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CHANDIGARH • NEW DELHI • WEEKLY • SATURDAY • SEPTEMBER 09, 2023 • VOLUME 23, ISSUE 24 • Rs 5

REGION



NSUI'S JATINDER SINGH ELECTED AS PRESIDENT **OF PANJAB UNIVERSITY**



BATTERY SHOW INDIA 2023 SPARKS INDIA'S \$150 BILLION ENERGY REVOLUTION

POTPOURRI



GIPPY GREWAL TO MAKE A SPECIAL APPEARANCE **IN OTT SHOW** 'CHAMAK'

G20 Presidency Spurs India's Trade Relations & Investments: Experts

NEW DELHI: According to experts, the G20 Presidency is helping India to strengthen its trade ties with member nations and provides an opportunity to attract investments from those countries in sectors like infrastructure, reported BQ Prime.

They said that the G20 (Group of 20) holds a strategic role in securing future global economic growth and prosperity, as its members represent about 85% of the global GDP (Gross Domestic Product), 75% of global trade and two-thirds of the world's population.

Îndia can showcase its strengths and achievements while presiding over this multilateral forum to attract investment and deepen its trade relations with

AMRITSAR: A high-level

delegation of the Shiromani

mittee (SGPC) will soon visit the

United States of America to set

up a press for publishing holy

saroops (scriptures) of Sri Guru

Granth Sahib Ji in California.

This delegation will be led by

SGPC President Advocate Har-

jinder Singh Dhami. The SGPC

executive committee has decided

to establish this press in the city of Tracy, California. Along with

hib there. The



these large economies, the experts of doing business, development added. Fast-tracking negotiations of modern infrastructure, skilled for a free trade agreement, ease manpower, and a large popula- India enhance trade realizations

tion with growing income are some of the positives that help

with these member countries Trade experts suggested the government fast-track ongoing

negotiations for a free trade agreement (FTA) with countries like the UK and EU, as it would help India gain better market access to these countries as well as facilitate investment.

However, they also asked not to use trade platforms to achieve climate aspirations, as that could harm progress in both trade and climate discussions. The largest trade bloc in the G20, the EU, will set in motion the carbon border adjustment mechanism on October 1 this year, making exports from countries like India expensive. 'In the first eight months of 2023, the EU introduced five regulations on climate change and trade.

Modi to hold bilateral meetings with over 15 world leaders



NEWDELHI: With the G20 Leaders' Summit scheduled to commence from Saturday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will hold bilateral meetings with more than 15 world leaders, sources said. On Friday, he will hold bilateral meetings with leaders of Mauritius, Bangladesh and the US at his official residence, 7, Lok Kalyan Marg. On Saturday, in addition to the G20 meetings, the Prime Minister will hold bilateral meetings with the UK, Japan, Germany and Italy. On September 10, he will hold a working lunch meeting with French President Emmanuel Macron.

Punjab transfers Rs 2.69 Cr cotton seed subsidy to over 15k Farmers

by the Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann led state government to provide a 33 per cent subsidy on cotton seeds, Punjab Agriculture and Farmers Welfare department transferred cotton seed subsidy amounting to Rs 2.69 crore into the bank accounts of as many as

15,541 farmers of the state. Disclosing this here today, Punjab Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Gurmeet Singh Khudian said that a total of Rs 17.02 crore has been transferred to 87,173 farmers so far through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system. This subsidy is being provided for the cotton seeds certified by the Punjab Agricultural University (PAU).

CHANDIGARH: As promised Notably, the

paddy crop



Agriculture De-

subsidy would be released to eligible farmers in the coming days, said the Agriculture Minister.

Reiterating the commitment of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann to make the agriculture sector profitable for farmers, the Agriculture Minister said that the high-yielding cotton seeds were made available to encourage farmers to shun water-guzzling

Mann Govt Cheating Punjab by **Recruiting Outsiders: RMS Chhina**

leader and Amritsar Lok Sabha Constituency in-Charge Rajinder Mohan Singh Chhina took strong exception to the working of Bhagwant Maan's

government, which is hell bound to recruit outsiders in government jobs. He said it is a matter of great concern and shock for all

Punjabis that only one person from Punjab has been selected during the recruitment of sub inspectors in the Punjab Police by the 'AAP' government in

the Mansa district recently. Chhina said Bhagwant Maan is pleasing Kejriwal by choosing the youth of Haryana and Rajasthan during the recruitment for jobs while he

is ignoring Punjabi youth who are facing acute unemployment.He said that already the youth of Punjab are moving to foreign countries for employment as the AAP government in the State has betrayed the state by forgetting the Pun-

New India's mantra: Reform, Perform and Transform

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Independence Day speeches have aimed at engaging with the nation. As he addressed the public from the ramparts of the Red Fort for the 10th time, he referred to them as 'parivaar jan', a sign that he regards Indians as his chosen family. With the longest average duration among all previous Indian Prime Ministers, his speeches averaged 83 minutes. By doing so, he demonstrated his commitment to communicating with the nation about his government's performance, India's progress in transformation,

and his vision for a Vikasit Bharat. Presented below are some highlights



fered land and other necessary representative of the foundasupport for setting up this religious preaching center and SGPC President Harjinder and Canada.

Singh Dhami said in a press statement that for a long time, there has been a great demand for the holy saroops of Sri Guru Granth Sahib from the Sangat of USA and Canada, in view of which this decision has been taken. He said that the SGPC center to be established in Tracy, California will not only print the holy saroops of Sri Guru Granth Sahib, but it will also tion Lakhwinder Singh Kahneke. represent the SGPC for the USA

SGPC President expresses grief over demise of Prof. Prithipal Singh Kapur

AMRITSAR: The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) President Advocate Harjinder Singh Dhami has expressed grief over the demise of eminent Sikh scholar Prof Prithipal Singh Kapur. He said that Prof Kapur contributed to the field of research and teaching of Sikh history for more than

half a century. His original research works related to Sikh history, traditions and heritage will always guide students and readers of history. Harjinder Singh Dhami said that Prof Prithipal Singh Kapur also rendered memorable services while being a member of the SGPC's Dharam Prachar Committee and continued to give many valuable suggestions for Sikh Prachar (preaching). He said that with Prof Kapur's demise, the Sikh panth has lost an enlightened scholar, whose replacement is impossible.

Encapsulating the transformation of Vikasit Bharat in the 77th Independence **Day Speech**

Rs. 20 lakh crore+ in loans disbursed under UDRA Yoigng and 8 crore n

AMRITSAR: Senior BJP



jabi youth and giving priority to the youth of Haryana and Rajasthan.

based on his latest speech on India's Independence Day, blending India's past achievements with reminders of our duties in the Kartavya Kaal.

66

Demography. Democracy and Diversity, and this 'Triveni' has the potential to make every drue. 99

Highlights from the 77th Independence Day Speech

Nurturing Reverence for our National Heroes who helped us PM Modi remembered the revered Nation Builders.

Vishwa-Mitra Bharat Mother of democracy now leads the world order, as India advocates for new stability that is fruitful for humanity.

Sins of Appeasement, Corruption, Dynasty The sins endanger the idea of Bharat,

PM Modi ensured to end it for the growth of the nation.

A Millennium Lost, a Millennium to Look Forward to

India's development was ruined by 1,000 years of subjugation however the coming thousand years will be different as India will rise to newer heights

EPENDENCE

Resolutions of

Savings of Rs. 20,000 crore with low cost, high quality medicines under Jan Aushadhi Kendras.



Ease of Doing Business enables India to become the 3rd Largest Startup Ecosystem of the world.

Honouring our Bravehearts with One Rank One Pension by providing Rs. 70,000 crore to soldiers.

13.5 crore people lifted from Poverty (in just 5 years) who entered the neo-middle class.

Central Government devolution to State Governments increased from Rs. 30 lakh crore to Rs. 100 lakh crore, indicating government's commitment towards co-operative federalism.

Over 4 Crore houses sanctioned under PM Awas Yojana. Spending on affordable housing increased from Rs. 90,000 crore to Rs. 4 lakh crore.

Local development spends increased from Rs. 70,000 crore to Rs. 3 lakh crore. No more glitches due to lack of budget, the only path now is local development.

Rs. 2 lakh crore spent for tap water connections under Har Ghar Jal of the Jal Jeevan Mission.

Interest subsidy on bank loans for urban poor living in urban slums, chawls, rented houses, unauthorised colonies.

> The Government has announced to increase the number of Jan Aushadhi Kendras from 10,000 to 25,000 for sale of medicine at reasonable prices benefiting the poor.

Government announced to provide skill development to 2 crore women from rural areas to encourage them for starting micro-enterprises under 'Lakhpati Didi'.

Government has announced 15,000 women Self-Help Groups (SHGs) would get agri-drones.

Vishwakarma Yojana, financial outlay of Rs. 13,000 crore where 18 Traditional trades to be covered in 1st instance

BC 22201/13/0046/232

REGION

NSUI's Jatinder Singh elected as president of Panjab University Khalsa College's Role in Education Women safety to be main issue in 'Safe Commendable: Jathedar Akal Takht **City Abhiyan' being** FW DESK

CHANDIGARH: National Students Union of India's (NSUI) Jatinder Singh was elected president of the Panjab University Campus Students' Council with a margin of 603 votes on Wednesday.

He polled 3, 002 votes against his nearest rival Divyansh Thakur of the Chhatra Yuva Sangharsh Samiti or CYSS, who got 2, 399 votes.

Ranmeekjot Kaur of Sath, the student body that reveres the deceased human rights activist Jaswant Singh Khalra, was elected vice-president, while Deepak Goyat of Indian National Student Organisation or

INSO was secretary. Gourav Chahal of the Panjab University Helping Hands or PUHH was elected as joint secretary.

The 'Sath' emerged as a student group in the university in 2017. It revived a focus on Sikh and Punjab politics, marking a significant shift on the campus.



Amid deployment of over 1, 200 policemen, polling for the four-member students' council began peacefully in the morning with 21 candidates in the fray. The major groups in the fray were Panjab University Stu-

dents Union (PUSU), Student Deshwal (ABVP), Saksham Organisation of Panjab Uni-Singh (Independent) and Yuvraj versity (SOPU), NSUI, Akhil Garg (Students Organisation of Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad India) were in the fray for the (ABVP) and INSO. top post. Nine candidates were vying

The CYSS has joined hands for the top post of president and with the Himachal Students' four each for the posts of vice-Union (HIMSU). The INSO has forged alpresident, secretary and joint liance with the SOI and the secretary. Davinder Pal Singh



(PUSA), Divyansh Thakur Himachal Pradesh Students (CYSS), Jatinder Singh (NSUI), Union, while Panjab University Helping Hands (PUHH) has Kuldeep Singh (Haryana Stutied up with the ABVP. In the dents Association), Manika Chhabra (Panjab Students' 2022 elections, ABVP-turncoat Aayush Khatkar of the CYSS Union Lalkar), Prateek Kumar (Students for Society), Rakesh had defeated Harish Gujjar of the ABVP by 660 votes.

NSUI had managed to grab two posts, with Harshdeep Singh Batth being elected as vice-president and Manish Boora joint secretary.

The post of secretary had gone to Pravesh Bishnoi, the ioint candidate of the ABVPled alliance.

Amritsar

Akal Takht Jathedar Giani Raghbir Singh today hailed the role of the historic Khalsa College in the dissemination of 'value-based' education. He was addressing students during the annual 'Ardas Diwas' when he stated that for more than a century, the prestigious College had been doing the yeoman's service to educate lakhs of students who have achieved heights throughout the world after getting their formal education from here. While praising the Khalsa

College Governing Council (KCGC) for inculcating the values amongst the students, he appreciated that every new session begins by invoking the blessings of the almighty. The `Ardas Diwas' meanwhile was celebrated amidst religious fervour. The Kirtan was performed with traditional instruments by the students, following the

bhog of Shri Akhand Path Sahib as the students and staff gathered in large numbers. KCGC honorary secretary Rajinder Mohan Singh Chhina said they have established the tradition to start the new academic session by seeking blessings of almighty. He said to inculcate the sense of belongingness amongst students towards culture and heritage the Gurmat Study

Centre has been opened, where free education and training is provided for the inter-religious studies. He

launched in Haryana:

centrate on studies as it is only education that will make them successful in life.

Jathedar Raghbir Singh, RMS Chhina and Principal Dr. Mehal Singh who earlier welcomed the special guests meanwhile honoured a number of students for their achievements in various fields including religious teachings and examinations. KCGC Joint Secretary Paramjit Singh Bal, Rajbir Singh, Registrar Prof Davinder Singh, Principals of various Khalsa institutions and Dr. Inderjit Singh Gogowani were present.



SATISH HANDA

Addressing a press conference, newly appointed Director General Police (DGP) Haryana Shatrujit Kapur expressed deep concern over increasing crimes againt females in the state and said that the coordinated efforts would be made to ensure a safe public transport for women so that they can travel safely, go to work place or educational institutes fearlessly and safely without hesitation for which the police in the state would coordinate local cab unions, auto unions, school transports and public transporters. Interacting with media persons after having a meeting with senior police officers DGP said that a pilot project 'safe city' will be initially started in Rohtak and Gurugram for women safety and security, followed by it would be rolled out in the other districts in the entire state.

Kapur said that the police would ensure that CCTV cameras are installed outside educational institutions as well as important and sensitive public places and also deploy security guards in plain clothes at these places The frequency of police patrolling at sensitive areas would be intensified, he added that in case of eve-teasing, immediate action would be taken after registering an FIR against the accused. While outlining the priorities of the Haryana Police, the DGP Kapur said, complaints received through any medium would be disposed of within a week and feedback would also be taken to ascertain. He said that special training is being given to police staff to curb crimes against females.

Chandigarh Press Club condemns FIR on **Editors Guild of India**

CHANDIGARH: Chandigarh Press Club condemns the registration of a police case against three members of a fact finding committee of the Editors Guild of India (EGI) and its President on the media coverage of the violence in Manipur.

The Manipur Police have registers FIR under sections 153-A, 200, 295, 298, 505 (1) (b), 505(2), 499 and 120-B of the IPC, as well as Section 66A of the Information and Technology Act even though the provision has been struck down by the Supreme Court.

The move is seen as an attempt to suppress the truth and control the voice of the apex media body of the coun-

try. The move has also been condemned by the Press Club of India. The Chandigarh Press Club demands that the FIR against EGI President and the three members be withdrawn immediately.

Police recover 15kg heroin in Amritsar district of Punjab

Main kingpin among four associates of arrested drug smuggler also booked, says DGP Gaurav Yadav

JAGMOHAN SINGH Amritsar

Amidst the ongoing war against drugs waged on the directions of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, Amritsar Rural Police have busted a major trans-border narcotics smuggling ring with the arrest of a smuggler after recovering 15kg heroin from his possession, said Director General of Police (DGP) Punjab Gaurav Yadav here on Wednesday. The arrested drug smug-

gler has been identified as

Harpreet Singh a native of Chohla Sahib, presently residing at New Ranjitpura in Amritsar. Apart from recovering heroin, Police teams have also

of Khadoor Sahib.

Hyundai Grand i-10 car (PB 02 EL 7922), in which he was travelling.

DGP Gaurav Yadav said that following the inputs from the Village Level Defence Committee, Amritsar Rural Police carried out an intelligencebased operation in the area of Police Station Kathunangal and arrested accused Harpreet Singh after recovering heroin consignment from his Grand i-10 car. The heroin was con-

cealed in a sack, he said. He said that following the forward and backward linkages Police have also nominatimpounded a white-coloured ed four associates of accused

have been identified as Gagandeep Singh alias Guggu alias Haddi, Rahul Singh and Harpreet Singh alias Happy Jatt, all resident of Jandiala Guru, and Gagandeep Singh

DIG Border Range Amritsar Narinder Bhargav said that the preliminary investigations in the case have revealed that the heroin consignment belonged to drug smuggler Happy Jatt and arrested accused Harpreet Singh was going to deliver the consignment on his directions. Accused Happy Jatt is the main kingpin and most wanted Drug Smuggler of this belt, he added.

tions are on and the remaining accused persons will be arrested soon. A case FIR no. 101 dated 5.9.2023 has been registered under sections 21C and 25 of the NDPS Act Police Station Kathunangal in Amritsar.

