



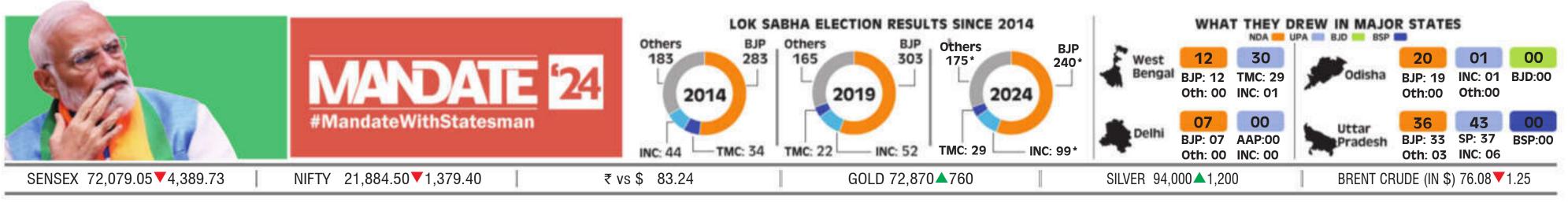


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PEOPLE'S PARLIAMENT, ALWAYS IN SESSION



Didistillinvincible in Bengal

In Bengal, the Trinamul Congress got 29 seats, the BJP 12 seats \sim six less than what they got in the 2019 LS polls \sim while Congress won a single seat



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, 4 JUNE

he people of Bengal

Mamata Banerjee, speaking in the evening, said Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah

votes in Baharampur. The lone Congress nominee to win was Isha Khan Chowdhury, who was elected from Maldah South. The Sandeshkhali issue. where the BJP alleged the sexual harassment of local women byTMC leaders, failed to make an impact. Rekha Patra, the face of the movement who was fielded by the BJP against Haji Sheikh Nurul Islam of the TMC in Basirhat, lost by more than 2 lakh votes. Among BJP leaders who bit the dust were Mr Dilip Ghosh, former BJP state president, and Union ministers of state Debashree Chowdhury and Nisith Pramanik.

NDAwinsbutOpp's revival unnerves BJP

ASHOK TUTEJA NEW DELHI, 4 JUNE

Nobody ever thought the race in the Lok Sabha elections would be as tight as it turned out to be. The electorate's message to the BJP is loud and clear: A strong Opposition is essential for the functioning of a vibrant and accountable democracy.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi may have won a third term for the BJP and its NDA allies, but the revival of the Congress-led Opposition is the



BJP supporters celebrate in the Capital. SUBRATA DUTTA leadership of the party. The Congress will also now get the main Opposition status in the House, a privilege it did not

enjoy during the past decade.

Another big winner of the

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi addresses the media in New Delhi. Mr



WINNERS

Smriti Irani

kept their faith in the Trinamul Congress in the general elections whose results were announced on Sunday, putting paid to the BJP-led NDA's hopes of a strong performance in the state. In the process, thanks also to the reverses it suffered in Uttar Pradesh and elsewhere, the BJP was reduced to around 240 seats, although the NDA alliance had won or was leading in a total of around 291 seats, enough to form the government.

In Bengal, the TMC got 29 seats, and the BJP 12 ~ six less than what they got in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections ~ while Congress won a single seat.

Trinamul chairperson

should resign owning moral responsibility for the poor performance. "Modi has broken many political parties and now the people of the country have broken his backbone," Miss Banerjee said, adding: "This is INDIA's victory. People has voted against Modi. Bengal was the biggest target... Shah should resign as people have given him a befitting reply." Among others, Abhishek

Banerjee, TMC national general secretary, won from Diamond Harbour by 7.10 lakh votes, the highest victory margin in Bengal. Trinamul candidateYusufPathan, former cri-

cketer, beat Congress MPAdhir

Chowdhury by over 80,000

Firebrand TMC leader Mohua Moitra was re-elected from Krishnagar seat while Mr Sudip Bandyopadhyay retained his Kolkata North seat.

(More reports inside)

biggest takeaway from the election. It is indeed a healthy sign for the country and its democratic institutions.

