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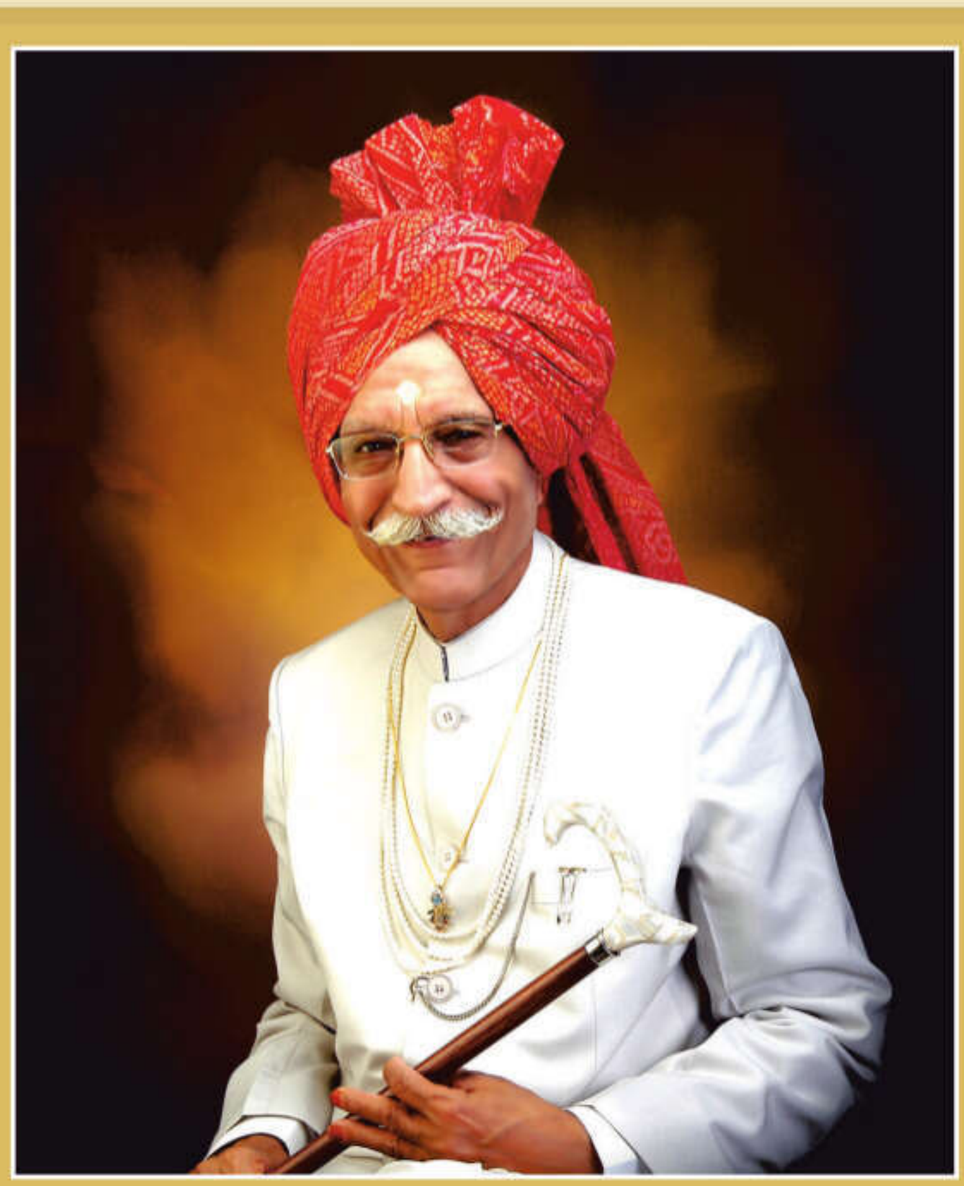

महाशय धर्मपाल गुलाटी जी

संस्थापक चेयरमैन, महाशियाँ दी हट्टी (प्रा०) लि०

पुत्र स्वर्गीय महाशय चूनीलाल जी

(27.03.1923 - 03.12.2020)

एक सच्चे कर्मयोगी, एक दूरदर्शी, परोपकारी और एक उच्च कोटि के उद्योगपति। मसालों के बादशाह को याद करते हुए आपके कर्मयोगी जीवन से प्रत्येक परिवार में भोजन के स्वाद में अधिभूत आनन्द को महसूस किया है। आपकी विनम्रता, सूझबूझ, करुणा एवं मार्गदर्शन हमारी प्रेरणा का स्त्रोत रहेंगे।

हमारी प्रेरणा, प्रतिबद्धता, प्यार और स्नेह के स्त्रोत के लिए हमारी सम्मान जनक श्रद्धांजलि

एक युग का अंत 1923 – 2020 (एक सरल, परोपकारी और आत्मसमर्पण की दूरदर्शी जीवन यात्रा) आपका काम के प्रति सच्ची निष्ठा और दृढ़ संकल्प, समाज समर्पण और प्रगतिशील विचारों के प्रति निस्वार्थ भक्ति हमेशा सुनहरे अक्षरों में याद की जाएगी। आपकी अनुपस्थिति का गहरा घाव कभी नहीं भर पाएगा। महाशय जी का मुस्कुराता हुआ चेहरा और दूरदर्शितापूर्ण अथक निरंतर प्रयासों से निस्वार्थ दृष्टिकोण और मानवीय मूल्यों से हमेशा प्रेरित यह मानव समाज सदा आपका आभारी रहेगा। यह मानव समाज आपका सदा ऋणी रहेगा।

शोक सन्तप्त परिवार

महाशय चूनीलाल धर्मार्थ ट्रस्ट एवं महाशय धर्मपाल धर्मार्थ ट्रस्ट द्वारा संचालित एवं संवर्धित संस्थान

• महाशियां दी हट्टी प्रा० लि०, (दिल्ली, गुड़गांव, फरीदाबाद, कुण्डली, नागौर) • सुपर डेलिकेसीज प्राइवेट लिमिटेड नई दिल्ली • माता चन्नन देवी अस्पाताल, (जनकपुरी, नई दिल्ली) • एम.डी.एच. इंटरनैशनल स्कूल (जनकपुरी एवं द्वारका, नई दिल्ली) • महाशय चुन्नीलाल सरस्वती बाल मन्दिर (हरी नगर, नई दिल्ली) • माता लीलावंती सरस्वती विद्या मन्दिर, (टेगौर गार्डन, नई दिल्ली) • महाशय धर्मपाल विद्या मन्दिर, (बेदगी, कर्नाटक) • श्री संजीव गुलाटी चिकित्सालय एवं शोध केन्द्र (ऋषिकेश) • माता लीलावंती वैदिक संस्कृति प्रशिक्षण केंद्र (उदयपुर, राजस्थान) • माता चन्नन देवी आर्य कन्या गुरुकुल, (पिल्लु खेड़ा, हरियाणा) • महाशय धर्मपाल चैरिटेबल सोसाइटी • महाशय धर्मपाल दयानन्द आर्य विद्या निकेतन (आसाम, एम.पी. झारखण्ड एवं नागालैण्ड) • एम.डी.एच. गऊशाला (अजमेर, नागौर – राजस्थान) • माता लीलावंती श्री कृष्ण वैदिक कन्या विद्यालय (खुशीपुरा, मथुरा) • एम.डी.एच.परिसर निर्वाण न्यास (अजमेर, राजस्थान) • महाशय धर्मपाल वेद रिसर्च फाउण्डेशन (कालीकट, केरल) • महाशय धर्मपाल हार्ट इंस्टीट्यूट (जनकपुरी, नई दिल्ली) • एम.डी.एच. पार्क, (नागौर) • महाशय धर्मपाल अंतरराष्ट्रीय अतिथि गृह, ग्रेटर केलाश, नई दिल्ली • महाशय संजीव कुमार धर्मार्थ औषधालय, नालागढ़ (हिमाचल) • महाशय धर्मपाल यज्ञशाला आर्य समाज, त्रिनगर, नई दिल्ली • महाशय धर्मपाल स्वावलंबना गृह, सिरसा जेल, सिरसा (हरियाणा) • महाशय धर्मपाल सर्वोदय विद्यालय मलारना चौड़ (राजस्थान) • गुरुकुल यमुनावट मंझावली फरीदाबाद (हरियाणा) • महाशय धर्मपाल सर्वोदय विद्यालय एवं वैदिक शोध केंद्र हल्दीघाटी मार्ग उदयपुर • महाशय धर्मपाल सर्वोदय विद्यालय एवं वैदिक शोध केंद्र नागौर (राज०) • श्री सत्य सनातन वेद मंदिर रोहिणी, नई दिल्ली • स्वामी आत्मानंद वैदिक गुरुकुल मलारना चौड़ जिला सवाई माधोपुर (राजस्थान) • आर्योदय गुरुकुल संस्थान (जयपुर राजस्थान) • आर्य समाज कोटपूतली, जिला जयपुर (राजस्थान) • हवन उत्थान जन कल्याण समिति, मण्डावली,(दिल्ली) • महर्षि दयानन्द योग धाम, अलवर (राजस्थान) • सर्वे भवन्तु सुखिनः ट्रस्ट, गाज़ियाबाद (यू० पी०) • वानप्रस्थ साधक आश्रम (गुजरात) • आर्य समाज श्री विजयनगर श्रीगंगानगर (राजस्थान) • आर्य कन्या गुरुकुल शिवगंज, सिरोही (राजस्थान) • महर्षि पतंजलि इंटरनेशनल योग विद्यापीठ, मुजफ्फरनगर (यू० पी०) • आर्यवीर दल उत्तर प्रदेश, गुरुकुल विश्वविद्यालय, वृंदावन • श्री गोपाल गोशाला लोहारू, भिवानी (हरियाणा) • महाशय धर्मपाल ओपन एअर थियेटर, भिवानी जेल (हरियाणा) • महाशय धर्मपाल चेरिटेबल ट्रस्ट टंकारा (गुजरात) • महाशय धर्मपाल चेरिटेबल ट्रस्ट अजमेर (राजस्थान) • महात्मा रामलाल ट्रस्ट इंदरपुरी (दिल्ली) • सनातन धर्म मंदिर गुरुग्राम • महाशय धर्मपाल संस्कृत भवन गुरु विरजानंद संस्कृत कुलम हरी नगर, नई दिल्ली • युगपुरुष महाशय धर्मपाल गुलाटी (एम.डी.एच.) चेरिटेबल भवन एवं डायग्नोस्टिक सेंटर X-25 कड़कड़डूमा इंस्टीटयूशनल एरिया, नई दिल्ली • युगपुरुष संत महाशय धर्मपाल गुलाटी (एम.डी.एच.) चेरिटेबल कैंसर निदान सहयोग हॉस्पिटल एंव रिसर्च सेंटर X-25 कड़कड़डूमा इंस्टीटयूशनल एरिया, नई दिल्ली • युगपुरुष संत महाशय धर्मपाल गुलाटी (एम.डी.एच.) आयुर्वेदिक, पंचकर्मा, योग एंव प्राकृतिक चिकित्सा स्वास्थ्य वर्धक एंव रोग निवारण धर्मार्थ संस्थान, खसरा नं० 259, 275, 276, ग्राम ईशाक नगर, तहसील मोदीनगर, जिला गाजियाबाद यूपी • विश्वारा कन्या गुरुकुल रुड़की जिला रोहतक (हरियाणा) • श्री मद्दयानन्द कन्या गुरुकुल महाविद्यालय चोटीपुरा, (उत्तर प्रदेश) • संजीव गुलाटी स्मृति चिकित्सालय वन्देमातरम कुंज गंगा भोगपुर तल्ला पौड़ी गढ़वाल (उत्तराखंड) • महर्षि दयानन्द वेद–विद्या आर्य गुरुकुल नली खुर्द (करनाल) • श्रीमद् दयानन्द विद्यालय 119, गौतम नगर नई दिल्ली • श्रीमद् दयानन्द आर्य ज्योतिर्मठ गुरुकुल, पौन्धा, देहरादून (उत्तराखंड) • बाबा ब्रह्मदास गऊशाला (जीन्द) हरियाणा • बाबा जमीन नाथ गऊशाला सेवा समिति (जीन्द) हरियाणा • जय बाबा मन्सानाथ गऊशाला, छात्तर • जय बाबा धुणेवाला विकलांग गऊशाला समिति (जीन्द) हरियाणा • श्री कृष्ण गौशाला, नगूरां (जीन्द) हरियाणा • नन्दी सेवा संघ, उचाना मण्डी (जीन्द) हरियाणा • श्री गौशाला बाबा फुल्लू साध (जीन्द) हरियाणा • जय दादा खेड़ा गऊशाला समिति (जीन्द) हरियाणा • बाबा दलीप गिरी डेरा गऊशाला समिति (जीन्द) हरियाणा • श्रीमद्दयानंद उत्कर्ष आर्य कन्या गुरुकुल मेरठ • आर्य समाज विजयनगर (अजमेर) राजस्थान • महर्षि दयानन्द आर्य गुरुकुल एवं गोशाला भादस जिला मेवात हरियाणा • आर्यवर्त खेल महासघं जहांगीरपुरी, नई दिल्ली • महर्षि दयानन्द सेवा समिति (पं.) जनपद एटा, उत्तर प्रदेश • आर्य समाज निरसा धनबाद • वेदविद्या शोध संस्थान (न्यास) कुरुक्षेत्र (हरियाणा) • वेदविद्या आर्य गुरुकुल कन्धमाल (ओडिशा) • वानप्रस्थ साधक आश्रम साबरकांटा (गुजरात) • आर्य समाज सैक्टर–11, द्वारका, नई दिल्ली • सार्वदेशिक आर्य वीर दल, मथुरा (उ.प्र.) • महर्षि दयानन्द आर्ष कन्या गुरुकुल समिति, शाजापुर (म.प्र.) • आर्य समाज निरसा, धनबाद झारखण्ड • आर्य कन्या गुरुकुल, शिवगंज, गुरुकुल – आर्ष कन्या विद्यापीठ नजीबाबाद (उ.प्र.) • आर्ष गुरुकुल शिक्षा प्रबंध समिति, नोएडा (उ.प्र.) • गुरु विरजानन्द स्मारक समिति ट्रस्ट, करतारपुर जालन्धर (पंजाब) • श्रीमती चन्द्रावती कन्या गुरुकुल संस्कृत विद्यापीठ, कासगंज (उ.प्र.) • वैदिक राष्ट्रनिर्माण गुरुकुल, लखनऊ (उ.प्र.) • स्वामी कृष्णानन्द आर्य बालाश्रय चैरिटेबल ट्रस्ट वेद मन्दिर ब्रह्मपुरी, दिल्ली • आर्य समाज पूर्वी पंजाबी बाग, दिल्ली • आर्य समाज शकरपुर, दिल्ली • दर्शन योग महाविद्यालय, सुंदरपुर कुटिया, रोहतक • दर्शनयोग धाम, संस्कृतिवन, गांधीनगर, गुजरात • टीकम सिंह आर्य आदर्श बाल/पू०मा० विद्यालय, रजपुरा (सम्भल) • गुरुकुल विद्यापीठ, पुष्पावती पूठ (पंजि०), गढमुक्तेश्वर, जिला हापुड (उ.प्र.) • श्रीमद् दयानन्द गुरुकुल विद्यापीठ गदपुरी, पलवल (हरियाणा) • वैदिक संस्कृति गुरुकुलम् फाउंडेशन ट्रस्ट (रजि.), आर्य समाज ब्रह्मपुरी, न्यू उस्मानपुर, दिल्ली

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निवेदक

महाशय राजीव गुलाटी

चेयरमैन, महाशियाँ दी हट्टी (प्रा०) लि०

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महाशियाँ दी हट्टी (प्रा०) लिमिटेड

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THE WORLD

STRUGGLES TO SEE HIS NEW STAGE MUSICAL

ELTON JOHN SAYS HE LOST HIS EYESIGHT

Elton John says he struggled to watch his new musical because he has lost his eyesight after contracting an infection. He attended the opening night of *The Devil Wears Prada* in London Sunday and said: "I haven't been able to come to many previews because... I have lost my eyesight." "So it's hard for me to see it, but... boy, it sounded good tonight," he said. **AP**

TOP OF THE WORLD

BNP leader Tarique Rahman

BANGLADESH

HC acquits Zia's son, 48 others in 2004 grenade attack case

Dhaka: Bangladesh's High Court on Sunday acquitted former prime minister Khaleda Zia's son, Tarique Rahman, and 48 others, overturning their verdicts in a deadly 2004 grenade attack on a political rally. Rahman serves as the acting chairperson of Zia's Bangladesh Nationalist Party while in self-exile in London, and could become Bangladesh's next leader if his party is voted into power. Rahman and the 48 others were found guilty in 2018 in the attack targeting a rally held by supporters of Hasina, who led the opposition at the time, leaving two dozen people dead and wounding about 300 others. A court sentenced 19 to death while Rahman got life in prison. **PTI**

PAKISTAN

Imran sent on judicial remand over PTI protests

Islamabad: An anti-terrorism court Monday sent former prime minister Imran Khan on a 14-day judicial remand in connection with seven cases related to the recent protests by his Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party. Judge Amjad Ali Shah presided over the hearing, during which the court approved Khan's judicial remand in the New Town police station case, as well as in six other cases. Khan, 72, was presented before the anti-terrorism court judge at Adiala jail, where he has been incarcerated for months. **PTI**

THE PHILIPPINES

Civil society groups seek VP impeachment

Manila: Philippine civil society and religious leaders asked Congress on Monday to impeach Vice President Sara Duterte over a list of complaints that include graft, incompetence and amassing ill-gotten wealth while in office. The daughter of ex-President Rodrigo Duterte has been embroiled in a row with President Ferdinand Marcos Jr and faces an enquiry into her spending by the Congress. **REUTERS**

AFTER REPEATEDLY SAYING HE WOULD NOT

Biden pardons son Hunter in tax, arms cases, Trump says miscarriage of justice

REUTERS
WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 2

US PRESIDENT Joe Biden said on Sunday he had pardoned his son, Hunter Biden, a reversal after pledging to stay out of legal proceedings against the younger Biden who pleaded guilty to tax violations and was convicted on firearms-related charges.

"Today, I signed a pardon for my son Hunter. From the day I took office, I said I would not interfere with the Justice Department's decision-making, and I kept my word even as I have watched my son being selectively, and unfairly, prosecuted," the president said in a statement.

The White House had said repeatedly that Biden would not pardon Hunter, a recovering drug addict who became a target of Republicans, including President-elect Donald Trump.

"No reasonable person who looks at the facts of Hunter's cases can reach any other conclusion than Hunter was singled out only because he is my son," Biden said in a statement released shortly before leaving for a trip to Africa.

The grant of clemency said Biden had granted "a full and unconditional" pardon to Hunter Biden for any offenses in a window from January 1, 2014, to December 1, 2024. Hunter Biden faced sentencing for the false statements and gun convictions this month. In September he pleaded guilty to federal charges of failing to pay $1.4 million in taxes while spending lavishly on drugs, sex workers and luxury items. He was scheduled for sentencing in on December 16.

"I have admitted and taken responsibility for my mistakes during the darkest days of my addiction – mistakes that have been exploited to publicly humiliate and shame me and my family for political sport," Hunter Biden said in a statement on Sunday, adding he had remained sober for more than five years. "In the throes of addiction, I squandered many opportunities and advantages ... I will never take the clemency I have been given today for granted and will devote the life I have rebuilt to helping those who are still sick and suffering."

Republicans criticized the president's move. "Does the Pardon given by Joe to Hunter include the J-6 Hostages, who have now been imprisoned for years? Such an abuse and miscarriage of Justice!" Trump said in a post on his Truth Social site, referring to those convicted for storming the US Capitol on January 6, 2021, after Trump claimed falsely that he had won the 2020 election.

"Joe Biden has lied from start to finish about his family's corrupt influence peddling activities," said Representative James Comer, chair of the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

"It is clear that Hunter was treated differently. The charges in his cases came about only after several of my political opponents in Congress instigated them to attack me and oppose my election," Biden said. "In trying to break Hunter, they've tried to break me – and there's no reason to believe it will stop here. Enough is enough."

President Joe Biden in Sal island, Cape Verde on Monday. *AP*

EXPLAINED

Can pardon be revoked?

IT IS unclear if Trump can revert Hunter Biden's pardon. Pardons are generally irreversible — Congress and courts can't reverse them. George W Bush in 2008 revoked a pardon, the very next day of granting it, but because the pardon attorney had not signed it. The Supreme Court has not tackled the question of when a pardon is no longer revocable.

Canadian leaders are slashing immigration and are trying to get temporary residents to leave the country. *Reuters file*

Canada launches global campaign to discourage asylum claims

Advertisements to run in 11 languages including Urdu, Hindi and Tamil

REUTERS
TORONTO, DECEMBER 2

ONCE PRESENTING itself as one of the world's most welcoming countries to refugees and immigrants, Canada is launching a global online ad campaign cautioning asylum-seekers that making a claim is hard.

The C$250,000 ($178,662) in advertisements will run through March in 11 languages, including Spanish, Urdu, Ukrainian, Hindi and Tamil, the immigration department told *Reuters*.

They are part of a broader shift in tone by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's unpopular government on immigration and an effort to clamp down on refugee claims.

Migrants have been blamed for high housing prices, although some experts argue this is a simplistic explanation, and polls show a growing number of Canadians think the country admits too many newcomers.

The four-month campaign is budgeted to cost a third of the total spend on similar advertisements over the last seven years.

Search queries such as "how to claim asylum in Canada" and "refugee Canada" will prompt sponsored content titled "Canada's asylum system – Asylum Facts," the ministry said.

"Claiming asylum in Canada is not easy. There are strict guidelines to qualify. Find out what you need to know before you make a life-changing decision," one ad reads.

Canada has long been seen as a welcoming place for newcomers. Now its leaders are slashing immigration and trying to get temporary residents to leave and to prevent people fleeing U.S. President-elect Donald Trump from claiming asylum.

It may be an uphill battle. Canada's refugee system faces a 260,000-case backlog amid growing global displacement. The government has little control over who claims asylum.

The government is hoping millions of people will leave the country on their own when their visas expire, and the immigration minister has threatened to deport them if they do not.

'Brain rot' named Oxford Word of the Year 2024

London: Many of us have felt it, and now it's official: "brain rot" is the Oxford dictionaries' word of the year. Oxford University Press said on Monday the evocative phrase "gained new prominence in 2024", with its frequency of use increasing 230 per cent from the year before.

It defines brain rot as "the supposed deterioration of a person's mental or intellectual state, especially viewed as the result of overconsumption of material (particularly online content) considered to be trivial or unchallenging".

The word of the year is intended to be "a word or expression that reflects a defining theme from the past 12 months". "Brain rot" was chosen by a combination of public vote and language analysis by Oxford lexicographers. **AP**

Landmark climate change case opens at Hague as island nations fear rising seas

ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE HAGUE, DECEMBER 2

THE TOP United Nations court took up the largest case in its history on Monday, hearing the plight of several small island nations helpless in combating the devastating impact of climate change that they feel endangers their very survival. They demand that major polluting nations be held to account.

After years of lobbying by island nations who fear they could simply disappear under rising sea waters, the UN General Assembly asked the International Court of Justice last year for an opinion on "the obligations of States in respect of climate change." "The stakes could not be higher. The survival of my people and so many others is on the line," said Arnold Kiel Loughman, attorney-general of the Vanuatu archipelago nation.

"As the principal legal officer of my country, I have come before this court because domestic legal remedies are unable to address a crisis of the scope and magnitude," he said during the opening session of two weeks of hearings.

"States have obligations ... to act with due diligence, to prevent significant harm to the environment, to prevent, to reduce the emissions and provide support to countries like mine to protect the human rights of present and future generations," he said.

Any decision by the ICJ would be non-binding advice and couldn't directly force wealthy nations into action to help struggling countries.

In the decade up to 2023, sea levels have risen by a global average of around 4.3 centimetres, with parts of the Pacific rising higher still. The world has also warmed 1.3 degrees Celsius since preindustrial times because of the burning of fossil fuels.

South African delegates at the International Court of Justice in The Hague on Monday. *Reuters*

Guinea stadium crush kills 56 people after disputed refereeing

REUTERS
CONAKRY, DECEMBER 2

A CONTROVERSIAL refereeing decision sparked violence and a crush at a soccer match in southeast Guinea, killing 56 people according to a provisional toll, the government said on Monday.

The fatalities occurred during the final of a tournament in honour of Guinea's military leader Mamady Doumbouya at a stadium in Nzerekore, one of the nation's largest cities.

Some fans threw stones, triggering panic and a crush, the government statement said, promising an investigation.

A video authenticated by Reuters showed dozens of people scrambling over high walls to escape.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, an official from the city's administration said many victims were minors caught in the turmoil after police started firing tear gas. The official described scenes of confusion and chaos with some parents retrieving bodies before they were officially counted.

Videos and pictures shared online showed victims lined up on the ground. In one video, over a dozen inert bodies could be seen, several of them children.

Reuters was not immediately able to verify that footage.

People scramble in Guinea's Nzerekore, Monday. *Reuters*

Iran-backed militias enter Syria to back offensive against rebels

ASSOCIATED PRESS
BEIRUT, DECEMBER 2

IRANIAN-BACKED Iraqi militias have deployed in Syria to back the government's counteroffensive against an advance by insurgents who seized the largest city of Aleppo last week, a militia official and a war monitor said Monday.

Insurgents led by jihadi group Hayat Tahrir al-Sham launched a two-pronged attack on Aleppo and moved into the countryside around Idlib and neighbouring Hama province.

The push is among the rebels' strongest in years and raised the prospect of another violent front reopening in the Middle East, at a time when US-backed Israel is fighting Hamas in Gaza and Hezbollah in Lebanon, both Iranian-allied groups.

It also risks drawing Russia and Turkiye — each with its own interests to protect in Syria — into direct confrontation.

Government troops built a fortified defensive line in northern Hama in an attempt to stall the insurgents' momentum while jets on Sunday pounded rebel-held lines. On Monday, Syria's military said that their airstrikes alongside Russia's killed 400 insurgents over the past 24 hours. It said that government forces were mobilising to encircle the rebels in the Aleppo, Hama, and Idlib countrysides.

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian in a phone call with Assad Monday said Tehran was willing to provide all the support needed to push back the rebels.

Hezbollah won't send fighters to Assad now

Lebanese armed group Hezbollah does not currently intend to send fighters to northern Syria to support the Syrian army there, three sources familiar with the group's thinking told *Reuters* on Monday.

Syrians near destroyed buildings in Idlib on Monday. *AP*

ICC chief lashes out at US, Russia over threats, accusations

ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE HAGUE, NETHERLANDS

ICC president Tomoko Akane

THE PRESIDENT of the International Criminal Court lashed out at the United States and Russia for interfering with its investigations, calling attacks on the court "appalling."

"The court is being threatened with draconian economic sanctions by another permanent member of the Security Council as if it was a terrorist organization," Judge Tomoko Akane said in her address to the court's annual meeting, which opened Monday.

Akane was referring to remarks made by U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, who called the court a "dangerous joke" and urged Congress to sanction its prosecutor. "To any ally, Canada, Britain, Germany, France, if you try to help the ICC, we're going to sanction you," Graham said on *Fox News*.

Graham was angered by arrest warrants issued by the ICC for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, his former defense minister and Hamas military chief for crimes against humanity.

Graham's threat isn't seen as just empty words. President-elect Donald Trump sanctioned the court's previous prosecutor, Fatou Bensouda, with a travel ban and asset freeze for investigating American troops and intelligence officials in Afghanistan.

Akane Monday had harsh words for Russia. "Several elected officials are being subjected to arrest warrants from a permanent member of the Security Council," she said. Moscow issued warrants for Khan and others in response to the investigation into Putin.

CARTELS HAVE AN AMBITIOUS DREAM — TO SYNTHESISE RAW MATERIALS REQUIRED TO MAKE FENTANYL TO AVOID IMPORTING THEM

Drug cartels recruit chemistry students from Mexican colleges to make fentanyl

NATALIE KITROEFF & PAULINA VILLEGAS
CULIACÁN, DECEMBER 2

THE CARTEL recruiter slipped onto campus disguised as a janitor and then zeroed in on his target: a sophomore chemistry student. The recruiter said the cartel was staffing up for a project. "You're good at what you do," the student recalled the recruiter saying. "... decide if you're interested."

In their quest to build fentanyl empires, Mexican criminal groups are turning to an unusual talent pool — chemistry students studying at Mexican universities.

People who make fentanyl in cartel labs — cooks – told *The New York Times* that they needed workers with advanced knowledge of chemistry to help make the drug stronger and "get more people hooked," as one cook put it.

The cartels also have a more ambitious goal: to synthesise the chemical compounds, known as precursors, that are essential to making fentanyl, freeing them from having to import them.

If they succeed, US officials say, it would mark a terrifying new phase in the fentanyl crisis, in which Mexican cartels have more control than ever. *The Times* interviewed seven fentanyl cooks, three chemistry students, two high-ranking operatives and a high-level recruiter — all working for the Sinaloa cartel.

A 2020 Mexican intelligence assessment, leaked by a hacker group, found that the Sinaloa cartel appeared to be recruiting chemistry professors to develop fentanyl precursor chemicals after the pandemic slowed supply chains. U.S. law enforcement officials also said that many young chemists had been swept up in arrests at Mexican fentanyl labs in recent years. A chemistry professor at a university in Sinaloa state said he knew that some students enrolled in chemistry classes just to become more familiar with skills needed to cook synthetic drugs. "Sometimes when I am teaching them synthesis of pharmaceutical drugs, they openly ask me, 'Hey, professor, when are you teaching us how to synthesize cocaine and other things?'" he said.

President-elect Donald Trump had threatened to deploy the US military to battle the criminals, vowing to issue a 25% tariff on Mexican goods if it doesn't stop the flow of drugs and migrants. Mexico's president, Claudia Sheinbaum, said that "international collaboration" was needed to prevent the shipment of precursors to Mexico from "Asian countries."

The cartels "know we are now focused on the illicit trafficking of these precursor chemicals," said Todd Robinson, the assistant secretary of the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs. That drives the cartels "to try to bring this thing in-house," he said.

But trying to synthesize the precursors from scratch is a much more difficult process, said James DeFrancesco, a forensic science professor at Loyola University Chicago.

Yet the work pays more than many legal jobs in chemistry, and that's often enough of a sell. The student said the recruiter who visited the campus had offered him $800 up front, plus a monthly salary of $800 — twice as much as the average pay for chemists formally employed in Mexico, according to government data.

He told the recruiter he was interested, and five days later, he was picked up by cartel members, blindfolded and driven to a clandestine lab hidden in the mountains, he said. **NYT**

A drug cartel safe house in Culiacán, Sinaloa. *NYT*

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BUSINESS AS USUAL
BY UNNY

CBSE plan: Pick from standard or advanced Social Science and Science in Classes 9-10

Proposal to start from 2026-27, must be cleared by CBSE governing body

ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 2

AFTER INTRODUCING two levels of Mathematics (standard and basic) for Class 10 students, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) is learnt to be working towards a similar structure for Science and Social Science (standard and advanced) for Classes 9 and 10, starting from the 2026-27 academic session.

The decision to offer these subjects at two levels was taken during a recent meeting of the CBSE's curriculum committee. The Board's governing body, which serves as its highest decision-making authority, has to give the final approval.

The framework for this change, including whether students opting for the advanced level will use different study material or simply take a different exam, is yet to be finalised.

EXPLAINED

In line with NEP

AS PART of the attempt to "reduce pressure", the National Education Policy, 2020, stated that "all subjects and corresponding assessments, beginning with Mathematics, could be offered at two levels, with students doing some subjects at standard level and some at higher level".

According to sources, the CBSE is awaiting the release of new textbooks by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), aligned with the updated National Curriculum Framework.

While the NCERT, which advises the Centre on school education and classroom curriculum, released new textbooks for Classes 1 and 2 last year and for Classes 3 and 6 this year, it is expected to release textbooks for a few more classes in early 2025 before the new academic session begins.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

DEBATE IN LS ON DEC 13-14, RS ON DEC 16-17

House deadlock breaks as Govt and Opp agree on Constitution debate

Under pressure from section of INDIA bloc and within, Congress changes tack

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla meets floor leaders. *Express*

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 2

THE WEEK-LONG standoff in Parliament came to an end as the government and the Opposition reached an agreement Monday, which was reflected by the announcement of dates for a special discussion on the Constitution in both the Houses.

The Opposition leaders indicated that they would cooperate with the government for smooth functioning of both the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, which have been stalled over various issues — including Gautam Adani's indictment by the US prosecutors in an alleged bribery case, recent Sambhal violence and Manipur unrest — since the Winter Session got underway on November 25.

At a meeting of floor leaders of all parties convened by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, both the government and Opposition parties agreed for a special discussion on the Constitution during the session.

Expressing confidence that both the Houses will function smoothly from Tuesday, Parliamentary Affairs Minister

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Will set date for Putin visit early next year: Kremlin

Expected to visit India next year

SHUBHAJIT ROY & DIVYA A
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 2

IN LESS than a month, Russia has conveyed twice that President Vladimir Putin is expected to visit India next year. Saying that Putin had received Prime Minister Narendra Modi's invitation to visit India, the Kremlin has said the dates will be decided early next year. This will be Putin's first visit to India since the war in Ukraine began in February 2022.

"Our leaders have an agreement to hold meetings once a year. This time, it's our turn... We received PM Modi's invitation and we will certainly consider it positively... We will figure out the tentative dates early next year," Kremlin aide Yury Ushakov said

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Protesters vandalise Bangla mission in Agartala, MEA says 'deeply regrettable'

DEBRAJ DEB
AGARTALA, DECEMBER 2

A PROTEST outside the Bangladesh Assistant High Commission in Agartala over the recent arrest of Hindu monk Chinmoy Krishna Das spiralled out of control Monday afternoon as a group of protesters broke the police barricade and stormed inside, indulged in vandalism and removed the Bangladesh national flag from a pole.

Security at the Bangladesh Assistant High Commission in Agartala on Monday. *PTI*

In the evening, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) described the incident as "deeply regrettable" even as Bangladesh said the incident appeared to be "pre-planned" and blamed Tripura Police for not doing enough.

In a statement, the MEA said, "The incident earlier today of the breach of premises at the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

35% GST likely on cigarettes, aerated drinks and tobacco

AANCHAL MAGAZINE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 2

IN A step that would mark the first major restructuring of tax rates under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) seven years after its rollout, a special rate of 35 per cent could be carved out for demerit (sin) goods such as aerated beverages, cigarettes, tobacco and related products.

At a meeting on Monday, ahead of the GST Council meeting on December 21, the Group of Ministers (GoM) on rate rationalisation finalised its report with this recommendation of a special rate, in addition to proposing a slew of rate tweaks for over 148 items including ready-made garments.

The proposed hike in GST rates for sin goods, from the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Akal Takht indicts Sukhbir and others, tells Akali Dal need to 'rebuild' party

KAMALDEEP SINGH BRAR
AMRITSAR, DECEMBER 2

IN A scathing indictment of the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) and its president Sukhbir Singh Badal, Akal Takht Jathedar Giani Raghbir Singh on Monday imposed religious punishment on Badal and other senior Akali leaders, saying they were unfit to lead the Sikh community.

Sukhbir Singh Badal with others. *Rana Simranjit Singh*

The Jathedar directed the party's working committee to accept Badal's resignation and announced the formation of a committee to initiate a membership drive and begin the process

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

At home of IIT researcher killed in Lothal, a box of soil, questions

MAULSHREE SETH
SITAPUR, DECEMBER 2

"THIS IS all we have now," says Maheshwari Verma. On the centre table in front of her is an open black suitcase with plastic bags of mud samples that her daughter Surabhi Verma collected during her study of the Harappan site of Lothal.

Surabhi Verma

Last week, on November 27, Surabhi, a 26-year-old PhD student at IIT Delhi's Centre for Atmospheric Sciences, died when a trench she was working in near Lothal collapsed on her. While Surabhi was buried alive, her Associate Professor Yama Dixit was pulled out of the trench.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Bharti Airtel Foundation

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Thousands displaced, trains cancelled as cyclone continues devastation in TN

ARUN JANARDHANAN
CHENNAI, DECEMBER 2

TAMIL NADU on Monday continued to grapple with the devastating aftermath of Cyclone Fengal, which unleashed torrential rain and widespread flooding across the state, leaving thousands of people displaced, train services suspended, and schools shut.

Vikravandi and Krishnagiri were the worst-affected areas following heavy rain late Sunday night. Villupuram and Puducherry have also been reeling under the cyclone's fury over the past two days. Villupuram witnessed unprecedented flooding and Krishnagiri its worst deluge in decades, battering infrastructure and submerging agricultural fields.

Chief Minister M K Stalin inspected the situation in Villupuram district on Monday and said thousands of families were relocated to safer areas. He said relief camps were set up "with all basic amenities including food, water, and medical facilities", and that the government is closely monitoring the situation to address the immediate needs of the affected people.

In Puducherry, Chief Minister N Rangasamy announced ₹5,000 in relief for ration card holders and promised to send a detailed damage assessment to the central government. The Army has been deployed to assist in evacuating stranded residents.

• Akal Takht indicts Sukhbir

of electing a new leadership.

The proceedings, held at the Akal Takht Sahib, the highest temporal seat of the Sikhs at the Golden Temple, extended beyond punitive measures, with the Jathedar also asking the splintered party to stop squabbling and rebuild the over 100-year-old regional party, signalling a significant political shift within the community.

In an unprecedented move, the Jathedar also revoked the title of Fakhr-e-Qaum (Pride of the Nation) awarded to former Punjab Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal. Ironically, he was the first political leader to be conferred with this title.

As part of the punishment, Sukhbir Badal and core committee members of the Akali Dal, including cabinet ministers from 2015, were ordered to clean toilets, serve in the langar (community kitchen), perform Nitnem (daily Sikh prayers), and recite Sukhmani Sahib. Placards were also placed around their necks as part of the sentence.

Due to health concerns, Badal and Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa were instructed to serve as gatekeepers at the Guru's abode for two days, donning traditional servant attire and holding spears as a mark of humility.

Additionally, the Jathedar announced that all facilities provided to former Jathedar Giani Gurbachan Singh — who had pardoned Dera Sacha Sauda chief Gurmeet Ran Rahim, ostensibly under the influence of the Badals — would be withdrawn, barring him from speaking at public events. He also directed the recovery of funds spent on advertisements related to Dera Sacha Sauda, including interest, to be collected from Badal, Sucha Singh Langah, Gulzar Singh, Daljit Singh Cheema, Balwinder Singh Bhundar, and Heera Singh Gabria.

The punishment stems from allegations that the Akali leadership maintained ties with Dera Sacha Sauda head Gurmeet Ram Rahim despite his excommunication by the Sikh community in 2007. Later, the leadership allegedly facilitated his pardon by the Akal Takht.

The party leadership also faced criticism for failing to address key panthic issues when they were in power between 2007 and 2017. These included incidents of sacrilege, and police firing at Kotkapura as well as the appointment of DGP Sumedh Singh Saini, who was accused of rights violations during the period of militancy in Punjab.

During the proceedings, Jathedar Raghbir Singh pointedly questioned Badal, often asking him to answer in yes or no when the latter tried to express his regrets at his actions. Badal admitted to inviting the then Akal Takht Jathedar to his residence before he granted a pardon to Gurmeet Ram Rahim.

It was an unprecedented public inquisition the kind the Akal Takht has not seen in the recent past. Badal also clarified that the decisions were made without external pressure. He and Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa admitted to their mistakes in response to the Jathedar's queries.

The Akal Takht Sahib, as the supreme Sikh authority, holds the power to summon any Sikh for transgressions and impose religious punishments, known as Tankhah.

Giani Harpreet Singh, Jathedar of Takht Damdama Sahib, said, "When the Akali Dal came to power, it was expected to heal the wounds of the Sikh community, but sadly, those wounds were deepened."

BJP state president Sunil Jakhar welcomed the decision in a post on X. "The historic hearing held at Sri Akal Takht Sahib today has further elevated the stature of this premier institution of the Panth. The decision announced from Sri Akal Takht Sahib today has not only enhanced the respect for this institution but also instilled pride in the community, reaffirming that our Guru Sahiban established such a powerful and supreme authority to guide those straying from the Guru's path back onto the righteous way," he posted.

In 1994, acting Akal Takht Jathedar Manjit Singh made several efforts to unite all SAD factions on a common platform. He even succeeded briefly in bringing together prominent leaders such as Captain Amarinder Singh, Simranjit Singh Mann, and Gurcharan Singh Tohra. However, Parkash Singh Badal resisted the Akal Takht's call to unite the SAD (B) factions, ultimately thwarting these efforts. Badal's influence eventually prevailed, leaving Manjit Singh's attempts unsuccessful.