Azadi event organised at **Guru Nanak Dev Bhawan** KULBIR KALSI Ludhiana

Badlaav 0.1 – Plastic Se

To spread awareness among Ludhianavi's about reusing plastic, the NGO Switch for Change Foundation organised Badlaav 0.1 - Plastic Se Azadi in association with Municipal Corporation Ludhiana at Guru Nanak Dev Bhawan. The event was the culmination of a month long Plastic Se Azadi drive organised all over the city. All kinds of plastic waste like single use plastic bags, chips packets, biscuit wrappers, washed milk packets etc were collected during the drive to be reused. The campaign's main focus was: Let's celebrate our freedom by freeing our environment from plastic pollution.

The Chief Guest of the event was Joint Commissioner MCL Ankur Mahendroo. Prominent citizens of Ludhiana along with MLA Gurpreet Gogi's wife were part of the event. The event also saw representation by the Punjab Pollution Control Board.

asked the students to con-Haryana to have another domestic airport soon: Home Minister SATISH HANDA Ambala

Minister Anil Vij while talking to media persons here said that Ambala will soon get a flight and in this direction, an amount of Rs 133 crores has been transferred to the account of Ambala Defense Estate Officer by the Haryana government for 20 acres of land to establish a Civil Enclave along with Ambala Air Force Station today. Vij said that he is determined to start the flight service from Ambala soon and the transfer of Rs 133 crore to the Defense Estate Officer will now speed up the upcoming process for this project. He said that soon a terminal will be constructed for the Civil Enclave adjacent to the Air Force Station at a cost

of Rs 16 crore. Vij said that a Civil Enclave is to be established in Ambala under the RCS UDAN program and now the formalities for acquiring land for the airport have been completed. It is notewor-Government.



Home Minister Anil Vij, Civil Enclave is being established along with the Air Force Station in Ambala. It was a challenging task to get availability of 20 acres of land along with the Air Force Station for the Civil Enclave in Ambala. The vacant land of Military Dairy Farm was declared technically suitable by the Airport Authority of India and other departments. This land was under the Defense Ministry and the Civil Enclave could be built only when the land was handed over to the state government. This was a challenging task and Home Minister Anil Vij completed this challenging task to transfering an amount of Rs 133 crore to the Defense Ministry for 20 acres of land by the Haryana

Section 144 imposed 2700 times, **Cashier masterming in Rs 48** lakh theft in bank arrested mobile & internet services suspended

Harpreet. Those nominated Divulging more details,

He said that further investiga

workshop exposed

Iron scrap scam worth



crores of rupees in railway

SATISH HANDA Yamunanagar

On getting clues as regard fraud by officials and staff of the railway workshop Yamunanagar, a team from railways headquarter Baroda House has started investigation in said fraud and stopped three trucks containing iron scrap loaded from the railway workshop at a distance from the workshop and took these trucks to a nearby 'Dharamkanta' (weighbridge), when it was observed by the vigilance staff that approximately 5 to 10 ton steel scraps was found less in these trucks. Further investigation by the vigilance team from Delhi found that an underweight chip was fixed in the weigh-bridge installed inside the railway workshop and this underweight game was going on since a long time caused financial loss worth crores of rupees to the railways.

Information reveals, a similar case of fraud was reported in this workshop about five years ago when during auction of iron scrap of nine damaged rail engines the concerned officers had sold the costly metals including brass, copper, aluminium having market rate worth Rupees 500 to 600 each kg as well as costly steel springs and wheels of the engines sold at the throwaway price Rs 30 each kg as iron scrap for their self-vested interest which causing financial loss worth Rupees 60 crore to

the railway department and a case was also registered against

the workshop officers involved in embezzlement and the case is vet undertrial in the court. According to information, vigilance team from Delhi railway headquarter now trying to find out since when the cheatings by the railway workshop staff are going on with estimated value of loss to the railways and the suspected accused are trying to save themselves. However, vigilance team

from Delhi got checked the weigh-bridge installed inside the railway workshop which was claimed by the alleged workshop officials correct, blaming that (Dharamkanta) where the weight of iron scrap in three trucks was checked was defective, but during investigation it was observed that said < Dharamkanta> outside the railways workshop was in order, whereas an underweight chip was found inserted in weigh-bridge installed inside

the railway workshop. However, ShobhanChoudhary General Manager Northern Railways told that vigilance team is trying to find out when and by whom the underweight chip was affixed in the weighbridge inside the railway workshop and how much financial loss has been suffered by the railway department and find out all those involved in this scam and will not be spared at any cost.

55 times in Haryana in past 8 years

SATISH HANDA

Haryana state government data reveals that Section 144 was imposed 2700 times, mobile and internet services were suspended 55 times in past 8 years in Harvana state and none of the district in the state was escaped where Section 144 was not imposed by the government with effect from year 2015 to 2023 during New Year, Independence Day, Republic Day or any other occasion or celebrations in the state and large number of protests witnessed in the state. Information also reveals that in this eight years period some of these occasions include Jat Reservation protest, Kisan Aandolan, at the time when decision was taken by the court at Panchkula against Ram Rahim Dera Sacha Sauda head and the recent violent activities reported in Mewat area. State government had to impose Section 144 at several



occasions including Sarpaches strike, farmer protests time to time, Khap Panchavat Protest Dharnas, strike by the staff in government offices in which Ambala district was identified at the top where Section 144 was declared 228 times, Rohtak district was ranking at second position with 212 cases and Panchkula district declared third having total number of 203 cases when

Section 144 was declared by

the government to avert violent activities.

Harvana state government submitted 85 page detailed report as regard cases of Section 144 imposed and internet services suspended at different occasions in the state between question by Congress MLA Choudhry Aftab Ahmed expressed deep concern over recent violent activities reported in Mewat area, in which

several persons were reported died and public properties of value worth crores of rupees as well as countless number of private vehicles were burnt down or completely damaged. According to the government report 55 times internet and mobile phone services were suspended by the government in Ambala, Kaithal, Jind, Panipat, Sonipat, Rohtak, Faridabad, Jhajjar and Sirsa districts during Jat Reservation, Kisan Aandolan and at the time when court announced decision against Dera Saua Sauda head Ram Rahim.

According to Rohit Jain President Ambala Bar Association Ambala there is provision up to four years imprisonment in case of violaions Section of SEction 144 in which four year 2015 and 2023 on the or more than four persons cannot assemble at a place or carry arms in the area in which Section 144 declared by the Deputy Commissioner of the district.

Prateek Rai originally hailing from Kalaiyat in Kaithal district working as cashier in Sarv Haryana Grameen Bank a rural branch at village Indri in tehsil Tauriu in Mewat since tpast two years was trapped in police net and during preliminary investigation he admitted stolen Rs 48 lakh from the strong room in the bank along with two other friends identified as Imran a resident of village Ghaseda

and Gaurav a resident of village Indri

when the three had planted theft con-

spiracy. Prateek said that along with

his both companions he managed to

get prepared duplicate keys of the locks

at the entrance in the bank as well as

a strong room where a cash amount

was kept from Sohna with the help

station said that at the preliminary

stage he suspected involvement of

Prateek in this theft and investigations

revealed that they had planned theft

in the bank branch on 1st August,

but violence activities in the area

started on 31st July 2023 and dis-

trict administration imposed curfew

Naresh Kumar in-charge police

of Imran and Gaurav.

in the area. Meanwhile, manager of the bank Bhavesh Adlakha went on leave and handed over keys of the locks at the entrance and the strong room to Prateek cashier in the bank. The three accused conducted a theft in the bank on 29th August late night with the help of duplicate keys.

Narender Bijrania SP Nuh told media persons that suspected prime accuse Prateek cashier in the bank branch was taken into custody by the police, since information revealed that Prateek was playing <satta> and had lost huge amount of money worth lakhs of rupees, had obtained Rs 50 lakh loan from the relatives and friends to invest in <satta> business who were insisting for the refund the money, as such he planned theft in the bank.

PIB Chandigarh organises Vartalaapmedia workshop at Ambala

AMBALA: On September 06, 2023 Press Information Bureau, Chandigarh organised a media workshop- Vartalaap at Ambala, Haryana. This event, aimed at discussing various aspects of governance, education policies, and societal development, witnessed insightful discussions and engaging dialogues.

The event commenced with a warm Welcome Address Ra-

jinderChaudhry, Additional Director General, PIB Chandigarh. He also gave a brief presentation on nine years of government. He reflected on the government's achievements, stating, "Over the past nine years, our government has remained steadfast in its commitment to service, good



governance, and the welfare of our citizens. We've witnessed remarkable progress in various sectors, and this journey of Seva, Sushasan, and GareebKalyan continues with unwavering determination. Our nation's development journey is an inspiring tale of progress. From the expansion of digital infrastructure to the establishment of smart cities, we have embarked on a path of growth that not only uplifts our economy but also enhances the quality of life for millions of our citizens.'

Police recovered 20 stolen motorcycles and huge quantity of electric cable from 2 arrested

SATISH HANDA Ambala

CIA Staff Ambala police arrested two persons of a gang from whome recovered 20 stolen motorcycles and huge quantity of electric cable. Among those arrested were Sompal alias Kumpla resideing in jhuggis near Sector near Sector 9 Ambala City permanently staying at Ghasitpur in Sector 44 Ambala City and during preliminary investigation he named his companion Arun alias Anna a resident of Kharar in Mohali district in Punjab who was arrested on 1st Septemberth August and brought to Ambala on production warrant. Jashandeep Singh

Randhawa SP Ambala while addressing media persons told that a case was registered at Sector 9 police station Ambala City and during police remand recovered 20 stolen motorcycles

from them most of these were stolen at twin city Ambala and few from adjoining Chandigarh, Himachal and Punjab. states. Both arrested accused arrested on the complaint of

Lakshman Singh a resident of Sector 9 Ambala City on August 27, 2023 that his motorcycle was stolen on July 26 night when parked outside his house police started search and reached up to the accused, who also during police remand admitted stolen huge quantity of electric cable during night from houses under construction in as many as nine cases. Arrested youths also admitted two theft cases in the houses on 14th October 2020 and 5th October 2022, besides Sompal was also declared an offender by the court in a theft case on 17th July this year and as many as 11 cases were lying pending

against him.

NATION

BJP-JD(S) likely to fight LS elections unitedly in K'taka

In a major development, the BJP and JD(S) are holding a final round of talks in connection with putting up a united fight in the upcoming Lok Sabha election against the Congress in Karnataka, said sources on Friday

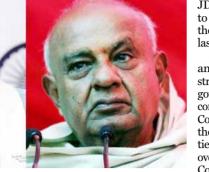
Sources confirmed that former Prime Minister and JD(S) supremo H.D. Deve Gowda had met Union Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP national President J.P. Nadda and held talks in a confidential meeting.

Sources explain that JD(S) is demanding five parliamentary seats out of 28 and BJP is negotiating for four seats. The JD(S) insisted for Hassan, Mandya, Kolar, Tumakuru and Bengaluru Rural seats. Hassan was represented by Deve Gowda's grandson Prajwal Revanna. The Karnataka High Court had recently disqualified him



in the backdrop of concealing information regarding property from the Election Commission of India

Mandya is the strong base of JD(S), but BJP is supporting sitting MP Sumalatha Ambareesh, who won as an independent candidate. She had extended her support to BJP in key matters. BJP is likely to keep the Man-



dya seat and make Sumalatha Ambareesh to contest on BJP icket, sources said.

Bengaluru Rural is represented by D.K. Suresh, brother of Deputy CM D.K. Shivakumar, who is making an all out effort to emerge as the face of the Vokkaliga community. Presently, the influential community concentrated in south Karnataka is ral-

Modi, BJP scared of INDIA:

lying behind Deve Gowda and JD(S). Shivakumar managed to break the hold of JD(S) on the Vokkaliga vote bank in the last Assembly elections.

Sources said that both BJP and JD(S) have realized the strong position of the Congress government in the state. If they contest elections independently, Congress may easily win most of the seats. Moreover, both parties are worried and concerned over the aggressive moves of the Congress under the "Operation Hast"

Deve Gowda is concerned with the health of his son former CM H.D. Kumaraswamy, who was recently admitted to the hospital. Kumarwaswamy had undergone a major heart surgery. Sources said that JD(S) is likely to give up the Mandya seat to BJP, even if it is a setback.

Congress's newly constituted Working Committee meet will be held on Sept 16 KAVITA SHARMA New Delhi

Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge has convened the first meeting of the newly constituted Congress Working Committee on September 16 in Hyderabad, Telangana. It will be attended by all the CWC members, permanent and special invitees.

Disclosing this here today, the Congress General Secretary in-charge Organization KC Venugopal and the General secretary in-charge Communications, Jairam Ramesh said, the CWC meeting will be followed by an 'extended CWC' meeting on September 17 which will also be attended by the PCC presidents, office bearers of the Congress Parliamentary Party and the Congress Legislative Party leaders The meeting will be followed by a massive public rally in the evening around Hyderabad



the same day. The rally has their respective allotted asbeen organized to coincide sembly constituencies. with the liberation day of Hyderabad, on September 17. In the Congress leaders will hold meetings in their allotted segthe rally the Congress will also announce five guarantees to ments and go door to door distributing five guarantees the people of the state.

After the rally on the same to the people and a chargeevening, the Congress president will flag off the cavalcades of CWC members, PCC presidents, CLP leaders and others to 119 assembly constituencies of Telangana. All of the special parliament sesof them will stay overnight in sion.

Rahul Gandhi leaves for Europe Tour



MEENAKSHI BHATTACHARYA New Delhi

Former Congress President and Member of Parliament Rahul Gandhi left for an almost weeklong Europe tour, Early morning today, during which he will hold meetings with European Union (EU) lawyers, students and the Indian diaspora, according to sources. Rahul Gandhi will meet a group of EUROPE-AN Union lawyers in Brussels on September 7 and also hold a similar meeting in The Hague, according to Schedule as they confirmed. He has scheduled to participate in a meeting of the Labour Union of France in Paris on September 9. According to the sources, the Congress eader will address students at the function of a university in Paris on September 8. Thereafter, he will visit Norway, where he will address a diaspora event in Oslo on September 10, they said. Rahul, Congress MP is likely to return by September 11, a day after the G20 summit concludes.

SPG Chief Arun Kumar Sinha passes away



MEENAKSHI BHATTACHARYA New Delhi

> Special Protection Group Director Arun Kumar Sinha passed away this morning at a private hospital in Gurugram. He had been undergoing treatment for cancer. Arun Kumar Sinha had also served as the security officer for both the Prime Minister and former Prime Ministers. In 2016, his tenure as Director of the SPG was initially scheduled to end, but it was extended for

> an additional two years. Arun Kumar Sinha was ar officer from the 1987 batch of the Kerala Cadre Indian Police Service (IPS). Indeed, Arun Kumar Sinha held a distinguished career, serving in various significant positions, including hiruvananthapur

Manipur forgotten by G20-obsessed **BJP: Congress**



NEW DELHI: In yet another dig at Prime Minister NarendraModi and his "drum beaters obsessed with G20 summit". the Congress on Monday said that Manipur has been forgotten.

In a lengthy post on X, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said: "While the Prime Minister and his drum-beaters are obsessed with G20, four months after ethnic violence broke out on May 3rd, Manipur lies forgotten by the Modi

government. "The Chief Minister has ensured that the Manipuri society is more divided today than ever before. The Union Home Minister has failed to put an end to the violence and ensure the recovery of arms and ammunition. Instead, many more armed groups have entered the conflict.

