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CHANDIGARH, FRIDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2022; PAGES 12 ₹2



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## Russia launches full-scale attack on Ukraine

AP ■ KYIV

Russia launched a wide-ranging attack on Ukraine on Thursday, hitting cities and bases with airstrikes or shelling, as civilians piled into trains and cars to flee. Ukraine's government said Russian tanks and troops rolled across the border in a "full-scale war" that could rewrite the geopolitical order and whose fallout already reverberated around the world.

The Russian military has destroyed 74 Ukrainian military facilities, including 11 air bases, an AP report said quoting Russia's Defense Ministry on Thursday.

In unleashing Moscow's most aggressive action since the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979, President Vladimir Putin deflected global condemnation and cascading new sanctions - and chillingly referred to his country's nuclear arsenal. He threatened any foreign country attempting to interfere with "consequences you have never seen."

Ukraine's President said Russian forces were trying to seize the Chernobyl nuclear plant, site of the world's worst nuclear disaster, and Ukrainian forces were battling other troops just miles from Kyiv for control of a strategic airport. Large explosions were heard in the capital there and in other cities, and people massed in train stations and took to roads, as the government said the former Soviet republic was seeing a long-anticipated invasion from the east, north and south.

The chief of the NATO alliance said the "brutal act of war" shattered peace in Europe, joining a chorus of world leaders who decried the attack, which could cause massive casualties, topple Ukraine's democratically elected gov-

ernment and upend the post-Cold War security order. The conflict was already shaking global financial markets: Stocks plunged and oil prices soared amid concerns that heating bills and food prices would skyrocket.

Condemnation rained down not only from the US and Europe, but from South Korea, Australia and beyond - and many governments readied new sanctions. Even friendly leaders like Hungary's Viktor Orban sought to distance themselves from Putin. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy cut diplomatic ties with Moscow and declared martial law.

"As of today, our countries are on different sides of world history," Zelenskyy tweeted. "Russia has embarked on a path of evil, but Ukraine is defending itself and won't give up its freedom."

His adviser Mykhailo Podolyak said: "A full-scale war in Europe has begun. ... Russia is not only attacking Ukraine, but the rules of normal life in the modern world."

While some nervous Europeans speculated about a possible new world war, the US and its NATO partners have so far shown no indication they would join in a war against Russia. They instead mobilized troops and equipment around Ukraine's western flank - as Ukraine pleaded for defense assistance and help protecting its airspace.

In Washington, President Joe Biden convened a meeting of the National Security Council on Thursday to discuss Ukraine as the US prepares new sanctions. Biden administration officials have signaled that two of the measures they were considering most strongly include hitting Russia's



Damaged radar arrays and other equipment are seen at Ukrainian military facility outside Mariupol, Ukraine, on Thursday, 2022. Russia has launched a barrage of air and missile strikes on Ukraine early on Thursday and Ukrainian officials said that Russian troops have rolled into the country from the north, east and south

AP/PTI

biggest banks and slapping on new export controls meant to starve Russia's industries and military of US semiconductors and other high-tech components.

The attacks came first from the air. Later Ukrainian authorities described ground invasions in multiple regions, and border guards released footage showing a line of Russian military vehicles crossing into Ukraine's government-held territory. European authorities declared the country's airspace an active conflict zone.

In a worrying development, Zelenskyy said Russian forces were trying to seize the Chernobyl plant, and a Ukrainian official said Russian shelling hit a radioactive waste repository and an increase in radiation levels was reported. The official spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the sensitive matter.

Related reports on P8

## Dissatisfied with India's position, Ukraine asks Modi to broker peace

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Ukraine on Thursday said it is "deeply dissatisfied" with India's position on the ongoing crisis there and appealed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to talk to Russian President Vladimir Putin to defuse the situation.

Expressing his country's views here, Ukraine ambassador Igor Polikh said India has a special relationship with Russia and it can play a more proactive role in de-escalation of the situation.

He said Prime Minister Modi is among very few leaders whom President Putin lis-

ten to, and New Delhi can use its proximity with Moscow to control the situation. The envoy said Ukraine has been following India's position on the crisis and it is "deeply dissatisfied" with it.

"We urge Prime Minister Narendra Modi to immediately contact Russian President Vladimir Putin and our President Volodymyr Zelensky," he said.

"I don't know how many world leaders Putin may listen to but, the status of Modi ji makes me hopeful. Because of his strong voice, Putin would at least think it over," he said.

## India on mission mode to evacuate its citizens

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With Russia launching military action against Ukraine, India on Thursday started working on contingency plans to bring back its citizens from Ukraine through alternate air routes.

The Indian embassy in Kyiv has also asked its citizens there to remain calm and safe. The control room to render assistance was expanded, and the IAF was also put on stand-by for evacuation.

Indian ambassador to Ukraine Partha Satpathy said, "The situation is highly tense and very uncertain, it is causing a lot of anxiety." He also said, "Air space is closed, railway schedules are in flux, and roads are crammed."

The envoy said the embassy continues to remain open and operate in Kyiv. He said the embassy has reached

out to the Indian diaspora and requested them to assist Indians in Ukraine.

The Indian ambassador also said the Ministry of External Affairs and the embassy are working on a "mission mode" to find a "solution to this difficult situation".

"I am reaching out to you from Kyiv. Today early morning, we all woke up with the news that Ukraine is under attack. The situation is highly tense," he said.

"I urge you to please stay wherever you are, in your familiar locations. Those who are in transit, please return to your familiar places of habitation. Those who are stranded here in Kyiv, please get in touch with your friends and colleagues in Kyiv, universities and other community members, so that you can temporarily lodge there," he said.

## Markets bleed

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Dalal Street saw one of its worst crashes ever and the Indian rupee plummeted against the dollar as the fear of economic fallout of Russia's attack on Ukraine gripped the investors, who lost nearly Rs 13.44 lakh crore on Thursday. Markets in Asia and Europe too were deep in the negative territory.

With the panicky investors seeking to shift to a safe haven, gold prices surged along with crude oil prices, which went past the USD 105 per barrel mark.

The 30-share BSE gauge plunged about 2,850 points during the session before closing at 54,529.91, registering a massive fall of 2,702.15 points or 4.72 per cent. This was its biggest decline since March 23, 2020. See P9

## NATO vows to defend entire Ukraine territory

AP ■ BRUSSELS

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg warned on Thursday that the military alliance would defend every inch of its territory should Russia attack a member country, as he slammed Moscow for brutal act of war on Ukraine.

World leaders reacted to Russia's invasion of Ukraine with raw outrage — and vows of unprecedented sanctions — that shrouded a sense of powerlessness to defend Ukraine militarily without running the risk of a wider war in Europe.

NATO had already rein-



forced its eastern flank facing Russia and planned a virtual summit of its leaders on Friday after President Vladimir Putin

warned that any interference from other countries would lead to "consequences you have never seen in history."

## Current situation complicated, fast changing, says Foreign Secy

### 'India committed to peaceful resolution'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India remains committed to Ipeaceful resolution of the ongoing crisis in Ukraine through talks and bringing out its citizens from there, Foreign Secretary Harsh Shringla said here on Thursday. He also said India is in constant touch with all the countries including the US and will take a stand after going through the draft resolution to be presented in the UN Security Council.

Describing the current situation there as "complicated, fast-changing and tough," he said India was in touch with all

the countries neighbouring Ukraine including Poland, Hungary, and Romania.

He said efforts were on to bring out the Indian citizens to these countries through the land borders and then evacuate them to India. The Foreign Secretary said Prime minister Narendra Modi had directed that the first priority was to bring out the stranded Indian citizens. The Prime Minister chaired a Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) late on Thursday to take stock of the scenario.

The Foreign Secretary said all the Indian citizens desiring to leave the country should move westwards for likely evacuation. Indian officials were in these countries to facilitate

entry there, he said. There are more than 20,000 Indians including students there.

Shringla also said India managed to convince the university authorities in Ukraine to conduct the classes online for Indian students.

Stressing the point that the main focus was to bring out all the Indian safely, he said 4,000 citizens had already left the country, Shringla said the government's interest was to ensure the safety of its citizens.

He also said India is playing its role in ensuring peace when asked why it did not criticize Russian action.

The Foreign Secretary said India has the best of relations with all the nations including the US and Russia.

## Opp slams Govt for delay in bringing back 20K Indians

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Opposition leaders on Thursday attacked the Government for not making timely arrangements to bring back nearly 20,000 Indians stranded in Ukraine and accused it of "turning away its face" on its nationals in this difficult time.

Leaders from Congress demanded that India should take a firm stand and "unequivocally condemn" Russia's action.

Attacking the Government for not acting despite repeated warnings, the Congress asked why it had not made arrangements in time to bring 20,000 Indians in Ukraine back home safely. Former party chief Rahul Gandhi asked the Government to expedite the evacuation process. "The safety of 20,000 Indians stranded in Ukraine is paramount," Rahul said in a

message.

Former Minister of State for External Affairs and Congress leader Shashi Tharoor said he is receiving a number of desperate messages from families of students stranded in Ukraine and needing evacuation. "Mr. Prime Minister, this is not the time for election strategy but for diplomatic strategy. Thousands of our children who have gone to study in Ukraine are stuck there, understand the priority!" Tharoor tweeted.

Tharoor also said however much one appreciates Moscow's legitimate security concerns, resorting to war is impossible to accept or justify, and India should demand that Russians "stop". "So Russia is conducting a 'regime change' operation. How long can India, which had consistently opposed such interventions, stay silent?" Tharoor tweeted.

## SC junks plea, Bhansali's film Gangubai set to release today

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday dismissed a plea seeking a stay on the release of the Bollywood movie Gangubai Kathiawadi. The Alia Bhatt starrer produced by Sanjay Leela Bhansali's Bhansali Production Private Ltd is scheduled for release on Friday.

A bench of Justices Indira Banerjee and J K Maheswari dismissed the plea of Babuji Rawji Shah, who claims to be the adopted son of Gangubai, against the Bombay High Court's order declining him various reliefs such as interim stay on the release of the movie.

At the outset, senior advocate A Sundaram, appearing for the filmmakers, told the bench that it would practically not be



possible to change the name of the movie, as suggested by the court, as they will have to go to the censor board again for this. He submitted that there cannot be any objection to the naming of the film as a censor certificate has been given to the movie. He questioned the locus of the petitioner and said that Shah claims to be the adopted son of Gangubai without evidence.

"There is no basis for adoption. A person is claiming to be

the adopted son and there's no prima facie evidence. He is a third party and he has only shown a ration card to prove his claim.

Not even a whisper of proof of the same apart from ration card," Sundaram said.

The senior lawyer further said that nothing prima facie has been shown to the court to prove there is anything defamatory in the movie. Sundaram said the entire case is premised on a book based on 2011 which they didn't consider challenging at that time. "The book was 'The Mafia Queens of Bombay'. Our film glorifies the lady as to what she has accomplished," he said.

There are judgements to show that the right of defamation dies with a person's death, Sundaram said.

## 15% rise in crime in 2021 amid Covid curbs

### 91% first timers committed heinous crimes in Delhi

SHEKHAR SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

Last year when the national Capital witnessed the Covid-19 pandemic leading to a lockdown, the Delhi Police recorded 91 per cent first timers involved in heinous and non-heinous cases registered across the city.

The national Capital witnessed a 15 per cent rise in crime in 2021 as compared to 2020. Police said that 3,06,389 crimes were reported in 2021 as compared to 2,66,070 cases

the previous year, citing that the increase in the crime rate was because of a lesser number of cases recorded during the pandemic in 2020.

A major 21.69 per cent rise has been witnessed in rape cases, with 1,969 incidents reported in 2021 as compared to 1,618 in 2020.

While releasing the report card at the Delhi Police annual conference, Police Commissioner, Rakesh Asthana said that around 70 per cent of the offences in the national Capital were petty crimes, including burglary, robbery and theft while 30 per cent were heinous crimes.

According to the data,



5,740 heinous crime cases were reported in 2021 as compared to 5,413 in 2020. In 2021, a total

of 2,87,563 cases under 'other Indian Penal Code (IPC) sections' (theft, robbery, burglary),

2,93,303 cases under 'total IPC' (heinous and theft) and 13,086 cases under 'Local and Special Laws' (arms-related crime, NDPS) were registered.

"A total of 459 cases of murder were reported in the Capital in 2021 while 472 murder cases were reported in 2020, witnessing a three per cent decline in 2021," the data stated.

Asthana said that only nine per cent of murder cases were related to criminal motive while 36 per cent were due to enmity or dispute. "There were 30 per cent murder incidents due to sudden provocation or trivial issue while 12 per cent were due to passion," said the

police chief.

However, there was a steep rise of 35 per cent in attempt to murder cases. "In 2021, a total of 655 cases of attempt to murder were reported in the city while in 2020, there were 485 cases registered," according to data.

Police claimed that they have arrested 1,629 people in the attempt to murder cases, witnessing a 45 per cent rise in the arrest of the accused as compared to 2020 in which police had arrested 1,126 people.

In 2020, a total of 7,965 cases of snatching were reported and in 2021, 9,383 cases were reported, an increase of 15 per cent. There is also an

increase of 13 per cent in terms of arrests in snatching cases.

There was a nine per cent increase in crimes against senior citizens in 2021. A total of 41,113 such cases were registered in 2021. The police chief said that 21 major gangs active in outlying districts of Delhi were identified by the police teams and most of these gangs were found operating from neighbouring districts of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh.

"Almost all the gang leaders and immediate associates are either in jail or neutralised. During the year 2021, seven dreaded criminals were neutralised," Asthana said.

## Delhi's film policy gets green light

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Cabinet on Thursday approved India's most progressive State film policy to promote the national Capital as a hub for modern filmmaking on European standards.

Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said: "Delhi Film Policy 2022 will attract tourism to the State in a never-seen-before manner; promote large-scale job creation and economic growth."



# Haryana Govt gives the highest honorarium to Anganwadi Workers and Helpers, says Khattar

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Thursday urged the Anganwadi Workers and Helpers working in Haryana not to get misled or instigated by some political leaders as in the last seven years, several steps have been taken by the State Government to safeguard their interest.

Addressing a press conference here, Khattar said, “We have taken several concrete steps in the interest of Anganwadi Workers and Helpers. In the month of December also, the honorarium of Anganwadi Workers and helpers was increased by Rs. 850 and Rs. 736, respectively.” Home and Health Minister, Anil Vij was also present on this occasion.

“Haryana is among the first three states of the country, where the highest honorarium is being given, while in the states of North India, Haryana ranks first,” added Khattar. He said Rs. 12,661 is given to the Anganwadi workers with more than ten years experience, while Rs. 11,401 is given to the Anganwadi Workers with less than 10 years of experience and Mini Anganwadi Workers. In Punjab Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Delhi, Rajasthan, Pondicherry, West Bengal Anganwadi Workers are getting Rs. 9500, Rs. 6500, Rs. 10,000, Rs. 9678, Rs. 10,500, Rs. 6540 and Rs. 6750 respectively.

Divulging the details about the Honorarium being given to Anganwadi Helpers by Haryana in comparison with other states, the Chief Minister said that an amount of Rs. 6781 is given to the Anganwadi Helpers of Haryana. Anganwadi Helpers working in Punjab, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Delhi, Rajasthan, Pondicherry, West Bengal are getting Rs. 4750, Rs. 3250, Rs. 5000, Rs. 4889, Rs. 5800, Rs. 4375 and Rs. 4800 respectively.

“We have increased the honorarium of Anganwadi workers and helpers from time to time. In the year 2014, the honorarium of Anganwadi workers was Rs. 7500 per month, which has now increased to Rs. 12,661. Similarly, the honorarium of the helpers was Rs. 3500 per month in the year 2014, which has now increased to Rs. 6,781,” he said.

The Chief Minister said that earlier the Anganwadi workers used to get Rs.30,000 as ex gratia on retirement, which has been increased to Rs. 1 lakh and similarly the exgratia of Anganwadi helpers has also been increased to Rs.50,000. A provision of Rs 2 lakh has been made to Anganwadi workers and helpers in case of accidental death, he added. “We have fulfilled almost all the demands raised by the Anganwadi Workers and Helpers. In future also all their legitimate demands would be met,” added Khattar.

## PRE-BUDGET MEETINGS FOR HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT

The Chief Minister said that in a bid to prepare a democratic budget, ensuring the holistic development of the state with the participation of all the stakeholders, in the year 2019, a new tradition was started to seek suggestions from various stakeholders

before finalizing the budget. He said that this year the series of pre-budget meetings began on February 7. A total of eight meetings have been held so far in which 427 eminent personalities from different fields have shared their views. “Meetings were held with the heads of all departments, representatives of urban local bodies, industrialists, representatives of panchayats, representatives of agriculture sector, health, real estate and education sector,” he said.

Responding to a question regarding Haryana’s take on decreasing the area coming under the NCR region, he said that the call has to be taken by the Ministry of Urban Development. The decision in this regard would be finalized in the NCR Planning Board meeting. “As per the official data 57 percent area of Haryana has come into NCR. Now people are facing many difficulties and due to this in principle approval has been given to the proposal made by the State Government not to include the area up to Hundred kilometers in NCR,” he added.

Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department, Rajeev Arora, Additional Principal Secretary to Chief Minister, Dr. Amit Agrawal, Director General of Police, P. K. Agarwal, ADGP, CID, Alok Mittal and other officers remained present on this occasion.

## AYUSHMAN BHARAT BENEFITS TO FAMILIES HAVING LESS THAN RS. 1.80 LAKH AS ANNUAL INCOME

Haryana Government has decided to extend the benefits of Ayushman Bharat to all those families whose annual family income is less than Rs. 1.80 lakh and to those who are not included in Socio Economic Caste Census (SECC) data. The Chief Minister said that the decision of extending the benefits of Ayushman Bharat to those having family income less than Rs.1.80 lakh and those who are not included in SECC data has been taken while upholding the spirit of Antodaya.

“The process of registration of all such families having verified income has been started. Three phases of income verification have already been done. Now the data of these verified families would be uploaded on the Ayushman Bharat portal so that they can get their cards,” said Khattar. He said that with the aim of reaching out to the last person in the pyramid first, Mukhya Mantri Parivar Antyodaya Uthtan Yojana has been started by the State Government. “Under this special Antyodaya Melas were organised in which around 90,000 eligible families have filled the forms of which 37512 applications for loan approval have been approved,” he added.

## MASSIVE CAMPAIGN TO BE LAUNCHED AGAINST DRUG MENACE

Stringent steps are being taken by the State Government to curb drug misuse while understanding the fact that at present time, drug abuse has become a matter of serious concern for society, Khattar said. He said that a detailed State Action Plan has been prepared by the Haryana State Narcotics Control Bureau after a thorough study on all

the aspects related to drugs last year. Village, ward, cluster, sub-division, district and state mission teams have been formed to involve citizens of all age groups in the ‘Yagya of drug-free Haryana’. He said that these 10 member teams would be constituted by the end of March and would include 5 local representatives and 5 officers, adding that soon a massive campaign against drugs would be launched across the State and forward, backward linkage mechanism has been established to reach the roots of this menace. The Chief Minister also sought suggestions for the name of this campaign to be run against the drug menace. He said that to help those involved in drug abuse, drug de-addiction centres would be set up and special counselling sessions for such people would be ensured to help them to leave this bad habit and further bring them into the mainstream.

He said in the last year, Haryana State Narcotics Control Bureau (HSNCB) and Haryana Police have registered 2,746 cases and arrested 3,975 accused. During this, 29.13 kg heroin, 157.25 kg charas, 11,368 kg ganja, 356.19 kg opium, 8550 kg Chura Post and 13, 64,121 intoxicating pills, syrup, etc. have been seized.

“Anti Narcotics Cells have been established at District, Range and State level. These cells coordinate with drug control agencies in India and abroad such as Narcotics Control Bureau, neighbouring States, Inter-State Drug Secretariat, and the Opium Producing States etc. to identify the supply chain of narcotics,” said Khattar. The Chief Minister said that these cells are working towards creating a database of drug traffickers, their key financiers and criminals arrested in drug cases. The cells also maintain the records of major drug manufacturers whose drugs can be used for substance abuse.

