balaji Nagar, Ponneri, Chennai-601 204 and Guarantor Mr. Jayabal Stephen S/o. Mr. Stephen, No. 25, Kalpana Chawla Street, Balaji Nagar, Ponneri, Chennai - 601 204 that the below described immovable property mortgaged / charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Limited, Chennai Aminjikarai Branch will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis on 15.11.2024 for recovery of Rs.1,32,33,653.19 (Rupees One Crore Thirty Two Lakh Thirty Three Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Three and Paise Nineteen Only) (OD - Rs. 1,14,22,130.80, TL - Rs. 18,11,522.39) as on 14.10.2024 due to the Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Limited, Chennai Aminjikarai Branch with subsequent interest and expenses.

The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit are as follows:

Security Details	Reserve Price	Earnest Money Deposit
Plot No. 54	Rs.8,90,000/-	Rs.89,000/-
Plot No. 66	Rs.8,90,000/-	Rs.89,000/-
Plot No. 67	Rs.8,90,000/-	Rs.89,000/-

Description of the Property: (GPS-13.165837, 79.609115) Land to the extent of 1040 Sq.ft. each in Plot Nos. 54, 66 and 67 totally 3120 Sq.ft. comprised in Survey Nos. 291/3, 291/4, 291/5, 291/6, 291/7, 291/8, 291/9, 291/10, 291/11, 291/12, 291/13, 291/14, 291/15, 291/16, 291/17, 291/18, 291/19, 292/3, 292/4, 292/5, 292/6, 292/7, 292/8, 292/9, 292/10, 293/1, 293/2 & 293/3 Punja Survey No. 291/15, 292/5, 6, 8 & 9, Thiruthangal Nagar (un approved layout was regularised vide order of Commissioner of Tirunelveli No.133/2019 & ROC No.1696 dated 19.11.2019), Thirunetti Village, Thirunetti Taluk, Thiruvallur District standing in the name of Mr. J. Jeyaraj, Boundaries for Plot No. 54: North By: 23ft Wide Layout Road, South By: Plot No. 65, East By: Plot No. 53, West By: Plot No. 55. Boundaries for Plot No. 66: North By: Plot No. 53, South By: 23ft Wide Layout Road, East By: Plot No. 67, West By: Plot No. 65. Boundaries for Plot No. 67: North By: Plot No. 52, South By: 23ft Wide Layout Road, East By: Plot No. 68, West By: Plot No. 66.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in secured creditors website (www.tmb.in)

Authorised Officer
Place : Chennai Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Ltd (For Chennai Aminjikarai Branch)
Date : 17.10.2024 (Cell: 98421 41304 / 99766 34444)

कनरा बैंक Canara Bank
MARAIMALAI NAGAR BRANCH
Plot No.14, HIG NH1 Vallal MGR Salai,
Maraimalai Nagar - 603209
Ph. No: 6382056828/9566881099

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER [SECTION 13(2)] OF SARFAESI ACT

To
1. Mrs. R. Sudha (Borrower), W/o. A. Rameshkumar, No. 6/33, Silapathikaran St, N H 3, M M Nagar, Kancheepuram Dist, Tamil Nadu-603209. 2. Mr. Haribabu A (Guarantor), No. 6/33, Silapathikaran St, N H 3, M M Nagar, Kancheepuram Dist, Tamil Nadu-603209.

Dear Sir,
Demand Notice issued under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation & Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 - Notice Dated 12.09.2024

Mrs. R. Sudha has availed the following loans/credit facilities from Maraimalai Nagar Branch from time to time:

S.No	Loan No	Nature of Loan/Limit	Date of sanction	Liability With Interest As On 31.08.2024	Rate of Interest
1	61087740000738	SyndNivas	25.03.2015	Rs.30,51,477.29	9.25%(ROI)+ 2% (Penal Interest)

The above said loan/credit facilities are duly secured by way of mortgage of the assets more specifically described in the schedule hereunder, by virtue of the relevant documents executed by you in our favour. Since you had failed to discharge your liabilities as per the terms and conditions stipulated, the bank has classified the debt as NPA on 29.08.2024. Hence, we hereby issue this notice to you under Section 13(2) of the subject Act calling upon you to discharge the entire liability of Rs. 30,51,477.29 (Rupees Thirty Lakh Fifty One Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Seven and paise Twenty Nine Only), with accrued and up-to-date interest and other expenses, within sixty days from the date of the 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 manner 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 provisions 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.

IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

SCHEDULE - B : Property Name of Title Holder Ms. R. Sudha, W/o A. Rameshkumar. All that piece and parcel of Land and Building bearing HIG Plot Nos. 7 and 8, Block No. 28, in Ninnakari Neighbourhood III Maraimalai Nagar, comprised in S.No. 360 Part of Ninnakari Village, Kancheepuram District, bounded on the East : 30 feet Road, West : 40 feet, North: Plot Nos. 6 & 9, South: C.S. Situated within the Sub Registration District of Chengalpattu within the Maraimalai Nagar Municipality Limit, registration district of Kancheepuram District. Aggregating to a total extent of 7400 sq.ft., 337.24 sq ft UDS.

Place : Maraimalai Nagar Authorised Officer
Date : 21.10.2024 Canara Bank

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
Office of the Executive Engineer
Yelahanka Division, Bangalore-560064.

No: BBMP/EE/YNK/D/E-PMT/09/2024-25 Dated: 21-10-2024

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)

(Two Cover system) (Short term-Tender Notification)
(Through GoK KPP Portal <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> only)

The Executive Engineer Yelahanka Division invites tenders on behalf of the commissioner, BBMP, Bengaluru from eligible Tenderers for the completion of works detailed in the table below as per standard tender document KW-04.

S.N.	Name of the works
1	Construction of Toilet at GKVK Samudhaya Bhavana in ward No 04. Est. Cost in Lakhs: 10.00. EMD: 0.25 Lakhs. Category: Others.
2	Maintenance of ARO and AEE office Buildings in Chowdeshwari ward No 02. Est. Cost : 10.00 Lakhs. EMD: 0.25 Lakhs. Category: Others.
3	Maintenance of BBMP office building at 3rd Floor Mini-vihana Soudha in ward no. 04. Est. Cost : 10.00 Lakhs. EMD : 0.125 Lakhs. Category: ST.
4	Maintenance of ARO and AEE office Buildings in Yelahanka Upanagara ward no 04. Est. Cost: 10.00 Lakhs. EMD: 0.25 Lakhs. Category: Others.
5	Improvements to roads and drains at Nagenahalli SC/ST colony in Kempegowda Ward No 01. Est. Cost: 100.00 Lakhs. EMD : 2.00 Lakhs. Category: Others
6	Improvements to roads and drains Kenchenahalli SC/ST colony in at Kempegowda Ward No 01. Est. Cost: 100.00 Lakhs. EMD : 1.00 Lakhs. Category: SC
7	Improvements to roads and drains at Harohalli SC/ST colony in Kempegowda Ward No 01. Est. Cost: 100.00 Lakhs. EMD : 2.00 Lakhs. Category: Others
8	Construction of Class Rooms at First Floor in Govt School Kenchenahalli in Kempegowda Ward no 01. Est. Cost: 50.00 Lakhs. EMD : 0.50 Lakhs. Category: SC
9	Development to roads and drains in Venkataala SC/ST colony in Kempegowda Ward no 01. Est. Cost: 50.00 Lakhs. EMD : 1.00 Lakhs. Category: Others.
10	Improvements to roads and drains at Ananthapura SC/ST colony in Ward no 03. Est. Cost: 50.00 Lakhs. EMD : 1.00 Lakhs. Category: Others.
11	Improvements to roads and drains at AD colony and AK colony SC/ST areas in ward no 01 & 02. Est. Cost: 50.00 Lakhs. EMD: 0.50 Lakhs. Category: SC.

Calendar of events: 1) Date of Pre bid meeting at the office Executive Engineer (Yelahanka Division) on 28-10-2024 at 16:00 hrs. 2) Tenders must be submitted online through e-procurement portal on or before 16:00 hours on 04-11-2024. 3) Date of Opening of Technical bids on 05-11-2024 after 16:00 hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Yelahanka Division

Indian Bank
KILPAUK BRANCH
No.103, New Avadi Road, Kilpauk, Chennai - 600 010.
Telephone : 044-26461045, 26461262. Email : kilpauk@indianbank.co.in

APPENDIX IV-A [See Proviso to rule 8(6)]

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Indian Bank, Kilpauk Branch, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" on 13.11.2024, for recovery of Rs.1,13,39,000/- (Rupees One crore thirteen lakhs and thirty nine thousand only) (as on 14.10.2024) with further interest, costs, other charges and expenses thereon from 15.10.2024, due to the Indian Bank, Kilpauk Branch, Secured Creditor from:

NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE BORROWER / GUARANTOR (1) M/s. Kamali Home Needs, (First Borrower), Sole Proprietor : Mr. M. P. Anand, S/o. Mr. M. Pandurangan (Late), No.96, Madhavaram High Road, Perambur, Chennai - 600 011. (2) M/s. Sai Anand and Co, (Second Borrower), Sole Proprietrix : Mrs. Amudha, No.2/3, M H Road, Perambur, Chennai - 600 011. (3) Mrs. P. Lalitha, (Guarantor & Mortgagee), W/o. Mr. M. Pandurangan (Late), 448/54, M R H Road, Moolakadai, Chennai - 600 060. (4) Mr. M. P. Arun, (Guarantor for Second Borrower), S/o. Mr. M. Pandurangan (Late), 448/54, M R H Road, Moolakadai, Chennai - 600 060.

SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY The specific details of the property intended to be brought to sale through e-auction mode are enumerated below:

All that piece and parcel of land and building bearing New Door No.54, Old Door No.449, M R H Road, Moolakadai, Chennai - 600 060, measuring an extent of 3646 Sq. ft., comprised in S. No.1090, Part No.50, Madhavaram Village, Ambathur Taluk, Tiruvallur District Pinth area measuring 4220 Sq. ft. consisting of Ground and First Floor, belonging to Mrs. P. Lalitha. In all total measuring an extent of 4220 Sq. ft. belonging to Mrs. P. Lalitha and lying within the Registration District of North Chennai and in the Registration Sub District of Madhavaram. Prior Encumbrances on property : Nil. PROPERTY ID No. : IDIB638398787

RESERVE PRICE : Rs.172.00 Lakhs Bid Increment : Rs.10,000/- EMD : Rs.17.20 Lakhs

Date and Time of Inspection of the Properties & related documents :
04.11.2024 to 05.11.2024 between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m.

DATE AND TIME OF E-AUCTION : 13.11.2024 BETWEEN 11.00 A.M. AND 4.00 P.M.

Last Date for submission of Tender form/EMD : 13.11.2024

BANK WEBSITE **E-AUCTION WEBSITE**

Bidders are advised to visit the website (<https://www.ebkraiy.in>) of our e auction service provider PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd to participate in online bid. For Technical Assistance Please call PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd. Helpdesk No. 8291220220, email ID :- support.ebkraiy@psballiance.com and other help line numbers available in service providers help desk. For Registration status with PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd. and EMD Status, please contact support.ebkraiy@psballiance.com.

For property details and photograph of the property and auction terms and conditions please visit : <https://www.ebkraiy.in> and for clarifications related to this portal please contact Helpdesk No. 8291220220.

Bidders are advised to use Property ID Number mentioned above while searching for the property in the website with <https://www.ebkraiy.in>.

Date : 17.10.2024
Place : Chennai

AUTHORISED OFFICER,
INDIAN BANK.

THE SPECIAL OFFICER AND COMPETENT AUTHORITY,
(UNDER KPIDFE - IMA & OTHER SCAM)
3rd Floor, Podium Block, VV Tower, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru-560001

NOTICE/INVITATION FOR E-AUCTION FOR MOVABLE ITEMS

Pursuant to attachment of movable properties by the Government under the provisions of the Karnataka Protection of Interest of Depositors in Financial Establishments Act, 2004 (KPIDFE Act) and pursuant to the absolute attachment order by the Hon'ble Special Court the Special Officer & Competent Authority (under KPIDFE-IMA and other Scam), is issuing notice for e-auction of the movables attached through e-auction on "as is where is and whatever there is basis".

The intending bidders will be required to furnish Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (as mentioned against each auction in the e-portal provided by the Service Provider/Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only).

Short Description of the Movable Items

Sl. No.	Description of Vehicle	Minimum Bid Price (Rs)	EMD (Rs)	Bid Increase Value (Rs)
1.	Variant: Fortuner 3.0 OL 4 WD MT Manufacturer: Toyota Kirloskar Ltd. Vehicle No: KA 22 P 6378 Year Of Mfg: 2010	2,99,250/-	15,000/-	2,000/-
2.	Variant: Aviator Manufacturer: Honda Motorcycle Ltd. Vehicle No: KA 22 EJ 9730 Year Of Mfg: 2012	8,550/-	500/-	50/-
3.	Variant: Pleasure Manufacturer: Hero Limited Vehicle No: KA 22 ED 9459 Year Of Mfg: 2010	8,550/-	500/-	50/-
4.	Variant: Pleasure Manufacturer: Hero Limited Vehicle No: KA 22 ER 0148 Year Of Mfg: 2014	10,700/-	600/-	100/-
5.	Variant: Pleasure Manufacturer: Hero Limited Vehicle No: KA 22 EG 2759 Year Of Mfg: 2011	7,700/-	500/-	50/-
6.	Variant: Aviator Manufacturer: Honda Motorcycle Ltd. Vehicle No: KA 22 EJ 8534 Year Of Mfg: 2012	6,850/-	500/-	50/-
7.	Variant: Mahindra Rodeo Manufacturer: Mahindra & Mahindra Vehicle No: KA 22 ED 3175 Year Of Mfg: 2010	6,450/-	500/-	50/-
8.	Variant: Aviator Manufacturer: Honda Motorcycle Ltd. Vehicle No: KA 22 EF 9343 Year Of Mfg: 2011	10,300/-	600/-	100/-
9.	Datsun- Go Car- with petrol as fuel, silver grey Colour with Registration No. MH-09-DA-4853 with Engine No. 742963A and Chassis No. MDHZBAAOE3003871, Model 2014	1,38,600/-	7000/-	700/-

Computers and Peripherals

Black Colour Cannon Printer-2			
ORTIS CPU- Black Colour -4			
LG CPU-Black Colour -1			
INTEX CPU- Black Colour -1			
AOC Monitor- Black Colour -4	15,400/-	800/-	100/-
BENQ Monitor - Black Colour			
Micro Spike Connector Black Colour-1			
Computer/Printer Cable Wires Black Colour-13			

Date of Pre bid Meeting & time : 16th of November 2024, 3 pm to 4 pm.

Place: O/o S.P.L.O.C.A, 3rd Floor Podium Block, Visvesvariah Tower, Bengaluru-01

Date of Inspection & Time: 19th of November 2024, 11 am to 2 pm.

Place of Inspection: Sl. No. 1 to 8 = Women's Police Station near Police Quarters, Belagavi Taluk & District, Sl. No. 9 & 10 = Rayabaghu Police Station, Belagavi District.

Last date of Submission of Bid Documents & EMD Submission: 21st of November 2024, till 5pm.

Date & time of E-Auction: 22nd of November 2024, 11 am to 1 pm.

For Registration & Online Auction, you can login to: <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> (Helpdesk No: 080-46010000, 080-68948777) The interested bidders who require auction related information can contact Assistant Commissioner, Office of the Special Officer & Competent Authority, 3rd Floor, Podium Block, Visvesvariah Towers, Dr. Ambedkar Veedi, Bengaluru-560001, e-mail ID: splocaeauction@gmail.com or Contact Mob. No 6364403715.

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 19-10-2024
Sd/-
The Special Officer & Competent Authority
(Under KPIDFE - IMA & Other Scam)
Bengaluru.
DIPR/CP/2656/Zen/2024-25

Jawahar Lal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Centre
(An Autonomous Body under Ministry of Mines, Govt. of India)
Amravati Road, Wadi, Nagpur - 440 023.
www.jnrdcc.gov.in (07104-220701) e-mail: purchase@jnrdccnagpur@gmail.com

निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना / NOTICE INVITING TENDER (EXTENSION) - OCT 2024
Director, JNARDCC, Nagpur, invites online bids from reputed firms for the following items.