"The Prime Minister refuses to visit Manipur, or lead an allteachers: Rahul Gandhi party delegation, or initiate any credible peace process. Has he even met his own colleague anipur in the cabinet? rom N

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge today said that the Bharatiya Janata Party and the Prime Minister Narendra Modi have started feeling scared of the name India ever since the likeminded parties came together and formed the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance

KAVITA SHARMA

Bhilwara

(INDIA). Addressing a mammoth 'Kisan Sammellan' after inaugurating a five lakh litre capacity milk processing unit here today, Kharge said, Congress believes in Bharat Jodo as last year Congress leader and former president Rahul Gandhi conducted a 4,500 kiometer 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' from Kanyakumari to Kashmir. Congress President said the

BJP and the Prime Minister are scared ever since the joint opposition came together under one banner-INDIA. He said, now they were trying to replace the name India with Bharat. "What is your problem, we have already been saying, Bharat Jodo and it



we say unite India, they say divide India". Accusing the BJP government of stalling development projects initiated during Congress regime, Congress President reminded that he along with Sonia Gandhi had laid the foundation stone of a factory for manufacturing of MEMU train coaches when C P Joshi was transport minister at Centre. Unfortunately the project was later stalled by Modi government as it gets pleasure in obstructing the work done by Congress.

Countering the BJP for often asking the Congress what it did in 70 years, he asked, "Who brought land reforms? Who made tenants is already in the constitution", he the owners?", while pointing out

it was the Congress which did it. "We never tell lies; we work to empower people. Indira Gandhi ji abolished privy purses and nationalised banks for the benefit of the poor. The BJP government doesn't have the courage to do this", he added. Kharge told the mammoth crowd, "We gave Chambal Ghati project, Indira Gandhi canal, Mewar University,

AIIMS Jodhpur, IIT Jodhpur, etc. when there was a Congress said, while remarking, "when government at the Centre. So if any leader asks what has Congress done, give them this list and ask - have you made these ?". Referring to BJP's allegation of promoting family politics, he said, they attack Rahul Gandhi because he took such a big step of walking on foot for 4,500 km from Kanyakumari to Kashmir. "Poor people, farmers, labourers, women, students and many other sections of society came for Bharat Jodo Yatra. We carried the message of uniting India through the

4500 km-long Yatra", he added. Urging people to bring the Congress back to power he promised, "we will get you even more benefits ... this is our promise.

Rajasthan is a good model of poor people's welfare and social justice. People are getting direct penefit in their accounts Lashing out at the BJP for trying to intimidate Congress

workers, he said, they are referring to 'Red Diary' and other things. "Don't try to intimidate us. Rahul Gandhi has said-don't be afraid", he pointed out.

Kharge

The Congress president alleged that the poor people have been looted under Modi's rule. He reminded them how he promised to provide 2 crore jobs every year. He had promised to give Rs. 15 lakhs to everyone, Mr Kharge pointed out, asking where has that money vanished? Accusing the BJP of stealing

the democratic mandate, he said, wherever a Congress government is formed, the BJP tries to bring it down. "They brought down our governments by either using money power or through other means. BJP does this with elected governments and then talks of morality!", he pointed out, while praising Mr Gehlot for not letting

the Congress government fall in Rajasthan.

ers of I.N.D.I.A bloc on Tuesday the country doesn't belong to a

slammed the BJP government after the Rashtrapati Bhawan sent out invites for a G20 dinner of September 9 in the name of President of Bharat instead of the usual President of India, saying

political party. "The BJP's recent move to change the reference from 'President of India' to 'President of Bharat' on official G20 summit invitations has raised eyebrows and ignited a public debate. How can the BJP strike down 'INDIA'? The country doesn't belong to a political party; it belongs to 135 ore Indians, " wrote senior Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Raghav Chadha on X (formerly twitter) attacking the ruling BJP. He said, "Our national identity is not the BJP's personal property that it can modify on whims and fancies.

Opposition leaders slam govt over 'Prez of Bharat' G20 invite NEW DELHI: Opposition lead-



Next day, on September 18,

sheet against the Bharat Rash-

traSamithi (BRS) government.

been exempted from the Sep-

tember 18 programme because

However, the MPs have

ment, Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Manoj Kumar Jha took a swipe at the ruling BJP and said it is sacred of the Opposition bloc I.N.D.I.A '

"We did not know that people in BJP are so weak. They got scared by the I.N.D.I.A alliance which was formed a few weeks back. You are sending an invitation in the name of the President of Bharat instead of the President of India, " the MP said .

Jha further said, "The tagline of the I.N.D.I.A is Judega Bharat Jeetega INDIA. Neither you can take India nor Bharat from us. All those things you have because of the majority will be taken away by the public (in 2024 Lok Sabha elections)

Judega Bharat Jeetega INDIA (tagline of Opposition alliance.)" Along with his post, Chadha also shared the invitation card which read "The President of Bharat". Echoing a similar senti-One terrorist, 2 security personnel

Consider opponents as my injured in encounter in J&K's Reasi FW DESK

One terrorist was killed, while

In the midst of a humanitarian tragedy, there is a complete and total breakdown of the Constitutional machinery and trust between communities in Manipur.

"In the last four months, the world has witnessed how the Prime Minister has failed Manipur during its worst crisis."

Since the violent ethnic clashes broker out in Manipur on May 3, hundreds of people have died while thousands were forced to take refuge in relief camps

The Congress has slammed the Centre and state government for failing miserably to control the situation in Manipur and had also demanded the immediate removal of the Chief Minister.

Meanwhile, the G20 Summit in the national capital is scheduled to be held from Saturday.

NEW DELHI: Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday paid tributes to Dr S. Radhakrishnan on occasion of Teachers Day, and said that people of India are like Gurus, and he considers his opponents as teachers.

In a Facebook post, Rahul Gandhi said, "My respectful obeisances to all the teachers on National Teachers Day. Humble tribute to former President of India, Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan ji on his birth anniversary. Guru has a very high place in life, who illuminates the path of your life and inspires you to move in the right direction. I consider great men like Mahatma Gandhi, Gautam Buddha, Shri Narayana Guru as my gurus,

who gave us all the knowledge of equality of all people in the society, and compassion and love towards everyone." He also said that the people

their words, teach me that the of India are also like gurus path I am on is absolutely right (teachers), who give an example of unity in the diversity of - and to continue on it at all costs. is less, " the Congress

our country, inspire us to fight every problem with courage, leader added. who are the embodiment of humility and penance. every year on this day to commemorate the birth anni-

ed every year on this day to

commemorate the birth an-

niversary of former President

of India Dr Sarvepalli Rad-

hakrishnan

"I also consider my opponents as my teachers, who, through their behavior, through their lies, through

two security personnel sustained injuries in an encounter in Reasi district on Monday. The encounter is still ongoing and the security forces are looking for another terrorist who is believed to be holed up there. The encounter began in the

remote Gali Sohab village of the Tuli area during a cordon and search operation. This operation was prompted by specific intelligence indicating the presence of two terrorists in the area.

During the initial exchange of gunfire, one terrorist was neutralized, and a police officer and Army jawan was injured. The security forces are actively working to neutralize the second terrorist.

Both injured security perversary of former President of India Dr Sarvepalli Rad-

ing police, Army, and Central

Reserve Police Force (CRPF)

encounter unfolded around 2 and Monday. pm when a joint team compris-

The identity and affiliation of the terrorists will be determined once the operation concludes

personnel surrounded a house where the terrorists had taken The border districts of Poonch and Rajouri have witshelter. This followed information received about their nessed several encounters this presence in the house after year, resulting in the deaths of sonnel have been taken to the they had forcibly entered it approximately 20 terrorists hospital for treatment. The on the night between Sunday and 10 security personnel.

Police Commissioner, South Region Inspector General (IG), Kochi Commissioner, Wayanad Superintendent of Police (SP), Intelligence Deputy Inspector General (DIG), Thiruvananthapuram Range Deputy Inspector General (DIG), and Administrations Inspector General (IG). During his tenure as Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) in the state, Arun Kumar Sinha was appointed to the Special Protection Group (SPG) on central deputation and subsequently appointed as its Director.

Chief Minister PinaraviVijavan expressed his condolences on the passing of Arun Kumar Sinha. The Chief Minister remembered Arun Kumar Sinha as an officer who had undertaken numerous responsibilities within the Kerala Police and had executed them with excellence.

Jamaat-e-Islami Hind raises concern over New Criminal laws, appreciates Law against Mob lynching Teacher plays key role in building future: PM Modi

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesdav extended his greetings to the teaching fraternity on the occasion of Teachers Day, and said that teachers play a key role in building future and inspiring dreams.

"Teachers play a key role in building our future and inspiring dreams. On Teachers Day, we salute them for their unwavering dedication and great impact, " Modi wrote on X (formerly Twitter).

He added, "Tributes to Dr S. Radhakrishnan on his birth anniversary.

Along with the post, the Prime Minister also shared a short video of his interaction with the winners of National Teachers' Award at his official residence at Lok Kalyan Marg on the eve of Teachers Day.

During his interaction, PM Modi lauded the efforts of teachers in nurturing the country.



young minds of the country. He highlighted the im-

portance of good teachers and the role they can play in shaping the destiny of the

KAVITA SHARMA New Delhi

hakrishnan.

Jamaat - e- Islami Hind raises serious concern over new criminal laws that will replace the old ones like Indian Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure and Indian Evidence Act. The organization feels that these laws can be amended but not replaced. Jamaat also raised their concern over Manipur Violence and incidents of Islamophobia in educational institutions in the country.

Teachers Day is celebrated

Addressing mediapersons in their monthly press-conference in New Delhi, Jamaat-e- Islami Hind leaders, Vice President Professor Salim Engineer, Secretary Shafi Madani and Media Secretary KK Suhail spoke on the three new bills introduced in the Lok Sabha, aiming to improve India's Criminal justice system. Although the new bills, repeals Section 124A of the IPC, it has made provision

for punishing acts of "sedition" in a new form, which is as dangerous as the old law. Jamaat leaders do not find any need of redrafting the three bills rather some amendments can be made. They also have objection on language imposition. According to Media Secretary KK Suhail, all the three new laws are in Hindi language which is understood only by 44% of the population and 56% of the people residing in India are Non Hindi.

Talking about Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita Bill, the leaders said The bill has a provision for "Love Jihad", which has been defined as "concealing your identity before marriage". It has been made a separate offence with a sentence of 10 years. The term "Love Jihad" is deeply offensive to Muslims and carries a derogatory reference to an important tenet of Islam. The only positive aspect in the bill is the Capital punishment for mob lynching incidents, they added.



Expressing their concern over the New Data Protection Bill, Jamaat leaders said by the increased surveillance of the Government, the privacy of citizen data will be compromised as the bill allows companies to transfer some users data abroad. The new Bill will have the power to seek information from firms to personal data of individuals without their consent. The Bill

gives power to the government to exempt state agencies from data protection provisions of the law in the name of investigation and state security, which will weaken our democracy, they said.

Reacting to the Manipur violence, JIH Secretary Shafi Madani said they are concerned about the future of Children in Manipur that are

deprived of education as their schools are turned into relief camps. Condemning the violence incidents happening in the state between Meiteis and Kukis, since 3 May, Madani said "Women and Children are the most affected ones when such violence occurs". Considering the inability of the state govt. to control the situation in the state, the Central government must intervene and encourage civil society representatives from various ethnic backgrounds to initiate genuine reconciliation and peace efforts in the state, JIH leaders who recently visited Manipur said.

They also raised their voices against the incidents of Islamophobia in the Indian educational institutions. They feel that islamophobia in schools and colleges should be addressed by the government and appropriate laws should be draft to end this menace.

EDITORIAL COPINION

India and Bharat must coexist, as they always have

ndia and Bharat - two names that have stirred the hearts of patriots for generations. Yet, today, these cherished labels are being ma- nipulated for political maneuvering. The decision by the Bharatiya Janata Party government to prioritise 'Bharat' over 'India' in official communications is not just a departure from tradition but a deliberate political statement. The Constitution itself refers to the nation as "India, that is Bharat," signifying the harmonious coexistence of both identities. The cultural significance of 'Bharat' is undeniable. However, the current fervor to sideline 'India' is a misguided attempt to paint it as a foreign imposition, undermining our national dignity. Such a perspective is not only historically inaccurate but also divisive. Both 'India' and 'Bharat' have emerged from our nation's rich tapestry of history and culture. To pit one against the other, especially in a country celebrated for its ethnic, linguistic, and genetic diversity, is to create unnecessary societal rifts. The controversy should have naturally faded, but the Opposition's hasty reactions amplified it, turning a naming debate into a national identity crisis. While the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh's preference for 'Bharat' is well-known, the Opposition's choice to adopt 'INDIA' as an acronym might have further spurred the BJP's renaming zeal. This political tug-of-war does not showcase national pride; instead, it diminishes our global standing and soft power. Both 'Bharat' and 'India' are deeply embedded in our cultural, political, and literary lexicons. They are invoked by millions, both domestically and internationally, who dream of our nation's bright future. While the contexts in which they are used might differ, their essence remains unchanged. It's crucial to recognise that the beauty of our nation lies in its diversity and unity. Let's not allow a mere naming dispute to overshadow the shared aspirations of its people. India and Bharat must coexist, as they always have, representing the soul of a united nation.



NANDLAL MISHRA DELVES INTO INDIA'S STATE-LEVEL HUNGER INDEX THAT ASSESSES LOCALISED UNDERNOURISHMENT EXTENTS

espite being a major food prolucer with extensive food security schemes and the largest public distribution system in the world, India still grapples with significant levels of food insecurity, hunger, and child malnutrition. The Global Hunger Index (GHI), 2022, ranked India 107 among 121 countries, behind Nigeria (103) and Pakistan (99). The GHI provides a composite measurement and tracks undernourishment and hunger at the national level across three dimensions: calorie undernourishment, child malnutrition, and under-five mortality.

According to the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World report of 2022, India is home to 224.3 million undernourished people. Disparities are evident among States. Leveraging subnational data that encompasses the three dimensions of the GHI enables the development of an Indiaspecific hunger index at the level of States and Union Territories. This plays a pivotal role in evaluating the extent of undernourishment at a more localised scale, which is critical for meeting the Sustainable Development Goals of eradicating hunger and malnutrition.

The GHI is computed using four indicators the prevalence of calorie undernourishment; and of stunting, wasting, and mortality among children below the age of five; and under-five mortality rate. The State Hunger Index (SHI) is calculated using the same indicators except calorie undernourishment. which is replaced by body mass index (BMI) undernourishment among the working-age population, as data on calorie undernourishment are not available since 2012.

Data for stunting, wasting, and mortality among children below the age of five are sourced from the fifth round of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5), while the



prevalence of BMI undernourishment is computed using NFHS-5 (2019-21) and Wave 1 of the Longitudinal Ageing Study in India (2017-18). The calculation of the SHI score involves combining the normalised values of the four indicators using the techniques recommended by the GHI. The SHI scores range between 0 and 100, with higher scores indicating more hunger. Scores below 10 signify low hunger, 10-20 moderate, 20-30 serious, 30-40 alarming, and 50 or above extremely alarming.

In the SHI, Bihar, Jharkhand, and Chhattisgarh scored 35, which places them in the 'alarming' category. Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Tripura, Maharashtra, and West Bengal all scored above the national average (29). The performance of these States resembles that of African nations such as Haiti, Niger, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. On the other hand, Chandigarh scored 12, and Sikkim, Puducherry, and Kerala all scored below 16. These States, along with Manipur, Mizoram, Punjab, Delhi, Arunachal Pradesh, Anda-

man and Nicobar Islands, and Tamil Nadu, fall under the 'moderate hunger' category. All the other States, which scored below the national average and above 20, have a problem of 'serious hunger'. No State falls under the 'low hunger' category. The impact of COVID-19 on the SHI is not captured here since post-pandemic estimates are not yet available.