FROM PAGE ONE FULL REPORTS ON WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

Govt, Opp agree on Constitution debate

Kiren Rijiju said that the Lok Sabha will take up a debate on the Constitution on December 13-14 while the Rajya Sabha will hold a discussion on it on December 16-17.

Rijiju, who attended the meeting, told reporters that the Opposition parties had demanded discussions on the issue to mark the 75th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution by the Constituent Assembly.

Earlier in the day, several Opposition MPs met Speaker Birla, seeking a discussion on the Constitution and urging him to slot dates for the same.

The Opposition members meanwhile continued their protests in both the Houses over the Adani indictment, Sambhal violence and other issues, leading to the repeated disruption of their proceedings before their adjournment for the day.

The first week of the session has been washed out in the wake of the Congress's insistence on a thorough discussion on the Adani row and the government's reluctance to accept it.

The Congress leadership, however, came under pressure amid unease among a section of the party MPs as well as some other Opposition parties over the continued stonewalling of the two Houses.

Sources said there was "an overwhelming" view among the Congress MPs at their morning huddle before Parliament met that such stalling of discussions and proceedings were not helping the party's cause. "The leaders, in a way, came under pressure to look for ways to see that Parliament functions," said a party MP.

In the meeting of the INDIA bloc leaders, too, which was attended by Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, the Left parties took a stand that the Opposition's current strategy of protests in the House was not working. While maintaining that the Left is with the INDIA bloc, its leaders suggested that there should be a "rethink" in its strategy. The decision to approach the Speaker and press for a discussion on the Constitution was subsequently taken, sources said.

With a large Opposition section keen on participating in the business of both the Houses to take up multiple issues, the Congress leadership thus decided to change its parliamentary tactics and resolve the impasse, sources added.

Later in the day, Congress sources said that while deciding to participate in the parliamentary proceedings, the party would not give up its protests over the Adani row.

In a meeting of Congress leaders held at party president Mallikarjun Kharge's residence in the evening, the party decided to rally the Opposition MPs to hold a sit-in protest over the Adani issue at Makar Dwar of Parliament House before the resumption of the House sittings Tuesday.

"We will continue our protest. Our members will raise this issue during the debates on Bills, such as when the House takes up the banking law amendment Bill introduced in the Lok Sabha today, or on other occasions," said a Congress leader.

Congress general secretary K C Venugopal told reporters in the morning that the Opposition has demanded a discussion on the Constitution.

"We have met the Speaker and our only demand is that he has to take action to run the House smoothly. We are ready to run the House provided there should be a discussion on the Constitution which they promised us," Venugopal said.

The BJP leaders, however, asserted that the party had already demanded a discussion on the Constitution. "We had made this demand on the first Business Advisory Committee (BAC) meeting of this Winter Session itself. We wanted a proper discussion on the Constitution and Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to speak on it too," said a BJP leader.

Congress general secretary in charge of communications Jairam Ramesh accused the government of allegedly not showing any interest in running Parliament. "Today also, both Houses got adjourned. INDIA parties had given notices for an immediate discussion on Adani, Manipur, Sambhal and Ajmer. These (Opposition) parties never agitated. There was hardly any sloganeering. But the Modi government simply did not want Parliament to function," Ramesh alleged.

"The situation is truly extraordinary. The Opposition wants a discussion but the government is running away from it," he claimed. "The responsibility of the government is to get Parliament functioning. The Opposition must have its say but the government will have its way. But here the government has lost its way and does not want Parliament to function."

Ramesh dismissed reports of differences within the Opposition ranks over the Adani issue, saying that different parties have different issues but all of them were united over this "important matter". "We are also of the view that Manipur is an important issue. The way a Pandora's box has been opened (with respect to) the Places of Worship Act is an issue. So there are various issues," he added.

Some INDIA parties, especially the TMC, were however said to have not attached the same priority to the Adani row as the Congress, seeking discussions on a slew of other issues, including unemployment, price rise and the Centre's alleged discrimination against Opposition-ruled states in fund allocations.

So far, the TMC has skipped the INDIA meetings held by the Congress to work out the alliance's strategy for the session.

The SP is likely to raise the Sambhal issue in Parliament during the Zero Hour Tuesday.

• Will set date for Putin visit early next year: Kremlin

at a briefing, according to the Russian Embassy.

However, there has been no word of confirmation from New Delhi, and the Indian government is reading this public articulation as interest in Moscow to signal to the world that India is an important partner and Russia is far from isolated in the international community. Sources said the Indian government announces visits closer to the date, and would not like to speculate on the timeframe. But they pointed to the schedule for reciprocal annual visits, according to which it is the Russian President's turn to come to India next year.

This comes at a time when US President-elect Donald Trump is set to assume office in January next year. In the past, Trump has said that the Russia-Ukraine war would not have happened if he were the US President, and that he could "negotiate an end...in 24 hours". He has also touted his relationship with Putin. In this context, a visit by Putin to India can be significant. In fact, Trump is also expected to visit India for the Quad leaders' summit next year.

In Kazan last month, Modi had told Putin that India was ready to help bring about a peaceful resolution to the ongoing conflict. He had also travelled to Kyiv in August and met Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, asking him to sit with Putin to "find a way out of the crisis".

The Russian Embassy said that Putin and Modi have maintained regular contact, holding telephone conversations once every couple of months. Before travelling to Kazan for the BRICS Summit in October, Modi also made a two-day visit to Moscow to take part in the 22nd Russia-India Summit in July.

This is not the first time that Moscow has announced Putin's intent to visit India. Two weeks ago, Kremlin press secretary Dmitry Peskov had announced his upcoming visit. "We welcomed Prime Minister Modi twice this year and we hope that soon we will figure out the dates of the visit of President Putin to India," Peskov had said during his video address at an event in New Delhi organised by state-owned Sputnik news agency.

Putin last visited India in December 2021 — months before the war started in Ukraine. His planned visit is part of a protocol between India and Russia for reciprocal annual visits by their leaders. However, after the war began in Ukraine, there were no visits by either side, and it was only resumed when Modi went to Moscow in July this year. While thanking Putin for the "gracious hospitality" extended to him and his delegation in Moscow in July, Modi had invited him to visit India in 2025 for the 23rd India-Russia Annual Summit, the Ministry of External Affairs had said then.

Last month, Russia's First Deputy Prime Minister, Denis Manturov, also visited India for key discussions on bilateral and global issues. He participated in the plenary session of the Russia-India Business Forum in Mumbai, which focussed on expanding economic and business cooperation. Manturov also held a bilateral meeting in New Delhi, and participated in the 25th Session of the Intergovernmental Russian-Indian Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technical, and Cultural Cooperation.

• 35% GST likely on cigarettes, aerated drinks & tobacco

current highest slab of 28 per cent, would help the Centre and the states to make up for the loss from other rate cuts for common-use items, officials said. The current four-slab GST structure — of 5 per cent, 12 per cent, 18 per cent and 28 per cent — will continue for the medium term, a state finance minister said.

Among other rate change proposals, the GoM, headed by Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary, has suggested levying 5 per cent GST on readymade garments priced up to Rs 1,500; 18 per cent for those priced at Rs 1,500-10,000; and 28 per cent for garments costing above Rs 10,000.

"The GoM has proposed raising the rates for tobacco and related products, and aerated beverages to 35 per cent. It will be a special rate and will help in minimising the revenue loss impact from the other rate changes," a state finance minister, who is part of the GoM, told *The Indian Express*.

The GoM has also proposed hiking rates on other high-end items such as cosmetics, watches and shoes. With this, the indirect tax regime would transition towards a regime where taxation gets linked to the pricing of the product and hence, a greater incidence would be on those who buy luxury and high-end items.

The GST Council is scheduled to meet in Jaisalmer on December 21, where it will also take up the key proposal of GST on life and health insurance premiums. The premiums paid by senior citizens for health insurance and premiums paid by all for term life insurance are likely to be exempted. For other citizens, health insurance cover till Rs 5 lakh is likely to be exempted and the existing rate of 18 per cent will be charged for health insurance cover over Rs 5 lakh.

At its meeting in October, the GoM had suggested GST rejig for several items and proposed cutting rates for some items such as packaged water above 20 litres (5 per cent from 18 per cent), bicycles priced less than Rs 10,000 (5 per cent from 12 per cent) and exercise notebooks (5 per cent from 12 per cent). Shoes costing above Rs 15,000 and wristwatches above Rs 25,000 are likely to be shifted to the highest slab of 28 per cent GST from 18 per cent.

Separately, the GoM on compensation cess, headed by Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary, also held its meeting on Monday and sought an extension of six months to submit its report to the GST Council. This GoM, which includes members from Assam, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Karnataka, MP, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, was mandated to submit its report by December 31.

The GoM is looking at the legal implications of removal of the cess — levied on sin and luxury goods such as cars, tobacco, over and above the existing highest rate of 28 per cent. "There is time till March 2026 to take a decision regarding the levy of the cess. So it was felt that a detailed discussion should happen, and so more time will be sought for submission of the report," the minister said.

The compensation cess was proposed to be levied for five years after the rollout of GST, till June 2022, to compensate states for revenue loss. In 2022, the Council decided to extend the levy till March 2026 to repay the interest and principal amount of the Rs 2.69 lakh crore of loans taken in FY21 and FY22 to pay off states' revenue loss during Covid years. At its meeting on September 9, the Council decided to set up a GoM to decide the future course of the cess.

• CBSE plan: Pick from standard or advanced Social Science and Science in Classes 9-10

The decision is in line with the National Education Policy, 2020, which states that "all subjects and corresponding assessments, beginning with Mathematics, could be offered at two levels, with students doing some of their subjects at the standard level and some at a higher level". This suggestion is part of the policy's push to "reduce pressure and the coaching culture".

Currently, the Board offers only one subject at two levels in Class 10. In this model, the syllabus for students opting for Mathematics (Standard) and Mathematics (Basic) is the same, but the question papers and the difficulty level of the questions in the Board examination differ. This system was introduced in the 2019-20 academic session.

According to CBSE data, in the 2023-24 exam, more students registered for the standard level (15,88,041 students) of Maths as compared to the basic level (6,79,560 students).

The objective behind offering Science and Social Science at two levels for Classes 9 and 10 is to allow students with the aptitude for these subjects to study them at an advanced level before they take up these subjects in Class 11, said a source.

Students are likely to be granted a certain time-frame to take a final decision on whether they want to take the advanced or standard levels, allowing them to switch within that period.

The advanced level could mean additional learning material, different textbooks or the same textbook with more advanced exercises, and/ or additional learning hours. For the exams, it could mean an entirely different set of question papers for the advanced level, or a question paper that may have a different set of questions for the standard and advanced levels.

The framework — on how the two levels will be implemented — will depend on the new textbooks that will be developed by the NCERT.

Textbooks that align with the National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCFSE), 2023, have already been introduced for Classes 1, 2, 3 and 6. The NCERT is in the process of developing textbooks for Classes 4, 5, 7 and 8, and these are set to be made available to students from the 2025-26 academic session.

At an event in October this year, Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan had said that new textbooks for more classes are likely to be made available from next year. "By January 2026…desh mein nayi pathyapustak aa hi jayega (the country will have new textbooks)," he had said.

• Protesters vandalise Bangladesh Assistant High Commission

Bangladesh Assistant High Commission in Agartala is deeply regrettable. Diplomatic and consular properties should not be targeted under any circumstances."

"Government is taking action to step up security arrangements for the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi and their Deputy/Assistant High Commissions in the country," the MEA said.

The protest was held under the aegis of the Hindu Sangharsh Samiti. The breach took place even as a delegation of the protesters was submitting a representation to the Assistant High Commissioner of Bangladesh inside.

In a statement later in the evening, Bangladesh's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said, "The Government of Bangladesh deeply resents the violent demonstration and attack by a large group of protesters of the Hindu Sangharsh Samiti... on the premises of the Assistant High Commission of Bangladesh in Agartala."

It said that accounts received by them "conclusively attest" that the protesters were allowed to aggress into the premises, by breaking the main gate of the mission in a "pre-planned manner".

"In the process, in the presence of the members of the local law enforcement agencies, they vandalised the flagpole, desecrated the national flag of Bangladesh and also damaged properties inside the Assistant High Commission. Regrettably, the local police personnel present in charge of protecting the premises were found not to be active in containing the situation from the beginning," the Bangladesh Foreign Affairs Ministry said.

"This particular act in Agartala stands in violation of the inviolability of diplomatic missions, as the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, 1961, asks for," it said.

Stating that it is the responsibility of the host government to protect diplomatic missions, Bangladesh called upon the Government of India to take immediate action. It called for a thorough investigation and action to prevent any further act of violence against diplomatic missions of Bangladesh in India.

Although the protest started as a peaceful sit-in demonstration, the protesters later began raising anti-Bangladesh and 'Jai Shri Ram' slogans near the Bangladesh Assistant High Commissioner's office.

They spoke of alleged atrocities meted out to Hindus and other minorities in Bangladesh under the current dispensation led by Chief Advisor Mohammad Yunus, and also demanded the release of Chinmoy Das, who was arrested last week on sedition charges.

Ruling BJP state vice-president Subal Bhowmik, who also joined the protest, demanded that Yunus's Nobel Prize be withdrawn.

"Such attacks on Hindus are intolerable... Hindus across the world are getting united. Attacks on Hindus in Bangladesh are increasing by the day….. Md. Yunus is provoking these incidents," he told reporters.

A six-member delegation of the protesters then met the Assistant High Commissioner to convey their message.

However, as the delegates were busy with the Assistant High Commissioner, a group of protesters broke the security barricade and stormed the premises. They removed Bangladesh's national flag from the pole, damaged chairs, flower-pots and other property.

Security forces brought the situation under control within minutes and dispersed them from the premises. DG (Intelligence) Anurag Dhyankar rushed to the spot and assessed the situation. Additional security forces were deployed outside the mission shortly afterwards.

• At home of IIT researcher killed in Lothal, a box of soil, questions

Hours later, at their house in Sitapur district, as the family got a call from an "official in Gujarat" informing them of the accident, it was decided that two of Surabhi's cousins from Delhi would go to Lothal to collect her belongings and bring back the body.

In the days since then, Maheshwari's heart has been bursting with questions. "I still don't understand. What was the hurry to do this digging in such a short time? Why did the pit have to be so deep? My nephew who saw the pit told me water was still seeping into it. And they got an excavator to dig? Who gave them the permission for all this? I do know who can tell me all this. Do you know?"

Surabhi's father R K Verma, who teaches at the government primary school nearby, is just back from Naimisharana, a religious site in Sitapur, after dispersing his daughter's ashes in the Gomti river.

He slumps on to the bed in front of the still-open suitcase and talks about how, seven years ago, Surabhi, the second of his four children, made a journey he is proud of — from the congested lanes of Sitapur's Sri Nagar colony to Allahabad University, where she did her BSc and MSc in Geology and later an MTech in Earth Sciences, before joining IIT Delhi last year for her PhD.

"I always wanted Surabhi to join the IAS. In fact, I was the one who pushed her to take up Geology as her third subject for BSc, hoping it would help her score better. But then, she developed a keen interest in the subject. The rest of it was her decision -- to do MTech, apply for the scholarship and do research in the field. Still, somewhere, I wanted her to be an IAS officer and she would often tell me, 'Papa, don't worry, I'll appear for the UPSC exams as well. But let me first settle down in my field. She was always very clear about what she wanted," says Verma, his tears flowing freely.

Maheshwari says she lived her own life through Surabhi's.

Parents and siblings of IIT-Delhi PhD student Surabhi Verma at their home in Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh. *Vishal Srivastav*

"I did an MA in Economics from Lakhimpur Kheri but my father never let me work. After I got married, my children were my sole focus. We were all very proud of Surabhi — she was the topper and vice-captain of her school (Sacred Hearts School in Sitapur)," she says.

She says Surabhi had applied for the Prime Minister's Research Fellowship. "She told me that soon she would start getting Rs 70,000 a month. She would tell me that once she got the money, she would call me to Delhi and take me to a lot of places. I don't want any of that now... I only want my daughter," says Maheshwari, breaking down.

As her younger daughter Devyanshi leafs through the family album — its plastic sheets holding several photographs of Surabhi on stage, receiving medals and certificates over the years – she says "didi" was her "guiding light". "I would always turn to her when I needed help. She was the one helping me for the IBPS PO (bank probationary officers') examination," says Devyanshi.

After clearing the preliminaries, Devyanshi appeared for the main exam on November 30, the day after Surabhi's body was brought home. "I had no strength left in me but I travelled to Lucknow for the exam because that is what didi would have wanted," she says, adding, "Her sole focus was to attain financial independence... That's something she wanted from me and my siblings too." Devyanshi's eldest sister Suprabha, who has a BEd, teaches in a private school in Sitapur and her younger brother Ankush is preparing for his JEE.

Devyanshi says that around 10.30 pm on November 26, the night before the accident at Lothal, she had made a video call to Surabhi. "We had a long call then. She spoke to our mother too. Then, I called her again at 12.30 at night because I needed help with something I was studying. She said she had a long day at the site and was very tired. She had to wake up early too, so she hung up," she says.

That was the last time they spoke.

A day after her death, the family got another call — from IIT Delhi. Surabhi had topped her second semester. "The professor told us Surbahi had got an A throughout... aur use pata hi nahi chala (she did not even get to know). Wherever she went, she brought medals. *Woh research scholar thi jo climate change jaise vishaya par research kar rahi thi... Woh ghar ki hi nahin nation ki treasure thi* (She was a research scholar who studied subjects like climate change. She was not just our treasure, but the nation's too)," says Verma.

He, too, has questions, "No other child should lose their life because of such negligence. I am also a teacher — every student in my class is my responsibility and I am accountable if something happens to them. Who is accountable for my daughter's death?" says father.

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After Ajmer Dargah survey petition, another mosque faces similar demand

Deputy mayor claims there is 'evidence of a Sanskrit college and temple in Adhai Din Ka Jhonpra'

HAMZA KHAN
JAIPUR, DECEMBER 2

AN AJMER court admitting a petition seeking survey of Ajmer Sharif Dargah has renewed similar demands for the historic Adhai Din Ka Jhonpra, said to be one of the oldest mosques in the state and the country.

In a statement, Ajmer's deputy mayor Neeraj Jain claimed, "There has been evidence of a Sanskrit college and temple in the Jhonpra. It was demolished by the invaders the same way they demolished (historical education sites of) Nalanda and Takshila. There was an attack on our culture, our civilisation, our education and this (Jhonpra) too was among them."

Barely 5 minutes' walk away from the Ajmer Dargah, the Adhai Din Ka Jhonpra is an Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)-protected monument. Jain claimed that the ASI has over 250 statues from the site and that "there is swastika and bells and Sanskrit shlokas on the site, which is originally over 1,000 years old" and has been mentioned in historical books.

He said, "We have demanded this in the past too, that existing religious activities should be stopped and the ASI should ensure the return of the college's old glory."

As per the ASI, which has possession of the site, its name came to be "possibly from the fact that a fair (Urs) used to be held here for two and a half days." In his 1911 book, Ajmer: Historical and Descriptive, Har Bilas Sarda wrote that the name was "given to it in the latter half of the eighteenth century" when fakirs began to assemble here to celebrate the two and a half day Urs anniversary of the death of their religious leader, Panjaba Shah, who had migrated to Ajmer from Punjab.

As per Sarda, Seth Viramdeva Kala built a Jain temple in celebration of the Jain festival Panch Kalyan Mahotsava in 660 AD. "As there was no place in Ajmer for Jain priestly class to stay, this temple was built," Sarda wrote. However, the structures at the site were allegedly destroyed by Afghans of Ghor, led by Muhammad Ghori, in 1192, and the structure was converted into a mosque as per Sharda.

"It was commenced by Qutubuddin Aibak in about 1200 AD with carved pillars used in colonnades… The pillared (prayer) chamber is divided into nine octagonal compartments and has two small minarets on top of the central arch. The three central arches carved with Kufic and Tughra inscriptions make it a splendid architectural masterpiece," the ASI says.

In May, Rajasthan Assembly speaker Vasudev Devnani, who is the MLA from Ajmer North, had demanded an ASI survey of the site following claims and a visit by some Jain monks — accompanied by members of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad — who said that a Sanskrit school and a temple had once existed at the site.

Muslim bodies urge Supreme Court to maintain status quo

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
JAIPUR, DECEMBER 2

MUSLIM ORGANISATIONS in Jaipur on Monday appealed to the Supreme Court to stop attempts to "tamper" with the Ajmer Sharif Dargah and other religious places, and maintain the status quo of mosques by not allowing their survey.

They also demanded that lower courts be instructed to fully comply with the Places of Worship Act, 1991, and not entertain petitions seeking surveys of religious places.

"An attempt is being made to end the status quo of mosques in the name of survey by filing false court cases claiming temples existed at mosque sites," Mohammad Nazimuddin, convener of the joint committee Tahaffuz-e-Auqaf, said.

The SC should stop tampering with the Ajmer Dargah and other religious sites, he added.

Advocate and state president of the Association for Protection of Civil Rights, Syed Saadat Ali, said a lower court accepting a petition claiming a Shiva temple existed at the site where the Ajmer Sharif Dargah of Sufi saint Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti Rahmatullah Alaih stands today is not only worrisome, but also against the Constitution.

AIMIM's Rajasthan unit chief, Jameel Khan, said, "The Ajmer Dargah is a symbol of religious unity, and under the Places of Worship Act, 1991, the nature of a religious place cannot be changed. Such petitions are being filed to vitiate the atmosphere." He also appealed to the SC to maintain the goodwill of the country by dismissing such petitions.

Our culture world's oldest: Gov

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
JAIPUR, DECEMBER 2

RAJASTHAN GOVERNOR Haribhau Bagde on Monday said that India is the country with the oldest culture in the world.

Addressing a programme organised on the foundation day of Jharkhand, Nagaland and Assam at the Raj Bhavan in Jaipur, he said that there are important references about the names and places of states in our ancient texts.

He remembered Birsa Munda who fought against the British government in Jharkhand and said that it is the leading state of the country that preserves tribal heritage.

Governor Haribhau Bagde at the event in Jaipur, Monday. *X/@RajBhavanJaipur*

While discussing the history of Nagaland and the culture of Assam, he also called for learning from the arts of the residents of these states.

The governor interacted with the residents of these states to know about their work and felicitated them at the Raj Bhavan.

He said that the purpose of celebrating the foundation day of the states at the Raj Bhavan is to directly experience the concept of "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat".

The governor also gave shared insights on the important aspects related to the culture, art and life in these states.

'State has vulnerable communities like tribals who lack awareness... anti-conversion law will stop their deceitful conversion'

Anyone above 18 can convert following due process... we are only trying to curb forceful conversions: Jogaram Patel

AFTER A failed attempt by former Rajasthan Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje to enact an anti-conversion law during her tenure, the state government led by Bhajan Lal Sharma on Saturday decided to table the Rajasthan Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Bill, 2024, in the next Session of the Assembly in a bid to prevent religious conversions by force and fraud.

Rajasthan Law and Legal Affairs Minister **JOGARAM PATEL** said the proposal to table the Bill was approved by the Cabinet as currently the state does not have a law to prevent forced religious conversions.

In an interview with **PARUL KULSHRESTHA**, Patel spoke about the impact of the law and penalties associated with violating it, among other issues. Excerpts:

THE EXPRESS INTERVIEW
WITH JOGARAM PATEL
LAW & LEGAL AFFAIRS MINISTER, RAJASTHAN

What is the need for such a law in Rajasthan?

Many vulnerable communities in the state like the tribals are not educated and lack awareness. Hence, they are being converted through illegal means. It is important to enforce this (proposed) law to stop the deceitful religious conversion of vulnerable people.

Once enforced, the fear is that the law will also hinder wilful conversions.

No. This law will not be a hindrance to a person's free will. Any person above the age of 18 can wilfully convert to any religion after following the due process of law. Article 25 of the Constitution guarantees freedom of religion as a fundamental right. Through this Bill, we are only trying to curb forceful conversions.

Was the Bill formulated keeping certain communities in mind? What if a Sikh person converts to Jainism? Will it be applicable then?

The Bill does not discriminate between religions. Only those using fraudulent and forceful means to undertake religious conversions, irrespective of their faith, will be charged under the law.

What punishment does the law entail for violators?

The proposed law has provisions for three kinds of punishments. If the victim is a person belonging to a non-SC/ST community, violators will be liable for one to five years of jail.

If the victim is a woman, minor or belongs to a SC or ST community or if someone is found undertaking mass religious conversions, the jail term can be between three and seven years. There are stricter provisions for habitual offenders.

AMID OPP PROTESTS

Both Houses adjourned again, Dhankhar cites Murphy's Law

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 2

AFTER A washout during the first week, the Winter Session of Parliament resumed its proceedings on Monday morning. However, both Houses were adjourned without much business amid the Opposition's protests on the Adani row and the Manipur situation. The Parliament will now reconvene on Tuesday.

Proceedings for the Lok Sabha began amid constant sloganeering by the Opposition. During the Question Hour, Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Jayant Chaudhary responded to a question on the Centre of Excellence for Skill Development. Meanwhile, the House was filled with "We want justice" slogans.

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla adjourned the House until noon. However, before proceeding with the adjournment, he urged the protesting MPs to let the House function, asking them to return to their seats. Meanwhile, floor leaders of the INDIA bloc parties, after a meeting at the Congress Parliamentary Party office chaired by Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, sought the Speaker's intervention in the smooth functioning of the House.

In Rajya Sabha, within 15 minutes of the proceedings, the Upper House was first adjourned until noon. But soon after the House met at noon, Opposition members raised their issues, including the allegations of bribery against the Adani Group and the recent violence in Sambal and Manipur, even as Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar said nothing would go on record.

Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar in Rajya Sabha, Monday. *ANI*

The chairman also disallowed 20 notices served under rule 267, including eight that had sought a discussion on the US indictment of the Adani Group. Stating that the notices did not call for admittance, Dhankhar went on to equate the situation in Parliament, which has seen repeated adjournments since it met on November 25, to Murphy's Law that states, "Anything that can go wrong will go wrong."

"It appears that there exists a deliberate algorithm to actualise Murphy's laws in this august House, consequently impeding the proper functioning of Parliament. We find ourselves achieving precisely the antithesis of what our Constitution ordains," said Dhankhar.

As he allowed Question Hour to proceed, Tiruchi Siva of DMK also sought to raise some issues, which the chairman said he would allow only after members took their seats and maintained decorum. As the opposition members continued to raise an uproar, Chairman Dhankhar adjourned the House for the day.

The chairman appealed to them in the name of the framers of the Constitution to allow the House to function. "We find ourselves achieving precisely the antithesis of what our Constitution ordains… In reverence to the framers of our Constitution... I implore this House to permit me to proceed with the business listed on today's agenda," he said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Union Ministers (from left) Manohar Lal Khattar, Jitan Ram Manjhi, Nitin Gadkari, Rajnath Singh, Amit Shah, J P Nadda, Mansukh Mandaviya, Rajiv Ranjan Singh, aka Lalan Singh, and Jayant Chaudhary watch the film *The Sabarmati Report* at the Parliament auditorium on Monday. *PTI*

PM Modi, Cabinet Ministers watch *The Sabarmati Report*

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 2

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi watched the movie *The Sabarmati Report* on Monday along with several members of his Cabinet besides MPs from the ruling alliance at the Balyogi Auditorium in the Parliament library building.

Some members of the audience, including veteran actor Jeetendra and Raashii Khanna, who has a key role in the movie, told reporters after the meeting that Modi told them this was the first film he had watched after becoming the PM.

Modi was joined by Union ministers Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh, Nitin Gadkari and Jitan Ram Manjhi, a BJP ally, among others. The film claims to reveal the truth behind the fire incident in Sabarmati Express at Godhra on February 27, 2002, killing 59 devotees returning from Ayodhya after participating in a religious ceremony.

Vikrant Massey, who played the lead protagonist, said it was a different experience watching the movie with Modi that cannot be expressed in words. He expressed his delight and appealed to the people to watch the film. This experience was the highest point in his career, he added.

Cast members of the film Vikrant Massey, Riddhi Dogra, and Raashi Khanna during the screening. *PTI*

In a post on X after watching the film, Modi commended the makers of the film for their effort.

Jeetendra told reporters that this was the first time he had watched a film with the prime minister due to his daughter Ekta Kapoor, one of its producers.

"He (Modi) told me that it was the first movie he has seen after becoming prime minister," one of the Hindi film industry's leading actors of his times said. Actor Raashii Khanna also made a similar comment and expressed delight at the experience.

The ruling BJP has actively promoted the movie, with many of its state governments making it tax-free.

Modi was the chief minister of Gujarat at the time of the incident, which was followed by communal riots, and the state police had blamed a Muslim mob for setting some of the train coaches on fire. Many accused chargesheeted by the police were later convicted in courts.

The incident had triggered a major political row as an enquiry commission constituted by the then railway minister Lalu Prasad Yadav, a Congress ally, had claimed that the fire was an accident.

The Gujarat High Court had, however, quashed its findings and termed the commission unconstitutional.

Student killed in Dausa accident

Jaipur: A student was killed and two other youths were injured in a road accident after their bike hit a dumper truck in Dausa district, police said on Monday.

The deceased was identified as Mohit Saini (19), a student of class 11, police said.

According to police, Saini along with his two friends was returning home on a bike after attending a programme on Sunday night.

The driver lost control of the vehicle and they collided with a dumper truck parked on the roadside near Mundiyakheda village. Saini died in the accident while the other two passengers were injured, police said. **PTI**

Cong MLA booked for controversial statement against bureaucrats

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
JAIPUR, DECEMBER 2

A CONGRESS MLA in Rajasthan was booked for allegedly making a controversial statement against bureaucrats, officials said on Monday.

Abhimanyu Poonia, the Sangaria MLA and state president of the Youth Congress, had taken out a motorcycle rally and held a public meeting in Barmer district on November 30.

While addressing the meeting, he had said, "If an officer troubles you too much, then the youngsters are strong, they can beat up the officer. Then we will deal with it." On Monday, Inspector General of Police (Jodhpur Range) Vikas Kumar instructed Superintendent of Police (Barmer) Narendra Singh Meena to take legal advice and register a case.

After this, an FIR was registered at Sedwa police station that will be investigated by the CID-CB.

Poonia had also said the youngsters of Barmer, Jaisalmer and Marwar were particularly strong. "Beat up the officer, after that Ummeda Ram ji (Barmer MP Ummeda Ram Beniwal) and we all will deal with them." Kumar said the MLA's statement was "prima facie inciting to commit a crime".

Kota: Two labourers from MP fall into canal, dead

Kota: Two labourers from Madhya Pradesh died after allegedly falling into a canal in Kota after consuming liquor on Sunday, police said.

Manoj (45), a resident of Morena and Satyendra (31) from Bhind in Madhya Pradesh, worked at a catering firm in Kota, Station House Officer Ramswaroop Meena said.

According to Meena, the incident occurred around 3 pm when the duo fell from the boundary wall of Bhadana canal while allegedly consuming liquor.

The matter came to light when their family members, who were searching for them, reached the spot at night and noticed their slippers and country-made liquor bottles near the boundary wall, the SHO said.

They also spotted the two men stuck in the water below, he added. The labourers were taken to a hospital, where doctors declared them dead, he said.

A case has been registered under BNSS section 194. **PTI**

As clouds part, a more assured CM shines through after BJP's bypoll success

Questions were being raised about Sharma's leadership as the BJP took a hit during the Lok Sabha elections. But now all the doubts appear to have disappeared

For CM Bhajan Lal Sharma, some of the high-profile events that are coming up provide an opportunity to bask in the afterglow of a successful bypoll campaign. *Express File*

VIKAS PATHAK
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 2

RAJASTHAN WAS one of the major states along with Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra where the BJP slipped in the Lok Sabha elections, losing 11 of the 25 seats and seeing its tally drop to 14, and solidifying the perception of a revived Congress on the rise again. For first-time Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma, it was a trial by fire as the party's poor showing was linked to his government's performance.

This was the picture as of September: the social security pension of 90 lakh beneficiaries had been stuck for over three months, more than two lakh jobless youths had been waiting for their allowance, and exports from Rajasthan had contracted 38% in the April–June quarter. Then there was the uncertainty over the resignation of state Cabinet minister Kirodi Lal Meena, who had been sulking. All this contributed to the widespread perception in Rajasthan's political circles that the BJP's central leadership and bureaucrats were running the show and not the novice CM, a first-time MLA. This sparked a buzz in the state about Sharma being replaced midway through his term, making way for a more seasoned administrator.

But in politics optics can change overnight and after the recent bypolls, in which the BJP won five of the seven Assembly seats at stake, Sharma's fortunes seem to have turned for the better and brought a spring to the CM's stride.

What has added to the current upbeat mood is that the results not only marked a turnaround compared to the Lok Sabha elections but also an improvement on last year's Assembly elections. In 2023, the Congress won four of these seats — Jhunjhunu, Ramgarh, Dausa, and Deoli-Uniara — while its ally Hanuman Beniwal of the Rashtriya Loktantrik Party (RLP) won Khinwsar. The Bharat Adivasi Party (BAP) won the sixth seat, Chorasi while the BJP won only Salumber. This time, it retained Salumber and won four other seats, raising its tally from one to five, while the Congress's fell from four to one.

Sharma and the state BJP can also take heart from the fact that two leaders who have been a thorn in their sides, Beniwal and their own Kirodi Lal Meena, suffered setbacks. Meena's brother Jagmohan lost from Dausa, dealing a blow to the disgruntled BJP leader who had lobbied intensively for a ticket for his brother. After the loss, Meena insinuated that party insiders were responsible for his brother's defeat.

Another shot in the arm for the BJP was the poll loss of Beniwal's wife Kanika who lost from Khinwsar, the seat that the RLP leader vacated after being elected to the Lok Sabha from Nagaur. Beniwal was with the BJP-led NDA in the 2019 polls but quit the alliance the following year during protests against the now-repealed three Central farm laws.

The biggest gain for Sharma and the BJP is a weakened Congress, which was buoyed by the Lok Sabha results after years of internal feuds between the Ashok Gehlot and Sachin Pilot camps. As the Opposition party's graph started rising, months after losing the Assembly polls, the perception grew that not just Dalits and Adivasis but Jats too were unhappy with the BJP. The party has its task cut out, with its top priorities likely to be setting its house in order and looking for a sound strategy to deflate the Bhajan Lal Sharma government's new-found optimism.

"This win is a boost for the Chief Minister because it has also silenced critics and all other tall leaders of the state BJP such as Vasundhara Raje, Rajendra Rathore, and Gajendra Singh who were being seen as probables for the CM post had Sharma, seen as a greenhorn, been eased out," said a state government insider who did not wish to be named.

For the CM, some of the high-profile events that are coming up provide an opportunity to bask in the afterglow of a successful bypoll campaign. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Rajasthan twice this month within a week, first in Jaipur on December 9 to inaugurate the Rising Rajasthan Summit and on December 15 to attend the first anniversary of the Sharma government. The second event was scheduled after the win in the bypolls.

SALUTE THE SOLDIER

JAMMU & KASHMIR30NOVEMBER1996(OP RAKSHAK)

Late NkMuraleedharan G
8 Mtn Div Int & FS Coy
25.05.1969 -30 Nov 1996

Late NkMuraleedharan G was serving with 8 Mtn Div Int & FS Coy deployed at Sopore, Dist-Baramulla, J & K and engaged in active Counter Insurgency Operation. On 30 Nov 1996, while carrying out his duties, he fell victim to an attack by unidentified militants.Despite efforts to save him, he succumbed to his injuries and was died on the spot.On this auspicious day Intelligence Corps salute and pay homage to this brave soldier who made the supreme sacrifice in the finest traditions of the Indian Army.

Col Comdt, OIC Records &
All Ranks of Intelligence Corps

CENTRAL RESERVE POLICE FORCE
3 December 2014

Shaheed ASI Samsher Singh 07-08-1970 To 03-12-2014 183 Bn

On 3rd December 2014, troops of 183 Battalion of CRPF were deployed for road sanitization to ensure the safe induction of CISF personnel during Assembly Elections. Pickets were established at regular intervals, including one near village Pahoo, Pulwama. At around 1715 hrs, shortly after a CISF convoy passed, unidentified militants, exploiting the crowded surroundings, hurled a grenade at the picket and fled in a vehicle. In the attack, ASI Samsher Singh sustained critical injuries and made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty.

CENTRAL RESERVE POLICE FORCE
3 December 2004

Shaheed Head Constable A. Thulasi 01-06-1963 To 03-12-2004 16 Bn

Shaheed Constable Gagan Singh 08-08-1969 To 03-12-2004 16 Bn

Shaheed Constable Rampal Sharma 01-01-1973 To 03-12-2004 16 Bn

Shaheed Constable K. Shiv Raj 04-10-1970 To 03-12-2004 16 Bn

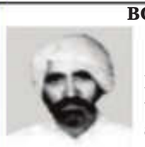
Shaheed Ct/Barber Mohd. Sayeed 16-01-1968 To 03-12-2004 16 Bn

On 3rd December 2004, two militants, under the cover of darkness, launched a heavy attack with gunfire and grenades on the sentry post of 16 Battalion, CRPF in Sopore, Baramulla. Despite a brave response, the sentry was martyred. The militants then stormed the camp, firing indiscriminately and targeting the barracks. CRPF troops retaliated, forcing them to take cover inside a room. An assault team was quickly formed, and after a swift room intervention drill, both militants were neutralized. In this fierce gunfight, five brave CRPF troopers- HC A. Thulasi, Constable Gagan Singh, Constable Rampal Sharma, Constable K. Shiv Raj, and Constable Barber Mohd. Sayeed—made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty.

BORDER SECURITY FORCE
L/NK KISHAN LAL
30.08.1946 - 03.12.1971

Bordermen Salute and proudly remember today their brave comrade, who made supreme sacrifice during Indo-Pak war in area of Derababa Nanak, Punjab.

BORDER SECURITY FORCE
CT BALBIR SINGH
28.02.1948 - 03.12.1971



Bordermen Salute and proudly remember today their brave comrade, who made supreme sacrifice during Indo-Pak war in area of Chhamb (Jammu).

BORDER SECURITY FORCE
NK SAT PRAKASH
11.04.1942 - 03.12.1971

Bordermen Salute and proudly remember today their brave comrade, who made supreme sacrifice during Indo-Pak war in area of Derababa Nanak, Punjab.

BORDER SECURITY FORCE
CT HARNEK SINGH
26.03.1948 - 03.12.1971

Bordermen Salute and proudly remember today their brave comrade, who made supreme during Indo-Pak war in area of Chhamb (Jammu).

BORDER SECURITY FORCE
LCT SURJIT SINGH
02.01.1947 - 03.12.1971

Bordermen Salute and proudly remember today their brave comrade, who made supreme sacrifice during Indo-Pak war in area of Chhamb (Jammu).

BORDER SECURITY FORCE
L/NK LAKHI RAM
05.05.1947 - 03.12.1971

Bordermen Salute and proudly remember today their brave comrade, who made supreme sacrifice during Indo- Pak war in area of Chhamb (Jammu).

BORDER SECURITY FORCE
CT RAGHUNATH SINGH
15.05.1946 - 03.12.1971

Bordermen Salute and proudly remember today their brave comrade, who made supreme sacrifice during Indo-Pak war in area of Chhamb (Jammu).

BORDER SECURITY FORCE
NK MEHAR SINGH
06.12.1948 - 03.12.1971

Bordermen Salute and proudly remember today their brave comrade, who made supreme sacrifice during during Indo-Pak war in area of Chhamb (Jammu).

BORDER SECURITY FORCE
HC AMRIK SINGH
01.01.1945 - 03.12.1971

Bordermen Salute and proudly remember today their brave comrade, who made supreme sacrifice during Indo-Pak war in area of Chhamb (Jammu).

BORDER SECURITY FORCE
CT RAM SINGH
03.04.1947 - 03.12.1971

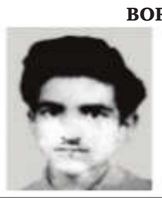
Bordermen Salute and proudly remember today their brave comrade, who made supreme sacrifice during Indo- Pak war in area of Chhamb (Jammu).

SALUTE THE SOLDIER

BORDER SECURITY FORCE
CT/WC ABDUL GANI
06.07.1946 - 03.12.1971

Bordermen Salute and proudly remember today their brave comrade, who made supreme sacrifice during Indo-Pak war in area of Chhamb (Jammu).

BORDER SECURITY FORCE
CT KARLEEP SINGH
09.09.1950 - 03.12.1971



Bordermen Salute and proudly remember today their brave comrade, who made supreme sacrifice during Indo- Pak war in area of Chhamb (Jammu).

BORDER SECURITY FORCE
CT SAHIB DITTA
10.11.1946 - 03.12.1971

Bordermen Salute and proudly remember today their brave comrade, who made supreme sacrifice during Indo-Pak war in area of Chhamb (Jammu).