Home Minister Anil Vij who also remained present during the press conference, warned the drug peddlers that either they should stop drug smuggling or they have to leave Haryana. “A round-the-clock Toll-free no.-90508-91508 has been issued by the Bureau to assist drug victims and to share relevant information about the criminals involved in the illegal drug trade. On this number, any person can give information related to drugs and can fulfill his social responsibility by making a pivotal contribution in the eradication of this social evil from society.

The name of the informer is kept confidential,” added Vij.

Haryana would be made Drug free and for this entire police department other than the Narcotics Department has been directed to tighten the noose around those involved in gambling, liquor smuggling, illegal weapons, besides Drugs, he said.

Till date as many as 18,937 raids have been conducted and 4879 cases have been registered, 5379 accused have been arrested. Besides this, an amount of Rs. 65,35,643 has been recovered. As many as 172 illegal pistols, 202 cartridges and 76,154 liquor bottles have been recovered during these raids,” Vij added.

On a question, he said, “Chief Minister and I may have different opinions on certain issues but our resolve for state’s development is the same.”

# Hoshiarpur court gives bail to five-time CM Badal in a dual constitution case

IN OCTOBER 2021, THE LOCAL COURT HAD GRANTED INTERIM BAIL TO SAD PRESIDENT SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

A Hoshiarpur local court on Thursday granted bail to Punjab’s five-time Chief Minister and SAD patriarch Parkash Singh Badal in a dual constitution case, filed against his party in 2009.

The court of Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate (ACJM) Rupinder Singh granted bail to the senior Badal, who personally appeared in the trial court of ACJM on Thursday, in the case wherein the complainant had accused the Akali Dal of submitting two different constitutions — one with the Gurdwara Election Commission and the second with the Election Commission of India (ECI) — to seek recognition as a political party.

Hitesh Puri, lawyer for social activist and complainant Balwant Singh Khara, said that Badal had furnished his surety bonds or bail bonds in the local trial court of ACJM to the tune of Rs one lakh in pursuance of the interim bail order of Wednesday passed by the court of JPS Khurmi, Additional

Sessions Judge, Hoshiarpur.

In October 2021, the local court had granted interim bail to SAD president Sukhbir Singh Badal in the same case involving the allegation that his party had submitted a false undertaking to the poll panel to seek recognition for his party.

The complainant had alleged that the SAD had given a false undertaking to the ECI that it had amended its constitution to incorporate the principles of socialism and secularism whereas it continued its activities as a panthic party and openly participated in Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee elections.

The three main accused in this case are Parkash Singh Badal, Sukhbir Badal and SAD spokesperson Daljit Singh Cheema. While Sukhbir and Cheema had appeared in this case last year and are out on bail, Senior Badal had given several misses owing to personal reasons. The complainant, Khara, contended that SAD is not a secular party as per the Constitution of India as it has two separate constitu-



## MAINPOINTS

- THE COURT OF ADDITIONAL CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE (ACJM) RUPINDER SINGH GRANTED BAIL TO THE SENIOR BADAL, WHO PERSONALLY APPEARED IN THE TRIAL COURT OF ACJM
- THE COMPLAINANT HAD ALLEGED THAT THE SAD HAD GIVEN A FALSE UNDERTAKING TO THE ECI THAT IT HAD AMENDED ITS CONSTITUTION TO INCORPORATE THE PRINCIPLES OF SOCIALISM AND SECULARISM

tions. SAD had registered itself as a secular party with ECI but has been participating as a religious body for the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) elections, he added. Punjab and Hary-

ana High Court, on August 27, 2021, had disposed of a petition by SAD against the proceedings of Hoshiarpur court that had summoned Sukhbir, his father Parkash Singh Badal, and Cheema.

# Chandigarh to host its 50th Rose Festival from Feb 25 to 27

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

The Municipal Corporation of Chandigarh (MCC) will host its 50th Rose Festival from Friday amidst blooming roses in Rose Garden Sector 16, Chandigarh. For the 50th Golden Jubilee edition of the three-day mega event, the MCC has teamed up for making all out preparations to adorn the beautiful Rose Garden and the Leisure valley, in order to host the annual event and make it a big one festival in the city and therefore three high entertainment musical evenings are being arranged for Public and visitors during this weekend. The UT Administrator Banwarilal Purohit will inaugurate the festival at the Zakir Rose Garden. Sarbjit Kaur Dhillon, Mayor, Chandigarh after taking round in the Rose Garden in the evening to see the final preparation, said that the Rose Festival in Chandigarh will commence from Friday and will continue consecutively for three days upto February 27. The lively ceremony will commence with the beating of drums, releasing of balloons, playing of bands, folk dance performances displayed by different states, showcasing of regional art forms.

# About 2000 from Haryana stuck in Ukraine, in touch with MEA, says Haryana Chief Minister

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Thursday said that about 2,000 people from Haryana, mostly students, were stuck in Ukraine and he was in touch with the Union Ministry of External Affairs on this issue. Khattar also said the MEA had already set up a control room, while in Chandigarh, a control room has been set up by the state government where people from Haryana can contact on WhatsApp number 92123-14595.

They can also reach Foreign Cooperation Department of Haryana government over “email-- contactusatfd@gmail.com”. Khattar, who was addressing a joint press conference with Home Minister Anil Vij, while referring to the Ukraine situation, said among the Indians who are stuck there include nearly 2,000 from Haryana.

“I am in touch with the Ministry of External Affairs,” he said, replying to a question on the Ukraine situation and the number of those from Haryana who are stuck there.

To another question, he said mostly students are among the nearly 2,000 from Haryana who are stuck. Among the students too, most of them are those who had gone to study medicine in Ukraine, the chief minister said.

Khattar said he had received a letter from Congress general secretary Randeep Singh Surjewala and some Haryana MLAs had also contacted him



regarding the people of state who are stuck in Ukraine.

In his letter, Surjewala urged Khattar to take up with the Prime Minister to extend all facilities to the Indians who are stuck in Ukraine and make arrangements to bring the countrymen, including nearly 2,000 from Haryana, back home safely. Surjewala had also urged Khattar to direct the Deputy Commissioners in the state to prepare a list of those who had gone to Ukraine from their districts after which the government should try to establish contact with them.

## PUNJAB CM URGES PM TO INTERVENE FOR SAFE RETURN OF INDIANS FROM UKRAINE

Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi on Thursday sought Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s intervention for the rescue and safe return of Indians, including Punjabis, stuck in Ukraine. As Russia carries out a military operation in Ukraine, the Indian embassy has asked Indians in that country to maintain calm and remain safe wherever they are.

“Deeply concerned over the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war. I urge Hon’ble PM Narendra Modi Ji to intervene for the rescue and safe return of Indians in general and Punjabis in particular, stuck in war-hit Ukraine,” Channi tweeted. His predecessor Capt Amarinder Singh also took to Twitter to seek safe return to all Indians. “Given the precarious situation developing in Ukraine, I urge the Govt. of India to put all mechanisms in place for the safe and early return of all our nationals stuck there,” he tweeted.

A day earlier, Aam Aadmi Party’s Punjab chief ministerial candidate Bhagwant Mann also appealed to the Central Government to make arrangements to bring back Indian students safely and had also raised the issue of “multi-fold increase in air ticket prices”.

AAP MP had demanded strict action against the airline for raising ticket prices. “Hundreds of students from across Punjab were studying in Ukraine and their parents were worried about their safety,” he had pointed out.

# Cong accuses HP govt of spying on MLAs through PSOs; CM denies charge



PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the Himachal Pradesh Assembly, Mukesh Agnihotri, on Thursday accused the state government of spying on MLAs through their personal security officers (PSOs). Raising the issue in the assembly on the second day of the ongoing budget session, Agnihotri stated that the state CID in a message on its WhatsApp group directed the PSOs of the MLAs to inform it about their locations.

The PSOs were further directed not to disclose to MLAs that their locations had been asked, he claimed. The LoP alleged that the state government did not get Pegasus software but it is spying on the Opposition as well as the ruling MLAs through PSOs. The state government should

immediately suspend the officer who sent the message on the WhatsApp group, Agnihotri said.

Replying to his allegations, Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur said the government had not directed any officer to spy on any of the MLAs. The question of doing so by the state government does not arise at all, he said, adding that the privacy of the MLAs would be maintained.

“Sometimes, information regarding the locations of MLAs is sought by the police for ensuring their security,” he added. The chief minister said he would check if any such message was sent for spying.

He added that action would be taken against the responsible officer if it’s determined that information regarding the whereabouts of MLAs was sought for spying.

# Tampering with history in school books: AAP seeks immediate ban on Class XII’s ‘controversial’ books

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Demanding immediate withdrawal and ban of controversial history textbooks for Class XII, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Thursday levelled serious allegations against Akali Dal Badal-BJP and Congress Governments of tampering with the Sikh history.

“A big-scale and calculated conspiracy has been hatched to distort the facts about Sikh history, Sikh Gurus, Gurubani and the history of Punjab and its martyrs,” alleged AAP’s spokesperson and MLA Kultar Singh Sandhwan. He said that this misinformation and distorted facts are being served to the new generation, but Congress, Captain and SAD-BJP governments do not care because they are only thinking of making money through ‘book mafia’, in collaboration with the private publishing houses; and that was why a book, with so many mistakes, is being sold for Rs 400 to the Class XII students. Sandhwan demanded immediate withdrawal of these books from syllabus and ban on books of Prof Manjit Singh, Dr AC Arora, and Dr MS Mann, all published by private publications.

AAP leader also sought

## HIGHLIGHT

- A big-scale and calculated conspiracy has been hatched to distort the facts about Sikh history, Sikh Gurus, Gurubani and the history of Punjab and its martyrs

clarification from the Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi, Punjab Congress president Navjot Singh Sidhu, Education Minister Pargat Singh, former Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh, former Education Minister Vijay Inder Singla, former Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal, former Deputy Chief Minister and SAD president Sukhbir Singh Badal including other Congressmen and Akali Dal (Badal) politicians as to whether Guru Hargobind Ji had served in the army of Mughal ruler Jahangir after releasing 52 kings from Gwalior Fort.

“This is stated by AC Arora on page 81 of his book ‘History of Punjab’. Do the ruling government and scholars agree with this statement? If not, why are such books still part of the school syllabus and why are they (previous

governments) silent on the controversial remarks?” he asked. Sandhwan added, “Dr Mann’s book states that Guru Hargobind was forced to pick up the sword by the jatts of Punjab. Aren’t such comments a direct attack on Miri-Piri’s resolve? The Congress and the Akali (Badal) should also clarify this. Similarly, it says that Guru Gobind Singh formed Khalsa Panth to include jatts in his army, which is not only wrong but also intolerable.”

He also pointed out that Gurbani quoted in these books is full of spelling mistakes, which changes its meaning and is disrespect of Gurbani. Sandhwan also expressed surprise over silence of Akal Takht Jathedar and the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee over the issue, when so many written complaints are being lodged in this regard.

Further highlighting that these books also contain disinformation about freedom fighters and martyrs of Punjab, Sandhwan apprehended that making such controversial books part of school education is a bigger conspiracy to distort our history by easily influencing our young minds. “It is an academic fraud and such books should be banned immediately,” he demanded.

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH/MOHALI

Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) leader Bikram Singh Majithia, who surrendered before the Mohali court on Thursday after end of the protection from arrest granted by the Supreme Court in connection with a drugs case, was sent to judicial custody till March 8. However, his bail plea will come up for hearing before the Mohali court on Friday.

Majithia, complying with the Apex Court’s directions, had surrendered in the court and applied for regular bail in a drug case registered against him in December last year.

“As per orders of the Supreme Court, I have appeared before the (Mohali) court,” said Majithia while speaking to the reporters before entering the court premises.

With the Court’s permission, the Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the case questioned Majithia for nearly 90 minutes in the court complex.

Notably, the Supreme Court had recently directed the Punjab Police to not arrest the former Punjab Minister till February 23 in a

drugs case to enable him to contest the elections and undertake electioneering in the state.

A bench comprising Chief Justice NV Ramana and Justices AS Bopanna and Hima Kohli had also directed Majithia to surrender before a trial court after the Punjab assembly polls on February 20. It had also directed the trial court to hear and expeditiously decide Majithia’s regular bail plea after his surrender in the case.

The pre-arrest bail plea of Majithia, who



was booked under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act on December 20 last year, was dismissed by the Punjab and Haryana High Court on January 24. An appeal had been filed in the Apex Court. Majithia, who is the brother-in-law of SAD chief Sukhbir Singh Badal and brother of former Union Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal, contested the February 20 polls from the Amritsar East constituency, from where Punjab Congress president Navjot Singh Sidhu is seeking re-election.

# 4,850 cases being probed under PMLA: Centre to SC

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre on Thursday told the Supreme Court that 4,850 cases have been taken up for investigation under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) in the last 17 years and proceeds of crime of ₹98,368 crore were identified and attached under the provision of the law.

The Government told a bench headed by Justice A M Khanwilkar that investigation in these offences was carried out under the PMLA, including 2,883 searches. The apex court is hearing arguments on a batch of pleas concerning the interpretation of certain provisions of the PMLA.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, told the bench that investigation in 57 cases of terror and Naxal financing has resulted in the identification of proceeds of crime of ₹1,249 crore and attachment of proceeds of crime of ₹982 crore, that is 256 properties, and filing of 37 prosecution complaints and conviction of two terrorists under the PMLA. He said that out of the ₹98,368 crore which were identified and attached, proceeds of crime of ₹55,899 crore have been confirmed by the adjudicating authority.

dicating authority.

"In addition to this, proceeds of crime of ₹853.16 crore has already been confiscated to the Central government under the orders of the competent court," Mehta told the bench, also comprising Justices Dinesh Maheshwari and C T Ravikumar. "In the last 17 years, 4,850 cases have been taken up for investigation under the PMLA. The investigation in these offences was carried out by using investigative tools as provided under the PMLA including 2,883 searches," he said.

Mehta said the present batch of matters, which are pending consideration before the bench, involve a total expected alleged laundering of over ₹67,000 crore. "It is pertinent to mention here that quantum of proceeds of crime involve in the bunch cases of PMLA which are under consideration by court is ₹67,104 crore," the note filed by the solicitor general said.

"The proceeds of crime of ₹98,368 crore were identified and attached under section 5 of the PMLA out of which, proceeds of crime of ₹55,899 crore has been confirmed by the adjudicating authority and substantial part of the attached proceeds of crime are still under adjudication by the adjudicating authority," he

said.

The solicitor general said that during his arguments on Wednesday, he had referred to the figure relating to the attachment of assets worth over ₹18,000 crore of fugitive offenders Vijay Malloya, Nirav Modi, and Mehul Choksi. "It is submitted that timely attachment of proceeds of crime has led to attachment of assets worth of ₹19,111.20 crore out of total fraud of ₹22,585.83 crore by three fugitive offenders namely Vijay Malloya, Nirav Modi, and Mehul Choksi," Mehta has said in his note filed in the court.

"Out of the attached proceeds of crime from these 3 individuals, assets of ₹15,113.91 crore has already been returned back to public sector banks by the ED u/s 8(7) PMLA through the order of the court and assets worth of ₹335.06 crore has been confiscated to the Government of India i.e. 66.91 per cent of a total loss to the banks in these 3 cases has been returned back to them by the ED," the note said. It further said that the State Bank of India has already recovered cash of ₹7,975.27 crore by selling a part of assets returned to it by the ED and the process of liquidation of other restituted assets by the banks is continuing.

# Process to appoint Lokayukta on, Delhi Govt tells HC



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Government on Thursday told the Delhi High Court that the process of appointing a Lokayukta, as promised by the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in its election manifesto of 2020, was going on. The submission was made in response to a public interest litigation seeking a direction to the AAP Government here to appoint within one month a Lokayukta as promised by the party in its election manifesto.

Noting the submission of the counsel for Delhi Government, a bench of Chief Justice D N Patel and Justice Jyoti Singh listed the matter for further proceedings on April 29. Petitioner Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay, a lawyer, has stated that the political party came

into existence after the historic anti-corruption movement but the post of Lokayukta has been lying vacant since December 2020.

Delhi Government standing counsel Santosh Kumar Tripathi submitted that a meeting was convened in this regard and a name has been recommended for the appointment and the process is going on. The petitioner has alleged that the Delhi government is not taking steps to weed out the menace of bribery, black money, benami property, tax evasion, profiteering and other economic as well as white-collar offences and therefore, being the protector of fundamental rights, the court has to intervene in the matter of the appointment of a Lokayukta.

"When Justice Reva Khetrapal retired as Delhi

## Hate speeches: HC nixes petition on Delhi riots

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court Thursday refused to entertain an application challenging the maintainability of a petition which sought investigation against certain political leaders for allegedly delivering hate speeches which led to violence in February 2020 in the backdrop of protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act. "We are telling you our decision, it is dismissed. You are not a necessary or a proper party. We do not propose to allow you to intervene. Don't try to turn it into a circus. We are not keeping it pending. Your client is a gate crasher," a bench of Justices Siddharth Mridul and Anup Jairam Bhambhani said.

Lokayukta, the Government did nothing to fill the post till date and hundreds of complaints relating to corruption are pending in the office," the petition claimed. "The AAP was formed after the historic anti-corruption movement but the same party is not appointing the Lokayukta which confirms State's poor performance on many fronts," the plea submitted.

# SC to hear plea against Cal HC order directing SEC to take call on Central forces' deployment

## The Bench agreed to hear the matter on February 25

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday agreed to hear a plea by BJP leaders against the Calcutta High Court for directing the State Election Commissioner to examine the ground situation in each of the 108 West Bengal municipalities going to polls on February 27, and take a decision on deployment of central paramilitary forces.

A bench of Chief Justice N V Ramana and Justices A S Bopanna and Hema Kohli was told by senior advocate P S Patwalia, appearing for BJP leaders Mousumi Roy and Pratap Banerjee, that the high court has put the ball in State Election Commission's (SEC) court.

CJI Ramana said, "Problem is virtually, we are now addressing the issue of governance. This is for the Election Commission to decide."

Patwalia, who mentioned the matter before the bench for urgent hearing, submitted that in another matter related to Tripura municipal elections, this court has passed orders

related to deployment of central forces.

The bench then agreed to hear the matter on February 25.

The Calcutta High Court said on Wednesday that if the commissioner decides against deploying paramilitary forces, then he will be personally liable to ensure that violence-free and fair elections take place.

Directing the commissioner of the SEC to collect information on conditions prevailing in municipalities where polls are scheduled, the high court had asked him to hold a joint meeting with the home secretary and the DGP within 24 hours.

The court had asked the commissioner to take a decision in writing "by mentioning the relevant circumstances in support of his decision to deploy/not to deploy the paramilitary forces," in each of the 108 municipalities.

Praying for direction to the SEC to deploy paramilitary forces for the February 27 polls, the petitioners before the high court has alleged that a state of terror is prevailing and in almost 10 per cent of the municipalities going for polls, ruling Trinamool Congress candidates have won uncontested as nominations were not allowed to be filed by other contestants.

# Defence Ministry signs MoU with CSC e-Governance to provide online pension services

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Defence has signed a memorandum of understanding with CSC e-Governance Services India Limited to provide online pension services at over four lakh common service centres across the country, an official statement said on Thursday.

The MoU will provide last mile connectivity to pensioners, especially those who reside in remote areas of the country and those who do not have the means or technical wherewithal to log on to System for Pension Administration-Raksha (SPARSH), the ministry's statement noted.

"For these pensioners, the service centres will become an interface for SPARSH and pro-

vide an effective medium for pensioners to perform profile update requests, register grievances and seek redressal, digital annual identification, pensioner data verification or simply fetch detailed information regarding their monthly pension," it mentioned.

SPARSH has been designed keeping defence pensioners at the centre, who will be given a completely transparent view of their pension account, through an online portal, it stated.

"It captures and maintains a complete history of events and entitlements of the pensioner - right from the date of commencement of pension to the date of cessation of pension due to the last eligible beneficiary," it noted.