In 2008, Purnima Menon, Anil Deolalikar, and Anjor Bhaskar made a comparable effort to grasp the variation in hunger at a subnational level using the then methodology of computing GHI. Among the 17 States they assessed, Punjab led the list, with Kerala and Andhra Pradesh following closely as top performers. On the other hand, Madhva Pradesh, Jharkhand, Bihar, and Chhattisgarh were ranked as the least-performing States. Over the last half a decade, India's GHI

score has deteriorated primarily due to the increasing prevalence of calorie undernourishment. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization, the proportion of calorie undernourishment in India has

been escalating since 2017, reaching 16.3% in 2020, equivalent to the 2009 statistic. The Indian government has disputed these conclusions by raising concerns about the data and methodology used in calculating the GHI. However, it has not been able to provide empirical evidence to support its claims. Notably, no National Sample Survey (NSS) round on nutritional intake has been conducted by the government since 2011-12, which used to offer insights into the prevalence of calorie undernourishment at national and subnational levels. In the 78th round of the NSS conducted in 2020-21, four key questions were included to gauge household food insecurity. Unfortunately, information on these is missing from the NSS report

While the GHI has faced significant criticism from experts regarding its conceptualisation, indicator selection, and aggregation methods, it does provide critical insight into the state of undernourishment and child nutrition. India's poor performance in the GHI is primarily attributed to its high prevalence of undernourishment and child malnutrition. India ranks unfavourably in child wasting, performing worse than many low-income African nations. The NFHS-5 indicated that one-third of children under the age of five are stunted and underweight, while every fifth child suffers from wasting. Despite India's notable progress in alleviating extreme poverty over the last 15 years, as indicated by the recent National Multidimensional Poverty Index, challenges persist in addressing the disparity in food insecurity, hunger, and child malnutrition.

Nandlal Mishra is a doctoral fellow at the International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai, Views are personal

TALMIZ AHMAD EXPLAINS HOW GLOBAL MULTIPOLAR ORDER ALIGNS WITH ECONOMIC INTERESTS AND INFLUENCE

BRICS' widening influence and ramifications

n August 24, the 15th BRICS summit in Johannesburg announced that the five-member grouping (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) had invited six new members Iran, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) from West Asia; Egypt and Ethiopia from Africa, and Argentina from Latin America. It was reported that 40 countries have shown interest in BRICS membership, with 22 having submitted formal applications. From 2009, BRICS has met annually at summit level, and is backed by several ministerial and expert conclaves. It has spawned two major institutions - the New Development Bank (NDB) to provide development assistance and the Contingent Reserve Arrangement that supports countries facing short-term balance-of-payments pressures. The NDB has already financed 96 projects valued at \$33 billion.

e Co

BRICS members have been united in their lissatisfaction with the West-dominated international institutions that had emerged after the Second World War - the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the United Nations and its various bodies, particularly the Security Council, and more recently, the World Trade Organization. At Johannesburg, the UN Secretary General António Guterres described them as reflecting "yesterday's world". The United States has led the western alliance in both the political and economic areas. BRICS challenges this West-led world order: it promotes intra-BRICS economic and political cooperation, builds institutions outside western control, and agitates robustly for wide-ranging reforms to accommodate the presence and interests of emerging economies. The Johannesburg Declaration categorically asserts that the

— BOOKS: REVIEW



members' "strategic partnership" will be directed at achieving "a more representative, fairer international order". The recent expansion of BRICS's membership has shaped a grouping that is aligned in perceptions and and collectively provides considerable economic clout to the enlarged conclave. With the proposed expansion, BRICS will have 46% of world population, while its share of the global GDP will go from 31.5% in PPP terms to 37%, far ahead of the GDP of 30.7% of the G-7. The five core members account for 23% of global exports and 19% of global imports; with the new members, these figures will be boosted by 3.7% and 3%, respectively. The major impact will be on the energy sector: out of global oil production of about 90 million barrels per day (mbd) in 2022, the earlier five BRICS members had accounted for 20% of global output; this will go to 42%.

siderable geo-strategic value to the grouping. Those from West Asia are already closely tied to BRICS members: 35% of Saudi oil production goes to China and India; Russia, already a major oil supplier to China and India, is now looking at Brazil as a market. Despite sanctions by the United States, Iran has increased oil production from a low of 400,000 barrels per day in the Trump period to 2.2 mbd in August this year, most of it going to China. Egypt and Ethiopia are an important presence in the strategically important Horn of Africa and the Red Sea, while Argentina is the second largest economy in Latin America.

Rather than look at the issues being raised at BRICS' summits and other meetings, western commentators have disparaged the grouping as having no shared vision and being a "talk-shop" with no worthwhile achievements. These criticisms have little substance. BRICS leaders have met over 15 every time have overcome their internal divisions and competitions to issue a consensual "Declaration". Over the years, the declarations have expanded in content, focused on specific deliverables and have steadily expanded their areas of interest. In the Johannesburg Declaration, while several paragraphs call for wide-ranging reforms in international organisations, the bulk of the document focuses on intra-BRICS cooperation and outreach to other developing countries. Thus, members have agreed to "encouraging the use of local currencies in internal trade and financial transactions" between BRICS and other trading partners. The Declaration also reflects the shared views of its members on several political issues - the centrality of the United Nations; the problems in West Asia, i.e., Syria, Yemen, Palestine, the Arab peace Initiative,

and the Iran nuclear agreement; the war in Ukraine and global terror.

Outlook for regional and global affairs The new BRICS members, particularly those from West Asia, naturally fit into this political and economic framework. From 2020, both Saudi Arabia and the UAE have shrugged off the U.S. yoke and shaped independent foreign policy paths for themselves. Saudi Arabia has pursued de-escalation and dialogue, ending the Qatar blockade in January 2021, engaging with Turkey, and opening interactions with Iran from April 2021. These regional engagements culminated in the China-brokered accord with Iran in March this year.

The UAE has also normalised ties with Iran and is focusing on expanding its maritime footprint across the Gulf, the Gulf of Aden, the Red Sea and the Horn of Africa. Iran's entry into BRICS is propitious in that, besides its role in the energy sector, it opens up opportunities for acc economic cooperation, besides the revival of the moribund north-south connectivity projects through the Chabahar port with which India is associated. While western writers continue to harp on the emerging global binary divide and the "new cold war", India and other BRICS members reject this short-sighted view and insist on asserting their strategic autonomy in a multipolar world order, with membernations demanding that their voices be heard and their interests respected. It is not surprising, then, that a recent media report described the Johannesburg summit as a "turning point in modern history".

LETTERBOX

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FEAR IS NOT AN OPTION WHEN YOU'RE AN **ENTREPRENEUR**

THE FINANCIAL WORLD

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(*RESPONSIBLE FOR SELECTION OF NEWS UNDER THE PRB ACT)

Geo-strategic value

The new BRICS members will bring con-

Talmiz Ahmad is a former Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Oman and the United Arab Emirates

Book highlights stories of racial resistance and collective action

n a world where the dreams of free citizens are overshadowed by the looming specter of state-sanctioned intolerance and violence, Sonali Kolhatkar's "Rising Up" emerges as a beacon of hope. This timely work delves deep into the personal narratives of racism, challenging the official histories that have long dominated our understanding.

Kolhatkar, with over two decades of journalistic experience, masterfully illustrates the importance of these personal stories in advancing social justice, especially in a U.S. landscape marred by white supremacy. Despite the increasing diversity of its populace, deceptive narratives persist, often sidelining the voices of people of color. "Rising Up" is not just a book;

it's a call to arms. It advocates for a literature of affirmation, emphasizing the power of news media, entertainment, and individual discourse in reshaping the American cultural narrative. Kolhatkar's cen-

tral proposition is clear: the media must listen, and people must learn to speak in diverse voices.

The book is a testament to the transformative power of words. It champions the idea that through dialogue and participation, society can rebel against those who remain deaf to its cries. Kolhatkar's commitment to social justice advocacy shines through, as she intertwines her liberation with the stories she shares. Her message is one of solidarity, urging readers to rise up against racism together.

Kolhatkar also confronts the deeply ingrained stereotypes that perpetuate violence and discrimination. She challenges the accepted norms, such as the unquestioned reliance on policing, and highlights the systemic racism evident in sectors like Hollywood.

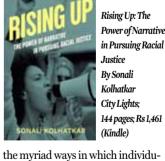
The killing of George Floyd serves as a poignant backdrop, emphasizing the urgent need for change. Kolhatkar echoes the sentiments of Pete Seeger and Agha

The book is a testament to the transformative power of words. It champions the idea that through dialogue and participation

Shahid Ali, underscoring the transformative potential of narratives.

In essence, "Rising Up" is a literature of witness. It captures the raw emotions of those marginalized by the powerful. As Brecht aptly puts it, writing the truth in such times requires unparalleled courage, discernment, and judgment.

Kolhatkar's narrative is not just a critique but also a guide. She meticulously maps out the journey of activists, writers, and everyday citizens who have dared to challenge the status quo. Through their stories, readers are introduced to



and use their platforms to amplify marginalized voices. Power of Narrative

Furthermore, the book delves into the historical context of racial injustice in the U.S., providing readers with a comprehensive understanding of how deeply rooted these issues are. Kolhatkar seamlessly weaves together past and present, illustrating how history continues to shape contemporary realities. By drawing parallels between historical events and current incidents, she underscores the cycli-

als can make a difference. Each chapter serves as a testament to the resilience of the human spirit, showcasing how, even in the face of adversity, people have found ways to rise up and make their voices heard.

One of the standout features of "Rising Up" is its emphasis on the role of media. Kolhatkar sheds light on the media's complicity in perpetuating harmful stereotypes, but she also highlights its potential as a tool for change. By showcasing examples of media outlets and journalists who have chosen to prioritize stories of resistance and hope, she paints a picture of what ethical journalism can look like. This section serves as a call to action for media professionals to recognize their responsibility

cal nature of racial injustice and the importance of continuous vigilance. Lastly, "Rising Up" is also a celebration of community and solidarity. Throughout the book, Kolhatkar emphasizes the importance of collective action. She showcases the power of communities coming together, united by a shared vision of a more just and equitable world. Through stories of grassroots movements and community-led initiatives, readers are reminded that change is not only possible but achievable when people come together. In a world that often feels divided, "Rising Up" serves as a timely reminder of the power of

unity and the potential of collec-

tive action.

Battery Show India 2023 Sparks India's \$150 Billion Energy Revolution

ARUN KUMAR RAO Bengaluru

Informa Markets India, a B2B event's organizer, is launching "The Battery Show India (TBSI)", a groundbreaking event in advanced battery manufacturing, inspired by the successful Battery Shows in the USA and Europe. TBSI will become India's premier annual gathering for the battery, energy storage, and transportation sectors, co-located with the "Renewable Energy India Expo" from October 4th to 6th, 2023, at the India Expo Centre in Greater Noida. This event bridges renewable energy and energy storage, expecting around 50,000 visitors, and fostering collaboration among industry leaders. Announced and The preview of TBSI Bengaluru highlighted Karnataka's active participation, with 12 premium exhibitors like Siemens, Saint-Gobain, Log 9, and Tessorn EV, reinforcing the event>s significance.

India>s battery market is set for substantial growth, with a

partners with Genetix Biotech for Early-Wage-Access Facility KULBIR SINGH KALS

Chandigarh

Emerald Finance Limited, an RBI registered NBFC, has partnered with Genetix Biotech Asia Private Limited, a cutting-edge consultant firm in the life-science industry, to offer its Early-Wage-Access program to the employees of Genetix.

Genetix is one of the leading firms in the life-science spectrum in India for the last 30 years. It was at the forefront in the fight against Covid19, and had developed their own RT-PCR Kits and Extraction kit.

"This partnership aims to provide an instant financial relief to the employees by allowing them to access part of their salaries seamlessly throughout the month," says SandeepAggarwal, Finance Controller, Genetix Biotech. Whether it is to cover unexpected expenses, address urgent financial obligations, or simply bridge the gap between paychecks, the facility is available at their fingertips.



projected 260 GW annually, & T Energy), Pankaj Sharma worth \$15 billion. Government (Co-Founder, LOG 9 Materials initiatives offer significant invest-Scientific Pvt Ltd), Vineet Bhatia ment potential, ranging from (Executive Director, Energy and \$42 billion to \$150 billion. Renewables, Grant Thorton), India targets 30% EV sales by Ritesh Patterson (General Man-2030 and 41.5 GW of grid batager - Performance Plastics and tery capacity by 2029. On its ADFORS, Saint - Gobain), Bhuown steam, TBSI is estimated wan Purohit (Executive Director, to attract over 200 brands, 8000 Corporate Strategy & Planning, Rubamin Pvt Ltd), Gary Chen trade visitors and 50 speakers including an impressive array of (International Business Develpolicymakers, decision-makers, opment Director, Envision Eninfluencers, technical experts and ergy), Yogesh Mudras (Managing professionals. Director, Informa Markets in A distinguished panel of India), and Rajneesh Khattar

dignitaries in event spoke, in-(Senior Group Director, Informa cluding Ketan Chitnis (Busi-Markets in India). ness Head - Advanced Cell, L Emphasizing the importance

energy sector, Vineet Bhatia, Executive Director, Energy and Renewable, Grant Thorton said, "With yearly predictions of 260 GW, the Indian battery business is poised for enormous growth and a sizable \$15 billion market opportunity. This development is projected in a variety of industries, including electric vehicles, grid storage batteries, and behind-the-meter applications. The recent introduction of an energy storage framework and other government initiatives in India highlights the country>s enormous investment potential, which ranges from \$42 billion to an astounding \$150 billion. However, difficulties still exist, particularly in obtaining imports of vital minerals like nickel, cobalt, and lithium. Targets haven>t been reached despite ongoing efforts to implement recycling and enhanced producer responsibility requirements. In light of this, The Battery Show is crucial in bringing together industry experts to discuss these issues,

of batteries in transforming the

are revolutionizing the energy storage industry at The Battery Show India 2023.'

Nishimura & Asahi using Intapp to modernize business operations

Nishimura & Asahi. "With the move to Intapp, we're building a foundation of contemporary products that will enable us to compete on a global scale, continue our trajectory of in-ternational growth, and maximize profitability.' Using Intapp Time,

Nishimura enables more precise reporting, automating time tracking, and increasing billing productivity. Nishimura professionals are now capturing work in real time and can evaluate that data against engagement budgets. This helps leadership maximize profitability while providing yers and clients alike," said increased transparency and Hajime Ueno, Chief Technolaccuracy to clients.

Meta partners with Ministry of Education, Ministry of Skill Development

ARUN KUMAR RAO

of Education, and the Minists. educ

Bengaluru Tech Summit unveils dates for the Next Three Editions

ARUN KUMAR RAO Bengaluru

promote innovation, and create

strong regulations that will sup-

port India>s energy transforma-

tion and fully use the countrys

to reduce carbon emissions, Pankai Sharma, Co-Founder, LOG

9 Materials Scientific Pvt Ltd

said, "Log9, India>s foremost

battery manufacturer, is known

for its technological prowess.

We>ve launched over 5,000

advanced batteries, including

India>s pioneering 50-mile cell.

Our unchanging commitment is

to reduce India>s reliance on oil

imports and trade imbalances.

Transitioning from FastChat

to Rapid innovation, we aim to

revolutionize the battery industry

with safety and thermal enhance-

ments, employing 800 experts

and 120 patents. Our mission

is to lower carbon emissions and

build a sustainable, tech-driven

India. Log9 is eager to present

cutting-edge innovations that

Focusing on the commitment

expanding battery market."

The dates for next three editions of Karnataka's flagship event, Bengaluru Tech Summit were announced by Priyank Kharge, Minister for Information Technology, Biotechnology, Rural Development, and Panchayat Raj, Government of Karnataka in a Press Meet. "The 26th edition of Bengaluru Tech Summit (BTS 2023)" is scheduled to be held from November 29 – December 1, 2023 at the Bangalore Palace in Bengaluru. Dates for the next two Editions were also announced - November 19-21 in both 2024 and 2025. The event Dates for the 2024 and 2025 were announced early to encourage international tech Organizations to plan their participation well in advance. This is a testament to Karnataka's continued commitment to the growth of the sector, while transcending National & international boundaries through collaborations.

Prior to the press meet, a Breakfast Meet was held where Chief Minister of Karnataka, Siddaramaiah interacted with 100+ CEOs of leading IT. Semiconductor & Electronics and Biotech organizations. Also present at this 2-hour breakfast meet, Were D. K. Shivakumar, Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka, Priyank Kharge, Minister for IT, Dr. Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, Biocon Chief and Chairperson, Vision Group on Biotechnology and Kris Gopalakrishnan, Chairman, Vision Group on Information Technology. This interactive Meet enabled open dialogue Between the Government and Tech Leadership on the backdrop of the upcoming BTS 2023, with discussions focusing on Karnataka's thriving tech ecosystem and the Road ahead.