BORDER SECURITY FORCE
CT AZAD SINGH
03.12.1971

Bordermen Salute and proudly remember today their brave comrade, who made supreme sacrifice while fighting militants in Jafarwal (Punjab).

BORDER SECURITY FORCE
CT DAYA RAM
10.12.1948 - 03.12.1971

Bordermen Salute and proudly remember today their brave comrade, who made supreme sacrifice during Indo-Pak war in area of Chhamb (Jammu).

BORDER SECURITY FORCE
L/NK FAQUIR CHAND, PMG
13.10.1959 - 03.12.1993

Bordermen Salute and proudly remember today their brave comrade, who made supreme sacrifice while fighting militants in Srinagar (J&K).

CHANGE OF NAME

I, FARZANA BEGUM spouse of No. 14846698X Hav/MT Yasin Ali BHADRAPUR Unit 524 ASC Bn C/o 56 APO, Bikaner residing of Sangan path mulgund (rural) mulgund, gadag Karnataka 582117. I have changed my name from FARZANA BEGUM to **FARJANA Y BHADRAPUR** vide affidavit BY 057059 before bikaner court.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, MANISHA DEVDAS PAWAR spouse of No. 14855177L Nk/MT Rathod Naganath Babarao Unit 524 ASC Bn C/o 56 APO, residing of dhaku tanda PO- shekapur TQ- kandhar shekapur nanded, shekapur Maharashtra 431714. I have changed my name from MANISHA DEVDAS PAWAR to **RATHOD MANISHA NAGANATH** vide affidavit before bikaner court.

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT PRASARAN NIGAM LIMITED

Notice Inviting Bid

(A) BID FOR ESTABLISHING OF 2 X 500 MVA, 400/220 KV SUB-STATION AT KUMHER (DISTT. BHARATPUR) ALONGWITH 400KV, 1X125 MVAR, SHUNT REACTOR (BUS TYPE) & 4 X50 MVAR, SHUNT REACTOR (LINE TYPE) AND ASSOCIATED BAYS INCLUDING SUPPLY OF ALL EQUIPMENTS/MATERIALS, ERECTION (INCLUDING CIVIL WORKS), TESTING AND COMMISSIONING (TURNKEY PROJECT) AGAINST SPECIFICATION No. RVPN/EHV/BN-9018002425 (UBN: VPN2425WLOB02157) ARE INVITED FROM INTERESTED BIDDERS UP TO 04:00 PM ON 20.01.2025.

(B) BID FOR CONSTRUCTION OF VARIOUS TRANSMISSION ELEMENTS (02 NO. 400 KV (approx. 49.5 kM) & 02 NO. 220 KV (approx. 15 kM) TRANSMISSION LINES) FOR PROPOSED 400 KV GSS KUMHER [DISTT.-BHARATPUR] INCLUDING SURVEY, SUPPLY OF ALL EQUIPMENTS/MATERIALS, ERECTION (INCLUDING CIVIL WORKS), TESTING AND COMMISSIONING (ON TURNKEY BASIS) AGAINST SPECIFICATION No. RVPN/EHV/BN-9018002426 (UBN: VPN2425WLOB02158) ARE INVITED FROM INTERESTED BIDDERS UP TO 04:00 PM ON 20.01.2025.

Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal **(http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in)** of the state; and **http://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rvpnl** departmental website.

Superintending Engineer (Contract - I), Jaipur

Raj.Samwad/C/24/8526 RRVPN/TR-6492/2024

GOVERNMENT OF GOA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP
601 & 306, KAMAT TOWERS, PATTO, PANAJI - GOA 403001

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
(e-procurement mode only)
No. 68/DPPP/PMU/2024/202

Setting up of Project Management Unit (PMU) by Selection of Consultants - PPP consultancy and Transaction Advisor.

THE Department of Public Private Partnership, Government of Goa (Authority), invites e-tender offers from interested, qualified and eligible bidders to submit their technical proposals and financial offers for the project of Selection of Consultants, PPP Consultancy and Transaction Advisory for Development of Projects on PPP basis in the State of Goa.

Bidding Process : Proposals are invited (Single Stage - 2 Parts) as per the RFP Criteria from interested reputed National/International Consulting Firms for Setting up of Project Management Unit (PMU) by Selection of Consultants - PPP consultancy and Transaction Advisor. The Bid Documents can be procured only through the e-procurement portal of the Government of Goa (https://eprocure.goa.gov.in/nicgep/app) from **29.11.2024** onwards. All further updates shall only be posted on the e-procurement portal.

Schedule : A Pre-bid meeting will be held on **09.12.2024**. The last date & time for submission of Proposals through the e-procurement mode, in the format prescribed in the RFP Document is **20.12.2024, 1700 Hrs IST.**

In case of any queries / clarifications, please contact at the details mentioned below. GoG reserves the right to reject any or all applications without assigning any reason thereof.

Nodal Department : Department of Public Private Partnership, Government of Goa, 601 & 306, Kamat Towers, Patto, Panaji- Goa 403001
Phone : 9011924758/0832-6933700; E-mail: ppp-cell.goa@nic.in

For technical queries regarding bid submission on eprocure.goa.gov.in or submission of online bids, contact help desk number 0120-4001002 email: support-eproc@nic.in

DI/ADVT/1465/2024

AUTHUM INVESTMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED

Regi.Off. : 707, Raheja Centre, Free Press Journal Road, Nariman Point, Mumbai-21. Ph.:(022) 6747 2117 Fax: (022) 6747 2118 E-mail: info@authum.com
Branch Add:- 1 A, 1st Floor, Gopala Tower 25, Rajendra Place, New Delhi-110008

POSSESSION NOTICE (As per Rule 8(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised officer of the Authum Investment & Infrastructure Limited ("AIIL") (Resulting Company pursuant the demerger of lending business from Reliance Commercial Finance Limited ("RCFL") to AIIL vide NCLT order dated 10.05.2024), under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of Powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notices dated 10-08-2024 calling upon the borrower **Seema Joshi , Anand Prakash Joshi & Maa Krishna Indian Oil** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs.44841381/- (Rupees Four Crore Forty Eight Lakh Forty One Thousand Three Hundred Eighty One Only)** under the **lan no. RHLPJOD000049996** with further interest and costs within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notices.

The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/Co-Borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **SYMBOLIC POSSESSION** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on this **29th day of November of the year 2024.**

The Borrower/ Co-Borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Authum Investment & Infrastructure Limited for an amount of **Rs.44841381/- (Rupees Four Crore Forty Eight Lakh Forty One Thousand Three Hundred Eighty One Only) under the lan no. RHLPJOD000049996** and interest thereon. The Borrower/ Co-Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Section 13(8) of the said Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assests.

Description of immovable Property

All The Piece and Parcel Of The Property Industrial Plot At Khasra No 629 , Admeasuring 26 Rakba 1 Biswa Out Of 46 Bigha 1 Biswa, Vinayakpura Tehsil Osian Jodhpur Rajasthan-342303 **Bounded As And On the North:** Property Belongs To Banshilal Nai & Others,**On the East:** Property Belongs To Banshilal Nai & Others, **On the South :** Property Belongs To Anand Prakash Joshi,**On the West:**Property Belongs To Banshilal Nai & Others

Date : 29.11.2024 **Authorized Officer**
Place : Jodhpur **Authum Investment and Infrastructure Limited**

Bank of Baroda

Mahaveer Nagar Branch, Kota, Rajasthan 324005
Phone No.: 0744-2434100
E-Mail: makota@bankofbaroda.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrowers **M/s Rajeshwari Roadlines Proprietor Shri Jay Prakash Sharma S/o Shri Krishn Kant Sharma** and its Guarantors that the E-auction notice published in **Chambal Sandesh & Indian Express** on **22.11.2024** for sale of secured assets to be conducted on **dated 24.12.2024** in the Account **M/s Rajeshwari Roadlines Proprietor Shri Jay Prakash Sharma S/o Shri Krishn Kant Sharma** is hereby withdrawn with immediate effect.

Sd/-
Place: Kota **Authorised Officer**
Date: 02.12.2024 **Bank of Baroda**

"IMPORTANT"

Whilst care is taken prior to acceptance of advertising copy, it is not possible to verify its contents. The Indian Express (P) Limited cannot be held responsible for such contents, nor for any loss or damage incurred as a result of transactions with companies, associations or individuals advertising in its newspapers or Publications. We therefore recommend that readers make necessary inquiries before sending any monies or entering into any agreements with advertisers or otherwise acting on an advertisement in any manner whatsoever.

CSL Finance Limited

Reg. off.: 410-412,18/12, 4th Floor, W.E.A, Arya Samaj Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005,
Corp off.: 716-717, 7th Floor, Tower – B, World Trade Tower, Sector – 16, Noida, 201301, UttarPradesh,
Ph.: +91 120 4290650/52/53/54/55, Email: info@cslfinance.in, Legal@cslfinance.in. Web.: www.cslfinance.in

POSSESSION NOTICE FOR IMMOVEABLE PROPERTY [(Appendix IV) Rule 8(1)]

Whereas The undersigned being the authorized officer of the CSL FINANCE LTD.(hereinafter referred as Company) under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice to the Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantors having failed to repay the demanded amount, accordingly notice is hereby given to the Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantors and the public in general that the undersigned on behalf of company has taken physical possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said act read with rule 8(1) of the said rules and by complying the Order dated 23.10.2024 U/s 14 of this Act granted by Hon'ble Senior Civil Judge and Judicial Magistrate, Jaipur.

The Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s) in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the below mentioned property and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the first charge of the Company for the amount as mentioned herein below with future interest thereon

Name of Borrower/Co-Borrower/ Guarantor	Description of Secured Asset (Immovable Property)	Demand Notice dated and Amount(in RS.)	Date of Physical Possession
Loan No.: **SMEJAI010001726** Borrower - **Mr. Sunil Kumar Sonwani** Co-borrower – Mrs. Meera Devi (Co-Borrower), Mr. Raj Kumar (Co-Borrower), Mrs. Kanchan Sonvani(Co-Borrower/ Security Provider) All At: 238, JDA Colony, Gadatpura Road, Bhankrota, Sanganer Jaipur, Rajasthan-302026.	**Details of Property:** All That Piece And Parcel Of Immovable Property Being House Patta No.396, Area Measuring 95.33 Sq. Yards Or 79.71 Sq. Mtrs, Having Dimesions North-26' South-26', East-33' West-33' Situated At Patta No.396, Dhanko Ka Mohalla, Bhankrota, Tehsil Sanganer Distt. Jaipur Owned Vide Regd Sale Deed Dated 29-01-2020 Boundaries And Dimensions Of The Immovable Property Are As Under: - As Per Title Documents: North – Other Property South- Road 8' Wide East – House Of Damodar West- House Of Bindu Saud. As Per Actual/ Technical Valuation Report: North- Other Property South –road 11' Wide East – House Of Damodar West – House Of Bindu Saud	**06.07.2024** and **Rs.20,74,276/-** (Rupees Twenty Lakhs Seventy Four Thousand Two Hundred and Seventy-Six Only) as on 05/07/2024 Plus future interest, penal interest, costs and charges	29.11.2024

Date: 03.12.2024 **Place:** Jaipur (Rajasthan) **Sd/- Authorized Officer, CSL Finance Ltd.**

AXIS BANK

Registered Office: 'Trishul', 3rd floor, opposite Samartheswar Temple, Law garden, Ellisbridge, Ahmedabad-380006

POSSESSION NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Axis Bank Ltd. under the Securitization, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notice upon the borrower mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Axis Bank Ltd.

Name of Borrower & Co-borrower	Description of Properties	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession	Amount in Demand Notice (in Rs.)
1.Mr. Ranjeet Singh Champawat S/o Gheeshu Singh (applicant), **2.Mr. Gheeshu Singh Champawat S/o Anop Singh** (co-applicant), **3.Mrs. Gulab Kanwar Champawat W/o Gheeshu Singh** (co-applicant) **4.Mrs.kamed Kanwar Gulabsingh Champawat W/o Ranjeet Singh Champawat** (co-applicant)	**Property-1:**-Patta No.330 Of Land At Sirohi Road, Tehsil Pindwara, District Sirohi Admeasuring 135.25 Sq.ft. **Property-2:**- Property Situated At Registered Perpetual Lease & Conveyance Deed Dt. 20-12-2018 Of Flat No.3/6 In Block No.3 Housing Estate Pindwara Residential Yojana, Pindwara District, Sirohi Admeasuring 210.00 Sq Mtr Issued By Rajasthan Housing Board. **Property-3:**- Property Situated At Patta No.169 **Dt.24-07-1943** Of Land (shop) At Near Railway Fatak, Pindwara District, Sirohi Admeasuring 160.00 Sq Ft.	**15-05-2024**	**27-11-2024**	**Rs. 1,09,41,711/-**

The above-mentioned borrower/ Co-Borrower/guarantor are hereby given a 30 days Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged property will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub Section (8) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Sd/- (Authorized Officer) Axis Bank Ltd

NOTICE OF EXTRA ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE is hereby given that the Extra Ordinary General Meeting (EGM) of the Members of Vandana Knitwear Limited will be held on Tuesday, the 17th December, 2024 at 4:00 P.M. at Bhandari Plaza, 2nd Floor, Opp. Nagar Parishad, Rajendra Marg, Bhilwara-311001 (Rajasthan) to transact the business as set out in the Notice Convening EGM.

The company has completed the electronic dispatch of the notice of EGM on Monday, 25th November, 2024 to the members of the company whose email is registered with the RTA, the same will be available on the website of the Company at http://www.vandanaknitwear.com and will also be available on the website of stock exchange i.e., BSE Limited at https://www.bseindia.com Pursuant to the provisions of section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013 and Rule 20 of the companies (Management and Administrations) Rules, 2014 as amended from time to time and the provisions of Regulation 44 of the Listing Regulations, the members are provided with the facility to cast their vote electronically, through remote E-voting services provide by CDSL on all special business set forth in the notice calling EGM. The Board of Directors has appointed BK Sharma & Associates, Practicing Company Secretaries as scrutinizer for conducting the remote E-voting services and voting at the EGM through pooling paper in fair and transparent manner. The voting rights of Members shall be in proportions to the equity shares held by them in the paid up equity share capital of the company as on Tuesday, 10th December, 2024.

THE MEMBERS ARE HEREBY REQUESTED TO NOTE THAT:

a) The remote e-voting portal /facilities shall remain open from Saturday, 14th December, 2024 at 9:00 A.M. and ends on Monday, 16th December, 2024 at 05:00 P.M. The remote e-voting shall not be allowed beyond the prescribed date and time mentioned above.

b) A person, whose name is recorded in the Register of Members /Beneficial owners maintained by the depositories /RTA as on cut-off date i.e., Tuesday, 10th December, 2024 shall be entitled to avail the facility of Remote e-voting and vote at the AGM. A person who ceases to be a member as on Cut-off date should treat this Notice for information purpose only.

c) The members who have cast their vote by remote e-voting may attend the EGM but shall not be entitled to cast their vote again. The member, who are entitled to vote but have not exercised their right to vote through remote e-voting, may vote at the EGM.

d) Any person who become the member of the company after dispatch of the notice of the meeting and holding shares as on the cut-off date i.e., Tuesday, 10th December, 2024 may obtain the User Id and Password by sending the request to helpdesk.evoting@cdslindia.com, the detailed procedure for obtaining User Id and Password is also provided in the notice of EGM.

MANNER OF REGISTERING / UPDATING EMAIL ADDRESSES IS AS BELOW:

1. For Physical shareholders- please provide necessary details like Folio No., Name of shareholder, scanned copy of the share certificate (front and back), PAN (self-attested scanned copy of PAN card), AADHAR (self-attested scanned copy of Aadhar Card) by email to Company/RTA email id.
2. For Individual Demat shareholders – Please update your email id & mobile no. with your respective Depository Participant (DP) which is mandatory while e-Voting.

If you have any queries or issues regarding attending EGM & remote e-Voting from the CDSL e-Voting System, you can write an email to helpdesk.evoting@cdslindia.com or contact on: 1800 2109911.

For Vandana Knitwear Limited
Naresh Kumar Gattani
Sd/-
Managing Director
DIN: 00125231

Place: Bhilwara
Date: 30.11.2024

RAJASTHAN STATE FOOD & CIVIL SUPPLIES CORPORATION LTD.

(A State Government Undertaking) 5th Kisan Bhawan, Lalkhoti , Tonk Road, Jaipur - 302015
Ph :- 0141-2744692 Email rsfcsc@gmail.com, Website: rsfcsc.org

No. :- ( )/RSFCSC/PDS/Bid/6431 **Dated :- 29/11/2024**

NOTICE INVITING BID

e-Bids for Milling cum Transportation & Supply of Chana Dal under welfare scheme at Fair Price Shop Dealers & Other Govt./ Semi Govt. institutions and any other directions by Food Dept./RSFCSC for supply of Dal IN RAJASTHAN are invited from interested bidders 10.12.2024 till 3:00 PM Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal **(http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in or http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in)** of the state, and rsfcsc.org. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs 160 Crore. **UBN No.- FCS2425SLOB00055**

Raj.Samwad/C/24/8544 **OIC, PDS, RSFCSC HQ**

GOVERNMENT OF RAJASTHAN
OFFICE OF THE SENIOR MANAGER, CIRCUIT HOUSE, JAIPUR

REF.No./CH/JAI/TENDER/2024-25/2753-2754 DATE: 23-11-2024

NOTICE INVITING BID

Inviting E-Bids for Different types of Job Basis Works from Reputed and Eligible Contractors/Firms at campus of Circuit House Jaipur upto dated 13.12.2024, 12.00 PM. For Detailed information of Bid kindly visit the website E-Procurement of Rajasthan **https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** and State procurement Portal of Rajasthan website **www.sppp.raj.nic.in**.

UBN: GAD2425SLOB00057
GAD2425SLOB00058
GAD2425SLOB00059

Sd/-
SENIOR MANAGER
CIRCUIT HOUSE, JAIPUR

DIPR/C/11885/2024

Form No. 3
[See Regulation-15 (1)(a)] / 16(3)

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL JAIPUR

First Floor, Sudharma-II, Lal Kothis Shopping Center, Tonk Road, Jaipur- 302015
Case No.: OA/755/2024

Summons under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, read with sub-rule (2A) of rule 5 of the Debt Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1993.

Exh. No.: 13565

DBS BANK LIMITED
VS
M/S MANISH TEX TRADE

To
(1) M/S MANISH TEX TRADE
HAVING ITS OFFICE AT C444, AZAD NAGAR, Bhilwara, RAJASTHAN -311001
(2) ASHA NATHANI W/O LATE SH. R.S NATHANI
R/O C444, AZAD NAGAR, BHILWARA, RAJASTHAN -311001

SUMMONS

WHEREAS, OA/755/2024 was listed before Hon'ble Presiding Officer/Registrar on **28/08/2024.**

WHEREAS this Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue summons/ notice on the said Application under section 19(4) of the Act, (OA) filed against you for recovery of debts of **Rs. 7545992.79/-** (application along with copies of documents etc. annexed).

In accordance with sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, you, the defendants are directed as under:-

(i) to show cause within thirty days of the service of summons as to why relief prayed for should not be granted;

(ii) to disclose particulars of properties or assets other than properties and assets specified by the applicant under serial number 3A of the original application;

(iii) you are restrained from dealing with or disposing of secured assets or such other assets and properties disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application, pending healing and disposal of the application for attachment of properties;

(iv) you shall not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise, except in the ordinary course of his business any of the assets over which security interest is created and/ or other assets and properties specified or disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application without the prior approval of the Tribunal;

(v) you shall be liable to account for the sale proceeds realised by sale of secured assets or other assets and properties in the ordinary course of business and deposit such sale proceeds in the account maintained with the bank or financial institutions holding security interest over such assets.

You are also directed to file the written statement with a copy thereof furnished to the applicant and to appear before **Registrar** on **10/03/2025 at 10:30A.M.** failing which the application shall be heard and in your absence.

Given under my hand the seal of this Tribunal on this date:24/09/2024.

CENTRUM Home Loans

Corporate & Registered Office : Unit No. 801, Centrum House, CST Road, Vidyanagri Marg, Kalina Santacruz (East), Mumbai - 400098, CIN No. U65922MH2016PLC273826

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rule 3 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

The undersigned is the Authorised Officer of **Centrum Housing Finance Ltd** under Securitisation And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the said Act). In exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorised Officer has issued Demand Notices under section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the following Borrower/s (the said Borrower), to repay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice/s issued to them that are also given below.

In connection with above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower to pay to **Centrum Housing Finance Ltd,** within 60 days from the publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated herein below, together with further interest and other charges till date of repayment of the dues in full. as detailed in the said Demand Notices, from the dates mentioned below till the date of payment and/or realization, payable under the loan agreement read with other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrowers. As security for due repayment of the loan, the following assets have been mortgaged to **Centrum Housing Finance Ltd** by the said Borrowers respectively.

Sr. No.	Loan Account No./ Name of the Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Total Outstanding Dues (Rs.)	NPA Date / Sec.13(2) Notice Date / FCL Date	Description of secured asset (immovable property)
1	**MTCMR22009339 / Radha Devi (Legal heir of Lt. Mahaveer Singh) / Legal heir of Lt. Mahaveer Singh**	**Rs.631263/-**(Rupees Six Lakh ThirtyOne Thousand Two Hundred SixtyThree Only)	31-07-2024 / 28-11-2024 / 02-12-2024	In The Rights, Piece And Parcel Of Immovable Property House bearing Khasra No. 61 and 62, adm. 1140 Sq. Ft., Plot No. 1, Vill.- Shrinagar, Tehsil and Distt. Bharatpur - 321001, Rajasthan. Boundaries:- East :- Plot other West :- 20' wide Road North :- Plot No. 2 South :-20' wide Road

If the said Borrowers shall fail to make payment to **Centrum Housing Finance Ltd** as aforesaid, **Centrum Housing Finance Ltd** shall proceed against the above secured assets under Section 13(4) of the Act and the applicable Rules, entirely at the risks of the said Borrowers as to the costs and consequences.

The said Borrowers are prohibited under the Act from transferring the aforesaid assets, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of **Centrum Housing Finance Ltd.** Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the said Act or Rules made thereunder, shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.

Place : Rajasthan Date : 03.12.2024 **Sd/- Authorised Officer For Centrum Housing Finance Ltd**

INFINITY FINCORP SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED.

Registered Office at : Unit No.B/003/A, Ground Floor, 215- Atrium, Near Courtyard Marriott Hotel, Andheri Kurla Road, Andheri East, Mumbai, Maharashtra, India-400093

E Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with Provision to 8(6) of security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general charged to particular to the Borrower/s and Guarantor/s, that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to Infinity Fincorp Solutions Pvt Ltd the possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officers of Infinity Fincorp Solutions Pvt Ltd, will be sold on **"AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS", AND " WHATEVER THERE IS"** Basis , for recovery of respective dues mentioned hereunder against the secured assets mortgaged/charged to Infinity Fincorp Solutions Pvt Ltd from respective borrower(s) and guarantor(s). The detail of term of sale have been uploaded in the website. The reserve price and earnest money deposit is shown there against each secured asset. The sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided here under.

Date and Time of inspection from 04/12/2024 to 12/01/2025 from 10:00 AM to 04:00PM After Taking Prior Appointment
Last date of depositing EMD: On or before the commencement of e-Auction
Date and time of Auction: 13/01/2025 from 11:00 AM to 02:00PM

Sr. No	Detailed description of the Property	Name of Borrower and Co Borrower / Gurantor	Encumbrances on Property	Loan outstanding as on date	Reserve Price	EMD Amount	Bid Incremental amount	Date and Time of e-auction	Property ID No: Possession
1.	All that piece and parcel of One residential property situated at Ward No-9, Patta No-1009 Village Mandalgarh, Tehsil Mandalgarh & District-Bhilwara, Rajasthan Admeasuring 5040 Sq.Ft, belonging to Mrs Nirmla Devi. Boundaries as:- North- Maheshwari Nohra, South- House of Mr. Nathu Bhat, East- Gali & Property of Mr. Banwari Lal Swarnkar, West- Public Way	Pyarchand Salvi Bali Nirmladevi Salvi Bali	No	Rs.20,14,221 (Rupee Twenty Lakhs Fourteen Thousand Two Hundred and Twenty One Only) as on 05/04/2024 Plus interest and other charges.	Rs. 8,00,000/- (Rupee Eight Lakhs Only)	10%	10,000	13th January 2025, 11am to 2pm	INMAGLR 0004239 Physical

Terms and condition of the E-Auction as under:

(1) Details of Encumbrance over the property as know the NBFC: Not Know. (2) Interested bidders are requested to register their detail with service provider https://sarfaes

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK
(A scheduled commercial bank)

Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No. 10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.
Branch Office: G-2, Ground Floor, Green House, Plot No.O-15, Ashok Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur-302001

E-AUCTION NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE THROUGH E-AUCTION UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT (SARFAESI ACT) 2002, READ WITH PROVISO RULE 8(6) & 9 OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002.

The undersigned as authorised officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** has taken possession of the following property in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(4) of the SARFAESI ACT. The Borrower in particular and public at large are informed that **online auction (e-auction)** of the mortgage property in the below mentioned account for realisation of dues of the Bank will be held on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS"** and **"AS IS WHAT IS BASIS"** on the date as prescribed as here under.

Sr. No.	Loan Account Number	Name of Original Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor	Date of 13-2 Notice	Date of Possession	Present Outstanding balance as on 29.12.2024	Date & Time of Inspection of the property	Reserve Price in INR	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in INR	Date and Time of E-Auction	Last Date, Time & Place for Submission of Bid
1	45889420003531	1) Mr. Saikh Saidul, S/o. Saikh Setudeen (Applicant), 2) Mrs. Hamida Khatun, W/o. Mr. Saikh Saidul (Co-Applicant)	07-09-2023	21-09-2024	Rs.10,49,665.32 (Rupees Ten Lakh Forty Nine Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Five and Thirty Two Paisa Only)	27.12.2024 11:00 AM to 05:00 PM	Rs.4,93,500.00 (Rupees Four Lakh Ninety Three Thousand Five Hundred Only)	Rs.49,350.00 (Rupees Forty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Fifty Only)	10.01.2025 @ 11:00 AM	09.01.2025 before 05:00 PM. Jana Small Finance Bank Limited. Branch Office Address: G-2, Ground Floor, Green House, Plot No.O-15, Ashok Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur-302001.

Details of Secured Assets: All that piece and parcel of the Immovable property bearing "Aaraji No.1862, Khatik Mohalla, Ward No.45, Purani Dhanmandi, Bhilwara-311001, Rajasthan. Admeasuring 280 Sq.feet. Owned by **Mr. Saikh Saidul, S/o. Saikh Setudeen. Bounded as: East:** Nathu Lal Khatik, **West:** Mangi Lal Khatik, **North:** Road, **South:** Street.

The properties are being held on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" &" AS IS WHAT IS BASIS"** and the **E-Auction** will be conducted **'On Line'.** The auction will be conducted through the Bank's approved service provider **M/s. 4 Closure** at the web portal **https://bankauctions.in** & **www.foreclosureindia.com.** For more information and For details, help, procedure and online training on e-auction, prospective bidders may contact **M/s. 4 Closure; Contact Mr. Uttkarsh Adesh Contact Number: 9515160064. Email id: info@bankauctions.in/ adesh@bankauctions.in.**

For further details on terms and conditions to take part in e-auction proceedings and any for any query relating to property please contact **Jana Small Finance Bank Authorized officers Mr. Anurag Shukla (Mob. No.8090655550), Mr. Ranjan Naik (Mob. No.6362951653),** To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorised Officer, there are no encumbrances on the properties. However the intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property put on prior to submitting their bid. No conditional bid will be accepted. This is also a notice to the above named borrowers/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors about e-auction scheduled for the mortgaged properties. The Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned above along with upto date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of auction, failing which the property will be sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and cost.

Date: 03.12.2024, Place: Jaipur **Sd/- Authorized Officer, Jana Small Finance Bank Limited**

HDFC BANK LTD

HDFC BANK — We understand your world

Branch: C-25, Bhagwant Das Road, Opp. St Xaviers School, C-Scheme, Jaipur-302001 Tel :0141-6480799 CIN: L65920MH1994PLC080618 Website: **www.hdfcbank.com**
Regd. Office: HDFC Bank House, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai - 400013

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE (SALE THROUGH E-BIDDING ONLY)

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

The Authorised Officer of **HDFC Bank Limited** (erstwhile HDFC Limited having amalgamated with HDFC Bank Limited by virtue of a Scheme of Amalgamation approved by Hon'ble NCLT-Mumbai vide order dated 17th March 2023) (**HDFC**) issues E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) indicated in Column (A) that the below described immovable property(ties) described in Column (C) mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive / physical possession of which has been taken as described in column (D) by the Authorised Officer of HDFC Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" as per the details mentioned below: Notice is hereby given to Borrower / Mortgagor(s) / legal heirs, legal representatives (whether known or unknown), executor(s), administrator(s), successor(s) and assign(s) of the respective Borrower(s) / Mortgagor(s)(since deceased), as the case may be, indicated in **Column (A)** under Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002,. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Secured Creditor's website i.e. **www.hdfc.com**

	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(I)	(J)	(K)
S. No.	Name/s of Borrower(s)/ Mortgager(s)/Guarantor(s)/ Legal Heirs and Legal Representatives (whether known or unknown) Executor(s), Administrator(s), Successor(s) and Assign(s) of the respective Borrower(s) / Mortgagor(s) / Guarantor(s) (since deceased), as the case may be.	Outstanding dues to be recovered (Secured Debt) (Rs.)*	Description of the Immovable Property / Secured Asset	Type of Possession	Date and Time of Inspection	Reserve Price (Rs.)	Last Date of submission of bids	Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.)	Bid Incremental Rate	Date of Auction and time	Contact Person
1.	MR. RAGHUNATH SINGH SHEKHAWAT S/O MR. MOOL SINGH SHEKHAWAT MRS. MUNESH KANWAR W/O MR. RAGHUNATH SINGH SHEKHAWAT A/c Nos: 640128387, 642891834	Rs. 25,94,277/- due as on 30-SEP-2022 *	Unit No. S-2, 2nd Floor, Jagdamba Residency IV, Plot 86, Ganesh Nagar Scheme, Near Kardhani, Kalwar Road, Jaipur (Rajasthan) Admeasuring Area About: 1065 Sq. Ft or 99.02 Sq. Mtrs (Total Area); 852.75 Sq. Ft or 79.22 Sq. Mtrs (Built Up Area)	Physical Possession	07-DEC-2024 11 AM to 4 PM	Rs 20,55,000/-	16-Dec-2024 before 5 PM	10% of bid amount	Rs. 25,000/-	19-Dec-2024 Time From 10.00 A.m. To 10.30 A.m.	Mr. Deepak Singh (Mobile-9426794554)
2.	MR. MANISH MISHRA S/O MR. MAGAL DEO MISHRA A/c Nos: 614455961	Rs.33,01,901/- due as on 31-Aug-2019 *	Flat No. 302, Third Floor, Royal Prime, Ward No- 26, Shanti Nagar, Devipura, Sikar- Rajasthan , Admeasuring Area About:- 911.11 Sq. Ft (Carpet Area)/ 1275.55 Sq. Ft (Build Up Area)	Physical Possession	07-DEC-2024 11 AM to 4 PM	Rs 21,60,000/-	16-Dec-2024 before 5 PM	10% of bid amount	Rs. 25,000/-	19-Dec-2024 Time From 10.30 A.m. To 11.00 A.m.	Mr. Ashutosh Acharya (Mobile-9426794749)
3.	MR SURAJ SINGH S/O SH. SURENDRA SINGH MRS. SAROJ DEVI W/O SH. SURENDRA SINGH A/c Nos: 620005873, 620005653, 619634259	Rs. 25,79,471/- due as on 31-DEC-19*	Residential Property bound on east by Gali, west by Plot of Smt Saroj Jain, North 10' Rasta, South House of Shri Balmukund situated near Harijanon ki Basti, Daga Gali, Azad Nagar, Madanganj-Kishangarh, District Ajmer, Rajasthan admeasuring area -126.60 sq yards	Physical Possession	07-DEC-2024 11 AM to 4 PM	Rs 18,90,000/-	16-Dec-2024 before 5 PM	10% of bid amount	Rs. 25,000/-	19-Dec-2024 Time From 11.00 A.m. To 11.30 A.m.	Mr. Karan Sharma (Mobile-9426794800)

*together with further interest as applicable, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc. incurred up to the date of payment and / or realisation thereof.
To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorized Officer of HDFC, there are no other encumbrances in respect of the above immovable properties / Secured Assets.
M/s NexXen Solutions Pvt. Ltd. would be assisting the Authorised Officer in conducting the auction through e-bidding process. For any assistance related to inspection of property or for obtaining the Bid document and for any other queries, please get in touch with the contact person described in column (K). The bid document can be collected / obtained from the Authorised Officer of HDFC Ltd. Having his office at C-25, Bhagwant Das Road, Opp. St. Xaviers School, C-Scheme, Jaipur. The secured asset is being sold on 'AS IS WHERE IS' and 'AS IS WHAT IS' basis.

Date: 02-Dec-2024 Place: RAJASTHAN **SD/- Authorised Officer**

HDFC BANK LTD

HDFC BANK — We understand your world

Branch: C-25, Bhagwant Das Road, Opp. St Xaviers School, C-Scheme, Jaipur-302001 Tel :0141-6480799 CIN: L65920MH1994PLC080618 Website: **www.hdfcbank.com**
Regd. Office: HDFC Bank House, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai - 400013

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE (SALE THROUGH E-BIDDING ONLY)

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

The Authorised Officer of **HDFC Bank Limited** (erstwhile HDFC Limited having amalgamated with HDFC Bank Limited by virtue of a Scheme of Amalgamation approved by Hon'ble NCLT-Mumbai vide order dated 17th March 2023) (**HDFC**) issues E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) indicated in Column (A) that the below described immovable property(ties) described in Column (C) mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive / physical possession of which has been taken as described in column (D) by the Authorised Officer of HDFC Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" as per the details mentioned below: Notice is hereby given to Borrower / Mortgagor(s) / legal heirs, legal representatives (whether known or unknown), executor(s), administrator(s), successor(s) and assign(s) of the respective Borrower(s) / Mortgagor(s)(since deceased), as the case may be, indicated in **Column (A)** under Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Secured Creditor's website i.e. **www.hdfc.com**

	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(I)	(J)	(K)
S. No.	Name/s of Borrower(s)/ Mortgager(s)/Guarantor(s)/ Legal Heirs and Legal Representatives (whether known or unknown) Executor(s), Administrator(s), Successor(s) and Assign(s) of the respective Borrower(s) / Mortgagor(s) / Guarantor(s) (since deceased), as the case may be.	Outstanding dues to be recovered (Secured Debt) (Rs.)*	Description of the Immovable Property / Secured Asset	Type of Possession	Date and Time of Inspection	Reserve Price (Rs.)	Last Date of submission of bids	Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.)	Bid Incremental Rate	Date of Auction and time	Contact Person
1.	1.MRS. PUJA KUMARI W/O LATE MR. SANJAY KUMAR SINGH, MRS TARA DEVI M/O LATE MR. SANJAY KUMAR SINGH [since deceased] Wife/Son/ Mother of MR SANJAY KUMAR SINGH [since deceased] And other known and unknown Legal Heir(s), Legal Representative (s), Successors and Assigns of MR SANJAY KUMAR SINGH [since deceased] A/c Nos: 644569818	Rs. 37,69,440/- due as on 30-APR-23*	SOUTH PART OF PLOT NO 43, GOVIND VATIKA SCHEME, VILLAGE BADARAMA, KALWAR ROAD, TEHSIL AND DIST. JAIPUR (RAJASTHAN) ADMEASURING AREA ABOUT :- 61.92 Sq. Mtrs Bounded By : - East : Plot No 30, West Road, 30' Ft. , North : Remaining Part of Plot No 43, South : Plot no 42.	Physical Possession	20-DEC-2024 11 AM to 4 PM	Rs 34,00,000/-	03-Jan-2025 before 5 PM	10% of bid amount	Rs. 25,000/-	06-Jan -2025 Time From 10.00 A.m. To 10.30 A.m.	Mr. Amit Sharma (Mobile-9426794567)
2.	MR AASHIF JOKHIYA S/O MR GULMAMAD ABDUL JOKHIYA A/c Nos: 645533678 , 610409540	Rs. 34,78,822/- due as on 30-APR-2023*	UNIT / FLAT NO 5, SECOND FLOOR, VASTUKA APARTMENT, PLOT NO. 200 GANGA SAGAR – B, VAISHALI NAGAR, JAIPUR (RAJASTHAN) ADMEASURING AREA ABOUT; - 863.67 Sq. Ft. OR 80.23 Sq. Mtr (Total Area)	Physical Possession	20-DEC-2024 11 AM to 4 PM	Rs 30,00,000/-	03-Jan-2025 before 5 PM	10% of bid amount	Rs. 25,000/-	06-Jan -2025 Time From 10.30 A.m. To 11.00 A.m.	Mr. Amit Sharma (Mobile-9426794567)

* together with further interest as applicable, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc. incurred up to the date of payment and / or realisation thereof.
To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorized Officer of HDFC, there are no other encumbrances in respect of the above immovable properties / Secured Assets.
M/s NexXen Solutions Pvt. Ltd. would be assisting the Authorised Officer in conducting the auction through e-bidding process.
For any assistance related to inspection of property or for obtaining the Bid document and for any other queries, please get in touch with the contact person described in column (K). The bid document can be collected / obtained from the Authorised Officer of HDFC Bank Ltd. Having his office at C-25, Bhagwant Das Road, Opp. St. Xaviers School, C-Scheme, Jaipur. The secured asset is being sold on 'AS IS WHERE IS' and 'AS IS WHAT IS' basis.

Date: 02-Dec.-2024 Place: Rajasthan **SD/- Authorised Officer**

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK
(A scheduled commercial bank)

Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No. 10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.
Branch Office: G-2, Ground Floor, Green House, Plot No.O-15, Ashok Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur-302001

E-AUCTION NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE THROUGH E-AUCTION UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT (SARFAESI ACT) 2002, READ WITH PROVISO RULE 8(6) & 9 OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002.

The undersigned as authorised officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** has taken possession of the following property in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(4) of the SARFAESI ACT. The Borrower in particular and public at large are informed that **online auction (e-auction)** of the mortgage property in the below mentioned account for realisation of dues of the Bank will be held on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS"** and **"AS IS WHAT IS BASIS"** on the date as prescribed as here under.