निदेशक, निम्नलिखित निविदा की आपूर्ति के लिए प्रतिष्ठित कंपनियों से ऑनलाइन प्रस्ताव आमंत्रित किया है।

Tender/ GeM Bid No.	Description of Equipments/ Work	Refundable EMD (₹)	Last date of tender submission	Date of tender opening	Date of downloading tender
17/JNARDCC/S&P/2024-25/S-31	Construction of PEB Shed, Office Staff Building and Cement Road (Civil Works)	9,60,000/-	27.10.2024 (23:58 Hrs.)	28.10.2024 (12:00 Hrs.)	Available at eWIZARD portal
GEM/2024/B/5406457	X-Ray Florescence Spectrometer (XRF)	4,50,000/-	29.10.2024 (21:00 Hrs.)	29.10.2024 (21:30 Hrs.)	Available at GeM portal
GEM/2024/B/5335494	Bomb Calorimeter	2,10,000/-	29.10.2024 (21:00 Hrs.)	29.10.2024 (21:30 Hrs.)	Available at GeM portal
GEM/2024/B/5338747	Graphite Furnace - Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy	2,10,000/-	29.10.2024 (21:00 Hrs.)	29.10.2024 (21:30 Hrs.)	Available at GeM portal
GEM/2024/B/5380016	Automatic Digestion System (Ultra/Multiwave)	2,10,000/-	29.10.2024 (21:00 Hrs.)	29.10.2024 (21:30 Hrs.)	Available at GeM portal
GEM/2024/B/5493965	Particle Size Analyser (Q2)	1,26,000/-	31.10.2024 (21:00 Hrs.)	31.10.2024 (21:30 Hrs.)	Available at GeM portal

The details are available in the tender document which will be available for download from our office website www.jnrdcc.gov.in or <https://mkp.gem.gov.in> or <https://mines.ewizard.in>

वरिष्ठ प्रशासनिक अधिकारी

Indian Overseas Bank
Retail Mart - Adyar
12, Sardar Patel Road, Adyar, Chennai - 600020 Tel No: 044-2442 5585 E-mail: 0002retailmart@job.in

e-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-auction sale notice for Sale of secured assets under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the borrowers and guarantors that the below mentioned immovable properties mortgaged / Charged to the secured creditor, the Possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Indian Overseas Bank, the Secured Creditor will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WHATSOEVER THERE IS" on 25.11.2024 for recovery of bank's dues from the borrower / guarantors. The reserve price and EMD are given below.

S. No.	Name of the Borrower / Mortgagee / Amount Outstanding	Description of the Properties	Reserve Price	EMD	Bid Increase Amt
01.	Borrower & Mortgagee: 1. Mr. Haris R P S/o Mr. Said Muhammed Co-Borrower & Mortgagee: 2. Mrs. Khairunnesa W/o Mr. Haris Both at: R P House, Edavannappara Cheruvuvoor Post, Vazhakkad, Malappuram, Kerala - 673645 Also at: Flat No. 1607, Block 2, Hibiscus Alliance Orchid Spring, Korattur R S, Chennai - 600076, Guarantor: 3. Ms. S. Zipporal D/o. Mr. Saccyias, Plot No. 127, D.No. 3/377, Santhosh Nagar Annex, Madhanandapuram, Mugulivakkam, Sriperumbudur, Kancheepuram, Chennai - 600125 Amount Outstanding: ₹ 2,69,51,118.60 as on date 30.09.2024 with interest, costs	Property I: All the piece and parcel of Residential Flat measuring super built up area of 1342 Sq.ft., including common area, together with 590 Sq.ft. undivided share of land out of 2846 Sq.ft. with a covered car parking area, bearing 3 BHK Flat No. T-1, Situated in Third floor at Plot Nos. 1, 2 & 3, Murugesan Street, Neelankarai-Thoraipakkam Link Road, Thoraipakkam, Chennai-600097, Ward No.193, Comprised in Old Survey No. 14/3, New Survey No. 14/3C2 & 14/3C5, as per Patta No. 7116 & 7337 of Neelankarai Village, Sholinganallur Taluk, formerly Kancheepuram District, Presently Chennai District, within Sub Registration District of Neelankarai and Registration District of Chennai South and bounded by: Boundaries of Plot No.1: North by: Okkiam Thoraipakkam-Neelankarai Link Road, South by: Plot No. 2, East by: Property of Mr. S. Elangovan, West by: 16 Feet Wide Road. Boundaries of Plot No.2: North by: Plot No. 1, South by: Plot No. 3, East by: Property of Mr. S. Elangovan, West by: 16 Feet Wide Road. Boundaries of Plot No.3: North by: Plot No. 2, South by: Property belongs to Pattabi Naicker, East by: Property belongs to Mr. S. Elangovan, West by: 16 Feet Wide Road and Plot No. 4 Property II: All the piece and parcel of Residential Flat measuring super built up area of 1342 Sq.ft., including common area, together with 590 Sq.ft. undivided share of land out of 2846 Sq.ft. with a covered car parking area, bearing 3 BHK Flat No. S-1, Situated in second floor at Plot Nos. 1, 2 & 3, Murugesan Street, Neelankarai-Thoraipakkam Link Road, Thoraipakkam, Chennai-600097, Ward No.193, Comprised in Old Survey No. 14/3, New Survey No. 14/3C2 & 14/3C5, as per Patta No. 7116 & 7337 of Neelankarai Village, Sholinganallur Taluk, formerly Kancheepuram District, presently Chennai District, within Sub Registration District of Neelankarai and Registration District of Chennai South and bounded by: Boundaries of Plot No.1: North by: Okkiam Thoraipakkam-Neelankarai Link Road, South by: Plot No. 2, East by: Property of Mr. S. Elangovan, West by: 16 Feet Wide Road. Boundaries of Plot No.2: North by: Plot No. 1, South by: Plot No. 3, East by: Property of Mr. S. Elangovan, West by: 16 Feet Wide Road. Boundaries of Plot No.3: North by: Plot No. 2, South by: Property belongs to Pattabi Naicker, East by: Property belongs to Mr. S. Elangovan, West by: 16 Feet Wide Road and Plot No. 4 Reserve Price ₹ 1,26,88,000/- EMD ₹ 12,69,000/- Bid Increase Amt ₹ 50,000/-	₹ 1,26,88,000/-	₹ 12,69,000/-	₹ 50,000/-
02.	Borrower & Mortgagee: Mr. M. Parthiban S/o. Mr. P. Chinnasamy B118, M Block, Dr Radhakrishnan Street, Jafferkanpet, Ashok Nagar, Chennai 600083. Amount Outstanding: ₹ 61,88,703/- as on date 30.09.2024 with interest, costs	All the piece and parcel of Residential Flat measuring super built up area of 978 Sq.ft., including common area, together with 400 Sq.ft. undivided share of land out of 3229 Sq.ft. with a covered car parking area, bearing Flat No S-3, Situated in Second Floor at Plot No.431 part, Shivaprakash Nagar (Sivaprakasam Nagar) 7th Street, Surapet, Chennai-600066, Comprised in Survey No. 190B/1A7, as per patta New Survey No. 190B/452A & 190B/452B of Sivaprakasam Nagar, Surapet Village, Madhavaram Taluk, Thiruvallur district within Registration Sub District of Ambattur and Registration District of Chennai North and bounded by: Boundaries: North by: 20 Feet Road, South by: Land in Survey No.456 & 457, East by: Land in Survey No.190B/451, West by: Vacant Land in Survey No. 190B/5B1 Reserve Price ₹ 55,69,000/- EMD ₹ 5,57,000/- Bid Increase Amt ₹ 50,000/-	₹ 55,69,000/-	₹ 5,57,000/-	₹ 50,000/-
03.	Borrower & Mortgagee: Mrs. G. Jayalaxshmi D/o. Mr. Saccyias, Plot No. 127, D.No. 3/377, Santhosh Nagar Annex, Madhanandapuram, Mugulivakkam, Sriperumbudur, Kancheepuram, Chennai - 600125 Amount Outstanding: ₹ 67,56,031.66 as on date 30.09.2024 with interest, costs	All the piece and parcel of Residential Flat measuring super built up area of 1398 Sq.ft., including common area, together with 509 Sq.ft. undivided share of land out of 2867 Sq.ft. with a covered car parking area, bearing Flat No. AF-1, Situated in First Floor at Plot No. 027, Comprised in Old Survey No. 350/20B, New Survey No. 350/20B1A, present S.No.49726, as per Patta No. 213, Nellikuppam Main Road, No 50, Kayarambada Madura Moolakazhanni Village, Chengelpet Taluk, Chengalpeta District, within Registration Sub District of Chengalpeta Joint II and Registration District of Chengalpeta and bounded by: Boundaries: North By: Govindasamy and others Land, South by: Private Passage leading from Road to Plot No. 1, East By: Road, West By: Plot No. 1. Reserve Price ₹ 64,19,000/- EMD ₹ 6,42,000/- Bid Increase Amt ₹ 50,000/-	₹ 64,19,000/-	₹ 6,42,000/-	₹ 50,000/-
04.	Borrower & Mortgagee: Ms. Varshnee Raj No. 388, 1st Floor, State Bank Colony, 3rd Street, Saligramam, Chennai-600093 Amount Outstanding: ₹ 54,62,730.39 as on date 30.09.2024 with interest, costs	All the piece and parcel of Residential Flat measuring super built up area of 1295 Sq.ft., including common area, together with 413.75 Sq.ft. undivided share of land out of 2505 Sq.ft. with a covered car parking area, bearing Flat No. S-2, Situated in Second Floor at Plot No. 7 in "P.J.N. Nagar", Layout CMDA Approved No.41/2012, Vide letter No. L1/9107/2011, Dated			

STATE BANK OF INDIA CHENNAI METRO REGION - 1 AUCTION NOTICE FOR JEWELS Conditions for Auction: 1. Those interested in taking part in the auction should deposit Rs. 20,000/- on 28.10.2024 at 10.00 am...

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT NOTICE INVITING TENDERS Executive Engineer, Special Buildings Division-I, Public Works Department, Puducherry invites on behalf of the President of India, online bids for the following work(s):

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI-221004 E-TENDERS E-Tenders are invited for and on behalf of the President of India, E-tender for the supply of following items...

UCO BANK (A Govt of India Undertaking) Zonal Office: No.328, 2nd Floor, Thambu Chetty Street, Panayyur, Chennai - 600001

TAMILNAD MERCANTILE BANK LTD (Regd. Office at 57, V.E. Road, Thoothukudi) CHENNAI AMINJIKARAI BRANCH D.No.650, Poonamalle High Road, Aminjikarai, Chennai - 600 029.

GOVERNMENT OF MADHYA PRADESH OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, Jal Sansadhan Bhawan, Tulsī Nagar, Bhopal (M.P.) Email Id: ceproc.enrcwr.bpl@nic.in Tel: 0755-2767635 Fax: 0755-2552406

Government of Tripura DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY Notice Inviting Proposal Proposals are hereby invited by the Directorate of Information Technology, Govt. of Tripura, ITI Road, Intranagar, Agartala - 6 from

S. E. RAILWAY - TENDER Tender Notice No.: ST-OT-PointShift-TTR-ABB, Dtd. 18.10.2024, e-Tender is invited by Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer (Co)/Kharagpur-721301.

Table with 5 columns: S. No., Tender No., Work, District, Amount (Lakhs). Contains 8 tender entries for various construction and rehabilitation projects.

EQUITAS SMALL FINANCE BANK LIMITED Corporate Office: No.769, Spencer Plaza, 4th Floor, Phase-II, Anna Salai, Chennai, TN - 600 002

QuoteExpress WE KNOW WHAT WE ARE, BUT KNOW NOT WHAT WE MAY BE WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD Chennai Back Office: Harrington Chambers, Block 'C', No.30/1A, Abdul Razack I Street, Saidapet, Chennai - 600 015. Ph: 044-42010374

Government of Odisha "e" Procurement Notice WORKS DEPARTMENT Bid Identification No. CCEKC - 19 / 2024-25

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER MINOR IRRIGATION DIVISION ANANDAPUR AT/P.O. SALAPADA, DIST-KEONJHAR, PIN-758020

POSSESSION NOTICE LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002

SBI State Bank of India RBO CBD, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE Chennai North Zone, No 231, NSC Bose Road, 2nd Floor, Chennai - 600 001.

पंजाब नैशनल बैंक Punjab National Bank Circle Sasra Street, Chennai, No.769, 2nd Floor, Spencer Plaza, Anna Salai, Chennai-600 002.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY Schedule 'A': Item 1: Plot No. 40 & 41(A): All that Piece and Parcel of Vacant Land Plot Nos. 40 & 41(A), Bharathidasan Street, Sellyamman Nagar, Comprising in Survey No.477, Patta No. 322, as per Patta Survey No.477/4 of Athipattu Village, Ambattur Taluk, Thiruvallur District, Measuring an Extent of 2400 Sq.ft.,

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES APPENDIX- IV-A (See provision to rule 6 (b)) E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY Schedule of the Property: All that Piece and Parcel of Land and Building measuring 680 Sq.ft. on Plot No.24, Measuring an Extent of 800 Sq.ft. Comprising in Survey Nos.166/3, under Old Patta No.66, in the Layout Named "Mullai Nagar", vide Approval N.A.K.A.NO.1360/2019/A1, Dated 29.03.2019 Situated in No.114, Sriramathur Village, Sriperumbudur Taluk, Kancheepuram District and Bounded on the North by: 22 Feet Road, South by: 22 Feet Road, East by: Plot No.23, West by: Plot No.25, Measuring on the East to West on Northern Side: 20'0" Feet; East to West on Southern Side: 20'0" Feet; North to South on Eastern Side: 40'0" Feet; North to South on Western Side: 40'0" Feet; in All Measurements 800 Sq.ft and Lying within the Registration District of Chengalpatt and Sub-registration District of Sriperumbudur.

RESERVE PRICE ₹ 50,15,000/- EMD ₹ 5,01,500/- BID INCREMENT AMOUNT ₹ 50,000/- 1) HTL Account No. 39849653286, Outstanding Amount: Rs. 61,74,368/- (Rupees Sixty One Lakhs Seventy Four Thousand Three Hundred and Sixty Eight Only) on 14.10.2024 and further interest at contractual rate from 31.10.2024 with incidental expenses, costs, charges etc

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable property) Whereas the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Punjab National Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of Powers conferred under Section 13 read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated 29-07-2024 to M/s. Vetri Construction & Mr. T. Vetrivel (Proprietor), calling upon them to repay the amount of Rs.1,04,43,689.65 (Rupees One crore Four Lakhs Forty Three Thousand Six Hundred Eighty Nine and paise Sixty Five only) with further interest from 01-07-2024 within 60 days from the date of the receipt of the said notice.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY Schedule of the Property: All that Piece and Parcel of House and Ground bearing Old Door No.90, New Door No.139, Vellala Street (Vinaitirtha Mudali Street), Purasawalkam Village, Purasawalkam, Chennai-600084, Comprising in Old S.No.93, New S.No.84, Block No.4, within the Registration District of Central Chennai and Sub Registration District of Purasawalkam, Bounded on the North by: S.No.87, South by: Property of D.Radhakrishnan and 4 Feet Passage Belonging to the Vendor, East by: Property in S.No.83 & West by: Property in S.No.85/3, Measuring: North: 30 Feet, South: 30 Feet, West: 21 Feet 6 Inches, East: 21 Feet 6 Inches in All 645 Sq.ft. of land with building thereon measuring 1080 Sq.ft. (GF + FF) with common passage measuring 117 Sq.ft.

DATE & TIME OF E-AUCTION 06.11.2024 Time: 60 Minutes: From 11.30 A.M to 12.30 P.M with unlimited extension of Ten minutes for each bid, if the bid continues, till the sale is concluded.

पंजाब नैशनल बैंक Punjab National Bank Circle Sasra Street, Chennai, No.769, 2nd Floor, Spencer Plaza, Anna Salai, Chennai-600 002. POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable property)

ISRAELI AIR STRIKES ON HEZBOLLAH'S FINANCIER

IDF conducts series of strikes against dozens of facilities, sites used by Hezbollah in Beirut and southern Lebanon



A flattened building in Lebanon on Monday after overnight Israeli strikes | AFP

Apology for killing Lebanese soldiers

The Israeli military apologised for a strike in southern Lebanon that killed three Lebanese soldiers. The military said it struck a truck on Sunday that had entered an area where it had previously targeted a Hezbollah truck transporting launcher

Call to probe attacks on peacekeepers

Germany on Monday demanded Israel "clarify every incident" involving the UN peacekeeping mission in Lebanon and urged it to investigate the destruction of a UNIFIL observation tower by an Israeli army bulldozer deliberately demolished

Blinken's 11th trip to Middle East

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken heads back to the Middle East on a new push for an elusive Gaza ceasefire two weeks before US elections, seeing a new opportunity from Israel's killing of Hamas' leader. It will be his 11th trip to region

WHO to evac 1,000 Gazans for med care

Up to 1,000 women and children needing medical care will shortly be evacuated from Gaza to Europe, the head of the World Health Organisation's Europe branch said on Monday. Hans Kluge said the evacuations would be facilitated by the WHO, EU

Lifeline for Lebanese, but sanctioned by US

Al-Qard al-Hassan is a lifeline for Muslim Shiite communities battling a financial crisis that has locked Lebanese out of their bank deposits. The financial firm, officially registered as a charity, has been offering customers credit in exchange for gold deposits on an interest-free basis since the 1980s. Besides Shiite Muslims, the economic crisis has forced Christians and Sunni Muslims for its services. The US has sanctioned the association, accusing Hezbollah of using it as a cover to gain access to the global financial system

WAR WATCH
ISRAEL-GAZA: DAY 381

TOLL SO FAR
44,472

Moldova votes to join the EU by a razor-thin majority

CHISINAU

MOLDOVANS voted by a razor-thin majority in favour of securing the country's path toward European Union membership, electoral data showed on Monday, after the pro-Western president accused foreign interference and "criminal groups" of trying to undermine the vote in the former Soviet republic.