The interactions were facilitated by leading industry associations like NASSCOM, IESA, TiE and ABLE. With the Bengaluru Tech Summit 2023 just around the corner, from November 29th to December 1st at the grand Bangalore Palace, the city is once again Poised to showcase India's technology strength to the world and engage with globaltech community. In a world where emerging technologies are reshaping the very foundations of Industry and innovation, Bengaluru Tech Summit 2023 stands at the forefront of this Transformation with the focal theme: Breaking Boundaries which encapsulates the Spirit of innovation, disruption, & ex-

and industries. Underlining this, Priyank Kharge, said, "We take immense pride in highlighting that the State of Karnataka has consistently maintained a pioneering position in cutting-edge research, innovation and technology. This is possible due to close collaboration and interaction with esteemed Industry Stakeholders, Research Fraternity and by fostering the Start-up Ecosystem. Over the years we have established a strong bond with our Global Innovation Alliance Partner Countries. Our shared objective is to amplify the Reputation of Brand Bengaluru." Bengaluru Tech Sum-

ploration across geographies

mit 2023 will feature a di verse and enriching Event Spectrum, encompassing a Multi-Track Conference on IT & Electronics, Deep Tech, Start-Ups & Biotech, an International Exhibition. Global Innovation Alliance. India-USA Tech Conclave, India Innovation Alliance, R&D-Lab2Market, B2B Meetings, STPI IT Export Awards, Smart Bio Awards, Startup Recognition, Rural IT Quiz, Bio Quiz, and Bio

Posters. The Multi-Track Conference at BTS 2023 will include focus areas like Emerging Tech including AI & DeepTech, Quantum Computing & 6G, Semiconductors and Electronics Manufacturing, Gaming & e-Sports, Future Mobility, Climate Tech, Social Entrepreneurship, Biotech for sustainability and Health Tech Innovations. There will be focused discussions to explore India's GCC landscape, Upskilling of India's Tech Talent and the VC ecosystem. Large delegations from the Global Innovation Alliance (GIA) Partner nations are expected to participate in the event. The GIA track in the Conference will have 17 engaging sessions curated by the partner nations, some of the confirmed countries include Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Israel, Japan, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Poland, the Netherlands, Austria as well as EU.

Textile Industryin India holds the potential to reduce over 4.5 bn MT Carbon by adopting solar power solutions: Loom Solar



Emerald Finance Limited Three directors of leading real estate firm lodged in Ambala central jail in money laundering case undergoing treatment in hospital SATISH HANDA

Ambala

Three directors of renowned real estate firm M3M including the founder, promoter Basant Bansal, Roop Bansal and Pankaj Bansal allegedly involved in nearly 408 crore money laundering case by enforcement directorate (ED) by transferring funds invested by the customers in real estates business in projects going on at Chandigarh, Haryana and Punjab to other accounts. The three were lodged in Ambala Central jail and became medically unwell and admitted in the private air condition rooms under tight Haryana Armed

Police security. However, Roop Bansal has been discharged from the hospital. However Pankaj Bansal admitted on 28th August 2023 was stated suffering from the fever. a couple of days after his arrest in money laundering case.

However, Basant Bansal: Roop Bansal were arrested days prior, following ED searches at seven locations in Delhi and Gurugram belonging to the real and Pankaj Bansal in the case estate developers. According to being probed by ED.



an ED officer, raids were conducted at the residence and office of arrested businessmen at Gurugram. When talked to Supdt .Ambala central jail and Dr. Kuldeep Singh CMO Ambala no one was prepared to say anything about alleged accused. However, founder of M3M real estate firm was admitted in AC room in the civil hospital due to kidney stone pain.

Information reveals, Basant Bansal's arrest came after the Delhi High Court granted him interim protection from arrest till July 5 along with Pankaj Bansal. The court said that in case of an arrest, he would be granted bail subject to certain conditions and a personal bond of Rs 10 lakh. The court>s orders came on separate anticipatory bail applications by Basant Bansal

vices industry, announced that prominent Japanese law firm Nishimura & Asahi is using Intapp solutions to modernize its risk management and timekeeping practices. The firm is live on Intapp Time, Intapp Conflicts, and Intapp Intake, and anticipates a go-

coming weeks

live in Intapp Terms in the "Our goal with Intapp's software goes beyond digitizing our time and risk processes to create a modern and efficient experience for our law-

and Entrepreneurship to advance future of Education & Skilling

Bengaluru/Delhi

Meta announced a three-year partnership with the Ministry try of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship to empower



KRAFTON India Announces Bollywood Superstar Ranveer Singh as BGMI's Brand Ambassador

NEW DELHI: In a landmark move, KRAFTON India is thrilled to announce an exciting collaboration that is set to redefine the gaming landscape in India. Bollywood'spowerhouse and youth icon, Ranveer Singh, has been named the official Brand Ambassador for BAT-TLEGROUNDS MOBILE gic partnership aims to bring the country.



together the thrill of gaming and the charisma of Superstar Ranveer Singh to engage and deliver elevated experiences INDIA (BGMI). This strate- for millions of gamers across

The collaboration between BGMI and Superstar Ranveer Singh is a monumental stride towards celebrating gaming as a medium for immersive entertainment and community engagement. BGMI. India's most loved battle royale title, has found its perfect partner

in Superstar Ranveer Singh, who resonates with the energy and passion that gamers bring to the battlegrounds.

trepreneurs across India. The partnership brings together Meta's work across education and skilling, mapping the journey of India's students from the classroom to the workforce, press statement said here.

Under the partnership, Meta signed three Letters of Intent (LoI). These were with the National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD) which is engaged in training, consultancy and research to promote entrepreneurship and skill develop-

Council for Technical Educa-

tion (AICTE), a statutory body, and a national-level council for technical education, under the Department of Higher Education and the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), the national level board of education in India for public and private schools.

Statement said, Speaking on the occasion, Dharmendra youth, workforce & micro-Pradhan, Union Minister for Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship our Amrit Peedhi into newsaid the initiative launched age problem solvers and enment in India, the All India today was in furtherance to trepreneurs.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of making India a skill capital of the world and empowering our Amrit Peedhi. "Education to Entrepreneurship' partnership is a game-changer, which will take Digital Skilling to the grassroots. This will build capacities of our talent pool, seamlessly connect students, entrepreneurs, with futuristic technologies and transform

KULBIR SINGH KALSI Chandigarh

Confirming to India's Net Zeromission, Loom Solar has been in the process of educating and working on the agenda across India with all potential sectors to reduce carbon footprint for their energy consumption, and textile and fashion cloth manufacturing industrial units being one of the prime contributors to that has been one of the focus segments for the company as it holds a potential of reducing 4.5 metric tonnes of carbon which

equals to 7 bn fully grown trees.

ing and engaging with the In-

dustrial units across Haryana,

Uttar Pradesh, and West Ben-

gal under green energy ambit

Loom Solar has been deploy-

boasts of an array of 700 solar panels, that are slated to reduce its electricity bill by 60% and with the coupling of diesel genset's synchronization device making solar power as a primary source shall effectively have an impact on the environment over its lifetime

by providing in-depth under-

standing of the purpose and

the India's mission for carbon

Continuing with its focus,

Loom Solar has recently de-

ploved 350kW solar powered

solution with its most efficient

solar panels to reflect its long-

term corrective action, thereby

reducing dependence on captive

power through diesel genset for

The currently deployed unit

footprint.

its premises.

IIT- Delhi Concludes Poker and Rummy are Games of Skill

ARUN KUMAR RAO Delhi

Distinguished IIT-Delhi professor Tapan K. Gandhi, Cadence Chair Professor of Artificial Intelligence and Automation along with his team recently conducted an extensive study affirming that Poker and Rummy are games of skill. The study "Online Poker and Rummy- Game of Skill or Chance?" reinforces the importance of cognitive and other skills required for success in Poker and Rummy. It further analysed the impact of experience and learnable skills in the game and the role it plays in the player's longterm success in the Sport, Press statement released here said.

Commenting on the report, Tapan K. Gandhi, Associate Professor in the Dept. of Electrical Engineering, Cadence Chair Pro-

Decarbonising the building industry with Solar Decathlon India



If you take a look around, chances are you'll find

things made out of concrete, steel, or aluminium. You'd have to go into a forest to not find these materials around you. But making them contributes to 23% of global carbon emissions. We use them to make our buildings. And to achieve our climate goals, we need to reduce and stop the emissions related to these materials. While buildings generate nearly 40% of annual energy related carbon emissions globally, about a third of those are 'embodied', and the rest are from the use of electricity and fuels to operate our buildings. The carbon emitted with the energy and heat that is used to make building materials are called embodied carbon emissions.

India is the third largest carbon emitter in the world. About 20% of the country's carbon emissions are from buildings. In the next 2 decades, these emissions will rise by 50%, the largest for any country.



During this period, the built floorspace in India will double. The demand for cement will also double, the demand for steel will triple, and that for bricks will increase by 3 to 4

Buildings last for 50 or more years, and our building decisions have a 50-year lock-in effect. So today's building decisions, and every year from now, will determine if India's achieves it 2070 goal of net-zero. For decarbonising our buildings we have to zero out both the operational and embodied emissions. This is a mammoth challenge that requires many players to come together for a sustainable future. Architects, civil engineers, contractors, and material manufacturers have

India

problem. However, the industry has been slow to act, and the academic curriculum does not prepare future professionals for this.

Solar Decathlon India (SDI), times. The demand for space the world's largest net-zero cooling will grow 8 times! building design challenge, is

actively bridging the gap. SDI's challenge partners student teams with developers to work on real projects to make them net-zero and decarbonise their construction. Since 2020, SDI has built a large ecosystem of students and professionals. In the nine-month challenge, participants are work on ten contests that cover diverse areas that reflect the expectations of market-ready, climate resilient, and net-zero building projects.

In 3rd edition of SDI participants were challenged to the opportunity to address this

Solar [™] Decathlon To help the students, they were offered an online self-learning module dedicated to embodied carbon, that included the foundational science and methods. They were given an easy-to-use tool for calculating embodied carbon empowering them to run what-if scenarios. These learning resources were developed after research and testing of different technologies by the SDI organisers.

The results were remarkable. Over 1700 students from 126 institutions were guided by 170 faculty mentors to learn sustainable building science and propose low carbon solutions. The 36 finalist teams proposed designs that reduced embodied carbon by 80% in walls, 75% in roofs, 55% in floors, 80% in windows, and 40% in structure.

The work done by Team Green Collars from RV College of Architecture, R V College of Engineering, and RV University is an example of the exceptional performance. They worked on Ekagra, a Delhi Public School project for Gyandeep Foundation for project site is located in Nagaon, a flood-prone area reduce embodied carbon in the in Assam that is also exposed

building materials they chose. to earthquakes. Team Green Collars developed design strategies to build resilience against these hazards. With a combination of passive design, RCC and bamboo structure, and high efficiency cooling systems, they achieved a net-zero energy and water design that also reduced embodied carbon by 124% for walls and 47% for structure.

SDI also involves the real estate industry. They collaborate as 'Project Partners', where they access creativity of students, expertise of their mentors, and net-zero solutions on their projects while the students get the experience of working on real projects. The 2022-23 challenge saw 83 project partners and Mahindra Lifespaces, Sobha Ltd., TATA Realty, and Infosys became Empanelled Project Partners with a commitment to a long-term association with SDI. They are committed to hiring SDI alumni to work in

their organisations. "Mahindra Lifespaces is an active partner of SDI since its inception. We are happy to offer our projects and guidance to young professionals who participate in SDI to develop netzero projects. SDI interns have

added tremendous value to our net-zero journey." says Sunita Purshottam, Head of Sustainability at Mahindra Lifespaces. But what about the all the existing buildings that were built in efficiently and some that will continue to be built that way in the

future? How can we retrofit them? SDI has introduced a product division for its 2023-24 cycle that could possibly touch all of us. While heat stress has become more

frequent and the need for cooling grows with climate change, only 10% Indian households have airconditioning. The product division challenges students to develop innovative solutions that could be purchased off-the-shelf and installed in existing residences. It invites new engineering approaches to bring retrofit cooling solutions to all of us, addressing the need for cooling, and making cooling more efficient.

SDI is an example of what can be achieved when we unite to tackle the most pressing problems and use the power of education. innovation, and collaboration for a greener, more sustainable future.

> Prasad Vaidya, Director Solar Decathlon India. Views are personal



fessor of AI and Automation, IIT Delhi said, "Amidst ongoing conversations around online gaming and biased perception terming it as a taboo owing to preconceived notions, the exhaustive study examines the game play of various players to understand if the game in reality focuses on skill or element of luck prevails. Throughout our research, we were presented with compelling cases that made it clear that these sports indeed require a level of innate understanding that aided in building the cognitive abilities

of the players.

BANKING **S**FINANCE

Bank of Baroda enables UPI ATM facility at over 6,000 ATMs across country

Bank said it is the first public sector bank to launch UPI ATMs, in coordination with NPCI and powered by NCR Corporation

NEW DELHI: State-owned Bank of Baroda (BoB) on Friday announced that it has enabled the UPI ATM facility at over 6,000 ATMs across the country.

It is the first public sector bank to launch **ÛPI** ATMs, in coordination with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and powered by NCR Corporation, BoB said in a statement.

Panasonic to invest another Rs 300 cr in Andhra facility by 2026, aims higher exports from India



VARANASI: Panasonic Electric Works India (PEWIN) will invest another Rs 300 crore to increase capacity at its unit in Sri City, Andhra Pradesh, company officials said on Friday. The Japanese company is looking to use the facility for exports and will primarily target the Middle East and African markets, they told reporters here. "We have invested Rs 300 crore as part of the first phase of the project, and will be investing another Rs 300 crore by 2026," PEWIN Director for power business unit, Rajesh Nandwani, said. At present, the overall production capacity of the company, which operates plants in Daman and Haridwar as well, is 62 crore pieces per year, which will grow to 70 crore by 2025 and 100 crore by 2030, Nandwani said. The company produces various products such as switches and switchboards. PEWIN Managing Director Yoshiyuki Kato said the company's revenues stood at Rs 5,100 crore in FY23, and

बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ीदा Bank of Baroda

Customers as well as cus-Using the Interoperable Cardless Cash Withdrawal tomers of all participating issuer banks using any UPI-(ICCW) technology, which enabled Mobile app can facilitates cardless cash withwithdraw cash from Bank of drawals through ATMs, the Baroda UPI ATMs without UPI ATM enables seamless QR-based cash withdrawals, using their debit card, it said.

NEWDELHI: The States and

UTs are extensively using the PM GatiShakti approach for

planning connectivity to In-

dustrial Regions, said Special Secretary (Logistics), DPIIT,

Reviewing a meeting con-

vened for the Western and Cen-

tral Zones States/UTs of India,

she said the state governments

are also using this approach for

selecting the location of social

infrastructure assets, such as an-

ganwadis, schools, hospitals, etc.

ing their existing development

programmes/schemes with the

States/UTs are integrat-

Sumita Dawra.

doing away with the need to carry a Card to withdraw cash.

Joydeep Dutta Roy, Executive Director, BoB said, "The UPI ATM facility is a convenient and secure way for people to withdraw cash without the use of a card. The UPI ATM marries the popularity & security of UPI with the extensive reach & availability of ATMs.'

"Some of the major benefits of the UPI ATM facility is that customers can withdraw cash from multiple accounts linked to UPI. UPI ATM transactions are also quicker, convenient, and secured as it generates a single-use dynamic QR code for every transaction and ensures a safe banking experience," the Bank said

Legislation introduced in US House to remove high-tech export barriers to India

WASHINGTON: As President Joe Biden visited New Delhi, two powerful lawmakers have introduced legislation in the US House of Representatives to remove high-tech export barriers to India to give a big boost to the unrestricted export of sensitive technologies to the country and bolster bilateral technology cooperation. The legislation was intro-

duced on Friday by Congressmen Gregory Meeks, Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and Andy Barr, vice chair of the House India Caucus The "Technology Exports

to India Act" aims to facilitate the sale of high-performance computers and related equipment to India and strengthen United States-India technology cooperation.