Sr. No.	Loan Account Number	Name of Original Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor	Date of 13-2 Notice	Date of Possession	Present Outstanding balance as on 29.11.2024	Date & Time of Inspection of the property	Reserve Price in INR	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in INR	Date and Time of E-Auction	Last Date, Time & Place for Submission of Bid
1	30899430001007 & 30899410000152	1) Mr. Dilip Singh, S/o. Mr. Devi Singh (Applicant), 2) Mrs. Santosh Devi, W/o. Mr. Dilip Singh (Co-Applicant)	12-06-2023	09-10-2024	Rs.12,96,051.10 (Rupees Twelve Lakh Ninety Six Thousand Fifty One and Ten Paisa Only)	24.12.2024 11:00 AM to 05:00 PM	Rs.8,63,200.00 (Rupees Eight lakh Sixty Three Thousand Two Hundred Only)	Rs.86,320.00 (Rupees Eighty SixThousandThree Hundred Twenty Only)	08.01.2025 @ 11:00 AM	07.01.2025 before 05:00 PM. Jana Small Finance Bank Limited. Branch Office Address: G-2, Ground Floor, Green House, Plot No.O-15, Ashok Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur-302001.
	Details of Secured Assets: All that piece and parcel of the Immovable property bearing "Patta No.16, Khasra No.549,550, Village Nundri Maldev Panchayat Samiti, Jawaja District Ajmer-305901, Rajasthan. Admeasuring 132.02 Sq.yrd. Owned by **Mr. Dilip Singh, S/o. Mr. Devi Singh. Bounded as: East:** House of Madan Singh, S/o. Devi Singh, **West:** House of Mangu Singh, S/o. Dunger Singh, **North:** Laxman Singh, **South:** Exit and Aam Rasta.									
2	45919610001834	1)Mr. Mukesh Tak, S/o. Sohan Raj (Applicant), 2) Mrs. Madhu, W/o. Mr. Mukesh Tak (Co-Applicant)	12-06-2024	04-09-2024	Rs.6,68,005.12 (Rupees Six Lakh Sixty Eight Thousand Five and Twelve Paisa Only)	24.12.2024 11:00 AM to 05:00 PM	Rs.5,06,250.00 (Rupees Five lakh Six Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Only)	Rs.50,625.00 (Rupees Fifty Thousand Six Hundred Twenty Five Only)	08.01.2025 @ 11:00 AM	07.01.2025 before 05:00 PM. Jana Small Finance Bank Limited. Branch Office Address: G-2, Ground Floor, Green House, Plot No.O-15, Ashok Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur-302001.
	Details of Secured Assets: All that piece and parcel of the Immovable property bearing "Plot No.20, Shri Umed Vatika Yojna, Khasra No.198, Gram Jhipasni, Tehsil and District Jodhpur, Rajasthan-342001, Rajasthan. Admeasuring 125 Sq.yrd. Owned by **Mr. Mukesh Tak, S/o. Sohan Raj. Bounded as: East:** Plot No.11, **West:** Road 30" Feet, **North:** Plot No.19, **South:** Plot No.21.									
3	45889420003314	1) Mr. Ravi Shankar Khatik, S/o. Basanti Lal Khatik (Applicant), 2) Mr. Naveen Chawala, S/o. Basanti Lal Khatik (Co-Applicant)	11-03-2024	24-10-2024	Rs.19,77,420.62 (Rupees Nineteen Lakh Seventy Seven Thousand Four Hundred Twenty and Sixty Two Paisa Only)	24.12.2024 11:00 AM to 05:00 PM	Rs.23,96,900.00 (Rupees Twenty Three lakh Ninety Six Thousand Nine Hundred Only)	Rs.2,39,690.00 (Rupees Two Lakh Thirty Nine Thousand Six Hundred Ninety Only)	08.01.2025 @ 11:00 AM	07.01.2025 before 05:00 PM. Jana Small Finance Bank Limited. Branch Office Address: G-2, Ground Floor, Green House, Plot No.O-15, Ashok Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur-302001.
	Details of Secured Assets: All that piece and parcel of the Immovable property bearing "Patta No.5, Missal No.13, Gram Basada, Gram Panchayat Gundali, Panchayat Samiti Suwana, District Bhilwara, Rajasthan. Admeasuring 2937 Sq.feet. Owned by **Ravi Shankar Kahtik, S/o. Basanti Lal Khatik. Bounded as: East:** Dev Narayan Temple, **West:** Road, **North:** House of Bheru, S/o. Uda Bairwa, **South:** House of Gehru, S/o. Chittar Gurjat.									
4	30899610000067 & 30899630000913	1) Mr. Sahil Panwar, S/o. Mr. Devi Singh Daroga (Applicant), 2) Mrs. Suman Rathore, W/o. Mr. Sahil Panwar (Co-Applicant)	07-09-2023	11-09-2024	Rs.44,70,303.40 (Rupees Forty Four Lakh Seventy Thousand Three Hundred Three and Forty Paisa Only)	24.12.2024 11:00 AM to 05:00 PM	Rs.25,31,250.00 (Rupees Twenty Five Lakh Thirty One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Only)	Rs.2,53,125.00 (Rupees Two Lakh Fifty Three Thousand One Hundred Twenty Five Only)	08.01.2025 @ 11:00 AM	07.01.2025 before 05:00 PM. Jana Small Finance Bank Limited. Branch Office Address: G-2, Ground Floor, Green House, Plot No.O-15, Ashok Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur-302001.
	Details of Secured Assets: All that piece and parcel of the Immovable property bearing "Allotment No.2014-15/105, situated at Ward No.2, Old Jorawarpura, Gulabpura, Tehsil Hurda, District Bhilwara, Rajasthan. Admeasuring 150 Sq.yrd. Owned by **Mr. Sahil Panwar, S/o. Devi Singh. Bounded as: East:** 45 Feet House of Devraj Bairwa, **West:** Aam Rasta, **North:** House of Smt. Rukma Banjara, **South:** Aam Rasta.									

The properties are being held on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" &" AS IS WHAT IS BASIS"** and the **E-Auction** will be conducted **'On Line'.** The auction will be conducted through the Bank's approved service provider **M/s. 4 Closure** at the web portal **https://bankauctions.in** & **www.foreclosureindia.com.** For more information and For details, help, procedure and online training on e-auction, prospective bidders may contact **M/s. 4 Closure; Contact Mr. Uttkarsh Adesh Contact Number: 9515160064. Email id: info@bankauctions.in/ adesh@bankauctions.in.**

For further details on terms and conditions to take part in e-auction proceedings and any for any query relating to property please contact **Jana Small Finance Bank Authorized officers Mr. Anurag Shukla (Mob. No.8090655550), Mr. Ranjan Naik (Mob. No.6362951653),** To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorised Officer, there are no encumbrances on the properties. However the intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property put on prior to submitting their bid. No conditional bid will be accepted. This is also a notice to the above named borrowers/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors about e-auction scheduled for the mortgaged properties. The Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned above along with upto date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of auction, failing which the property will be sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and cost.

Date: 03.12.2024, Place: Rajasthan **Sd/- Authorized Officer, Jana Small Finance Bank Limited**

C-1108

ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସରକାର
ଜନସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ ଏବଂ ଯାନ୍ତ୍ରିକୀକରଣ, ବାଲାସୋର ଜିଲ୍ଲା ବାଲାସୋର

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION, BALASORE.

AT-SAMALPUR, P.O-BALIA, DIST-BALASORE, PIN-756056
(e-mail: eephbls@gmail.com, Phone-9438660004)

NO 5442 / **1ST CORRIGENDUM** **DATE 26.11.24**

Tender for the work

"Supply of ISI Marked DI (K7) Pipes for the work Improvement of water supply to Basudevpur Municipality".
In continuation to this office Bib-Identification No.SEPHBLS-16 of 2024-25 dt.14.11.2024. The following changes are hereby made.

Sl. No.	Item/Clause	Description	Existing	Revised/Amended
1	Clause- 7.1(V), (Page-4)	NIT (DTCN)	The manufacturer should have valid Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) license for marking ISI mark on their product for at least 5 (Five) years from the last date of Bidding	1) Each intending bidder (manufacturer) should have valid BIS License for manufacturing ISI marked DI pipes. 2) Only ISI marked DI pipes should be procured with necessary test certificates as communicated earlier.
	Clause- 7.1(VI), (Page-4)	NIT (DTCN)	The manufacturer's Ductile Iron (D.I) pipes& fittings are in satisfactory performance in Indian Projects for at least three years from the Bid Date	Regarding past history of satisfactory performance of the DI pipes of any intending manufacturer-bidder, at least one year history (one year to be reckoned from the date of invitation of each tender) of satisfactory performance in any projects executed in India would be adequate.
2	DTCN- Clause 6.4 (Page-7)	DTCN (Check list to be filled by the bidder)	Complete audited annual financial year statements for last Five Years including audit report, balance sheets, profit & loss accounts statement all other schedules etc.	Bidders should have annual financial turnover of not less than 40% of estimated cost in at least one year during last 5 (Five) preceding financial years. Inflation/Escalation @10% per financial year (on compound basis) shall be considered on the value of annual turnover of the proceeding years

All other terms and conditions Un-Altered.

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer,
Public Health Division, Balasore.

OIPR-13053/11/0007/2425

Aditya Birla Capital Limited

ADITYA BIRLA CAPITAL

Regd. Office: Indian Rayon Compound, Veraval - 362 266, Gujarat | Tel: 91 2876 243257
CIN: L67120GJ2007PLC058890 | www.adityabirlacapital.com | abc.secretarial@adityabirlacapital.com

BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL,
AHMEDABAD BENCH
C.A. (CAA)/ 49 (AHM) 2024
In the matter of Sections 230 to 232 read with other applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013
and
In the matter of Scheme of Amalgamation
of
Aditya Birla Finance Limited ("Amalgamating Company")
with
Aditya Birla Capital Limited ("Amalgamated Company")
and
their respective shareholders and creditors

ADITYA BIRLA CAPITAL LIMITED, a company incorporated)
under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 and)
having its registered office at Indian Rayon Compound,)
Veraval - 362 266, Gujarat, India.)
CIN: L67120GJ2007PLC058890) **… APPLICANT NO. 2 / AMALGAMATED COMPANY**

NOTICE AND ADVERTISEMENT OF NOTICE OF THE MEETING OF THE EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS

Notice is hereby given that by an order dated November 29, 2024 ("**Order**"), the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal, Ahmedabad Bench ("**Hon'ble Tribunal**") has directed convening of the meeting of the equity shareholders of Aditya Birla Capital Limited (hereinafter referred to as the "**Amalgamated Company**"), for the purpose of considering, and if thought fit, approving the arrangement embodied in the Scheme of Amalgamation of Aditya Birla Finance Limited (hereinafter referred to as the "**Amalgamating Company**") with the Amalgamated Company and their respective shareholders and creditors (hereinafter referred to as the "**Scheme**") pursuant to the provisions of Sections 230-232 of the Companies Act, 2013 ("**the Act**") and other applicable provisions thereof and applicable rules thereunder.

In pursuance of the Order passed by the Hon'ble Tribunal and as directed therein, further Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the equity shareholders of the Amalgamated Company will be held on Tuesday, January 7, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. (1100 hours) IST through Video Conferencing ("**VC**")/Other Audio Visual Means ("**OAVM**") (hereinafter referred to as the "**Meeting**") in compliance with the applicable laws including circulars issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs ("**MCA Circulars**") from time to time and the Circular No. SEBI/HO/CFD/CFD-PoD-2/P/CIR/2024/133 dated October 3, 2024, issued by the Securities and Exchange Board of India ("**Circular issued by SEBI**") and the said equity shareholders are requested to attend the Meeting.

The Amalgamated Company has completed the electronic dispatch of the Notice of the Meeting dated December 2, 2024; the explanatory statement as required under Sections 230(3) to 232 (1) and (2) and 102 of the Act read with Rule 6 of Companies (Compromises, Arrangements and Amalgamations) Rules, 2016; and the annexures to the explanatory statement which includes the Scheme (collectively referred to as "**Particulars**") on December 2, 2024 through e-mail. The Particulars were sent through electronic mode to those equity shareholders whose e-mail addresses are registered with Kfin Technologies Limited ("**Kfin**"), Registrar and Transfer Agent of the Amalgamated Company/depositories/ Amalgamated Company and whose names appear in the register of members/list of beneficial owners as on Friday, November 29, 2024. The Particulars are placed on the website of the Amalgamated Company and can be accessed at **https://www.adityabirlacapital.com/investor-relations/scheme-of-amalgamation** and also available on the websites of BSE Limited at **www.bseindia.com**; National Stock Exchange of India Limited at **www.nseindia.com**; and Kfin at **https://evoting.kfintech.com**.

If so desired, copy of the Particulars can be obtained free of charge, between 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on all working days up to the date of the Meeting at the registered office of the Amalgamated Company, or from the office of its advocates, M/s. Singhi & Co., Singhi House, 1, Magnet Corporate Park, Off Sola Bridge, S. G. Highway, Ahmedabad - 380 059, Gujarat, India or by sending a request along with the details of shareholding to the Amalgamated Company by email at **abc.secretarial@adityabirlacapital.com**.

Since, the Meeting is being held pursuant to the Order passed by the Hon'ble Tribunal and in compliance of MCA Circulars and Circular issued by SEBI through VC/OAVM, physical attendance of the equity shareholders has been dispensed with. Accordingly, the facility for appointment of proxy by the equity shareholders of the Amalgamated Company is not available at this Meeting.

The Hon'ble Tribunal has appointed Justice (Retd.) Akil Kureshi, Former Chief Justice of the High Courts of Rajasthan and Tripura, and in his absence, Mr. Unmesh Shukla, Senior Advocate, to be the Chairman of the Meeting.

Mr. Dilip Bharadiya, Practicing Company Secretary (FCS No.: 7956/ C.P. No. 6740); or in his absence Mr. Omkar Dindorkar (ACS No.: 43029), or in his absence, Mr. Saurabh Agarwal (FCS No.: 9290), from M/s MMJB & Associates LLP (C.P. No. 24580), have been appointed as the scrutinizer to scrutinize the e-voting during the Meeting and the remote e-voting process.

The Scheme, if approved by the equity shareholders will be subject to subsequent approval of the Hon'ble Tribunal or such other regulatory approvals as may be necessary.

NOTICE is further given that:

1. The Amalgamated Company has provided remote e-voting facility to its equity shareholders to enable them to cast their votes electronically and has availed the services of Kfin for providing VC/OAVM facility, remote e-voting and e-voting during the Meeting (Insta Poll). Some of the important details regarding remote e-voting are provided below:

EVEN	8519
Commencement of remote e-voting period	Thursday, January 2, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. (0900 hours) IST
End of remote e-voting period	Monday, January 6, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. (1700 hours) IST The remote e-voting module will be disabled by Kfin thereafter.

2. The e-voting facility will also be made available during the Meeting (Insta Poll) to enable the equity shareholders who have not cast their vote through remote e-voting, to exercise their voting rights. Equity shareholders who have cast their vote through remote e-voting prior to the Meeting may attend the Meeting but shall not be entitled to cast their vote again.
3. An equity shareholder, whose name is recorded in the register of members or in the list of beneficial owners maintained by Kfin/depositories/Amalgamated Company as on the cut-off date, i.e. Tuesday, December 31, 2024 only shall be entitled to exercise his/her/its voting rights on the resolution proposed in the Notice and attend the Meeting of the equity shareholders. The voting rights of the equity shareholders of the Amalgamated Company shall be in proportion to their share in the paid-up equity share capital of the Amalgamated Company as on cut-off date i.e. Tuesday, December 31, 2024.
4. The Scheme shall be acted upon if a majority of persons representing three-fourth in value of the equity shareholders of the Amalgamated Company voting through remote e-voting and e-voting during the Meeting (Insta Poll) approve the Scheme, in terms of the provisions of Sections 230-232 of the Act.
5. The results, together with the scrutinizer's report, will be displayed at the registered office and on the website of the Amalgamated Company and on the website of Kfin at **https://evoting.kfintech.com** and shall be communicated to BSE Limited and to National Stock Exchange of India Limited on or before Thursday, January 9, 2025.
6. Information and instructions for attending the Meeting including manner of voting [both remote e-voting and e-voting at the Meeting (Insta Poll)] by the equity shareholders holding shares in dematerialised mode, physical mode and for equity shareholders who have not registered their e-mail address has been provided in the Notice of the Meeting. The manner in which (a) person who becomes an equity shareholder of the Amalgamated Company after dispatch of the Notice and holding equity shares as on cut-off date (mentioned herein above); (b) equity shareholders who have forgotten the User ID and Password, can obtain/generate the User ID and password, has also been provided in the Notice of the Meeting.
7. Equity shareholders holding equity shares in physical mode, who have not registered/updated their e-mail address with the Amalgamated Company/Kfin, are requested to register/update their e-mail address and other KYC details, if applicable, by sending request at **einward.ris@kfintech.com** along with Form ISR-1 and other relevant forms and documents. The format of Form ISR-1 is available on the website of Kfin at **https://ris.kfintech.com/clientservices/isc/isrforms.aspx**.
8. Equity shareholders holding equity shares in dematerialised mode, who have not registered/updated their e-mail address with their depository participant(s), are requested to register/update their e-mail address with the depository participant(s) where they maintain their demat accounts.
9. Equity shareholders having any queries seeking any information with regard to the Scheme or the matter proposed to be considered at the aforesaid Meeting, are requested to write to the Amalgamated Company atleast 3 (three) days before the date of the Meeting through e-mail on **abc.secretarial@adityabirlacapital.com**.
10. In case of any difficulty or queries in connection with attending the Meeting through VC/OAVM or casting vote through remote e-voting facility, equity shareholders may contact:

For	Name & Designation	E-mail	Address	Contact Number
E-voting and VC/OAVM	Mr. Ganesh Chandra Patro, Vice President, KFin Technologies Limited	**einward.ris@kfintech.com**	Selenium Building, Tower B, Plot No. 31-32, Gachibowli, Financial District, Nanakramguda, Serilingampally, Hyderabad, Rangareddy, Telangana, India - 500 032	Phone No.: + 91 40 6716 1630 Toll-free No.: 1800-309-4001

Sd/-
Dated: 2.12.2024 Justice (Retd.) Akil Kureshi
Chairman appointed for the Meeting

Despite Ladakh thaw, China approach in Indo-Pacific still a worry: Navy chief

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 2

THE THAW between Indian and Chinese forces in eastern Ladakh has not brought any change in the Chinese approach in the Indo-Pacific region and that remains a cause for concern, Navy chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi said on Monday. He also suggested that China had a role in Pakistan's growing naval strength.

On his force's impending acquisitions, Admiral Tripathi said the deals for Scorpene submarines and 26 Rafale Marine aircraft could be signed by next month.

Admiral Tripathi was addressing the Navy's annual press conference ahead of Navy Day on December 4, which will be celebrated in Puri this year.

Responding to a question on whether the Navy had seen any perceptible change in China's approach in the Indo-Pacific region following fruitful negotiations between India and China over Depsang Plains and Dhemchok in eastern Ladakh, Admiral Tripathi said in his view nothing had changed.

"China's approach is too early to call. You are talking of a wide swathe of the Indo-Pacific region and whether it has changed or not. We have operated across the globe, including the South China Sea. They have operated here. What is happening in South China Sea is not with us but with others. That is the cause for concern. Whether that has changed or not is in the open domain. In my view, I don't think anything has changed. It's a cause for worry," he said.

Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi in Delhi. *Amit Mehra*

The Navy chief, however, underlined that the last known visit of a Chinese submarine in the Indian Ocean region was last year. "It went to Karachi and went back. After that we have not heard of any Chinese submarine coming in the Indian Ocean region," he said. According to Admiral Tripathi, the Navy had kept a close watch on the activities of "extra-regional forces operating in the Indian Ocean region, which included the PLA Navy units". "We knew who is doing what, where and how," he said.

"We believe that oceans are open to all. Anybody can operate in the oceans, till the time they are not affecting our security… whether it is A, B, C or D country. But we have established a structure to monitor what is happening. We will ensure there is no effect on our interests in the maritime domain," he said.

The Navy chief suggested that the "surprising growth" of the Pakistan Navy was being spurred by China.

"We are aware of the surprising growth of the Pakistan Navy and they aim to become a 50-ship force by the next decade. Seeing the economy of Pakistan, it is very surprising how they are building or getting so many ships and submarines. Obviously, they have decided to choose between weapons over the welfare of their people. So, good luck to them," he said.

According to Admiral Tripathi, a lot of Pakistan ships and submarines were either being built in China or with its help at the Karachi shipyard.

"It shows China is interested in strengthening the Pakistan Navy. The eight submarines being built for them will add significant combat potential to the Pakistan Navy. We are fully aware what is happening, what is the level of their deployment, what is their concept of operations. Therefore, we are tweaking ours as well to negate any infringement in our area of operation. We are fully ready to tackle all threats from our neighbours," the Navy chief said.

On Chinese activity in Bangladesh, he said, "We don't know fully how close the relations between China and Bangladesh are. We are aware they have provided some platforms… provided help in creation of infrastructure and there are some training efforts happening. We are not very concerned about it. We have good relations with Bangladesh."

Admiral Tripathi said China was a rising power which wanted to attain its rightful place in the world. "There is intent and they have the resources. There is a vision that they want to become a world power. Whenever that happens there is friction with the established power. We see it already being played out. It will manifest more in the Pacific Ocean. But we are keeping a watch."

The Navy chief said all countries were working closely on the Indo-Pacific Partnership for Maritime Domain Awareness (IPMDA). The IPMDA is an initiative of the Quad grouping -- Australia, India, Japan, and the US -- that provides maritime domain awareness information to partners in the Indo-Pacific region.

In terms of enhancing the Navy's own capabilities, Admiral Tripathi said India was at an advanced stage of acquiring 26 Rafale Marine combat aircraft. "Rafale marine is at an advanced stage of negotiations …and just one level short of taking it to the Cabinet Committee on Security following which a contract would be signed. It is a government-to-government deal so I expect it to happen fast," he said.

According to him, the repeat order of Scorpene submarines is also at a very advanced stage. "It is now just a matter of completing formalities. We expect that if not this month, then by next month both this and Rafale should be signed," he said.

AXIS BANK

Retail Lending and Payment Group (Local Office/Branch): G-9, Mahima Trinity Mall, 3F-24, Swej Farm, New Sanganer Road, Jaipur. Also At, Axis bank ltc RAC 3rd Floor, Prince Tower, Residency Road, Jaljog Circle, Jodhpur- 342001

Axis Bank Ltd., 3rd Floor, Gigaplex, NPC- 1, TTC Industrial Area, Mugalsan Road, Airoli, Navi Mumbai- 400708.
Registered Office: "Trishul", 3rd Floor Opp. Samartheshwar Temple Law Garden, Ellisbridge Ahmedabad- 380006.

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

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

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property is mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Secured Creditor will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is"** and **"Whatever there -is"** on **19.12.2024** for recovery of **Rs. 1055159 /- (Ten lakh Fifty Five thousand One Hundred Fifty Nine Only)** dues as on **12.06.2023** with future interest and costs due to the secured creditor from **Lalit Kumar Chouhan, (Applicant) & Abhishek Kumar Sethia,** (Co-Applicant)in Loan No. **LPR001002054964** Please refer the appended auction schedule for necessary details:-

KNOWN ENCUMBRANCES (IF ANY)	NA
RESERVE PRICE (IN RS.)	**Rs. 16,07,925/- (Sixteen Lakh Seven Thousand Nine Hundred And Twenty Five Only)**
EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT (IN RS.)	**Rs. 1,60,792.5/- (One Lakh Sixty Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety Two and Five paise Only)** through DD/PO in favor of 'Axis Bank Ltd.' payable at Axis Bank Ltc RAC 3rd floor, Prince Tower, Residency Road, Jaljog Circle, Jodhpur- 342001.
BID INCREMENTAL AMOUNT	Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only)
LAST DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS / TENDER WITH EMD	Till **18.12.2024** latest by **05:00 P.M.** at Axis bank ltc RAC 3rd floor, Prince Tower, Residency Road, Jaljog Circle, Jodhpur-342001. and kindly addressed to **Gordhan Lohar.**
DATE, TIME, AND VENUE FOR PUBLIC E-AUCTION	On **19.12.2024,** between 11.00 A.M and 12.00 Noon. with unlimited extensions of 5 minutes each at web portal **https://www.bankeauctions.com** e-auction tender documents containing e-auction bid form, declaration etc., are available in the website of the Service Provider as mentioned above.

SCHEDULE – DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Flat No. 30/11/03, Ground. Floor, Sarvan Path, Mansarovar, Jaipur. **Bounded as under: - East-** Flat No. 30/11/04, **West-** Service Lane, **North-** Flat No. 30/12/02, **South-** Flat No. 30/11/02.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in the secured creditor's website i.e. https://www.axisbank.com/auction-retail and the Bank's approved service provider M/S C1 India Private Limited at their web portal https://www.bankeauctions.com
The auction will be conducted online through the Bank's approved service provider M/s.C1 India Private Limited at their web portal https://www.bankeauctions.com.
For any other assistance, the intending bidders may contact **Mr. Gordhan Lohar, Mobile. No. 9828586678.** Authorized officer of the Bank during office hours from 10 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

Date: 03.12.2024,
Place: Jaipur
Yours faithfully, For Axis Bank Ltd.
(Authorized Officer)

AXIS BANK

Retail Lending and Payment Group (Local Office/Branch): G-9, Mahima Trinity Mall, 3F-24, Swej Farm, New Sanganer Road, Jaipur. Also At, Axis bank ltc RAC 3rd floor, Prince Tower , Residency Road, Jaljog Circle, Jodhpur – 342001

Axis Bank Ltd., 3rd Floor, Gigaplex, NPC- 1, TTC Industrial Area, Mugalsan Road, Airoli, Navi Mumbai- 400708.
Registered Office: "Trishul", 3rd Floor Opp. Samartheshwar Temple Law Garden, Ellisbridge Ahmedabad- 380006.

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

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

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property is mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Secured Creditor will be sold on **"As is where is" , "As is what is" and "Whatever there -is"** on **19.12.2024** for recovery of **Rs. 7,02,497/- (Seven Lakh Two thousand Four Hundred Ninety Seven only)** dues as on **13.10.2023** with future interest and costs due to the secured creditor from **Mr. Abeda Bano, (Applicant) & Mr. Mohammed Asif, (Co-Applicant)** in Loan No. **PHR005707271934** Please refer the appended auction schedule for necessary details:-

KNOWN ENCUMBRANCES (IF ANY)	NIL
RESERVE PRICE (IN RS.)	**4,08,000 /-(Four lakh Eight thousand only)**
EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT (IN RS.)	**Rs 40,800/-(Fourty Thousand Eight Hundred Only)** through DD/PO in favor of 'Axis bank ltd.' payable at Axis bank ltc RAC 3 rd floor, Prince Tower, Residency Road, Jaljog Circle, Jodhpur- 342001.
BID INCREMENTAL AMOUNT	**Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand only)**
LAST DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS / TENDER WITH EMD	Till **18.12.2024** latest by 05:00 P.M. at Axis bank ltc RAC 3 rd floor, Prince Tower , Residency Road, Jaljog Circle, Jodhpur- 342001. and kindly addressed to **Gordhan Lohar.**
DATE, TIME, AND VENUE FOR PUBLIC E-AUCTION	On **19.12.2024,** between 11.00 A.M and 12.00 Noon. with unlimited extensions of 5 minutes each at web portal https://www.bankeauctions.com e-auction tender documents containing e-auction bid form, declaration etc., are available in the website of the Service Provider as mentioned above.

SCHEDULE- DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

South Part Of Plot No. 273, Khasra No. 42, 44, Marwar City, District-Pali
BOUNDARIES:
East- Road, West- Plot No. 284, North- Remaining Part Of This Plot, South- Plot No. 272

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in the secured creditor's website i.e. https://www.axisbank.com/auction-retail and the Bank's approved service provider M/S C1 India Private Limited at their web portal https://www.bankeauctions.com
The auction will be conducted online through the Bank's approved service provider M/s.C1 India Private Limited at their web portal https://www.bankeauctions.com.
For any other assistance, the intending bidders may contact **Mr. Gordhan Lohar, Mobile. No. 9828586678.** Authorized officer of the Bank during office hours from 10 A.M. To 4:00 P.M.

Date: 03.12.2024,
Place: Pali
Yours faithfully, Axis Bank Limited
Sd/- Authorised Officer,

TATA CAPITAL LIMITED
Registered Address: Tower A, 11th Floor, Peninsula Business Park, Ganpatrao Kadam Marg, Lower Parel, Mumbai- 400013.
Branch Address: 02nd Floor, Guman Tower 1, Near Amrapali Circle, Vaishali Nagar, Jaipur, Rajasthan-302021.

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
(Under Rule 8(6)R/W Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002)

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) r/wRule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Loan Account No.7838762 (Restructured Loan Account- TCFLA0306000011102626) And 8920106 And TCFLA0306000010899973: RAJENDER YADAV

This is to inform that **Tata Capital Ltd. (TCL)** is a non-banking finance company and incorporated under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 and having its registered office at Peninsula Business Park, Tower A, 11th Floor, Ganpatrao Kadam Marg, Lower Parel, Mumbai- 400013 and a branch office amongst other places at **Rajasthan** ("Branch"). That vide Orders dated **24.11.2023,** the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) Mumbai has duly sanctioned the Scheme of Arrangement between Tata Capital Financial Services Limited ("TCFSL") and Tata Cleantech Capital Limited ("TCCL") as transferors and Tata Capital Limited ("TCL") as transferee under the provisions of Sections 230 to 232 read with Section 66 and other applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 ("said Scheme"). In terms thereof, TCFSL and TCCL (Transferor Companies) along with its undertaking have merged with TCL, as a going concern, together with all the properties, assets, rights, benefits, interest, duties, obligations, liabilities, contracts, agreements, securities etc. **w.e.f.01.01.2024.** In pursuance of the said Order and the Scheme, all the facility documents executed by TCFSL and all outstanding in respect thereof stood transferred to Applicant Company and thus the TCL is entitled to claim the same from the [Borrowers/Co-Borrowers] in terms thereof.
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the below Borrower/Co-Borrower that the below described immovable property mortgaged to **Tata Capital Limited(Secured Creditor/TCL),** the Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Tata Capital Limited (Secured Creditor), will be sold on **08th Day of January, 2025 "As is where is basis" & "As is what is and whatever there is & without recourse basis".**
Whereas the sale of secured asset is to be made to recover the secured debt and whereas there was a due of a sum **Rs. 3,17,83,649.88/- (Rupees Three Crore Seventeen Lakh(s) Eighty Three Thousand Six Hundred Forty Nine And Paise Eighty Eight Only) vide Loan Account Nos. 7838762 (Restructured Loan Account TCFLA0306000011102626) And 8920106 And TCFLA0306000010899973 as on 19.11.2024 from Borrowers and Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors, i.e., (1) Rajender Yadav; (2) Geetanjali Yadav; Both R/o.** Plot No. 59, Sector-5, Behind S. K. Soni Hospital, Vidhyadhar Nagar, Jaipur, Rajasthan- 302023; **(3) M/s. Saplings Education Society,Through its Secretary, 40-41,** Shiv Nagar- I, Murlipura Scheme, Vishwakarma Industrial Area, Jaipur, Rajasthan- 302039; **(4) Mahender Singh Alias Mahender Singh Yadav;(5) Prahlad Rai Yadav; (6) Shivani Yadav; All R/o.** House No. 41, Shiv Nagar-I, Murlipura Scheme, Vishwakarma Industrial Area, Jaipur, Rajasthan- 302013; **and (7) M/s. ADA Education Society, Through its Secretary,** at House No. 59, Sector 5, Behind S.K. Soni Hospital, Vidhyadhar Nagar, Jaipur, Rajasthan- 302023.
Notice is hereby given that, in the absence of any postponement/ discontinuance of the sale, the said property shall be sold by E- Auction at **02:00 P.M.** on the said **08th Day of January, 2025** by TCL., having its branch office at **02nd Floor, Guman Tower 1, Near Amrapali Circle, Vaishali Nagar, Jaipur, Rajasthan- 302021.**
The sealed E- Auction for the purchase of the property along with EMD Demand Draft shall be received by the Authorized Officer of the **TATA CAPITAL LIMITED** till **05:00 P.M.** on the said **07th Day of January, 2025.**

Description of Secured Assets	Type of Possession (Constructive/ Physical)	Reserve Price (Rs.)	Earnest Money EMD (Rs.)
All that piece and parcel of Plot No. 5/59, area admeasuring 275 Square Meter, Sector-5, Vidyadhar Nagar, Jaipur, Rajasthan more particularly described in Lease Deed dated 30.12.2004 executed in favor of Rajender Yadav. BOUNDED AS: EAST: Plot No. 58; WEST: Plot No. 60; NORTH: Plot Nos. 62 & 63;SOUTH: Road.	**Physical**	**Rs. 4,66,60,000/- (Rupees Four Crore Sixty Six Lakh(s) Sixty Thousand Only)**	**Rs. 46,66,000/- (Rupees Forty Six Lakh(s) Sixty Six Thousand Only)**

The description of the property that will be put up for sale is in the Schedule. Movable articles/House hold inventory if any lying inside and within secured asset as described above shall not be available for sale along with secured asset until and unless specifically described in auction sale notice. The sale will also be stopped if, amount due as aforesaid, interest and costs (including the cost of the sale) are tendered to the 'Authorized Officer' or proof is given to his satisfaction that the amount of such secured debt, interest and costs has been paid. At the sale, the public generally is invited to submit their tender personally. No officer or other person, having any duty to perform in connection with this sale shall, however, directly or indirectly bid for, acquire or attempt to acquire any interest in the property sold. The sale shall be subject to the rules/conditions prescribed under the SARFAESI Act, 2002. The E-auction will take place through portal **https://bankauctions.in** on **08th Day of January, 2025** between **02:00 PM to 03:00 PM** with unlimited extension of 10 minutes each. All the Bids submitted for the purchase of the property shall be accompanied by Earnest Money as mentioned above by way of a Demand Draft favoring the **"TATA CAPITAL LIMITED"** payable at **Jaipur**. Inspection of the property may be done on **21st Day of December, 2024** between **11:00 AM to 05:00 PM.**
Encumbrances: The auction sale of the property described herein "Annexure / Schedule" is subject to any encumbrances, claims, or disputes currently pending and adjudicated upon Before the Hon'ble Court. The Parties acknowledge that the said property is the subject of ongoing legal proceedings before the Court, and any outcome orders or directions issued by the Court shall be strictly adhered to in accordance with the law. The successful bidder hereby agrees to accept the property in its present legal status, understanding that any encumbrances or liabilities or Orders from Court affecting the property shall be borne by the successful bidder post-auction. Furthermore, the successful bidder acknowledges the necessity of conducting their own due diligence regarding the legal status and encumbrances of the property and agrees to indemnify the seller against any claims arising therefrom.
Note: The intending bidders may contact Tata Capital Limited at Mobile No. +91-8691005238/ Authorized Officer Mr. Raj Yadav; Email id: raj.yadav@tatacapital.com and Mobile No.+91-9235251074.
For detailed terms and conditions of the Sale, please refer to the link provided in secured creditor's website, i.e., **https://bit.ly/3Zy38lz**

Place: Jaipur
Date: 03-12-2024
Sd/- Authorized Officer
Tata Capital Limited

Army Institute of Technology
Alandi Road, Dighi Hills, Pune- 411015
(Tele 7249250184, 7249250185)

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for the Post mentioned below:-

Sr. No.	Post	Total Vacancy	Qualification/ Experience
1	Assistant Professor	Comp/IT 02	M. Tech. or equivalence in relevant Branch with first Class or equivalent in BE/M.Tech Professional experience :- 2 years after Master Degree for Grade I
2	Nursing Assistant	01	**Class 1 -** Nursing Assistant **Age:** Not more than 40 years. Preference will be given to AMC (retired) person.

- Applications by post, to reach **Registrar, AIT, Dighi Hills, Pune-411015 by 15 Dec. 2024**
- Post will be on contractual basis & on consolidated salary only.
- Candidates should attach relevant documents.
- No TA/DA will be given for attending interviews.
- Applications to be forwarded in the prescribed word format available on AIT Website: **www.aitpune.com** alongwith Qualification required (QR)

Director, AIT

SBI STATE BANK OF INDIA
3rd Floor, Matrix Mall, Sector - 4, Jawahar Nagar, Jaipur - 302004

Appendix – IV-A [See Proviso to rule 8(6) & 9(1)]
Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets {Under SARFAESI Act Read with Proviso to Rule 8(6) & 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules}

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to **Rule 8(6) & 9(1)** of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s)/ Guarantor(s) that the below described movable & immovable assets mortgaged/ hypothecated to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of State Bank Of India, the Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As is Where is", "As is What is", "Whatever there is"** and **"Without recourse"** basis on **20.12.2024** for recovery of **Rs. 47,10,516.25 (Rupees Forty Seven Lakhs Ten Thousand Five Hundred Sixteen and Paisa Twenty Five Only) as on 02.04.2022** plus Further interest, cost, charges & other expenses etc. due to the secured creditor from **M/s Shree Shyam Customer Satisfaction through its proprietor & Guarantor Sh. Vimal Kumar Pathik S/o Sh. Kishori Lal Pathik.**

The reserve price and earnest money will be as per below mentioned:
Interested bidder may deposit Pre-Bid EMD with **https://www.eBkray.in** before the Start of e-Auction. Credit of Pre-bid EMD shall be given to the bidder only after receipt of payment in MSTC's Bank account and updation of such information in the e-auction website. This may take some time as per banking process and hence bidders, in their own interest, are advised to submit the pre-bid EMD amount well in advance to avoid any last-minute problem.

Description of the movable & Immovable Assets	1. Reserve Price 2. EMD Amount
All that part and parcel of the Equitable Mortgage of Shop No. 208 (Without Roof ownership) situated at Second Floor, Wonder Mall, Block –A, Kedalganj, Alwar, Distt, Alwar (Raj.) having Built-up Area 482 Sq. Ft. standing in the name of Sh. Vimal Kumar Pathik S/o Sh. Kishori Lal Pathik Bounded: On the East by- Open Gallery, On the West by- Open For Ground floor, On the North by- Shop No. 207, On the South by- Other Shops,	1.Rs. 24,60,000.00 2.Rs. 2,46,000.00 Auction Date : 20.12.2024 Time 11.00 AM to 03.00 PM

Other Encumberance:-If any, not Known
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in **State Bank of India, Stressed Assets Recovery Branch (SARB), Jaipur (Raj.)** Secured Creditor's website, **https://sbi.co.in/web/sbi-in-the-news/auction-notices/sarfaesi-and-others and https://www.eBkray.in**
Date : 29.11.2024
Place : Jaipur (Raj.)
(Authorised Officer)

V.O.CHIDAMBARANAR PORT AUTHORITY
Civil Engineering Department
TUTICORIN - 628 004.
SAGARMALA

GLOBAL NOTICE INVITING TENDER

No. CIV-OFCPD-PRJ-DEVEL-V1-21(50298)/D.3328 Date:03.12.2024

V.O.Chidambaranar Port re-invites Application from interested parties (Applicants) in accordance with the Request For Qualification (RFQ) and Request For Proposal (RFP) for the project "Development of Outer Harbour Container Terminal Project including Dredging and Construction of Breakwater at VOC Port on DBFOT Basis".

Name of Work	**Development of Outer Harbour Container Terminal Project including Dredging and Construction of Breakwater at VOC Port on DBFOT Basis**
Indicative Project Cost	**Rs.7055.95 Crores**
Sale of bid Documents	**03.12.2024 to 20.01.2025**
Bid document fee	**Rs.24,97,806/- (inclusive of GST @ 18%)**
Bid Security	**Rs. 70.56 Crs (As per cl. 1.2.4 of RFQ)**
Last date of receiving queries	**11.12.2024**
Pre-Application Conference	**12.12.2024 at 11:00 hours**
Last date and time for submission of Tender through online	**20.01.2025 upto 15:00 hours (IST)**
Date RFQ Bid opening date and time	**21.01.2025 at 15:30 hours (IST)**
Validity of offer	**180 days from the last date fixed for submission of Tender**

For downloading of RFQ, RFP & further details, visit port Website: www.vocport.gov.in
Ph.No : 0461-2352270
Email : ce@vocport.gov.in, vocportce@gmail.com
Sd/-
CHIEF ENGINEER

SBI STATE BANK OF INDIA
3rd Floor, Matrix Mall, Sector - 4, Jawahar Nagar, Jaipur - 302004

Appendix – IV-A [See Proviso to rule 8(6) & 9(1)]
Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets {Under SARFAESI Act Read with Proviso to Rule 8(6) & 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules}

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to **Rule 8(6) & 9(1)** of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s)/ Guarantor(s) that the below described movable & immovable assets mortgaged/ hypothecated to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of State Bank Of India, the Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As is Where is", "As is What is", "Whatever there is"** and **"Without recourse"** basis on **20.12.2024** for recovery of **Rs. 44,89,880.00 (Rupees Fourty four Lakh Eighty Nine Thousand Eight Hundread Eihty Only) as on 24.05.2023** plus Further interest, cost, charges & other expenses etc. due to the secured creditor from **M/s Ladi Devi Industries through its proprietor Sh. Gyan Prakash Shukla S/o Sh. Shiv Shankar Shukla.**

Interested bidder may deposit Pre-Bid EMD with **https://www.eBkray.in** before the Start of e-Auction. Credit of Pre-bid EMD shall be given to the bidder only after receipt of payment in MSTC's Bank account and updation of such information in the e-auction website. This may take some time as per banking process and hence bidders, in their own interest, are advised to submit the pre-bid EMD amount well in advance to avoid any last-minute problem.