The "No" vote appeared to be ahead until the last few thousand votes were counted from the large diaspora of Moldova, whose authorities have accused Russia of trying to destabilise the country.

With 99.41% of votes counted in the EU referendum held on Sunday, the "Yes" vote stood at 50.39% and the "No" vote at 49.61%, according to the Central Electoral Commission.

A loss would have been a political disaster for the pro-Western government, which strongly supported the pro-EU campaign.

On Monday, President Maia Sandu reiterated claims that unprecedented voter fraud and foreign interference had undermined the voting, calling it a "vile attack" on Moldova's sovereignty.

Moldovan authorities claim that Moscow intensified a "hybrid war" campaign to destabilise the country and derail its EU path. Russia has repeatedly denied it is interfering in Moldova.



Maia Sandu

TOUGH TIME

Japanese PM's rating down a week before vote: surveys

TOKYO

APPROVAL ratings for Japan's new Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba have fallen ahead of an October 27 general election, one weekend poll showed, with another survey suggesting the ruling coalition could struggle to secure a majority.

A *Kyodo News* survey on Saturday and Sunday put the current approval rating for Ishiba's cabinet at 41.4%, down from 42% a week earlier.

The disapproval rating was 40.4% in the most recent survey of some 1,260 voters, *Kyodo* said on Sunday.

Disapproval in the October 12-13 poll was 36.7%.

"This election will be really tough and difficult for us," Ishiba told voters in a campaign speech last week.

A separate weekend survey by the liberal-leaning *Asahi Shimbun* newspaper found public support for Ishiba's cabinet at 33%, below 39% who disapproved. Those results are worse than Kishida faced in 2021 ahead of his first general election as premier: 42% approval against 31% disapproval, the *Asahi* said.

The daily said its polls indicated that the LDP and its junior coalition partner Komeito ran the risk of losing a majority in the upcoming vote.

Jiji Press said its polls and reporting showed the coalition was likely to retain its majority, although the LDP may not pass the threshold on its own - a possibility reflected in several previous polls by other outlets. The LDP and Komeito have been in power since 2012.

Former defence minister Ishiba took office this month after being voted leader of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), which has been in power for most of Japan's post-war history. Scandals over funding and LDP lawmakers' ties to the Unification Church - compounded by voter discontent over rising prices - caused the party's ratings to plummet during the tenure of Ishiba's predecessor, Fumio Kishida. AFP

BEIRUT

ISRAEL conducted air strikes hitting a Lebanese association linked to Hezbollah, accusing it on Monday of financing the group's weapons, as it expanded the scope of its raids beyond military targets.

In southern Lebanon, Israeli strikes hit Al-Qard Al-Hassan branches in the cities of Nabatiyeh and Tyre overnight, according to the official *National News Agency*.

On Monday, the Israeli military said it had conducted a series of strikes against "dozens of facilities and sites" used by Hezbollah in Beirut and southern Lebanon, including on branches of the financial institution.

The strikes mark an expansion of Israel's nearly month-long war with Hezbollah, as it seeks to degrade the group's ability to fund operations.

Israel accuses Al-Qard Al-Hassan of funding "Hezbollah's terror activities", including the purchase of weapons and payments to militants.

Hezbollah built its loyal support base in Shiite Muslim areas of Lebanon by providing protection, health, education and financial services in a state long wracked by sectarianism and corruption.

Al-Qard Al-Hassan is a Hezbollah-linked financial firm offering micro-credit in a country where the traditional banking system collapsed five years ago at the start of a crushing economic crisis.

It is sanctioned by the United States, which accuses Hezbollah of using it as a cover to mask the group's financial activities and gain access to the international financial system.

On Sunday, 11 strikes hit Beirut's southern suburbs, NNA reported, many of them targeting Al-Qard Al-Hassan.

At the site of a flattened building housing a branch of Al-Qard Al-Hassan in south Beirut, AFP photographers saw a pile of concrete and mangled metal. Just a month ago, south Beirut's bustling streets were packed with traffic, families strolling about and youths in cafes. Now silence dominates the abandoned Hezbollah bastion.

Other strikes hit Al-Qard Al-Hassan branches in Lebanon's eastern Bekaa Valley and in the

country's south. The NNA also reported a strike near Beirut's airport, the main entry-point of humanitarian assistance to the country and a major evacuation hub for those fleeing the conflict.

According to the Israeli military, dozens of projectiles were launched across the border Monday morning.

Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant told troops Sunday that the military was stepping up strikes on Hezbollah in Lebanon, destroying places the group "planned to use as launchpads for attacks against Israel".

Israel shifted its focus to Lebanon late last month, while it fought a devastating war in Gaza that was sparked by the October 7, 2023 attack launched

by Hezbollah ally Hamas.

The deadliest attack in Israeli history resulted in the deaths of 1,206 people, mostly civilians, according to an AFP tally based on official Israeli figures.

In support of its Palestinian ally, Hezbollah began low-intensity strikes on Israel in October last year, forcing tens of thousands of people to flee their homes.

Israel launched a massive air campaign that has primarily focused on Hezbollah strongholds across Lebanon, and sent ground troops across the border on October 30.

It has vowed to keep fighting in Lebanon until Israelis displaced by the cross-border fire can return to their homes. AFP



SINGAPORE

30 TONNES OF SLOP LEAKED INTO SEA

Over 30 tonnes of "slop" - a mixture of oil and water - was leaked into the sea between Bukom Island and Bukom Kecil early on Oct 20, said British petrochemical company Shell, as government agencies announced precautionary measures to detect and contain any slick. *The Straits Times* reported. Shell said that it was "actively working with all relevant authorities to manage the clean-up effort", following an oil leak from a land-based pipeline. Eight government agencies said they were working closely with Shell to clean up the leaked oil. Oil absorbent booms also deployed.

MALAYSIA

GOVT EXPECTS LOTS OF NOISE ON SUBSIDY CUT

The government's "once-in-a-generation" plan to roll back petrol subsidies from the middle of next year is crucial for fiscal reform but expected to cause significant public backlash, said Malaysia's economy minister. "We are prepared for the choppy waters ahead," Rafizi Ramli said in *Bloomberg TV* released on Monday. "Obviously there will be people affected and there'll be people unhappy with it and people have to adjust their consumption, so I do expect a lot of noise in the beginning," he said. Subsidies for RON95 fuel will be cut for Malaysia's top 15% income group.

THAILAND

MONKS VICTIM OF PYRAMID SCHEME

Thailand's National Office of Buddhism has been instructed to investigate an alleged pyramid scheme in which monks were duped into investing in bogus stock in the northeast, causing damages worth more than a billion baht, *BP* reported. PM's Office Minister Chousak Sirinil said a large number of monks fell victim to it.

Pak parliament panel to pick SC CJ, term restricted to 3 yrs

ISLAMABAD

PAKISTAN'S government narrowly passed constitutional amendments on Monday giving lawmakers more power to appoint top judges, who have issued a series of recent decisions favouring opposition chief Imran Khan.

Under the judicial reforms passed during an early morning session of parliament, Pakistan's chief justice will now be selected by a parliamentary committee and have a fixed term of three years.

The amendments come just days before Supreme Court Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa is due to retire.

Under the previous law he would have been automatically replaced by the next most senior judge - currently Mansoor Ali Shah, who has consistently

issued verdicts deemed favourable to Khan and his party.

New benches will also be formed of senior judges from across the country to weigh exclusively on constitutional issues, at the core of disputes between the government and PTI in the Supreme Court.

"This was a deliberate attempt to undermine the independence of the judiciary," said Sardar Shahbaz Ali Khan Khosa, a senior member of the Supreme Court Bar Association.

"They attempted to strip away the core fundamental principles of Pakistan's constitution. We reject this and will fight it at every bar association," he said.

But as the bill passed, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said it was "a historic day... affirming

the supremacy of Parliament". PTI's Omar Ayub Khan, leader of the opposition in the National Assembly, told the session that "these amendments are akin to suffocating a free judiciary".

"A government formed through rigging cannot amend the constitution," he said.

Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz party scraped together a two-thirds majority with the backing of its long-time rival turned

supply and demand partner, the Pakistan People's Party. The government clinched 225 votes of the required 224 with the crucial support of a handful of rebel MPs from PTI, state media broadcasting the session showed. Sharif heads a shaky coalition that has the backing of the powerful military. AFP



Newly sworn-in cabinet ministers in front of the Presidential Palace in Jakarta on Monday | AFP

Jumbo 109-member cabinet in Indonesia

JAKARTA

NEWLY inaugurated President Prabowo Subianto swore in Indonesia's largest Cabinet since 1966 on Monday, with 109 members representing his pledge for a strong government.

He announced the lineup on Sunday and named his Cabinet of ministers, vice ministers and head of national agencies the "Red and White Cabinet," referring to the colours of Indonesia's flag.

Subianto became the eighth president of Southeast Asia's largest economy on Sunday.

The Cabinet of Subianto's predecessor, Joko Widodo, had

34 ministers and head of government agencies. Subianto's Cabinet is the largest since 1966 when Indonesia's first President Sukarno formed a lineup of 132 ministers in an extremely tense political situation after a failed 1965 coup. The so-called Dwikora Cabinet 2 was dismissed a month later.

Subianto has said earlier that he needs a strong administration, even though analysts said that his "fat" Cabinet would bloat the bureaucracy.

"I want to create a strong government that would unite our multicultural society and diverse political interests," Subianto said before inviting

more than 100 people for interviews at his residence last week. "It must be a big coalition, and some will say my Cabinet is fat."

The Cabinet features politicians from a coalition of seven parties who supported his victory in the February election, and figures allied with Widodo's Cabinet, who were reappointed to continue their jobs under Subianto's presidency.

Analysts said the move was a political reward to Widodo for the latter's tacit support in the election. Subianto was sworn in with his new vice president, 37-year-old Surakarta ex-Mayor Gibran Rakabuming Raka.

Indigenous Aussie senator heckles Charles in House

CANBERRA

INDIGENOUS senator Lidia Thorpe shouted anti-colonial slogans at King Charles during his visit to the Australian parliament on Monday, shocking assembled lawmakers and other dignitaries.

"Give us our land back! Give us what you stole from us!" Thorpe screamed in an almost minute-long diatribe, after the king's speech.

"This is not your land, you are not my king," the independent lawmaker said, decrying what she described as a "genocide" of Indigenous Australians by European settlers.

Australia was a British colony for more than 100 years, during which time thousands of Aboriginal Australians were killed and entire communities displaced. The country gained de facto independence in 1901, but has never become a fully fledged republic. King Charles is the current head of state. Charles is on a nine-day jaunt

through Australia and Samoa, the first major foreign tour since his life-changing cancer diagnosis earlier this year.

Thorpe is known for her attention-grabbing political stunts and fierce opposition to the monarchy.

When she was sworn into office in 2022, Thorpe raised her right fist as she begrudgingly swore to serve Queen Elizabeth II, who was then Australia's head of state.

"I sovereign, Lidia Thorpe, do solemnly and sincerely swear that I will be faithful and I bear true allegiance to the colonising Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II," she said before being rebuked by a Senate official.

"Senator Thorpe, Senator Thorpe, you are required to recite the oath as printed on the card," said the chamber's president Sue Lines.

In 1999, Australians narrowly voted against removing the queen, amid a row over whether her replacement would be chosen parliament, not public.



Lidia Thorpe

EXPRESS READ

Maldives to introduce UPI to boost economy

Male: Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu has taken "necessary steps" to introduce India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) in the archipelago nation, slated to benefit the Maldivian economy substantially. Muizzu on Sunday set up a consortium to introduce UPI in the country and appointed TradeNet Maldives Corporation Limited as its leading agency, according to a release. The president suggested the participation of the country's banks, telecom companies, and fintechs in the consortium. PTI

Military general elected new prez of Vietnam

Hanoi: Vietnam elected Luong Cuong, a military general, as its new president on Monday, the fourth official to fill the role in 18 months. Cuong, 67, was elected by the National Assembly to replace To Lam, who remained president even after he was formally appointed as the general secretary of the ruling Communist Party in August. The role of the general secretary is the most powerful position in Vietnam while the presidency is largely ceremonial. AP



HDFC Bank okays ₹12,500 crore IPO for NBFC arm HDB Financial

Initial public offer part of conditions mandated by RBI during the bank's merger with parent HDFC in July 2023; IPO to be the largest share sale by a non-bank lender

BENN KOCHUVEEDAN @ Mumbai

THE country's largest private-sector lender HDFC Bank has approved a bumper ₹12,500 crore initial share sale in its non-banking arm HDB Financial Services. Through the IPO, the bank will divest shares worth ₹10,000 crore via Offer For Sale (OFS) and the rest through fresh issue.


Once completed, the IPO will be the largest share sale by a non-bank lender. The ₹6,560 crore issue by Bajaj Housing Finance is currently the biggest Initial Public Offering (IPO) by an NBFC. Bajaj Housing had a stellar debut with the shares gaining over 136% on the listing day in August.

"The board of directors of HDFC Bank approved an OFS of such a number of equity shares of face value of ₹10 each of HDB Financial aggregating up to ₹10,000 crore, subject to applicable laws, market conditions, necessary approvals, and regulatory clearances," according to a late Saturday exchange filing.

HDB Financial plans to raise as much as ₹12,500 crore through the much-anticipated IPO. It is expected to be a mix of fresh equity issuance and a sizable offer for sale by the HDFC Bank, which holds 94.6% in HDB Financial.

The IPO will be a combination of a fresh issue worth

UNLOCKING VALUE



HDFC BANK HOLDS A 94.6% IN THE HDB FINANCIAL

₹6,560 CR
issue by Bajaj Housing Finance is currently the biggest IPO by an NBFC

₹12,500 CR
IPO is the largest by any NBFC

₹2,500 crore and an OFS worth ₹10,000 crore, according to the filing.

The IPO is part of the conditions for clearing the bank's merger with its parent HDFC

HDB Financial Services IPO is expected to be a mix of fresh equity issuance and a sizable OFS by HDFC Bank

₹2,500 crore and an OFS worth ₹10,000 crore, according to the filing.

The IPO is part of the conditions that the RBI had mandated while clearing the bank's merger with its parent HDFC, which came to effect in July 2023. The issue also assumes significance as the RBI had floated a draft regulation wherein it does not want a banking entity to have a subsidiary that also does regular credit services. The final regulation will be out after November 20 by when the regulator had asked the banks to come back with their views on the proposed regulation.

This IPO is significant for HDFC Bank, marking the first public float by the banking

group in six years. Listing HDB Financial not only fulfils regulatory obligations but also boosts the visibility of the NBFC in the capital markets.

The IPO also aligns with the Reserve Bank guidelines that mandate large NBFCs, classified as upper layer, must be listed by September 2025. These rules, introduced in October 2022, have spurred several NBFCs to consider public listings.

Founded in 2007, HDB Financial Services has rapidly grown into a leading NBFC, offering a diverse range of financial services such as secured and unsecured loans. It operates through more than 1,680 branches. As of June 2024, it had a net worth of ₹13,300 crore.

Afcons Infra fixes ₹440-463 price band for ₹5,430 crore IPO

BENN KOCHUVEEDAN @ Mumbai

SHAPOORJI Pallonji group's flagship engineering arm Afcons Infrastructure has fixed the price band for its ₹5,430 crore initial share sale at ₹440-463 per share. The IPO is opening for subscription on October 25.

In the run-up to the issue, which consists of ₹1,250 crore of fresh issue and ₹4,180 crore in offer for sale by promoters, Afcons had raised ₹2,967 crore from the management, individual and institutional investors.

Pre-IPO investors include names like GIC Singapore, Enam Holdings of Akash Bhan-shali, Synergy Capital, 360 One, M&G Investments, Think Investments, Discovery Capital Management, Artian Investment from Arce-lorMittal, Madhusudan Kela, and White Oak among others. Afcons executive vice-chairman Subramanian Krishnamurthy and managing director Paramasivan Srinivasan told reporters here Monday.

The selling shareholders in the ₹4,180 crore OFS are the promoter entity Goswami Infratech. The other selling promoter groups are the parent Shapoorji Pallonji & Company, Floreat Investments, Hermes Commerce, and Renaissance Commerce.

The proceeds will be used to the extent of ₹80 crore for capex for purchase of construction equipment; ₹320 crore for funding long-term working capital; ₹600 crore for debt prepayment; and the rest for general corporate purposes.

Hyundai Motor IPO to list today, flat to moderate gains expected

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi



For investors who may have missed the chance to participate in the IPO, there could still be an opportunity to invest in the stock on the listing day

Narendra Solanki, Anand Rathi Shares and Stock Brokers

Bidding

The ₹27,870 crore IPO of HMLL, the largest in India's capital market history, was subscribed 2.37 times during the 3-day bidding.

SHARES of India's second-largest carmaker — Hyundai Motor India Ltd (HMLL) — are expected to debut on the domestic stock exchanges with flat to modest listing gain on Tuesday, said multiple analysts after the recently concluded IPO received a lukewarm response from retail investors and non-institutional investors.

The ₹27,870 crore IPO of HMLL, the largest in India's capital market history, was subscribed 2.37 times during the recently concluded three-day bidding process.

"We believe the listing to be on par with the IPO. Since we have long-term subscription rating to the issue, long-term investors who missed the opportunity during the IPO may look to get exposure on the listing day," said Narendra Solanki, head of Fundamental Research and Investment Services, Anand Rathi Shares and Stock Brokers.