# NIA books key conspirator of Hizb-ut-Tahrir TN case

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Thursday arrested a key conspirator of Hizb-ut-Tahrir in Md Iqbal HuT case of Tamil Nadu registered last year by the federal anti-terror probe agency.

"Today (24.02.2022), NIA arrested the main recruiter of Hizb-ut-Tahrir (HuT), namely, Ziyavudeen Baqavi, r/o Kumbakonam Taluk, Tamil Nadu in RC-08/2021/NIA/DLI," the NIA said in a statement.

This case was originally registered as FIR No. 971/2020 at police station Thideer Nagar, Madurai pertaining to conduct of secret 'bayaan' classes by members of HuT, an offshoot of ISIS, a Proscribed Terrorist Organization, for radicalizing the vulnerable Muslim youth in

order to establish an Islamic State/Caliphate and enforce the constitution written by radical Islamic preacher, Taqi al-Din al-Nabhani, who was founder of HuT, it said. This case was re-registered by the NIA April 26 last year. Earlier, two accused persons were arrested in the case.

Investigation has revealed that Ziyavudeen Baqavi is the leader (Nakib) of HuT for Thanjavur, Madurai, Erode and Salem districts of Tamil Nadu and Karaikal district of Puducherry.

He is one of the main recruiters for HuT, who used to preach about the importance of the Islamic State, Khilafah in the general bayaan at various places across Tamil Nadu, it said, adding, further investigation in the case is continuing.

# India cancels special flights as Ukrainian airspace closes

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India has cancelled its special flights due to closure of Ukrainian airspace. In an advisory, the Indian Embassy in Ukraine on Thursday said that since the Ukraine airspace has been closed, the schedule for special flights stands cancelled.

However, the Ministry of Civil Aviation allowed passengers traveling from Ukraine to travel by transit under India-Qatar bilateral air bubble arrangement. Civil aviation minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said special flights for Ukraine will resume once Kyiv reopens its airspace.

An Air India special flight that took off for Kyiv on Thursday morning to bring back Indians from the eastern European nation was recalled over Iran airspace due to Notice to Air Missions (NOTAMs) as Ukraine closed the airspace for civilian flights following the

launch of a Russian military operation in the crisis-hit country. A special Ukraine International Airlines in the meantime landed in the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGI), Delhi with 182 Indian citizens including students from Kyiv.

According to officials, flight AI 1947 started from IGI Delhi airport at around 7.30 am for Boryspil International Airport in Kyiv. The plane was expected to arrive there in nearly six hours. After the Ukrainian authorities issuing NOTAM, Air India and the government then decided to call back the plane to Delhi. There were 36 people in the flight including eight passengers and 28 crew members.

NOTAM is a notice issued to alert aircraft pilots of potential hazards along a flight route or at a location that could affect the flight.

"Flights were flown to

Ukraine earlier. Today also flights were flown but after three hours, once things started escalating, those flights returned. Whenever the airspace opens, we'll fly again," Scindia said while reacting to a query.

After NOTAM was released in the wee hours, major cities of Ukraine-Dnipro, Kharkiv, Lyiv and Kyiv - closed their airspace. While these NOTAMs came up, a couple of airlines were either headed towards Ukraine or overflying the country. Ukraine State Air Traffic Services Enterprise said the country's airspace was closed to civilian flights starting from 0045 GMT on Thursday, with air traffic services suspended.

A Ukraine International Airlines flight from Kyiv landed at the Delhi airport at around 7.45 am on Thursday. "There were 182 Indian nationals onboard the flight and a majority of them were stu-

dents... A couple of more flights have been scheduled," Anju Wariah, Director at STIC Group, said. The group is the General Sales Agent (GSA) for Ukraine International Airlines in India.

As many as 24,000 Indian citizens - several of whom are medical students - were stuck in Ukraine as the crisis with Russia escalated rapidly over the past week, leading to concerns over their safety.

The first flight from Ukraine had returned on Tuesday at 11:40 pm, carrying 240 passengers. The flight, AI 1946, had taken off from Boryspil International Airport in Kyiv at around 6 pm (Indian Standard Time), and landed at the Indira Gandhi International Airport at around 11.40 pm.

On February 19, Air India announced that it would operate three flights between India and Ukraine on February 22, 24 and 26.

# Hijab case: Karnataka Govt submits details of CFI in HC

PTI ■ BENGALURU

The Karnataka government on Thursday informed the High Court that a first information report has been registered against the members of the Campus Front of India (CFI), who had allegedly threatened some teachers in the Government Pre-University Girls College in Udupi district. As soon as the proceedings began, state Advocate General Prabhuling Navadgi told the full bench of the High Court that an FIR has been registered.

He also said he has furnished details relating to the

CFI in a sealed cover to the bench. The full bench comprising Chief Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi, Justice J M Khazi and Justice Krishna S Dixit is hearing the hijab case. "With regard to the submission made by senior advocate S S Naganand against an organisation, an FIR has been registered," Navadgi told the bench.

On Wednesday, the court had sought to know from the state government the role of the Campus Front of India (CFI). On January 1, six girl students of a college in Udupi attended a press conference held by the CFI in the coastal town protest-

ing against the college authorities denying them entry into classrooms wearing hijab.

This was four days after they requested the principal permission to wear hijab in classes which was not allowed.

Till then, students used to wear the headscarf to the campus, but entered the classroom after removing it, college principal Rudre Gowda had said. "The institution did not have any rule on hijab-wearing since no one used to wear it to the classroom in the last 35 years. The students who came with the demand had the backing of outside forces," Gowda had said.

# Delimitation panel accepts suggestion of 5 J&K members

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Delimitation Commission on Thursday accepted certain suggestions made by five associate members from Jammu and Kashmir over its working draft paper on redrawing of boundaries of the Valley. The Commission is also expected to visit the Valley next month.

"The Commission had discussed point by point objections and suggestions made by five associate members. After a wide range of discussions, the Commission accepted certain suggestions given by them. Now we will go back to associate members and inform the

decision that is made in the meeting," an official said.

The meeting was chaired by Justice (Retd) Ranjana Prakash Desai and attended by Chief Election Commissioner Sushil Chandra, Jammu and Kashmir Election Commission chief and the Chief Electoral Officer from the Union Territory in the national capital.

On February 23, the Central government had extended the tenure of the Delimitation Commission, tasked with redrawing the Lok Sabha and Assembly constituencies in Jammu and Kashmir by two more months until May 5, 2022.



In its 14-page reply to the Commission, the NC maintained that there were question marks over the Constitutional

propriety of the panel especially when the party along with several others had approached the Supreme Court challenging

the Centre's August 5, 2019 action of revoking the special status and bifurcating the erstwhile State into two Union Territories - Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir. The NC was of the view that five Lok Sabha seats as they existed earlier should be restored.

Meanwhile, BJP's in its suggestion to the Commission, the BJP has demanded inclusion of South Kashmir's Shopian seat will be complete only after Shopian is included in the rechristened Anantnag-Rajouri-Poonch Parliamentary constituency.

The Delimitation Commission was constituted in March 2020.

# E-cigarettes cause gum diseases, harm health: NYU College of Dentistry study

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Those promoting e-cigarettes or vaping as better alternatives for the conventional smoking cigarettes have bad news. After analyzing a string of studies, researchers at NYU College of Dentistry have highlighted how e-cigarettes alter oral health and may be contributing to gum disease.

Published in mBio journal, the review found that e-cigarette users have a unique oral microbiome -- the community of bacteria and other microorganisms -- that is less healthy than nonsmokers but potentially healthier than cigarette smokers, and measures worsening gum disease over time.

"To our knowledge, this is the first longitudinal study of oral health and e-cigarette use. We are now beginning to understand how e-cigarettes

and the chemicals they contain are changing the oral microbiome and disrupting the balance of bacteria," said Deepak Saxena, who led the research with Xin Li; both professors of molecular pathobiology at NYU College of Dentistry.

Smoking cigarettes has always been known as a risk factor for developing gum disease. Now, the new study too shows the long-term consequence of vaping-- which vaporize nicotine and other chemicals -- on oral health.

The researchers studied the oral health of 84 adults from three groups: cigarette smokers, e-cigarette users, and people who have never smoked. Gum disease was assessed through two dental exams six months apart, during which plaque samples were taken to analyze the bacteria present.

All participants had some gum disease at the start of the

study, with cigarette smokers having the most severe disease, followed by e-cigarette users. After six months, the researchers observed that gum disease had worsened in some participants in each group, including several e-cigarette users.

The researchers then analyzed the bacteria found in the plaque samples and determined that e-cigarette users have a different oral microbiome from smokers and non-smokers -- building on findings the team previously reported in iScience and Molecular Oral Microbiology.

When plaque samples were gathered and analyzed in the six-month follow-up, the researchers found greater diversity in bacteria for all groups studied, yet each group maintained its own distinct microbiome.

"Vaping appears to be driving unique patterns in bacteria and influencing the growth

of some bacteria in a manner akin to cigarette smoking, but with its own profile and risks to oral health," said Fangxi Xu, a junior research scientist in Saxena's lab and the study's co-first author.

Agreeing with the study, Dentist Dr Mahesh Verma, Professor emeritus at Maulana Azad Medical College and Vice-Chancellor of the Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, Delhi said, there are at least 150 different types of tobacco-based products like e-cigarettes, hookah, shisha and "herbal" shisha which contain toxic carbon monoxide and other harmful agents known to increase the risks for smoking-related cancers, heart disease, and lung disease besides gum infections.

In September 2019, the Modi Government had completely banned e-cigarettes, citing potential health risks to the youth in the country.

# High temperature favourable for DRR in Chickpea, say scientists

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

A team of Indian scientists has found that climate change-induced high temperatures ranging between 30 and 35 degrees, drought conditions and less than 60 per cent soil moisture content are favorable conditions for dry root rot (DRR) in Chickpea, an essential crop for protein nutrition which is grown around the world including India.

The results of their study have been published in the 'Frontiers in Plant Science'.

The DRR is an economically devastating disease that damages the roots or girdles the trunk in Chickpea. Currently, the central and southern states of India have been identified as the prime Chickpea DRR hotspots with an overall 5 - 35 per cent disease incidence.

The scientists said that while an economically viable

chemical control measure or highly resistant sources are yet to be achieved, our study signposts that life-saving irrigations especially toward the flowering and podding stages of the crop could arrest the DRR development and reduce disease severity to a great extent.

India has 9.54 m hectares of the area under chickpea cultivation and contributes nearly 61.23 per cent to the world's total Chickpea production. Considering the destructive potential of the pathogen and a real possibility of an epidemic scenario in the near future, the team led by Dr Mamta Sharma from Integrated Crop Management, International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics, Patancheru (ICRISAT) closely monitored the disease and noted that increasing global average temperature is leading to appearance of many

new plant disease-causing pathogens at a rate hitherto unheard of, one of them being Macrophomina phaseolina, a soil-borne necrotrophic that causes root rot in Chickpea.

This work supported and funded by the Department of Science & Technology at the Center of Excellence in Climate Change at International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) proved the close association of this disease with climatic factors.

The study by the team which also comprised of scientists U S Sharath Chandran and Avijit Tarafdar also from ICRISAT and HS Maheshwari from ICAR-Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute, Jhansi, explained that Macrophomina survives in a wide range of environmental conditions, even at extremes of temperature, soil pH, and moistures.

In Chickpea, DRR is highly prevalent during the flowering and podding stages coinciding with high temperature and drought conditions. The scientists are now exploring ways to use the study for development of resistant lines and better management strategies.

The team is also trying to address the disease favourable conditions identified from a molecular perspective. In a recent breakthrough in gene expression studies, scientists have identified a few promising Chickpea genes encoding for enzymes like chitinase and endochitinase, which can provide some degree of defense against DRR infection.

Dry root rot disease causes reduced vigour, dull green leaf colour, poor new growth, and twig dieback. If extensive root damage occurs, the leaves suddenly wilt and dry on the tree itself.



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PAPER WITH PASSION

## War!

Russia has attacked Ukraine but it's now for the world to save the latter's interests

After days of suspense and in spite of its repeated trashing of such "rumours", Russian President Vladimir Putin has joined the ranks of its rogue and expansionist friends like North Korea and China. Unleashing air attacks, missiles and ground troops on several cities in Ukraine, President Putin authorised a "special military operation" aimed at "demilitarization" and "de-Nazification" of the next-door neighbour. Now, this could be the beginning of a major standoff, even full-scale war, in the European continent. As per news reports, the Russian military has destroyed 74 Ukrainian military facilities, including 11 air bases. Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu has for the benefit of the world ordered that Ukrainian servicemen be treated "with respect" and those who lay down their weapons offered safe corridors. But the battle rages on in Chernobyl and several other regions of the erstwhile part of the USSR. Undeterred by the threat of imposition of economic sanctions — freezing Russian assets and stopping Russia's access to financial markets — Putin has warned of 'instant response' and 'consequences that have never been experienced in human history' in case of foreign interference. The results are already palpable. The Indian equity indices on Thursday plunged sharply amid the attack on Ukraine.



The benchmark BSE Sensex crashed 2,702 points to close at 54,530; while the broader NSE Nifty moved 815 points lower to settle at 16,248. Both the indices fell for the seventh straight session, marking their worst run since March 2020. Crude oil prices led the way with jumps above \$104 per barrel.

Meanwhile, India hasn't done much to help scale down the crisis despite the sincere-sounding requests from the Ukrainian envoy wherein he called our country "a very influential global player", though the US and a handful of European countries — not all of them, though — have been voicing support for Ukraine. Of

course, they all have their own business interests at heart. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was scheduled to speak to President Putin amid the crisis. However, India has so far been mouthing only hollow platitudes, calling for de-escalation of hostilities, saying unless it is checked, it can "spiral into a major crisis" that can severely destabilise the region. To its credit, however, the Government has issued three advisories for Indians in Ukraine and it has also been trying to evacuate Indian citizens stranded there. But Thursday morning saw the cancellation of special flights to Kyiv for the evacuation exercise as Ukraine closed its airspace. It may be a frightening thought, though it does hold true, that the human race has enough weapons to annihilate itself. US President Joe Biden has vowed that the world will hold Russia accountable for these actions. Though Putin says that Russia has no plans to occupy Ukrainian territory and its mission is only to "neutralise Ukraine's military capacity", this is going exactly where he wanted — to not allow Ukraine's entry into Nato. India must stand up and show spine.

### PICTALK



Tourists in traditional dress while visiting Botanical Gardens after snowfall, in Srinagar

PTI

## Humane law

A Delhi district judge has shown sensitivity that needs to be emulated while handling rape cases

A district judge of Delhi, Dharmesh Sharma, may just have shown how the criminal justice system in India should handle sexual assault cases. The judge heard the deposition of the victim, a minor girl, and deciding that her testimony was reliable, convicted the accused. The defendant's counsel claimed inconsistencies in the testimony. However, the judge was not convinced. He said the rape survivor did not depose in a "parrot-like manner". He found nothing to suggest she was "tutored". Judge Sharma made a critical observation: The testimony is not to be appreciated from an adult's point of view but "from the mindset of a girl". This attitude makes all the difference to rape cases as they pass through the justice system, right from the complaint at the police station to the court trial. What happens most of the time is that insensitivity or indifference destroys the confidence of the survivor who is willing to face her assaulter in court. The kind of questioning she faces in the police station, at the hospital, and in court from defence counsels only re-traumatises them or even harms them. A sexual assault is traumatic and trauma has a neuro-biological impact on the victim. It



affects their brains and nervous systems.

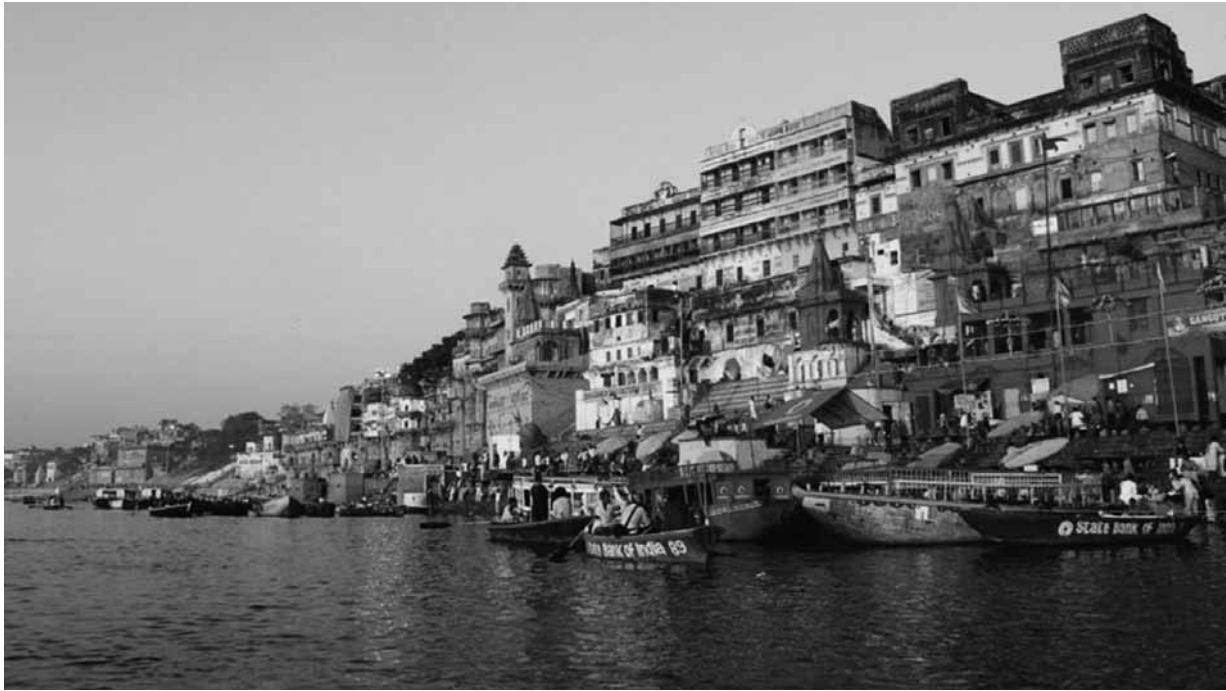
Any new trauma, as evidenced by insensitive questioning, can trigger a neuro-biological impact and that can mentally harm the victim in the long term. The parties to criminal justice system should have a basic understanding of the effects and impact of trauma on rape victims. That can help them receive evidence from the victims fairly and objectively. Judge Sharma was referring to this realisation. The other issue, which comes out during the questioning of the victim, relates to "rape myths" — certain stereotypes associated with the victims. There are mistaken assumptions as to why they reported the crime late or did not try to defend themselves. They are portrayed as "easygoing" and "promiscuous" to destroy their credibility. There is little understanding of how rape victims behave or react when recalling the experience. These "gaps" in knowledge can hurt the cases because, in a majority of them, the primary or only source of evidence is the victim's testimony. Judge Sharma's sensitive approach underlines the urgent need for criminal justice professionals, including judges, to get educated about the neuro-biology of trauma and social contexts of victim responses.

# Silent churning of revolution in India

For decades altogether, India's Government spoke one language while its citizens understood quite another. Now, the scene is changing



PRAFULL GORADIA



rich are taxed high, how does it benefit me? My pocket is empty and I cannot afford to pay in any case." During the same visit at Dhari town, the MP told his fellow workers how Tata and Birla were controlled and not allowed to get richer. The local reaction was: "That is why the whole Amreli district had no industry set up by these big industrialists. We have to survive by growing *bajra*." The Nehru Government kept the Communist Party pleased; when Indira Gandhi in 1969 split the Congress, the Communists helped to keep her minority Government in power. That, however, did not win the poor man's sympathy. Her nationalisation of coal mines and the big banks thrilled those who could directly make money from them. The upper and middle class often remarked: "Earlier the capitalist families were wealthy, now Indira Gandhi is a big industrialist and banker. How have we benefited?"