Description of the movable & Immovable Assets	1. Reserve Price 2. EMD Amount
Lot 1 Hypothecated Plant & Machinery installed at Plot No. J-25, RIICO Industrial Area, Jaipur Road, Thanagaji Distt. Alwar Rajasthan	1.Rs. 10,70,000.00 2.Rs. 1,07,000.00 Date: 20.12.2024 Time 11.00 AM to 03.00 PM
Lot 2 All that part and partial of the Equitable Mortgage Industrial land & Building situated at Plot No. J-25, RIICO Industrial Area, Jaipur Road, Thanagaji Distt. Alwar Rajasthan, standing in the name of **M/s Ladi Devi Industries through its proprietor Sh. Gyan Prakash Shukla S/o Sh. Shiv Shankar Shukla.** Total Measuring 239 Sq. Mtr. As per bank record - Bounded as under: East: Plot No. J-26, West: Road 18' wide, North: Plot No. J-40 , South: Road.	1.Rs. 31,20,000.00 2.Rs. 3,12,000.00 Dat: 20.12.2024 Time 11.00 AM to 03.00 PM

Note: Auction of Lot (2) will be conducted only if auction of Lot (1) is auctioned successfully.
Other Encumberance:-If any, not Known
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in **State Bank of India, Stressed Assets Recovery Branch (SARB), Jaipur (Raj.)** Secured Creditor's website, **https://sbi.co.in/web/sbi-in-the-news/auction-notices/sarfaesi-and-others and https://www.eBkray.in**
Date : 29.11.2024
Place : Jaipur (Raj.)
(Authorised Officer)

GVK Power (Goindwal Sahib) Limited
Regd. Office Plot No. 10, Paigah Colony, Sardar Patel Road, Secunderabad-500003 Telangana, India CIN U40109TG1997PLC028483
(A wholly owned subsidiary of Guru Amar Das Thermal Power Limited, GATPL)
(A step down wholly owned subsidiary of Punjab State Power Corporation Limited, PSPCL)

Dept-HOD, HR & ADMIN GATP, Goindwal Sahib, invites E-Tender for the work of:

1 Tender Enquiry No. 004/GATP/HRADMIN/50006998 dated 02/12/2024 "FACILITY MANAGEMENT SERVICES" at 2X270 MW Guru Amardas Thermal Plant (GATP), Goindwal Sahib, Distt.: Tarn Taran, Punjab as per details given in the tender specifications for a period of One year'

For detailed NIT & tender specifications, please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from 02/12/2024 from 17:00 Hrs onwards.
Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any, will be published online at **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in**

No. 39723/PB GATP-03/24

AXIS BANK

Retail Lending and Payment Group (Local Office/Branch): G-9, Mahima Trinity Mall, 3F-24, Swej Farm, New Sanganer Road, Jaipur. Also At, Axis bank ltc RAC 3rd floor, Prince Tower , Residency Road, Jaljog Circle, Jodhpur- 342001

Axis Bank Ltd., 3rd Floor, Gigaplex, NPC – 1, TTC Industrial Area, Mugalsan Road, Airoli, Navi Mumbai- 400708.
Registered Office: "Trishul", 3rd Floor Opp. Samartheshwar Temple Law Garden, Ellisbridge Ahmedabad – 380006.

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

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

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property is mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Secured Creditor will be sold on **"As is where is" , "As is what is" and "Whatever there -is"** on **19.12.2024 for recovery of Rs. 1017219 /-(Ten lakh Seventeen thousand Two Hundred Ninteen only)** dues as on **24.08.2023** with future interest and costs due to the secured creditor from **MR. VIRENDRA,(Applicant) & PINTU SINGH, (Co-Applicant)** in Loan No. PHR005707220948 Please refer the appended auction schedule for necessary details:-

KNOWN ENCUMBRANCES (IF ANY)	NA
RESERVE PRICE (IN RS.)	RESERVE PRICE (IN RS.) **480000/- (Four Lakh and Eighty thousand only)**
EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT (IN RS.)	**Rs 48,000/- (Fourty Eight Thousand Only)** through DD/PO in favor of 'Axis bank ltd.' payable at Axis bank ltc RAC 3rd floor, Prince Tower , Residency Road, Jaljog Circle, Jodhpur-342001.
BID INCREMENTAL AMOUNT	**Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand only)**
LAST DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS / TENDER WITH EMD	Till **18.12.2024** latest by 05:00 P.M. at Axis bank ltc RAC 3rd floor, Prince Tower , Residency Road, Jaljog Circle, Jodhpur – 342001. and kindly addressed to Gordhan Lohar.
DATE, TIME, AND VENUE FOR PUBLIC E-AUCTION	On **19.12.2024,** between 11:00 A.M and 12:00 Noon. with unlimited extensions of 5 minutes each at web portal https://www.bankeauctions.com e-auction tender documents containing e-auction bid form, declaration etc., are available in the website of the Service Provider as mentioned above.

SCHEDULE – DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Plot No. 41, Khasra No. 1846/394, Mahadev Nagar, Pali Admeasuring 1000 Sq.ft
Bounded As Under:- East- Plot No. 40, West- Plot No. 42, North- Road, South- Plot No. 4

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in the secured creditor's website i.e. https://www.axisbank.com/auction-retail and the Bank's approved service provider M/S C1 India Private Limited at their web portal https://www.bankeauctions.com
The auction will be conducted online through the Bank's approved service provider M/s.C1 India Private Limited at their web portal https://www.bankeauctions.com.
For any other assistance, the intending bidders may contact Mr. Gordhan Lohar, Mobile. No. 9828586678. Authorized officer of the Bank during office hours from 10 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Date: 03.12.2024,
Place: Pali
Sd/- Authorised Officer,
Axis Bank Limited

AXIS BANK

Retail Lending and Payment Group (Local Office/Branch): G-9, Mahima Trinity Mall, 3F-24, Swej Farm, New Sanganer Road, Jaipur. Also At, Axis bank ltc RAC 3rd floor, Prince Tower, Residency Road, Jaljog Circle, Jodhpur- 342001

Axis Bank Ltd., 3rd Floor, Gigaplex, NPC- 1, TTC Industrial Area, Mugalsan Road, Airoli, Navi Mumbai- 400708.
Registered Office: "Trishul", 3rd Floor Opp. Samartheshwar Temple Law Garden, Ellisbridge Ahmedabad- 380006.

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

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

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property is mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Secured Creditor will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is"** and **"Whatever there -is"** on **19.12.2024** for recovery of **Rs. 13,85,707/- (Thirteen Lakh Eighty Five Thousand Seven Hundred Seven Only)** dues as on **05.06.2021** with future interest and costs due to the secured creditor from **JASODA DEVI KUMAWAT, (Applicant) & BHERU LAL KUMAWAT, (Co-Applicant)** in Loan No. PHR024103154882 Please refer the appended auction schedule for necessary details:-

KNOWN ENCUMBRANCES (IF ANY)	NA
RESERVE PRICE (IN RS.)	**Rs. 14,93,213/- (Fourteen lakh Ninety Three thousand Two Hundred and Thirteen Rupees Only)**
EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT (IN RS.)	**Rs. 1,49,321.3/- (One Lakh Forty Nine Thousand Three Hundred and Twenty One Rupees Only) through DD/PO in favor of 'Axis Bank Ltd.' payable at Axis Bank LTC RAC 3rd floor, Prince Tower, Residency Road, Jaljog Circle, Jodhpur- 342001.**
BID INCREMENTAL AMOUNT	**Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only)**
LAST DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS/ TENDER WITH EMD	Till **18.12.2024** latest by 05:00 P.M. at Axis bank ltc RAC 3rd floor, Prince Tower, Residency Road, Jaljog Circle, Jodhpur-342001. and kindly addressed to **Gordhan Lohar.**
DATE, TIME, AND VENUE FOR PUBLIC E-AUCTION	On **19.12.2024,** between 11.00 A.M and 12.00 Noon. with unlimited extensions of 5 minutes each at web portal **https://www.bankeauctions.com** e-auction tender documents containing e-auction bid form, declaration etc., are available in the website of the Service Provider as mentioned above.

SCHEDULE - DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

H No. 16/2660 (West Part) Araji No 2660 Revenue Gram Pansal Bhilwara **Boundaries: East:** Remaining Part Of The Said Property, **West:** Plot No 17, **North:** Plot No-05, **South:** Road

**For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in the secured creditor's website

@ieExplained
#ExpressExplained
If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to **explained@indianexpress.com**

Electronic monitoring of prisoners: arguments for and against

AJOY SINHA KARPURAM
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 2

PRESIDENT DROUPADI Murmu last month released a report by the Supreme Court's Centre for Research and Planning, which suggested several measures to address the problem of overcrowding in India's prisons.

The report, *Prisons in India: Mapping Prison Manuals and Measures for Reformation and Decongestion*, has a section on 'Electronic Tracking of Prisoners', which discusses the use of tracking technology as a condition for bail to reduce the number of undertrial prisoners who make up the vast majority of prisoners.

This July, the Supreme Court had held that bail conditions that allow the police to track the movement of an accused released on bail, violate the right to privacy.

However, the report — like the Law Commission of India and the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs — has said that tracking, with the right guardrails, would be beneficial.

The case for tracking

As of December 2022, India's prisons had an overall occupancy of 131.4%, with 5,73,220 inmates against a total capacity of 4,36,266, according to figures compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). More than three quarters of prisoners were undertrials, who had not been convicted of a crime.

According to the report, electronic monitoring "could prove to be a cost-effective method to decongest jails". It gives the example of Odisha, where the government spends about Rs 1 lakh annually on each undertrial, while a tracker "would cost around Rs 10,000 to 15,000".

A report submitted by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs last year noted that "through the use of [ankle/bracelet] trackers, administrative machinery or human resources staff involved in keeping track of prisoners who are out on bail can be reduced". (*Prisons: Conditions, Infrastructure and Reforms*)

Lessons from the US

Several studies have argued that electronic monitoring is essentially incarceration by another name – "e-carceration".

In a report published in September 2022, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) noted that "EM (electronic monitoring) serves as an extension of the carceral crisis, expanding the punitive power of jails and prisons beyond their traditional physical walls as a system of "e-carceration"".

The "overuse of government surveillance can create oppressive, criminalizing environments, especially for communities of color", the report, *Rethinking Electronic Monitoring: A Harm Reduction Guide*, said.

EXPLAINED LAW

Electronic monitoring and restrictions on movement for persons on parole or in the pre-trial stage is common in the US. Like people of colour in the US, members of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) are overrepresented in prison populations in India. The latest NCRB data show almost 70% of prisoners belong to these communities.

The other question is of bearing the cost of electronic monitoring. The Supreme Court's report suggests it should be the government — in the US (which has been cited as an example in the report) though, the costs are often borne by the individual under monitoring. These include $100-$200 in setup charges and daily charges of up to $35, according to the nonprofit Electronic Frontier Foundation.

The report also acknowledges the possibility of stigma associated with a visible monitoring device: "Some individuals may resist wearing [them] due to concerns about social stigma or a perception of invasive surveillance".

Question of privacy

On July 8, an SC Bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Ujjal Bhuyan struck down a bail condition imposed by the Delhi HC on two foreign nationals booked for offences under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 — that they must "drop a PIN on the google map to ensure that their location is available to the Investigation Officer...".

This, the top court held, would violate the fundamental right to privacy under Article 21. "The investigating agency cannot be permitted to continuously peep into the private life of the accused enlarged on bail," it said.

The Standing Committee Report of 2023 had noted that such measures must only be taken with the consent of the individual. "...It must be ensured that to avoid any kind of human rights violation this scheme or method should be used on voluntary basis after procuring the consent of inmates," the report said.

Research by George Washington University on the impact of electronic monitoring on privacy in 44 US states reported that "people on court supervision (including those who are on monitors) are often subjected to invasions of their bodily autonomy through random drug testing, blood and DNA sampling, as well as invasions of their home through mandatory home visits...".

The 268th Report of the Law Commission of India, published three months before the SC verdict recognising the fundamental right to privacy, argued for electronic monitoring, but acknowledged the possible "grave and significant impact on constitutional rights".

"Such monitoring must be used only in grave and heinous crimes, where the accused person has a prior conviction in similar offences", the Report said.

EXPLAINED GLOBAL

President Biden pardons his son: What will it entail?

President Joe Biden embraces his son Hunter Biden after his speech in Chicago on August 19, 2024. *The NYT*

THE US President Joe Biden on Sunday pardoned his son Hunter after repeatedly saying that he will not. Here are the circumstances in which the pardon came, and what all it entails.

What did the pardon cover?

Hunter Biden was pardoned for his conviction by a jury in Delaware and a guilty plea in California. Hunter was also pardoned for federal crimes "he committed or may have committed" between January 1, 2014 through the end of this year.

What crimes was Hunter convicted of?

A Delaware jury in June found the President's son guilty of lying about his addiction to illegal drugs on a disclosure form that is required to purchase a firearm. Hunter was scheduled to be sentenced on December 12.

He separately pleaded guilty to criminal charges of failing to pay $1.4 million in taxes while spending lavishly on drugs, sex workers, and luxury items. He was scheduled to be sentenced on December 16.

What kind of sentence was Hunter looking at?

Hunter was potentially facing decades in prison, although sentencing guidelines suggested he was likely to receive a much less severe punishment.

For the gun charges, sentencing guidelines are 15 to 21 months, although legal experts said defendants in similar situations receive shorter sentences and are less likely to be incarcerated if they abide by the terms of their pretrial release.

Could Hunter still be implicated in other cases?

If the US House of Representatives or the Justice Department decides to probe the Biden family business dealings, as some Republicans have promised to do, Hunter could potentially be called to testify.

Before he was pardoned, he could have declined to do so, citing his Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination. The pardon could limit his ability to invoke that right, because he no longer faces criminal jeopardy for any federal crimes committed during the period covered. Presidential pardons do not protect people from prosecution for state crimes.

Are presidential pardons unusual?

No. Presidents beginning with George Washington, the first US president, have granted pardons. Gerald Ford pardoned his predecessor Richard Nixon, who had resigned in disgrace, Bill Clinton pardoned his brother-in-law, and Donald Trump pardoned Charles Kushner, a real estate developer and the father of Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner.

REUTERS

EXPLAINED ECONOMICS

BRICS currency, Trump threat

What does the US President-elect's threat of 100% tariffs if BRICS countries ditch the dollar mean for India — and the US? What has provoked Trump, and why is India pushing for the internationalisation of the rupee?

RAVI DUTTA MISHRA
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 2

DONALD TRUMP has threatened the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) countries with 100% import tariffs if they create their own currency or back an existing currency to replace the United States dollar as the world's reserve currency.

"We require a commitment from these countries that they will neither create a new BRICS currency nor back any other currency to replace the mighty US dollar, or they will face 100 per cent tariffs and should expect to say goodbye to selling into the wonderful US economy," the US President-elect posted on social media over the weekend.

Ever since the US threw Iran and Russia out of the Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication (SWIFT), which is key to international financial transactions, countries around the world, including India, have looked to reduce dependence on the US dollar, as well as on the US-led global financial system.

At the BRICS summit in Kazan in October, Russian President Vladimir Putin said: "The dollar is being used as a weapon. We really see that this is so. I think that this is a big mistake by those who do this."

At the 2023 BRICS summit in Johannesburg, President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva of Brazil had said the "creation of a new [BRICS] currency…increases our payment options and reduces our vulnerabilities".

Internationalisation of rupee…

In an attempt to reduce reliance on the US dollar and to internationalise the Indian rupee, the Reserve Bank of India allowed invoicing and payments for international trade in Indian rupees in 2022, after sanctions were imposed on Russia amid the war in Ukraine.

In his remarks at Kazan, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said India "welcome[d] efforts to increase financial integration among BRICS countries", and "trade in local currencies and smooth cross-border payments will strengthen our economic cooperation".

Last month, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar told the India-Russia Intergovernmental Commission meeting in Mumbai that "mutual settlement of trade in national currencies is of great importance, especially in the current circumstances".

India's trade with Russia in domestic currency remains low due to Indian banks' fear of US sanctions, and an unbalanced trade relationship between the countries — Indian imports far outstrip its exports. Russia has, therefore, not been able to use its huge pile of rupee reserves to settle bilateral trade dues, and has used it to invest in Indian stocks and bonds instead.

Russia's President Vladimir Putin, seen at the Kazan BRICS summit in October with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and China's President Xi Jinping, has said the United States is using the dollar as a "weapon". *Reuters*

The more balanced Russia-China trade, by contrast, has helped transactions using the yuan and ruble. According to the Russian government, more than 90% of trade settlement between the two countries is now done in rubles.

…But not targeting US dollar

In October Jaishankar had clarified that while US policies often complicate trade with certain countries, and India sought "workarounds" in pursuit of its trade interests, it did not "target" the dollar or seek to move away from it.

"We have never actively targeted the dollar. That's not part of our economic, political, or strategic policy. Some others may have done so. What I will say is that we have a natural concern. We often have trade partners who lack dollars for transactions. So, we must decide whether to forgo dealings with them or find alternative settlements that work. There's no malicious intent towards the dollar," Jaishankar said in response to a question at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, an American think tank in Washington DC.

The Triennial Central Bank Survey 2022 of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS), an international financial institution owned by member central banks, showed the US dollar accounted for 88% of the global forex turnover. The rupee accounted for 1.6%.

High tariff wall could hit US

While the dollar dominates global trade — accounting for more than 90% of transactions — it is not the only currency used internationally. Other convertible currencies like the Japanese yen, the euro, and the British pound are also integral to global commerce, and the US has not objected to their use. The proposed BRICS currency is simply another of these alternatives, aimed at facilitating trade among member countries and reducing over-reliance on a single currency, international trade experts said.

"It is the actions of the United States that have pushed many countries to seek alternatives to the US dollar. The US has a history of leveraging its influence over global financial systems, such as the SWIFT network, to impose unilateral sanctions. SWIFT is essential for secure and standardised international financial transactions. By blocking countries like Russia and Iran from accessing SWIFT, the US has effectively weaponised the global financial infrastructure, forcing other nations to find alternative payment mechanisms to continue legitimate trade," Ajay Srivastava, head of the think tank Global Trade Research Initiative, and a former Indian government trade official, said.

According to Srivastava, a 100% tariff on BRICS countries would ultimately hurt the US. "Imports into the US would shift to third countries, potentially increasing costs for American consumers without bringing manufacturing jobs back home. The US has become less competitive in manufacturing labour-intensive goods due to higher production costs, and tariffs are unlikely to reverse this," he said.

Need for China caution

Ajay Sahai, Director General & CEO of the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO), the country's top trade promotion organisation, said that while supporting local currency initiatives, India should ensure the framework does not disproportionately favour China, given the asymmetry in economic power among BRICS nations.

"China is very keen to assume a dominant role to use the bloc against the US, though India, Brazil, and South Africa are more keen to work with the US and settle the differences amicably through negotiations," Sahai said. India should engage diplomatically with the US to explain its position, emphasising that diversifying trade mechanisms is not anti-American but a move towards multipolarity and financial stability, he said.

India should accelerate its Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) initiative and push for internationalisation of financial platforms such as Unified Payments Interface (UPI), Sahai said.

"Trump's threat is unlikely to deter BRICS nations from pursuing alternatives to the US dollar. For India, the best course is a balanced approach: supporting financial reforms within BRICS that align with its interests while maintaining strong ties with the US to safeguard its broader strategic and economic priorities," he said.

The Currency Composition of Official Foreign Exchange Reserves (COFER) of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) shows a gradual decline in the share of the dollar in central bank and government foreign reserves. However, the reduced role of the dollar over the past two decades has not been matched by corresponding increases in the shares of the euro, yen, and pound, according to the IMF.

"Rather, this has been accompanied by a rise in the share of…non-traditional reserve currencies, including the Australian dollar, Canadian dollar, Chinese renminbi, South Korean won, Singaporean dollar, and the Nordic currencies," the IMF said in a blog published in July. The gains of the renminbi in particular, "match a quarter of the decline in the dollar's share", the blog said, confirming a trend it had also flagged in a paper in 2022.

How land degradation is threatening Earth's capacity to sustain humanity

ALIND CHAUHAN
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 2

LAND DEGRADATION is undermining Earth's capacity to sustain humanity, and failure to reverse it will pose challenges for generations to come, a new United Nations report found.

A million sq km of land is getting degraded each year, with an estimated 15 million sq km already impacted — more than the entire continent of Antarctica — by land degradation, the report titled *Stepping back from the precipice: Transforming land management to stay within planetary boundaries* said.

EXPLAINED ENVIRONMENT

The analysis has been carried out by the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) — a legally binding framework to address desertification and the effects of drought — in collaboration with Germany's Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research. It was published on Monday, a day before the 16th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP16) of UNCCD began in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

What is land degradation? Why is it a matter of concern?

According to UNCCD, land degradation is "the reduction or loss of the biological or economic productivity and complexity of rainfed cropland, irrigated cropland, or range, pasture, forest and woodlands resulting from a combination of pressures, including land use and management practices".

Land degradation adversely affects humans and ecosystems around the planet. For instance, it raises the risk of malnutrition by reducing the quality and quantity of food production. It contributes to the spread of water- and food-borne diseases that result from poor hygiene and scarcity of clean water. It can cause respiratory diseases due to soil erosion.

Marine and freshwater systems also suffer due to land degradation. For example, eroded soil carrying fertilisers and pesticides washes into water bodies, harming both the fauna living there and local communities which depend on them.

LAND DEGRADATION IN NUMBERS

60%: Remaining global forest cover — well below the safe boundary of 75%.

15 MN SQ KM: Degraded land area, more than the size of Antarctica, expanding by 1 mn sq km annually.

20%: Earth's land surface covered by the savanna, now under threat from cropland expansion and poorly planned afforestation.

46%: Global land area classified as drylands, home to a third of humanity

90%: Share of recent deforestation directly caused by agriculture.

20%: Decline in trees' and soil's CO2 absorption capacity since 2015 attributed to climate change

25%: Share of biodiversity found in soil

50%+: World's major rivers disrupted by dam construction

47%: Aquifers being depleted faster than they are replenished

Source: UNCCD report

Land degradation contributes to climate change as well. The world's soil is the largest terrestrial carbon sink. When land is degraded, soil carbon can be released into the atmosphere, along with nitrous oxide. This can further exacerbate global warming.

The new report said land degradation has reduced the capacity of land ecosystems such as trees and soil to absorb human-caused carbon dioxide by 20% in the last decade. Previously, these ecosystems could absorb nearly one-third of this kind of pollution.

What is causing land degradation?

Unsustainable agricultural practices such as the heavy use of chemical inputs, pesticides, and water diversion are the foremost drivers of land degradation, the report said. That is because such practices lead to deforestation, soil erosion, and pollution.

"Unsustainable irrigation practices deplete freshwater resources, while excessive use of nitrogen- and phosphorus-based fertilisers destabilise ecosystems," according to the report.

Another factor is climate change — land degradation not only contributes to climate change but is also spurred by it. A report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the UN body for assessing the science related to climate change, noted that global warming has worsened land degradation by increasing frequency, intensity and/or amount of heavy precipitation, and increased heat stress.

Then there is rapid urbanisation, which has intensified land degradation by contributing to habitat destruction, pollution, and biodiversity loss.

Which areas are the worst affected?

The report has identified several land degradation hotspots in dry regions such as South Asia, northern China, the High Plains and California in the United States, and the Mediterranean. A third of humanity now lives in drylands, which include three-quarters of Africa.

It also noted that land degradation hits low-income countries disproportionately. That is because its impacts are concentrated in tropical and arid regions, and poorer countries have lesser resilience to withstand land degradation and its fallouts.

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

WORDLY WISE

THE LESS THERE IS TO JUSTIFY A TRADITIONAL CUSTOM, THE HARDER IT IS TO GET RID OF IT.

— MARK TWAIN

The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

RBI'S CHALLENGE

As differences emerge with government on growth and inflation, it will need to draw on multiple policy tools

OVER THE NEXT few days, the RBI's monetary policy committee will hold its last scheduled meeting for this calendar year. So far, the central bank's "resilient" growth outlook provided the committee the space to keep the policy rate unchanged and focus on "attaining a durable alignment of inflation with the target". However, since the last committee meeting in October, the macroeconomic scenario has changed dramatically — inflation has edged upwards, while growth has slowed down. In this changed environment, questions are being asked, including by the government, about whether the RBI has kept interest rates too high for too long, not anticipating the economic slowdown.

As reported in this paper, the government has raised questions over the stance of monetary policy, calling into question the central bank's assessment of the underlying growth momentum and price dynamics in the country. On growth, it viewed the RBI's exuberance — the central bank had raised its growth forecast to 7.2 per cent for the year in June — as out of sync with other signals. Thereafter, even when economic indicators subsequently pointed towards a slowing growth momentum, the central bank continued to exude confidence about the economy's growth prospects, retaining its growth forecast in the October MPC meeting. Its assessment was also at odds with some segments of India Inc who have spoken frankly about the pain points in the economy. The economy grew at 5.4 per cent in the second quarter, compared to the RBI's assessment of 7 per cent in the October MPC meeting. There is also disagreement with the central bank's assessment of the underlying price pressures in the economy. The RBI is worried about the second round effects of high food inflation spilling over to core inflation. But as per government officials, there are no second round effects. Excluding gold and silver, core inflation is stable. Moreover, the surge in headline inflation over the past two months has been largely due to food inflation, which in turn is driven by vegetables. Analysts expect vegetable prices to show some moderation in the coming data.

RBI's inflation targeting framework of 4 plus/minus 2 per cent has a degree of flexibility that gives the committee the space to look through such transient supply side shocks. Monetary policy works with long lags. With the RBI's forecasts now showing inflation at 4.2 per cent in the fourth quarter of this financial year, and 4.3 per cent in the first quarter of next year, real interest rates remain at levels that former MPC members have characterised as excessively restrictive. The question now, after the recent GDP data, is whether the MPC will continue to attach primacy to inflation, or will growth considerations also dominate its thinking, or will the currency now also be a factor. The RBI has multiple policy tools at its disposal. It will need to draw on them as it navigates the rapidly changing environment.

THE APATHY MUST END

Express investigation of manual scavenging highlights continuing failures and abdications at several levels

SINCE 1993, INDIA has had a law to ban manual scavenging. Since 2013, employers are required by law to provide 44 types of protective gear to labourers engaged in cleaning septic tanks and sewers. Yet, according to the Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment's data, 443 workers died between 2018 and 2023, while undertaking this hazardous task. This, by all accounts, is a conservative estimate. Several independent surveys have talked about the continued reluctance on the part of state governments to admit that the practice prevails under their watch. Unable to provide safety equipment, municipalities live in denial. Employers are rarely held accountable when manual labourers succumb to the perils of their jobs. An investigation by this newspaper has revealed only one conviction for 75 sewer deaths in Delhi in the past 15 years. From the police being unable to trace the culprits to the investigating officers not cooperating with the judiciary or failing to appear before the courts, it reveals the apathy of law-enforcing agencies. That several sewer deaths happened at high-profile locations at the national capital, including prominent malls, hospitals and hotels only shows that the abdication is unabashed and pervasive.

The Manual Scavengers and Their Rehabilitation Act, which came into force in 2013, asks state governments and municipalities to identify workers who clean sewers and provide them with alternative employment options. A year later, the Supreme Court also asked states to abolish manual scavenging and rehabilitate the workers. However, local bodies outsource sewer cleaning to private contractors, who do not maintain proper rolls of manual scavengers. Investigations often come to a dead end because the police cannot find written orders from contractors asking workers to enter sewers. Located at the margins of society, the families of the deceased do not have the resources to fight lengthy legal battles.

Government initiatives to end manual scavenging have fallen short of their objectives because they do not adequately account for the social conditions that force people to plumb toxic cesspools. Civil society groups have, for long, argued that fixing the problem is difficult without acknowledging that it operates at the intersections of caste, economic inequalities and the deficits of the country's sewerage networks — most septic tanks are not amenable to new technology and machines are too big to operate in the narrow bylanes of dense urban areas. The failings, as this newspaper's investigation shows, are at multiple levels. A government that counts the Swachh Bharat Mission among its successes needs to do more for the safety and well-being of the workers at the frontlines of its cleanliness projects.

WHOSE DRESS

If some see the graduation cap and gown as a colonial relic, for others it represents empowerment and choice

FROM THE VANTAGE point of the present, there is something faintly absurd about certain traditions of dressing that came as part of the baggage of colonialism — such as the wigs that members of the legal fraternity were once forced to wear. Time and context wore out any extra dignity that they conferred on the wearer, and they felt hot and uncomfortable to boot. A similar argument made against the graduation ceremony cap and gown by the UGC — which issued an advisory to the effect in 2015, with follow-ups in 2019 and January this year — has led to several central institutions easing out the outfit. As a report in this newspaper revealed, they have replaced it with "Indian attire" to boost the country's handloom traditions, ostensibly as part of a decolonisation exercise.

But what place does the government have here? It's not as if its education to-do list isn't weighty enough. Among the several ongoing concerns — such as ensuring equity and access to learning resources and infrastructure — the matter of what a ceremonial outfit should look like seems out of place. In any case, practical concerns regarding the synthetic fabrics used to make the gown and mortarboard, as well as a desire to promote "traditional" clothing, had led some institutions to ease out the uncomfortable gown and mortarboard even before the UGC put out its advisory — just as a sentimental attachment to another kind of tradition, one handed down during the Raj, made others retain the ceremonial wear.

The matter of clothing presents a peculiar problem, being deeply imbued with meaning not only at a personal level, but also at the level of community, institution and state. In 2019, at Lucknow's Babasaheb Ambedkar University, the Dalit Students' Union sought permission to wear formal Western attire, instead of the mandated Indian wear, as a tribute to B R Ambedkar. Clearly, what is seen as a "colonial relic" by some, represents empowerment and choice for others.

Neighbourhood on edge

Ironically, in a deep ideological sense, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh are once again joined at the hip

PRATAP BHANU MEHTA

SOUTH ASIA IS at a precipice. India, Pakistan and Bangladesh are now vulnerable to the fatal kiss of religious nationalism destroying both democracy and decency in their societies. It is anathema for an Indian audience to think of these three countries on the same plane. But, with varying degrees of intensity, they are now displaying symptoms of the same political disease. Each of the three countries seems to already have, or is in the process of creating, the background conditions for significant religious conflict. Each of them seems to be now determined to reopen the settlement of 1947, not in the direction of freedom and human rights, but the denouement of targeted conflict, almost as if to complete the logic of partition, not to undo it. And their ideological fates are intertwined. India may, with all its arrogant bluster, claim to be a big power that transcends its region. But its fundamental insecurities, its domestic politics, and increasingly its identity, is so tied to its neighbourhood that this claim is almost laughable.

Let us start with Bangladesh. Sheikh Hasina had lost popular legitimacy, or at least deprived herself of the means to establish it. But it is still an open question what kind of successor regime will be institutionalised in its wake. Bangladesh may still overcome its present hurdles, but there are three ominous signs. The first is that the strategy of the new regime seems to be moving not towards building an inclusive democracy, but to keep on engaging in the same cycles of recrimination between the Awami League and its opponents that have marked Bangladesh's history, a cycle of recrimination that never ends well for democracy. Second, Islamists seem to have gained much more visible space, and there is no political force that can marginalise them. There is greater risk to minorities, especially Hindus in Bangladesh. The Bangladeshi elites deny this charge as simply Indian disinformation, used to discredit the regime and used by the BJP for domestic politics in India.

It is true that the Indian state has a vested interest in exaggeration. But the response in large sections of Bangladesh's elites to a genuine concern is dispiriting because it has all the elements of a familiar South Asian play book. When it comes to communal targeting, it goes something like this: Claim that reports are exaggerated (though exaggeration might be less of a sin than denial), or whataboutery (nothing has fundamentally changed) or root causes (they were not targeted as Hindus but were collateral damage in the violence against Awami League supporters) or pretexts (there are genuine non-communal reasons to be worried about of some of the ISKCON figures). Or finally a performative secularism, where the leader gives a statement that ticks a box, while not addressing fundamental insecurities. All of our societies are masters at this playbook, it is the way we do communalism without thinking of ourselves as communal.

> For good or for ill, Sheikh Hasina's authoritarianism collapsed under its own weight. It is in India's interest not to use Bangladesh to flame sectarian fires, but to find a solution. And no solution will be forthcoming if India is ex-ante openly hostile to what, for good or for ill, is the de facto government of Bangladesh. In fact, it will only jeopardise the fate of Hindu minorities. India is right to be concerned about the fate of minorities in Bangladesh. But our interest in them is not humanitarian, it is also cut of a deeper communal cloth. India's concern at the fate of minorities at this point is a bit like the US being concerned about the fate of international law.

India, for its part, is doing the utterly myopic thing. For good or for ill, Sheikh Hasina's authoritarianism collapsed under its own weight. It is in India's interest not to use Bangladesh to flame sectarian fires, but to find a solution. And no solution will be forthcoming if India is, ex-ante, openly hostile to what, for good or for ill, is the de facto government of Bangladesh. In fact, it will only jeopardise the fate of Hindu minorities. India is right to be concerned about the fate of minorities in Bangladesh. But our interest in them is not humanitarian, it is also cut of a deeper communal cloth. India's concern at the fate of minorities at this point is a bit like the US being concerned about the fate of international law.

Its entire ideological orientation is now towards majoritarianism and creating the conditions for conflict. The government literally finds a new pretext to needle minorities: Lynching, bulldozers, hate speech, normalising of prejudice, claiming more mosques and now the Waqf issue. The Waqf Board may need reform but that is not the point. The modus operandi of the government is to keep pushing minorities into disempowerment and marginalisation. This is an open playbook.

Ayodhya was not the satiation of Hindu nationalism. Because it was a victory achieved through sheer power, and not a political settlement, that playbook will now be generalised. The legitimation of violence and the degree of communal suffocation in India is at unprecedented levels. If those concerned about Bangladesh would admit this, their concern would come across as more sincere.

The Pakistan story is, of course, familiar. In part, Hindutva takes inspiration from that story. Pakistan is an example of what happens when the meaning of religion becomes subordinated to maintaining the religious character of that state. The need for benchmarking a religious identity will constantly put all minorities at risk. In Pakistan all minorities are at risk, including Ahmadiyyas and Shias. The recent massacre in Kurram has a regional dimension, but it has a deep overlay of Shia-Sunni schism.

Pakistan has reached a point where the ideological basis of its state is bound to fail, or at best just stutter along. Overlay on top of that the gap between popular sentiment and the military's legitimacy and you have the makings of a perpetual crisis. The need to benchmark the state to a religious identity, once it runs out of other minorities to target or cleanse, will turn on other groups. The only thing one can say about Pakistan is that its dark humour about its own potential dystopian state seems to be more potent and more openly critical than most people in India's elites dare to be.

So, ironically in a deep ideological sense, these three countries are now once again tied at the hip. They are all potentially caught in a spiral where the identities they seek to craft as states will exacerbate conflict. India uses the fires in Pakistan and Bangladesh to shore up the claims of a Hindu state, and the "India" card is still a potent defining feature of their identity. There is only one abiding lesson in South Asian history: State sponsored religious nationalism will always turn authoritarian, and it will always destroy democracy and humanity.

The writer is contributing editor, The Indian Express

FAIRNESS, NOT JUST SPEED

A sensitive judicial system maintains a delicate balance between the two

OM DAMANI AND ANSHUL AGRAWAL

SHAILAJA CHANDRA'S ARTICLE, 'Leaner, Faster, Fairer' (*IE*, November 22), highlights several reasons behind the high number of pending cases across Indian courts and proposes two main solutions — measuring judge's performance by the case disposal rate and recruiting retired officials. It also pointed out the absence of video conferencing facilities in several district courts.

We started the project 'System dynamics modelling of the pendency of undertrials' with a focus on speeding up the disposal of cases. However, after talking to several stakeholders in the judicial system for a year and a half, we realised that a fair trial is as important as a speedy trial. One must be careful while talking about faster case disposal since reducing the number of pending cases requires a delicate balance. The pursuit of speed should not come at the cost of fairness.

Categorising judges, on their disposal performance, could push them to choose cases that have a high likelihood of faster disposal. This might negatively impact the hearings of sensitive cases where judges might not have enough time left on the listing days. Hasty judgments can increase the likelihood of appeals, further clogging the judiciary.

The article also mentions, "In an average district or subordinate court, about half of the 90 cases listed daily reportedly get adjourned." Keeping the fairness aspect in mind, we need to ask why are there such frequent adjournments. Which type of cases are adjourned frequently? Is it justified to put a permissible limit for adjournments? During our research, multiple advocates told us that they demand adjournments to get more time to gather evidence, research the law, file motions, or wait for certain events that can have a significant impact on the verdict. Refusing these adjournments in such cases could be unfair.

> Each case passes through multiple stages: Charge sheet filing, charge framing, trial (evidence presentation), arguments, and judgment. Each stage has a different source of delay. For example, investigation officers can take time to gather evidence; police and public prosecutors usually keep issuing summons instead of a non-traceable report if a witness is not responding; the 'roznama' has inaccurate or misleading information about the case stage.

The judicial system is complex with numerous actors — with judges, lawyers, litigants, and court employees having their own mental models. Delegating administrative tasks to retired officials who are not familiar with and sensitive towards judicial procedures, might create new inefficiencies and increase the unfairness. A system's behaviour is a function of its structure. Delayed disposals and high pending case counts are due to the justice-system structure and cannot be improved by tweaking without addressing structural issues. Each case passes through multiple stages: Charge sheet filing, charge framing, trial (evidence presentation), arguments, and judgment. Each stage has a different source of delay. For example, investigation officers can take time to gather evidence; police and public prosecutors usually keep issuing summons instead of a non-traceable report if a witness is not responding; the *roznama* has inaccurate or misleading information about the case stage; case files get misplaced or are not available since the case has been pending for long. It is necessary to identify the critical stages where there are bottlenecks and focus on reducing the delays in those specific stages.

Several experts we spoke to raised concerns about video proceedings. During such proceedings, the accused are often surrounded by jail officers creating an environment of intimidation. If they are mistreated in jail, say they have been tortured, they fear saying so; judges cannot see their physical condition clearly. During the physical trial, the accused are under the custody of judges, not jailers. Coming out of jail to the court for trial is the only chance for an accused to breathe free air. They can meet their family members and talk to their lawyers confidentially. Video conferencing trials take away these particularly important rights of undertrials.

Accessing prompt legal advice and assistance is critical for ensuring a fair trial and the rule of law. However, researchers at National Law University Delhi's Project 39A have shown that undertrials from poor socioeconomic backgrounds cannot get the desired legal assistance due to unawareness about free legal aid, and the poor quality of the legal aid system. We urge allocating more resources to strengthen the legal aid system to ensure that the judicial system is both efficient and fair.

Damani is with the Department of Computer Science and the Center for Policy Studies at IIT Bombay. Agrawal is a research associate at IIT Bombay

DECEMBER 3, 1984, FORTY YEARS AGO

MILITANTS KILL 11

11 SINHALESE FISHERMEN were killed when Tamil militants attacked two villages in Sri Lanka's north-eastern Mullaitivu district on December 1. He said people had fled the villages and taken shelter at the district headquarters. This was the second attack by militants on Sinhalese civilian settlements since November 29, when they attacked settlements of ex-convicts at Padaviya, killing 65 people.

ASSASSINATION PLOT

BEANT SINGH, KILLED by ITBP commandos, had taken an oath on October 20 at the Akal Takht in the Golden Temple complex, to kill Indira Gandhi. This was disclosed by Kehar Singh, Beant Singh's uncle, who was arrested in Delhi on November 30, intelligence sources revealed. Beant Singh, who was gunned down by ITBP commandos on October 31, had confessed the conspiracy to Kehar Singh.

PM ON DIVISIVENESS

PRIME MINISTER RAJIV Gandhi, on December 2, vowed to stamp out "forces of destabilisation" which he said had their roots outside India. These forces were behind the assassination of Indira Gandhi and were financed by outside sources. He said these forces were trying to divide the nation based on caste, religion, and region. To root them out, he said, a new movement was necessary.

PAKISTAN'S REFERENDUM

A PRESIDENTIAL ORDER on December 1 barred all courts, tribunals or any authority from questioning the conduct of the referendum to be held on December 19. The Pakistani government made it compulsory for all those 21 and above to exercise their verdict in the referendum. The referendum order put to the nation the question of whether it endorses the process of Islamisation initiated by Gen Zia-ul-Haq.

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"To counter the spread of misinformation and disinformation on social media, the government must develop ways to address deepfakes. Countering false narratives, controlling the propagation of disinformation by forces outside the nation may require thought-out strategies." —THE DAILY STAR, BANGLADESH

What kind of India do we seek?

In Kachchh, at a gathering of organisations, this and other big questions, and a daring to imagine alternatives to modern 'development'

DESHKAAL

BY YOGENDRA YADAV

C R Sasikumar

KACHCHH INVITES YOU to ask big questions. This is the site for a fusion of horizons. Here, sea meets desert under an uncluttered sky. Shifting topography, recurring earthquakes, the intermingling of races and cultures from Gujarat, Sindh and Rajasthan to Afghanistan, Iran, and East Africa and a line in the sand that marks the boundary of nation-states serves to remind you of the transient nature of everything. Kachchh releases you from the prison of the here and now, from the cycles of breaking news, election results, scandals and wars, and lets you sit back and reflect.

So, we asked big questions: What does our future look like? What should it look like, if we could shape it? What kind of India do we seek? Can we envision something beyond the stale dream of a modern, developed, superpower with cutting-edge technology and an x-trillion dollar economy — a mirage that we have been chasing, breathless and mindless? Is another world possible?

"We", here, meant a group associated with Vikalp Sangam, a confluence of over 90 organisations and movements that share a quest for transformative alternatives. These are activists, scholars and development practitioners who do not merely complain and protest; they actively seek alternative "ways of meeting human needs and aspirations, without trashing the earth and without leaving half of humanity behind". And they do not seek it just on paper, but on the ground. This was the 10th anniversary of Vikalp Sangam, a moment to remember the journey and to reflect on the future.