The outcome clearly shows that while Mr Modi is still the biggest political figure in the country, the Opposition has successfully made big holes in the BJP's vote bank in key states like Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Bengal. The results also reflect that Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has come into his own after years of hard work and the BJP's relentless campaign against him. A much improved performance by Congress has finally given him legitimacy and put a seal of approval on his

elections is Samajwadi Party supremo Akhilesh Yadav whose party proved all pundits wrong to bag a substantial number of seats in Uttar Pradesh, electorally the most important state in the country.

The construction of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, which was projected by the BJP government as one of its main achievements, does not seem to have electorally benefited the saffron outfit. It is now anybody's guess whether UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath will continue to enjoy the party leadership's confidence for long. The BJP will now have to

carry its NDA allies along in

Gandhi won both the seats he contested, Wayanad in Kerala and Rae Bareli in Uttar Pradesh, by large margins. AGENCIES

the day-to-day running of administration since it has not been able to cross the magical mark of 272 on its own, unlike in 2019 when it had won 303 seats. TDP chief N Chandrababu Naidu and Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar are well-known for their mercurial behaviour. The BJP's failure to realise its dream of "400 Paar" also means it will have to bury its "One Nation, One Election" plan and many other dream projects.



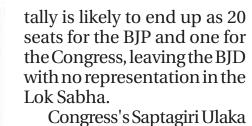
BJD's 24-yr-old for tress crumbles in Odisha

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE **BHUBANESWAR, 4 JUNE**

ABJP wave demolished the 24year-old fortress of the Biju Janata Dal (BJD), led by party president and Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, creating history and blowing away Mr Patnaik's hopes of become the longest serving chief minister in the country.



The saffron sway accounted for 19 of the 21 Lok Sabha seats with the BJD and Congress leading in one seat each. But as per latest reports the final



was the lone victor who withstood the BJP onslaught. In the outgoing Lok Sabha, the BJD had 12 MPs, the BJP had eight, and the Congress had one. The BJD, which had not lost

an election since 2000, also faced a crushing defeat in the state Assembly. In the Assembly elections, the BJP won 70 seats and was leading in eight as against the 72 seats needed to form the government in the state. The BJD has won 46

and is leading in 5 seats, down from 112 in 2019. The Congress, which had only nine seats in 2019, bagged 14 seats.





Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury

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Naidu to be next Andhra Pradesh CM



HYDERABAD, 4 JUNE

TDP chief N Chandrababu Naidu is all set to be sworn in for the fourth time as the chief minister of Andhra



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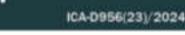
Fights bacteria, keeps teeth & gums naturally healthy. Helps in pyorrhea, sensitivity, bad breath, yellow stains, swollen & bleeding gums. Dant Kanti Fresh Active Gel keeps the mouth fresh for up to 12 hrs.

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Government of West Bengal



Pradesh as the TDP-JSP-BJP alliance decimated the YSRCP in both Lok Sabha and Assembly elections held simultaneously with TDP surpassing the majority mark of 88 on its own.

Mr Naidu, who was languishing in jail for 52 days as an accused in the skill development scam case will also be at the helm of national politics after two decades with TDP winning 16 LS seats out of the 17 it contested. Out of a total 25 LS seats YSRCP managed to hold on to 4, BJP won 3 and JSP secured 2. The Congress under YS Sharmila failed to open an account in this election too.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said: "Andhra Pradesh has given exceptional mandate to NDA. I thank the people of the state for their blessings... We will work for the all round progress of AP and ensure the state prospers in the times to come." The PM and Union home minister Amit Shah also spoke to Mr Naidu after the trends became clear and the Congress too reminded that it has promised special status to AP if it comes to power. Mr Naidu is likely to take oath on 9 June. SNS



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Rare miss: TMC fails to penetrate Cong fort, Malda

The sole victory for the Congress in West Bengal is from Maldah (Dakshin) constituency

MANAS R BANNERJEE SILIGURI, 4 JUNE

he Maldah (Dakshin) Parliamentary Constituency has consistently remained under the control of Congress, as the citizens have consistently chosen to vote for a relative of the deceased ABA Ghani Khan Choudhury.

The sole victory for the Congress in West Bengal is from Maldah (Dakshin) constituency.

As per the website of the Election Commission of India, as of 5.15 p.m. today, Isha Khan Choudhury had secured 5,48,125 votes with a leading margin of 1,19,058 votes. In contrast, Sreerupa Mitra Choudhury, the BJP candidate, obtained 4,29,067 votes while Shahnawaz Ali Raihan, the Trinamul Congress candidate, managed 2,82,775 votes.