"For investors who may have missed the chance to participate in the IPO, there could still be an opportunity to invest in the stock on the listing day," Solanki said.



In a positive development for investors who were allotted the shares, the grey market premium (GMP) on unlisted shares of Hyundai rebounded from falling in the negative the previous week. The GMP on Hyundai shares on Monday stood in the range of ₹65-70 per share, a modest premium of 3.5% to the IPO price of ₹1,960/share. If the GMP is anything to go by, the estimated listing price of shares could be in the range of ₹2,025-2,030 apiece.

Experts believe it will not be a surprise if HMLL shares hit the bourses at a discount, given that 50% of the offer size got a sluggish response from NIIs and retail investors, which got undersubscribed. It was the strong buying from Qualified Institutional Buyers on the third day that helped the IPO to sail through.

Dried softy ice-cream mix not dairy product, to be taxed at 18%: Raj AAR

MONIKA YADAV @ New Delhi

IN a recent ruling, the Rajasthan advance ruling authority (AAR) has held that the dried softy ice-cream mix (low fat) in vanilla flavour, known as Vanilla Mix, is not dairy product and hence will be taxed at 18% instead of 5%.

The ruling signifies a shift in the classification of the product, and the decision is expected to have major implications for manufacturers and distributors in the food industry.

The advance ruling authority observed that the major ingredient of the product is sugar, and that the product "milk solids are added to sugar" and not that "sugar is added to milk solids".

The AAR decided that the said product is intended to be used to make soft serves using machines, which work on a continuous process of freezing and churning to create smooth and creamy texture characteristic of soft serves. It further said that each ingredient plays a vital role to make the soft serve smooth and creamy in texture.

The advance ruling authority's decision came after VRB Consumer Products, a manufacturer and supplier of dried softy ice-cream, sought clarification on the issue. The vanilla mix that the applicant intends to manufacture contains 61.2%

sugar, 34% milk solids and 4.8% other ingredients. The ruling was passed by Mahipal Singh (Member, Central Tax) and Mahesh Kumar Gowla (Member, State Tax).

According to Sandeep Sehgal, Partner-Tax, AKM Global, a tax and consulting firm, this ruling stands in contrast to the Supreme Court's decision in Amrit Foods, where the court classified 'milk shake mix' and 'soft serve mix' for institutional sales as 'dairy produce'.

"The divergence between these rulings underscores the complexities businesses face when classifying products for GST purposes, highlighting the importance of ingredient composition and product usage in determining tax liability," Sehgal added.

Pune-based Pritam Mahure said that such issues come up across the world in GST and VAT. "There are debates if it is peanut butter in chocolate or chocolate in peanut butter, or it is biscuit with chocolate layer or chocolate with biscuits," he said.

The fundamental reason for these types of debates is the differential rates of GST or VAT on the products. While the taxpayer will always try to minimise the tax impact, the authorities will always try to maximise the tax revenue, and thus this debate is never ending, said Mahure.



Robust domestic engines bolstering growth: RBI

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Mumbai

POINTING to the strong momentum in domestic consumption and investment demand that are fuelling growth, an internal paper from the central bank has reaffirmed that the economy is on sound footing and is on course to close the current fiscal with 7.2% growth.

"In spite of the rising geopolitical tensions, our growth outlook is supported by robust domestic engines," the October Bulletin from the Reserve Bank said Monday.

The bulletin projects real GDP growth to come in at 7.2% for the fiscal 2025, highlighting the momentum in consumption and investment demand. It sees Q2 growth at 7%, and Q3 and Q4 at 7.4% each.

The optimism assumes importance given the stress seen in corporate earnings as well as tepid revenue growth visible from India Inc's balance sheet declarations so far. It also assumes importance given the falling key growth numbers such as the purchasing managers' indices both in the services as well as manufacturing segments and the latest steeply fallen industrial production numbers.



Our growth story remains intact as its fundamental drivers — consumption and investment demand — are gaining momentum
Reserve Bank of India



Real estate teeters in tier-2 cities; Q3 sales dip 13%

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

HOUSING sales in the top 30 tier 2 cities fell sharply by 13% in the July-September quarter of 2024 (Q3 CY2024) while new launches plummeted by 34%, according to a report by NSE-listed real estate data analytics firm PropEquity.

The sales declined to 41,871 units in Q3 CY2024 against 47,985 units in the same period last year, while launches came down to 28,980 units in the recently concluded quarter from 43,748 units last year.

Samir Jasuja, CEO and founder, PropEquity, said the decline is on account of the higher base effect of last year as the year 2023 had recorded historic highs.

"The low cost of living, availability of skilled workforce and advantageous operational cost for companies, besides good connectivity and infrastruc-



ture in state capitals have been driving demand for homes. However, as seen from an all-India context, the top 30 tier 2 cities have been underperforming as sales and launches with respect to top 10 cities are only one-third," Jasuja said.

According to certified financial planner and CEO of True North Financial Services Lt Col Rochak Bakshi (Retd), real estate investment has historically not been very lucrative in tier 2 cities and despite the growth in

connectivity and infrastructure, these cities have failed to generate the kind of return that would attract investors. "The cost of managing a property, combined with poor rental yields, not-so-great appreciation in capital value and highly illiquid nature make investment in these cities highly risky. Unless required for end-use, investors must opt out of tier 2 cities and instead invest in more liquid and return-generating instruments like mutu-

"Our growth story remains intact as its fundamental drivers — consumption and investment demand — are gaining momentum," the Bulletin stated, quoting deputy governor Michael Debabrata Patra as saying on the state of economy. He adds that private consumption, buoyed by improved rural demand and a strong agricultural outlook, will play a key role in the overall growth in the second half of the fiscal.

Domestic growth outlook is supported by robust domestic consumption engines and pri-

ivate investment that is showing some encouraging signs despite geopolitical tensions, the bulletin said.

The global economy remained resilient in the first half of 2024, with declining inflation supporting household spending. And stable growth momentum amid monetary policy easing are becoming the prevailing theme across most economies.

The RBI bulletin also expects the urban demand to remain resilient, supported by the services sector.

India's semicon dream soon to be a reality: Mittal

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

BHARTI Enterprises chairman Sunil Bharti Mittal expressed confidence that the semiconductor industry will become a reality during the current government's term.

Speaking at a recent event, Mittal highlighted the impact of the Production-Linked Incentive scheme, which is not only generating significant momentum in India but also attracting global corporations to set up manufacturing operations in the country.

"Our government is pushing manufacturing," said Mittal.

He also talked of the implications of AI on workforce, noting that many routine jobs are at risk. He admitted that adoption of AI is leading to significant efficiency gains in his company.

Bajaj Housing net up 21% at ₹546 cr

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Mumbai

BAJAJ Housing Finance, which had a runaway success with its recent ₹6,560 crore IPO with the shares rallying more than 136% on market debut, has reported 21% year-on-year growth in net income to ₹546 crore in the September quarter.

In the year-ago period, when the company was privately held, it had earned ₹451 crore in net income.

The earnings declared on Monday is the first financial report since its ₹6,560 crore IPO in September, which was oversubscribed 64 times, aggregating ₹3.24 trillion.

The Pune-based company said Monday that net interest income in the September quarter grew 13% to ₹713 crore, while assets under management surged 26% to ₹1.03 trillion from ₹81,215 crore in the same period last year. However, net profit margin declined to 22.64% from 23.6%.

UCO Bank Q2 profit soars 50% to ₹603 cr

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi



THE net profit of State-owned UCO Bank jumped 50% to ₹603 crore in the second quarter of the financial year as against ₹402 crore in the same quarter last year. Operating profit for the quarter ending September 30, 2024, stood at ₹1,432 crore, showing an increase of 45.82% YoY.

Net Interest Income for the quarter stood at ₹2,301 crore, registering 20.03% growth YoY, as against ₹1,917 crore last year. Net Interest Margin for the quarter stood at 3.10% against 2.84% a year ago.

Ultratech net drops 36% on falling prices

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Mumbai

ULTRATECH Cement said its net income fell a full 36% to ₹820 crore for the September quarter, missing estimates by a wide margin, weighed in by falling prices due to monsoon and the resultant project delays hitting price realisations leading to margin crunch. Brokerages were pegging the largest cement maker to post ₹1,062 crore net income.

The company's revenue from operations in the reporting quarter fell 2.3% on-year to ₹15,635 crore, down from ₹16,012 crore in the corresponding quarter the previous year, which though is marginally better than the Street estimate of ₹15,579 crore, the Aditya Birla Group firm said in a statement Monday.

Its domestic grey cement sales were 25.75 million tonne, up 3% YoY, but were down a sharp 15% over the June quarter.

Adar Poonawalla buys 50% stake in Karan Johar's Dharma Productions

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

BILLIONAIRE Adar Poonawalla-led Serene Productions has entered into a binding agreement to invest ₹1,000 crore in Karan Johar's Dharma Productions and Dharmatic Entertainment (collectively called Dharma), one of India's leading production houses. With the investment, Serene Productions will hold 50% stake in Dharma, with film producer and director Karan Johar retaining the remaining 50% ownership.

Karan Johar will continue to be the executive chairman and spearhead the company's creative vision. Apoorva Mehta, in his role as the CEO, will work with Karan in steering the strategic direction and overseeing



the operational excellence of the organisation.

"I am delighted to have the opportunity to partner with one of the most iconic production houses in our nation, along with my friend Karan Johar. We hope to build and grow Dharma and scale even greater heights in the years to come,"

said Adar Poonawalla, who also heads Serum Institute of India.

Dharma said that the strategic partnership between Serene Productions and the company is designed to capitalise on these opportunities by combining Dharma's rich legacy in storytelling with Adar Poonawalla's strategic acumen and resources.

Commenting on the partnership, Karan Johar stated, "Today, as we join forces with Adar, a close friend and an exceptional visionary and innovator, we are poised to elevate Dharma's legacy to new heights. This partnership represents a perfect blend of our emotional storytelling prowess and forward-thinking business strategies."



His fitness becoming a topic of swirling speculation, seasoned India pacer Mohammed Shami said on Monday that he is completely pain-free and is still not out of reckoning for the marquee Test tour of Australia starting next month. Shami also said he would like to play a couple of matches in the ongoing Ranji Trophy for his state team Bengal.

BATTING INTENT ON RISE

With the next-gen players coming in, there is a slow but steady change in the batting approach of the Indian team

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN @ Bengaluru

WHEN Sarfaraz Khan wanted to flay the second new ball through point minutes after New Zealand had taken it in the third innings, Rishabh Pant, the man at the other end, marched up to offer a few words of advice. Within the context of the situation, Pant, perhaps, did the right thing. The strip was a new ball one; there was always seam movement and the hosts only had 50 runs in the bank to play with it at the stage. However, pull the curtain back a little and it's fairly obvious that Sarfaraz's shot, in a microcosm, is the new Indian way. Keep attacking with the bat, set the tempo. There has never been a readily identifiable Indian DNA with the bat but this is probably the new regime's one big early change. It's why captain Rohit Sharma and coach Gautam Gambhir have already used the word freedom multiple times within the batting framework of the Test team. "When the guys are showing that kind of attitude on the field with the bat, it shows that the mindset is clear," Sharma said of India's response in the second innings. "The guys want to go out there and play with freedom and try and see how we can put the pressure back on the opposition.

When the hosts began their response to New Zealand's 402, they were 356 in arrears. However, for vast stages, it didn't feel like that. The Kiwis had to adapt quickly; they had a sweeper cover and their spinners couldn't build pressure by having men around the bat. "... in the second innings with the bat, to come out and play like



Young Indian batters like Sarfaraz Khan score a higher percentage of their runs in boundaries | VINOD KUMAR T

that, it felt like we were ahead in the game at one stage," Sharma added. "We didn't feel like we were 350 behind and that is something that I'm really proud of."

It's a byproduct of moving on from the likes of Cheteshwar Pujara, Ajinkya Rahane and Wriddhiman Saha and bringing in place the likes of Shubman Gill, Sarfaraz Khan, Yashasvi Jaiswal and Rishabh Pant over the last three years or so. Pujara (49.3% of his total runs in boundaries), Rahane (49.67) and Saha (44.34) were perfectly capable bats. They have won games for India but this generation have their own ways and means when it comes to batsmanship. All three of Gill (55.1), Jaiswal

No of 6s hit in 2024	
India	107
England	68
New Zealand	64

INDIA S/R IN THE LAST THREE YEARS	
Year	S/R
2022	57.72
2023	53.21
2024*	61.29

* till Oct 20

India's last three Tests (since Gautam Gambhir was appointed coach) 73.24

INDIA'S RPO IN TESTS SINCE 2020		
Year	M	RPO
2020	4	2.77
2021	14	3.01
2022	7	3.72
2023	8	3.36
2024	9	3.83

and unshackling them. In the same vein, they will also have to accept that this new found methodology can be counter-productive. There will be batting collapses as batters try to set the agenda. To be fair to both Gambhir and Sharma, they have done that. Speaking before the first Test against the Black Caps, Gambhir had said: "... there will be days when we will get bundled for 100 and we will take it up. If they can play

the natural game, if they can get 400-500 runs in a day, why not? I have always maintained that cricket has to be played that way. And we will play it that way. High risk, high reward, high risk, high failure."

While some of these stats go back to when Rahul Dravid was still the chief coach, no team has scored as many sixes in Tests since the beginning of this year. It stands at 107, 39 clear of England. It's the same when you want to consider strike-rates. For example, in 2022, India scored 57 runs per every 100 balls their batters faced. In 2024, that number stands at 61. Under Gambhir — granted three is very few numbers to draw a conclusion — it's 73.

Sharma, if anything, was unequivocal about the side's desires. "When we are behind the game, that is where you want to press your pedal even more and try to make an impact," he said. "Try to not let the opposition know that we are under pressure or we are behind the game. When you are actually behind, you want to try and do extraordinary things and play without any fear. It's one thing to talk about it, but actually we went out there and played some fearless cricket."

They aren't trying to reinvent the wheel or anything; to be honest, they aren't claiming it. What this new system aims to do is encourage the batters coming through the system with a style and grammar of play they are familiar with.

Will it pay dividends? A low, slow black soil Pune wicket and a red soil wicket in Mumbai over the next few weeks will offer immediate challenges. The bigger challenge, though, awaits them in Australia.

Accept the loss & dissect what went wrong: David

NEETU David, former India spinner and chairperson of the India women's team selection panel, accepted the responsibility for the group-stage exit but at the same time defended captain Harmanpreet Kaur after the team failed to make the semi-final for the first time since 2016. "We cannot deny the fact that India's performance was not up to the mark in the World Cup. It is a fact, but for me, what is more important is what we learn from these situations," David told reporters on the sidelines of her induction into the ICC Hall of Fame. "I believe Harman has been in terrific form and age is just a number. I understand that change is the only constant and it will happen, but the time has to be right. It is a collective decision for management to take," she added.

In Dubai, David was inducted into the Hall of Fame alongside South African legend Ab de Villiers and former England captain Alastair Cook as he became only the second Indian woman after Diana Edulji to receive that honour. "I was surprised and got a little emotional as well because I never thought I would reach this level. Of course, I felt pride and at the same time got the reassurance that I had contributed something. I was not aware that I was the second Indian to receive this honour and Diana Edulji was the first one. I asked Hema di (Hemalatha Kala) to join me, but because we have domestic competitions back home so she was busy. I thought I would have to go by myself but Diana di came with me. I am happy for the next generation coming in as they can look at this honour and think if ICC is recognising Indian women's cricket, then there has to be something (good with it)," she stated.

India's performance at the recently concluded T20 World Cup was not up to the mark, despite captain Kaur and coach Amol Muzumdar suggesting that it was their best squad. With the ODI World Cup coming on home soil next year, the team and selectors have their work out for them. "We have a 50-over World Cup coming soon so we will definitely not give up anytime soon. India is still one of the best teams in the world and we will bounce back from this. Our new generation is maturing through the franchise league and the junior cricketers are aware of what they need to do to make it to the highest level. Our players are working on their fitness. The new generation that is coming in is athletic. You can look at the likes of Radha Yadav, Jemimah Rodrigues, and Shreyanka Patil. We understand that there are a few things we are lacking and we are trying to work on them," David explained.

When asked about the learnings from the T20 World Cup, David explained that the team will sit down together to discuss what went wrong in this tournament and come up with solutions for the future series. "The selection is a process and we are watching these players over a long period on and off the field. So we thought that this was a strong team. One bad day in the field will happen and Australia is one of the best teams in the world. We accept that loss and I think we covered all of our bases and this was our best team. We will take our time to discuss and dissect what went wrong in this campaign. When we come back as a group, we will try and think about what we can do in the future. We can't change what has happened in the past, but we can always hope to do better," David said.

Kaur in team of tournament

DUBAI: India captain Harmanpreet Kaur made it to the Women's T20 World Cup 2024 team of the tournament dominated by players from finalists New Zealand and South Africa on the back of her strong batting show. New Zealand won their maiden Women's T20 World Cup title on Sunday. **Women's T20 WC 2024 team:** Laura Wolvaardt (SA, captain), Tazmin Brits (SA), Danni Wyatt-Hodge (Eng), Melie Kerr (NZ), Harmanpreet Kaur (Ind), Deandra Dottin (WI), Nigar Sultana Joty (Ban, wk), Afy Fletcher (WI), Rosemary Mainr (NZ), Nonkululeko Mlaba (SA), Megan Schutt (Aus), 12th: Eden Carson (NZ).