As President Biden visits India for the G-20 Summit, we are happy to introduce the 'Technology Exports to India Act' to bolster technology cooperation between the United States and India," the two lawmakers said in a joint statement.

"This bill removes restric-tions on the sale of US products, such as digital computers and electronic assemblies, to India without a Department of Commerce license, thereby enhancing US-India technology trade, linkages between our technology companies, and supply chain resilience for a critical industry," they wrote.

strengthening of our strateic partnership with India, this legislative change reduces regulatory barriers to technology cooperation," Meeks and Barr said

The bill says Congress feels that greater technological and defence cooperation with India is critical to tackling shared geopolitical and security chalnges

As such it is important to reduce regulatory barriers to technological cooperation with India in ways that enhance national security and advance strategic priorities, the bill says. The bill says President Biden providing flexibility to export high-performance computers to India would bolster United

States-India technological cooperation and demonstrate Congress's commitment to India as a strategic partner.

As such, removing India from the "Computer Tier 3" eligible countries' list in section 740.7(d) of title 15 of the Code of Federal Regulations would help to strengthen the bilateral "In light of the further relationship, the bill says.



Noting that the United States designated India a US Major Defence Partner, providing it access to a wide range of military and dual-use items regulated by the Department of Commerce, the bill says for the items controlled for national security reasons by the Department of Commerce, India is subject to a general policy of approval for licenses for civil or military end uses in India or for the Government of India so long as the items are not for nuclear, missile or chemical or iological activities.

However, currently, the export of high-performance computers meeting certain specifications to India requires authorisation of the United States Government under section 1211 of the National Defence Authorisation Act for Fiscal Year 1998.

The US President does not have the authority to remove or delete India from the excluded Computer Tier 3 eligible country list. The bill once passed by Congress would help facilitate that.

plant waste and municipal

solid waste. While India is on

schedule to double the mixing

of ethanol extracted from sug-

arcane and agriculture waste to

20 per cent with petrol by 2025,

dozens of compressed biogas (CBG) plants are being set up.

The Global Biofuels Alliance

is aimed at facilitating coopera-

tion and intensifying the use of

sustainable biofuels, including

in the transportation sector. Its

focus is primarily on strengthen-

ing markets, facilitating global

biofuel trade, developing con-

crete policy lesson-sharing and

providing technical support for

national biofuel programmes

worldwide. Such an initiative

is also aimed at helping India's

transition to alternative fuels

and cutting its import bill, as

green masala bonds, InVITs to meet longterm renewable energy capacity investment

Centre may explore



NEW DELHI: The Central government's target of scaling up its renewable energy capacity to 500 Gigawatt (GW) by 2030 will require an investment of Rs 17 lakh crore for long-term commitments. and it may explore green masala bonds and infrastructure investment trusts (InVITs).

However, this would also include associated transmission costs and the country would need an annual investment of Rs 1.5-2 lakh crore in renewable energy sector, against which the estimated investment for the last few years has been in the range of

Rs 75,000 crore only. To meet this huge gap between the required and actual investment, and the fact that the overall debt requirement is large and reducing the cost of financing to the renewable energy developers is important, the renewable energy ministry aims to work towards exploring innovative financing mechanisms.

According to sources, it is likely to look at alternative funding avenues like infrastructure development fund (IDF), infrastructure investment trusts (InVITs), alternate investment funds, green masala bonds and even crowd funding for the renewable energy sector.

Apart from this, the ministry may also explore the possibility of prescribing renewable finance obligation on the lines of renewable purchase obligation for banks and financial institutions in order to make them invest a specific percentage of their investment in the renewable energy sector, sources aware

of development said. Since green banks have emerged as an innovative tool for accelerating clean energy financing globally, the government may also explore setting up of a green bank system, which can address the persisting finance related challenges being faced by the renewable energy sector in the country.

Flipkart to create over 1 lakh jobs in supply chain ahead of festive season

NEW DELHI: E-commerce major Flipkart on Monday said that it will generate over 1, 00, 000 direct and indirect jobs across its supply chain, including fulfilment centres, sortation centres, and delivery hubs, ahead of the festive season. These seasonal jobs include

local Kirana delivery partners, women, persons with disabilities (PWDs), and others, thus creating avenues for diverse supply chain talent.

This year, we are also creating over a lakh new job opportunities in our supply chain while also investing in skilling initiatives to deliver an elevated customer experience is aiming to increase it three as we strengthen our footprint times by 2030 because of the across the country. This year, strengthening its reach in tierwe plan to deliver more than 40 III cities and beyond.

couraged to do banking work

regional, administrative, local

in Hindi.



States use PM GatiShakti approach to connect Industrial Regions

integrated its Pahunch portal with the SMP, for effective decisionmaking about site suitability of new schools, based on various parameters like population, con-

ment used the PMGS for planning its coastal corridor to promote tourism. State of Goa planned the disaster management/ evacuation route during floods to minimize loss of life, using the PMGS NMP/ GIS-based NMP/SMP to achieve nectivity, teacher-pupil ratio, etc. SMP portals," she said.

Global Biofuels Alliance likely to be launched at G20: Sources

NEW DELHI: India's proposal for setting up a Global Biofuels Alliance is likely to get through at the G20 summit with sources indicating that the new grouping may be launched on Saturday to help accelerate energy transition.

A group photo of the G20 world leaders may take place on the first day of the summit per cent of shipments through on Saturday after it begins at our Kirana delivery programme, Bharat Mandapam, the venue Hemant Badri, Senior Vice for the two-day summit, sources said. The Global Biofuels Alli-President and Head of Supply ance, which the world's third Chain, Customer Experience, and ReCommerce, Flipkart biggest oil consumer wants to push during its G20 presidency, Moreover, the company mirrors the International Solar said that Flipkart has scaled Alliance (ISA) piloted by New its supply chain with last-mile Delhi and Paris in 2015 to bring distribution hubs and largeclean and affordable solar enscale fulfilment centres this year, ergy within the reach of all.

Earlier this month, Prime Minister Narendra Modi told



to media in an exclusive interview that India's proposal for a global alliance on biofuels among members of the Group of 20 major economies will help accelerate sustainable biofuels deployment in support of the

global energy transition. "Such alliances are aimed at creating options for developing countries to advance their

from the perspective of a circular economy. Markets, trade, technology, and policy - all aspects of international cooperation are crucial in creating such opportunities," Modi had said.

Biofuel is a renewable source of energy which is derived from biomass. India, which imports over 85 per cent of its crude oil needs, is gradually building energy transitions," he had said. capacity to produce fuel from it seeks to achieve its net zero "Biofuels are also important items including crop stubble, carbon emissions goal by 2070.

Status of Hindi in Banking Sector



opportunities it sees here.

an unprecedented upsurge in the use of Hindi in the seven decades after independence, for which there have been many reasons, in which market power has been the most important, but Hindi has not yet become the working language in banks, however, the situation is better can be used in Hindi, but most than before. The employees who of the customers use technical have bond to Hindi language must do mail or correspondence in Hindi. As per the instructions of the bank, Mangal or Unicode font of Hindi has been installed in all the computers, so that

the willing bankers can work in Hindi. With this initiative of Hindi. In this matter, it is of the banks, working in Hindi also the responsibility of the has become easier.

Hindi is the language of com- not be ashamed of working in munication of banks in north- Hindi. No one becomes illiterern, eastern, and central India, ate or stupid by communicatbecause the spoken language of ing or writing in Hindi. Since the customers of these regions is Hindi. Hence, Hindi is the to opt for Hindi in the use of language of the bank personnel who communicate with the therefore, whether the customcustomers. Similarly, in states ers are opting for Hindi or not, where Hindi is not the language, banks appoint bankers who are and customers should be enable to communicate in the local language or dialect.

However, even today Hindi is not the scripting language of the bankers. Internal correspondence is done in English. Even note, remarks, memo etc., are written in English. There all the departments achieve are very few exceptions in the the target of working in Hindi, matter. Bank employees do cor- nevertheless, thesituation is respondence in Hindi outside dismal. Some departments do the bank only when a letter is correspond in Hindi, but no received by them from other one writes notes in Hindi. If office or customer in Hindi.

Due to the provisions of the Official Languages Act, banks have made available the option of Hindi to the customers in **h** e r e the use of technology. Today, h a s the option of choosing Hindi **b** e e n is available in the operation of many apps, passbook printing, ATM machine etc. If the customer wishes, the passbook may be printed in Hindi by choosing the option of Hindi: With choosing Hindioption, you can also withdraw money from ATM machine or any app of the bank

Group, said in a statement.

the top executive does not sign on the same.

Mangal font or Unicode is indevices or apps related to banking in English instead of Hindi. stalled on the computer desktop While they do not even have of all employees and officers to knowledge of English. There is a meet the standards set by the parneed for change in such a state. liamentary committee reviewing Banks are making continuthe progress of Hindi. The heads ous efforts for the promotion of the departments confirm this, but, except Hindi Sevi, none of the employees and officers work common men that they should

in Hindi on computers. The condition of Hindi in banks is so bad that no senior officials want to discuss or talk in Hindi internally. Hindi is banks have provided the facility considered the language of employees and junior officers in technology to promote Hindi, banks. Nonetheless, bank personnel in all branches in many regions of the country have to banks should also be concerned, speak Hindi, as customers communicate in Hindi.

Today many customers in South India also communicate The work being done in Hindi in Hindi. Especially in big citis reviewed every quarter in the ies. Despite this, the employees and officers posted in the head offices and corporate ofbank's branch do internal corfices of the banks. Statistically respondence in English. Since the nationalization of banks, English has remained dominant in banks.

To a large extent, the top executives of banks are responsible for the present plight of Hindi in someone wants to write, then banks, because they themselves

do not work in Hindi, as well as

the bankers who are working or want to work in Hindi at lower levels. Sometimes those who

work in Hindi are also punished. It is common in banks to harass the employees and officers working in Hindi. Employees who communicate in Hindi are looked down upon.

Broadly speaking, everyone in banks is doing all banking related work in English. Even if, they do not have knowledge of English. Due to compulsion, the officers of the bank are ready to write, read or speak in Hindi. They eat bread of Hindi and remain stuck in the love of English. Their love for English is so unbreakable that their children are educated in convent schools. Hindi has become the lan-

guage of translation in banks. Various departments of the bank work in English, but to comply with the rules of the official language, they get it translated into Hindi from the official language department. If seen, the official language department of banks does the work of translation only. However, many times the meaning gets lost in translation.

Because banking terminol-

knowledge, they are not familiar with colloquial language, due to which translation in colloquial language is not being done. Another important reason is the lack of banking experience of the Rajbhasha Adhikari. Due to these reasons, the translation made in Hindi of deposit slips, withdrawal slips, loan documents etc. is not understandable even to the educated people, leave alone the common man.

The employees and officers posted in the Official Language Department and the top executives of the bank expressed their concern about the bad condition and direction of Hindi in the banks, but after September 14 or after the month of September, they forget Hindi. Although the Top Management of the bank do not want to lag at any cost in performing the annual ritual of "Hindi Divas", but what will happen with such formality? Will this lead to the promotion of Hindi in

the banks or will the desire to imbibe Hindi by heart develop in the minds and hearts of the bank employees? The mental slavery that Honourable Prime Minister Shri

Narendra Modi talked about; our banks are also trapped in the same mental slavery in the context of English. In banks, English has dominated everyone's mind. One reason for this has also been the policy of promoting Hindi half-heartedly by the policymakers of the country after independence. As a result, today the banking system is deeply entangled in the web of English.

However, despite all kinds ogy is very difficult and transla- of obstacles in front of Hindi

tors usually have only bookish in banks, it would be appropriate to say that the condition of Hindi has improved in banks as compared to earlier. Change doesn't even come in a day. So, we can expect that the future of Hindi in banks will be bright in the coming days.

A beautiful picture can be made of Hindi if the thinking is changed. In this case, the employees of Hindi heartland can take the initiative to work in Hindi. Language is not only the identity of a country but also of a person. Speaking in vour own language does not detract from one's worth. Today, many central ministers including Honourable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi

communicate in Hindi. Several instances have been seen of many central ministers including the Prime Minister communicating with bank heads in Hindi. In such a situation, it is beyond comprehension not to do business in Hindi in the bank.

The way the sense of support towards Hindi is visible in the functioning of the present government, it is possible that there will be a change in the thinking of the bank employees as well and they will move towards becoming free from the English mindset. The Top Management of the bank should take cognizance of the prevailing situation and take initiative to change the situation. Slowly but surely, bankers are moving in this direction. Therefore, it can be expected that betterment of Hindi in banks will continue to move forward.

> Satish Singh, Ahmedabad based Senior Columnist. Views are personal.

Froth accumulating in small cap stocks segment: Analysts

NEW DELHI: There is froth in the small-cap segment which is driven by momentum, says V.K. Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Financial Services.

The market has turned excessively volatile responding to fast changing incoming data. DIIs have been consistent buyers on the back of good flows to domestic mutual funds. But FIIs have been consistently selling in the cash market this month with a net sell figure of Rs 7, 850 crore, he added.

The FII selling has been triggered by the rising US bond vields and the strengthening dollar. With the yield from the US 10-year at 4.29 per cent and 2-year at 5 per cent, the FIIs are



market sentiments, he said. A major concern in the market is the Brent crude rising above \$90 with negative implications for India's macros and inflation. Investors may exercise cau-

tion and on correction buy only high quality stocks, preferably in banking, IT and capital goods, he said. BSE Sensex is up 50 points at 65, 931 points on Thursday morning. L&T is up almost 2 per cent.

India, US settles last trade dispute at WTO

US have settled the last trade dispute at the World Trade Organization (WTO) over poultry products, according to a joint statement released on Friday.

With this, the two countries have mutually resolved all the seven pending trade disputes at the WTO. "The leaders lauded the settlement of the seventh and last outstanding WTO dispute between India and the United States. This follows the unprecedented settlement of six outstanding bilateral trade disputes in the WTO in June 2023," the joint statement said.

It was issued after the meeting of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and United States President Joseph R Biden, Jr., here. Biden is here to attend the G20 Summit to be held on Saturday and Sunday. Modi and the US President vowed to "deepen and diversify" the bilateral major defence partnership while welcoming forward movement in India's

NEW DELHI: India and the procurement of 31 drones and joint development of jet engines. In their over 50-minute talks, the two leaders deliberated on India's G20 presidency, cooperation in nuclear energy, critical and emerging technologies such as 6G and artificial intelligence, and ways to fundamentally reshape multilateral development banks. Earlier, the seventh dispute was discussed during the visit of US Trade Representative Katherine Tai's meeting with Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal meeting last month here. They had tasked their respective teams with continuing discussions on this dispute in order to reach a solution soon.

During Modi's visit to the US in June, the two countries announced ending of six trade disputes at the WTO and India's removal of tariffs on certain U.S. products (chickpeas, lentils, almonds, walnuts, apples, boric acid, and diagnostic reagents).

INTERNATIONAL

India plays down Chinese Prez Kim Jong-un may choose unexpected Xi's absence from G20 summit route to Russia: S.Korean intelligence

NEW DELHI : India on Friday played down the absence of Chinese president Xi Jinping from the G20 summit and apprehensions on the Ukraine conflict derailing talks, by saying that its presidency of the grouping has managed to bring all nations on board and this would be on display during the summit over the next two days.

Addressing the pre-G20 summit press conference, G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant said that China is a multilateral player and in a multilateral discussion, the issues are different from bilateral issues.

"China brings its own perspective on issues of growth and development. However in such events, there has be a consensus and everybody has to be on board, since every nation has a veto power. We have managed to bring everybody on board. We have worked with every single country



and brought them on board, forum for discussing issues of which you will see during the course of the summit, " Kant growth and development. How-ever, the last time in Bali (G20 said while responding to questions relating to Xi's absence in any way undermining the significance of the event. On a question of Ukraine

summit), it was felt that war and conflict impact economy and growth so it was discussed. Here too, it may be discussed, but the leaders will have to take a call

conflict derailing the G20 sum-mit, the Sherpa said: "G20 is a discuss it, I can talk about it."