The BJP, and its growth out of the soil and people of India, is one organisation which is indigenous. Its Hinduness is unquestionably



WHEN INDEPENDENCE CAME, WE HAD PANDIT NEHRU AS THE PRIME MINISTER BUT SOON ENOUGH HE TOLD SOME THAT HE WAS THE LAST ENGLISHMAN TO RULE INDIA. HE FURTHER SAID THAT HE WAS CULTURALLY A MUSLIM

native. Babasaheb Ambedkar said that he did not want to die a Hindu; at the same time he did wish to convert to any religion whose origin was foreign. He, therefore, chose to cross over to Buddhism. A similar logic should apply to a political party. MA Jinnah precipitated Partition in 1947 in the hope that with Islam being a clear and compact religion, it would bring happiness to its adherents. But it did not. Possibly because it was inspired and founded in Arabia, a hot, dry, sandy region whereas today's Bangladesh is green and wet, while today's Pakistan is also different.

On the other hand, the Hindu ethos has a unique oneness despite its unusual variety. Between Shiva and Krishna, different outlooks cover all the Hindus of this huge country. This is despite most temples being free and independent. Christians and Muslims think that Hinduism is polytheistic. Yet there is no insistence on the concept of god in the Abrahamic faiths. Even an agnostic is acceptable as a Hindu. The ultimate commonality in Hinduism is

faith in the karma of each person or soul leading to his fate. Every action has a reaction equal and opposite; as scientific physics.

That democracy has endured spontaneously is a marvel in a country of such variety. The secret of this success of freedom is the inductive basis of the Hindu faith or the down-to-up logic. There is no insistence on one god, one Prophet, one Book and then its logic downwards; an up to down or deductive approach. Hindu assumptions are few and that is its strength. The western faiths begin strong but can be brittle in the end. Judaism is a united faith but has shrunk in numbers. Christianity has scattered into many denominations which have not held their followers firmly. Whereas Hinduism has gone on despite its history sodden with invasions and invaders settling here. Its endurance has been remarkable, whether politically or in faith.

(The writer is a well-known columnist, an author and a former member of the Rajya Sabha. The views expressed are personal.)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### NAWAB MALIK EPISODE EXPOSES PARTIES

Sir — The way Mamata Banerjee, Sharad Pawar, Akhilesh Yadav, the Congress and Shiv Sena have condemned the arrest of NCP's Maharashtra Minister Nawab Malik on his links with dreaded terrorist Dawood Ibrahim connected with money laundering and his properties, is highly deplorable. This proves the mental bankruptcy of the Opposition parties. The Enforcement Directorate functions under the strict supervision of courts and all its proceedings are subject to judicial review of courts under provisions of the PMLA. Calling the Enforcement Directorate a 'mafia' by the Shiv Sena and threatening revenge after 2024 is most unfortunate. The Congress, on the other hand, has nothing to lose in this entire episode.

The Trinamool Congress and NCP have no support and political base beyond Bengal and Maharashtra, respectively. The Sena may face reverses due to its entirely opposite political character which we knew as nationalist. Shiv Sena has vastly deteriorated in alliance with the Nationalist Congress Party and Congress in Maharashtra. These parties have handed over the nationalist agenda to the BJP. Shiv Sena has subjugated itself to disruptive forces in Indian politics. Gradually, all these Opposition parties are ready to go to any extent to avoid the sting of their sins.

Vinod Johri | Delhi

### DMK'S VICTORY IS NOT SURPRISING

Sir — The landslide victory of the DMK alliance in the local body elections is not unexpected, given the manner in which the DMK has conducted itself during its rule in the past nine months under the charismatic and no-nonsense Chief Minister MK Stalin. Despite the fact that they acquired empty coffers in the treasury and continue to face an unfriendly Central Government which has not released even the money due to the State, the Tamil Nadu Government did its best to fulfil its election promises to the maximum, which earned a good name among people.

People also understood that all promises cannot be honoured within a few

## The noise parties make



With the fourth phase of the ongoing elections in Uttar Pradesh having come to close on Wednesday, all the parties, their leaders and candidates in the fray, in particular, are busy making tall claims of their sure win, as also about forming the Government. Every party is publicly exuding its confidence that the election trends in these four phases have thus far been in their favour — some may be right and some may be wrong as well. But what is certain

about it is that all the fighters in the poll battle better understand their own positions than the others and, hence, even if they harbour any apprehensions about their electoral prospects, they are trying their best to maintain their pseudo-confidence high.

Otherwise, they will be conceding defeat to their rivals and, simultaneously, making their own voters' confidence shaken that might even result in the latter's disenchantment for the rest of the election, which is still midway. Politics is a bizarre game replete with ups and downs and shocking surprises, anything and everything is possible till the last day of voting. That's why all the parties and their leaders are leaving no stone unturned to show down one another even if they have to engage in a war of attrition. At the end of the day, the ongoing brouhaha will subside. Let's wait for the day of reckoning, that's March 10!

Azhar A Khan | Rampur

months and they very strongly believe that CM Stalin will fulfil his assurances without fail. Though the Opposition tried all the tricks up its sleeves to tar the CM's image, people have rejected their manoeuvres realising that the State can regain its self-respect, heritage and well-being only under the leadership of Stalin. The mammoth victory has endorsed the fact that Stalin is not only one of the best Chief Ministers but one fit to be a national leader par excellence. As rightly pointed out in your excellent editorial, the Stalin era is here to stay.

Tharcious S Fernando | Chennai

### WE MUST RESPECT TRUE HEROES

Sir — The 'upright' coach of the Indian cricket team is indeed a very honest personality. He also holds immense respect for those who have contributed to the team. And this is exactly why he has himself admitted that just because of his "immense respect" towards the contribution of Wriddhiman Saha, the former indeed clearly asked the latter to move on.

## SOUNDBITE

It (Omicron) is a silent killer. It's been 25 days and I am still suffering.

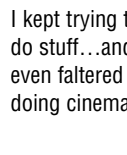


Chief Justice of India — NV Ramana



If the Ukraine conflict expands, the world could see...severity of need unseen for years.

UN Secretary-General — Antonio Guterres



I kept trying to do stuff...and even faltered doing cinema.



Actor — Bobby Deol



It's difficult to express how much I regret my behaviour during and after the doubles match.

Tennis player — Alexander Zverev

I've done nothing wrong. All the transactions are legitimate.



Maharashtra Minister — Nawab Malik

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

NEED TO CONNECT WITH NEIGHBOURS

India must exploit its image of a close trustworthy partner



KUMARDEEP BANERJEE

The United States recently released a formal Indo-Pacific strategy to substantially engage in this zone. This densely populated zone, with nearly half of the world's population, has the potential to drive two-thirds of the global economy in a few years. This is the last frontier of influence and an ideal playground for any show of influence and strength by a global power. The strategy acknowledges the growing influence in the region of China, which is flexing its economic, technological, military muscles to coerce the region into accepting dominance and there by expanding its influence quotient right up to American borders. An excerpt from the strategy particularly pinpointed towards Chinese aggression in the region reads: "From the economic coercion of Australia to the conflict along the Line of Actual Control with India to the growing pressure on Taiwan and



bullying of neighbors in the East and South China Seas, our allies and partners in the region bear much of the cost of the PRC's harmful behavior. In the process, the PRC is also undermining human rights and international law, including freedom of navigation, as well as other principles that have brought stability and prosperity to the Indo-Pacific."

The brief strategy therefore is to engage with allies and partners in the Indo-Pacific to strengthen them and having shared vision of peace prosperity, security while upholding human rights, free and open sovereigns and respect for rules-based world order. The five pillars of advancing a free and open Indo-Pacific, building connections with the region and beyond, driving regional prosperity, enhancing the security shield in and for the region and building a regional resilience to threats are all achievable. This is going to be a challenge since unlike many other regions, the Indo-Pacific is not a homogenous fabric of humanity. It is perhaps the birthplace of many religions and beliefs and therefore a unique mesh of cultural diversity stitched together by land and the sea. In comes China, the major disruptor despite having no colonial past, fixed on treating the territory as its imperial playground. To the relief of many, India does feature prominently in the strategy paper, whereby the United States has at least on paper, put its weight behind India, to emerge as a regional leader and continue to expand its economic might. This is a strong signal for the global order, that has been eyeing the region. India has managed well, in its recent realignment with QUAD. India's external affairs minister was simultaneously making statements regarding the border issues with China at the QUAD external affairs conference in Australia, when this document was released. The backdrop suggests a synchronized effort by the United States and India (strategic allies) to take their relationship to the next level of growth. It also suggests acceptance of India as key regional player which could use its influence with other Southeast Asian nations and build new ones with Australia, Japan, Singapore and Vietnam. India has recently upgraded its domestic investment policies through the performance linked incentive schemes to build resilience in key supply chains, spread across sectors which had been badgered by the dominance of China (as the factory of the world) during the Covid pandemic. The aim for India is to truly start engaging with its neighborhood to reinstate its position as a close trustworthy partner as opposed to dominance by stealth and compromising schemes such as the loans for building critical infrastructure coming from China. Many of these translate into transferring sovereign country's ownership rights over its resources to the Chinese Government. This will also require India to closely work with ASEAN and ensure fair and transparent terms of trade agreements.

*(The writer is a policy analyst. The views expressed are personal.)*

Rebalancing ecology, economics & ethics

We need policy instruments and intervention strategies for behavioural change such as educational programmes and incentives for conservation



BKP SINHA

Our growing understanding of complex systems, including ecosystems, has challenged the prevailing economic model of a closed circular flow of production and consumption. This model has been described as 'natural laws' of equilibrium of market forces.

Especially in a world of limited resources, it becomes evident that neo-classical economics fails to reflect social, economic, and environmental factors. The circular flow diagram in neoclassical economics is just an abstraction of the economy, showing that it can continue to reproduce itself indefinitely without any additional inputs. However, all of the resources (non-renewable or renewable) required to sustain this circular flow have to come from the environment. At the same time all of the waste produced by firms and households inevitably returns to the environment. The dependence of the economic system on the natural ecosystem is so complete that the human economy can rightfully be regarded as a subset of the earth's ecosystem.

Considering today's environmental problems, ranging from global atmospheric degradation and toxicity of the environment to loss of forests and massive species extinctions, it is important that we understand the relationship between ecosystem and economic system and our obligations towards the environment.

Since Vedic times, we have been taught to live in peace and harmony with nature and to conserve it. But as civilization progressed, economics and ecology have separated and their ethical implications has almost been forgotten in the tide of unbridled capitalist greed, one-sided individualism and egocentrism.

Today's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) obsessed growth has become a synonym for rising living standards. But in reality, some people have benefited more from growth than others and there are still a significant number of people worldwide, who lack access to basic necessities, such as food, clean water, healthcare and continue to live in hunger, illiteracy etc. The inequality has risen over the past several decades in advanced economies, but remained unnoticed. However, the looming threat of catastrophic global warming has raised serious concerns about the connection between growth and carbon emissions. The problem with GDP is that it conflates qualitative development with quantitative growth and also misrepresents economic growth by excluding social factors, environmental impacts and natural capital. For e.g. agricultural expansion, will be shown as net economic gain, despite the degradation of ecosystem services.

Eradicating global poverty within the constraints of the natural resources is a huge challenge in hand. The increasing population has already pushed the planet over four planetary boundaries - climate change, land conversion, fertilizer use, and biodiversity loss. A holistic approach is required which

integrates social, ecological, and economic indicators in evaluating human well-being, sustainability of a country's or business' growth, identifying losses and devising better policies and practices to minimize them. In addition, a shift in accounting system is needed to incorporate all aspects of profits and losses, not just financial gains, but also negative externalities like pollution, waste and other social and environmental impacts.

We cannot sustain growth forever, given our planetary limits which gives rise to a very important question that is highly debated. What is the limit of economic growth?

In present scenario, Herman Daley's concept of a steady-state economy is known to be critical to sustainable development and is often discussed in connection with economic growth and its impact on ecological integrity, environmental protection, and economic sustainability. "It entails stabilized population and per capita consumption that do not exceed the carrying capacity of the ecosystem". Given that natural resources are limited, rather than trying to achieve growth (quantitative), we should focus on innovation and improvement (qualitative). He also suggested, that taxes should be levied on resource use rather than income. Such a shift would force people to use resources more wisely, encourage eco-friendly technologies and simultaneously improve employment and ecological sustainability.

Our current economic system is putting an enormous pressure on the planet and the traditional ways of conducting businesses will soon collapse, forcing companies to come up with new solutions. By determining the path forward, companies can save time, reduce costs, increase efficiency and gain competitive edge, which are critical for their success and survival. By innovating and

applying clean technologies, they can reduce pollution levels, deploy resources more sustainably, recycle a higher share of wastes and products or treat residual wastes in an environmentally safe manner. Besides, companies need to reinvest their earnings into restoring, preserving, and expanding the planet's resources. Failing to do so can negatively impact their revenues. Corporations must adapt a new outlook that does not treat growth and social welfare as zero-sum game.

Indeed, it is more productive to work with nature than against it. However, we have focused only on the resources that can be exploited from the earth's ecosystems and not on the services provided by these ecosystems. GDP has induced unsustainable practices that have contributed to climate and biodiversity crises. Over the past two decades forests have degraded significantly due to land use changes, mining, infrastructure projects, commercial logging, overgrazing, etc. Although, the country's total forest cover has increased, but it has mainly increased in the open forest category (degraded forests) due to plantations, monoculture, etc. on private lands, while dense forests (good forest) has decreased inside the Government-managed forests. According to India State of Forest Report 2021, 45 percent of India's forests would be at risk of climate change by 2030 if carbon emissions increase moderately. In a high emission scenario, that number rises to 65 percent. Additionally, the growing stock of trees in forests declined by 8 percent and the carbon stock is just 7,204 million tonnes.

Massive plantations, particularly monoculture species, deforestation in subtropical and tropical rain forests has become detrimental to biodiversity and ecosystem. Likewise, excessive use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides in agriculture are contributing to greenhouse gas emissions. Also, land degradation, particularly in rainfed land, has become a major concern for Indian agriculture, where agriculture contributes a significant amount to the country's GDP and on which lives and livelihood of farmers and forest dwellers depend.

Forest loss and extinction of species can deprive us of valuable resources and services like timber, nuts, fruits, medicines and prevention of soil erosion, floods and droughts, water filtration, fisheries, pollination and pollinators - functions which are especially important to the communities relying on natural resources for their everyday survival. Considering that naturally regenerated forests tend to store nearly 32 percent more carbon, forest restoration should take precedence over tree planting.

Understanding that our economy is a subset of our ecology is critical. It is therefore vital that human behaviour toward nature be modified and corrected. To achieve this, ecology and ethics need to work in tandem. Ecology gives us insight into natural ecosystems and the laws and regulations that govern them, whereas ethics enables us to establish inner bridges against overexploiting nature. It is imperative that to achieve sustainable development, the broken harmony between economy, ecology and ethics be restored. We need policy instruments and intervention strategies for behavioural change such as educational programmes, incentives for conservation, land use ministry, etc.

The COVID-19 pandemic has shown us that when governments decide to make something happen within their countries, policies can happen almost overnight. It is absolutely possible to change things, but only if we change our political values, interest and mindset.

ECOLOGY GIVES US INSIGHT INTO NATURAL ECOSYSTEMS AND THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS THAT GOVERN THEM, WHEREAS ETHICS ENABLES US TO ESTABLISH INNER BRIDLES AGAINST OVEREXPLOITING NATURE. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT TO ACHIEVE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, THE BROKEN HARMONY BETWEEN ECONOMY, ECOLOGY AND ETHICS BE RESTORED

*(The writer is a former IFS officer. The views expressed are personal.)*

POINT COUNTERPOINT

WE ARE NOT FAMILY PEOPLE BUT WE UNDERSTAND THE PLIGHT OF FAMILIES. — PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI



MODI JJ IS DESPERATELY TRYING TO HELP THE BJP IN UP. SO YOU SAY ALL SORTS OF THINGS. — CONGRESS MEDIA IN-CHARGE ZISHAN HAIDER



Smokescreen of lies

When rich people's wealth is measured, it is not as if they have hordes of cash or gold. It is largely based on market-based valuation



SSHANK SAURAV

We all saw a new avatar of opposition leader Rahul Gandhi when he attacked the Government on various economic and political issues. It was amusing to all those people who are waiting for Gandhi to come of age and lead the grand old party. Though some of the allegations by him do not pass the factual accuracy test, they surely have kicked off a discussion.

A recent report from Oxfam India has raised a debate over wealth inequality in India and India's top two businessmen have also found a mention in this report. Charging the gun on the wealth creators can be understood from the perspective of a politician for obvious reasons but naming the individuals in these kinds of studies was surprising. When rich people's

wealth is measured then it is not something which is held in tangible terms like hordes of cash or gold. It is largely based on market-based valuation and we all know that global indices have recovered phenomenally after first wave of covid-19. Opposition highlights the rise in wealth of Ambani and Adani but they never talk about the method of measuring this wealth and hide the fact that Ambani wealth declined by 28 percent in just two months during the first wave of pandemic due to decline in market capitalisation of his firms. It is really painful and annoying to see that entrepreneurs who create jobs and generate revenue are abused by our politicians for scoring some brownie points and petty political gains. Discussion on the issue of inequality will not be

complete without understanding the salient facts highlighted under 'World Inequality Report' which is prepared by reputed institutions, including United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Recent edition of this report highlights that most extreme increases in income and wealth inequality has risen from mid 1980s. Previous edition (2018) of the report highlights an interesting contrast between the facts and

figures which are quoted by opposition. Income & wealth distribution curve was K-shaped for the period 2004 to 2014 when income of top 10 percent rose sharply while bottom 40 percent witnessed a constant fall. Income of top 0.001 percent (those whose names figure out in political debates) grew by 2,726 percent during the period 1980-2014. If we go by the data and facts then perhaps opposition's claim will get bust-

ed and Gandhi's point will boomerang to his own party as it was Congress which ruled the country from 2004-14, i.e., at a time when income and wealth distribution formed a K-shaped curve. This was the time when rich were getting more richer and middle class was facing the double whammy of decline in income coupled with rise in inflation. Post 2014, share in national income was stable for these two segments of population.

Economic principles of communist countries should be ideally based on equitable distribution of resources. However, a deeper analysis of data reveals interesting facts about major socialist countries like China and Russia. Wealth of bottom 50 percent population in India is higher than Russia

and slightly lower than China. Middle class Indians' wealth share is higher than Russians and Chinese. Nearly half of Russia's wealth is held by top 1 percent while this number comes to 33 percent and 30.5 percent for India and China, respectively. In other words, despite of all tall claims of progressive scholars' communist regime grossly failed in achieving their stated economic objectives. This was despite autocratic regime in those countries and therefore a vibrant democracy like ours can take pride in its economic progress.

Suggestions like taxing rich by way of surcharge or reintroduction of wealth tax appear radical in thoughts but these measures are regressive in reality. A higher personal tax will discourage the compliance and

will lead to generation of black money. Empirical studies suggest that black money increased when personal tax was as high as more than 97 percent. Wealth tax was abolished in 2015 because revenue generation was not making enough sense to continue it. Apart from this, taxing a notional wealth represented by unrealised gains based on market valuation doesn't hold good.

Issue of inequality and poverty is not new and Indira Gandhi gave slogan of 'Garibi Hatao' (remove poverty) in 1971 election. This slogan has been used by all the parties but poverty is still there. Congress party contribution in nation building cannot be denied but party scion Gandhi is factually inaccurate on inequality and poverty issue.

*(The writer is a Chartered Accountant, author and public policy analyst. The views expressed are personal.)*

# Ukrainian lawmakers approve nationwide state of emergency

AP ■ KYIV

Ukraine on Wednesday declared a nationwide state of emergency after Russian President Vladimir Putin received authorisation to use military force outside his country and the West responded with sanctions.

Ukrainian lawmakers approved President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's decree that imposes the measure for 30 days starting Thursday. The state of emergency allows authorities to impose restrictions on movement, block rallies and ban political parties and organizations "in the interests of national security and public order."