EXPRESS READ

Hockey set to be axed from 2026 CWG

MELBOURNE: Hockey is set to be axed from the 2026 Commonwealth Games as the host city of Glasgow looks to cut costs, several media reports stated. Shooting and wrestling, in which India has had medal hauls in the past editions, are also set to be dropped from the Glasgow CWG roster.

Archery WC final: 5th silver for Deepika

TLAXCALA (MEXICO): India's recurve archer Deepika Kumari won her fifth silver at the World Cup Final after losing the summit clash 0-6 to China's Li Jiaman. She had a smooth run through the semifinals but probably the pressure of gold medal match got to her against fourth-seed Li Jiaman.

Pacer Rasikh shines as India A beat UAE

OMAN: Pacer Rasikh Salam took three wickets for 15 runs as India A beat United Arab Emirates by seven wickets in the ACC Emerging Teams T20 Asia Cup. Batting first, UAE were all out for 107 and in reply, India chased down the target in 10.5 overs, with Abhishek Sharma scoring a 24-ball 58.

Lower-order batters help Delhi avoid innings defeat against Tamil Nadu

ASHOK VENUGOPAL @ Chennai

RIDING on Sanat Sangwan's patient 83 (231b, 12x4) Delhi forced a draw upon Tamil Nadu on the final day of the Ranji Trophy match played at the Arun Jaitley stadium on Monday.

After Delhi folded for 266 in 100 overs with Dhruv unable to bat and Yash Dhull unbeaten on 105, the hosts were made to follow on. Delhi had to play out 85 overs to draw the game. For Tamil Nadu, it was a case of so near yet so far as the Delhi tail wagged for a while and later bad light played spoilsport as the game was called off when two overs were left to be bowled with Delhi having two wickets in hand. Delhi were 193/8 in 83 overs in their second essay. "It was an exciting game which went down to the wire. Had we got to bowl the two overs anything could have happened. For me it was a good learning experience on how to go about the task in a tight game," said Tamil Nadu spinner Ajith Ram.

Delhi batters were aware they had a mountain to climb

Group A: In Cuttack: J&K 270 & 270/7decl in 73.2 ovs (Abdul Samad 108 n.o.; Suryakant Pradhan 3/46, Kartik Biswal 2/25) drew with Odisha 272 & 112/8 in 80.4 ovs (Sandeep Pattnaik 55 n.o.; Umar Nazir Mir 2/8, Sahil Lotra 2/0). **Group B:** In Ahmedabad: Gujarat 367 & 144/9 in 50.3 ovs (Lalith Mohan 7/76) bt Andhra 213 (f/0) & 297; In Dehradun: Uttarakhand 325 & 235 bt Hyderabad 292 & 190 in 69.1 ovs (Rohit Rayudu 47 n.o.; Swapnil Singh 6/59); In Puducherry: Vidarbha 283 & 128 in 58.2 ovs (Sagar Udeshi 5/50, Ankit Sharma 4/48) bt Puducherry 209 & 82 in 24 ovs (Harsh Dubey 4/20) **Group C:** In Alur: Kerala 161/3 drew with Karnataka. **Group D:** In Delhi: Tamil Nadu 674/6decl drew with Delhi 266 (f/o) & 193/8 in 83 ovs (Sanat Sangwan 83; Washington Sundar 3/45, Ajith Ram 2/52, Sonu Yadav 2/37).

SELECT SCORES

and knew that the task was difficult but not impossible. Delhi captain Himmat Singh had told his players that they had to fight till the finish and be professionals. They started the second innings in earnest after Yash Dhull fell cheaply. Himmat, who failed to open his account in the first essay, played positively to ease the pressure. But he fell to the guile of Washington Sundar. Jonty Sidhu too fell in similar fashion to Ajith Ram. After the Tamil Nadu new ball bowlers bowled a couple of overs in the morning, Washington Sundar and Ajith Ram were brought into the attack and the duo bowled the chunk of the overs in tandem. Washington bowled tightly with probing lines, while Ajith

flighted the ball a lot more. The duo at times were able to check the run flow and also gave breakthroughs in turns. "Washington bowled really well. He has always been helpful for me and discusses on what lines to bowl to whom and when and so on," said Ajith Ram.

Sanat Sangwan, playing his second first-class match, showed a lot of maturity and played with purpose. His effort was the main reason for Delhi to escape with a draw. Towards the end of the day's play Sanat was done by change of pace and fell to Sonu Yadav. After hiss exit, captain N Jagadeesan tried his level best to press for a win, but Delhi tailenders deny them a victory. **Full story: newindianexpress.com**

Change in term for ICC Chair recommended

ENS @ Chennai

THE change in term of the ICC Chair and Independent Director from three two-year terms to two terms of three years was recommended during the recent ICC Board meeting held in Dubai during the Women's T20 World Cup. "The proposal will now be circulated to the Membership for approval," the global cricketing body said in a statement.

Meanwhile, in cricketing matters, the ICC Executive Committee has approved the 2025-29 Women's FTP and also confirmed the mechanism for ODI status for the five Associate Member women's teams of the 16 for the next cycle. "It will consist of a maximum of two AMs that qualify for the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup Qualifier 2025 with the remaining slots determined by the ICC T20I team rankings at the time of the annual update," the ICC said. The ICC also approved a series of women's Associate Member (AM) T20 competitions to boost the competitiveness of AM teams.

Jamshedpur FC beat Hyderabad to go second

AGENCIES @ Jamshedpur

JAMSHEDPUR FC edged past Hyderabad FC 2-1 in the Indian Super League at the JRD Tata Sports Complex on Monday. As a result of this win, the Men of Steel are now in second place in the league table. Rei Tachikawa and Jordan Murray got their names on the scoresheet for the hosts, while Cy Goddard pulled one back for the visitors.

The match started tactically, with both teams taking time to assess each other. In the ninth minute, Jamshedpur FC launched their first proper attack when Imran Khan sent in a delightful cross into the Hyderabad FC penalty box. However, the Reliance Foundation Young Champs (RFYC) graduate, Mohammed Sanan, to



Jamshedpur FC players celebrate their goal against Hyderabad FC | ISI

whom the ball was intended, fell just a yard short. Jamshedpur FC will now travel to Guwahati to face NorthEast United on October 26. Hyderabad FC meanwhile, will go on a trip to Kolkata to face Mohammedan SC on the same date.

Lewandowski's scoring streak continues as Barca rout Sevilla

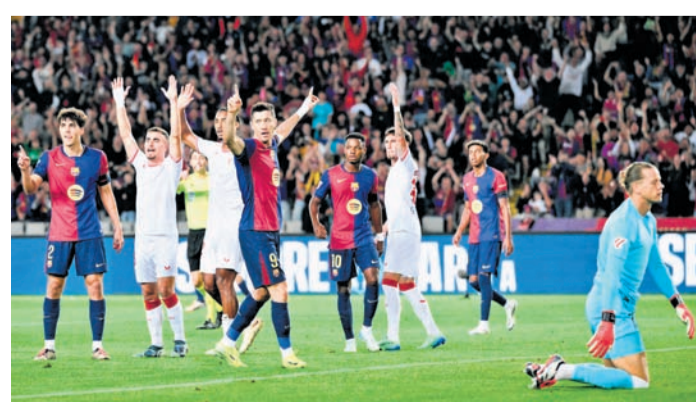
AGENCIES @ Madrid

ROBERT Lewandowski scored two more goals to extend his league-leading tally to 12 and Barcelona routed Sevilla 5-1 to open a three-point gap on Real Madrid ahead of next weekend's "clasico."

Pedri and Pablo Torre also scored Sunday for the Catalan club, which restored its lead of La Liga a day after second-place Madrid won 2-1 at Celta Vigo. Gavi came off the bench to replace Pedri in the 83rd minute, making his return to action nearly a year after a serious knee injury. "I had been dreaming about this moment for several months," Gavi said. "It's tough to watch from the outside. I have to enjoy every moment. I feel very lucky to be

here today." Barcelona will play Madrid on Saturday at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium. Both teams have Champions League matches midweek Madrid hosts Borussia Dortmund on Tuesday and Barcelona hosts Bayern Munich on Wednesday. "This was an important win considering the matches that we have ahead," Pedri said. "We had to leave with a good feeling and the three points."

Lewandowski scored twice in the first half, first by converting a 24th-minute penalty



Barcelona's forward Robert Lewandowski (4th from left) celebrates his goal | AFP

kick and then by finding the net from close range in the 39th. The Poland striker was coming off a hat trick at Alaves in the previous league round, and had scored twice in the

team's win over Young Boys in the Champions League. He has 14 goals in 11 matches in all competitions this season. Lewandowski, who received a standing ovation when he was

substituted in the 65th, nearly got his hat track in a one-on-one situation in the first half.

Stadium partially closed as Atletico beat Leganes

Fewer fans than normal watched Atletico Madrid beat Leganes 3-1 in a match played in a partially closed stadium because of recent fan trouble. Alexander Sorloth scored twice and Antoine Griezmann once after the visitors took the lead in the first half at the Metropolitan stadium, which had an empty fan section behind one of the goals as punishment after Atletico fans threw objects on the field during a city derby against Real Madrid last month. The section is where the club's more radical supporters usually gather.



DIABETES, OBESITY GREATLY INCREASE RISK OF FATTY LIVER

ANNA JOSE @ Kochi

GEORGE (name changed), was 55-years-old when he was diagnosed with fatty liver. Since he was a teetotaler, he did not consider it to be a serious issue. However, during a subsequent health check-up, he was diagnosed with liver cancer. "He was suffering from other lifestyle diseases, including diabetes and cholesterol. The situation could have been avoided had he followed up regularly with a fibrosan and other liver-related tests. Such diseases, if identified early, are preventable and reversible," said Dr John Menachery, senior consultant hepatologist at Rajagiri Hospital, Aluva. People who avoid alcohol tend to believe that they are safe from fatty liver disease. However, the number of people affected by fatty liver - alcoholic fatty liver disease (ALD) and non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) - has been on the rise in India. Unfortunately, most patients identify the condition at a later stage as it is mostly asymptomatic.

Fatty liver disease, the leading cause of liver cirrhosis, is now referred to as metabolism associated steatotic liver disease (MASLD) after a new nomenclature was adopted. This change reflects the growing understanding of the condition's metabolic origins, says Dr Piyush Ranjan, vice-chairman of department of gastroenterology at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, Delhi.

"Earlier, fatty liver, which used to be diagnosed on ultrasound, was thought to be an innocuous condition and people did not bother about it. Follow-up studies have showed that fatty liver can progress to cirrhosis in some cases, and to hepatocellular carcinoma in some people," said Dr V Mohan, chairman of Dr Mohan's Diabetes Specialities Centre, Chennai.

According to a study published in 2022 in the Journal of Clinical and Experimental Hepatology, 'Prevalence of Non-alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease in India: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis', NAFLD prevalence in average-risk and high-risk subgroups was estimated to be 28.1% and 52.8%, respectively. The study concludes that about

one in three adults or children have NAFLD in India.

What is fatty liver?

"The fat content in the liver should be less than 5%. Fatty liver is a condition when the fat content increases. The colour of the liver, which is chocolate or brown, turns yellow. When too much fat is deposited in the liver, it can lead to inflammation inside the liver and scarring and loss of liver function," said Dr John.

Dr Abraham Koshy, director of hepatology at VPS Lakeshore, Kochi, said fatty liver is prevalent in at least 20% - 30% of the Indian population. "There is an increase in the number of people affected by fatty liver in India. Earlier fatty liver was seen mostly in adults. However, with recent lifestyle changes, even children in the age group of 5-12 are also being diagnosed with the condition," he said.

"The overall prevalence of MASLD is around 30% of the population, while in people with diabetes it is 60%-70% of all people with type-2 diabetes. However, if diabetes and obesity are present, nearly 90% of them may have MASLD," Dr Mohan added.

Identifying the condition

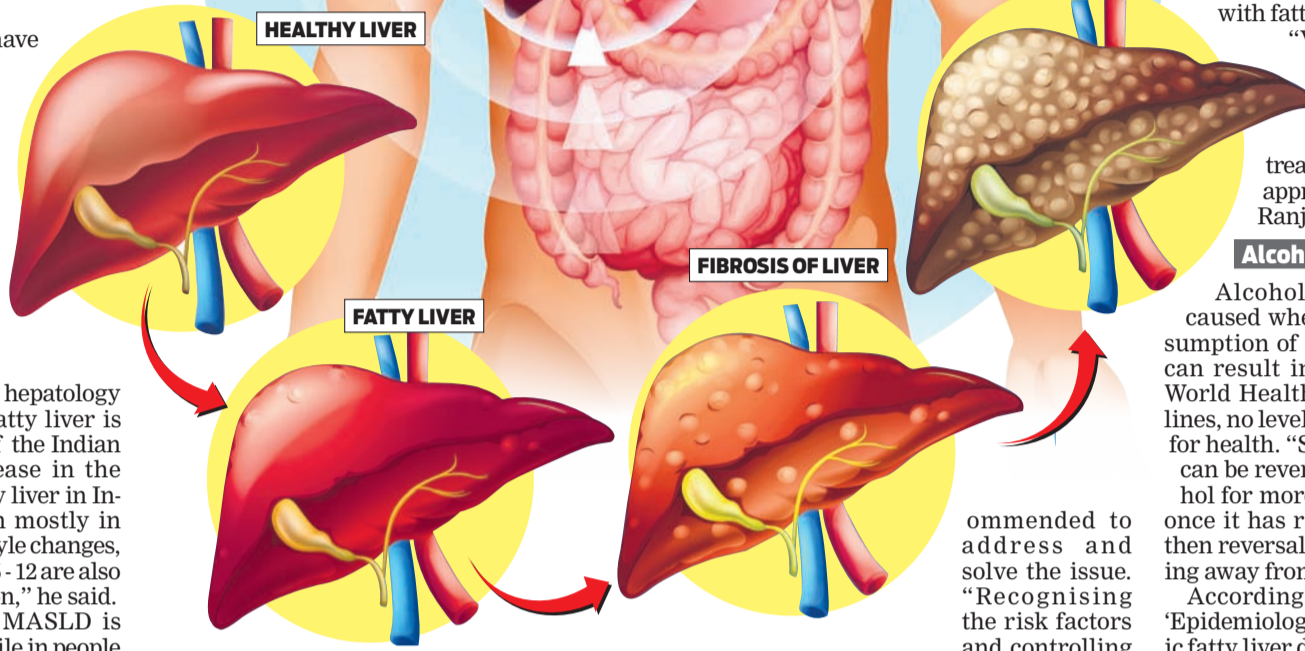
With screening, identification of risk factors and lifestyle modifications, the condition can be completely prevented. "The condition can be easily diagnosed with a liver function test. Usually, we identify the presence of fatty liver disease in a patient through an ultrasound scan.

TESTS

- Ultrasound scan
- Liver function test
- Fibrosan test

Some blood tests are carried out for further treatment and management of the condition," said Dr Charles Panackel, senior consultant, hepatology and liver transplantation at Aster Medcity, Kochi.

"The condition usually has no symptoms. "Usually, what I have observed is that the condition is diagnosed when the person undergoes an ultrasound scan for the treatment of any other disease. Sometimes, an ultrasound



HEALTHY LIVER

FATTY LIVER

FIBROSIS OF LIVER

CIRRHOSIS OF LIVER

HELPFUL TIPS

- Reduce the intake of saturated fat
- Avoid processed food and fast food
- Reduce carbohydrates
- Include more fibre in the diet
- Add more food items with more protein content
- Drink more water, as directed by the consultant (varies if the patient has diabetes or kidney-related health issues)
- Proper and consistent weight loss (2-3 kg per month)

GLP-1 receptor analogues like semaglutide, liraglutide and dulaglutide have shown to reduce fatty liver by managing weight loss and obesity. SGLT2 drugs like dapagliflozin have also shown to be beneficial for those with fatty liver," added Dr Mohan.

"Vitamin E and Pioglitazone are the drugs which showed improvement in fatty liver in initial studies. Saroglitazar is a PPAR agonist drug used to treat hypertriglyceridemia has been approved by DCGI in fatty liver," Dr Ranjan said.

Alcoholic fatty liver

Alcoholic fatty liver is a condition caused when fat accumulates due to consumption of alcohol. Continuous drinking can result in cirrhosis. According to the World Health Organisation's latest guidelines, no level of alcohol consumption is safe for health. "Simple fatty liver due to alcohol can be reversed with abstinence from alcohol for more than three months. However, once it has reached the stage of cirrhosis, then reversal may not occur even after keeping away from alcohol," said Dr John.

According to a study published in 2020, 'Epidemiology of non-alcoholic and alcoholic fatty liver diseases', in India, alcohol is the most common cause of cirrhosis (34.3%) and almost 20% of all liver disease patients (irrespective of aetiology) are current alcohol consumers.