Kachchh provides stark options to think about our future. From an outsider's gaze, this largest district of India is a backward wasteland — vast swathes of unproductive arid land unfit for cultivation — waiting to be reclaimed for "development". Following the earthquake of 2001, all kinds of modern, multi-storied buildings and industries (led by, who else, but Adani!) have come up here. From a different point of view, however, Kachchh is diverse and vibrant, home to many ecological practices, crafts and art that we need to learn from. When I read that someone called Kachchh a "museum of environmental hardship" the first image that flashed in my mind was the breathtaking museum of Kachchh embroideries in that extraordinary LLDC complex at Bhuj that could put any of our metropolitan museums to shame. Kachchh is a museum of human resilience and creativity under conditions of hardship.

More than high-rise buildings and factories, for me the symbol of modernity in Kachchh is a thorny tree that you see everywhere. The scientists call it *Prosopis juliflora*. Locals call it *gando bawal* (or *kharo babul*), the mad tree. Native to Mexico, this tree was imported to India and showered on to Kachchh — literally, thanks to government helicopters — ostensibly to prevent desertification. Today, this invasive and impossible-to-uproot tree is omnipresent in Banni, the largest grassland of India, displacing other native trees and grasses, extracting the scarce underground water, besides harming animals who consume its leaves. This is what we call development.

Are there alternatives? Are there ways to support local farming practices and pastoral communities like Maldharis? Kachchh is also home to many experiments in alternatives. As many as 13 organisations hosted this decennial Vikalp Sangam. Sahjeevan is involved in organising the Maldhari community in demanding community forest rights that they are entitled to under the Forest Rights Act. They have also initiated a project to replant native (*meetha*) *babul* to replace the invader tree. Khamir, whose campus hosted the confluence this time, is involved in the promotion of traditional handicrafts and the preservation of culture, community and local environments. They have revived cultivation of and weaving in Kala cotton, a local variety destroyed by industrialisation. Other organisations are involved in increasing the participation of women in decision making and making self-governance a reality.

The deliberations in this decennial meeting were obviously not limited to Kachchh. A team from Gadchiroli in Maharashtra and another from Karnataka shared the success stories of how Adivasi communities acquired community forest rights and have managed their common resources for collective good. Activists from all over the country discussed alternative experiments, success stories and challenges in ecological agriculture, water, environment, energy, health, education and democracy.

Over the last 10 years, Vikalp Sangam has documented nearly 2,000 such stories from all over the country on its website https://vikalpsangam.org and showcased some of these in a documentary "Churning the Earth". These stories include a Goa-based couple (who else but Sikhs from Jalandhar) that grows their veggies and fish without using soil and any chemicals, a successful off-grid, small-scale, rooftop, solar experimentation around Kolkata, revival of traditional architecture in Spiti and Ladakh, recharging of "dead" rivers in Alwar district of Rajasthan, an alternative hospital run for and by Adivasis in Tamil Nadu, models to integrate hawkers and street vendors in urban planning, and *hunnarshala* to promote craft learning in mainstream education. A similar initiative, ASHA (Alliance for Sustainable and Holistic Agriculture) has held five Kisan Swaraj Sammelans to bring together successful models in alternative agriculture. Just last week, a People's Festival of Innovation was held in Delhi that showcased a wide range of affordable, grassroots innovations. We are not short of alternatives.

> You might ask: Are all these really an alternative to modern development? Can they take on the challenge of scale and survive in the face of giant corporations in a globalised market economy? Does the practice of majority-based democracy leave any room for concerns of future generations and nature? Valid questions. But you must also ask another valid question: Can we really ever hope to offer every Indian the lifestyle available to everyone in the Global North? Is this model worth replicating? Can we afford to go on with the destruction of nature, lives and livelihoods?

You might ask: Are all these real alternatives to modern development? Can they take on the challenge of scale and survive in the face of giant corporations in a globalised market economy? Does the practice of majority-based democracy leave any room for concerns of future generations and nature? Valid questions. But you must also ask another set of valid questions: Can anyone seriously think of offering to every Indian the lifestyle available to everyone in the Global North? Is this model worth replicating? Can we afford to go on with the destruction of nature, lives and livelihoods as an inevitable cost of "development"?

Once we recognise the unbearable weight of these questions, a quest for alternatives does not remain an obsession of a mad minority. Once we realise that alternatives are not about going back to our past, but about imagining and shaping our future, this becomes a collective search. How do we make these radical alternatives feasible? Can we think of a "scale out" rather than "scale up" model? What is the roadmap of transition from where we are to where we wish to go? Someone has to begin thinking about these questions. Someone has to risk being called "mad" and think of alternatives before all of us are left with nothing to think about. Kachchh invites you to ask these big questions.

Postscript: As I was writing this article, I heard about the passing away of Dr Rakesh Sinha, an engineer and a thinker who argued that unemployment was inherent in the modern, large-scale, industrial model of development; who believed in an alternative paradigm of economy and technology.

The writer is member, Swaraj India and national convenor of Bharat Jodo Abhiyaan. Views are personal

Choking on smoke

Climate financing that fails to promote transitions from biomass cooking fuels to LPG could leave millions in developing countries vulnerable

KALPANA BALAKRISHNAN, SAGNIK DEY, CHANDRA VENKATARAMAN, SOUMYA SWAMINATHAN

AROUND THE TIME the COP 29 ended in Baku, some parts of our country, especially the National Capital Region (NCR), witnessed yet another year of predictable deterioration of seasonal air quality to "severe" levels with an air quality index (AQI) of greater than 400. The 2024 report of the Lancet Countdown on Climate Change and Health, while pointing to the need to reduce fossil fuel dependence, also argues for health-centric approaches for climate finance to support public-health interventions aimed at reducing exposure to air pollution through shifts to clean energy sources.

Unhealthy air pollution exposures are neither limited to winter time in the NCR nor attributable to the same mix of sources across the country. It is time for India's National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) to re-examine sectoral priorities that place health at the centre. This would entail redefining strategic, near term, clean energy shifts to fossil fuels (LPG) in the residential sector that can reduce net climate warming. This is central to preserving energy equity for the vulnerable poor, while also making attainment of national air quality standards a feasible reality.

Over the last two decades, primary field studies have been undertaken in India to establish that exposure to household air pollution (HAP), resulting from the use of solid cooking fuels, are associated with a wide range of acute and chronic health conditions among adults and children. This includes impacts on chronic respiratory diseases including lung cancer, adult blood pressure and cardiovascular disease, birth weight, child pneumonia, and child growth and development.

Burning solid fuels in inefficient open fires or *chulhas* in poorly ventilated homes can result in dangerous levels of exposure to multiple harmful air pollutants, including fine particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of less than 2.5μm (PM 2.5), black carbon, and carbon monoxide, among others. Quantitative HAP measurements performed across multiple states have shown HAP exposures exceeding the WHO's air quality guidelines (AQGs) by several orders of magnitude.

While Indian cities, in particular NCR, come to focus often for ambient air pollution (AAP) and have remained as the focal point for the NCAP, the insidious health damaging HAP exposures experienced routinely by rural populations, have largely been missing from the air-pollution discourse.

Until recently, the scale and magnitude of HAP's contribution to AAP has been underrecognised and poorly characterised and the impact of emissions from solid cooking fuels has been largely overlooked. Newly developed emission inventories estimate that primary PM2.5 emissions, summed across non-attainment cities of the NCAP, contribute a small fraction of state-level emissions (for example, 4 per cent in Uttar Pradesh and 17 per cent in Maharashtra). Further, while the traditional focus has been on coal as the largest sectoral contributor, residential biomass cooking-fuel use dominates emissions across the cleanest to the most polluted air-sheds in India.

The estimates of the contribution of solid cooking fuels to ambient PM 2.5 are also getting more consistent with an estimated median national contribution of 30 per cent, with considerable heterogeneity across states. Granular models conducted under the aegis of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MOEFCC) now estimate that eliminating residential biomass combustion can reduce average national ambient exposure to fine particulate matter below the national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) across most districts in India.

Finally, transitioning poor populations from biomass cook-fuels to LPG has often been pitched as being inconsistent with the global "de-carbonisation" and "fossil fuel phase out" goals. However, the use of biomass cooking fuels punishes the climate agenda twice, on account of non-renewable biomass harvesting and release of short-lived climate pollutants during combustion. These climate pollutants like particulate black carbon (or soot) are nearly 1000-times stronger atmospheric warmers, on a per mass basis, than carbon dioxide. Globally and in India, complete transitions to gaseous cooking fuels such as LPG have been shown to result in drastic reductions in emissions of climate-damaging pollutants with health co-benefits from reductions in HAP and AAP.

India has an unprecedented opportunity to demonstrate the feasibility of a public-health intervention focused on eliminating household air pollution. The Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) has already made hefty infrastructure investments for providing LPG access that cover nearly 99 per cent of households in the country. Recently conducted studies have shown that provision of free LPG results in sustained attainment of the WHO interim target guidelines within the household and a virtual elimination of solid fuel use even among the poorest of biomass-using households. Since both household and ambient air-pollution exposure are causally linked to a range of child and adult health outcomes, mitigating emissions from residential biomass combustion would reduce overall exposure much faster than any other source, translating to a bigger health benefit.

Strengthening PMUY with additional financial resources including further subsidies to enable poor communities to completely transition to LPG would yield transformative co-benefits for the NCAP and public health in India. Cost effectiveness of such strategies have also been noted in a recent World Bank report on addressing air pollution in South Asia.

Global climate investments shying away from promoting near-term transitions from biomass cooking fuels to LPG could leave millions across developing countries in the shadow of unjust transitions that leave vulnerable communities bearing the brunt of energy and health inequities.

Balakrishnan is professor and dean (Research) at Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research, Chennai. Dey is professor at Centre for Atmospheric Sciences and Coordinator of CERCA at IIT Delhi. Venkataraman is the Shobha Dixit Chair Professor of Chemical Engineering and Climate Studies at IIT Bombay. Swaminathan is chairperson, M S Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai, and principal advisor, MOHFW

Spokesperson for the oppressed

Amiya Kumar Bagchi went against dominant currents in his research, convictions

ADITYA MUKHERJEE

PROFESSOR AMIYA KUMAR Bagchi passed away on November 28 at 88. A legendary Indian academic, teacher and institution builder has left us. Since the 1970s, there would hardly be any historian or economist in any premier institution in India who was not exposed to or grappled with his writings, whether they agreed with some of his conclusions or not. He will be sorely missed, particularly in today's times when the academic world is under severe stress in India, with free and non-conformist thought becoming increasingly difficult and even punishable.

If there was one quality that distinguished Professor Bagchi, it was his ability to stand up boldly against the dominant current, however powerful and pervasive it may be, if his own research and conviction pointed the other way. In the discipline of economics, India began to witness by the late 1960s and early '70s a turn away from the study of Political Economy, (which was the hallmark of our early nationalists, people like Dadabhai Naoroji and R C Dutt, a tradition kept alive by later economists like Bhabatosh Datta, B N Ganguli, K N Raj and several others), towards econometrics, mathematical modelling, game theory, etc. It was at that time that Bagchi, as a doctoral student at Cambridge, switched from being a game theorist to probing issues of political economy, particularly economic history. Economic history proved critical in making major theoretical breakthroughs, as is evident from the writings of Karl Marx, Dadabhai Naoroji, Maurice Dobb, Ernest Mandel, Andre Gunder Frank, Paul Baran, Daniel Thorner and so many others. Bagchi too used his deep foray into economic history to make important theoretical generalisations.

Bagchi's magnum opus *Private Investment in India*, 1900-1939, published in 1972 was his first major work as a result of his shift in focus to economic history. Based on research from a variety of sources in India and England, the book immediately became a must-read for every student of history and economics and it remains so till today, more than 50 years after it was published. After a deep and thorough study of all major sectors of the Indian economy, Bagchi demonstrates, proving many current supply-oriented hypotheses wrong, that the reason for the lack of industrial investment and overall growth in colonial India was not what economists had been repeating ad infinitum. That is, the lack of supply of capital, or its "shynesss", lack of entrepreneurship, unsuitable social traditions and values in contrast to the so-called "protestant ethic" in England, overpopulation and so on, but the imposition of the priorities of British imperialism in India which constrained demand severely, limiting the profitability or even viability of investment.

Professor Bagchi's foray into the economic history of the modern period led him inevitably to look at the capitalist system as a global phenomenon, which explained the development of some parts of the world and the underdevelopment if not decimation of other parts. Among his numerous publications, the next major contribution came in the form of the book *The Political Economy of Underdevelopment*, published in 1982. It is a study that looks at various parts of the world which became victims of colonialism at different points of time for varying periods, under different colonial masters, but all sharing certain underlying similarities and structural disabilities. The study covered Latin America, Indonesia, China and India.

From here, the logical next step was his masterly overview of the emergence of world capitalism and its impact, not only in the early stages of the rise of capitalism but also its devastating consequences on a large part of humanity up to the current millennium. It was to be his last magnum opus, *Perilous Passage: Mankind and the Global Ascendancy of Capital*, published in 2005. In this work, Bagchi, in his inimitable polemical style backed by huge amount of empirical evidence, demolishes several Eurocentric myths promoted by the dominant Western world, such as that Europe went ahead of the rest of the world centuries before the Industrial Revolution, or that Europe shot ahead of the rest of the world with the Industrial Revolution because of some intrinsic advantages or capabilities. On the contrary, he shows that the Great Divergence, the rapid rise of the West was in fact predicated upon surplus extraction and decimation of the rest. Through a detailed calculation he shows that between 1871 and 1916, Britain extracted as tribute from India about £3.2 billion while total British investment abroad was about £4 billion, a large part of it going to the White colonies and the US. The blood and sweat of the Indian people thus contributed, in no small measure, to the "peopling of the United States" through massive migrations from Europe "and its rise as the most economically advanced country in the world (and) also helped improve the living conditions of the Europeans left behind." A connection Professor Bagchi brings home so dramatically that our colonised minds did not make.

The world will miss a great spokesperson for the oppressed.

The writer taught contemporary history at JNU. His latest book is Nehru's India: Past, Present and Future

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A BAD PRECEDENT

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'When court undermines itself' (IE, December 2). It is surprising that civil courts across India have ordered an archaeological survey of various mosques. Such an order violates the Places of Worship Act, 1991 which mandated that the religious status of any place of worship should be maintained as it existed on August 15, 1947. The Gyanvapi mosque in Varanasi and the Krishna Janmabhoomi site in Mathura have received special attention. The Supreme Court has not intervened effectively. The Court's observation that the Act did not bar a survey to find out the nature of a religious place actually encouraged activists and petitioners to intensify their campaign.

Sankar Paul, *Nadia*

WOMEN'S AGENCY

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Hit and miss' (IE, December 2). Women seeking fewer work hours is a cause for celebration, not concern. Workers trying to have a balanced work life balance leads to self-enrichment and improvement of mental health. An assured payout encourages women to dream bigger, seek better wages and improve their social standing within family and society. To say that women are less incentivised to seek work because of such schemes falls victim to the narrow vision of viewing them as mere "labhartis".

Nimmish, *Mumbai*

BANGLADESH UNREST

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'A time to rebuild' (IE, December 2). Atrocities against minorities continue to be reported in Bangladesh. The Indian government has expressed its concern to the Yunus government. However, this diplomatic push for communal harmony is nuanced. If the BJP has not shied away from religious polarisation targeting Muslims in India — indeed, making it a cornerstone of its politics — why would any other party, in a similar situation, not exploit polarisation politics? This presents a paradox: Countries whose domestic politics stand at odds with their projected international image.

L R Murmu, *New Delhi*

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E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

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

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property is mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Secured Creditor will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there -is"** on **19.12.2024** for recovery of **Rs. 30,60,672/- (Thirty Lakh Sixty thousand Six Hundred Seventy two only)** dues as on **27.06.2023** with future interest and costs due to the secured creditor from **Altaf Husain Rangrez, (Applicant) & Salma Begam, (Co-Applicant)** in Loan No. **PHR001006926845** Please refer the appended auction schedule for necessary details:-

KNOWN ENCUMBRANCES (IF ANY)	NIL
RESERVE PRICE (IN RS.)	**Rs. 25,44,000 /-(Twenty Five Lakh Fourty Four Thousand only)**
EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT (IN RS.)	**Rs. 254400/-(Two lakh Fifty Four Thousand four Hundred Only)** through DD/PO in favor of 'Axis bank ltd.' payable at Axis bank ltc RAC 3rd floor, Prince Tower, Residency Road, Jaljog Circle, Jodhpur- 342001.
BID INCREMENTAL AMOUNT	**Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand only)**
LAST DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS / TENDER WITH EMD	Till **18.12.2024** latest by 05:00 P.M. at Axis bank ltc RAC 3 rd floor, Prince Tower , Residency Road, Jaljog Circle, Jodhpur- 342001. and kindly addressed to **Gordhan Lohar**
DATE, TIME, AND VENUE FOR PUBLIC E-AUCTION	On **19.12.2024,** between 11.00 A.M and 12.00 Noon. with unlimited extensions of 5 minutes each at web portal https://www.bankeauctions.com e-auction tender documents containing e-auction bid form, declaration etc., are available in the website of the Service Provider as mentioned above.

SCHEDULE- DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Flat No. F-1, 1st Floor, National Enclave, Plot No. 990, Shree Rampuri, Jhotwara, Niwaru Road, Jaipur- 302012, Bounded as under:-
North- As per Title Deed, East- As per Title Deed, West- As per Title Deed, South- As per Title Deed

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in the secured creditor's website i.e. https://www.axisbank.com/auction-retail and the Bank's approved service provider M/S C1 India Private Limited at their web portal https://www.bankeauctions.com
The auction will be conducted online through the Bank's approved service provider M/s.C1 India Private Limited at their web portal https://www.bankeauctions.com.
For any other assistance, the intending bidders may contact **Mr. Gordhan Lohar, Mobile. No. 9828586678**. Authorized officer of the Bank during office hours from 10 A.M. To 4:00 P.M.

Date: 03.12.2024,
Place: Jaipur
Yours faithfully, Axis Bank Limited
Sd/- Authorised Officer,

B-718

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
"e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, KHORDHA (R&B) CIRCLE, KHORDHA
WORKS DEPARTMENT

Short Tender call Notice

E-mail: rbcicrlekhurda@gmail.com

Bid Identification No. CCE-Khordha (R&B) Circle-18/2024-25 Memo No 2346 Dt. 29.11.2024

The Chief Construction Engineer, Khordha (R&B) Circle, Khordha on behalf of Governor of Odisha inviting percentage rate bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for Bridge works as detailed in the table below:

1. **Nature of Work** : Bridge Works
2. **No of Work** : 1 Nos
3. **Tender Cost** : Rs.10000.00 (On-Line)
4. **Class of Contractor** : Special, A Class
5. **Available of Bid document in the Website** : From 10.00 AM of Dt.07.12.2024 up to 05.00 PM of Dt.17.12.2024 up to 5.00 PM
6. **Date of opening of Bid** : Dt 18.12.2024 at 11.30 AM
7. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the Website: **https://tenderodisha.gov.in**. Any Addendum / Corrigendum / Cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Sd./-
Chief Construction Engineer,
Khordha (R&B) Circle, Khordha

OIPR-34127/11/0020/2425

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PSPCL — Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

Regd. office: PSEB head office, The Mall Patiala-147001
Corporate Identity No. UP0109PB2010SGC033813 Website: www.pspcl.in
(Contact No. 96461-01116)

Tender Enquiry No. 09/GC/TS/PSPCL/2024-25 **Dated: 02.12.2024**

Dy. CE/ Grid Construction, opp. PAU Gate No.1, PSPCL, Ludhiana invites open e-Tender for outsourcing of Augmentation of Power Transformers related works on partial turnkey mode under RDSS Scheme under Grid Construction Division Bathinda under Grid Construction Circle Ludhiana. For detailed NIT & Tender Specifications please refer to **http://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from 02.12.2024 (01:00 PM onwards).
Note: Corrigendum and amendments, if any, will be published online at **http://eproc.punjab.gov.in**.

No. 39717/PB C-899/24

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.

(Regd. Office PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala)
Corporate Identification Number (CIN): U40109PB2010SGC033813
Web site: www.pspcl.in
(Contact Number 9646118754)

Tender Inquiry No. 91/GHTP/MM-II/HM-50(IX) **Dated: 29-11-2024**

Superintending Engineer/MM-II/GHTP, Lehra Mohabbat invites E-tender for the work of "AMC for Routine, Preventive and Breakdown maintenance of Heavy Earth Moving Machinery, i.e. Loco Shunters, Bulldozers including, Grabber Loader Machines, Poclain, Auger and Coal Compactor etc. AND Re-railment of minor derailments of Wagons & Loco Shunters in CHP of GHTP, Lehra- Mohabbat as per tender specifications. For detailed NIT and tender specifications please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from 03-12-2024 at 11:00 AM onwards.
Note: Corrigendum and addendum if any, will be published online at **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** only.

No. - 39719/PB GHTP-96/24

NPCL — Noida Power Company Limited, Greater Noida

NOIDA POWER COMPANY LIMITED

Electric Sub Station, Knowledge Park-IV, Greater Noida-201310
(CIN: U31200UP1992PLC014506)

TENDER NOTICE **Date: 03.12.2024**

Sealed tender under two Bid System (Commercial & Technical) are invited for following job from all interested bidders

NIT No.	Brief Item Description	EMD (Rs)	Start and DueDate & Time of Submission
NPCL/PRJ/FY24-25/16MVA PTR/019	Augmentation of Power Transformers from 12.5MVA to 16MVA at 33/11 Substations	6.0 Lakh	From 03.12.2024 to 24.12.2024 (up to 15:00 hours)

Cost of Individual Tender Document (Incl. GST) Rs 1180/-
For tender details and further amendment/corrigendum, please visit our website **www.noidapower.com-->Procurement-->Tenders**

DGM (CMM)

AXIS BANK

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KNOWN ENCUMBRANCES (IF ANY)	NA
RESERVE PRICE (IN RS.)	**969600/-(Nine Lakh Sixty Nine thousand Six Hundred only)**
EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT (IN RS.)	**Rs 96960/-(Ninety Six Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty Only)** Through Dd/Po In Favor of 'Axis Bank Ltd.' Payable At Axis Bank Ltc Rac 3rd Floor, Prince Tower, Residency Road, Jaljog Circle, Jodhpur- 342001.
BID INCREMENTAL AMOUNT	**Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand only)**
LAST DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS / TENDER WITH EMD	Till 18.12.2024 latest by 05:00 P.M. at Axis bank ltc RAC 3rd floor, Prince Tower , Residency Road, Jaljog Circle, Jodhpur – 342001. and kindly addressed to Gordhan Lohar.
DATE, TIME, AND VENUE FOR PUBLIC E-AUCTION	On **19.12.2024,** between 11:00 A.M and 12:00 Noon. with unlimited extensions of 5 minutes each at web portal https://www.bankeauctions.com e-auction tender documents containing e-auction bid form, declaration etc., are available in the website of the Service Provider as mentioned above

SCHEDULE – DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY
PLOT NO. 406, KHASRA NO. 42 & 44, MARWAR CITY, PALI

Boundaries:
East - Plot No. 405, West- Part of Plot No. 406, North- Plot No. 409, South- Road

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in the secured creditor's website i.e. https://www.axisbank.com/auction-retail and the Bank's approved service provider M/S C1 India Private Limited at their web portal https://www.bankeauctions.com
The auction will be conducted online through the Bank's approved service provider M/s.C1 India Private Limited at their web portal https://www.bankeauctions.com.
For any other assistance, the intending bidders may contact Mr. Gordhan Lohar, Mobile. No. 9828586678. Authorized officer of the Bank during office hours from 10.00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Date: 03.12.2024,
Place: Pali
Sd/- Authorised Officer,
Axis Bank Limited

Tyger Home Finance Private Limited

Registered Office : Shikhar, Nr. Mithakhali Circle, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad-380009, Gujarat, India
Corporate Office : One BKC, C-Wing, 1004/5, 10th Floor, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai 400 051. Maharashtra, India. **CIN:** U65999GJ2017PTC098960, **Website :** www.adanihousing.in

POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES)

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the **Tyger Home Finance Pvt Ltd.** (formerly Known as M/s. Adani Housing Finance Pvt Ltd vide Certificate of Incorporation dated 6th June 2024, issued by the Office of the Registrar of Companies, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, herein after refer to 'THFPL') under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & in compliance of Rule 8(1) of Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued demand notice/s on the date mentioned against each account calling upon the respective borrower/s to repay the amount as mentioned against each account within 60 days from the date of notice(s)/date of receipt of the said notice/s.
The borrower/s having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower/s and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property/ies described herein below in exercise powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on the dates mentioned against each account.
The borrower/s in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies and any dealing with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of **Tyger Home Finance Pvt Ltd** (Adani Housing Finance Private Ltd.), for the amount and interest thereon as per loan agreement. The borrowers' attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) and (9) of Section13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Sr. No.	Loan A/C No./ Old Loan A/C No	Name of the Borrower/ Co Borrower/ Guarantor	Demand Notice date & Amount	Symbolic/ Physical Possession on
1	803HLL001168467	Narayan Ram / Rupa Devi/ Omprakash Nai	13-May-24 / Rs. 1480686/- As On Date 09-May-24	26-Nov-24 Physical Possession
Mortgage Property Address : All that peace and parcel of Residential Property measuring 276 Sq. yard situated at Gram Khari Charnan, Teh Kolayat, Dist - Bikaner Rajasthan **Bounded as** East - Rasta, West - Om Prakash, North - Rest Land, South - Sheru Khan				
2	8020HLL001139155	Alka Santosh Dubey / Kusum Devi / Rajkumar Dwivedi	08-Jul-24 / Rs. 988936/- As On Date 08-Jul-24	26-Nov-24 Physical Possession
Mortgage Property Address : All that peace and Parcel of EWS Flat No. G.F/4 (Block No. A3), Measuring 325.00 Sq. ft, Situated at Scheme Affordable Housing Policy by Regency Build Home LLP, at Shyampura Buharia, Vatika Road, Tehsil Sanganer Jaipur Rajasthan Bounded as East - Staircase & Passage, West - Other Block, North - Passage, South - Unit No. G.F/3				

Place : Rajasthan
Date : 03.12.2024

For Tyger Home Finance Pvt. Ltd.
Sd/-, Authorised Officer

Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.

Corporate Office : 802, Natraj By Rustomjee, Western Express Highway, Sir M.V. Road, Andheri East, Mumbai-400069, Maharashtra
Sri Ganganagar Branch Office: Plot No: 7, 2Nd Floor, Vashudha Complex, Panchasati Circle, Sadulganj, Bikaner-334001, (Rajsthan)

E- AUCTION – SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of immovable Properties under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Asset and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged, possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Aadhar Housing Finance Limited** will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and " Whatever there is"** with no known encumbrances Particulars of which are given below:-

Borrower(s) Co-Borrower(s) Guarantor (S)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of the Immovable property	Reserve Price (RP)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (10%)	Nature of Possession
(Loan Code: **06700000092 & 06700000093** of **Sri Ganganagar** Branch), Vinod Kumar Dall **(Borrower)**, Vinita Verma **(Co-Borrower1)** Vineet Kumar **(Guarantor1)**	11-Nov-22 LC No.:- 06700000092 Rs.605006/- LC No.: 06700000093 Rs.2084789/-	All that part and parcel of Property bearing:- H.no. 7 D - 63 H.no 7 D- 63, Near Water Tank, Jawahar Nagar , Ganganagar , Rajasthan, 335001 Bounded by: East: Road 50' wide, West: House of Bimla Rav, North: House of Manjeet Singh, South: Gali 8' wide	**Rs. 36,00,000/-** (Rupees Thirty Six Lakh Only)	**Rs. 3,60,000/-** (Rupees Three Lakh Sixty Thousand Only)	**Physical**

1. Last Date of Submission of DD of Earnest Money Deposit along with KYC, Tender Form and accepted Terms and conditions (Tender Documents) is **18.12.2024** within 5:00 PM at the Branch Office address mentioned herein above or uploaded on **https://bankeauctions.com.** Tenders documents received beyond last date will be considered as invalid tender and shall accordingly be rejected. No interest shall be paid on the EMD.
2. Date of Opening of the Bid/Offer (Auction Date) for Property is **19.12.2024** on **https://bankeauctions.com at 3:00 PM. to 4:00 PM**
3. AHFL is not responsible for any liabilities whatsoever pending upon the property as mentioned above. The Property shall be auctioned on 'As is Where Is Basis', 'As is What Is Basis' and 'Whatever Is There Is Basis'.
4. The Demand Draft Should be made in favor of 'Aadhar Housing Finance Limited' Only.
5. Auction/bidding shall be only through **"Online Electronic Bidding"** through the website https://bankeauctions.com. Bidders are advised to go through the website for detailed terms before taking part in the e-auction sale proceedings.
6. The intending bidders should register their names at portal **M/s C 1 INDIA PVT LTD** through the link https://bankeauctions.com/registration/signup, and get their User ID and password free of cost. Prospective bidder may avail online training on E-auction from the service provider M/s C 1 INDIA PVT LTD through the website https://bankeauctions.com
7. For further details contact Authorised Officer of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited, **Gaurav Kumar Saini (9783947189)** OR the service provider M/s C 1 INDIA PVT LTD, Mr. Prabhakaran, Mobile No: +91-74182-81709, E-mail:tn@c1india.com& support@bankeauctions.com, Phone No. +917291981124 /25 /26. As on date, there is no order restraining and/or court injunction AHFL/the authorized Officer of AHFL from selling, alienating and/or disposing of the above immovable properties/secured assets.
8. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (AHFL), secured creditor's website i.e. **www.aadharhousing.com.**
9. The Bid incremental amount for auction is **Rs.10000/-.**

Sd/-
Authorised officer
Aadhar Housing Finance Limited

Place: Sri Ganganagar Date: 03.12.2024

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Home Finance | Registered Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai- 400051
Corporate Office: ICICI HFC Tower, JB Nagar, Andheri Kurla Road, Andheri East, Mumbai- 400059
Branch Office: Plot No.1, 1st floor, Sahyog Bhawan, Aerodrome Circle, Kota - 324007

Whereas
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Home Finance Company Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Home Finance Company Limited.
The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of property/ Date of Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Kuldeep Suman (Borrower), Khushbu Suman (Co-Borrower), LHKOT00001484400.	Plot/ House, Patta No. JWR-75826, Gram Panchayat Sarola Kalan,panchayat Samiti Khanpur, Tehsil Khanpur, Jhalawar Rajasthan- 326035. Bounded By- North: Bada of Self, South: Road, East: Bada Of Self, West: Road./ Date Of Possession- 27-11-2024	16-08-2024 Rs. 14,24,142.46/-	Kota
2.	Kuldeep Suman (Borrower), Khushbu Suman (Co-Borrower), LHKOT00001484401.	Plot/House, Patta No. Jwr-75826, Gram Panchayat Sarola Kalan, Panchayat Samiti Khanpur, Tehsil Khanpur, Jhalawar Rajasthan- 326035. Bounded By- North: Bada Of Self, South: Road, East: Bada Of Self, West: Road./ Date Of Possession- 27-11-2024	16-08-2024 Rs. 54,360.74/-	Kota

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.
Date : December 03, 2024, Place: Jhalawar Authorized Officer, ICICI Home Finance Company Limited

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AXIS BANK

Retail Lending and Payment Group (Local Office/Branch): G-9, Mahima Trinity Mall, 3F-24, Swej Farm, New Sanganer Road, Jaipur. Also At, Axis bank ltc RAC 3rd floor, Prince Tower , Residency Road, Jaljog Circle, Jodhpur- 342001

Axis Bank Ltd., 3rd Floor, Gigaplex, NPC- 1, TTC Industrial Area, Mugalsan Road, Airoli, Navi Mumbai- 400708.
Registered Office: "Trishul", 3rd Floor Opp. Samartheshwar Temple Law Garden, Ellisbridge Ahmedabad- 380006.

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

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

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property is mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Secured Creditor will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is"** and **"Whatever there -is"** on **19.12.2024** for recovery of **Rs. 7,41,692/- (Rupees Seven Lakh Forty One Thousand Six Hundred Ninety Two Only)** dues as on **23-02-2022** with future interest and costs due to the secured creditor from **GURU GOVIND, (Applicant) & POOJA SANKHLA, (Co-Applicant)** in Loan No. **PHR005704792764** Please refer the appended auction schedule for necessary details:-

KNOWN ENCUMBRANCES (IF ANY)	NA
RESERVE PRICE (IN RS.)	**Rs. 7,01,400/- (Three Lakh Eighty Four Thousand Only)**
EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT (IN RS.)	**Rs 70,140/- (Thirty Eight Thousand four Hundred Only) through DD/PO in favor of 'Axis Bank Ltd." payable at Axis Bank LTC RAC 3rd floor, Prince Tower , Residency Road, Jaljog Circle, Jodhpur- 342001.**
BID INCREMENTAL AMOUNT	**Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only)**
LAST DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS/ TENDER WITH EMD	Till **18.12.2024** latest by 05:00 P.M. at Axis bank ltc RAC 3rd floor, Prince Tower , Residency Road, Jaljog Circle, Jodhpur- 342001. and kindly addressed to Gordhan Lohar.
DATE, TIME, AND VENUE FOR PUBLIC E-AUCTION	On **19.12.2024,** between 11.00 A.M and 12.00 Noon. with unlimited extensions of 5 minutes each at web portal **https://www.bankeauctions.com** e-auction tender documents containing e-auction bid form, declaration etc., are available in the website of the Service Provider as mentioned above.

SCHEDULE - DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Flat No- 3, Ground Floor, Block- B, Ashapurna Basera Jodhpur Raj- 342008. **Boundaries: East-** As Per Title Deed, **West-** As Per Title Deed, **North-** As Per Title Deed, **South-** As Per Title Deed

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in the secured creditor's website i.e. https://www.axisbank.com/auction-retail and the Bank's approved service provider M/S C1 India Private Limited at their web portal https://www.bankeauctions.com
The auction will be conducted online through the Bank's approved service provider M/s.C1 India Private Limited at their web portal **https://www.bankeauctions.com.**
For any other assistance, the intending bidders may contact **Mr. Gordhan Lohar, Mobile. No. 9828586678.** Authorized officer of the Bank during office hours from 10 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Date: 03.12.2024,
Place: Jodhpur
Yours faithfully For Axis Bank Ltd
(Authorized Officer)

AXIS BANK

Retail Lending and Payment Group (Local Office/Branch): G-9, Mahima Trinity Mall, 3F-24, Swej Farm, New Sanganer Road, Jaipur. Also At, Axis bank ltc RAC 3rd floor, Prince Tower , Residency Road, Jaljog Circle, Jodhpur- 342001

Axis Bank Ltd., 3rd Floor, Gigaplex, NPC- 1, TTC Industrial Area, Mugalsan Road, Airoli, Navi Mumbai- 400708.
Registered Office: "Trishul", 3rd Floor Opp. Samartheshwar Temple Law Garden, Ellisbridge Ahmedabad- 380006.

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

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

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property is mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Secured Creditor will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is"** and **"Whatever there -is"** on **19.12.2024** for recovery of **Rs. 7,01,400/- (Three Lakh Eighty Four Thousand Only)** dues as on **23-02-2022** with future interest and costs due to the secured creditor from **GURU GOVIND, (Applicant) & POOJA SANKHLA, (Co-Applicant)** in Loan No. **PHR005704792764** Please refer the appended auction schedule for necessary details:-

KNOWN ENCUMBRANCES (IF ANY)	NA
RESERVE PRICE (IN RS.)	**Rs. 7,01,400/- (Three Lakh Eighty Four Thousand Only)**
EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT (IN RS.)	**Rs 70,140/- (Thirty Eight Thousand four Hundred Only) through DD/PO in favor of 'Axis Bank Ltd." payable at Axis Bank LTC RAC 3rd floor, Prince Tower , Residency Road, Jaljog Circle, Jodhpur- 342001.**
BID INCREMENTAL AMOUNT	**Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only)**
LAST DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS/ TENDER WITH EMD	Till **18.12.2024** latest by 05:00 P.M. at Axis bank ltc RAC 3rd floor, Prince Tower , Residency Road, Jaljog Circle, Jodhpur- 342001. and kindly addressed to Gordhan Lohar.
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For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in the secured creditor's website i.e. https://www.axisbank.com/auction-retail and the Bank's approved service provider M/S C1 India Private Limited at their web portal https://www.bankeauctions.com
The auction will be conducted online through the Bank's approved service provider M/s.C1 India Private Limited at their web portal **https://www.bankeauctions.com.**
For any other assistance, the intending bidders may contact **Mr. Gordhan Lohar, Mobile. No. 9828586678.** Authorized officer of the Bank during office hours from 10 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Date: 03.12.2024,
Place: Jodhpur
Yours faithfully For Axis Bank Ltd
(Authorized Officer)

पंजाब नैशनल बैंक

मण्डल सस्त्रा केन्द्र : मीरा चौक, श्रीगंगानगर,
पिन: 335001, दूरभाष : 0154-2462609

अचल सम्पत्ती की ई–नीलामी द्वारा विक्रय की सूचना

ई–नीलामी की तिथि और ईएमडी दस्तावेज जमा कराने की अंतिम तिथि 03.01.2025

प्रतिभूतिहित (प्रवर्तन) नियम, 2002 के नियम 8(6) के साथ पठित वित्तीय आस्तियों का प्रतिभूतिकरण और पुनर्गठन तथा प्रतिभूति हित का प्रवर्तन अधिनियम, 2002 (सरफेसी) के अधीन अचल आस्तियों के विक्रय हेतु ई-नीलामी विक्रय नोटिस। सर्व-साधारण को और विशेष रूप से ऋणियों/ जमानतदारों/ बन्धक कर्ताओं को विशेषतः यह नोटिस दिया जाता है कि नीचे वर्णित अचल सम्पत्तियां जो बैंक/प्रतिभूत लेनदार के पास रहन/प्रभारित है, का अधिग्रहण भौतिक रूप से पंजाब नेशनल बैंक, प्रतिभूत लेनदार के प्राधिकृत अधिकारी द्वारा लिया गया है, को "जहाँ है, जैसा है और जो कुछ भी है" के आधार पर नीचे दी गई तालिका में उल्लिखित तिथि को,

सुरक्षित सम्पत्तियों की अनुसूची

लोट नं.	शाखा कार्यालय का नाम खाते का नाम ऋणियों/जमानतियों का नाम व पता	बंधक संपत्ति का विवरण (बंधककर्त्ता का नाम)	अ) 13(2) नोटिस की दिनांक ब) बकाया ऋण राशि दिनांक 30.11.2024 तक स) कब्जा दिनांक द) कब्जे का प्रकार	अ) आरक्षित मूल्य ब) धरोहर राशि स) बोली वृद्धि	ई नीलामी दिनांक व समय	प्रतिभूत लेनदारों को ज्ञात भार का विवरण
01.	गौशला रोड, श्रीगंगानगर (007010) लक्की गुप्ता व राजन कुमार गुप्ता 1. लक्की गुप्ता (ऋणी व बंधककर्ता) 2. राजन कुमार गुप्ता (सहऋणी)	सम्पत्ती के अभिन्न अंग जो कि आवसीय संपत्ति जो प्लोट सख्या बी -5 , वर्ग सख्यां 45, किल्ला न. 11,12, चक 5 वाई, ग्राम पंचायत 3 वाई, तहसील व जिला श्रीगंगानगर में स्थित है। माप 25'X50' वर्गफुट मालिक लक्की पुत्र राजन कुमार गुप्ता	अ) 01.08.2024 ब) रु 20,45,571.15 +आगे के ब्याज एवं अन्य शुल्क स) 08.10.2024 द) भौतिक	अ)रू.16.50 लाख ब) रू. 1.65 लाख स) रू.0.20 लाख	03.01.2025 प्रातः 11 से सायं 4 बजे तक	जानकारी नहीं

पता-1: मकान न.70, वार्ड न.33, संजय कॉलोनी, नजदीक अग्रसेन चौक गुरूद्वारा, श्रीगंगानगर 335001 पता 2. मार्फत मेसरस जय दुर्गा एन्टरप्राईजेज, दुकान न.12 - सी पब्लिक पार्क, गोल बाजार, श्री गंगानगर 335001

नियम और शर्तें:- निलामी, प्रतिभूतिकरण एवं पुनर्गठन और प्रतिभूति हित प्रवर्तन अधिनियम (सरफेसी) 2002 में उल्लेखित नियम एवं शतों के अनुरूप होगी एवं अन्य शर्ते निम्नलिखित है। (1) सम्पत्तियों को 'जैसा है, जैसी है, जो भी है' के आधार पर विक्रय की जावेगी। (2) उक्त अनुसूची में निर्दिष्ट सुरक्षित संपत्तियों का विवरण प्राधिकृत अधिकारी की सूचना के अनुसार दिया गया है, लेकिन प्राधिकृत अधिकारी इस उद्-घोषणा में किसी त्रुटि, गलत कथन या चूक के लिए उत्तरदायी नहीं होगा। (3) ई-निलामी वेबसाईट https://www.ebkray.in के माध्यम से दिनांक 03.01.2025 को उपरोक्त तालिका में दिए समयानुसार ई-नीलामी के माध्यम से प्राधिकृत अधिकारी द्वारा की जावेगी। (4) विक्रय की विस्तृत जानकारी व निबंधन और शर्तों के लिए कृपया वेबसाईट https://ebkray.in & www.pnbindia.in को देखें।

नरेन्द्र कुमार गुप्ता,
प्राधिकृत अधिकारी, पंजाब नेशनल बैंक सुरक्षित ऋणदाता

दिनांक : 02.12.2024 स्थानः श्रीगंगानगर

प्रतिभूति हित (प्रवर्तन) अधिनियम 2002 के नियम 8(6) के अधीन विक्रय की 30 दिवस की वैधानिक सूचना

ICICI Bank

Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd. Regional Office Jsel Building, Malviya Nagar JLN Marg-Jaipur- 302017

PUBLIC NOTICE-TENDER CUM E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET

[See proviso to Rule 8(6)]
Notice for sale of immovable asset(s)

E-Auction Sale Notice for the sale of immovable asset(s) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
This notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Limited will be sold on 'As is where is', 'As is what is' and 'Whatever there is' as per the brief particulars given hereunder;

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price / Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of E-Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Nagauri Trolly Works Represented By Proprietor Faruk Deen (Applicant) Faruk Deen (Guarantor), (Mortgagor) A/c no. 174805004013, 174855000008	Patta No. 22 and 23 Pairy Pheri Area Didwana- 341303 Land Area : 2292.5 Sq. ft.	Rs. 77,73,063/- as on November 28, 2024.	Rs. 53,00,000

GOLD	USD RATE	OIL	SILVER
₹79,400	₹84.70	$72.77	₹90,000

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) per barrel as of November 29

SENSEX: 80,248.08 ▲ 445.29 (0.56%) **NIFTY:** 24,276.05 ▲ 144.95 (0.6%) **NIKKEI:** 38,513.02 ▲ 304.99 **HANG SENG:** 19,550.29 ▲ 126.68 **FTSE:** 8,327.55 ▲ 40.25 **DAX:** 19,892.58 ▲ 266.13

International market data till 1900 IST

FABBED AT TSMC

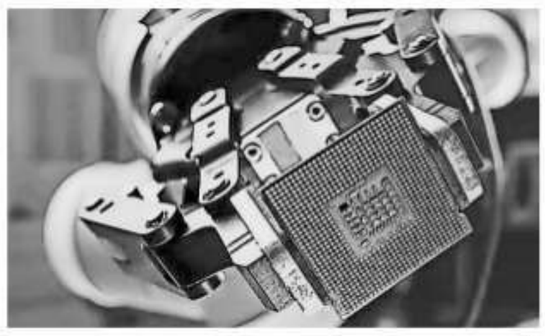
'Designed in India' 5G chip facing fund crunch, low commercial uptake

SOUMYARENDRA BARIK
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 2

A FIRST of its kind 'designed in India' 5G and Internet of Things (IoT) chip, which has been allocated funding of close to Rs 45 crore by the Indian government, is facing mass production issues owing to a lack of funds, and an inability to draw commercial orders, *The Indian Express* has learnt.