North Korean leader Kim Jong-un may opt for an unexpected route when he travels to Russia for a meeting with President Vladimir Putin, according to South Korea's National Intelligence Service (NIS)

Earlier this week. The New York Times had reported that Kim plans to travel to Vladivo-

stok, possibly by an armoured train, later this month for talks with Putin about the possibility of supplying Russia with more weaponry for its ongoing war in Ukraine and other military cooperation. "As it was revealed to the

making a surprise move by

choosing a different route than what is expected, "Yonhap News Agency quoted an NIS official as saying during a parliamentary intelligence committee meeting on Thursday.

During the meeting, NIS Director Kim Kyou-hyun said the agency is closely monitoring the planned visit and sharing intelligence with other national spy agencies as a summit between the North and Russia would have a big effect on the international situation.

The New York Times report said a delegation of some 20 North Korean officials traveled to Vladivostok in late August.

"One potential stop for Mr. Kim after Vladivostok, an official said, is Vostochny Cosmodrome, a space launch centre, " said the report, noting North Korea may be seeking to secure advanced technology for New York Times, there is a satellites and nuclear-powered possibility of Kim Jong-un submarines from Russia in exchange of its weapons.

over 48 days, tire-

lessly working to

assist the commu-

nities. In the past

month alone, 18

teams of volunteers have carried

out rescue operations, reaching

out to stranded individuals and

delivering essential food and

clean water to villages through-

G-20 Booklet: Indian Govt high-lights the lessons of Democracy, Public Welfare from Ramayana & Mahabharata



MEENAKSHI BHATTACHARYA New Delhi

The G-20 Summit will be held in New Delhi on September 9 and 10 so it is busy dressing up now in Delhi. To highlight the greatness of Indian democracy in front of the guests, two booklets with a long history have been printed out by the Narendra Modi government. They are, 'India, the Mother of Democracy' and 'Elections in India'. The talk of democracy in Ramayana yug has come up in it. It is written that King Dasharatha nominated the then yuvraj Rama as his heir only with the approval of his ministers. Bhishma>s suggestion of good governance to Yudhishthira from Sharasaiya means Arrow bed in Mahabharata, talking about the welfare of the people, is also claimed to be in line with he spirit of democracy.

The next part of the booklet deals with the arrival of

Buddha>s teachings emphasize the direction of democracy and claim that even in ancient India, democracy was an integral part of society. The booklet mentions the participation of a large number of citizens in various elections in independent India. The booklet portrays India as the <Mother of Democracy». Above it is the well-known image of the Indus civilization standing with her hands on her waist. Indus Civilization, Ramayana-Mahabharata, Maurya Emperor Ashoka, Chhatrapati Shivaji and even Mughal Emperor Akbar have been found in it. The booklet contains the hymns of the Rigveda. How words such as Sabha, Samiti or Sangsad used in various old books including Vedas are currently used to refer to the Indian Parliament, have been presented in a total of 16 languages

Buddhism in India, Gautama

Biden 'disappointed' Xi won't attend G20 Summit in New Delhi

US President Joe Biden has expressed his "disappointment" over his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping's likely absence at this week's G20 Summit in New Delhi.

According to news reports, Chinese Premier Li Qiang is expected to represent China at the summit which will take place from September 8 to 10 in the Indian capital, reports the BBC. "I am disappointed... but I am going to get to see him, "Biden told reporters on Sunday, without providing any further details. The last time the two Presidents met was at the G20 Summit in Bali, Indonesia in 2022

Xi had earlier said he would travel to New Delhi for the Summit, but China's Foreign Ministry did not confirm his attendance when asked to do so at a regular press briefing on August 31. Xi and Biden may still have an op-

portunity to speak in November, at a meeting among leaders of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation in San Francisco, the BBC reported.

SONOWAL

A group of more than 70 MPs cutting across party lines have called on UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak to seek "immediate release" of a British Sikh imprisoned in India, as he travels to New Delhi to attend the G20 leaders' summit this week.

In a letter, the MPs urged Sunak to call on Prime Minister



release" Jagtar Singh Johal, who has been "arbitrarily detained"

for over five years in India, the BBC reported. Johal from Dumbarton was in Punjab for his wedding when he was arrested in Jalandhar on November 4, 2017, over his alleged role in

killings by the Khalistan Liberation Force (KLF), a banned terrorist organisation.

In July 2023, the regions of Panjab and Haryana faced severe floods due to heavy and

Int'l Student Raises £100,000 for Pb & Hry Floods

continuous rainfall. Responding swiftly, Khalsa Aid India immediately organised emergency relief efforts, extending a helping hand to those affected by the floods.

Our dedicated volunteers have been on the ground for out Panjab and Haryana.

Ahead of Khalistan referendum, another Hindu temple defaced in Canada

TORONTO: In a latest attack on Hindu places of worship in Canada, a prominent temple in the British Columbia province has been vandalised with anti-India and pro-Khalistan graffiti.

The outer walls of Shree Mata Bhameshwari Durga Society Mandir in Surrey were spray painted on Thursday with slogans reading, "Punjab is not India" and "Modi is a terrorist". "A Hindu temple Shree Mata

Bhameshwari Durga Devi Society has been vandalised with black spray paint. These kinds of cowardly attacks are on rise



to create terror amongst the community, "Sameer Kaushal, News Director at Radio AM600 in Richmond, wrote on X. Kaushal said that the Sur-

Indian Traditional Medicine Systems in G20 - Reassuring Evidence and Equity

the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) have been notified about the incident

The development comes just ahead of a Khalistan Referendum event, scheduled for September 10,

and threats from banned group Sikhs For Justice (SFJ) to "lock down" India's Consulate in Vancouver.

The referendum event, sched-

rey detachment of uled to take place at a school in Surrey, was cancelled after images of weapons on the poster were brought to the school authorities' notice by concerned residents.

(dagger) as well as an AK-47 machine gun, along with the name of SFJ

It also had pictures of Khalistani leaders Hardip Singh Nijjar, who was shot dead in June at a parking lot in Surrey and Talwinder Singh Parmar, the mastermind of the 1985 Air India Flight bombing.

SGPC to establish a press in USA to publish holy saroops of Sri Guru Granth Sahib

JAGMOHAN SINGH Amritsar

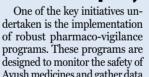
The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) has decided to establish its press in the United States of America (USA) and publish the holy saroops (scriptures) of Sri Guru Granth Sahib. This press will be established in Tracy city of California, where the Dharam Prachar Kendra (religious preaching center) of the SGPC will also be functioning. Moreover, a religious preaching center will also be set up in Yuba City in the USA. This decision has been taken in the SGPC's executive committee (EC) meeting held today under the ch hirmanshin



community in USA and Canada. at present it has a large number He said that Gurdwaras will of important books. Dhami said that the SGPC also be established in these two

centers and the Sangat will also get religious literature there. He informed that as per the demand of the Sangat in Australia, the SGPC will ship 220 holv saroops as per M arvada by the sea in a special bus. The SGPC President said that these decisions have been taken in view of the huge demand for holy saroops from the Sikh community across the globe. Giving information about other decisions of the EC, the SGPC President said that Sri Guru Ramdas Library situated in the complex of Sri Darbar Sahib Sri Amritsar will be digitized and a separate website of this library will be prepared and the titles and indexes of important books will be published on it. The purpose of this development is to familiarize the researchers with the literary treasures in this library so that they can use the books available here for their research work as per their needs. hib in order to provide them He said that this library was established in the year 1927 and

has also decided to launch a campaign to make Guru's city Sri Amritsar clean and green. He said that the present Punjab government has failed to keep the ity clean and green by neg the religious importance of Sri Amritsar. Because of this, the SGPC will work to make the passages leading to Sri Darbar Sahib and its surroundings beautiful and green.



The poster featured a kirpan

dia as a treasure trove of a continuum of traditional knowledge in the field of affordable and evidence-based healthcare facilities, mainly due leaders on important global health to its demonstrated efficacy in issues and the group works towards Avurveda and Yoga. India's G20 presidency provided a golden chance to showcase this efficacy more intimately to world leaders and healthcare experts in a very focused manner. The Ministry of Ayush actively participated in all relevant deliberations to communicate to the global community how traditional healthcare sciences of India have been performing to ne- success in terms of participation, gotiate the ever-growing challenges of humanity and the environment while remaining focused to SDG 3 both for the WHO Global Centre of "Good Health and Wellbeing." It is quite evident now that the

health seeking behaviors of global community have changed drastically after COVID and it has shifted towards Holistic Health and Wellbeing. Providing high quality, affordable and accessible healthcare services in an equitable manner is what the humanity needs now. Various initiatives of the Ministry of Ayush during last 9 years have infused modern technological tools and modern methodologies in various traditional medicine systems which has resulted in tremendous growth of the evidence-based Ayush sector as a whole.

It would be pertinent to remind that during the third session of G20 summit in Osaka, Japan, Hon'ble Prime Minister ShriNarendraModi mentioned the 5 A's with respect to health services- Accessible, Affordable, Appropriate, Accountable Ayush has been persistently contributing along these dimensions modernize traditional practices and during the wider discussions under the G20 presidency of India the ministry demonstrated at varithe requisite wherewithal to (a) collaboration among stakeholders cooperation within G20 countries for R&D and standardize regulatory guidelines for Traditional Medicine; (b) engage stakehold- Ayush in various Engagement and

entify potential areas of collaboration and partnerships.

knowledge sharing, capacity build-ing and best practices. The ministry

SARBANANDA ers from the industry to facilitate

Today the worked closely with various G20

world rec- engagement and Working Groups

The Health Working Group under G20 is established to enhance dialogue and inform G20 achieving equitable health for the present and future generations. The Ayush Ministry proactively participated in all the Health Working Group events during India's presidency. All this culminated in the first WHO Traditional Medicine Global Summit held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat on 17-18 August. The summit was a huge exchange of ideas and experiences; and charting out future strategies for Traditional Medicine in Jamnagar, Gujarat and the WHO TM Strategy 2025-35 document.

Appreciating the efforts of the government of India in traditional medicine, Dr.Tedros, DG, WHO reaffirmed the undeniable contribution of India in TM during this global summit. Its noteworthy that the outcome document of this global summit is going to be shortly declared by the WHO as Gujarat Declaration

dency chaired by Brazil. Recently, a stock taking exercise was undertaken by the Ministry of Avush under the chairmanship of G20 sherpa, Amitabh Kant in July in Delhi. The meeting focused on endeavours of the Ministry of Ayush in promoting Ayush systems of medicine at global level through G20. While suggesting the infusion of innovative technologies and novel approaches within the WHO Global Centre for Traditional and Adaptable. The Ministry of Medicine (GCTM), Amitabh Kant elaborated how infusion would ers here that connecting the world and enhance their effectiveness, through medical value travel based leading to broader acceptance and on integrated healthcare, which inutilization of traditional medicine. volves traditional medicine systems ous events/seminars that it has all He underlined the need for better in a robust manner, will serve the promote global collaboration and to integrate the principles of traditional medicine across all G20

> engagement groups The efforts of the Ministry of



Working group meetings of G20 ports the market has grown by have certainly had their impact. It more than 17 percent per year and was evident in this meeting when it is estimated to have reached more than US\$ 23.3 billion. These in the remarks of LavAggarwal, Additional Secretary, MoHFW, numbers are overwhelming by he affirmed the inclusion of traany industry standards. The growditional medicine in MoHFW's ing popularity and acceptance of forthcoming health declaration Ayush is attributed to increased during India's G20 presidency. awareness, scientific validation, He also expressed the need for the government support, global reach, inception of a dedicated forum for lifestyle trends, and the personal-Traditional Medicine to provide ized approach offered by Ayush systems. As more people experience a robust platform for experts and the benefits of Ayush practices, its stakeholders to collaborate and explore the full potential of traacceptance and integration into mainstream healthcare are likely ditional healing practices in the context of modern healthcare. In to continue growing. the same meeting, ChintanVaish-

On one front, it reflects enornav, India Chair for Startup20 mous growth opportunities in mentioned that Ayush system of Ayush sector, but associated chalmedicine has been included in the lenges are also there with this expolist of Startup20 agenda shaping nential growth. The challenges can the future, which shall be taken be seen in the domains of safety, efficacy, transparency, trust and forward under the next G20 presiethical practices.

With its state-of-the-art hos-The increasing popularity pitals and highly skilled doctors, also brings up instances where India has emerged as one of the misleading claims have created most popular destinations for medtrust issues among the public. The ical tourism. To further promote Government of India has taken medical tourism in the country, several steps to address the issue of the first Health Working Group misleading information, including in Thiruvananthapuram organized in the context of advertising and consumer protection. The journey the side event on medical value travel. It was a productive and to ensure safety and transparency insightful forum for discussing the in its operations and promote trust opportunities and challenges in the in the field of Ayush had started medical tourism industry in India. since the very establishment of It was observed by many stakehold-Ministry of Ayush in year 2014.

During these years, ministry has proactively taken steps by strengthening its Pharmacovigilance programme, which has been developed as a robust mechanism for surveillance of misleading advertisement. purpose of addressing disparities in the existing healthcare systems. Along with this, other rules and It is noteworthy that Ayush inregulation related to misleading dustry has gone through a signifiadvertisement are equally effective cant transition during recent years. in dealing with such mischievous According to market research reinstances.

on adverse events or side effects. This program collects, analyzes, and responds to reports of adverse events, ensuring that the safety profile of Ayush medicines is continually monitored.

The ministry has emphasized the importance of regulatory compliance and adherence to established guidelines. It has implemented a regulatory framework for Avush medicines, which includes licensing and certification processes for manufacturers, importers, and distributors. Furthermore, the ministry has focused on promoting research and evidence-based practices in the field of Ayush. It encourages rigorous scientific studies and clinical trials to validate the efficacy and safety of Ayush treatments The Ministry of Ayush collabo-

rates with regulatory authorities; both nationally and internationally. to exchange information, share best practices, and strengthen regulatory oversight of Ayush medicines. This collaboration helps to ensure that safety standards are consistent and aligned with global practices. During the recent WHO Traditional Medicine Global Summit in Gandhinagar, intense deliberations were held on this topic, which resulted in enhanced scope of synergized action in this area among participating countries.

In nutshell, the G20 presidency engagements during the last couple of months provided an excellent opportunity to various Indian traditional medicine systems to showcase and share the evidence-based efficacy of TM. It also strengthened the hope and confidence of all stakeholders of traditional medicine sector across the country and the globe that Indian Traditional Medicine systems are equipped with all the necessary wherewithal to serve the humanity to achieve the lofty goal of universal health coverage.

Sarbananda Sonowal -Union Minister of Ayush and Ports, Shipping & Waterways view are personal

of SGPC President Advocate Harjinder Singh Dhami at the Sikh body's office in Amritsar.

Addressing the press conference after the EC meeting, SGPC President Harjinder Singh Dhami said that the late Didar Singh Bains gave 14.5 acres of land to the SGPC at Yuba City, where activities will be started by building a Dharma Prachar Kendra, Along with this, another center of SGPC will be established in Tracy city of California as per the offer made by non-resident Indian Sikh Gian Singh Sandhu of Canada and eminent businessman Karnail Singh Sandhu of USA. A press will also be set up at this center in Tracy to publish holy saroops of Sri Guru Granth Saas per the demand from the

He also said that keeping in view of the Panthic contribution of former head granthi of Sachkhand Sri Harmandir Sahib Giani Jagtar Singh and Sikh historian Swaran Singh Chuslewarh, their portraits will be installed in the Central Sikh Museum. Apart from this, Kunwar Amritbir Singh, a 21-year-old Sikh youth from Umranangal village in Gurdaspur district, will be honoured with an amount of Rs 51,000 for making a world record of doing 86 pushups on fingers in one minute and breaking the record of Bruce Lee.