Ukrainian authorities have repeatedly voiced concern that Russia could try destabilise the country by relying on Moscow's supporters inside the country, including a pro-Russia political party represented in parliament. The decision follows Putin's move Monday to recognize the independence of rebel regions in eastern Ukraine, where a nearly eight-year conflict has killed over 14,000 people. Putin has sanctioned the

deployment of Russian troops there to "maintain peace."

Russian on Wednesday evacuated its embassy in Kyiv as hopes for a diplomatic way out of a new, potentially devastating war in Europe waned.

The US and key European allies accused Moscow of crossing a red line Tuesday in rolling over Ukraine's border into separatist eastern regions known as the Donbas, with some calling it an invasion.

Russia emptied its diplomatic posts in Ukraine, state news agency Tass reported, a day after the Foreign Ministry announced a plan to evacuate, citing threats. By Wednesday afternoon, the Russian flag no longer flew over the Kyiv embassy, and police surrounded the building.

Wednesday's actions reflected the increasing concern by Ukrainian authorities after weeks of trying to project calm. The Foreign Ministry advised against travel to Russia and recommended any Ukrainians there to leave immediately, saying Moscow's "aggression" could lead to a significant reduction in consular services.

A senior U.S. Defense offi-

cial in Washington said the Russian forces arrayed along Ukraine's borders are "as ready as they can be" for an invasion, with about 80% in what the U.S. Considers "forward positions, ready to go" within 5 kilometers to 50 kilometers (3 to 30 miles) of the border.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive information, added, "We still cannot confirm that Russian forces have moved into the Donbas area."

President Joe Biden allowed sanctions to move forward against the company that built the Russia-to-Germany Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline and against the company's CEO, the White House said. Germany said Tuesday it was indefinitely suspending the project, after Biden charged that Putin had launched "the beginning of a Russian invasion of Ukraine" by sending troops into two separatist regions of eastern Ukraine. The pipeline is complete but has not yet begun operating.

"Today, I have directed my administration to impose sanctions on Nord Stream 2 AG and its corporate officers," Biden said in a statement.

"These steps are another piece of our initial tranche of sanctions in response to Russia's actions in Ukraine. As I have made clear, we will not hesitate to take further steps if Russia continues to escalate."

Biden waived sanctions last year against Nord Stream 2 AG, when the project was almost completed, in return for an agreement from Germany to take action against Russia if it used gas as a weapon or attacked Ukraine.

Putin said Tuesday he hadn't yet sent any Russian troops into the rebel regions contrary to Western claims, and Donetsk rebel leader Denis Pushilin insisted Wednesday there were no Russian troops in the region even though a local council member claimed the previous day they had moved in.

Ukraine's Minister for Digital Transformation Mykhailo Fedorov said a wave of denial-of-service attacks targeted official websites and some banks Wednesday, knocking sites of the parliament, cabinet and Foreign Ministry offline and causing interruptions or delays to the sites of the defense and interi-

or ministry, which controls the police. Many of the same sites were similarly knocked offline in attacks last week that the U.S. And U.K. Governments quickly blamed on Russia's GRU military intelligence agency. Such attacks barrage websites with junk traffic, rendering them unreachable. Wednesday's DDoS attacks appeared to have less impact than the earlier onslaught, with targeted sites soon reachable again — as emergency responders blunted them.

These were just the latest in a series of signs of escalating tensions. Kyiv recalled its ambassador to Russia and considered breaking all diplomatic ties with Moscow; dozens of nations further squeezed Russian oligarchs and banks out of international markets; Germany halted a lucrative pipeline deal; the U.S. Repositioned additional troops to NATO's eastern flank bordering Russia; and the top U.S. Diplomat canceled a meeting with his Russian counterpart.

Already, the threat of war has shredded Ukraine's economy and raised the specter of massive casualties, energy

shortages across Europe and global economic chaos.

Even as the conflict took a new, dangerous turn, leaders warned it could still get worse. Putin has yet to unleash the force of the 150,000 troops massed on three sides of Ukraine, while U.S. President Joe Biden held back on even tougher sanctions that could cause economic turmoil for Russia but said they would go ahead if there is further aggression.

European Union sanctions against Russia took effect, targeting several companies along with 351 Russian lawmakers, who voted for a motion urging Putin to recognize the rebel regions, and 27 senior government officials, business executives and top military officers.

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba urged Western leaders to ramp up sanctions to "stop Putin," tweeting: "Hit his economy and cronies. Hit more. Hit hard. Hit now."

The Russian Foreign Ministry has shrugged off the sanctions, saying that "Russia has proven that, with all the costs of the sanctions, it is able

to minimize the damage."

In Ukraine's east, where an eight-year conflict between Russia-backed separatists and Ukrainian forces has killed nearly 14,000 people, violence also spiked again. One Ukrainian soldier was killed and six more were injured after rebel shelling, the Ukrainian military said. Separatist officials reported several explosions on their territory overnight and three civilian deaths.

Facing a barrage of criticism at the 193-member United Nations General Assembly, Russia's U.N. Ambassador Vassily Nebenzia warned Ukraine that Russia will monitor the cease-fire in the east and emphasized that "no one intends to go softly, softly with any violators."

"A new military adventure" by Kyiv "might cost the whole of Ukraine very dearly," he warned ominously. After weeks of rising tensions, Putin's steps this week that dramatically raised the stakes. First, he recognized the independence of those separatist regions. Then, he said that recognition extends even to the large parts of the territories

now held by Ukrainian forces, including the major Azov Sea port of Mariupol. Finally, lawmakers gave him authority to use military force outside the country — effectively formalizing a Russian military deployment to the rebel regions.

Putin laid out three conditions that he said could end the standoff, urging Kyiv to recognize Russia's sovereignty over Crimea, the Black Sea peninsula that Moscow annexed from Ukraine in 2014, to renounce its bid to join NATO and partially demilitarize. Ukraine long has rejected such demands.

As rhetoric in Russia and the West toughened, British Defense Secretary Ben Wallace recalled how the British army "kicked the backside" of Russia during the Crimean War in the 19th century. Russia's Defense Ministry spokesman Igor Konashenkov fired back, dismissing Wallace's claims as "mythology" and advising British soldiers to study the history of Russia to avoid "enriching our shared military history with their lives for the pleasure of poorly educated British politicians."

## UN Security Council schedules emergency meeting on Ukraine

AP ■ UNITED NATIONS

The United Nations Security Council scheduled an emergency meeting for Wednesday night at the request of Ukraine, which said it feared an immediate threat of a Russian invasion.

Ukraine's Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba asked for the meeting in a letter to Russia's UN Ambassador Vassily Nebenzia, who holds the council presidency in February. The meeting is scheduled for 9:30 p.m. EST.

The meeting comes two days after the 15-member council held an emergency open meeting, also at Ukraine's request, which saw no support for Russian President Vladimir Putin's declaration of independence for two separatist areas in Ukraine's east and his announcement that Russian troops would head there to keep the peace.

Council diplomats are finalising a draft resolution that they said would make clear that Russia is violating the UN Charter, international law, and a 2015 council resolution endorsing the Minsk agreements aimed at restoring peace in eastern Ukraine.

## Congress backs Biden on Russia sanctions, clamours for more

AP ■ WASHINGTON

With rare but fragile alignment, the US Congress is largely backing President Joe Biden's decision to confront Russia with potentially escalating sanctions for the crisis in Ukraine as lawmakers brace for perhaps the most daunting foreign policy crisis the nation has faced in a generation.

But the next steps are highly volatile — even more so after Russian President Vladimir Putin announced early Thursday a military operation in Ukraine and explosions were heard in Kyiv, Kharkiv, Odessa and other cities there.

"We must refuse to stand by and watch innocent Ukrainian men, women, and children suffer," the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Sen. Bob Menendez, D-N.J., said in a statement after Putin's forces moved against Ukraine.

He said he was "committed to ensuring that the United States upholds our responsibility to exact maximum costs on Putin, the Russian economy, and those who enabled and facilitated this trampling of Ukraine's sovereignty."

With isolationist impulses rising at home, Congress has no appetite for war. Yet Americans also appear ambiva-

lent about the US working to keep the peace. New polling from The Associated Press and NORC — taken before Putin's announcement — says just 26% of Americans want the US to play a major role in the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said Wednesday that Russia's aggression toward Ukraine is "an attack on democracy," vowing that the US will stand united with its allies around the world in swiftly imposing sanctions on Russia and ensuring financial and political support for an independent Ukraine. Pelosi, who returned to the Capitol from a diplomatic overseas trip, situated the aggression from Russia toward Ukraine alongside intervention in the United States' own democratic process during the 2016 election.

"There will be a price to pay for Vladimir Putin," she said, flanked by lawmakers who had joined her delegation at the annual security conference in Munich.

While Republican critics of the Biden administration — and even some Democrats — want the White House to go even tougher with swifter and more severe sanctions on Russia, most have given varied degrees of support for the White House strategy, includ-

ing Biden's move Wednesday to sanction the company building the Russia-to-Germany Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline.

The top Republican on the Foreign Relations Committee, Sen. Jim Risch of Idaho, said sanctions on Nord Stream 2 are "long overdue, but I cannot overstate how critical they are to showing Putin that violating a nation's sovereignty has consequences."

Risch, who has worked with colleagues on a bipartisan basis for years trying to end the pipeline, said: "It is good to see President Biden do the right thing." Republican leaders have sought to steer the conversation to their preferred terms, as the party whose defence hawks once led the nation on the national security front. But it's not at all clear whether today's GOP can keep Republicans from tapping into an impassioned non-interventionist strain unleashed by Donald Trump's "America First" approach.

It was Trump who sought to strip protections for Ukraine from the Republican Party platform for the 2016 election, and who was impeached by the House for abuse of power after he pressured the Ukrainian president to dig up dirt on Biden ahead of the 2020 campaign.

## Prosecutors in charge of Trump criminal probe have resigned

AP ■ NEW YORK

The two prosecutors in charge of the Manhattan district attorney's criminal investigation into former President Donald Trump suddenly resigned Wednesday, throwing the future of the probe into question.

A spokesperson for District Attorney Alvin Bragg confirmed the resignations of Carey Dunne and former mafia prosecutor Mark Pomerantz, both of whom started with the probe under the former district attorney, Cyrus Vance Jr.

"We are grateful for their service," said the spokesperson, Danielle Filson. She declined to comment further, saying the investigation is on going. The New York Times, citing sources, reported that Dunne and Pomerantz quit after Bragg raised doubts about pursuing a case against Trump.

Messages seeking comment were left for Dunne and Pomerantz.

The D.A.'s office investigation led to tax fraud charges last July against Trump's company, the Trump Organization, and its longtime finance chief, Allen Weisselberg.

## NATO chief: Peace 'shattered' in Europe after Russia attack

AP ■ BRUSSELS

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said on Thursday that Russia has launched war on Ukraine and shattered peace on the European continent.

Stoltenberg called for a summit of NATO leaders for Friday. He spoke shortly after the trans-Atlantic alliance agreed after emergency talks to further beef up its land, sea and air forces on its eastern flank near Ukraine and Russia.

"Russia has attacked Ukraine," Stoltenberg said.

"This is a brutal act of war. Our thoughts are with the brave people of Ukraine."

"Peace on our continent has been shattered," he said. "This is a deliberate, cold-blooded and long-planned invasion. Russia is using force to try to rewrite history."

Russia launched a wide-ranging attack on Ukraine on Thursday, hitting cities and bases with airstrikes or shelling. Ukraine's government said Russian tanks and troops rolled across the border and accused Moscow of unleashing a "full-scale war."

"NATO emergency meeting came after countries closest to the conflict — Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland — requested rare consultations under Article 4 of NATO's

founding treaty, which can be launched when "the territorial integrity, political independence or security of any of the (NATO) parties is threatened."

"We have decided, in line with our defensive planning to protect all allies, to take additional steps to further strengthen deterrence and defense across the Alliance," the envoys said. "Our measures are and remain preventive, proportionate and non-escalatory."

Lithuania declared a state of emergency in a decree signed by President Gitanas Nausėda in response to Russia's attack. The Baltic country's parliament was expected to approve the measure in an extraordinary session later on Thursday. The measure, in effect until March 10, allows for a more flexible use of state reserve funds and increased border protection, giving border guards greater authorities to stop and search individuals and vehicles in border areas.

NATO member Lithuania borders Russia's Kaliningrad region to the southwest, Belarus to the east, Latvia to the north and Poland to the south. While some of NATO's 30 member countries are supplying arms, ammunition and other equipment to Ukraine, NATO as an organization isn't. It won't launch any military action in support of Ukraine, which is a close partner but has no prospect of joining.

Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, however, said in a joint statement: "We would need to urgently provide Ukrainian people with weapons, ammunition and any other kind of military support to defend itself as well as economic, financial and political assistance and support, humanitarian aid." "The most effective response to Russia's aggression is unity," Estonian Prime Minister Kaja Kallas tweeted.

"Russia's widespread aggression is a threat to the entire world and to all NATO countries." Kallas called for measures "for ensuring the defense of NATO Allies." NATO began beefing up its defenses in northeastern Europe after Russia annexed Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula in 2014. It has around 5,000 troops and equipment stationed there, but those forces have been beefed up with troops and equipment from several countries in recent months.

A first step now could be to activate the NATO Response Force, which can number up to 40,000 troops. A quickly deployable land brigade that is part of the NRF — made up of around 5,000 troops and run by France alongside Germany, Poland, Portugal and Spain — is already on heightened alert.

## Pak PM Imran Khan meets Russian President Putin amidst Ukraine conflict

PTI ■ MOSCOW

Russian President Vladimir Putin met Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan in the Kremlin on Thursday in his first face-to-face talks since the start of a special military operation in eastern Ukraine and the two leaders are expected review the entire array of bilateral ties including energy cooperation besides exchanging views on major regional and international issues.

Khan, who arrived in Russia on Wednesday on a two-day visit — the first by a Pakistani premier in over two decades — began his engagements in Moscow by laying a wreath at "Tomb of the Unknown Soldier", hours after the Russian President ordered a special military operation in eastern Ukraine, ignoring last-minute appeals and warnings from the West.

President Putin is holding a meeting with Prime Minister Khan in the Kremlin, state-run TASS news agency reported.

"These are the first face-to-face talks of the Russian leader since the start of a special military operation to protect Donbass," the agency said.

Earlier, the Prime Minister's Focal Person on Digital Media, Dr Arslan Khalid, said that his visit to Russia "continues as per plan", dismissing reports in a section of media that Khan has cut

short his visit to Moscow in the wake of the latest developments.

The meeting between Khan and Putin to discuss issues including economic cooperation came hours after US President Joe Biden and other Western governments imposed tough economic sanctions on Russia for sending its military into parts of eastern Ukraine. Khan was expected to push for the construction of a long-delayed, multi-billion-dollar gas pipeline to be built in collaboration with Russian companies, the Pakistani media reported.

In Washington, Department of State Spokesperson Ned Price said that the US has communicated its position to Islamabad on Russia's "renewed invasion" of Ukraine and it was the "responsibility" of every country to voice objection to Putin's actions.

"Well, we're certainly aware of the trip," Price said. "We've communicated to Pakistan our position regarding Russia's further renewed invasion of Ukraine, and we have briefed them on our efforts to pursue diplomacy over war."

"We believe it's the responsibility of every responsible country around the world to voice concern, to voice objection to what Putin appears to have in mind for Ukraine," he said in response to a question on Wednesday.

## Ukraine attack leaves Baltics wondering: Are we next?

AP ■ VILNIUS (LITHUANIA)

Viewed from Paris, London and Washington, the events unfolding in Ukraine may seem like a new Cold War taking shape in Europe.

From the Baltic countries, it looks much worse.

To Estonians, Latvians and Lithuanians — particularly those old enough to have lived under Soviet control — Russia's belligerence toward Ukraine has some worried that they could be the next target. The tensions have brought back memories of mass deportations and oppression.

"My grandparents were sent away to Siberia. My father was persecuted by the KGB. Now I live in a free democratic country, but it seems that nothing can be taken for granted," said Jaunius Kazlauskas, a 50-year-old teacher in Vilnius, Lithuania's capital.

Russia's attack on Ukraine sent shockwaves through the Baltic countries on Thursday. Lithuania's president declared a state of emergency and Latvia suspended the broadcast licenses of several Russian TV stations accused of spreading disinformation and propaganda. All three Baltic countries were seized and annexed by Stalin during World War II before gaining independence again with the breakup of the Soviet Union in 1991. They joined NATO in 2004, putting themselves under the military protection of the U.S. And its Western allies. Ukraine is not

part of NATO.

Along with Poland, also a NATO member, the small Baltic countries have been among the loudest advocates for powerful sanctions against Moscow and NATO reinforcements on the alliance's eastern flank. Baltic government leaders in recent weeks have shuttled to European capitals, warning that the West must make Russian President Vladimir Putin pay for attacking Ukraine, or else his tanks will keep rolling toward other parts of the former Soviet empire.

"The battle for Ukraine is a battle for Europe. If Putin is not stopped there, he will go further," Lithuanian Foreign Minister Gabrielius Landsbergis warned last week in a joint news conference with U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin.

Two days before the attack, President Joe Biden announced that some American forces deployed in Europe, including 800 infantry soldiers, F-35 fighters and Apache helicopters, would be moved to the three Baltic states, describing the step as purely defensive.

The news was met with enthusiasm in the Baltic capitals. While the NATO treaty commits all allies to defend any member that comes under attack, the Baltic countries say it is imperative that NATO show resolve not just in words but with boots on the ground.

"Russia always measures the military might but also the will of countries to fight," said Janis Garisons, state secretary

at Latvia's Defense Ministry. "Once they see a weakness, they will exploit that weakness."

While Putin hasn't publicly expressed any ambition to reassert Russian control over the Baltic countries, many Estonians, Latvians and Lithuanians worry he wants to regain influence across all former republics of the Soviet Union, the collapse of which he once described as a tragedy for the Russian people.

In his speech earlier this week setting the stage for Russia's military intervention, Putin said Ukraine is "not just a neighboring country for us. It is an inalienable part of our own history, culture and spiritual space."

Culturally and linguistically different, the Baltic countries don't have the same connection to Russian history and identity. However, they were ruled by Moscow for most of the past 200 years, first by the Russian Empire, then for almost 50 years following World War II by the Soviet Union. All three countries have ethnic Russian minorities; in Latvia and Estonia, they make up about one-quarter of the population.

Though many of them are well integrated, tensions flared in 2007 when hundreds of ethnic Russians rioted against government plans to relocate a Soviet war memorial in Tallinn, Estonia's capital. Estonia suspected Russia of stoking the unrest and orchestrating cyberattacks that paralyzed government computer networks.

## UN food agency says 13 million Yemenis may face starvation

AP ■ SANAA (YEMEN)

The head of the UN food agency has warned that 13 million Yemenis are headed for starvation due to a protracted civil conflict and a lack of funding for humanitarian aid.

In an interview with The Associated Press on Wednesday, David Beasley said that Yemen was "in a very bad situation" with more than 40 per cent of the population already relying on food supplies from the World Food Program.

"We're feeding 13 million people out of a nation of 30 million people, and we are running out of money," Beasley said, speaking from the capital, Sanaa. Since the pandemic hit, more people have been facing the threat of starvation globally, which put tremendous pressures on the WFP, Beasley said. Now, 285 million people around the world face the threat of starvation, which makes it more difficult to attend to Yemen's needs, he added.

"We've got twice the number of people struggling around the world now," Beasley said.

"So, what am I gonna do for the children in Yemen? Steal it from the children in Ethiopia, or Afghanistan, or Nigeria or in Syria? That's not right," he added.

Beasley said his agency was forced to cut rations in half for eight million Yemenis due

to the shortage of funds.

"We may be cutting those down to zero. What do you think will happen? people will die. It will be catastrophic," he said.

According to the UN food agency, around 811 million people do not have enough food across the globe, and an estimated 45 million people in 43 countries are at risk of famine.

Beasley said the WFP needs an extra 9 billion dollars to meet the rising demand for food aid around the world.