Mr Choudhury's lead margin was 1,25,170 votes at 6.10 p.m.

Despite winning a majority of Lok Sabha seats in West Bengal, the Trinamul Congress was unable to win any seats in Malda district as the BJP candidate Khagen Murmu from Maldah (Uttar) maintained a lead throughout the vote counting process. The Trinamul Congress

made a strong effort to regain its support in north Bengal and has ultimately succeeded in surpassing the BJP in the Cooch Behar Parliamentary Constituency.

While Trinamul Congress candidates initially performed strongly in Raiganj and Balurghat parliamentary constituencies, the BJP candidates were initially falling behind.

However, the BJP candidates Dr Sukanta Majumdar

tunes were seen in various

parts of the city. Some of

them even carried clay pots

with the iconic 'Lakshmir

Bhandar' written on it and cel-

ebrated the victory. By evening,

city roads at several places

turned 'green' with 'abir.' The

poll result declaration made

the day for the sweet shop own-

ers and vendors selling colours

and abir. Amid the heated polit-

ical atmosphere, traditional

sweets took a backseat and

ones with party symbols ruled

the day.



and Kartik Pual managed to Commission of India, at 6 gain a lead margin midway p.m., the BJP nominee bagged through the counting process. 4,33,119 votes with a narrow In the Balurghat, there lead of 8,055 votes. TMC canwas a close competition didate Biplab Mitra garnered between the BJP and TMC can-4,25,064 votes. Interestingly, at 6.20 p.m., as per ECI records, didates in the parliamentary election. According to official TMC candidate Mr Mitra was records from the Election leading by 758 votes. At 6.30

p.m., Dr Majumdar was leading by 477 votes when the counting was on.

The leaders of Trinamul Congress in Cooch Behar were resolute in their decision to confront Union minister of state for home affairs Nisith Pramanik.

Initially, Jagadish Chandra Barma Basunia, the Trinamul Congress candidate, was in a leading position. However, by mid-day today, the BJP candidate Nisith Pramanik was able to make up for his losses.

Despite this, Mr Basunia steadily maintained his lead margin. According to the ECI website at 5.25 p.m., Mr Basunia had secured 7,76,788 votes and had a lead margin of 42,258 votes while Mr Pramanik had managed to secure 7,34,530 votes.

At 6.10 p.m., Mr Basunia's lead was 39,250 votes.

The lead margin of BJP candidates Raju Bista from Darjeeling, Dr Jayanta Roy from Jalpaiguri, and Manoj Tigga from Alipurduar has remained consistent since the start of vote counting. Both Mr Bista and Dr Roy were previously elected in 2019, while Mr

Tigga replaced BJP leader John Barla, who served as Union minister of state for minority affairs.

Manoj Tigga, who is a member of the BJP and also holds a seat in the Madarihat Legislative Assembly, bagged a total of 6,76,220 votes, surpassing his opponent Prakash Chik Baraik from the Trinamul Congress by a margin of 74,167 votes as of 5.30 p.m. At 6.10 p.m. Mr Tigga's lead was 73,599 votes.

According to the ECI website at 5.40 p.m., Dr Jayanta Roy, the BJP candidate for Jalpaiguri, secured 7,60,602 votes with a lead of 86,606 votes, while Dr Nirmal Roy, the Trinamul Congress candidate, obtained 6,73,996 votes. At 6.15 p.m. Dr Roy was leading by 86,376 votes.

Raju Bista, the candidate of BJP for the Darjeeling parliamentary constituency,

bagged 6,06,288 votes, with a significant lead of 1,46,900 votes. Gopal Lama, TMC candidate from TMC, garnered 4,59,388 votes at 5.50 p.m. At 6.15 p.m., Mr Bista was leading by 1,45,154 votes.

At 5.55 p.m., as per ECI data, Kartik Paul of the BJP secured 4,75,424 votes in the Raiganj parliamentary constituency with a significant margin of 45,133 votes. Meanwhile, Krishna Kalyani of TMC received 4,30,291 votes. Surprisingly, Ali Imran Ramz from Congress garnered 2,36,196 votes. Mr Paul managed a lead margin of 60,150 votes at 6.20 p.m.