The Narrow Band IoT (NB-IoT) chip, which has been designed by WiSig Networks — a startup incubated at IIT Hyderabad — and fabricated using the 40 nanometre process of Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC), is targeted primarily for smart metres used in the electricity distribution sector. WiSig Networks has also been approved by the IT Ministry under its Design Linked Incentive (DLI) scheme for the chip. Hyderabad-based technology and engineering company Cyient collaborated on the tapeout process for the chip, while WiSig Networks is commercialising it. Multiple tapeouts have resulted in hundreds of chips fabricated and successfully completing 3GPP-compliant testing, and drive testing on Reliance Jio's NB-IoT network is ongoing at the IIT Hyderabad campus. The tapeout process is the final stage in the design phase of semiconductor manufacturing.

This is the first time a 3GPP compliant modem system-on-chip (SoC) has been indigenously designed and made working.



File

Volume production of the chip includes the development of a package, production test solution suited for volume production, organisation of silicon fabrication, volume testing of the integrated circuit (IC), and the management of supplying the chip. The Department of Telecommunications' (DoT's) 5G testbed project allocated Rs 40 crore for two chip revisions, and an additional Rs 5 crore grant was awarded to WiSig Networks for refining the third tapeout. The IT Ministry has allocated Rs 13 crore to extend the chip's functionality for satellite connectivity, this paper has learnt.

However, a 12,000-unit production tapeout and the development of a production test program are required, as per an internal government assessment. But, it is understood that WiSig Networks has a shortage of funds as well as commercial orders to complete the remaining activities.

Among the policy interventions that the government is considering to boost commercial uptake of the chip include the Ministry of Power requiring that a share of the smart meter procurements by discoms be those that have domestically designed chips, and for the IT Ministry to introduce design-linked-manufacturing scheme for locally made smart metres, among other things. Cyinet did not respond to a request for comment until publication.

"WiSig Networks has licensed the chip from IIT Hyderabad for commercialisation, WiSig received a Rs 5 crore DCIS Grant for Rev 3 tapeout of the chip, which has been completed and chip samples are in working in the lab, we are further evaluating the same… As the chip is still under customer evaluation and qualification, we can complete the production tapeout once it is completed and production orders are received… Regarding availability of funds, it is a matter of going concern, which will be addressed as part of our business plans (sic)," WiSig Networks told *The Indian Express* in an emailed statement.

The DLI scheme is part of the overall $10 billion incentive scheme for the semiconductor ecosystem, which was rolled out by the government in December 2021. The design scheme aims to offer financial incentives and infrastructure support across various stages of development and deployment of semiconductor design for integrated circuits, chipsets, and system on chip over a period of five years.

India is a major force in chip designing, with all major semiconductor companies having their design offices in the country. However, these engineers have traditionally designed systems for foreign companies, which has resulted in zero to little intellectual property creation by Indian entities. The chip DLI scheme is an attempt at plugging that gap, as it incentivises a crucial part of the chip supply chain — the IP.

As of September 2024, the IT Ministry had approved chip design related proposals from at least 12 Indian start-ups and has committed more than Rs 130 crore to their projects, which span from developing integrated circuits for telecommunication applications, to artificial intelligence (AI) hardware accelerators, *The Indian Express* had reported.

In total, the approved projects will cost Rs 342 crore, and the government has so far released close to Rs 7 crore. It received 59 applications under the DLI scheme, with 15-20 applications currently under review. However, the run rate of the scheme seems to be slower than the Centre's initial projections. The government wants to fund at least 100 start-ups over five years under the DLI scheme, which would be an average of 20 entities per year. That run rate has not been met yet.

EXPLAINED

Crucial part of semiconductor ecosystem

INDIA WANTS to create an indigenous chip design ecosystem, where its domestic companies hold intellectual property. Chip designing is a crucial part of the semiconductor ecosystem, and one that takes years of sustained research, and funding. Having domestic chip making capabilities is also expected to help New Delhi strategically, where it can prescribe use of domestically designed chips for use in certain sensitive sectors.

Rupee hits record low on concerns over slowing growth, strong dollar

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, DECEMBER 2

THE RUPEE lost 21 paise to end at a fresh record low of 84.70 against the US dollar on Monday after the country's gross domestic product (GDP) slowed to a multi-quarter low in the July-September 2024 period and tracking weakness in other Asian currencies.

The local currency closed at 84.70 against the greenback, compared to the opening of 84.58 and the previous close of 84.49.

"Indian rupee touched a fresh record low on Monday on economic data and a strong US dollar," said Anuj Choudhary, research analyst at Mirae Asset Sharekhan.

The country's real gross domestic product (GDP) slumped to a seven-quarter low of 5.4 per cent in July-September 2024, as against a growth of 6.7 per cent in the April-June 2024 quarter and 8.1 per cent in the July-September 2023 period. Most analysts projected GDP growth to be in the 6.5-6.8 per cent range in Q2 FY25.

"Slower GDP growth means easing of monetary policy, which implies that there could be a cut in the repo rate soon. A reduction in the interest rate will widen the difference between rates in India and the US, which may result in outflows from the domestic market. This kept the rupee under pressure," said VRC Reddy, head treasury, Karur Vysya Bank.

In the last two months, foreign institutional investors (FIIs) have been selling domestic equities. In October and November, they offloaded Rs 1.16 lakh crore worth of local shares. In case of FII outflows, there is higher demand for the foreign currency, which in turn leads to a downward pressure on the local currency.

Internationally, Chinese Yuan depreciated to a one-year low of 7.3 per dollar due to tariffs threats by US President-elect Donald Trump to the BRICS nations if they move away from the dollar and look to create a new currency.

Besides, analysts said that higher demand for the US dollar from importers also weighed on the rupee.

The downside in the rupee was limited by the Reserve Bank of India's intervention in the market, forex participants said. The RBI intervened at 84.65 and 84.70 levels.

The RBI has always maintained that its intervention in the forex market is aimed at preventing excessive volatility, anchoring market expectations and providing a stable exchange rate regime.

The rupee is likely to trade with a negative bias on strong dollar and FII outflows. The USD-INR spot price is expected to trade in a range of Rs 84.50 to Rs 84.95, said Mirae Asset Sharekhan's Choudhary.

HIGHER DEMAND FOR USD DUE TO FII OUTFLOWS

In the last two months, foreign institutional investors (FIIs) have been selling domestic equities. In October and November, they offloaded Rs 1.16 lakh crore worth of local shares. In case of FII outflows, there is higher demand for the foreign currency, which in turn leads to a downward pressure on the local currency

Windfall gains tax on domestic crude production, export of petrol, diesel, ATF scrapped

AANCHAL MAGAZINE & SUKALP SHARMA
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 2

ALMOST TWO-AND-HALF years after it was introduced, the government has finally withdrawn windfall gains tax on domestic production of crude oil and export of diesel, petrol, and aviation turbine fuel (ATF). The Finance Ministry notifications for removal of the windfall tax—special additional excise duty (SAED) on production of crude and export of ATF, and road and infrastructure cess (RIC) on export of petrol and diesel—with immediate effect were laid in Parliament on Monday.

Lately, not much revenue was getting generated by the windfall gains tax. In fact, the levies are currently nil. This is mainly due to significant softening in prices of crude oil and the three major fuels in the international market.

The enabling provisions to impose the levy, however, continued to be in place. With Monday's move, the government has effectively withdrawn those provisions as well, sources indicated. The industry had also raised concerns about the continuation of the levy, sources said.

These levies were first imposed on July 1, 2022 due to the surge in global oil and fuel prices in the aftermath of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. As the price of crude oil produced in India is benchmarked to international prices, domestic oil prices also went through the roof. At the same time, margins on fuels were a lot more lucrative in other markets, incentivising refiners, particularly private sector players, to export fuels. This had resulted in fuel supply disruptions in some parts of the country.

Apart from taking a share of windfall profits of oil producers and fuel exporters to partly soften the blow of duty cuts on domestic petrol and diesel sales, the government also wanted to ensure enough fuel supply to meet domestic demand through these taxes.

The levies were reviewed on a fortnightly basis by the Finance Ministry based on crude oil and fuel prices in the international market.

With the international crude oil and fuel market nowhere as volatile as it was in the initial months of the Ukraine war, and the domestic fuel supplies stable and robust, the windfall gains tax collection has seen a steady decline over the past two-and-a-half years. The windfall gains tax mop-up was around Rs 25,000 crore in 2022-23 (FY23), around Rs 13,000 crore in FY24, and around Rs 6,000 crore so far in FY25.

While the levy on petrol exports has been zero since July 20, 2022, on diesel exports, it has been nil since March 1, 2024. On ATF exports, windfall gains tax was reduced to nil from January 2, 2024, while on domestic oil production, the levy was brought down to zero from September 18, 2024. When the windfall gains tax was first imposed, it translated to a levy of about $40 per barrel on domestic crude oil production, as crude oil prices were well over $100 per barrel at the time.

FINANCE MINISTRY NOTIFICATIONS

File

THE FINANCE Ministry notifications for removal of the windfall tax—special additional excise duty (SAED) on production of crude and export of ATF, and road and infrastructure cess (RIC) on export of petrol and diesel—with immediate effect were laid in Parliament on Monday

BRIEFLY

H2 GDP number expected to be better: DEA secy

New Delhi: Economic Affairs Secretary Ajay Seth on Monday said second quarter GDP growth at 5.4 per cent is lower than the potential but exuded confidence that the second half to be better. **PTI**

'SteelMin for 25% safeguard duty on steel imports'

New Delhi: Taking up the concerns of domestic steel industry, the Steel Ministry on Monday proposed for a 25 per cent safeguard duty on import of certain steel items into the country, sources said. **PTI**

JSW MG Motor to drive in electric sports car

New Delhi: JSW MG Motor India has said it plans to drive in an electric sports car, 'Cyberster' as its first offering under the new retail channel brand, 'MG Select'. **PTI**

₹6,839 cr worth ₹2,000 notes still with public

New Delhi: The Reserve Bank has said 98.08 per cent of the Rs 2,000 banknotes have been returned to the banking system, and only Rs 6,839 crore worth such notes are still with the public. **PTI**

Sebi order on Reliance Big Entertainment

New Delhi: The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has ordered the attachment of bank accounts as well as shares and mutual fund holdings of Reliance Big Entertainment to recover dues of Rs 26 crore. Before this, Sebi on November 14 sent a notice to Reliance Big Entertainment Pvt Ltd (now known as Rbep Entertainment Pvt Ltd) and asked the entity to pay dues within 15 days in a case pertaining to illegal diversion of funds in the matter of Reliance Home Finance Ltd (RHFL). **PTI**

RBI'S ALL-INDIA HOME PRICE INDEX RISE TO 322 AS OF SEPT 2024 AGAINST 308.6 IN SEPT 2023

RBI: Home price index rises by 4.3% amid high interest rates, inflation

GEORGE MATHEW
MUMBAI, DECEMBER 2

HOME PRICES are on the rise in India despite high interest rates in the banking system and inflation. The All-India Home Price Index (HPI) of the Reserve Bank of India rose by 4.34 per cent to 322 as of September 2024 as against 308.6 in September 2023, indicating that price rise is continuing across the metros, according to Reserve Bank of India data.

HPI has gone up by nearly 67 per cent in the last ten years from 193.05 in 2014-15 amid the pandemic, high inflation and interest rates. The annual HPI growth varied widely across the cities, ranging from a high growth of 8.76 per cent (Bengaluru) to a decline of (-)2.0 per cent (Kanpur). On sequential (quarter-on-quarter) basis, all-India HPI decreased by 0.1 per cent in September 2024-25. Ahmedabad, Lucknow, Kolkata and Chennai recorded a sequential rise in house prices during the latest quarter, RBI data shows.

Home price index for Mumbai rose by 2.95 per cent to 303.62 in September 2024 as against 294.92 a year ago, Delhi increased by 3.31 per cent to 350.40 from 339.16 and Bengaluru by 8.76 per cent to 360.11 from 331.08.

File

The RBI's home index is based on transaction-level data received from the registration authorities in top ten major cities.

Average housing prices across the top eight markets in India rose 11 per cent year-on-year at Rs 11,000 per sq ft during Q3 of 2024, led by sturdy demand and positive market sentiments, industry body CREDAI said. Interestingly, average housing prices have increased for the 15th consecutive quarter since 2021. All the eight major cities saw an annual increase in housing prices with Delhi NCR witnessing the highest rise at 32 per cent, followed by Bengaluru at 24 per cent rise during the quarter. After registering record high sales over the last two years, the demand momentum across the top cities is stabilizing. Nevertheless, with anticipation of healthy residential activity in the last quarter, 2024 is likely to end on a strong note, it said.

However, overall unsold inventory continued to witness a quarterly drop for the third consecutive quarter, led by healthy uptake in housing units. At the end of September 2024, unsold inventory stood at over 10 lakh housing units across the eight major cities, with Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR) accounting for a majority at about 40 per cent share. Unsold units in Hyderabad saw a modest dip on a sequential basis despite a yearly increase of about 28 per cent.

"The ongoing rise in housing prices is another validation of positive homebuyer sentiments and the highly conducive nature of the real estate market. We are seeing more and more aspirational homebuyers come to the fore – resulting in bigger homes that are also being reflected in the rise in prices as homes continue to get more expansive, truly reflecting the current market dynamics and consumer preferences," said Boman Irani, president of CREDAI National. "While the housing market is gradually stabilising, the outlook for the residential segment remains positive supported by strong underlying market fundamentals. Developers are recalibrating their strategies, particularly in the price-sensitive segments, by offering compact size units," said Badal Yagnik, chief executive officer, Colliers India.

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

India has contributed $2 billion to BRICS Bank: Finance Ministry

RAVI DUTTA MISHRA
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 2

INDIA HAS contributed nearly $2 billion to the BRICS New Development Bank (NDB), and 20 externally aided projects, with loans amounting to $4,867 million in areas such as transportation, water conservation, food management, and connectivity in rural areas, are currently ongoing in the country, Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary said on Monday.

Chaudhary's response followed a Lok Sabha question regarding the government's stance on the initiative for a joint currency for BRICS nations and India's contribution to the BRICS Bank. The queries were prompted by concerns over US President-elect Donald Trump's threats of imposing 100 per cent tariffs on BRICS nations as a reaction to their efforts to reduce reliance on the US dollar in international trade.

The question was asked by MK Raghavan, Member of Parliament, Kozhikode.

MoS for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary's response followed a Lok Sabha question regarding the government's stance on a joint currency for BRICS nations and India's contribution to the BRICS Bank

"India's contribution to the BRICS New Development Bank (NDB) stands at $2 billion, paid in seven instalments from the fiscal year 2015-16 to 2021-22. As of now, 20 externally aided projects with loan amounts of $4.867 million funded by the NDB are ongoing in India," Chaudhary stated.

However, regarding the question of a joint currency, the minister referred to a report on the international financial system prepared by Russia during its BRICS chairmanship. "During 2024, under its BRICS Chairmanship, Russia prepared a report, 'BRICS Chairmanship Research on the Improvement of the International Monetary and Financial System'." The report emphasises that BRICS nations recognise natural constraints and the will of the free market. Thus, BRICS "do not seek to replace the US dollar as a medium of exchange" due to its significant share in the global economy. Instead, BRICS aims to "offer a viable alternative that will aid the market in its perpetual mission for efficiency" and foster greater prosperity, promoting universally beneficial and inclusive economic globalisation.

Nevertheless, the report highlighted that the current cross-border payments infrastructure "lacks competition" and struggles to meet participants' demands. It stated that the prevailing reliance on centralised settlement mechanisms and reserve currencies for cross-border payments represents a "legacy overhang" that is no longer optimal for the 21st century.

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

Manufacturing sector growth falls in Nov: PMI

New Delhi: India's manufacturing sector growth fell to a joint 11-month low of 56.5 in November, restricted by competitive conditions and inflationary pressures amid a softer increase in factory orders, a monthly survey said on Monday.

The seasonally adjusted HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) fell from 57.5 in October to 56.5 in November, signalling a softer improvement in the health of the sector. However, the pace of growth remained above its long-run average. In PMI parlance, a print above 50 means expansion, while a score below 50 denotes contraction.

"India recorded a 56.5 manufacturing PMI in November, down slightly from the prior month, but still firmly within expansionary territory," Pranjul Bhandari, chief India economist at HSBC said. Bhandari further noted that strong broad-based international demand, evidenced by a four-month high in new export orders, fuelled the Indian manufacturing sector's continued growth. **PTI**

Intel CEO Gelsinger retires from struggling chipmaker

REUTERS
BENGALURU, DECEMBER 2

INTEL CEO Pat Gelsinger has retired, the company said on Monday, following a tumultuous period for the chip pioneer that has struggled to keep up in the AI era with players like Nvidia dominating the market.

The company named chief financial officer David Zinsner and senior executive Michelle Johnston Holthaus as interim co-chief executive officers while its board conducted a search for a new CEO. Shares of the company rose nearly 5 per cent in premarket trading. They have lost more than half of their value this year.

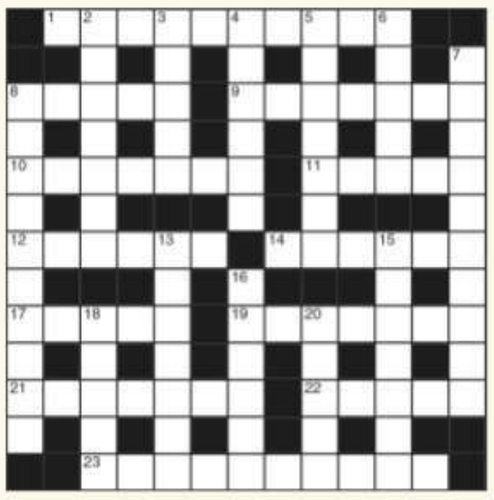
Gelsinger was appointed as CEO in 2021 to spearhead a transformation of the chipmaker which was once at the helm of the US semiconductor industry but ceded its manufacturing lead to players like Taiwan's TSMC.

Intel CEO Pat Gelsinger in Taipei, Taiwan on June 4. *Reuters File*

"While we have made significant progress in regaining manufacturing competitiveness and building the capabilities to be a world-class foundry, we know that we have much more work to do at the company and are committed to restoring investor confidence," Frank Yeary, independent chair of the board, said in a release. Under Glesinger, Intel undertook a costly turnaround centered around making the company a contract manufacturer for other chip firms and reinvigorating its technological lead.

The company's board has formed a search committee to appoint Gelsinger's successor.

CROSSWORD 5537



ACROSS

1 He sticks up for his employer (10)
8 The price of a suit (5)
9 Chap unfit to work on a tough paper (7)
10 It's not a positive answer (7)
11 Fall into part of the main current (5)
12 One who deserves what he gets (6)
14 Condemns strikes (6)
17 Beastly Holst composition (5)
19 Top clue put out eight times (7)
21 Position right for military leader (7)
22 Goes out of play (5)
23 Contests in which no one goes the distance (5,5)

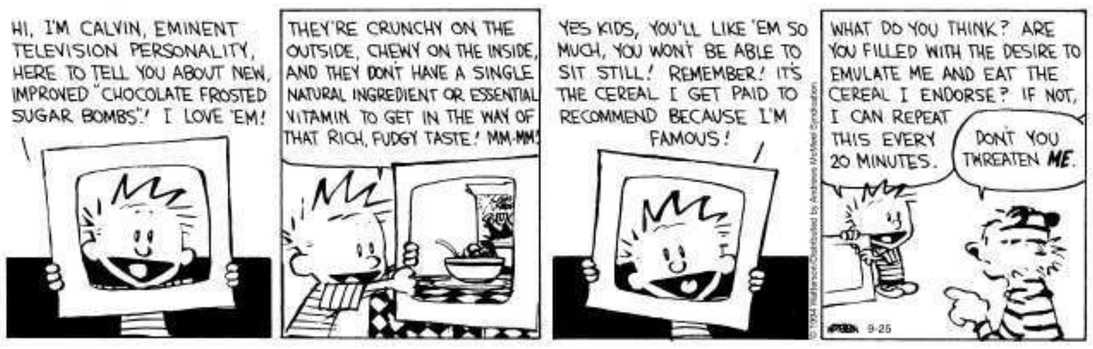
DOWN

2 To an extent it's of Iran's making (2,2,3)
3 Turns the tables (5)
4 Refurbished room in mid-blue or gilt decoration (6)
5 One isn't put out by it but it's a strain (7)
6 Priest in church demonstrates holy memento (5)
7 Advocates acting on brief instructions (10)
8 It does business in more than one way (6,4)
13 Latch that is about right (7)
15 Accountant has added a charge on a whim (7)
16 Many include an alternative to being ill (6)
18 Tender proposal (5)
20 A letter is all the thanks you get (5)

Solutions Crossword 5536 Across: 1 Nudity, 4 Former, 9 Clamour, 10 Costs, 11 Twang, 12 Corsage, 13 Flat refusal, 18 Pass out, 20 Eider, 22 Opine, 23 Assures, 24 Eights, 25 Plates **Down:** 1 Nicety, 2 Drama, 3 Thought, 5 Oscar, 6 Mascara, 7 Rested, 8 Cricket team, 14 Lasting, 15 Utensil, 16 Oppose, 17 Crisis, 19 Overt, 21 Durst

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis

CALVIN & HOBBES by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong

DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)
You won't be the only person to be affected by pride today, but you may have the most cause. Yet rather than being smug or complacent, focus on your own real achievements and do what you can to help others. You'll be rewarded for your generosity.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)
Unexpected developments are about to enter the domestic and private pattern of your life. There is every indication that these will represent a considerable improvement over current conditions. That has to be good news, especially in view of everything that you've been through recently.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
Any discussions with family members, or news about emotional ties, are bound to be pleasant. At the best you will experience a sense of hope and personal liberation. If you wish, you may abandon the lack of confidence which has so often held you back.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
All your instincts and hunches may tell you that this is the time to splash out, and they could well be right! If you feel a generous impulse coming on, you may give it free rein and count the cost tomorrow. But if partners disagree, you'd better get them on your side first.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)
You're still in control, even if the flag of emotional revolt does happen to be raised very soon. If you are faced with anger at home, don't confront it. Gently deflect bad feeling in the manner of an oriental sage, and so disarm your opponent with goodwill.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)
Sometimes you're willing to face big personal challenges head on. A bone of contention may relate to a home or family matter, but if I were you, I'd leave well alone today. If you do want to get your own way, and which of us doesn't, hold your horses.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)
You are now in an ideal position to take the initiative socially. Even at work you will be able to galvanise other people, although it looks as if you should leave them to figure out the details. I should think it will be good for them to take a little responsibility.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)
You're reaching a minor turning point in your material affairs. At this stage, you must either complete a financial deal or think about writing off a small sum of money for good. The fact is that pursuing such issues may not be worth your valuable time.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)
The world is about to see you at your best, and I mean the whole world. If you have any aspirations at all to set off on a tour of distant parts, there is no time like the present. At the very least you should get in touch with relations in far away places.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)
You often experience emotional insecurities and conflicts. The last thing you should do is to revive old battles, especially over pointless issues like who pays for, or owns, what. A generous gesture would be far better.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)
If you are to achieve the kind of acceptance you have always craved, you must make a bid now. The close relationship between the Moon, Jupiter and a series of other planets indicates that, if you give them the chance, other people will at last be ready to listen and help.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)
You seem to be in danger of overplaying your hand at work. Although you're in a fortunate position, you should now reinforce your current gains and allow other people a chance to shine. In love, do be sure to let others know how you're feeling.

JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.
The _____ know what to leave out. - Charles de Lint (4,7)

FERAL
EILTTT
BILSS
HIOYBS

Solution: WORDS: FLARE, BLISS, TITTLE, BOYISH
Answer: The **best artists** know what to leave out. - Charles de Lint

SUDOKU 5793

Difficulty Level 2s
Instructions
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy;
3s = Medium; 4s = Hard;
5s = Very Hard;
6s = Genius

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

SOLUTION SUDOKU 5792

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

CORPORATE BRIEFS

Manipal University IManipal University Jaipur celebrated MUJ Excellence Awards-2024. A total number of 115 faculty members are honoured for their outstanding contribution in the field of Academics, Research, Administration and institutional building. The event was organised in the Smt. Vasanti R. Pai auditorium. As a part of High-Performance Culture and to recognize & create a culture of appreciation, Manipal University Jaipur has initiated MUJ Excellence Awards with different category of Awards covering the entire gamut of university eco-system as a part of Reward & Recognition Program. One of the prestigious award categories under MUJ Excellence Awards was Dr. Ramdas M. Pai Award for Professional Excellence. Dr. N.N. Sharma, President, MUJ addressed the gathering and said that demonstrating continuous excellence is key to success and in a very short span of 13 years, MUJ has become the most sought University for its excellence in Academics and Research and he appreciated and lauded the efforts of all the employees present in the event. Pro-President Prof. Karunakar A Kotegar, Registrar Dr. Nitu Bhatnagar, all deans of different faculties, Senior Academic Leaders, Professors, Administrators, all academic staff and support staff were present .

University of Engineering and Management A huge Mega Job Mela-2024 was organized at University of Engineering and Management (UEM). The program was formally inaugurated by Dr. Arun Agarwal- Executive President- FICCI, Jagdish Somani - President VKIA, Jaipur, Rajesh Jangid - Deputy Superintendent of Police Govindgarh, Government of Rajasthan - Department of Skill Development, Employment and Entrepreneurship, Mrs. Navrekha - Deputy Director, University of Engineering and Management (UEM), Jaipur, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Biswejoy Chatterjee, Registrar Dr. Pradeep Kumar Sharma etc. by lighting the lamp. University Deputy Director - Project Sandeep Kumar Aggarwal said that in the Mega Job Mela-2024, 68 companies from Rajasthan and outside Rajasthan selected about 726 youths from about 2507 unemployed youth from all over Rajasthan. About 15 separate counters were set up by the University Management for online registration and offline registration for the unemployed youth who came to the job fair. Faculty, staff and employment department along with the students of the University cooperated for registration. University Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Biswajoy Chatterjee said that this job fair is one of the biggest placement opportunities in the country, where top companies from all over the country are providing employment opportunities to freshers/unemployed youth under one roof/platform.

Rajasthan Technical University National Service Scheme unit of Rajasthan Technical University Kota celebrated Gaurav Janjati Diwas. Co-Public Relations Officer Vikram Rathore said that this event is dedicated to honor the courage, sacrifice and contribution of tribal freedom fighters who played an important role in India's freedom struggle. Vice Chancellor Professor SK Singh said that the tribal community has a very deep and important contribution to the civilization and culture of our country. Dean Faculty Affairs Professor Dinesh Birla appreciated the effort to create awareness among the students through this program. He said that 'Gaurav Janjati Diwas' is celebrated in the memory of Bhagwan Birsa Munda, a symbol of sacrifices. NSS Chief Coordinator Dr. Rajesh Bhatt said that the main objective of organizing the Tribal Pride Day is to bring the glorious past of the tribal society in front of the society and to preserve their culture and traditions.

Motion Education, renowned across the country for preparing for JEE, NEET and Olympiad, has announced the launch of Enthusiasm course for students going from class 11th to 12th and preparing for JEE (Main and Advanced) 2026. This course will start from December 4. In this, the entire syllabus of class 11 and 12 will be completed by the expert teachers of Motion Education Kota. In the course, students will be prepared for JEE (Main and Advanced) 2026 as well as 12th board examination through a structured course planner so that the students can perform well in JEE as well as board.

RCDF The rally of 12 motorcycle bikers which started from Pune on 16th November reached Patrika Gate situated at Jawahar Circle of Jaipur passing through Mumbai, Surat, Anand, Palanpur, Udaipur and Ajmer. Administrator and Managing Director of Rajasthan Co-operative Dairy Federation Shruti Bhardwaj welcomed all the bikers. On this occasion, Shruti Bhardwaj herself drove an Activa and led the rally of about 250 bikers of Amul and Saras. The bikers rally started from Patrika Gate and reached Saras Sankul Headquarters via Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg, Saras Sankul and Gandhi Circle where Amul Jaipur Branch Manager Ashutosh Garg along with Amul and RCDF officials/employees welcomed them. After completing a total journey of 1678 kms, the bikers rally will reach Delhi on 26th November, the birthday of Dr. Kurien. RCDF's financial advisor Lalit Verma, General Manager DPM Preetesh Joshi, Jaipur Dairy's Managing Director Manish Fozdar and Ajmer Dairy's Chairman Ramchandra Chaudhary along with top officials of Amul and Saras were present. The program was conducted by Dairy Federation's Public Relations Manager Vinod Gera.

Jai Narayan Vyas University "Ekoday" Cultural Festival will be held from 16-20 December. For the all-round development of the students of Jai Narayan Vyas University, Jodhpur, the Student Service Board is going to organize the Ecoday Cultural Festival 2024-25 between 16-20 December 2024. Student Service Board President Dr. Ritu Johri said that various competitions related to literary, theatrical, musical, fine arts will be held in this festival. The team for the youth festival organized by AIU will be selected from the winning participants and the participants who get first, second and third place in different competitions will be honored with certificates and prizes in the annual function of the university.

Central University of Rajasthan A two-day national conference on "Women in Decision-Making and Leadership: Shattering Stereotypes and Creating Futures" is being organized by the Women's Cell of Central University of Rajasthan in collaboration with the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), with the aim of empowering women's roles in leadership and decision-making. The conference will be held on December 3rd and 4th, under the leadership of Prof. Anand Bhalerao, Vice Chancellor of Central University of Rajasthan.The inaugural ceremony will be graced by Dr. Chandrika Kaushik, Director General (PC & SI), DRDO, as the Chief Guest, and Ms. Usha Sharma, former Chief Secretary of Rajasthan and IAS, as the Guest of Honour.A key highlight of the event will be a panel discussion on "Women Leadership in Diverse Arenas to Foster Creativity and Improve Decision-Making," featuring distinguished panelists such as Prof. (Retd.) Bakhtawar S. Mahajan, Chairperson, Board of Trustees, Indian Women Scientists Association (IWSA), Ms. Malini Agarwal, IPS, ADGP, Civil Rights and Anti-Human Trafficking, Rajasthan Police, Joyita Mondal, India's first transgender judge, and Clinical Psychologist Pradnya Deshpande, among others.To further enhance the event's significance, the formal inauguration of the Ajmer branch of the Indian Women Scientists Association (IWSA) will take place on this special occasion by a representative from IWSA Headquarters, Mumbai.The two-day national conference has been organized by the Women's Cell of Central University of Rajasthan, under the leadership of Dr. Pragati Jain (Convenor), Dr. Tulsee Giri Goswami (Co-convenor), and Dr. Garima Kaushik (Organizing Secretary), with a dedicated team of coordinators.Over 100 participants are expected to present research papers on various topics related to the conference's objectives, creating a robust knowledge exchange and networking platform.The conference will focus on critical issues of women's leadership and empowerment. Its goal is to foster dialogue and action to eliminate gender stereotypes, promote innovation, and empower women in decision-making and leadership roles.

Raj. State Cooperative Bank A review meeting of loan distribution, recovery, PACS computerization of the bank was held with the Managing Directors of the Central Cooperative Banks of the state under the chairmanship of Secretary to Government, Cooperation and Administrator, Rajasthan State Cooperative Bank (Apex Bank), Smt. Manju Rajpal. In the meeting, strict instructions were given to make 100% recovery by reviewing the recovery proceedings, overdue and loan distribution of the Central Cooperative Banks for the last 3 years. Instructions were given to achieve the standard level of 40% for low cost CASA deposits and increase the deposits as per the targets. Instructions were given to benefit maximum number of villagers in view of 7% and 5% interest subsidy respectively in the 'Rajasthan Sahakari Gopal Credit Card Loan Scheme' of Rajasthan Government and the long term agricultural and non-agricultural loan scheme announced at point number 127 and 128 of the budget announcement.

Bank of Baroda, Bhilwara Region, organized an MSME Customer Meet. The program was conducted under the chairmanship of the Bank's Executive Director, Mr. Lal Singh. On this occasion, Mr. M. Anil, General Manager and Zonal Head, Jaipur Zone; Mr. Sunil Kumar Jha, Regional Head, Bhilwara Region; Mr. Inder Pal Sharma, Deputy Regional Head, Bhilwara Region; Mr. Lalaram, Regional Head of IFFCO; and industrialists Mr. R.L Kabra, Mr.Nandlal Jhalan, and Mr. Suraj Jain from Balar Industries were present. Shri Lal Singh, Executive Director, BOB addressed the gathering of entrepreneurs and industrialists provided overview and guidance about various schemes related to MSMEs offered by the bank, such as the Special Scheme for Textile Units in Rajasthan, Special Scheme for Marble/Granite Units, TReDS - Recourse to Corporate, Lending to MSME, Baroda Premium LAP (Loan Against Property), Baroda Healthcare Scheme, Finance for Commercial Vehicles, Financing for Construction and Mining Equipment (CME), Collateral-Free Loans – CGTMS, and PM-Vishwakarma Scheme. A detailed presentation in these schemes were also made in the event. The event witnessed the participation of rural, semi-urban, and urban branches of Bhilwara Region.

Eternal Hospital We are delighted to share that our esteemed doctors were recognized at the Doctor's Glory Awards 2024 by Honorable Health Minister of Rajasthan, Shri Gajendra Singh Khimsar. Here are the awardees who brought glory to Eternal Hospital: Dr. Ajeet Bana, Cardiac Science, Dr. Jitendra Makkar, :Excellence in Cardiology, Dr. K. K. Sharma : Excellence in Pulmonary Medicine, Dr. R. S. Khedar, Chairman : Excellence in ICU and Internal Medicine, Dr. Rajeev Bhargava: Excellence in Orthopedics, Dr. Ravi Gupta : Excellence in Urology . We congratulate our doctors for their dedication, expertise, & commitment to patient care.

Swami Keshwanand Institute of Technology, Management & Gramothan hosted the "Design Now Challenge", organized by the ICT Academy in association with Autodesk. The event was the precursor to the prestigious National Level "India Design Week 2024-25" Challenge, aimed at fostering creativity and technical expertise among students of Mechanical, Electronics, Electrical, and Civil Engineering. The session was led by distinguished experts from the ICT Academy: Mr. Tanish Bansal and Mr. Rohit Yadav, along with Mr. Avi Sharma, ICT Academy Coordinator. The event was coordinated by Dr. Niketa Sharma, SKIT-ICT Academy Coordinator. Ms. Priyanka Sharma, ECE Deptt, and Mr. Yogesh Sharma, ME Deptt, the (SPOC) for India Design Week, played a pivotal role in organizing this engaging session. The session concluded with a formal vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Mukesh Arora, Office of Faculty Affairs, SKIT, Jaipur.

GRAVIS, organized a dissemination workshop titled "Gender and Climate Change in the Thar Desert." The workshop marked the conclusion of the Enhancing Women and Girls' Leadership in Climate Change Adaptation in the Thar Desert (EWGL) project, an initiative that has been a cornerstone for sustainable development in the region since 2019. The event saw active participation from around 80 attendees, including representatives from government departments, academic and research institutions, NGOs. Dr. Prakash Tyagi, Director of GRAVIS, shared insights into the organization's work over the past four decades. The EWGL project, funded by the European Union (EU) and supported by Help Age International, has empowered more than 40,000 community members, including 20,000 women and girls, enhancing their leadership in climate adaptation efforts and fostering gender equality. Ms. Delphine Brissonneau, Senior Programme Manager at the European Union, emphasized the severe climate change impacts faced by the Thar Desert, one of the world's most arid regions.

Maharaja Sawai Man Singh Vidyalaya held its 40th Annual Function and Prize Distribution Ceremony on Thursday, 28th November 2024. The event was graced by Vijay Agarwal, CEO of Macleods Pharmaceuticals Ltd. and an alumnus of the 1995 batch, as the Chief Guest. Ajay Agarwal, President of Macleods Pharmaceuticals Ltd. and a 1997 alumnus, was the Special Guest of the occasion. The Chairperson Vikramaditya welcomed the guests and shared the school's vision for holistic education and also announced that Cambridge curriculum will be introduced in next academic session in a newly constructed independent building. He felicitated the awardees. More than 300 students participated in the cultural show, Rangbhoomi - Shades of Life. "Bharat House" was declared the Best House for all round activities and Saumya Johar was declared the Mansinghite of the Year. Class X topper - Nandini Gupta was felicitated. Various awards were presented to students for their academic, cultural and sports achievements.