"The USD 430 trillion worth of wealth in the world today, there should not be a single child dying anywhere on earth," he contended.

Yemen has been fighting a civil war since 2014, when Iran-backed Houthi rebels took control of the capital of Sanaa and much of the northern part of the country, forcing the government of President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi to flee to the south, then to Saudi Arabia.

A Saudi-led coalition entered the war in March 2015, backed by the United States, to try to restore Hadi and his internationally recognized government to power.

Despite a relentless air campaign and ground fighting, the war has deteriorated largely into a stalemate and caused a humanitarian crisis. The US has since suspended its direct involvement in the conflict.

## British queen still has Covid symptoms, postpones audiences

AP ■ LONDON

Queen Elizabeth II postponed two virtual audiences as she continued to experience cold-like symptoms from COVID-19, Buckingham Palace said Thursday.

It was the second time this week that Elizabeth, 95, had canceled virtual sessions. However, she spoke by telephone with British Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Wednesday in what was seen as an encouraging sign of her recovery.

The monarch's age, COVID-19 diagnosis and a health scare last year have caused worry among officials and the public. Her positive test for the coronavirus over the weekend prompted concern and get-well wishes from across Britain's political spectrum.

The palace said Sunday that Elizabeth, who has been fully vaccinated and had a booster shot, would continue with "light" duties at Windsor Castle. The queen, who is the country's longest-reigning monarch has a series of engagements coming up as she celebrates her Platinum Jubilee, marking 70 years on the throne. She is scheduled to host a March 2 reception which would involve meeting hundreds of diplomats at Windsor.

She is also due to attend the Commonwealth Service at Westminster Abbey on March 14, and then a March 26 memorial service, also at the Abbey, for her late husband, Prince Philip, who died last April at age 99.

RUSSIA ATTACKS UKRAINE

Investor lose over ₹13.44 lakh cr wealth

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Investor wealth worth over ₹ 13.44 lakh crore was wiped off on Thursday as the domestic equity markets tumbled along with global risk assets, after Russia launched military operations against Ukraine. Amid intensifying rout in the global financial markets, the 30-share BSE Sensex plummeted 2,702.15 points or 4.72 per cent to end at 54,529.91. The carnage on Dalal Street eroded investor wealth worth Rs 13,44,488.54 crore, taking the total market capitalisation (m-cap) to ₹2,42,24,179.79 crore on the BSE. The m-cap of BSE-listed companies stood at ₹2,55,68,668.33 crore at the end of trading on Wednesday. Traders said incessant foreign fund outflows also weighed on the markets. On a net basis, foreign institutional investors sold equities worth Rs 3,417.16

crore on Wednesday, data available with stock exchanges showed. Brent Crude oil prices surged past the USD 100-a-barrel mark amid geopolitical worries. Global oil benchmark Brent crude futures jumped 7.92 per cent to USD 104.51 per barrel. "Equities witnessed a free fall with markets around the globe down more than 5 per cent, while Russian markets were down more than 30 per cent as Russia invaded Ukraine after weeks of conflict," said Siddhhartha Khemka, Head - Retail Research, Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd. Nifty saw a steep fall of 800 points as sentiments soured over intense military assault by Russia. Sellers outpaced buyers as volatility intensified on the day of monthly F&O expiry. All the sectoral indices were in red, with the majority of the sectors down almost 5-8 per cent.

Wall Street joins global swoon after Russia attacks Ukraine

AP ■ WASHINGTON

Stocks tumbled worldwide Thursday after Russia's attack of Ukraine sent fear coursing through markets and upped the pressure on the high inflation already hurting people and businesses around the world. The S&P 500 sank 2% to continue its dismal start of the year. It's now down almost 14% from the record high it set in early January. European markets sank even more, with the German DAX down 5%. Bond yields fell as investors sought safety and the price of oil soared above \$100 a barrel. The conflict could send prices spiralling even higher at gasoline pumps and grocery stores everywhere. US markets pointed toward a sharply lower open, following a global plunge in stocks and a surge in oil prices Thursday after Russian President Vladimir Putin launched military action in Ukraine, prompting Washington and Europe to vow sanctions on Moscow that may roil the global economy. Oil prices jumped by more than \$7 per barrel and futures for Wall Street's benchmark S&P 500 index and the Dow

Jones Industrial Average were off by more than 2.5%. Market benchmarks in Europe and Asia fell as much as 5% as traders tried to figure out how large Putin's incursion would be and the scale of Western retaliation. Energy prices surged, fuelling inflation fears. The spot price in Europe for natural gas, for which the continent relies on Russia to supply, jumped as much as 31%. Brent crude oil jumped above \$100 per barrel in London for the first time since 2014 on unease about possible disruption of supplies from Russia, the No. 3 producer. Benchmark US crude was close behind at \$99 per barrel. Prices of wheat and corn also jumped. The ruble sank as much as 7.5% against the dollar overnight but recovered slightly, down about 5% in the morning. Financial markets are in a "flight to safety and may have to price in slower growth" due to high energy costs, Chris Turner and Francesco Pesole of ING said in a report. In Brussels, the president of the European Commission said Thursday the 27-nation

European Union planned "massive and targeted sanctions" on Russia. "We will hold President Putin accountable," Ursula von der Leyen said. The FTSE 100 in London fell 3.3% after Europe awakened to news of explosions in the Ukrainian capital of Kyiv, the major city of Kharkiv and other areas. The DAX in Frankfurt plunged 5.4% and the CAC in Paris lost 4.9%. Moscow's stock exchange briefly suspended trading on all its markets on Thursday morning. After trading resumed, the ruble-denominated MOEX stock index tumbled more than 20% and the dollar-denominated RTS index plunged by more than a third. That was on top of Wednesday's 1.8% slide for the S&P 500 to an eight-month low after the Kremlin said rebels in eastern Ukraine had asked for military assistance. Moscow had sent soldiers to some rebel-held areas after recognizing them as independent. Some analysts expect the conflict to push investors out of many tech stocks, with the exception of the cybersecurity sector.

Rupee plummets 102 paise to close at 75.63/\$ amid Ukraine crisis

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee tanked 102 paise to close at 75.63 (provisional) against the US currency on Thursday as riskier assets took a hit after Russia launched military operations against Ukraine. Forex traders said sustained foreign fund outflows, heavy selling in domestic equities and elevated crude oil prices weighed on investor sentiment. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 75.02 against the American dollar but later dropped to a low of 75.75 against the greenback. The local unit finally finished at 75.63, down 102 paise from the previous close. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.74 per cent higher at 96.90. Global oil benchmark Brent crude futures jumped 8.36 per cent to USD 104.94 per barrel. "Rupee became the worst

performing currency among Asian currencies on back of month-end dollar demand from oil importers. Also, safe-haven dollar demand has surged after Russia attacks on Ukraine fuelled sell-off in risk assets," said Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst, HDFC Securities. Brent Crude oil prices surged past the USD 100-a-barrel mark amid geopolitical worries which worsened sentiments for rupee. "Spot USD-INR took support at 74.30, the 200 days simple moving average and now heads for a month high of 75.72," Parmar said. On the domestic equity market front, the 30-share Sensex ended 2702.15 points or 4.72 per cent lower at 54,529.91, while the broader NSE Nifty plunged 815.30 points or 4.78 per cent to 16,247.95. Foreign institutional investors remained net sellers in the capital market on Wednesday as they offloaded shares worth Rs 3,417.16 crore, as per stock exchange data.

FM to meet PM to discuss Russia-Ukraine conflict situation

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday said she will be meeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi to discuss the situation arising out of the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Markets have been rattled by Russia's attack on the Eastern European country. When asked whether there will be a meeting with the Prime Minister on the Russia-Ukraine issue, Sitharaman said, "definitely". She was speaking to reporters on the sidelines of an event here. On Thursday, Russian President Vladimir Putin announced a military operation in Ukraine and the move has raised concerns over the possibility of a full-scale military confrontation between the two countries. The 30-share benchmark Sensex crashed over 2,700 points in line with global meltdown amid invasion of Ukraine by Russia.



India pays Cairn ₹7,900 cr to settle retro tax dispute

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian government has paid Cairn Energy Plc ₹ 7,900 crore to refund taxes it had collected to enforce a retrospective tax demand, ending a seven-year-old dispute that had tarred the country's image as an investment destination. The company, which is now known as Capricorn Energy PLC, in a statement said it has received "net proceeds of USD 1.06 billion", of which nearly 70 per cent will be returned to the shareholders. The tax department had issued a 2012 legislation, which gave it powers to go back 50 years and slap capital gains levies wherever ownership had changed hands overseas but

business assets were in India, to seek Rs 10,247 crore in taxes from Cairn. Cairn had in 2006-07 reorganised its India business, which comprised operations of prolific Rajasthan oilfields, prior to its listing on stock exchanges. While the company sold majority holding in the India unit to Vedanta in 2011, it was in 2014 slapped with the tax demand notice over alleged capital gains made on the reorganisation. The British firm contested the demand, saying all taxes due were duly paid when the reorganisation, which was approved by all statutory authorities, took place. But the tax department in 2014 attached and subsequently

sold the residual shares that Cairn held in the Indian unit. It also withheld tax refunds and confiscated dividends due to it to settle part of the tax demand. All this totalled Rs 7,900 crore. Cairn dragged the government to international arbitration over the levy and enforcement proceedings and on December 22, 2020, got a favourable ruling that asked India to refund the tax collected together with interest and penalty. The government initially refused to honour the award but in August 2021 brought a law to scrap all retrospective tax demands and refund money collected but without any interest or penalty. The change of heart fol-

lowed Cairn initiating seizure of the Indian government's overseas assets -- ranging from flats used by its diplomatic staff in Paris to Air India planes in the US -- to recover the refund due. As part of the settlement reached with the government over the levy of back taxes, Cairn withdrew all cases that were brought to collect the tax refund ordered by the international arbitration tribunal after rescinding retrospective raising of demand. Simon Thomson, chief executive, Capricorn Energy, commented: "India has a special place in our company's history and we are very pleased that this issue has now been concluded."

Continued policy support crucial for sustained economic recovery: RBI Gov

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Amid prolonged uncertainty, continued policy support will be crucial for sustained economic recovery from the coronavirus pandemic, Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das said at the recent meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee. "In this period of prolonged uncertainty, it would be wise to remain agile and respond in a gradual, calibrated and well telegraphed manner to the emerging challenges," opined Das, according to the minutes of the MPC meeting released by the Reserve Bank on Thursday. Observing that economic recovery from the pandemic remains incomplete and uneven, he said, "continued support from various policies remains crucial for a sustained recovery." The governor said the renewed surge in international crude oil prices, however, requires close monitoring. "We need to remain watchful of the risks to domestic inflation arising from rise in international commodity prices due to exogenous factors including geopolitical developments. While core inflation remains elevated, demand-pull pressures are still muted, given the slack in the economy," he said at the MPC meet. After the three-day meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) early this month, RBI decided to keep its key lending rates steady at record low levels for the 10th straight time to support a durable recovery of the economy from the pandemic. The six-member MPC, which has been on pause since August 2020, voted unanimously to maintain the status quo on

the repo rate and by a majority of 5-1 decided to retain the accommodative policy stance as long as necessary. MPC member and RBI Deputy Governor Michael Debabrata Patra said the Indian economy is encountering headwinds as well as cross currents. Referring to headwinds, he said more than a billion vaccinations have been achieved but only 56 per cent of the total population is fully vaccinated. The next billion "will be back breaking" he said. He said economic activity in India appears to have resiliently withstood the third wave, but messages from incoming high frequency indicators are mixed. "It is prudent to assume that the recovery may have lost some momentum during Q4: 2021-22 and Q1: 2022-23. Inflation appears to be approaching an inflection point after which it is projected on a downward path through all of 2022-23," Patra said while voting for maintaining the policy rate and keeping the accommodative stance of policy unchanged. RBI Executive Director and MPC member Mridul K Sagar said the Omicron variant along with continued port congestions and supply shortages has started to drag down global growth. This, in turn, may act in accordance with Bernoulli's principle on fluid pressure, making the growth pipe narrower with falling external demand acting to dampen price pressures that have turned elevated from the supply-side, he said.

Two-wheeler sales volume to fall for third straight fiscal year: Crisil

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Two-wheeler sales volume is expected to dip by 8-10 per cent this fiscal year due to factors like sluggish rural demand, low festive-season sales, higher prices, and deferred purchases as consumers eye electric vehicles, Crisil Ratings said on Thursday. The decline in sales volume in the current financial year is expected on an already-low base after two consecutive years of decline -- at 13 per cent in fiscal 2021 and 18 per cent in fiscal 2020, the domestic ratings agency said in a statement. This is the first time in over a decade, when two-wheeler sales are declining for three successive fiscal years, it added. Segment-wise, motorcycle volume, which accounts for two-thirds of the overall two-wheeler volumes, will see a drop of about 8-9 per cent

this fiscal year, it said. "The second, third covid waves and delayed harvest impacted rural demand for two-wheelers this fiscal. Besides, higher vehicle and fuel prices also affected rural demand this fiscal, unlike last fiscal, when rural India was less impacted by the first covid wave," Crisil Ratings Senior Director Anuj Sethi stated. Three consecutive years of decline will take two-wheeler sale volumes back to the fiscal 2014 level and it may take 3-4 years to reclaim the peak sales volume of 2.11 crore seen in 2019, another company executive said. "That said, volume growth is expected to be better at 6-8 per cent next fiscal, on a low base, due to moderate recovery in rural incomes, new product launches, normalisation of chip availability, and sharper focus of manufacturers on premiumisation," he added.

Moody's ups India's growth forecast to 9.5% for 2022; flags high oil prices, supply distortions

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Moody's Investors Service Monday Thursday raised India's growth forecast to 9.5 per cent for the calendar year 2022 and to 8.4 per cent for the coming fiscal beginning April 1, even as it flagged high oil prices and supply distortions as a drag on growth. Stating that the economic recovery from the first and second Covid wave in 2020 and 2021, respectively has been stronger than expected, Moody's said Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection, retail activity and Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) suggest 'solid momentum'. "We have raised our 2022 calendar year growth forecast for India to 9.5 per cent from 7 per cent, and maintained our forecast for 5.5 per cent growth in 2023. This translates into 8.4 per cent and 6.5 per cent in fiscal years 2022-23 and 2023-24, respectively," Moody's said in an update to its Global macro-economic outlook 2022-23.

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I, Suman Kumar Punn, S/o Late Sh. Madan Lal Punn, R/o D-403, Wembley Estate, Rosewood City, Sector-50, Gurugram, Haryana, have lost Original Possession Letter, Original Site Possession slip and Original NOC for Electricity & Water connection of House No. B-2B/204, Janak Puri, New Delhi somewhere in Connaught Place, New Delhi. If found, please return on above address or contact Mob. No. 9810006370.

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For Disposal of Medical Records, older than 19/02/2019; Lifeline Hospital, 42, Sector-12B, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075  
Notice is hereby given that Lifeline hospital plot no-42, Sector-12B, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075 propose to dispose of all medical records of all patients who have not visited the hospital on or after 19.02.2019. A copy of concerned patient's records will be furnished to any patient/next to kin/legal representative on written to request addressed to Medical Director, Lifeline Hospital Plot No. 42, Sector-12B, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075 within 30 days of publication of this notice. hospital will not comply with any request and cannot be held responsible thereafter as all records up to 19th Feb 2019 would have been destroyed. If no such request to received, the records of the said period shall be liable to be destroyed & no claim be entertained thereafter no further notice shall be given in this regards.  
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**ICICI Bank** Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, 3rd Floor, Plot No- 23, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi- 110005  
Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank 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 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 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 Bank Limited.

| Sr. No. | Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number          | Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession                                                                                                                            | Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.) | Name of Branch |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1.      | Ramnarayan Sharma/ Rajani Sharma- LBJAI00004910937 | Apartment No. 1102, 11th Floor, Mirus Amplein, Plot No. F- 4, Khasra No 205, 206 & 209, Village Sukhiya, Tehsil Sanganager, Jaipur, Rajasthan, Jaipur-302020/ February 22, 2022 | June 7, 2021 Rs. 36,51,620.00/-                      | Delhi          |
| 2.      | Ramnarayan Sharma/ Rajani Sharma- LBJAI00004910940 | Apartment No. 402, 4th Floor, Mirus Amplein, Plot No. F- 4, Khasra No. 205, 206 & 209, Village Sukhiya, Tehsil Sanganager, Jaipur, Rajasthan, Jaipur- 302020/ February 22, 2022 | June 7, 2021 Rs. 36,51,620.00/-                      | Delhi          |

The above-mentioned borrowers(s) / guarantors(s) are hereby given on 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 : February 25, 2022  
Place: Delhi/ NCR  
Authorized Officer  
ICICI Bank Limited

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given to the General public on behalf of Fullerton India Home Finance Company, that Mr. Vidushi Khanna is claiming attorney Fiat bearing No. C-4 on 13rd floor, without roof rights, UTS, area measuring 46.44 sq. ft., M/s. "said floor" part of Property bearing No. 10, Situated at, Shalimar Garden Enclave I, in the area of village Reshoda, Ring Road, Jangra & District Chandigarh, UP "the said property" by virtue of GPA Agreement and will all dated 25.01.2006 executed by Mrs. Renu Kalia who was owner of the said property by virtue of Sale deed dated 01.12.2005, having registration No. 11021. All persons are hereby informed that above mentioned claimer want to sell the said property (flat) to Mrs. Riva Srinivas who is taking loan from Fullerton for purchase of his said flat, if anyone has any objection(s) upon the ownership of above owner its sale (Mortgage/Agreement) and any kind of objections, kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.  
Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants)  
206, 12nd Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Mohi Nagar, N. Delhi-110028  
Ph: 011-4112597-28 kumarandassociatesadvocates@gmail.com

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given to the general public on behalf of HDFC Bank Ltd. that Mr. A. K. Singhal is owner of Property bearing No.86, area measuring 183.34 sq. yds, in the layout plan of The Central Government Indl. Workers Co-operative House Building Society Ltd., presently known as Anand Vihar, Pitampura, Delhi-110034; hereinafter referred to as the "said property", by virtue of Conveyance Deed dated 23.12.1996, has lost/impounded Original Share Certificate, allotment letter, Original possession Letter, Original Sub Lease deed 19.11.1997, & mostly GPA, Agreement to sell and will still convenience deed, with respect of the property mentioned above. All persons are hereby informed not to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of missing document. If anyone has already carried out or being carried out kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.  
Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants)  
206, 12nd Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Mohi Nagar, N. Delhi-110028  
Ph: 011-4112597-28 kumarandassociatesadvocates@gmail.com

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
This is for notice of the general public that a political party is proposed to be registered by the name of Akhanda Loktantrik Party (name of the party). The office of the party is located at Main Road Near State Bank, C/o Sahetani Bai Sahu, Ward No.-02, Lavan, District B al o d a b a z a r - B h a t a p a r a, Chhattisgarh-493526 (full address). This party has submitted application to the Election Commission of India, New Delhi for its registration as Political Party under Section 29A of the Representation of People Act, 1951-Names/address of the office-bearers Party are as follows:  
**President/Chairman:** Vinod Patel 9753419758  
**General Secretary/Secretary :** Omprakash Ratne 9165681358  
**Treasurer:** Khamhan Yadav  
If any one has any objection to the registration of Akhanda Loktantrik Party (name of the proposed Party) they may send their Objection with reasons thereof, to the Secretary (Political Party) Election Commission of India, Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi 11000 / within 30 days of the publication of this notice.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
In the Court of Sh. Shirish Aggarwal Administrative Civil Judge-cum-Additional Rent Controller (Central), Room No. 28, Ground Floor, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054.  
Petition SC. No.-19/2022 N.D.O.H 28.03.2021  
Smt. Indu Mittal Vs. The State & Ors.  
To Smt. Indu Mittal W/o Late Sh. Vinod Kumar Mittal, R/o T758, Gali Kuan Wali Nai Basti, S.P. Mukherjee Marg, Delhi-110006 .....Petitioner  
**FOR SUCCESSION CERTIFICATE UNDER INDIAN SUCCESSION ACT. 1925**  
To All Concerned  
Whereas in the above noted petition the application/petitioner has applied for succession Certificate to the Hon'ble Court Under Section-372 of the Indian succession Act, 1925 in respect of the debt and securities amount of Rs. xxx As per record to be standing in the name of Late Sh. Vinod Kumar Mittal deceased.  
Whereas the 28.03.2022 at 10'0 clock in the forenoon has been fixed for hearing or the application notice is hereby given to this concerned. Given under my hand and the seal of the court on this 21.02.2022.  
(Shirish Aggarwal)  
Admn. civil Judge-cum- Addl. Rent Controller (Central) Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given that the share certificates No 26570 for 1000 shares bearing distinctive No(s) 462861751-462862750 standing in the name of BHAGAT SINGH JAGGI in the books of M/s APOLLO TYRES LIMITED, have been lost/impairced/destroyed and the advertiser has applied to the Company for issue of duplicate share certificate in lieu thereof. Any person who has claim on the said shares should lodge such claim with the Company's Registrars and Transfer Agents viz Kfin Technologies Pvt. Limited, Karvy Selenium Tower B, Plot number 31 & 32, Financial District Gachibowli, Hyderabad-500 032 within 15 days from the date of this notice failing which the Company will proceed to issue duplicate share certificate in respect of the said shares.  
**JASWINDER SINGH JAGGI**  
Date: Place :