At 6 p.m. today, the BJP candidate Khagen Murmu secured a total of 4,90,868 votes from the Maldah (Uttar) parliamentary constituency, while the TMC candidate trailed behind with 4,16,265 votes, a difference of 74,603 votes.

City celebrates Trinamul win with 'unofficial' holiday

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, 4 JUNE

As the Trinamul Congress swept the Lok Sabha election



TMC storm blows BJP away in Sandeshkhali

Haji Nurul Islam in the

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, 4 JUNE

Sandeshkhali under Basirhat Parliamentary constituency in North 24-Parganas of Ben-

Basirhat constituency. BJP has given a surprise by fielding Rekha Patra, one of the faces of the Sandeshkhali bomb disposal in Panapukur area, the material caught fire and then exploded.

Azharuddin, who was injured in the incident is a panchayat member of ISF. DC

Police also went to the spot

after getting the information. Several bombs and

bomb-making equipment

were recovered from the spot.

bardment started in the mid-

dle of North Kashipur police

the entire night. It is also

alleged that two Trinamul

workers were beaten up. TMC accused the ISF for the inci-

dent. However, the ISF denied

the allegations. They in turn

accused Trinamul of causing

unrest in the area by using bike

forces. Local ISF supporters

claimed that at least 300-400

bikers entered the area with

the support of Trinamul.

station.

On Sunday night, the bom-

The unrest lasted almost

with a massive victory, the city of joy went on an unofficial holiday today.

With citizens hooked on to their TV sets and mobile phones watching the polls results, the city roads remained abuzz with mainly party supporters. Spates of rallies dotted the city roads right after 11 a.m. and increased as the day proceeded. Party supporters swarmed the streets applying green gulal on each other.

While bikers, holding party flags, were spotted every now then in various pockets of the city, others celebrated the victory on foot, gathering in large numbers shouting political slogans.Sights of hundreds of women gathering and playing gulal and

dancing on their favourite

colours, each symbolizing a particular party. L

ikewise, shops and stalls selling abir of various colours have had good business since yesterday with party supporters buying colours to celebrate the win.

The impact of the poll results was seen in the virtual world as well. Social media platforms today were taken by storm with different kinds of political memes. Netizens celebrated the victory and failure of various political parties with a bout of hilari-

Some of the sweet shops ous photos, GIFs and posters

sending their messages camouflaged with funny jokes and images.

While 'Bengal' was trending on social media platforms till late afternoon today, the memes, filled with wit and humour, targeted both the Trinamul Congress and the Bharatiya Janata Party were the focal point of sarcasm. As Didi's wave swept through the polls, memes on social media took a centrestage.

As the frenzy of the landslide victory gripped the party supporters, many citizens observed the day as an unof-

ficial holiday. Several citizens postponed their outside activities to be able to catch up with

the latest poll updates. The city roads in many pockets were largely sans any commuters. Even buses ran in fewer numbers as a large number of them were yet to return from poll duty. Those hitting the roads had countable commuters on board. City's shopping hotspots like New Market, Esplanade Hatibagan, Gariahat remained largely deserted with hardly any buyers.

PHOTOS BY BISWAJIT GHOSHAL & MOUL MONDAL

gal has been in the headlines since last January. In the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, this region of North 24-Parganas became a big factor in the final results for Bengal. This time, there was a surprise in the results.

According to the trends available, TMC's Haji Nurul Islam was leading by 2,40,803 votes at the end of the fourth round in Basirhat Lok Sabha constituency.BJP's Rekha Patra was significantly behind. Around 2,11,756 votes at the end of the fourth round.

After the Sandeshkhali incident in Basirhat Lok Sabha constituency, discussions revolved around the choice of candidate there.

During the announcement of the candidate list, it is seen that Trinamul fielded

movement. On the other hand, the Left relied on the Saikat Ghosh of North former MLA of Sandeshkhali, Kashipur police station and Bhangar division of Kolkata Nirapada Sardar.

Since the counting of votes on Tuesday morning, the focus has been on the Basirhat centre. However a bomb blast happened the night before the vote counting.

The explosion took place in Panapukur area of Chalta Beria area under North Kashipur police station of Block-2 Bhangar. Five people were seriously injured in the incident. They were first taken to the primary health centre.

The injured were later shifted to PG Hospital in Kolkata.