Risks

People with risk factors need to be more cautious. "As diabetes, hypertension, cholesterol, etc. are risk elements, lifestyle modifications, exercise, and diet can prevent the occurrence of the condition," said Dr Abraham.

Dr Charles pointed out that the risk of getting affected by fatty liver is high if the person has a family history.

A significant number of patients who undergo liver transplant surgeries are also fatty liver patients, said Dr Abraham. "In my experience, around 30% of people who undergo liver transplantation are fatty liver cases. Earlier, most of the transplant cases I dealt with were caused by alcoholism and virus infection. It is because the condition, in many patients, is asymptomatic even in the later stage," he said.

(With inputs from Sinduja Jane @ Chennai, Ashish Srivastava @ New Delhi)



Lifestyle changes can prevent arthritis

SINDUJA JANE @ Chennai

Arthritis is a condition where the cartilage, a soft layer in the bone joints, gets worn out. The cartilage in the joint, called hyaline cartilage, doesn't regenerate once damaged in affected patients. There are two types of arthritis - primary and secondary. The reason for primary arthritis is not known and it often affects senior citizens. The most common type of primary arthritis is osteoporosis, which is caused by wear and tear to the cartilage. "It can affect any joint, but the knee is usually most commonly involved. It also affects the hands, which are small joints. Osteoarthritis affects women more than men," said Dr S Ashok Gavaskar, orthopaedics, Trauma Centre and Care, Rela Hospital.

The secondary type of arthritis is caused due to underlying health conditions like autoimmune disease and also trauma. Another factor that may contribute to the condition is comorbidities like diabetes, heart disease, obesity, and lung disease. Rheumatoid arthritis is a secondary type of arthritis. Though secondary type of arthritis is not common, it's aggressive and the progression will be quicker.

XPLAINER

It also affects the younger age groups. If diagnosed early, it can be treated effectively, and normal functions can be carried out by the affected individual. Secondary arthritis can be medically and surgically treated, but prevention is the key. Lifestyle modifications will help in prevention and also delay onset of arthritis. Weight reduction and maintaining an active lifestyle are the best options for women. "If the patient has difficulty in sitting on the floor and squatting, we would advise them to avoid all these activities and do other activities. They can still live an active life," Dr Gavaskar added. When it comes to treatment, medication is not the permanent solution as there is no end point in treating arthritis. "Sometimes, we recommend joint supplements, but their efficacy is not clear and it's not preferred as front-line treatment," he said.

"If there is consistent pain in younger patients, biological injections like platelet rich plasma, sourced from the patient's body is given. Stem cell therapy is effective only in the first and second stage of arthritis. In advanced stages like stage 3 and 4, joint preservation therapy is offered. In cases where the total cartilage is worn out, realignment surgeries are performed," said Dr Ashok Gavaskar added.

SPORTS INJURIES ON THE RISE IN KIDS IN INDIA

As more and more children take up sports in India, there is a rise in incidences of injuries. Dr Deepak Joshi, director of Sports Injury Centre, Vardhman Mahavir Medical College (VMMC), and Safdarjung Hospital, Delhi, said adequate rest between training sessions, proper rehabilitation, use of protective gear and quality equipment, and maintaining proper diet and nutrition are paramount.

Speaking to Kavita Bajeli-Datt, Dr Joshi said proper rehabilitation and complete recovery after an injury is important and should not be taken lightly. Edited excerpts:

As more children and youngsters are taking sports seriously, have the incidence of health issues among them increased in the country?

India has been on a journey to become a sporting nation, which has inspired more and more children and young people to take up different sports, which is a good thing for the country's sporting future, but this has led to a rise in the incidence of injuries during sports among children. These children are not just playing for enjoyment, but taking their sports seriously and want to compete at higher levels. This puts them through a more intense training regime, making them more prone to injuries. These injuries are owing to inadequate warm-up, poor technique, and suboptimal protective gear or equipment. The adolescent population also have an imbalance between strength and flexibility that can increase the risk of injuries. Proper training from the beginning, preferably from schools or coaching academies, should be given, and the ways and methods to reduce injuries should be taught to these young players.

What are the common sports injuries, and what are their causes?

Joint sprains, muscle strains and overuse injuries are among the most common sports injuries. Other common injuries include ligament tears like ACL tears, fractures and dislocations, and head injuries (most commonly concussion). The leading causes are inadequate rest between training sessions, poor technique, improper rehabilitation, and imbalanced training sessions. Among these, the most avoidable injuries are overuse injuries. Athletes should avoid doing too much too soon. Both coaches and players should be aware of cross-training and alternative activities with different styles, speeds, intensities, and time frames of exercise. Proper rehabilitation after injuries and complete recovery before returning to sports is paramount and should not be taken lightly.

What precautions are needed to avoid such injuries?

Awareness regarding various causes of sports injuries among athletes, coaches, and support staff can significantly reduce sports injuries. Adequate rest, good technique with correct form, and training targeted at reducing injuries common to the chosen sport, use of protective gear and quality equipment, maintaining proper diet and nutrition, and correct warm up and cool down are few ways to reduce sports injuries. Maintaining adequate flexibility is extremely important. This can be done by adding dynamic stretching to the training regime. Strengthening core and abdominal muscles adds stability and balance in all sporting activities and thus can help prevent injuries. Drink fluids before, during, and after sporting activity to avoid dehydration and heat-related injuries.

How vital are rehabilitation and rest for those who suffer from sports injuries?

Rehabilitation and rest are essential to getting athletes back on the field. Proper rehabilitation aims to get your body back to its optimal state, which ultimately helps you perform at your best. Rehabilitation can be divided into various phases - initial pain management, restoration of the range of

motion of the involved joint, strengthening, functional training, education and prevention. The power, strength, and endurance of the musculoskeletal tissues and the function of the cardio-respiratory system must be maintained. Proper rehabilitation ensures recovery and return to sports, and decreases the risk of future injuries. Rehabilitation following any injury is therapeutic for present injuries and preventive for future possible injuries.

Is osteoporosis seeing a rise in India? What are the reasons?

Osteoporosis is a condition in which the bone mineral density or bone mass decreases or there is a defect in the quality and structure of the bone. There has been an increase in the number of cases of osteoporosis. Osteoporosis is a degenerative disease occurring most commonly in the older population. With better healthcare facilities and increased life expectancy, the life expectancy of people above 50 years has gone up, and so there is a rise in osteoporosis cases. Other factors that increase the risk of osteoporosis include a sedentary lifestyle, a diet deficient in calcium and vitamin D, smoking, hormonal disorders, a family history of osteoporosis, having a low body mass index, and any prolonged illness.

What precautions should a person who has osteoporosis take?

Osteoporosis makes the bone weak and brittle and increases the risk of fractures, mostly the spine, and around the wrist and hip. Fractures that occur due to osteoporosis are called fragility fractures. These fractures cause significant morbidity and mortality, and result in a poor quality of life. A person with osteoporosis should consult an orthopaedician so that medicines can be started that increase the bone density back to normal. Special care should be taken to prevent any fall, as even a trivial fall can cause fractures in these patients. These patients should also have a diet rich in calcium, vitamin D, and adequate sunlight. If dietary intake is insufficient, these must be supplemented with medicines. They should also get their bone density test or 3-point DEXA scan done regularly to monitor bone density levels.



INTERVIEW DR DEEPAK JOSHI





DAY'S DIARY
First mission
Chandrayaan-1, India's first mission to the Moon, was launched in 2008, from Sriharikota Spaceport in Andhra Pradesh

THE ORBIT

The spacecraft orbited around the Moon at a height of 100 km from the lunar surface and provided chemical, mineralogical and photo-geologic mapping of the Moon



FINDINGS

Chandrayaan-1, the first lunar space probe of the ISRO, found water on the Moon. It mapped the Moon in infrared, visible, and X-ray light from lunar orbit



PROBE FOR SAFETY

On November 14, 2008, Chandrayaan-1 launched a small craft, Moon Impact Probe that was designed to test systems for future landings

An inclusive line by House of Miraa
PG 3



Photos: Dheeraj Khandelwal

Blue brilliance beneath the waves

Photographer Dheeraj Khandelwal shares his experience of capturing bioluminescence that was witnessed over the weekend

DIYA MARIA GEORGE

IN the stillness of the night, the ocean awakens with an ethereal glow, the waves laced with streaks of neon blue. Captured by photographer Dheeraj Khandelwal, these images reveal the rare and mysterious phenomenon of bioluminescence along the Chennai coast that was witnessed over the weekend. The shots show the blue light tracing the crest of the waves. The longer exposure used to capture this moment blends the glowing waves into a mist-like dream, allowing the viewer to feel as if they are witnessing something magical.



Indian Journal of Geo-Marine Sciences explains Bioluminescence, or the biochemical production and discharge of cold light from living organisms, as a phenomenon that has been detected in over 700 genera globally, with the large majority inhabiting the world's oceans. This natural light show can serve as a predictive tool for harmful algal blooms and may also be considered an indicator of plankton biomass. Experts note that it could signal pollution, as the sudden flushing of untreated effluents through bar mouths stimulates the growth and blooming of phytoplankton.

Dheeraj's journey into documenting this began by chance. He says, "I was going through Instagram. I saw a few pictures and didn't realise it was happening here in Chennai until I researched it further." On the night of October 19, armed with his camera, a Nikon Z8, Dheeraj set out to capture the glow. "The first

challenge was that in Chennai, the bioluminescence wasn't visible on the shore but in the middle of the ocean, in the waves. It was also a quarter moon that night, so I had to figure out how bright the luminescence would be in the moonlight," he says. One of Dheeraj's most unique shots came from a drone, a creative experiment that paid off. "I wasn't sure if the waves would be visible

The hardest part was to focus in the dark ocean. That's when I tried to take some longer exposures and slow shutter speed photos.

Dheeraj Khandelwal

from the air, but I took a long exposure shot, and it captured the coastline glowing." This bird's-eye view of the glowing waves became one of his favourites. But the process wasn't easy. The sea was pitch black except for the moments when the waves formed, glowing with the bioluminescent microorganisms. He explains, "The hardest part was to focus in the dark ocean. That's where I used a little bit of creativity and tried to take some longer exposures and slow shutter speed photos."

As the night unfolded, Dheeraj was joined by onlookers who had also heard of the phenomenon. "Many people were seeing bioluminescence for the first time. There were moments when entire waves, stretching about 25 meters, would turn completely blue, and the crowd would cheer," he shares.

A HANDY GUIDE DURING CRISIS

SONU M KOTHARI

EVERY day we consume a huge number of news from apps. While we go on to check out every one of them, how many times do we verify the facts?

In March 2020 when a lot of information was shared online by various portals, sometimes without cross-checking that went on to create panic, city-based Shyam Sundar thought about directing his interest to sharing verified information. "I consume a lot of news and keep sharing it on my WhatsApp status and Instagram stories. Later, friends and family suggested that I start a separate page so that it reaches more people."

The automotive engineer then started an online portal, Covid19Chennai. Here, locals could find helpline contacts, government regulations, and restrictions in one place. "The website is 100 percent privacy-proof. There are no trackers or advertisements on the page. Thus, making it faster to use. Apart from this, people can always follow the posts on Instagram, Twitter, or LinkedIn," he shares.

Soon, in December 2021, rains lashed the city. As per reports in *The New Indian Express*, "The year is the third wettest year of all time." It was then that Shyam started working on rebranding the website, and called it NewsOfChennai.

For the people

"NewsOfChennai is a citizen service platform wherein whenever a need arises — for example, it could be a cyclone, rain, or any public information, which needs to be circulated — the website is open to access," he says. For the past three years, the



I consume a lot of news and keep sharing it on my WhatsApp status and Instagram stories. Later, friends and family suggested that I start a separate page so that it reaches more people.

Shyam Sundar

page has been providing authentic information including helplines, relief centres, weather conditions, journalists to follow, a dos and don'ts guide, lake levels, advisory from Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), and medical emergencies. During the red alert last week, the site sprung to action again.

The open-source GitHub-based website is a collaborative effort by Shyam and his school friend, Archana. The weather data on the website is sourced from Weather Union, a Zomato initiative. "The company has installed local weather stations in 20-30 places, across the city, to get localised weather. This move provides localised weather, which people are missing. IMD does not have it, as of now, because they maintain only a radar and satellite-based system. This imparts citizens a good understanding of accumulation precipitation," he says.

Lake-level data is popular among people, and Chennai Metropolitan Water and Sewage Board is the official source. "We update the levels once every two days. This was started

NEWS OF CHENNAI - CITIZEN RESOURCES
@newsOfChennai | newsOfChennai.in | Verified updates since March 2020
IMD has forecast a Red Alert for Chennai on Oct 16 (Red Alert)

- Chennai Rains Verified Helplines
- Chennai Rains - Resources
- Medical Emergency
- Chennai NowCast - IMD Bulletin
- Real Time Updates - News of Chennai
- Do's and Don't during Floods

Select the nearest area to you to find out live local weather with the amount of rainfall ↓

Choose your nearest area

with the motive for the people to have peace of mind," he adds. The website's main page has a running "ticker tape" on the top when there are "instant updates". This could be the alerts issued for rainfall, cyclone lake levels, and others.

During the past week's rains, a number of people asked for help on their Instagram handle. Shyam recalls an incident, and shares, "One of the streets of T Nagar was flooded. I told her to locate her ward number and reach out to the councillor because the 1913, corporation helpline, might be flooded with requests. She spoke to the councillor and the complaint was registered."

Open for all, all seasons

Now that accessing information has become easier, the next is internet connectivity. "In times like floods and cyclones, internet accessibility

can be difficult. To solve that, in a couple of weeks, at least for Chennai rains, there will be a single PDF which people can download and save on their phone," he mentions. A Tamil version of the website is in the design process to make the process even more convenient.

Before the next phase of rain starts, Shyam plans to add some basic information such as definitions of heavy or light rainfall to the website. "We are looking if people have data such as a flood map. This will help people to be cautious. If people could help us with that, we would love to add it to our website," he adds.

After the rainy season ends, this NewsOfChennai website will contain general sites where people can access information about Chennai.

Follow newsOfChennai.in

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

PARIS Paralympics silver medallist Thulasimathi Murugesan bagged a double crown in para badminton category of the CM Trophy 2024 Games on Monday. Thulasimathi, representing Kancheepuram defeated Jayamani of Thanjavur 21-1, 21-3 in the singles and then teamed up with Ezhilarasi to defeat Jayamani and Arulsevi of Thanjavur 21-8, 21-7. In the 'mentally challenged' category, R Vibin of Kanniyakumari won the men's 100m gold with a time of 12.35s. Rangaraj of Thirunelveli (13.09s) and Salem's A Bhoopathi (13.38s) won the silver and bronze, respectively. Kanniyakumari's NL

Of trophies and triumphs



LOCAL EXPRESS

Jasmine won the women's 100m gold.

Mumbai advance

Mumbai qualified for the semi-final of the Vinoo Mankad Trophy after rain played spoilsport

in the quarters against Tamil Nadu U19. Mumbai had scored 192/7 in 25 overs with Prateek Yadav top-scoring for them (81). In response, TN were 102/4 in 14.3 overs when rain stopped play. Mumbai advanced by vir-

tue of securing 20 points in the league phase against TN's 16. **Brief scores:** Mumbai 192/7 in 25 ovs (Awais Khan 50 (54b, 3x4, 2x6), Prateek Yadav 81 (57b, 8x4, 3x6), (ramp) RD Pranav Raghavendra 3/22) vs TN 102/4 in 14.3 ovs (LR Nawin 39, RK Jayanth 25 not out, Naman Pushpak 2/36)

Tamil Nadu post 335

After starting the day at 121/2, TN posted 335 in 98.2 overs, thanks to half-centuries from S Rithik Easwaran (58), KTA Madhava Prasad (59), S Lakshay Jain (57) against Chandigarh Col. CK Nayudu Trophy. In the second innings, Chandigarh were 38/4 in 17 overs at stumps.

Brief scores: Chandigarh 131 & 38/4 in 17 ovs (Sunny Sandhu 3/4) vs Tamil Nadu 335 in 98.2 ovs (R Vimal Khumar 47, SR Athish 31, S Rithik Easwaran 58, KTA Madhava Prasad 59, S Lakshay Jain 57, Anmol Sharma 4/68)



DESE GOWDA

FOR elite Indian Hockey, 2024 has been a mixed bag of fortunes. While the men's team managed to bag a bronze medal at the Summer Olympics, the women's team has been met with one disappointment after another. Despite their dominance at the 2023 Asian Champions Trophy, they narrowly missed out on an Olympic berth at both the 2023 Asian Games and the 2024 FIH Olympic Qualifiers. Now, as they prepare to defend their title at the 2024 edition of the Asian Champions Trophy, to be held once again in India, with midfielder Salima Tete taking over the captaincy from veteran goalkeeper Savita Punia, the squad is determined to show their resilience in front of home fans and regain momentum on the international stage. One of the most successful teams in the tournament along-

STICK SHIFT

side South Korea, with two titles each, for captain Salima, India's focus remains clear. "As captain, I always make sure to keep motivating the team," she says. "We have complete freedom on the pitch, so there is no need to feel pressured. Just play to your strengths. Regarding Paris (Olympics), we definitely still feel some pain. But we have to move on."