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
My client, Sh. Vijay Khanna S/o Sh. Krishan Lal Khanna R/o J-4, 2nd Floor, VikasPuri, Tilak Nagar, West Delhi-18, who is owner of property bearing address Plot No. 24 on Second Floor, Area Measuring 880 Sq. Ft., Part of Kharsa No. 11515 m.m., Ward No. 3, Portion of House No. 173-F, situated in the Lal Dora of 1908-09, Village Mehrauli, New Delhi-110029 vide Registered GPA dated 19-11-2007 Registration No. 4829, Sub Registrar-V, New Delhi executed by Sh. Rajesh Chaudhary S/o Late Sh. M.K. Chaudhary. The previous chain documents of said property i.e. 1. ATS and Will dated 12.11.2007 executed by Sh. Rajesh Chaudhary in favor of Vijay Khanna & 2. GPA and ATS dated 25.06.1998, executed by Mahendra Kumar Gupta in favor of Amar Singh Kohli have been lost. Any person/bank/financial institution having any claim/right, lien any objection whatsoever in regard to above property, should notified to the undersigned/Adv. Vishal Mehra, E-713, Karkardooma Court, Delhi-110092 along with documentary evidence under address through registered A/D within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice failing which any claim, lien or objection shall be deemed to have been waived.  
**Vishal Mehra (Advocate)**  
E-713, Karkardooma Court, Delhi-110092  
Mobile No. 9811215181



# THE BOUGIE EFFECT

The new restaurant in Ambawatta offers something contemporary yet studded with elements that evoke nostalgia, says SAMEER BAWA

It was not just the food, ambience and I have known Chef Priyam Chatterjee for a few years now and have indulged in some memorable dining experiences where I was consistently floored by his infectious passion and command over culinary art. The multiple interactions over the years evolved to a level of camaraderie where he wanted me to be a part of his special day when he became the first Indian to be awarded France's prestigious *Ordre du Merite Agricole* at an exclusive ceremony at the French Embassy in 2019. From witnessing that ceremony to his recent culinary adventures in Europe, I have always kept a close eye on his exciting culinary endeavours and was ecstatic when I heard that he is moving back to India to take over the kitchen of Bougie at Ambawatta One, Mehrauli.

I went in for lunch a few days ago. Covering 5,000 sq ft of premium real estate overlooking the Qutab, it has a Bohemian vibe designed to create a harmony between different elements of fire, water, earth and air as they interact with the heritage of different countries. The spacious terrace has an imposing yet beautifully-designed central bar graced by the aura of the Qutab Minar. You won't expect anything less in a restaurant conceptualised by Priyank Sukhija and furnished by Natasha & Neeraj Jain, the founders of the famous decor and furniture brand Bent Chair.

Coming to the food, Chef Priyam has curated an exclusive Mediterranean European menu which offers your palate a deli-



cious variety of flavours and textures. Food that is comfortable yet chic. Priyam uses organic produce and his mastery of cooking techniques — acquired over years of working in French kitchens — offers something contemporary yet studded with elements that evoke nostalgia.

We started with some *Ham croquettes*, *Chicken tenders*, *Calamari*, *Courgette fritas* with *jalapeño aioli* and *Sweetcorn mousse doughnuts* from the *Tapas* selection. Each is better than the other! You could not help but notice, that even if something was deep fried or flash fried, it was done perfectly. For the appetisers, we chose the *Avocado tartare*, *Parma with love* and *The best-fried chicken of your life*. The tartare with baby spinach, avocado mousse and tobiko roe is absolute art on a plate. The presentation of the dish wrestles ferociously with the taste. Brilliant. The Parma preparation was stellar as well. Aged Parma ham over sweet melons glazed with pine nut oil and tar syrup dressing garnished with toasted pine nuts. Can't go wrong, can you? Pair it



with a full-bodied red wine and I promise that the contrast would make your taste buds dance in gay abandon. The fried chicken was of the highest quality. A meal in itself, the 'Chef special' preparation floored me with the crunch and balance. Served with sliced bread and some hot sauce on the side, it's one of those dishes which would be perfect to initiate or culminate a meal.



For the mains, we requested the *Chicken stroganoff* and *Potatoes & truffles pizza* and a portion of *Charred* which is one of the signature tartines at Bougie. The stroganoff was expertly done with sous vide chicken on a bed of Russian pilaf and some sour cream jus. Great balance again. It was the first time I tasted a potato and truffle combination on a pizza. The amalgamation of potatoes,

smoked cream and truffled arugula was divine and every bite was a soulful experience in itself and none of the elements overpowered or overwhelmed the other. If you like truffles, you would love this pizza. The tartine was the one prep though that tickled my imagination the most. *Truffle burrata tartine* topped with charred avocado guacamole, barbecued avocado with spiced onion emulsion. It was one dish that flirted with all the basic taste profiles — sweet, sour, salty, slightly bitter and umami. Loved it.

There were still a lot of dishes that I wanted to try, but I was already satiated to the core and it was time to culminate the meal. The dessert menu is done by Paris My Love and I savoured the *Baba Au Rhum* before we bid Bougie goodbye. This was not before I silently promised myself to plan another visit soon and try out some other gems on the menu. I am also specifically eyeing the soon to be launched Breakfast menu and can't wait to dig into the sandwiches, crepes and egg preparations.

All in all, it was a wonderful dining experience. Bougie has a well-stocked bar and a decent cocktail menu. The service was prompt and the team ensured that we had a good time. Already very popular with the Delhi crowd, Bougie offers something for everybody. Whether you want to visit for a sundowner, an after-work drink, a proper meal or a party on the terrace, it would keep you wanting to come back for more. And that, ladies and gentleman, is what I call 'The Bougie Effect'.

## Nobody like her

When the pandemic stuck, CHEF ASMA KHAN changed tack which helped her and her all-women team to return in a new avatar, says AALIYA ASHWIN

When the pandemic hit in 2020, that uncertainty and chaos were extremely hard on chef and restaurateur Asma Khan and her all-women team at Darjeeling Express, London. She had to shut down her restaurant a week before the lockdown in the UK but continued to pay her staff, as they had to support their families as well.

No one knew how long this was going to last. But, even in the face of all that darkness, and uncertainty, she was hopeful. "I had to lock up, but I left a small light in the kitchen on, so I could find how to come back. This is *umeed* (hope) you cannot close all hope and leave," Khan remembers. She managed to not just survive the crisis professionally, but thrive as the restaurant with its new formats like thali lunches and biryani take-aways, found newer clientele, including a few Hollywood stars, visiting London.

Personally, however, she has had no time to assess the impact the pandemic has had on her. "I have given a lot to everything and everybody, but I think now, there is a time to just reflect on myself for a bit and physically become a bit stronger because it's been very tough, and I probably need a bit of healing myself," she tells me in a zoom interview from Kolkata, her hometown, where she has been spending some downtime.

"I didn't have the luxury to worry about my mental health, which does not mean that I haven't been impacted. I think this is probably why I feel that now things are okay. I need to just spend a bit of time for myself. So this is where I know there is an impact on me. There was no impact during the crisis because I was fighting and thinking of new ideas, doing biryani takeaway and trying to protect everybody. Because I was leading my entire team of 35 people through the pandemic, I had no time."

Khan has been an ardent champion of women's rights and has an all-female team of home cooks in her restaurant. These women, like her, have no professional experience, none of them went to culinary school, but they have the talent and the life experience to help them make Indian food in the kitchen. Khan believes in equal wages for her and her entire team, as all of them, whether they make the *chaats* or fluffy *pooris*, are equal. "This has happened to women where our *rotis* and our rice was taken for granted. In many houses, women eat last and girls eat least." That's why no one is valued less than the others.

Khan urges people, especially women, to get help during this time and to not go at it alone. "Please do not think that you are being weak. When you say that you struggled, it is very tough to admit that it's been very difficult. But say it to your-



self, find help and try to make connections with other women and communicate with people."

Khan's journey began three months before she got married and moved to Cambridge in 1991. She was 21 and in a foreign country, and as if that wasn't tough enough she didn't know how to cook. It was only after she came back to India, that she learnt to cook, in just a few short summers. She never imagined opening a restaurant. "At that time, when you looked around, there was nobody like me, everybody was, you know, white or man, or a female who had trained under some male chef who was a mentor and godfather, you know? So nobody from outside, untrained, unqualified or, in other words, just a home cook. You didn't see a restaurant open from someone like that," Khan remembers.

But, still, she enjoyed cooking to feed other people. In 2012, Khan started offering a series of private supper clubs in her home for a dozen people for £35 each. She especially mentions the Cambridge students like her, coming from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and more who didn't know how to cook themselves. It was when she was cooking for them that she realised just how memorable her food was. "I could see them in tears, you know, sitting and eating food,.... so silent, this is the thing that I remember. I remember the silence of the students when they ate because it was a very emotional thing. And I realised that I have the skills to take someone so far away, take them home." It was only after this realisation, that she realised her dream and opened her restaurant, not just to feed people the taste of home, but tell stories about that home too.

## R E C I P E S



### AMRITSARI ALOO WADIYAN

#### WHAT YOU NEED

- Peeled potato wedge: 700 gm
- Wadi Amritsari: 250 gm
- Ghee: 65 ml
- Cumin whole: 4 gm
- Turmeric powder: 3 gm
- Red chilly powder: 3 gm
- Kasoori methi powder: 2gm
- Onion: 200 gm
- Cashew nut paste: 100 gm
- Ginger garlic paste: 30 gm
- Coriander powder: 10 gm
- Cumin powder: 2 gm
- Garam masala powder: 5 gm
- Fresh tomato puree: 350 ml
- Garlic chopped: 20 gm
- Salt: to taste
- Oil for frying: 300 ml

#### METHOD

- In a vessel, heat the ghee and temper with whole cumin,
- Add chopped garlic and onion, saute until golden brown.
- Now add ginger garlic paste.
- Add all powder spices and cook for a while.
- Add fresh tomato puree and cook until it starts leaving oil from the side.
- Add cashew nut paste for richness and cook it.
- Add peeled potato wedges and let it cook for 20 minutes,
- Now add fried Amritsari wadi.
- Finish with *garam* masala powder for taste.
- Serve hot and fresh.

Courtesy: Vivek Rana, executive chef at The Claridges New Delhi

### CLASSIC SHEPHERD'S PIE

#### WHAT YOU NEED

- Olive oil: 30 ml
- Onion: 20 gm
- Carrot: 20 gm
- Celery: 10 gm
- Garlic: 5 gm
- Tomato puree: 40 ml
- Lamb mince: 150 gm
- Red wine: 40 ml
- Rosemary: 2 gm
- Lamb stock: 60 ml
- Butter: 10 gm
- Chopped parsley: 2 gm
- Salt: 2 gm

- Black pepper: 2 gm

#### For mashed potatoes

- Potato: 70 gm
- Butter: 10 gm
- Cream: 10 ml
- Parmesan cheese: 5 gm
- Salt: 2 gm

#### METHOD

- Heat oil in a large saucepan over medium-high heat.
- Add lamb mince and keep stirring to break up any lumps for five minutes or



until lamb changes colour.

- Add chopped onion, carrot, celery, garlic and cook, stirring for four minutes. Add chopped fresh

rosemary.

- Add the red wine, cook for two minutes more, add tomato puree and mutton stock. Bring to a boil.

### ESPRESSO 'N' CREAM BROWNIES

#### WHAT YOU NEED

- Butter: 1/2 cup
- Unsweetened chocolate, chopped: 90 gm
- Eggs: 2
- Sugar: 1 cup
- Vanilla extract: 1 tsp
- Flour: 2/3 cup
- Baking soda: 1/4 tsp

#### For filling

- Single shot of espresso
- Heavy whipping cream: 3 tbsps

- Powdered sugar: 1 cup
- Softened butter: 2 tbsps

#### For glaze

- Semi-sweet chocolate chips: 1 cup
- Heavy whipping cream: 1/3 cup



#### METHOD

- In a microwave, melt butter and chocolate; stir until smooth. Cool slightly.
- In a small bowl, beat the eggs, sugar and vanilla; stir in chocolate

mixture.

- Combine flour and baking soda; stir into chocolate mixture.
- Spread into a greased baking pan.
- Bake at 350°C for 25-

30 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean (do not overbake). Cool it.

- For filling, take shot of espresso in cream. Add confectioners' sugar and butter; beat just until light and fluffy (do not overbeat). Spread over brownies. Refrigerate until set.

- In a small saucepan, combine chips and cream. Cook and stir over low heat until chips are melted. Cool slightly. Carefully spread over filling. Let stand for 30 minutes or until glaze is set. Cut into squares. Store in refrigerator.
- Enjoy your Espresso 'n' Cream Brownies.

Courtesy: Abdul Sahid Khan, head trainer at Lavazza India.

### COFFEE PANCAKES

#### WHAT YOU NEED

- Lavazza coffee: 150 ml
- Large eggs: 2
- Milk: 150 ml
- Flour: 150 gm
- Sugar: 50 gm
- Salt: A pinch
- Butter: To taste

#### METHOD

- To a mixer jar, add the California walnuts, pulse a few times to just crush the walnuts into smaller pieces and keep it aside.
- Chop the dark chocolate and keep it aside.
- To a pan, add butter and then add the ground walnuts.
- To this mixture, add the chopped chocolate and mix well.
- Add milk and milk powder to the



pan. Mix everything gradually.

- Now add the powdered biscuits and mix well.
- Finally add the condensed milk and mix.
- Spread the barfi mixture in the pan and cool it completely.
- Cut the barfi into squares and serve.

Courtesy: Abdul Sahid Khan, head trainer at Lavazza India.



# 10 in a row

## India extend winning streak to ten matches after beating SL by 62 runs in 1st T20I

PTI ■ LUCKNOW

Ishan Kishan gave a glimpse of his enormous potential with a 56-ball-89 before the bowlers joined the party in India's clinical 62-run demolition of Sri Lanka in the first T20I to take a 1-0 lead in the three-game series here on Thursday.

This was also India's longest winning streak in T20Is which has now gone up to 10 matches.

Asked to take first strike, Kishan was unstoppable at the top as he blasted a blistering 56-ball 89, while Shreyas Iyer provided the late charge with an unbeaten 57 as India racked up a massive 199 for 2.

The Indian bowlers, led by Bhuvneshwar Kumar (2/9 in 2 overs) and Venkatesh Iyer (2/36), then provided the finishing touch, limiting Sri Lanka to 137 for 6 in 20 overs.

Yuzvendra Chahal (1/11) and Ravindra Jadeja (1/28) also claimed one wicket each.

The victory extended India's winning streak to 10 T20 games.

For Sri Lanka, Charith Asalanka regained some confidence with an unbeaten 47-ball 53 but he didn't get any

support from the other batters. Indian captain Rohit Sharma became the highest scorer in all T20Is after his innings of 44 as he surpassed Martin Gupthill (3299) to now go onto 3307.

Leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal (67 wickets) have now gone past Jasprit Bumrah as India's top wicket-taker in T20Is.

Defending the total, Bhuvneshwar provided India the perfect start as he cleaned up in-form opener Pathum Nissanka (0) of the first ball of the innings before returning to remove the other opener Kamil Mishara (13) cheaply.

India's fielding was not up to the mark with ventakesh Iyer and Shreyas Iyer spilling chances off Kamila and Charith Asalanka in 3rd and 6th overs respectively but it didn't matter as the Lankan batters couldn't use the chances.

Ventakesh got rid of Janith Liyanage (11), while comeback man Ravindra Jadeja had Dinesh Chandimal (10) stumped in the 10th over as Sri Lanka were down 51 for 4 in 10th over.

Skipper Dasun Shanaka's (3) stay lasted six balls as



Chahal overtook Bumrah to become India's leading wicket taker (67) in T20Is.

With the required run-rate hovering over 20, Asalanka then provided some respectability to the chase.

Iyer grabbed the opportunity with both hands, smashing five fours and two sixes in 28 balls to take India to a huge total. Ishan Kishan was the aggressor among the two openers as he exploded in the third over, making Chamika Karunaratne pay for erring in his line and length with three boundaries as India amassed 15 runs from the over.

Lahiru Kumara bowled with a lot of pace but Ishan came up with two good-looking shots -- one a pull on the front foot which went over the

ropes and the other one a flick across the mid-wicket boundary.

Left-arm spinner Praveen Jayawickrama was next hammered for a four, while a short ball from Chameera was deposited into the stands as Kishan continued his demolition act which yielded 58 in the powerplay.

Sri Lanka was also guilty of dropping Ishan with spinner Jeffrey Vandersay spilling him on his own bowling in the 7th over.

The left-hander soon went on to score his second T20 fifty as India amassed 98 off 10 overs.

Playing second fiddle, skipper Rohit ran the ones and twos hard and picked up two fours along with a cracking slog-

sweep over mid-wicket for a six. Six runs short of a half-century, Rohit was done in by a slow delivery from Lahiru Kumara in the 12th over as Sri Lanka tried to put breaks.

Ishan Kishan got another reprieve when he had edged one from Vandersay and the ball made its way to the boundary.

After two tight overs, Kishan slapped one over long-on for a maximum and then sent Lahiru Kumara across the third man and deep mid-wicket boundaries as India racked up 17 runs.

Sri Lanka's agony was escalated by their pedestrian bowling in the death overs as Shreyas Iyer took them to the cleaners with the last three overs yielded 44 runs.

# Harman finds form as India avoid whitewash

PTI ■ QUEENSTOWN

Harmanpreet Kaur struck a much-needed half-century to get back among the runs as the Indian women's cricket team finally managed to beat New Zealand in the series-ending fifth ODI for a consolatory six-wicket win here on Thursday.

The Indian bowlers, who under-performed prior to the game, finally got their act together to limit New Zealand to 251 for nine in 50 overs.

India chased the down the target in 46 overs courtesy Harmanpreet's 63 off 66 balls and Smriti Mandhana's 71 off 84 balls. Skipper Mithali Raj remained unbeaten on 57 off 66 balls.

Having lost the one off T20 and first four ODIs, India badly needed a win to gain some momentum going into the ODI World Cup next month. The spinners, who struggled to provide the breakthroughs, shared seven wickets among themselves on Thursday.



vide the breakthroughs, shared seven wickets among themselves on Thursday.

Deepti Sharma, Rajeshwari Gayakwad and Sneha Rana took two wickets each while pacer

Meghna Singh too was impressive in the five overs she bowled. Star batter Mandhana, who

had missed the first three ODIs and the T20 due to an extended stay in quarantine, also got some valuable time in the middle.

The ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year collected nine fours in her 84-ball effort.

Harmanpreet must be relieved after scoring her first fifty in close to 12 months.