According to police sources, the explosion occurred during bomb disposal. According to local and police sources, during the

even sold sweets of various I shall never switch

party: Arjun Singh

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, 4 JUNE

Barrackpore, Arjun Singh's "fort" fell today. The results on Tuesday showed that the BJP candidate and outgoing MP has lost his "fort."

In Barrackpore, Trinamul candidate Partha Bhowmik has won. After his defeat, Arjun said, "No more partyswitching."

Arjun couldn't reconcile his calculations in Barrackpore. In discussions, he often said, "I contest elections after making all the calculations. From the minute one election ends, I start preparing for the next."

But the results in Barrackpore indicate that none of Arjun's calculations worked this time.

He himself has admitted this. He said, "My calculations didn't work out.'

Defeating Arjun Singh, Irinamul candidate Partha Bhowmik won in Barrackpore Lok Sabha constituency with his clean image and

ministerial strength. Arjun, however, blamed the

local law and order situation for the loss.

To understand how significant Arjun's defeat to his former colleague Partha Bhowmik is, one needs to look back a bit. In the run-up to the 2019 Lok Sabha election, Arjun Singh left Trinamul and joined the BJP.

Though he won in Barrackpore that time, the margin was less than 14,000 votes, defeating then Trinamul MP Dinesh Trivedi. The "strongman" had gained the BJP's trust.

Before the 2021 Assembly elections, Arjun rejoined the Trinamul camp. Although he was brought back, the Trinamul chief took cautious steps and did not assign him any responsibilities. For the 2024 Lok Sabha

election, not receiving a ticket from Trinamul, he rejoined

CELEBRATION



Asansol: 'Shotgun' Sinha retains his charm



DEBAJYOTI CHAKRABORTY ASANSOL, 4 JUNE

A day before the results were declared, Monday, chief minister and Trinamul Congress chairperson Mamata Banerjee called her close lieutenant in Asansol Moloy Ghatak during a party worker's meeting at Rabindra Bhawan and discussed the outcome of the Asansol Lok Sabha seat.

Shatrughan Sinha final won by a margin of 63,000 votes.

The Statesman has already published in the 10 May edition that the trend of Asansol seat is candidates winning back-to-back elections and after winning the 2022 by-election.

S S Ahluwalia of the BJP is known for winning the polls and has won from Darjeeling in 2014 Lok Sabha polls Sabha seat. and Durgapur–Burdwan in 2019 Lok sabha polls.



TMC's Shotgun Sinha.

"I thank the people of Asansol for voting for us and Shatrughan Sinha ji for winning the Lok Sabha seat. I have campaigned for him for many days in the polls. The BJP will never be able to understand the pulse and the culture of the people of West Bengal," said Babul Supriyo over phone today.

Both Moloy Ghatak and district president Narendranath Chakraborty had assured Mamata Banerjee during their telephonic conversations that TMC will surely win the Asansol Lok

ecstatic today after the win. Shatrughan Sinha got the maximum lead from Pandaveswar Assembly seat followed by Barabani Assembly seat, which falls under the Asansol Municipal Corporation mayor Bidhan Upadhyay's Assembly seat.

Jahanara Khan of the CPM came a distant third and it was evident that the left vote bank has shifted to BJP yet again in these polls.

However, the BJP once again took the lead in Kulti, Asansol South and Asansol North assembly seats.

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Approx cost of the work (NIT value)

₹1,72,54,318.32, 3. Earnest money to be

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opened on the same day at 12:30 hrs. 5.

Website particulars, notice board location

where complete details of tender can be

seen and address of the office from where

Detailed tender notice, eligibility criteria &

tender documents can be seen from the

CRIS website : https://www.ireps.gov.in &

full details of notice can be seen on notice

board of Sr. DEE (TRD)/E.C. Railway/

Danapur. All corrigendum will be uploaded

Divinl. Railway Manager/ECR/Danapur

PR/00410/DNR/ETRD/T/24-25/40

on website if required.

the tender form can be purchased etc.

Tender No.: TRD/DNR/OT/11/24-25.

following works

Local heavyweight, law, judiciary and labour minis-Smeared with green gulal, ter is the sitting MLA of Asansol North Assembly the Pandaveswar MLA was seat.

the BJP camp. He got a ticket but did not taste victory.