The team's inability to qualify for the Olympics was especially painful given their impressive fourth-place finish at Tokyo three years ago, but Savita believes these experiences have only made the team stronger. "We know what our strengths are; it's our aggressive attack-



We have complete freedom on the pitch, so there is no need to feel pressured... Regarding Paris (Olympics), we definitely still feel some pain. But we have to move on.

— Salima Tete, captain

ing style of play," she explains. "We are also focusing on learning how to effectively organise a defence; how to manage counter-control. Apart from that, penalty corner attack and defence are also a priority." Her only advice to her younger teammates is to prepare with the same mindset as they would still feel on the field. "The mindset with which you prepare is what you're going to find in the actual games," Savita says. "It's not like we only put on a game mindset during a tournament; it should be there even when we are preparing. The young players these days are quite intelligent in how they approach the game, they are quick learners.

However, the pressure when you're in, let's say, a quarter-final or a semi-final can be immense. I learned it from experience, but I try to also impart it to the younger players as much as possible. Pressure is constant; it's just our approach that matters."

This year's tournament will be held in Rajgir in Bihar, and playing in front of home fans is something that both Salima and Savita believe will give the team a lift. "Having the tournament on your home turf is a fantastic thing," says Savita. "This is the second year that India is hosting the Asian Champions Trophy. The last time was in Ranchi, Jharkhand. When we played there, we saw how much the fans cared about the game, so definitely we'll have a lot of support this time around."

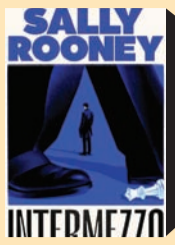
Meanwhile, as she steps into the captain's role, Salima opens up about balancing leadership with her role as a midfielder. "Results don't matter, but my focus is to keep everyone working

together in tough situations. If we can do that, we will definitely win," she adds. Salima has also focused on mentoring younger players who are stepping into their first major international tournament. "I will spend some time with them, tell them not to take any pressure and to enjoy themselves as they are going to play their first major tournament. It is a memory they will cherish for a long time. We all will be there to help them if they slip up on the pitch. They should just go out and enjoy the game," she says.

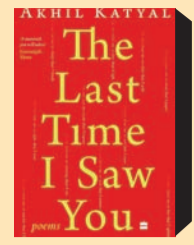
As India prepares for the 2024 Women's Asian Champions Trophy, they are aiming not just to defend their title but also to rebuild their confidence after a challenging year. "We've known well what (Coach Harendra Singh) expects from the team and also individually from players. I hope for all the effort he's putting in training us, we'll be able to translate it with success on the field," says Savita.



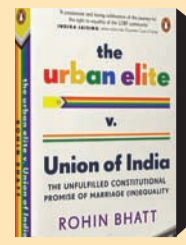
BOOK NOOK



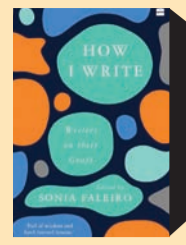
Intermezzo
By Sally Rooney
From the author of the bestseller Normal People, Intermezzo deals with the complicated relationship between two brothers, Peter and Ivan Koubek as they traverse the path of desire, despair and possibility.



The Last Time I Saw You: Poems
by Akhil Katyal
This poetry collection tells the story of how we encounter grief. It lays out the poet's experience of an event of loss and its aftermath. Grappling with raw and intense emotions, the poems are also suffused with the spirit of human resilience.



The Urban Elite v. Union of India: The Unfulfilled Constitutional Promise of Marriage (In)Equality
By Rohin Bhatt
From covering the arguments of the petitioners and the opposition for the decriminalisation of Section 377, to the author's own story of fighting for queer rights, this book is a first of its kind which delves into the courtroom scenes.



How I Write: Writers on Their Craft
By Sonia Faleiro
This landmark collection features intimate interviews with poets, novelists, translators and non-fiction writers, all of whom share a deep connection to the South Asian experience.



RAIN, RAIN, COME AGAIN?

Just as the city gets a respite from rains, thick clouds hover over Redhills indicating more showers await the city in coming days. | PRAVIKUMAR

QUICKFIX

FRENCH BISTRO SALAD

INGREDIENTS

- Shallots: 5
- Romaine Lettuce: 1
- Parsley: 3/4 cup
- Walnuts: Half cup, roughly chopped and toasted and cooled
- Dressing: 1.5 tbsp lemon juice, 5 tsp extra virgin olive oil, 1/2 tsp each salt and pepper

METHOD

- Make pickled shallots by leaving shallots for 30 minutes in vinegar in which sugar has been dissolved.
- Pile lettuce on a platter, drizzle with dressing, scatter over fresh herbs, pickled shallots and walnuts. Serve immediately and shave cheese on top of your choice.



Contributed by Maya Singh, Delhi

WHATWHENWHYWHERE

Handloom mela

Diwali Handloom Mela has been organised by artisans across the country. On display and for sale are handloom saris, ethnic and contemporary arts and crafts, clothing, jewellery, home décor, furniture, and handicraft products.

- **WHEN:** Till October 31
- **WHERE:** Sri Sankara Hall

Floral fragrances

Featuring a blend of fragrant notes that include Lily of the Valley, Jasmine Sambac, Garden Carnations, and Fresh Cedarwood, presents the latest Bath & Body Works products.

- **WHERE:** Bath & Body Works stores or bathandbodyworks.in



Curated hampers

Illuminate your Deepavali celebrations with Taj Coromandel's exquisite handcrafted hampers — Teja Hamper, Yash Hamper, Divyam Hamper, and Coromandel Hamper

- **WHEN:** Till November 4
- **PRICE:** ₹1,650 plus taxes onwards

Celebrating India

This festive season Starbucks celebrates India's traditions and flavours with a new range — Saffron Symphony: Limited time beverage offerings, and Mithai Meets Dessert: Bombay sweet shop + Starbucks.

- **WHERE:** Across Starbucks stores



A fashion journey

Amethyst presents 'Payanam' by Anavila together with Jewellery by Sheetal Zaveri.

- **WHEN:** Today
- **PRICE:** Anavila: ₹8,500 onwards; Sheetal Zaveri: ₹5,000 onwards

Halloween night

This Halloween, dare to experience a night of thrills at Skyloft Rooftop Restaurant. Menu highlights include Shakalaka Lychee, Crispy Corn Niblets, Crispy Fried Calamari, Sizzler Mutton Chapli Kebab, Dal Bukhara, Gosht Dum Biryani, Elaener Payasam.

- **WHEN:** October 31
- **WHERE:** A Radha Hotel
- **CALL:** 6009525541

Family feast

With this exclusive Buy 3, Get 1 Free Offer, there's no better time to reconnect with family and friends over a delightful brunch spread at Waterside, Feathers, A Radha Hotel

- **WHEN:** Till October 31
- **PRICE:** ₹3,000



Artful celebration

The 26th Bengal Weaver Rang Mahal show presents saris and dress materials by weavers from West Bengal.

- **WHEN:** Till October 27
- **WHERE:** CP Arts Centre, Eldams Road, Alwarpet



Handicrafts on sale

Srushti Handicrafts Emporium has organised Kalai Pokkisam, an exhibition-cum-sale of bronze and brass statues, wood carving, stone idols, paintings, decorative artifacts, gift articles, semi precious stone jewellery, panels, spadikam and many more.

- **WHEN:** Till November 4

DEAR LIFE

Preeti Shenoy
Insta: @preeti.shenoy

Novelist, Illustrator, Speaker.

I'm struggling after losing ₹30 lakh in the share market. I keep taking more debt, putting it back into the share market, despite losing money every day. I have lost interest in my job. How can I find a way out?

Losing a significant amount of money feels disastrous and understandably so. At this point, the problem has grown into an addiction, as you are unable to control your actions. The first thing to do is to cut off completely from the market. Watching it daily will feel like a way to regain what you have lost, but financial recovery will not happen by chasing loss-

ASK AN EXPERT

es. Reach out to a financial advisor or debt counsellor who can help you create a realistic repayment plan. Your job is the most important asset you have, not only for financial stability but also to help you feel in control. Setting small goals at work and achieving them will give you a positive boost. Reach out to family and trusted friends, and if possible a mental health professional too. Financial problems feel isolating, but those who care about you will support you at least emotionally. Life is precious. Don't lose hope. Stay strong and you will overcome this challenging chapter in your life.

Send in your queries to Askpreetishenoy@gmail.com

EXPRESS CONNECT

HAVE A RECIPE OR ART WORK TO SHARE, OR A QUESTION TO ASK?

✉ @expressn

✉ cityexpresschn@gmail.com

📷 @newindianexpress

FITBIT

TADASANA URDHVA HASTASANA (MOUNTAIN POSE RAISED ARMS AERIAL)

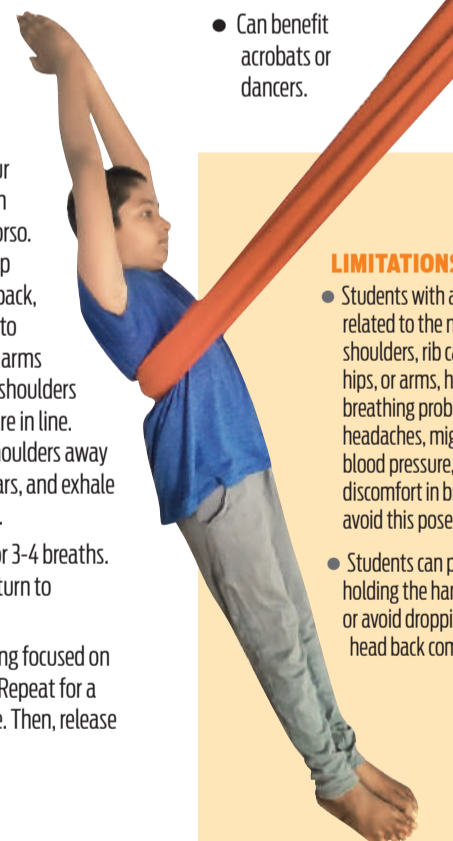
This is a beginner level aerial yoga pose that is done with the feet firmly grounded. This simple standing pose is also a gentle backbend that stretches the arms, shoulders, back, and the entire front torso. The grounding of the feet ensures the torso goes back gently. A gentle heart opener, encouraging deeper breathing and awareness of the upper body. Given the simple backbend, this pose can also be a relaxing practice done at the end of a class.

STEPS

- Take a hammock or a strong fabric material, and hang it from the ceiling with the help of a hook. Stand exactly in front of the hammock.
- Keep feet together in Tadasana, inhale and extend the arms up to go into Urdhva Hastasana (Volcano Pose), stretching the entire torso up.
- Hold the hammock with your hands, take your shoulders through them. Lower the hammock to bring it close to your lower back.
- Use your body weight to lean back on the hammock, bring it close to your shoulder blades.
- Lean back and stay for about 2-3 breaths, taking awareness towards your feet, making sure they are grounded and the thighs are squeezed.
- Inhale and lean back as you move your hands higher, the hammock will come close to your armpits. Once the hammock seems tucked, release your hands.
- Look front, keep stretching upwards. Ground your feet, stretch the front torso. Exhale, drop your head back, and inhale to stretch the arms up. Ensure shoulders and head are in line. Take the shoulders away from the ears, and exhale completely.
- Stay here for 3-4 breaths. Release, return to Tadasana.
- Relax, staying focused on breathing. Repeat for a longer time. Then, release and relax.

BENEFITS

- Stretches the front torso — chest, abdomen, and psoas muscles.
- Upper legs at the quadriceps are stretched, too.
- Opens the shoulders and sides of the spine, neck and back.
- Stimulates the muscles of the back, strengthening them.
- Ensures the chest and intercostal muscles are active, functioning lungs efficiently.
- Helps in having better control of breath.
- Flow of prana ensures release of any blocks in the channels.
- Promotes cleaning up the clog of the spinal nerves.
- Distributes energy to entire body.
- Builds better stability with breath-body connection.
- Stimulates the internal organs, stretching and helping digestion.
- Helps the immune system.
- Activates the nervous system.
- Helps when students are tired, sleepy, low on energy, or have neck and shoulder aches and stiffness.
- Helps relax the parasympathetic nervous system.
- Calms the thoughts, having better control over the body and mind
- Can benefit acrobats or dancers.

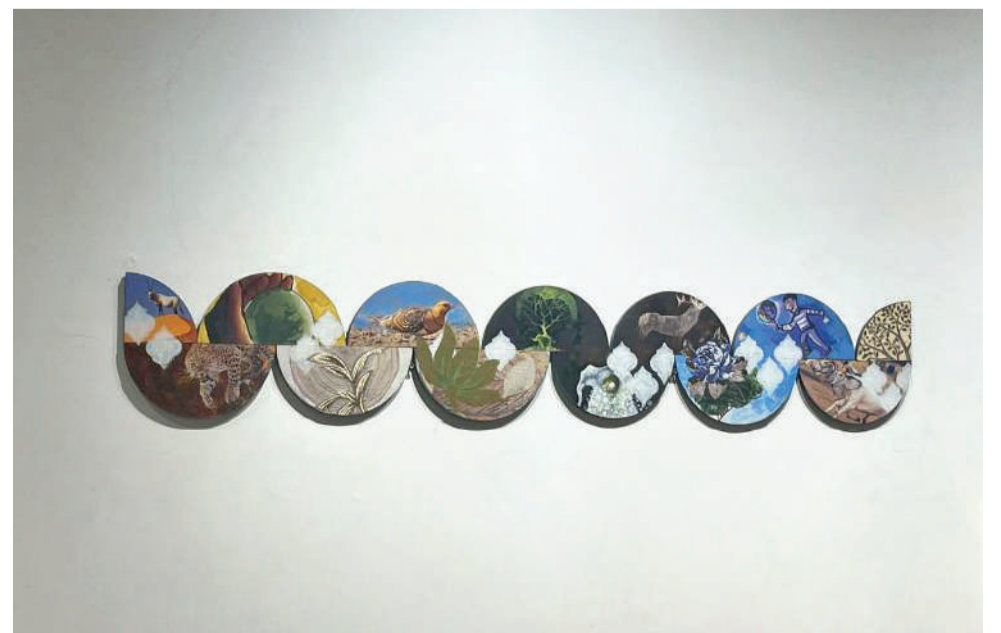


LIMITATIONS

- Students with an injury related to the neck, shoulders, rib cage, hips, or arms, have breathing problems, headaches, migraines, blood pressure, or discomfort in breathing, avoid this pose.
- Students can practise it holding the hammock or avoid dropping the head back completely.

By N Elumalai, PhD Scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

ARTCORNER



POETRY

Masuram Ravikant's conceptual assemblage reflects on a poem inspired from Telugu poet Dasharathi and penned by his father.



SONU M KOTHARI

FROM men wearing palazzo pants to brides choosing sneakers over high heels, style statements are changing. It need not always be gold and silver that attracts. Fashion is an industry that keeps evolving every occasion, every season and every day. A recent trend or rather upgrade to the line of work is prioritising comfort and accessibility over glam and glitters.

Stepping into producing comfortable yet stylish attire is the two-year-old brand House of Miraa. The city-based label produces slow, conscious, and nature-inspired handcrafted products for kids. "It is concerning that kids grow in a fast-paced and machine-paced world. Sadly, everything is technology around them. For them to stop and appreciate handmade products is what we are trying to come out here," shares CM Kamalpriya, founder of House of Miraa.

Style with no bounds

The brand's models wear flower-knitted shirts, polka-dotted shorts, striped pants with soft elastic, fidgets to open and close a pocket, garden-inspired trousers, and a dinosaur T-shirt. These collections are brought to life by Kamalpriya herself. A book and a pen to write down ideas, an electronic gadget, a stabilised internet connection, and some time at hand are all that is needed to design these new creations. "We want to create clothing that celebrates differences. There are no Indian brands that have adaptive clothes — that meet the unique needs of children who may have physical or sensory challenges — as a line of their existing products," she points out.

STITCHES OF INCLUSIVITY

House of Miraa accommodates style, comfort, and creativity to offer customised clothing according to individuals' likes rather than conventions

If not for labels, adaptive clothing is manufactured by NGOs. According to the 25-year-old, "Those clothes are not very exciting. They are normal coloured fabrics. Nowadays, parents dress their kids with so much thought and importance. When we live in that world, I feel like kids with (special) needs should not be deprived of something because of their condition." She emphasises that inclusion is the core value of their plan. The brand promotes pure cotton custom-made clothes with a unit in ECR. Seven people — three women and four men — are involved in the production.

Kamalpriya explains adaptive clothing as "The ability to wear the clothes." "People with mobility restrictions may not be able to stretch their hands. So, wearing a T-shirt with that small hole becomes difficult," she says. On the other hand, some kids can dress up on their own. Say, kids with autism can most definitely dress up on their own. But buttoning the shirt might be a difficult task because that involves a lot of concentration. Some kids find the tags on their clothes itchy and irritating.

She adds, "It also depends on every child and their needs. It depends on the condition and the grade of the condition."

Addressing all these difficulties, Kamalpriya opened up the shoulder side, on the top. "Now it's easier to put on. I exchanged the buttons with velcro, where all the kid has

to do is strap the shirt and it gets stuck. None of the label's clothes have tags. Some of the shorts are also diaper-friendly. The shorts have side zips, and the parents or caregivers have to unzip, change the diaper, and zip up again," she says.