Morari Bapu Ramkatha In a heartwarming display of generosity and devotion, noted spiritual leader and Ramcharitmanas exponent Morari Bapu's Ramkatha in Rajkot has raised more than Rs. 60 crore towards the noble cause of serving the elderly and promoting environmental conservation. The proceeds from this spiritual gathering will support the Sadbhavana Trust and fund the construction of the Sadbhavana Old Age Home and other charitable initiatives.The Sadbhavana Old Age Home project, a Rs. 300 crore initiative coming up at Paddhari on Jamnagar Road, is the centrepiece of this fundraising effort. Designed as a sanctuary for destitute, disabled and helpless elderly citizens, the facility will feature 1,400 rooms and aims to provide care and dignity to residents. The project also emphasises environmental conservation through large-scale tree plantation initiatives, blending spiritual values with ecological responsibility. This Ramkatha was the 947th katha in Morari Bapu's six-decade journey of sharing the teachings of Lord Ram and the Ramayana.

pnb Housing Finance Limited Ghar Ki Baat

APPENDIX -IV-A
E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY (IES)
E-Auction-Sale Notice for Sale of Immoveable Assets Under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002)

Registered Office: - 9th Floor, Antriksh Bhawan, 22 Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi-110001, Phones:-011-23357171, 23357172, 23705414, Web: - **www.pnbhousing.com**
Bhiwadi Branch: PNB Housing Finance Ltd. A-10, 1st Floor, Bhagat Singh Colony, Alwar Bye Pass, Bhiwadi-301019, Rajasthan

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the borrower(s) & guarantor(s) indicated in Column no-A that the below described immovable property (ies) described in Column no-D mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/Physical Possession of which has been taken (as described in Column no-C) by the authorized Officer of M/s PNB Housing Finance Limited/Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"AS IS WHERE IS, AS IS WHAT IS** and **WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS"** as per the details mentioned below. Notice is hereby given to borrower(s)/mortgagor(s)/Legal Heirs, Legal Representative, (whether Known or Unknown), executor(s), administrator(s), successor(s), assignee(s) of the respective borrowers/ mortgagor(s)(since deceased) as the case may be indicated in Column no-A under Rule-8(6) & 9 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 amended as on date.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in M/s PNB Housing Finance Limited/secured creditor's website i.e. **www.pnbhousing.com.**

Loan No, Name of the Borrower/Co-Borrower/ Guarantor(s)/Legal heirs (A)	Demanded Amount & Date (B)	Nature of Possession (C)	Description of the Properties Mortgaged (D)	Reserve Price (RP) (E)	EMD (10% of RP) (F)	Last Date of Submission of Bid (G)	Bid Incremental Rate (H)	Inspection Date & Time (I)	Date of Auction & Time (J)	Known Encumbrances/ Court Cases if any (K)
HOU/BHI/0817/416667, B.O.: Bhiwadi, All The Legal Heirs of Late Nimai Chandra Mandal, Chaina Mandal	Rs. 31,10,421.58 as on 21-08-2023	Physical Possession	305.3,Tower J,Capital Green, Khasra No.838/917, 839/919, 840, 841 Village, Milakpur Bhiwadi, Distt. Alwar (Rajasthan), Bhiwadi, Rajasthan, India-305203.	Rs. 1984000	Rs. 198400	06-01-2025	Rs. 10,000	20.12.2024 10:00 AM 05:30 PM	07.01.2025 02:00 PM 03:00PM	Not Known
NHL/BHI/0217/354995, B.O.: Bhiwadi, Mohd Sahid, Shamim Khan	Rs. 23,51,106.09 as on 28-08-2023	Physical Possession	C-LG F35,LG,Tower Capital High Street (LG),Capital High-Street, Plot No.A-56 & A57, Industrial Area Bhiwadi,Alwar, Rajasthan, India-909024.	Rs. 1213000	Rs. 121300	19-12-2024	Rs. 10,000	10.12.2024 10:00 AM 05:30 PM	20.12.2024 02:00 PM 03:00PM	Not Known

*Together with the further interest @18% p.a. as applicable, incidental expenses, cost, charges etc. incurred up to the date of payment and/or realization thereof. ** To the best knowledge and information of the authorized Officer of PNB Housing Finance Limited, there are no other encumbrances/ claims in respect of above mentioned immovable/secured assets except what is disclosed in the column no-K. Further such encumbrances to be catered/paid by the successful purchaser/bidder at his/her end. The prospective purchaser(s)/bidders are requested to independently ascertain the veracity of the mentioned encumbrances. **1.** As on date, there is no order restraining and/or court injunction PNBHFL/the authorized Officer of PNBHFL from selling, alienating and/or disposing of the above immovable properties/secured assets **2.** The prospective purchaser/bidder and interested parties may independently take the inspection of the pleading in the proceedings/orders passed etc. if any, stated in column no-K. Including but not limited to the title of the documents of the title pertaining thereto available with the PNBHFL and satisfy themselves in all respects prior to submitting tender/bid application form or making Offer(s).The bidder(s) has to sign the terms and conditions of this auction along with the Bid Form. **3.** Please note that in terms of Rule 9(3) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the bidder(s)/the purchaser is legally bound to deposit 25% of the amount of sale price, (inclusive of earnest money, if any, deposited) on the same day or not later than next working day. The sale may be confirmed in favour of (bidder(s) only after receipt of 25% of the sale price by the secured creditor in accordance with Rule 9(2) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The remaining 75% of the s sale consideration amount has to be deposited by the purchaser within 15 days' from the date of acknowledgement of sale confirmation letter and in default of such deposit, the property/secured asset shall be resold. **4. C1 INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED** would be assisting the Authorised Officer in conducting sale through an e-Auction having its corporate office at Plot No.68, 3rd Floor, Sector 44, Gurgaon, Haryana 122003 Website- www.bankeauctions.com. For any assistance related to inspection of the property or obtaining the Bid Documents and for any other query or for registration, you have to co-ordinate with **Deepak Shah**, Contact Number 1800120 8800, is authorised person of PNBHFL or refer to **www.pnbhousing.com**

Place : Rajasthan, Dated: 03.12.2024 Authorized Officer, M/s PNB Housing Finance Limited

BAJAJ FINSERV

BAJAJ HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED
Corporate Office: Cerebrum It Park B2 Building 5th Floor, Kalyani Nagar, Pune, Maharashtra 411014,
Branch Office: 1st Floor, Bachraj unifrom ke upper, Nehar Road, Bapu Nagar Vistar, Pali – 306401

Demand Notice Under Section 13 (2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Undersigned being the Authorized officer of M/s Bajaj Housing Finance Limited, hereby gives the following notice to the Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s) who have failed to discharge their liability i.e. defaulted in the repayment of principal as well as the interest and other charges accrued there-on for Home loan(s)/Loan(s) against Property advanced to them by Bajaj Housing Finance Limited and as a consequence the loan(s) have become Non Performing Assets. Accordingly, notices were issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and rules there-to, on their last known addresses, however the same have been returned un-served/undelivered, as such the Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s) are hereby intimated/informed by way of this publication notice to clear their outstanding dues under the loan facilities availed by them from time to time.

Loan Account No./Name of the Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s) & Addresses	Address of the Secured/Mortgaged Immovable Asset / Property to be enforced	Demand Notice Date and Amount
Branch : PALI **(LAN No. H4Q2RLP0355741)** **1. PRAKASH PRAJAPAT** (Borrower) **2. SANTOSH PRAKASH PRAJAPAT** (Co-Borrower) Both At 0, Ram Nagar Mohalla, Natho Berra Narwar Junction Pali, Rajasthan-306001	**All That Piece And Parcel Of The Non-agricultural Property Described As:** RAM NAGAR GRAM MARWAR JUNCTION, TESHIL- MARWAR JUNCTION, DIST- PALI, 306001 East :- House of Jagdish Chandra., West :- Thala of Kuparam. , North :- Land of Parasnath, South :- 10 feet wide Road.	**21ST Nov 2024** **Rs. 4,69,908/-** (Rupees Four Lac Sixty Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Eight Only)

This step is being taken for substituted service of notice. The above Borrowers and/or Co-Borrowers Guarantors) are advised to make the payments of outstanding along with future interest within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice failing which (without prejudice to any other right remedy available with Bajaj Housing Finance Limited) further steps for taking possession of the Secured Assets/ mortgaged property will be initiated as per the provisions of Sec. 13(4) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act,2002.
The parties named above are also advised not to alienate, create third party interest in the above mentioned properties. On which Bajaj Housing Finance Limited has the charge.

Date: 03.12. 2024 Place:- PALI (Rajasthan) **Authorized Officer Bajaj Housing Finance Limited**

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ASHA spouse of No. 6395469H Hav/Hk khangar singh Unit 524 ASC Bn C/o 56 APO, Bikaner residing of Gungiya negadiya barakhan, Ajmer, Rajasthan 305926. I have changed my name from ASHA to **ASHA DEVI** vide affidavit BY 640482 before bikaner court.

GENERAL CAUTION

PUBLIC AT LARGE is hereby informed that **www.creditgateltd.com** is not a website hosted or used by Credit Gate Private Limited and Credit Gate Private Limited shall have no accountability for any transaction on **www.creditgateltd.com.** Credit Gate Private Limited does not have any office at 27, Vivekananda Road Kolkata, West Bengal, 700027 India.

5 INDIANS PART OF RAPID & BLITZ WORLDS

Lausanne: R Praggnanandhaa, Arjun Erigaisi and R Vaishali will be among five Indian participants in the upcoming 2024 FIDE World Rapid & Blitz Championships, the International Chess Federation (FIDE) said on Monday. The prestigious event will be held in New York City from December 26-31. **PTI**

BGT SHORTS

I'm good to go: Marsh ahead of pink ball Test

Australia's seam bowling all-rounder Mitchell Marsh has allayed concerns about his injury, declaring himself "good to go" for the pink ball second Test against India, which begins here on December 6. The 33-year-old had felt discomfort after bowling after bowling 19.3 overs in the opening Test, which Australia lost by 295 runs at Perth, but Marsh has confirmed his fitness ahead of the second Test at Adelaide Oval. Australia had included uncapped Tasmania all-rounder Beau Webster in the squad due to doubts over Marsh's fitness. However, Marsh has assured that he is ready for the challenge. Asked about any fitness concerns, Marsh told Channel Nine: "The body's all good, yep. Nah, nah, I'm good to go." "I'll be there," he added after arriving in Adelaide on Monday. This news will come as a boost for Australia, who are also dealing with the absence of pacer Josh Hazlewood, who pulled out of the pink ball Test due to a side strain. Marsh, who has been managing a recurring ankle injury, also underwent surgery that saw him miss parts of the 2022-23 summer. **PTI**

I'll tell my grandkids I faced Bumrah: Head

Australia batter Travis Head feels Jasprit Bumrah will go down as "one of the greatest fast bowlers to play the game" and said he'll proudly tell his grandchildren about the formidable challenge of facing the Indian pace maestro. Bumrah reinforced his status as the best bowler in the world with a stunning performance in the opening Test in Perth which India won by 295 runs. "Jasprit will go down as probably one of the greatest fast bowlers to play the game. I think we're finding that at the moment -- how challenging he can be, and it's nice to play against that," Head told reporters on Monday. "It's gonna be nice to go back and look at your career and go tell the grandkids that you faced him. So not a bad series of playing with him. Hopefully I'll face a few more times, but he has been challenging," he added. Bumrah, who was captaining the visiting side, led from the front with a match-haul of 8/72, including several pivotal wickets, showcasing his exceptional form. **PTI**

Gambhir to rejoin Indian team in Aus

India head coach **Gautam Gambhir** is set to rejoin the team in Australia ahead of the second Test at Adelaide Oval, having flown back home due to "personal reasons" after the big win in the series opener in Perth. Gambhir missed the two-day warm-up game against the Prime Minister's XI at Manuka Oval here, which was reduced to a 46-overs-a-side contest due to inclement weather. He had left the touring party on November 26, the scheduled final day of the first Test in Perth. India won the opening Test by 295 runs and with plenty of time left in the match. The second Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, a pink-ball day-nighter, will start on Friday. Finalising the playing XI will be Gambhir's top priority after he links up with the Indian squad. In Gambhir's absence, his three trusted lieutenants Abhishek Nayar, Ryan ten Doeschate and Morne Morkel oversaw the team's training and preparations for the tour match, which India won by six wickets. **PTI**

BENAFSHA'S TALE OF SURVIVAL

Escape from Kabul

Her father was killed in mysterious circumstances in Afghanistan, but cricket kept her determined at 18 to escape Taliban atrocities

EXPRESS IN AUSTRALIA

SRIRAM VEERA
CANBERRA, DECEMBER 2

BENAFSHA HASHIMI is sitting on her father's lap, stroking his beard, in Kabul, when an advisory message plays out on television. 'Don't come to Australia illegally on boats' - a note for the many travellers risking, often losing, their lives to get across.

Little Benafsha thinks Australia is just on the other side of the big river in Kabul. "I shall go there one day, I have to just cross the river". Her father tells her she has to learn swimming first. "Don't worry, I can go in a boat!" The father laughs but assures her that she can go the proper way one day but has to study hard and grow up.

Nearly a decade and a half later, in 2021, Benafsha, 21, ended up in Canberra. She escaped the Taliban's clutches and survived the mysterious death of her father, an Afghan special forces soldier. She saw her aunt bleed to death and witnessed myriad shootings. But at has been able to drag the entire Afghan women's cricket team to Australia. All this when she was still a teenager. It's a remarkable story of hope, willpower, selflessness, stubbornness, and a lot of cheekiness.

It's the morning of India's warm-up game against the Prime Minister's XI. Benafsha has agreed to meet at an outdoorsy cafe where a loud dog catches her attention. After petting it, she plonks back on her chair to announce, "I have a cat, Lilly. I love lilies and my Lilly. We talk a lot." Right now, she reflects her age; the rest of the time, as she narrates her life story, immense maturity floats in the air.

Hers is a tale where it's difficult to decide where to start. Perhaps in 2021, when the Taliban have taken over Kabul. She is 18 but responsible enough for her family of 10 to send her to the bank to withdraw money. She could hear Taliban soldiers outside the bank firing in the air.

The start could even be at the checkpost on the Pakistan border, when she is fleeing with the family in the middle of night "like a pack of thieves". They would be stopped by Talibs, who bark at her brother Hamid to tell "this girl" to stop talking. "Who has given a girl the right to talk, just stand aside," they would shout threateningly.

> **My well-wishers, who were trying to help me escape, called me an idiot. In weak moments, when I would think perhaps I should take it, an inner voice would say: 'C'mon Benafsha, you are a team player. You can't abandon your friends'."**

Or the moment when her phone starts to ring, with a popular Farsi love song triggering outrage among Taliban soldiers, and her brother muttering, 'we are all going to die' even as he tries to stop the call. It is her friend, a cricketing team-mate, wanting to know her whereabouts.

It's perhaps best to start with why that friend was reaching out. Not at that moment, but how Benafsha became the rallying group leader for the girls of her cricket team, and their families, to get to Australia. "No, it was a combined team effort, I couldn't have done it without my friends," she says but it's clear that they couldn't have even dared to dream this life without her.

She was the resourceful one, tirelessly pursuing opportunities outside, sending emails to all parts of the cricketing world and beyond for a possible light at the end of the Taliban tunnel. The first three replies were her passport to survival and a better life but she chose to ignore them. The US authorities offered her escape due to her father's past with them, Canada threw a lifeline, as did Dubai, but she was adamant that she wanted her team with her.

"My well-wishers, who were trying to help me escape, called me an idiot. But I was stubborn. In weak moments, when I would think perhaps I should take it, an inner voice would come loud and clear: 'C'mon Benafsha, you are a team player. You can't abandon your friends and be selfish'." And so she even lied to her mother that she didn't hear back from anyone. That they had to just wait and hope.

Then Mel Jones, a former Australia woman cricketer of stature, hears her story and offers help. The Australian authorities get into the picture but are shocked to hear that Benafsha wants the entire team and families to escape. "We can't do that. It's not easy, how can we take so many people out? You and your family come first."

But Benafsha listens to no one but her inner voice. "Even today when I speak to youngsters, I tell them my life motto is, 'Listen to all, but don't follow anyone. Only follow your heart, courage will come automatically'."

The conversation soon goes back to Kabul, her escape and her father. "He treated me like a little princess. Usually Afghan men prefer sons; he was different, distributing laddoos in the neighbourhood when I was born, his fourth child."

Due to the nature of his work, he was often away. "And then one day, he came in a coffin. There he was laid out, outside our door and I was not even 10 then. I just sat there, staring at him. My younger sister kept repeating, "he is just sleeping, he will wake up."

Benafsha Hashimi crossed over to Pakistan from Afghanistan, and then flew to Australia in 2021. *Express photo*

It was their mother who took both aside to tell them that their father was no more and it was okay to cry. "Don't bottle it up, cry if you have to. This is what it is. We have to face reality."

The reality kept turning dark. "Some said he had a heart attack, some said he was poisoned, we don't know to this day." Not long after that, another tragedy struck. Benafsha found herself pouring water on her aunt's dead body. "Only women are allowed in our tradition. She was shot in the hip and head, blood on her body when she was brought home." A childhood shot to pieces, pushing her to grow up rather too quickly, but luckily one remnant would remain.

"Cricket saved my life," she says with a chirpiness, adding solemnly, "Cricket is my life."

Her mother never liked her playing cricket. Especially in the streets with boys, once she grew up a little. The coaches at the academy didn't take a liking to her because she was a "street cricketer", not someone who grew up in the system.

> **And then one day, he (her father) came in a coffin. There he was laid out, outside our door and I was not even ten then. I just sat there, staring at him. My younger sister kept repeating, "he is just sleeping, he will wake up."**

Her memories of playing in the streets still remain special to her. "The empty oil tin cans were our stumps and I terrorised the boys by hitting!" It was her eldest brother Hamid who kept fighting with their mother to allow her to play cricket and things turned a bit when she won a scholarship to a cricket talent programme. Things kept escalating positively and she was named alongside 25 girls, officially contracted by the Afghanistan Cricket board in 2021. The lights would go out soon though.

She remembers that day at the bank just days after the Taliban took over. "When I heard the shootings, I froze in fear. I huddled behind other women, not knowing what would happen." But it wasn't the bullets that's her worst memory, but the vulgar gaze of a male Taliban soldier. "He gave me this look - a dirty look that I can't describe. He told the others to stop shooting and told me that the bank is shut today, but write your name now in this paper and come to meet me tomorrow. I shall take you inside. I ran from there, shivering. That look is my worst memory from those days in Kabul. It made me doubly determined to leave Afghanistan."

But even when the opportunities came, she didn't take them as she wanted her team to be safe too. "I am the one doing all the paperwork, emailing, talking in my broken English; what would happen to them if I left?" And so she pressed the Australian authorities to somehow pull off a miracle for her.

They buckled under her emotional pressure, and promised they would. That they will process the paperwork and get the required permission, but the evacuation can't be en masse. First she and her family. "I managed to get two more families along with me, of course," she smiles.

It's to that night in September 2021 she returns to. "Many in our group were happy, but me and my sister Safia, who is two years younger and also in our team, were sad. We love Afghanistan, We didn't want to leave …"

There were numerous checkpoints where they would all insist that they were off to a wedding. It was at one such post where her phone rang with a Farsi love tune drifting in the air. "The Talibs were so angry, screaming that it's blasphemy and that we shall be whipped. Somehow we got through." They were in Pakistan for a week before flying to Australia.

Benafsha's story is similar to those of other Afghan women players like Nahida Sapan, Aysha Yousofzai and Firooza Amiri, who escaped from Taliban under some pretext or the other.

It took people from different countries to accomplish the evacuation. Walwala and Toba in Afghanistan's cricketing circuit, unnamed Australian authorities, Mel Jones, and Catherine Ordway, a lawyer, academic, and sports integrity expert who has been part of tribunals.

Benafsha plays for two clubs in Australia, turned out briefly for the Sydney University team, and travelled to Fiji to play cricket with the organisation 'Cricket without Borders'. In January, she will represent an Afghan Women XI against Cricket without Borders at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. "We shall get there early January and there will be selection trials. I would absolutely love it if I were the captain!"

This match is a result of the exiled Afghan women cricketers writing to former International Cricket Council chairman Greg Barclay after the country's men's team reached the semifinals of the T20 World Cup. The letter sought help in setting up a refugee team for them in Australia.

Not everything is hunky dory. The past has a way to cling on, leaving its residue in the soul. Benafsha often wakes up screaming at night, calling out for her mother. "I would have different nightmares that also include me being about to be killed."

She explains: "Often, when you reach a safe place, with the troubles seemingly behind you, that's when the trauma hits." She is taking counselling and is all set to pursue her sports management course, that has psychology in the syllabus, at the Canberra University, starting February.

She then recalls a moment with her mother, who had worried about her playing cricket. "One day here, she said, 'Benafsha, without you, none of this would have been possible. I dread to think what would have happened to us in Kabul'."

As she gets up to leave, refusing the offer of a lift, Benafsha, which means 'violet' and whose nickname is '*Chhoti Shaitaan*' (Little Devil), smiles and says, "Don't worry *janaab* (sir), I know my way. This is my country now!"

How cricket has been Oz premier's unwritten perk over the years

SHIVANI NAIK
DECEMBER 2

AUSTRALIAN PRIME Ministers don't wade into cricket. Their toes, it would seem, are permanently sunk into the soft, fine sand on the beach that cricket resembles, while rougher political tides ebb and flow all around.

Not merely because the Indian team was camped in Canberra, and paid a visit to the PM Anthony Albanese, but Cricket and the Australian PM are entwined deeper than what normal statecraft, would afford. It's the unofficial distraction, a PM's unwritten perk.

Back in 2018-19 former PM Scott Morrison had a private WhatsApp group called 'Legends', and added Pat Cummins and then coach Justin Langer, onto it. He did his best to gee them up with, 'good luck, go get 'em today' messages, according to an Amazon documentary. Tim Paine earlier, received texts of encouragement from Morrison too. But cricket has famously wooed every inhabitant of 'The Lodge', the official PM residence.

PMs, considerably more ancient than Morrison, like Ben Chifley, the first post-war elected head, were in fact lobbied for serious issues. Chifley softened the federal entertainment tax on the sport, which during the 1948 tour by India, took out £17,724 out of the £76,186 gate receipts, writes historian Greg Blood.

Joseph Lyons, the Bodyline-era PM, saw the sport as a national distraction to Great Depression, but had to intervene to convince the bruised Aussies to carry on against Jardine's 'leg side threat'.

Australian state finances were delicate, and he was petrified Britain would play hardball on repayment of loans if the tour was called off. But Lyons famously adjourned Cabinet meetings to receive updates on team selections, kept the radio in his room blaring to catch clues of wicket and weather conditions and set up the Australian Broadcast Corporation in July 1932 for popularising cricket.

While Robert Menzies formalized the PM XI tradition that still carries on, his successor Bob Hawke, a grade cricketer in Sydney, famously survived a session till lunch with Jeff Thomson, Max Walker and Gary Gilmour darting all morning at him. Batting with sports writer David Lord in a Parlimentarians vs Press match, he pointed to Lord-Hawke partnership, and quipped, "We would make a great political team with a name like that." The trade unions chief took a few more bouncers to the head but was elected Prime Minister subsequently.

Australian PM Anthony Albanese hosted the Indian team last week. *Instagram/AlboMP*

Other PMs encountered cricket on their way to the top post. Paul Keating had his election campaign news pushed way down by Australia refusing to play a World Cup match at Colombo.

The unmissable presence though was of John Howard's - much before his ICC stint. He notoriously called Muttiah Muralitharan a chucker, saying rather uneloquently with no PM-esque grace that "they proved it in Perth with that thing." The biomechanics.

The self-anointed cricket tragic, who was a regular at SCG, spoke to Mark Taylor ahead of his 334 declaration in Pakistan, rejigged cabinet meetings to meet Tubby on arrival, found urgent matters to discuss with Britain around Ashes, and was in the stands for Steve Waugh's farewell, as PM. His constituency didn't vote him back to power, to watch Ricky Ponting bid goodbye, but the jury is out on whether his off-spin action on a Pakistan visit was "biomechanically faultless", as one commentator described.

What he did manage though was to deter Julia Gillard from attempting to roll her arm over, when she visited Delhi as PM. "I wasn't tempted to showcase my skills … because I don't really have any skills, so that would be a problem. I have learnt something from watching John Howard and that is, don't succumb to playing cricket in front of TV (cameras)," she jested.

Her decision to bestow the Order of Australia on cricketer Sachin Tendulkar though, saw her being accused of using cricket for diplomatic gain. Her hedge was that the Tendulkar headlines would smoothen feathers ruffled due to a tricky "nuclear issue which is a trust issue with the Indian government."

Kevin Ruud angered his own countrymen when he scolded his team battling the Harbhajan-Symonds controversy in 2008, lecturing, "It's a tough and competitive business (but) you can conduct it with a bit of civility." By the time of his second term in 2013, with Australia battling to save the third Ashes Test, and Usman Khawaja given out caught behind with replays unclear, the Gary Sobers fan was billowing away on Twitter like a proper cricket crank, "I've just sat down to watch the Test. That was one of the worst cricket umpiring decisions I have ever seen."

Tony Abbott, who took office after Gillard, admitted he made it to the Oxford cricket team because he could get lippy. "I couldn't bat, I couldn't bowl, but I could sledge," he said. He then proceeded to call English captain Alastair Cook an 'extremely stylish man in every sense.' Swooning over an English captain was more cringe than sledging them.

But Malcolm Turnbull, Abbott's successor belonging to the Liberal Party too, wanted to have nothing to do with sledging. PM during the ball-tampering scandal, he termed sledging "right out of control", and Steve Smith's admission a "shocking affront to Australia."

Little wonder then that Scott Morrison who followed, needed to calm things down, and pull off the modern-day, mature, masterstroke - forming a WhatsApp group with all relevant cricket characters on board. But we know how that one ended.

Albanese's cricket cred? He invited the Indians for high tea. Then Virat Kohli brewed a nice spicy masala storm in the tea cup.

BRIEFLY

Sindhu to tie knot on December 22

New Delhi: Two-time Olympic medallist shuttler PV Sindhu will tie the knot on December 22 in Udaipur. The former world champion, who ended a long title drought with victory at the Syed Modi International in Lucknow on Sunday, will marry Hyderabad-based Venkata Datta Sai, who is an executive director at Posidex Technologies. "The two families knew each other but it was only a month ago that everything was finalised. This was the only possible window as her schedule will be hectic from January," Sindhu's father, PV Ramana, told PTI. "So that is the reason the two families decided to have the marriage ceremony on December 22. The reception will be held in Hyderabad on December 24. She will start her training soon after as the next season is going to be important." **PTI**

U-19 Asia Cup: India thrash Japan

Sharjah: Mohamed Amaan led from the front with an unbeaten century, while KP Karthikeya and opener Ayush Mhatre made fifties to hand India a comfortable 211-run victory over minnows Japan in the Under-19 Asia Cup here on Monday. Amaan slammed an unbeaten 122 off just 118 balls, a knock studded with only seven boundaries, after India were invited to bat. Besides Amaan, Karthikeya made 57 off 49 balls with the help of five fours and one six, while Mhatre's fiery 29-ball 54-run knock featured six boundaries and four hits over the fence.

Brief Scores: **India Under-19:** 339 for 6 in 50 overs (Mohamed Amaan 122, KP Karthikeya 57, Ayush Mhatre 54; Hugo Kelly 2/42) beat **Japan Under-19:** 128 for 8 in 50 overs (Hugo Kelly 50; Hardik Raj 2/9) by 211 runs

Seales takes four wickets for 5 runs

Kingston: Fast bowler Jayden Seales took four wickets and conceded only five runs in almost 16 overs to give West Indies the advantage over Bangladesh on Day 2 of the second Test. Seales bowled 10 maiden overs in total and helped to mop up the tail Sunday as Bangladesh was all out for 164 in 71.5 overs in its first innings.West Indies trailed by 94 runs after reaching 70-1 at stumps in reply. Captain Kraigg Brathwaite is 33 not out and Keacy Carty is on 19. Mikyle Louis was the only wicket taken by Bangladesh, caught behind off Nahid Rana (1-28).

Brief scores: **West Indies** 70 for 1 (Brathwaite 33*, Rana 1-28) trail **Bangladesh** 164 (Shadman 64, Mehidy 36, Seales 4-5, Shamar 3-49) by 94 runs

Jamshedpur bag 3-1 win vs Mohammedan

Jamshedpur: Jamshedpur FC returned to winning ways with a 3-1 victory over Mohammedan SC in the Indian Super League here on Monday. Mohammed Sanan (53rd min) handed Jamshedpur FC the lead before Javier Siverio (61st) and Stephen Eze (79th) stepped up and joined the party at the JRD Tata Sports Complex. Mohammed Irshad (88th) scored a consolation goal for the visitors as the Khalid Jamil-coached team held their lines brilliantly. It was one of the slow burners where both teams took their time to settle down before throwing attacks at each other. **PTI**

WORLD CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

'Mistake after Mistake'

Carlsen, Kramnik, Nakamura left unimpressed by quality on show in title showdown between Ding Liren and Gukesh

AMIT KAMATH
MUMBAI, DECEMBER 2

THE FIDE world chess championship battle between holder Ding Liren and challenger D Gukesh spiced up quite early, with the Chinese grandmaster winning game 1 before allowing his opponent to level the score in Game 3. Heading into Tuesday's Game 7, both players are tied with three points each after three successive draws.

However, former world champions like Magnus Carlsen and Vladimir Kramnik have been left underwhelmed by the quality of play so far in the title showdown.

Kramnik flayed the players for calculating too much and not playing like humans.

"Frankly, I am very disappointed by today's game (Game 6). Even Game 5 was not extremely high level, but today it was really — for a professional — it was really weak play from both players. It's a very disappointing level," former world champion Kramnik ranted while analysing game 6 on his YouTube channel.

"It's such a strange game. Both players were making mistake after mistake, strategical mistakes. As if they don't get the sense of the position. Maybe I'm old-school but it's pretty basic! Of course, they're both great players and great calculators. They calculate fantastically. But I expect something a bit more from a world championship match, like ideas! Human play, human concepts! If I want to enjoy chess as just a game of calculation, I would rather watch a world championship of chess engines!"

Kramnik said that he didn't even want to analyse Game 6 too deeply because there were "too many obvious and conceptual mistakes". He pointed out a specific instance when Gukesh could have pushed for a win in the endgame with a push of his king while also pointing out how Ding had made life difficult for himself by making inaccuracies on the board. Ding's predecessor on the throne, Magnus Carlsen has also been doing daily analysis on his new Take Take Take app, where he frequently opens up on how he would have played differently if he were in the shoes of either player. After Game 5, he had some harsh words for the 18-year-old from Chennai.

"Gukesh has generally not impressed me (so far at the world championship). Ding has probably done a little bit better than we thought. But we probably didn't expect much (from Ding). And Gukesh has probably been a little bit worse," he said. Carlsen said Game 6 was "interesting", but pointed out, as Kramnik had, how Gukesh could have played for a win.

"D Gukesh has generally not impressed me (so far at the world championship). Ding Liren has probably done a little bit better than we thought."
— MAGNUS CARLSEN

"Very strange game (Game 6): even though Ding was better for much of the game positionally, it felt like Gukesh was the one trying to win the game!
— HIKARU NAKAMURA

"Both players were making mistake after mistake, strategical mistakes. As if they don't get the sense of the position. Maybe I'm old-school but it's pretty basic!
— VLADIMIR KRAMNIK

Not impressed

World No.3 Hikaru Nakamura called Game 6 a "strange game", pointing out the paradoxical nature of the play by the end.

"For me, this was a game that was hard to understand! I thought Ding had a nice position on the board out of opening, he was up on the clock. Easy position to play. He squanders the time advantage and then wants to make a draw. Gukesh declines and plays on. Very, very hard to judge. Very strange game: even though Ding was better for much of the game positionally, it felt like Gukesh was the one trying to win the game! Really hard to understand the psychology behind this game," said the American grandmaster on his YouTube recap.

The American went as far as saying that he was unable to understand what the world champion's strategy for the match was.

In Game 6, Gukesh made a daring attempt to keep the game going despite being in a worse position when he could have ended the game in a draw early with one move (moving 26…Qh4 instead of playing 26…Qe7). Ding, at that stage, had already signalled he was ready to head into the rest day with a draw. But Gukesh, instead of repeating the position for the third time, played a different move, thus signaling he wanted to grind on.

Kramnik was livid at Gukesh's tactics and exhorted some pragmatism considering the Indian is playing at the biggest stage of all.

"I understand it could have been some kind of an idea to play for a win but it's a very big misjudgement of the position. Obviously, white (Ding) is much better here. Modern-day players are so much into calculating variations. Black's position (Gukesh's position) is practically on the edge of losing. I don't understand! This is a world championship match. The decision here should be completely automatic."

Heading into Game 7, Carlsen predicted a "fight" solely because that's how games in which Gukesh plays with white have been so far. But he did have a sobering analysis of the match situation for the Indian prodigy.

"We're almost down to a 60-40 match, in Gukesh's favour. The odds are getting better and better for Ding. If he doesn't win the next game, we're closing in on a very even match."

No ice-cream, just some Thai food: Ding

A POST-PRESS conference exclusive with IM Mike Klein by Ding Liren (correct pronunciation Ding Lee-Gen spellt Lizhen), revealed that though the Chinese wasn't gorging on tubs of ice cream on the sidelines of the World Chess championship, he had his favourite among the frozen treats

"Strawberry ice cream," Liren named his favourite flavour, while adding that there was another flavour he was curious about.

Liren and Indian D Gukesh are currently level on points after Game 6, with Monday as rest day.

When asked if GM Rapport would be dispatched to find him strawberry ice cream, Liren said, "haven't had any ice cream, just some Thai food. I remember there was coconut ice cream ...."

Post a press conference where he further endeared the crowd with his quippy responses, Liren made light of his fast-gaining funny reputation. Chess 24 asked Ding Liren, "Do you like making us laugh?" The Chinese responded, "It is by accident. I really don't know what the question means."

Quizzed on whether he was happy that memes on him were getting popular and internet was talking about him, he said he recalled hearing, "I smile like a very innocent man." He also admitted he was a tad tired "after long thought on the opening", though the six games hadn't been particularly long. He thought was surprised that Gukesh refused the first offer of a draw. Expecting Gukesh to play same move third time, he was readying to write it in the score sheet where everyone records theirs and their opponent's moves. Then he realised Gukesh had changed course and refused draw with a different move.

The Russian chess federation official report of Game 6 meanwhile noted a coincidence in Liren's play similar to when he played Ian Nepomniachtchi last edition.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

A FAREWELL TO REMEMBER

Tennis icon Gabriela Sabatini with Novak Djokovic at Juan Martin del Potro's last match. *Reuters*

'Special player': DelPo bids emotional farewell

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
DECEMBER 2

A THUNDEROUS, iconic forehand and winning smile was enough for Juan Martin del Potro to endear himself into the heart of tennis fans when he stunned Roger Federer for the 2009 US Open title.

Once seemingly destined to be an all-surface champ, relentless injury issues derailed a career that failed to reach greater heights, and officially came to a close in an exhibition match that was a repeat of the 2018 US Open final — beating old friend and rival Novak Djokovic 6-4, 7-5 in Buenos Aires early on Monday.

The tributes for the 36-year-old Argentine poured in soon after.

"Like everyone here in this stadium, I am very emotional today," Djokovic said after the match. "I am also grateful for being able to play with my friend, with a great person and a great player, as well as a great rival. It is a very special day for me too.

"Juan Martin is an example for all of us, and his greatest victory in life is being a wonderful person," the 24-time Major winner added.

A video that played in the arena after the conclusion of the match included messages from the likes of Carlos Alcaraz, Gael Monfils, and Federer

"You were a very special player and person for the world of tennis, and I hope this moment is a beautiful one, one where you are celebrating, not a sad one."
ROGER FEDERER

"You were a very special player and person for the world of tennis, and I hope this moment is a beautiful one, one where you are celebrating, not a sad one. We all need to take that next step in life, and I believe the best for you is yet to come," Federer said.

"It has been a total honour and pleasure to play against you and spend time with you off the court. I wish you all the best and I am sure we will see each other soon," the Swiss legend added.

Del Potro reached a career-high ranking of World No. 3, and reached only one Major final after winning in New York in 2009. But among his career achievements, which includes 22 titles and over $25 million in prize money, are back-to-back Olympic medals in 2012 (bronze) and 2016 (silver).

MUMBAI INDIANS: FINDERS, KEEPERS

Behind spotting Ghazanfar, Minz; retaining scouts Sourabh, Robin

SANDEEP DWIVEDI
DELHI, DECEMBER 1

■ ALLAH GHAZANFAR is from Paktia, a Pashtun province with a violent history on Afghanistan's border with Pakistan. He is a 19-year-old mystery spinner, a lower-order six-hitter and is being compared to the greatest cricketer his country has produced - Rashid Khan.

■ Robin Minz grew up in Telgaon, the tribal belt in Jharkhand's Gumla district that's mostly in news for insurgency. He is a 22-year-old wicketkeeper, has earned a MS Dhoni recco and is also being called 'Jharkhand ka Chris Gayle.'

■ Bevon Jacobs was born in Pretoria, South Africa, now lives in Auckland, New Zealand. Those who have seen the 22-year-old play see shades of living legends from his country of birth - AB de Villiers and Faf du Plesis - in his batting.

At this week's mega Indian Premier League (IPL) auction, Mumbai Indians signed these youngsters who were unknown to those outside cricket's inner circle but are central to their plans going ahead. Ghazanfar and Minz, those in the know say, will start in all games. As for Jacobs, he is a long-term investment, one for the future.

The story of how MI spotted, followed, chased, tested and finally drafted these three promising players points to IPL's pushing back boundaries, stretching its reach and asserting its reputation as a truly global league. Not just India, the nets are now being cast into the deep interiors of the entire cricketing world. It's like the searing gaze of European football clubs on the ghettos of South America or NBA travelling to public basketball courts in Eastern Europe with cheque books. There's more ...

The valuable inputs about the potential of these untested players were provided by the army of ex-MI players spread across the world. Close to 15 talent-spotters have been MI's loyal and trusted retainers.

It also helps that MI have sister teams in franchise leagues in South Africa, USA and UAE. Since the launch of the International League T20, a tournament owned by the Emirates Cricket Board, MI have a unit stationed in Dubai. Incidentally, that is where the Afghanistan national team trains. MI old hand Robin Singh, who coaches MI Emirates, first spotted Ghazanfar when he got into the Afghanistan national camp.

Singh's regular cable to HQ Mumbai would mention the boy from Paktia. Ghazanfar was now on MI watch. Comparisons would be made. The optimists would see in him Sunil Narine - the Trinidadian mystery spinner-cum-opener who helped Kolkata Knight Riders win their third title earlier this year. At the junior level, the Ghazanfar graph would keep showing spikes. From the under-19 national team, he would graduate to the seniors.

Months before the auction, the Afghan boy would play India A in the Emerging Trophy tournament in UAE. He would dismiss India's big T20 hope - left-hander Abhishekh Sharma. Next in was India A captain Tilak Verma, the top-order batsman retained by Mumbai. Tilak would face a few Ghazanfar deliveries, most being dot balls. Another vital input would reach the MI core team that would be at the auction table. Tilak's green signal was all MI needed to go 'all out' for the Afghan teen. They would end up buying him for much less than what they had expected. Maybe, other franchises don't have that many talent scouts posted at every cricketing outpost. Maybe, that's why they didn't know his true worth.

Minz has a different backstory. The Jharkhand boy was part of the auction last time also. He was picked by Gujarat Titans for Rs 3.6 crore. Unfortunately for Minz, a freak motorbike accident ruled him out for the season. But MI's hot pursuit continued. They had whiffed a star, and didn't give up on the trail.

MI's man in Jharkhand is Saurabh Tiwary. The burly left-handed batsman was with the franchise for four years. He was a utility player, a master of cameos who MI kept retaining. He was reliable and it was this quality that came handy again. Tiwary's 'all ok' was a factor in Minz getting picked by MI.

Long-term view

While Ghazanfar and Minz are ripe to take the field, Jacobs still has time. MI is ready to wait. The batsman has numbers and is also recommended by the trusted voice of Mitchell McClenaghan, another former MI player. Back in 2015, the Kiwi pacer was signed for a bargain price of Rs 30 lakh. He would prove to be priceless that season. He got 18 wickets of which three were in the final against Chennai Super Kings. He played a role in MI winning the title. Even after retirement, he continues to be valuable. So when McClenaghan called to say that Jacobs had potential, MI were ready to listen and lift the paddle at the auction.

Robin Singh, Tiwary and McClenaghan are the back room boys to the coaching galacticos, also former MI players, seen in the dugout on match days. Starting with their first marquee player, the GOAT himself, Sachin Tendulkar, most MI stars, after their playing days, remain part of the Mumbai Indians set-up. Shaun Pollock, Ricky Ponting, Lasith Malinga, Shane Bond, Zaheer Khan ... the list is long.

It's the post-retirement employment, along with playing-day perks, that makes MI a franchise where players rarely leave after checking in. Take the example of India's present MVP, Jasprit Bumrah. He was spotted by MI's long-time talent spotter-in-chief John Wright, groomed by Bond and Malinga. When he got injured, the world-class medical facility, owned by the MI owners, came in handy. It was the same when Hardik Pandya got injured. Even lesser players are extended the same perks.

Back in 2019, MI's West Indian signing Alzarri Joseph, within days of his 6/13 on debut, got injured while taking a tough catch. Even six months after the IPL season, Joseph was put up in a five-star hotel for his rehab.

All this helps to answer that pre-auction puzzling retention question: How were Mumbai able to hold on to Rohit Sharma, Jasprit Bumrah, Suryakumar Yadav - the marquee players who could have got more cash and the captaincy arm-band from any other team of their choice? They wouldn't have got the same perks elsewhere.

This also ended up helping others. The huge supply-demand leadership gap would result in the likes of Rishabh Pant and Shreyas Iyer getting the crores that didn't match with their captaincy acumen and record. The unending spotting-retaining cycle also makes MI avoid the existential questions that a one-man franchise like CSK faces - Who after MS Dhoni?

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