A TMC worker wearing the party's colours celebrates outside the Kalighat residence of chief minister Mamata Banerjee as initial trends show victory for the party candidates during the counting of Lok Sabha polls, in Kolkata on Tuesday.

On Tuesday, it was clear that Asansol maintained its trend of sending its sitting MP to Lok Sabha, twice in a row.

But he seems not to be Narendranath Chakraborty, third time lucky and lost to

TMC retains LS seats in Birbhum in absence of Anubrata Mondal

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE BIRBHUM, 4 JUNE

The Trinamul Congress has managed to retain both the two Lok Sabha seats in Birbhum district easily, despite the absence of its firebrand former district president Anubrata Mondal.

Shatabdi Roy and Asit Mal, the TMC candidates of Birbhum and Bolpur Lok Sabha seats have retained both their seats by defeating their nearest BJP rival today.

BJP took a long time to announce the name of its Birbhum Lok Sabha candidate and finalized the name of former promote IPS officer Debashish Dhar, but his nomination papers were rejected.

Debtanu Bhattacharya, the BJP candidate was an unknown face and Congress fielded veteran Milton Rashid.

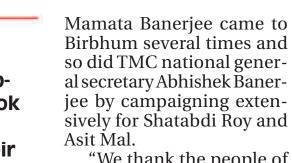


Shatabdi Roy and

Asit Mal, the TMC candidates of Birbhum and Bolpur Lok Sabha seats have retained both their seats by defeating their nearest BJP rival today

PM Narendra Modi, Union home minister Amit Shah and BJP national president J P Nadda and other big leaders campaigned in Birbhum in the absence of Anubrata Mondal, who is lodged in Tihar jail in connection with the cross-border cattle smuggling case and thought that the saffron brigade has a major chance of wresting the two Birbhum LS seats.

In absence of Anubrata Mondal, chief minister



"We thank the people of Birbhum for rejecting the BJP and helping us to win both the two LS seats. Our party has fought the elections in the guidelines of Kestoda and all

of us missed him in these polls," said Kajal Sheikh, Sabhadhipati of Birbhum zilla parishad.

During her last election campaign in Birbhum last month, Miss Banerjee has said that how long the ED and the CBI will keep Anubrata Mondal behind the bars, acknowledging his organizational skills the Bengal CM said that a day will also come when Kesto will be out on bail.

BISWABRATA GOSWAMI

KRISHNAGAR, 4 JUNE

In a riveting electoral battle marked by fervent campaigning and high stakes, Trinamul Congress firebrand MP Mahua Moitra emerged victorious from Krishnagar constituency, defeating BJP's Amrita Roy by a margin of 57,083 votes.

This triumph is particularly notable given Ms Moitra's recent expulsion from Parliament over the alleged cash-for-query case, which seems to have done little to diminish her popularity among her constituents.

Ms Moitra secured a resounding 6,24,711 votes, outscoring her nearest rival Mrs Roy, who garnered 5,67,628 votes.

The CPM candidate, S M Sadi, finished in a distant third with 1,79,063 votes. This victory signifies a significant mandate against the BJP,



with Ms Moitra framing it as a rejection of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership.

"This is a mandate against Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He is the most worthless Prime Minister in India, who held the post for 10 years. We salute the people of West Bengal, who have once again placed their trust in the Trinamul Congress," Ms Moitra declared tri-

umphantly. In the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, Ms Moitra had also secured a victory with 6,14,872 votes, surpassing BJP's Kalyan Chaubey and CPM's Dr Shantanu Jha.

This year's win reinforces her stronghold in the Krishnagar constituency, which comprises the Assembly seats of Tehatta, Palashipara, Kaliganj, Nakashipara, Chapra, Krishnagar Uttar and Krishnagar Dakshin.

TMC celebrates Mahua's triumph in Krishnagar **TENDER**

Analyzing the voting patterns reveals interesting insights: Mrs Roy led in the Tehatta, Krishnagar North, and Krishnagar South constituencies, securing 94,589 votes in Tehatta compared to Ms Moitra's 86,233.

However, Ms Moitra dominated the minority-dominated areas of Palashipara, Kaliganj, Nakashipara and Chapra.

Her support in these regions was substantial, with 97,667 votes in Palashipara and 1,13,538 in Chapra, illustrating her deep-rooted connection with the electorate.