New leap, new faith

The inclusive line started in July 2024 is not limited to kids but can be availed by people across age groups. "I took a lot of time to understand the needs through research." With this move, Kamalpriya is minimising the market gap in this sector. "Since the research is done, we have created a PDF with all the inputs so other brands could adopt these techniques in their labels. Imagine every brand having a line of adaptive clothing," she says, adding, "We do accept that we do not know it all. Every day is learning."

Kamalpriya's understanding of the subject also comes from her home. "I have a cousin diagnosed with cerebral palsy. The environment we grew up in was filled with inclusiveness. I went to Lady Andal (school). It was also an inclusive school where each classroom had a child with special needs studying with us. I have seen them personally and am close to most of them," she shares.

Talking about people looking at individuals with special needs in a different light, Kamalpriya says that it is because they have no exposure to this world to be concerned and empathetic. If exposed, people will be kinder towards them. "I had that (exposure) all my life, I felt like that's why I could give back. Since I have this upper hand, I cannot be not doing anything," she concludes.

Visit houseofmiraa.com or reach out to houseofmiraa@gmail.com



CM Kamalpriya



ARE YOU GAME?

Anusha Ganapathi

@quofies

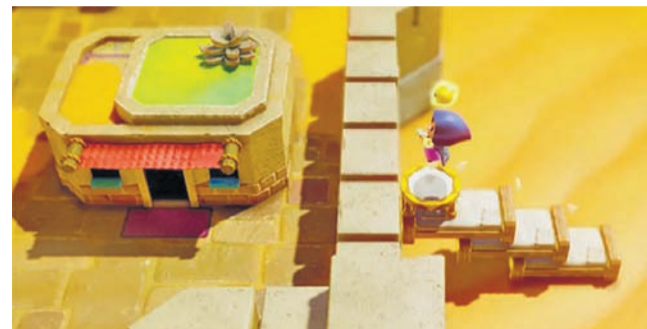
(This economics graduate spends her leisure time preparing for the zombie apocalypse)

ECHOES FROM AN ADVENTURE

do not consider 'Echoes of Wisdom' as just some minor spin-off game in the Legend of Zelda series. For the first time in a very long time, Zelda is herself the main playable character in the series. And I am quite upset that we've completely slept on her druid abilities for all these decades. In Echoes, Zelda holds the powers of a priestess that can work her magic through her staff. She can summon creatures in an instant and command them at will. It's Pokemon for those unwilling to engage in its turn-basedness. I think Echoes is pivotal. If Nintendo was just testing this game out to gauge our reaction to Zelda's unconventional skills, then by all means, they must make more of these.

Both the story arc and the overall universe of Echoes are no different from your usual Hyrule adventure. It starts as all the games in the series do — with someone important being kidnapped, and something unspeakably terrible affecting the lands of Hyrule. In this game, there are rifts being created, with people, creatures, and houses being sucked into a void. It also eats up our well known hero, Link. So Zelda rises to the occasion — as only the princess has the ability to traverse between the living world and the void.

Zelda cannot engage in typical combat. And this works well for me, because that means that the entire focus of the game is solving environmental puzzles. You see, Zelda's staff has a magic ability of copying the 'echoes' of items and creatures that it encounters. So if Zelda meets a trampoline, she copies its abilities, and summons its echo at very difficult moments. In this instance, the difficult moment would be when she comes



across a wall that is too high for her to climb over. The trampoline helps her jump higher.

The echoes are fairly diverse and serve different purposes. The keese echoes let you glide from high-up mountains over rough terrains. My personal favourite combat support echo is the Lizalfos — a giant lizard with a spear, which attacks enemies faster than they can even spot you on the map. There's a version of the 'ultrahand' mechanic from the recent Zelda games. They call it 'bind' in Echoes. Attaching yourself to a spider using 'Bind' allows you to follow it as it crawls over bushes and tiny trees. You see how this might be helpful in navigation — there's no need for Zelda to build a complex trampoline stairway now that she has the spider taxi. The only problem is that the creatures you follow have a mind of their own. Things can get quite hairy if the spider leads you straight to a pit of lava.

There's also the frankly overpowered 'bed', which serves as a multipurpose

echo. Multiple beds can line up to make a neat stairway, and lying down on it even replenishes Zelda's hearts. This mechanic feels like it shouldn't exist — it makes things almost too simple sometimes. And this is why I believe that Echoes of Wisdom almost seems to be treading a little too carefully with this new mechanic.

Consequently, the game is ridiculously sized-down in comparison to the recent titles. I could actually complete it to a hundred percent in a week's time. It is scaled down in terms of the size of the map, number of quests, and the average difficulty. Even visually, it simply takes the top-down angles of its 2-dimensional retro predecessors and brings it to the 2020s. Now that does not mean it's always too easy, and if you are familiar with the dungeon based puzzles in the series they are diverse and complex enough to keep you engaged through the game. Echoes of Wisdom is a must-play if you are a beginner to the series, and is a Nintendo Switch exclusive.

CHENNAI DIGEST



Seminar on mental health conducted

In a initiative to promote awareness about mental health, the Department of Pastoral Care & Medical Social Work at Madras Medical Mission organised a week-long celebration. This year's theme, 'Mental Health at Workplace', highlighted the growing importance of mental well-being. The event featured keynote speaker Dr Arun Kumar Annamalai, founder of Deep Medicine Lab and an AI expert in mental health. The seminar was inaugurated by Dr Christopher Roy, director of administration at Madras Medical Mission. The session was presided over by Chaplain Fr. Abey M Chacko, while medical superintendent Dr Dinesh Kumar appreciated the participants.



Omega International School celebrates milestones

Omega International School officially became Heartfulness International School, Omega Branch. This renaming signifies the institution's dedication to holistic education founded on Heartfulness values. Kamlesh D Patel, president, Global Guide of Heartfulness, graced the event. The school also celebrated the opening of its new branch in Thiruvallur. It concluded its annual festival of Performing Arts, Kalanjali 2024 at Narada Gana Sabha, Chennai. This year's highlight was 'Bhu Viplava - The Restless Earth', a contemporary dance drama directed by Anita Ratnam.



FINCON 2024 was held

FINCON 2024 of Madras Hire Purchase Association (MAHA) was held at Hotel Hyatt Regency, Chennai. Chief guest Umesh Revankar, executive vice chairman, Shriram Finance; guest of honour Dr CK Gariyali, inaugurated the conclave and lighted the lamp along with FIHPA vice president Deepak Mehta, MAHA president Ajay Nahar, MAHA secretary Sudheer Roonwal, MAHA treasurer Dilip Kumar Bohra, and convention chairman Dilip Chandan.

TEMPLE TALK

A temple for Kasi Viswanathar in Chennai

This temple in Mambalam that worships Siva reminds us of its origin that traces to 17th century



CHITHRA MADHAVAN
cityexpresschn@gmail.com

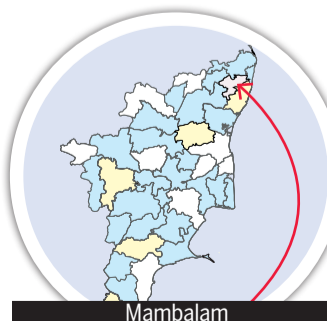
The writer is a historian who focuses on temple architecture

THE Kasi Viswanathar temple in West Mambalam, one of the many temples in this area, is named after the famous Siva temple in Kasi (Varanasi). According to this temple's sources, this place was once called Maha Vilvam (Maha Bila Kshetram) from which the name Mambalam came. This temple was a small shrine in the 17th century.

The main entrance faces east and is located on Karupiah street but many devotees enter the temple through the entrance on the south side which is on Kasi Viswanathar street. Both the entrances have tall, modern gopurams, the one on the east having seven storeys and the one on the south having three tiers. The mandapam in front of the main sanctum is large and made of concrete, but the pillars remind the visitor of the granite ones in Vijayanagar era mandapams. A particular pillar in this mandapam, has images of Ardhanarishwarar, Garuda, Hanuman (Sanjeevi Rayar), Yoga Narasimha, Parathyankara Devi, Sarabesvar-



PHOTO: CHITHRA MADHAVAN



KNOW YOUR CITY

The Kasi Viswanathar temple is located in Mambalam. The well-known Kodandarama Swami temple is close by.

south, and is located in the prakaram.

Many festivals are celebrated in this temple, the main one being the Brahmotsavam (annual festival) for ten days in Panguni. Some of the other festivals are, a procession for Goddess Visalakshi on Pournami (full moon) day in the month of Chittirai. On Vaikasi Visakam, there is procession for Muruga; on Uttiram nakshatram in Ani, there is a special abhisekam for Nataraja and annabhisekam is done in Aippasi during Asvini nakshatram. Margazhi Thiruvadirai is special as in all Siva temples.



A still from *Bandaa Singh Chaudhary*

'I SWITCH TO SERIOUS ROLES AFTER GETTING FED UP WITH COMEDIES'

Arshad Warsi, along with Meher Vij, and director Abhishek Saxena, discusses his upcoming film *Bandaa Singh Chaudhary*, his favourite action flicks and how he maintains a balance while choosing films

SHREYAS PANDE

ACTOR Arshad Warsi, known for his impeccable comic timing on screen, will take on a serious role with the upcoming socio-political action-drama *Bandaa Singh Chaudhary*. The film is helmed by Abhishek Saxena (Phullu (2017)) and produced by Arbaaz Khan. Set in 1975, the trailer of the film shows Bandaa (Arshad), as a courageous man who falls in love with the character played by Meher Vij and how he is threatened by members of a community to leave his house. Bandaa stands firmly against the threats and picks up arms

in a bid to save his family. Arshad says that he was really moved when he heard the story. "It is really painful when someone forces you to leave your home and you have to go to a new place where you don't know anyone. It is horrible," he says. *Bandaa Singh Chaudhary* explores a rift between two communities and how certain extreme forces threaten to destroy peace. On whether the film reflects the rise in polarising conflicts in recent times, Arshad says that the story focuses on a personal and relatable issue. "At the end of the day, it is the story of a common man, a regular husband, who fights for his right," he says.

"You must be a bad person to find anything wrong in something so positive," he adds. Abhishek seconds him as he adds that the film's intentions were always clear in their minds while making it. "We didn't want to hurt anyone's sentiments. This is not at all a story that can hurt anyone," he says. "Rather, it is about people of all religions coming together to fight against the bad people." Abhishek



Meher Vij, Abhishek Saxena, Arshad Warsi

Women who have learnt martial arts in childhood have a strong mindset. It is extremely difficult to break them. -MEHER VIJ

says that it was Bandaa's courage that really made him want to be a part of the story. "There are very few people who are able to stand up against any injustice meted out against them," he says. "Although Bandaa is a fictional character that we have created, there were many people, whose stories we heard, that inspired us to bring that courage on-screen," Meher says that she took references from Sikh history in order to prepare for her role, particularly the 17th-century warrior soldier Mai Bhago, a Sikh woman known for her fiery skills on the battlefield. She was also inspired by powerful women she has come across in her life. "Women who have learnt martial arts in childhood, have a strong mindset and are better equipped to deal with everything. It is extremely difficult to break them. My character in the film is the same," she says. The actor also took martial arts training for some of the action

sequences. Arshad will also be seen doing action in the film after a long time and says that he enjoyed coming back to the genre. "The action in *Bandaa...* is not far-fetched and over-the-top. It's realistic," he says. The actor reveals that he is a great fan of Sylvester Stallone's *Rocky* series and all the Jackie Chan films. He also confesses to being a fan of the *Mission Impossible* series and *Bourne Identity* series. For him, switching genres while doing different films is not too difficult as he feels that it is the same actor who is acting in it. "It's like a job of going to the set and doing some acting and it could be a serious drama or comedy. Is it difficult to do it? No. Thankfully, it comes naturally to me," he says. At the same time, he has his own process which he follows before doing any film. "When I hear a script, I let the character stay in my head and I will only be thinking about it till I finish it. So right now, I am going to start a series soon and I can't stop thinking of that character 24/7." Arshad is primarily known for comic roles in *Munna Bhai M.B.B.S* (2003) and *Lage Raho Munnabhai* (2006), *Dhamaal* (2007) and *Golmaal* series (2006-2017), among others. On the other hand, he has given some hard-hitting performances in films like *Sehar* (2005), *Ishqiya* (2010), *Jolly L.L.B* (2013) and *Irada* (2017). He likes to maintain a healthy balance while choosing projects. "I switch to serious roles after getting fed up with comedies," he says. However, after some serious roles, he again feels like taking up comic roles and the circle continues. "I just finished 3-4 really serious films and now I am going to do some silly stuff. So, there is *Welcome To The Jungle* and *Dhamaal 4* coming up next," he concludes.



Silambarasan TR teams up with Ashwath Marimuthu

TWO days after actor Silambarasan TR revealed in a social media post that his next will be a combination of *Dum*, *Vallavan* and *Manmadhan* with "Gen Z sensibilities", the official announcement of his upcoming film has dropped. The actor is now all set to join hands with director Ashwath Marimuthu.



On Monday, AGS Entertainment, the film's production house, made it official that they would bankroll the film, tentatively titled *AGS 27*. The upcoming film marks the first collaboration between Silambarasan and AGS Entertainment. Meanwhile, this film will mark Ashwath Marimuthu's second collaboration with the production house, with the first one *Dragon*, starring Pradeep Ranganathan, already under production. Ashwath Marimuthu made his directorial debut with the 2020 film *Oh My Kadavule*, with Ashok Selvan and Ritika Singh in the lead roles.

Silambarasan, on the other hand, completed dubbing for his portions in Kamal Haasan-Mani Ratnam's *Thug Life*, and the production of his 48th film with Desingh Periyasamy is yet to take off. The actor was last seen in Obeli Krishna's *Pathu Thala*, opposite Gautham Karthik. Other details regarding *AGS 27*, such as the plot and the rest of the cast, are yet to be announced.

Tatiana Maslany to star in *Starfleet Academy*

WHILE it was recently announced that *Star Trek: Starfleet Academy* has been renewed for a second season, the makers also confirmed that actor Tatiana Maslany will appear in the first season of the series. The announcements were made during the *Star Trek* universe panel at New York Comic Con.

While details about Maslany's role remain under wraps, it is known that she will be a recurring character throughout the first season. She will join a cast that includes Paul Giamatti and Holly Hunter. Giamatti, who recently appeared in *The Holdovers*, will play the season's main antagonist, while Academy Award winner Hunter will take on the role of the Academy's captain and chancellor.

The upcoming series will center on a group of young cadets as they come of age at Starfleet Academy, one of the galaxy's most iconic institutions. They will pursue a shared dream of hope and optimism, while under the watchful eyes of their instructors. Along the way, they'll experience new friendships, intense rivalries, and first loves, and face a dangerous new enemy that threatens both the Academy and the Federation.



Nana Patekar-starrer *Vanvaas* to release in December

VANVAAS, starring Nana Patekar and Utkarsh Sharma, now has a release date. Directed by *Gadar* 2-fame Anil Sharma, the upcoming film is all set to hit the screens on December 20.

Vanvaas is touted as a modern take on the mythological epic of Ramayana. As per a press release shared by the makers, the film is "an intriguing story that explores a timeless theme, echoing an ancient tale where duty, honour, and the consequences of one's actions shape the course of lives." On Monday, the film's production house, Zee Studios took to social media to announce the release date of the film. They also released a poster featuring Nana Patekar and Utkarsh Sharma. The post carried a caption that reads, "Iss Christmas, apno ko pehchaniye (This Christmas, know your loved ones)."

Anil is best known for films like *Gadar: Ek Prem Katha* (2001), *Apne* (2007), *Veer* (2010) and *Singh Saab the Great* (2013) among others.

Vanvaas marks Anil's collaboration with Zee Studios after the success of *Gadar 2*, which was released last year.



MICHAEL Emerson is set to join his wife, Carrie Preston, on CBS' *Elsbeth* as a recurring guest star in season 2. The announcement, made during the *Elsbeth* panel at New York Comic-Con, revealed that Emerson will first appear in the December 12 episode.

Known for his roles in *Lost* and *Person of Interest*, Emerson will portray Judge Milton Crawford, a haughty, soft-spoken character from a prestigious New England family of public servants. His character will serve as a foil to Preston's character, *Elsbeth* Tascioni. The couple has shared the screen before, on *Person of Interest*. Their collaboration on *Elsbeth* is a natural fit as it comes from Robert and Michelle King, the creators behind Emerson's previous series, *Evil*, as well as *The Good Wife* and *The*

Michael Emerson joins *Elsbeth* S2



A still from *Elsbeth*

Good Fight.

Elsbeth, produced by CBS Studios, stars Preston as the unconventional attorney Elsbeth Tascioni, who works with the NYPD to solve high-

profile murder cases using her unique perspective. The cast also includes Wendell Pierce as Captain Wagner and Carra Patterson as Officer Kaya Blanke. Emerson, a two-time Emmy

winner, has also starred in *The Practice*, *Evil*, and *Person of Interest*, with additional credits in *The Name of the Rose*, *The Laramie Project*, *Saw*, and more.