She was dropped from the previous game after a prolonged lean patch and came under heavy criticism from former players including ex captain Diana Edulji.

She used the sweep shot effectively to collect a bunch of boundaries before using a pull shot to reach the half-century. The Indian team needs to be consistent with performances like they put on Thursday if it is to challenge for the world title.

"We have improved over the last few games we have played, that's a good sign before the World Cup.

## Women's WC to go ahead with 9 players

PTI ■ DUBAI

With an aim to conduct an uninterrupted tournament, the ICC on Thursday said all matches at the upcoming Women's ODI World Cup in New Zealand could be played with nine players in case of a COVID-19 outbreak.

The nine-player-a-side game is already in place in the ICC guidelines related to playing conditions and has been in effect since the U-19 World Cup in the West Indies, where India won the title for a record fifth time.

ICC's head of events Chris Tetley said that the prevalent playing conditions allow teams to field a truncated side if there is a COVID outbreak in their squad, supplemented by substitute fielders from within the management and coaching staff. "If it becomes necessary we would allow a team to field nine players as an exception for this environment," Tetley was quoted as saying by ESPNcricinfo.

"And if they had female substitutes from within their management team, we would allow two substitutes to play - non-batting, non-bowling - to enable a game to take place."

## Wanted some space, says Kohli on stepping down as RCB skipper

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Virat Kohli, who had stepped down as the Royal Challengers Bangalore skipper after the 2021 IPL season, said he took that call to give himself some space and manage his workload.

Kohli had announced his decision to leave IPL captaincy after saying that T20 World Cup will be his last tournament as India skipper in the shortest format.

He was later removed as ODI captain before he quit the leadership role in five-day format.

"I'm not someone who holds onto things more than I should. Even if I know I can do a lot more, if I'm not going to enjoy the process, I'm not going to do it," Kohli, one of the modern day greats, said on "The RCB Podcast" about dropping the captain's armband.

The former RCB and India skipper asserted that it is very difficult for people to understand what a cricketer thinks while taking such decisions.

"Because it's very difficult for people to understand your decisions unless they are in your situation. From the outside, people have their own expectations 'Oh! How did that happen? We are so shocked'," added Kohli, who is on the verge of playing his 100th Test.

"There's nothing to be shocked about. I explain to people, I wanted some space and I wanted to manage my work-

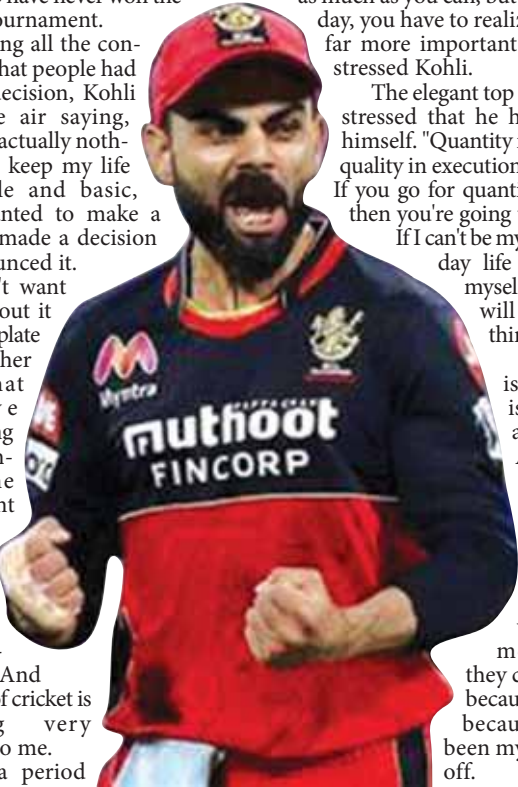
load and the story ends there."

Right from the inaugural IPL till last season, RCB have never won the cash-rich tournament.

Rubbing all the conversations that people had about his decision, Kohli cleared the air saying, "There was actually nothing at all. I keep my life very simple and basic, when I wanted to make a decision, I made a decision and I announced it."

"I didn't want to think about it and contemplate it for another year. That would've done nothing to me, nothing to the environment I'm part of. Quality of life is something very important to me. And the quality of cricket is something very important to me."

"Over a period



of time, you want to do what you're doing day-in-and-day-out and you want to do as much as you can, but at the end of the day, you have to realize that quality is far more important than quantity," stressed Kohli.

The elegant top order batter also stressed that he has always been himself. "Quantity in hard work but quality in execution. That is the key. If you go for quantity in execution, then you're going to get burnt out."

If I can't be myself in my everyday life and I can't be myself on the field, I will change something."

"Because that is who I am. That is the reason I am where I am. And that is the reason why people can connect to me at a certain level. My loved ones, people who are close to me, my friends they connected to me because of that factor, because I've always been myself," he signed off.

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| 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 Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited(PCHFL) [formerly known as Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd.(DHFL)] 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(s)"), 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(s) to pay to PCHFL, within 60 days from the publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated herein below, together with further interest as detailed in the said Demand Notice(s), from the date(s) 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 Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following assets have been mortgaged to PCHFL by the said Borrower(s) respectively. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                              |
| Name of the Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Demand Notice Date and Amount with NPA date                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Description of secured asset (Immovable property)                                                                                            |
| (LC No. 00004667 of Jalandhar Branch) N J Trading Co (Borrower) Mohammad Javed (Co Borrower 1) Sharif Ahmad (Co Borrower 2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 16,33,115/- (Sixteen lakh Thirty Three Thousand One Hundred Fifteen) NPA (12-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Chuk Hussiana, Lamba Pind Muslim Colony, Near Jaimal Nagar Jalandhar Jalandhar Punjab:- 144001                                               |
| (LC No. 00001104 of Jalandhar Branch) Ashok Gian Chand (Borrower) Sonia Ashok (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 14,54,732/- (Fourteen lakh Fifty Four Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Two) NPA (10-12-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Plot No.20, 21min, Gali Sany Raja Singh Hargobind Pura, Naer Godwell School Wadali Road Amritsar Amritsar Punjab:- 143001                    |
| (LC No. 00005441 of Patiala Branch) Ritesh Bansal (Borrower) Taruni Bala (Co Borrower 1) Ashok Kumar (Co Borrower 2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 14,51,127/- (Fourteen lakh Fifty One Thousand One Hundred Twenty Seven) NPA (12-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | House No. 18 Ward No. 13A Railway Hospital Road Dhuri Sangrur Punjab:- 148024                                                                |
| (LC No. 00001869 of Patiala Branch) Raju (Borrower) Sagar Chawla (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 14,07,283/- (Fourteen lakh Seven Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Three) NPA (12-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | New Dhillon Colony Gali No 3 , Khewaat Khoti No 3380/5593 Khasra No 68 Nalha, Patiala Patiala Patiala Punjab:- 147001                        |
| (LC No. 00003159 of Jajgaon Branch) Gopal Kisan Barhe (Borrower) Kalpana Gopal Barhe (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 13,14,108/- (Thirteen lakh Fourteen Thousand One Hundred Eight) NPA (12-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | E- Side Portion of P. No. 11 To 16/3, S. No.111/1A, Gulmohar Prestige, Jamner Road, Bhusawal Bhusawal Jajgaon Maharashtra:- 425201           |
| (LC No. 00003491 of Ludhiana Metro Branch) Nitesh Kumar (Borrower) Satinder Thakur (Co Borrower 1) Gourav Kumar (Co Borrower 2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 13,11,346/- (Thirteen lakh Eleven Thousand Three Hundred Forty Six) NPA (10-12-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Daba H No-7512/96 New Amar Nagar Khasra No-41-574 Ludhiana Ludhiana Punjab:- 141001                                                          |
| (LC No. 00041215 of Ludhiana-Stock Exchange Branch) Gajendra Jha (Borrower) Babita Jha (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 13,05,940/- (Thirteen lakh Five Thousand Nine Hundred Forty) NPA (10-12-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Prop No 115/1, Pink Park Near Raja Garden, Barewal Road Ludhiana Ludhiana Punjab:- 141001                                                    |
| (LC No. 00004393 of Patiala Branch) Mahinder Singh (Borrower) Parmjit Kaur (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 12,47,956/- (Twelve lakh Forty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty Six) NPA (12-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Vill Jalal Teh Rampura Phul Baba Jiwan Singh Gurudwara Sahib Bathinda Bathinda Punjab:- 151102                                               |
| (LC No. 00001826 of Jalandhar Branch) Rahul Singh (Borrower) Suresh Singh (Co Borrower 1) Bebi Devi B (Co Borrower 2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 11,46,483/- (Eleven lakh Forty Six Thousand Four Hundred Eighty Three) NPA (10-12-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Kh No 16/8 New Raj Nagar Bawa Basti Khel Jalandhar Jalandhar Punjab:- 144021                                                                 |
| (LC No. 00002263 of Patiala Branch) Golden Chopra (Borrower) Shaveta Chopra (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 10,45,974/- (Ten lakh Forty Five Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy Four) NPA (12-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | House No. 1-G, Street No. 4. Ranjit Nagar, Seona Road Patiala, Punjab Patiala Patiala Punjab:- 147001                                        |
| (LC No. 00000976 of Jalandhar Branch) Gurmukh Singh (Borrower) Manjit Kaur (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 10,14,922/- (Ten lakh Fourteen Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Two) NPA (12-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Plot No.22, Hundal Avnue Near Sikka Petrol Pump Jandiala Guru Amritsar Amritsar Punjab:- 143001                                              |
| (LC No. 00002023 of Jalandhar Branch) Monica Joshi (Borrower) Vinay Joshi (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 8,98,006/- (Eight lakh Ninety Eight Thousand Six) NPA (10-12-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Prt Plot No 1-A Beg Khasa No 93/123, 87/124, 93/14, 993/14, 87/123, 93/125/1, 93/12, 87/117, 20/25, Amritsar Amritsar Punjab:- 143001        |
| (LC No. 00001049 of Jalandhar Branch) Munish Parshotam Lal (Borrower) Priti Manish (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 8,88,073/- (Eight lakh Eighty Eight Thousand Seventy Three) NPA (12-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Portion H. No-147 Or H. No.147-C Anup Nagar, Near City Enclave Basti Danishmandia Jalandhar Jalandhar Punjab:- 144001                        |
| (LC No. 00009765 of Chandigarh Metro Branch) Sushil Kumar (Borrower) Sohan Singh (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 27,48,343/- (Twenty Seven lakh Forty Eight Thousand Three Hundred Forty Three) NPA (10-12-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | House No. 118 Property No. B015/01133-118 Sector- 10 Ward No. 25 Near Anaj Mandi Kharar Rupnagar Punjab:- 140301                             |
| (LC No. 00006289 of Patiala Branch) Kulwinder Dass (Borrower) Honey H (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 25,31,525/- (Twenty Five lakh Thirty One Thousand Five Hundred Twenty Five) NPA (12-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Ward No-26,mohalla Guru Harkishan Nagar Near M.C. Disposai Knn Khanna, District Ludhiana Ludhiana Ludhiana Punjab:- 141401                   |
| (LC No. 00004415 of Ludhiana Metro Branch) Kiran Bala (Borrower) Rajeev Choudhary (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 21,13,489/- (Twenty One lakh Thirteen Thousand Four Hundred Eighty Nine) NPA (12-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Plot No 1978 Street No 15 Property Oppos Durga Mandir, Guru Gobind Singh Nagar Guru Gobind Singh Nagar, Shrimlapuri Ludhiana Punjab:- 141003 |
| (LC No. 00005180 of Patiala Branch) Balbir Singh (Borrower) Nandeep Kaur (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 20,80,360/- (Twenty lakh Eighty Thousand Three Hundred Sixty) NPA (10-12-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | VIII. Burj Hari, Tehsil & Distt. Mansa Khata No:- 422/873, Mansa Mansa Bathinda Punjab:- 151508                                              |
| (LC No. 00002188 of Jalandhar Branch) Rajeev Kumar (Borrower) Rupakumari R (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 18,10,331/- (Eighteen lakh Ten Thousand Three Hundred Thirty One) NPA (12-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | H No 75, Basti Danishmandia, Jalandhar, Jalandhar Jalandhar Punjab:- 144001                                                                  |
| (LC No. 00007051 of Patiala Branch) Neeraj (Borrower) Shakuntla Devi (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 16,96,834/- (Sixteen lakh Ninety Six Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty Four) NPA (10-12-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Street No.- R-8, Lalheri Ro Nr. Railway Line Khanna Ludhiana Ludhiana Punjab:- 141401                                                        |
| (LC No. 00004523 of Jalandhar Branch) Sukhwinder Kumar (Borrower) Raj Kumar (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 15,88,672/- (Fifteen lakh Eighty Eight Thousand Six Hundred Seventy Two) NPA (10-12-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Abadi Kamal Vihar, House No. 3128 Village Chugitti Near Jalandhar Public S School Jalandhar Jalandhar Punjab:- 144001                        |
| (LC No. 00002033 of Jalandhar Branch) Rajiv Chawla (Borrower) Gauri Khanna (Co Borrower 1) Deepak Chawla (Co Borrower 2) Chawla Medical Store (Guarantor 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 15,73,980/- (Fifteen lakh Seventy Three Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty) NPA (09-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Flat No 117, 5th Floor Silver Galaxy Apartments Village Boot, Nakodar Road Jalandhar Jalandhar Punjab:- 144001                               |
| (LC No. 00001335 of Bathinda Branch) Manjeet Singh (Borrower) Manjinder Kaur (Co Borrower 1) Ajit Singh (Co Borrower 2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 15,69,306/- (Fifteen lakh Sixty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Six) NPA (12-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Basti Khalil Wali, Malwal Qudim Village Bazidpur, Ferozepur Punjab, 152002 Ferozepur Sangrur Punjab:- 148001                                 |
| (LC No. 00002586 of Jalandhar Branch) Surinder Kumar (Borrower) Parminder Kaur (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 7,96,707/- (Seven lakh Ninety Six Thousand Seven Hundred Seven) NPA (12-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | H No 315, Abadi Karol Bhgh Nr Lawrence International School Jalandhar Jalandhar Punjab:- 144001                                              |
| (LC No. 00001604 of Bathinda Branch) Deepak Kumar (Borrower) Rekha Rani (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 7,85,362/- (Seven lakh Eighty Five Thousand Three Hundred Sixty Two) NPA (10-12-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Near Balmik Mandir, Garden Colony Kotli Road, Shri Muktsar Sahib, 152101 Muktsar Muktsar Punjab:- 152026                                     |
| (LC No. 00000237 of Bathinda Branch) Kulwant Singh (Borrower) Jaswinder Kaur (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 7,60,497/- (Seven lakh Sixty Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Seven) NPA (10-12-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Near Ram Bag Bagiana Road Village Bagian, Distt Faridkot Faridkot Faridkot Punjab:- 151203                                                   |
| (LC No. 00005255 of Patiala Branch) Gurbhajan Singh (Borrower) Balwinder Kaur (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 7,22,591/- (Seven lakh Twenty Two Thousand Five Hundred Ninety One) NPA (12-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | VIII Channo Teh Bhawanigarh Khasra No :138/11/0-1. Bhawanigarh Bhawanigarh Sangrur Punjab:- 148026                                           |
| (LC No. 00005871 of Patiala Branch) Sukhwinder Singh (Borrower) Manjeet Kaur (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 7,07,237/- (Seven lakh Seven Thousand Two Hundred Thirty Seven) NPA (12-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | VIII Khadial Near Bus Stop Sangrur Sangrur Sangrur Punjab:- 148028                                                                           |
| (LC No. 00000500 of Bathinda Branch) Sukhwinder Singh (Borrower) Sandeep Kaur (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 7,01,403/- (Seven lakh One Thousand Four Hundred Three) NPA (12-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | W. No. 1, Kartarpura Basti, Hareri Road, Hareri Road Distt Sangrur Sangrur Sangrur Punjab:- 148001                                           |
| (LC No. 00002107 of Jalandhar Branch) Mohinsh Whig (Borrower) Garima G (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 6,89,375/- (Six lakh Eighty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Seventy Five) NPA (12-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Kh No.1255, 1260, 12532359, 2361 H B 331, Daulatpur Pathankot, Pathankot Gurdaspur Punjab:- 145001                                           |
| (LC No. 00001125 of Chandigarh Branch) Jaswant Kaur (Borrower) Rajinder Singh (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 6,88,854/- (Six lakh Eighty Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty Four) NPA (12-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Khasra No. 13//16 (1-10), Street No. 3 Deep Nagar Patiala Patiala Punjab:- 147001                                                            |
| (LC No. 00006459 of Patiala Branch) Jarnail Singh (Borrower) Ram Rati (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 6,70,596/- (Six lakh Seventy Thousand Five Hundred Ninety Six) NPA (12-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | VIII Bangha Mookan Bangan, Mookan, Near Sarpanch House Sangrur, Sangrur Punjab:- 148033                                                      |
| (LC No. 00004094 of Patiala Branch) Ramu (Borrower) Meera Devi (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 6,54,955/- (Six lakh Fifty Four Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty Five) NPA (12-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Mauran Wali Pahi, Sekha Road Near Bhime Di Chakki Barnala Barnala Sangrur Punjab:- 148101                                                    |
| (LC No. 00000656 of Ludhiana Metro Branch) Bhola Yadav (Borrower) Nirmala Nirmala (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 6,36,207/- (Six lakh Thirty Six Thousand Two Hundred Seven) NPA (12-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Gali No 3 Guru Nanak Nagar Near Partap Colony Village Mundian Kalan Ludhiana Ludhiana Punjab:- 141001                                        |
| (LC No. 00004515 of Jalandhar Branch) Mukesh Kumar (Borrower) Santosh Wo Mukesh Kumar (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 4,69,269/- (Four lakh Sixty Nine Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Nine) NPA (10-12-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Vpo Khambra Distt, Hadbast No 295 Jalandhar Jalandhar Jalandhar Punjab:- 144001                                                              |
| (LC No. 00005606 of Patiala Branch) Ashwani Hans (Borrower) Goldy Hans (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 4,16,725/- (Four lakh Sixteen Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty Five) NPA (09-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Plot No. 32, Patiala Enclave, Sanour Naopp Street of Honda Properties Patiala Patiala Patiala Punjab:- 147001                                |
| (LC No. 00002120 of Ludhiana Metro Branch) Bhola Yadav (Borrower) Nirmala Wo Bhola Yadav (Co Borrower 1) Vishvanath Sahdev Gupta (Co Borrower 2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 3,58,387/- (Three lakh Fifty Eight Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Seven) NPA (12-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Plot No. 119, Street No. 3 Guru Nanak Nagar Mundia Kalan Ludhiana Ludhiana Punjab:- 141015                                                   |
| (LC No. 00000780 of Jalandhar Branch) Hardeep Singh (Borrower) Gurmit Kaur (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 2,23,358/- (Two lakh Twenty Three Thousand Three Hundred Fifty Eight) NPA (10-12-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | H. No 297-B VIII Hayat Nagar Gurdas Pur Gurdaspur Gurdaspur Punjab:- 143521                                                                  |
| (LC No. 00000738 of Chandigarh Branch) Sucha Singh (Borrower) Lakhvir Singh (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 1,70,995/- (One lakh Seventy Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Five) NPA (12-11-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Village Kishangarh, Teh- Nabha, Distt Patiala Nabha Patiala Punjab:- 147001                                                                  |
| (LC No. 00002356 of Bathinda Branch) Gurjant Singh Bhakhar (Borrower) Veerpal Kaur (Co Borrower 1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 18-01-2022/ Rs. 6,16,681/- (Six lakh Sixteen Thousand Six Hundred Eighty One) NPA (10-12-2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Ward no. 1, Village Khirkian Wala Asa Buttar Road Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib Distt- Muktsar Faridkot Punjab:- 152025                           |
| If the said Borrowers shall fail to make payment to PCHFL as aforesaid, PCHFL 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 PCHFL. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the said Act or Rules made there under, shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                              |
| Date : 25-02-2022<br>Place: Punjab                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                              |
| Sd/-<br>(Authorised Officer)<br>Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                              |