As the final votes were being counted, the atmos-



Hundreds of Trinamul Congress workers, sensing victory three rounds before the final tally, took to the streets in celebration. Waving party flags and chanting slogans, they rallied through the lanes of Krishnagar town, their jubilant cheers filling

the air. The celebrants, smeared in green abir, embodied the party's festive spirit and the palpable excitement of a hard-fought win.

This decisive victory not only bolsters Ms Moitra's political career but also reinforces the Trinamul Congress's influence in West Bengal.

As celebrations continue, the people of Krishnagar parliamentary constituency have sent a clear message: their trust in Mahua Moitra and the Trinamul Congress remains unwavering.







THUMBNAILS

Trinamul Congress supporters celebrate the party's performance in the Lok Sab ha elections, in Kolkata on Tuesday. BISWAJIT GHOSHAL

Commissioning of new Up loop line and loop platform at Jaugram station: The Eastern Railway completed the commissioning of the new Up loop line and loop platform at Jaugram Station yesterday. The major infrastructure enhancement, executed by the Gati Shakti Unit of the Howrah Division through a composite tender, was sanctioned in the fiscal year 2021-22. The new platform is expected to save approximately three minutes per local train, improving EMU locals punctuality. There is also a provision for an up loop cum down departure loop line, the alteration of 41 out of 45 routes, and the reduction of the calling on timer from 120 seconds to 60 seconds. The project includes the construction of a 720-meter up loop line, a 350-meter-long and 5-meter-wide Vacuum **Dewatered Flooring (VDF)** platform, and an extended foot over bridge. **SNS** Train cancellations: Following track maintenance work, involving a four hours traffic and power block in the Bandel station yard line and on UP and Down Naihati line, the Eastern Railway has decided to cancel Bandel 37536 – Naihati local and 37535 Naihati – Bandel local on 5 June. The block is to commence after the arrival of 37529 at Bandel at 9 am and the first train after the block is to be 37538 on Down Naihati Line. According to the ER, one pair of Bandel – Naihati Local out of 22 pairs would remain cancelled during the block. SNS

People have voted against Modi: Mamata

She says that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union home minister Amit Shah should resign taking moral responsibility



Calling it "victory of the people" she said, "This is INDIA's victory. People have voted against Modi. Bengal gratulated Akhilesh Yadav, was the biggest target. The Uddhav Thackeray, Kaplana Union home ministry had Soren and sent a congratusent ED, CBI and Income Tax latory message to Rahul Gandhi. She said the Trinato scare our leaders. The leaders, up to the level of counmul Congress had lost two to cillors, were called up and three seats because of Conthreatened. Shah should gress. "I am not blaming the resign as people have given central Congress. BJP has him a befitting reply," she given so much money to Congress in some constituencies. In north Kolkata

She said the Sandeshkhali issue has failed to create any the Congress got money from the BJP," she said, adding, "I impact as people knew it was told Congress to have an

Miss Banerjee said after receiving a setback in the election, the BJP will not be able to send the ED and CBI whimsically. "Even today the Election Commission of India is trying to help the BJP to increase its seats. Akhilesh had called me and told me that in some seats the ECI is making unnecessary delay to issue certificates to the winning candidates. This has happened in Kanthi seat. We will demand

respect the people. I bow down to the people who have blessed our party. The BJP had suspended 147 MPs to get their bills passed. Now, they cannot change the Constitution, as to do it, two third majority is required and this they cannot achieve."

She said the BJP will have to depend on Chandrababu Naidu and Nitish Kumar to form the government. "I welcome everyone, who intends to come to the INDIA block," she said. Commenting on the exit

polls, she said, "I knew well that exit polls were bogus. The media cannot shed its responsibility. I do not blame the journalists, but their owners have been purchased by the BJP. I hope that the media and journalists will be able to work freely now," she said.

Miss Banerjee said, "I do not want anything. I want that the dues of the state governments should be cleared and the poor and the needy are not going to be deprived. There should not be any division in society and people should live peacefully and happily," she said.

Miss Banerjee thanked her party leaders, including Abhishek Banerjee for taking part in the campaign to oust the BJP. "I reiterate, let Modi go away and the country will be saved."