Chuhang Technology showcases industryleading radar innovations at IAA 202

that offer superior reliability,

compliance, cost-effectiveness,

and ease of integration. It be-

came China's first millimeter-

wave radar technology com-

pany to receive investment

from FORVIA, the merger

between HELLA and Faurecia.

and has successfully graduated

from accelerator programs by

Tencent and Nvidia.

strategy.

Chuhang Technology ("Chuhang,"), a pioneer in millimeter-wave sensing radars, will exhibit a full range of new technology at the IAA Mobility trade show held between Sept. 4 to Sept. 8 in Munich, next phase of its expansion Germany. The highlight of these radar innovations is a new cabin sensing suite based on its 60 GHz vital sensor developed in partnership with emotion3D

the distillation of our hard work in the international spotlight," saidChu Yongyan, Chief Executive Officer of Chuhang Technology. "IAA is one of the most prestigious gatherings of the transportation industry, and our presence here represents our dedication to enhancing the capabilities of

Reliability, safety and inte-Chuhang's attendance at gration underscore Chuhang's IAA 2023 is the first time it commitment to proactively

MUNICH(GERMANY) : has exhibited outside of Chi- adhere to international stanna, notching a milestone in dards. Its core products, the 60GHz vital sign radar, 77 its international expansion. Founded in 2017, Chuhang GHz forward radar, and the has reached rapid success 77 GHz corner radar, have all across its business verticals. passed EU's CE certification, It's now poised to execute the ready to meet the demands of next-generation vehicles. The Company's millimeter-Chuhang specializes in the wave radar chip, digital signal R&D, production and manuprocessing chipset, integrated facturing of advanced sensing antenna array, microcontroller solutions, having developed a suite of active radar systems

unit and Autosar-based software architecture have all passed the ISO 26262 ASIL-B compliance. Led by Wogong Zhang, Chief Technology Officer and Co-Founder of Chunhang, the company has made significant contributions to the development of the ISO/ PWI 13389 "Road vehicles -Test Method for Detection Performance of Millimeterwave Radar," aiming to set an international standard for the testing millimeter-wave radar

systems.

"We are thrilled to present

next-generation radar.

to make a special appearance in OTT show Chamak

star Gippy Grewal, who has doled out countless chatbuster tracks and blockbuster films, is all set to make his foray in the long format content in the OTT. The actor, who has 'Carry on Jatta

3' on the horizon, will be soon seen in the upcoming streaming series 'Chamak' in which he will be seen

MUMBAI: Punjabi Asees Kaur, Kanwar Grewal, Shashwat Singh and

Harjot Kaur The track 'Ganda Banda' from the show was also released on Thursday marking the run-up to its release. The track is an upbeat trap hip-hop number and has been performed by Vikram Montrose who has also

composed the piece. in a guest appearance The headlining star along with Mika Singh, cast of the series includes MC Square, Afsana Khan, Manoj Pahwa, Paramvir

Singh Cheema, Mohit Malik, Mukesh Chhabra, Isha Talwar, Akasa Singh, Prince Kanwaljit Singh, Suvinder Vicky, Navneet Nishan, Rakesh Bedi, Mahabir Bhullar, Hobby Dhaliwal, Sharan Kaur, Ankita Goraya, Dhanveer Singh, Raj Shoker, Kapil Redekar, Jarnail Singh and Malkeet Rauni. The fictional show is based on the

premise of Punjab and its music industry. It has been created and directed by Rohit Jugraj from a script by Rohit Jugraj and S. Fakira. Produced by Geetanjali Mehlwal Chauhan, Rohit Jugraj Chau-han, Sumeet Dubey and RG Budram Broductions

Rudram Productions 'Chamak', will soon drop on Sony LIV.



Ragneeti : Wedding reception invite goes viral as Parineeti, Raghav gear up for big day

NEW DELHI: The reception invite of Bollywood actress Parineeti Chopra and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Raghav Chadha, who are all set to tie the wedding knot in Lake Citv Udaipur this month, has gone viral on social media.

A picture of the reception card has gone viral on social media. The card is ivory and gold in colour, and it reads as: "WITH

THE HEAVENLY BLESS-INGS OF OUR MOST RE-VERED SHRI P.N. CHADHA JI SMT. VIMLA CHADHA SMT. USHA & SHRI H.S. SACHDEVA ALKA & SUNIL TAJ CHANDIGARH 1:00 PM CHADHA INVITE YOU FOR ONWARDS".



OF THEIR SON RAGHAV and PARINEETI, DAUGHTER OF **REENA & PAWAN CHOPRA** ON 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023



expected to attend the event.

THE RECEPTION LUNCH after the wedding. Several film personalities, including Parineeti's sister Privanka Chopra and her husband Nick Jonas, and leaders from Delhi and other states are



JAIPUR: AAP party leader Raghav Chadha and actress Parineeti Chopra will reportedly tie the wedding knot in Lake City Udaipur this month, said sources. The wedding rituals will be held at Hotel Leela Palace and Udayavilas on September 23-24, they added. During this period, many big personalities from politics and Bollywood will come to Udaipur.

If sources are to be be lieved, mehendi, haldi and sangeet events will start from September 23.

KULBIR KALSI Chandigarh

Chweta Sharda, a 22-year-old from Chandigarh, has recently been crowned LIVA Miss Diva Universe 2023, and her return to the capital city was met with a warm the nation at the upcoming she also earned the subtitles

POTPOURRI

LIVA Miss Diva Universe 2023 Shweta Sharda returns to a Glorious Homecoming in Chandigarh

Miss Universe pageant, with Times Miss Body Beautiful and high expectations for her to Times Miss Talented. Shweta bring home the coveted crown.

Shweta's journey from Chandigarh to making her mark in Mumbai is a testament to her relentless pursuit of her dreams. Raised by a resilient single mother, she learned to embrace courage from a young age in the face of adversity. At the age of 16, she took a leap into the unknown by relocating to Mumbai to chase her aspirations. You and enthusiastic reception. may recognize her from your Her remarkable achievement screens, where she has captivated audiences with her perin winning this prestigious title at the grand finale of formances on renowned shows like DID, Dance Deewane, LIVA Miss Diva 2023 was and Dance+ Herinnate selfcelebrated with immense joy and delight by her famtaught brilliance even shone through as a choreographer ily and friends. India now pins its hopes on Shweta as on Jhalak Dikhhla Jaa. Durshe prepares to represent ing her journey to the crown,

envisions a world where people are open about crucial issues like mental health awareness, gender equality, and accessible education. She aspires to collaborate with organizations that share these goals and leverage her influence to drive positive change, inspiring individuals worldwide to contribute to a better society.

Outside of her pageant endeavors, Shweta enjoys a diverse range of hobbies. She is passionate about daily workouts, and her curiosity leads her to engage in meaningful conversations with older individuals, finding wisdom in their stories. Music holds a special place in her heart, and she often finds herself grooving to its beats while sitting by her window.

a rich history of traditional way

of medical treatment. Ayurveda

stands to be the most ancient,

most widely accepted, prac-

ticed and flourished indigenous

system of medicine. The other

systems of traditional medi-

'Ayush Visa': An Initiative of Indian Govt to promote Medical Tourism As we all know that India has

KAVITA SHARMA New Delhi

In an effort to provide medical benefits to the foreign tourists coming to India every year for traditional treatments, Government of India has started a new initiative. "Ayush Visa" is a special category of Visa that allows foreign nationals to avail the Traditional Indian medicine system in India. This new initiative started by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ayush Visa will be a great help for the foreign nationals who are interested to

take medical treatment including therapeutic care, wellness and especially Yoga during their stay in India.

With the introduction of this new special visa scheme for foreigners the medical tourism will also boost in India, Union Minister of Ayush, Sarbananda Sonowal said at its launch this month. It will also strengthen their endeavor of making Indian traditional medicine a world-

wide phenomenon.

from neighboring countries come to India for medical treatments, organ transplants etc. for which they have to stay in India for a longer time. In the year 2022. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced the need of this special visa system for foreign nationals under the Heal in India initiative. After which the Ministry of Health and family welfare and Ministry of Ayush jointly started worked on it to develop one stop Heal in India portal for foreigners. It is an initiative of the Indian Government aimed to promote medical tourism in the country.

Heal In India program of Indian Govt

It is a global initiative of the Health Ministry which aims to promote India as a global leader Every year hundreds of patients in Health sector and encourage

cine are yoga, Unani, Siddha, medical tourism in India. This Homeopathy and Naturopaprogram is based on the Indian thy. Yoga which has its roots Philosophy of Seva. The Heal in in India has also emerged as India has a digital portal that the most popular exercise form of treatment not only in India helps the international patients but worldwide. According to plan their medical journey in India. It also provides them the International Yoga Federawith information of the nearest healthcare facilities during their stay in India. According to the reports

The Global Wellness economy" looking beyond COVID' by the Global Wellness Institute, the Global wellness Economy will grow to \$70 billion by 2025, with a tremendous growth in Medical value Travel. For this a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was recently signed with India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) and Ministry of Tourism (GOI).

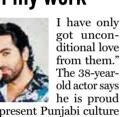
tion around 300 million people practice yoga globally, with 36 million in US alone. Yoga tourism is also growing fast. We have certified yoga teachers in Indonesia, Thailand, Canada, UK, France, Germany and Europe. The practice of Yoga is a well established form of spiritual and physical exercise in Spain and Bali. The Ayush Visa initiative of the government along with tra-

ditional way of treatment will also give a significant boost to India's Medical Tourism system.

Ayushmann : 'I always wanted to make Punjab proud of my work'

MUMBAI: Bollywood star Ayushmann Khurrana said that since he is a Punjabi, it matters to him a lot that the state of Punjab is proud of his body of work. Ayushmann said: "Being a Punjabi, I have always wanted to make Punjab proud of my work, and I'm indebted to the people of Punjab for the love that they

have always showered on me. He added: "From my first film, Punjab has cheered me on, supported me through thick and thin and ensured that it always had my back no matter what.



to represent Punjabi culture through his movies and songs. Ayushmann said: "Whatever I'm today is because of their

blessings, their support, and their feedback. I consider myself lucky to be a Punjabi and to have represented its culture and traditions through my craft."



Indian artist Jagiot Singh Rubal gives final touches on a painting of US President Joe Biden, in Amritsa on Tuesday. The artist, Jagjot Singh made a 7ft by 5ft hand-made painting of US President Joe Biden in Amritsar, to welcome him in India for the G20 Summit. PHOTO: PRABHJOT

Reserve' Day Indo-Pak Match in Asia Cup

SUNIL THAPLIYAL New Delhi

A reserve day has been set aside for this Asia Cup Super Four match for the next encouneen India and Pakistan on September 10. Apart from the final, this is the only match with a reserve day. The change in the match conditions was communicated by the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB), which advised fans to hold on to their tickets in case a reserve day is required.

According to the PCB, the

per-4 that has a reserve day is



India against Pakistan; all other matches will be cancelled in case of rain. Earlier, on September 2, the match between India and Pakistan was called off due to weather. Due to rain



GILL AMRITSAR



GO BACK

Farmers from Punjab shout slogans as they hold effigy of Indian Prime Minister Narender Modi during a protest against PHOTO: PRABHJOT GILI upcoming G20 summit, which will be held in India

match between India and Pakistan will be made up on September 11 if it is not played on September 10. As a result, toss and batted first, scoring 266 the Indian team would have to play two matches in a row. As per the schedule, India will play Bangladesh on September 12. The only match in the Su-

in the middle of the match, only one innings could be played and no balls could be thrown in the second innings. India won the runs. Neither the spectators on the field nor those watching the India-Pakistan encounter after a year on TV could enjoy the match adequately.

BCCI President Roger Binny and Vice-President Rajeev Shukla arrive to cross the Attari-Wagah border to visit Pakistan for Asia Cup 2023, about 35 kilometers (22 miles) from Amritsar on Monday. PHOTO: PRABHJOT GILL

Paloma Dhillon among 100 actresses who auditioned for 'Dono' part

'Chura liya hai tumne': Asha Bhosle & R.D. Burman's melodious journey, discordant end



MUMBAI: Actress Paloma Dhillon, who is making her debut with the upcoming film 'Dono', was among 100 actresses who auditioned for the part in the film. She had to wait for seven months before actually securing the role, and was deemed as the perfect fit for this love story. Excited about this opportunity, Paloma said: "Being part of 'Dono' is a dream come true. It's a relevant tale about today's youth and I can't wait for people to watch the film." The trailer of the film, which was released recently, promises a heartfelt story of two strangers who are trying to make their way around life after moving on from their respective love interests. The film marks the debut ing engineer "did not like" her of Rajveer Deol, the son of actor Sunny Deol, who is currently basking in the blockbuster success of his recent release 'Gadar 2', and Paloma Thakeria, the daughter of Poonam Dhillon.

Intrinsically talented, both, separately and jointly, gave a new direction to Hindi film music.

But to achieve this, Asha Bhosle and Rahul Dev Burman had to surmount a major "hurdle" -- creating a new identity distinct from their illustrious and established kin: elder sibling Lata Mangeshkar and father Sachin Dev Burman.

And both succeeded -- with a combination of luck, support, their own undeniable virtuosity, and above all, their first ioint effort.

Asha Bhosle -- who is still going strong at 90, having worked with four generations of music composers from O.P. Nayyar to A.R. Rehman -- added a sensuous allure and element of forthrightness for the Hindi film heroine, without becoming risque or boisterous, even as Burman adroitly used pop and jazz to good effect in electrifying film music -- bringing the age of Elvis Presley and the Beatles to India.

Rejected at a trial for a film in 1947 as the sound recordvoice -- as of her co-singer, who happened to be Kishore Kumar! -- Asha slowly persevered over the next decade as the voice of supporting actors, as her sister and other established Dutt and Shamshad Begum



Bollywood ignores Asha Bhosle's 90th B'day

MUMBAI: The legendary playback singer, Asha Bhosle, turned 90 on Friday, and it was disheartening to see that Bollywood celebrities forgot to acknowledge her birthday. Known for her versatility, and melodious voice, Asha is one of the most successful singers in Hindi cinema though her body of work extends beyond just the

Hindi cinema. In her career spanning over eight decades she has recorded songs for films and albums in various Indian languages. She has received several accolades, in addition to two Grammy nominations. Bhosle is also honoured with the

Dadasaheb Phalke Award, and Padma Vibhushan. The Guinness Book of World Records acknowledged Asha in 2011 as the most recorded artist in music history. Given her immense contribution to the Indian music industry, and her status as an iconic figure, Bollywood celebrities overlooking her birthday raises questions about the industry's appreciation of its own icons, and the importance of recognising their contributions.

singers like Suraiyya, Geeta had left no space for others. It was only in the late 1950s that two top music directors gave her a break -- Nayyar, for he did not work with Lata Mangeshkar and the elder Burman, who had a falling out with Asha's elder sister.

"Le ke pehla pehla pyar" ("CID"; 1956), where Asha stood her ground with main singers Mohammed Rafi and Shamshad Begum, made her a voice to look out for; B.R. Chopra's "Naya Daur" (1957), where she first sang for the heroine, cemented her as a viable voice.

It also made her a permanent feature of Chopra's films -- with gems like "Aage bhi na jaane tu" and "Hum jab simatke aapki bahon mein aa gave" ("Waqt"; 1965), and "Uljhan suljhe na rasta sujhe na" ("Dhund"; 1973) -- among those standing out.

S.D. Burman used Asha's voice to good effect for Madhubala in Kishore Kumar's "Chalti ka naam gaadi" (1958) -- "Main sitaron ka taraana" and "Haal kaisa hai janaab ka" -- as well as in "Kaala Pani", 1958 ("Achha ji main haari, chalo maan jao na"), "Kaala Bazaar" (1960), "Bombai Ka Babu", 1960 ("Deewana mastana hua dil"), "Sujata", 1959, and "Teen Deviyaan", 1965 ("Arre yaar meri tum bhi ho ghazab").



shYatra' remembering Union Minister Anurag Thakur at an event to collect the country's soil as part of BJP's 'Kal PHOTOS: PRABHJOT GILL the unsung heroes and martyrs of the freedom struggle, in Phagwara on Monday.