KOLKATA, WEDNESDAY 05 JUNE 2024

The Statesman



done to malign our women. alliance in Bengal as that She refused to comment on would have helped Congress Ram Mandir. She said, "The MP from Faizabad has lost." to get 100 plus seats in the

She said she had concountry." recounting in some seats," she maintained.

She added, "The arrogance of Modi had become intolerable. A leader should

PHOTO BY BISWAJIT GHOSHAI

Lakshmir Bhandar brings handsome rewards for TMC

SUBHENDU MAITI KOLKATA, 4 JUNE -

said.

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

Modi and Union home min-

ister Amit Shah should resign

taking moral responsibility.

political parties and now the

people have broken his back-

bone," she said, adding, "Every

time Modi came to the state,

the district magistrates and

senior police officers were

transferred by the ECI. The BJP

had maligned Bengal and

lowered it before the coun-

try. I am not going to toler-

ate this and will take revenge."

"Modi has broken many

rinamul Congress

chairperson Mamata

Banerjee said Prime

Minister Narendra

KOLKATA, 4 JUNE

ing from Lakshmir Bhandar, Sabujshree, Kanyashree etc and Swasthya Sathi scheme Winning nearly 73 per cent of total 42 Lok Sabha seats in West in connection with women Bengal, the ruling Trinamul development defeated BJP's Congress, led by the chief aggressive politics of religion in Bengal. Fifty per cent of votminister Mamata Banerjee once again proved that ers are women and around 2.30 women-centric schemes like crore financially weak women Lakshmir Bhandar brought get direct cash assistance another spectacular victory for every month through Lakshthe party after the 2021 Assemmir Bhandar scheme," said Prof Biswanath Chakraborty, a The major issues like alleged political analyst.

ous beneficiary schemes start-

scams in public distribution The scheme, introduced in 2021, provides direct cash system (PDS), recruitment in transfer to women between 25 schools, violence in and 60 years. The cash amount Sandeshkhali, and BJP's Hinhas been increased to Rs 1,000 dutava politics could not from Rs 500 for the general catrestrict Trinamul Congress. egory.

Women voters constitut-"Mamata Banerjee's vari-



ing around 50 per cent of total electorates in the state have traditionally shown their mandates for Miss Banerjee since Trinamul Congress came to power in 2011 in the state, ending 34 years' Left regime. According to the latest data from the Election Com-

mission of India (ECI), the state has 3.73 crore women voters, 12 lakh less than the number of registered male voters, 3.85 crore. However, there has been a notable increase in the registration of fresh women voters. Interestingly, in the 2019 LS

81.79 per cent of women casting their votes compared to 81.35 per cent of men. Data showed that in the 2019 elections, women registered a higher turnout. Political analysts pointed

polls, women recorded a high-

ervoter turnout than men, with

out that while women voters have traditionally been loyal supporters of the TMC, along with minorities who share around 32 per cent vote banks in the state.

They said that the TMC has the advantage of having a woman, Mamata Banerjee, at its helm, who has garnered the support of women, especially from marginalised backgrounds, throughout her political career, while the main

opposition state BJP lacks popular women faces.

"A family with three women aged between 25 and 60 can get Rs 3,000 cash assistance with Rs 1,000 each under the Lakshmir Bhandar scheme every month," one of the analysts said.

A glance at the voting pattern in this general election showed that many LS seats have phenomenal turnouts of women voters as compared to men.

Sk Samidul and Sk Rajesh, two youths aged between 22 and 25, of Chandipur, under Tamluk LS constituency, said they voted for Trinamul Congress because "Didi has given our mothers, sisters and other women members, cash assistance under Lakshmir Bhandar scheme. There are several other schemes which give women direct benefits."

The women voters in the state are categorized into four sub-categories: minority, general, subaltern and SC-ST women. In the 2021 Assembly elections, the TMC secured more than 50 per cent of the women votes, while the BJP garnered only 37 per cent.

This time in the LS polls Trinamul Congress has kept its vote share intact obtaining around 46 per cent votes white for the saffron party it is around 38 percent and for the Left-Congress combine the percentage is close to 11 per cent.

PHOTO BY BISWAJIT GHOSHAI

BJP's weak organisation led to its undoing

bly polls in the state.

government-sponsored

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, 4 JUNE

The organizational weakness of the BJP was exposed once again with the party losing two former ministers and past state president in the general election whose results were announced today.

Interestingly, Suvendu Adhikari, Leader of Opposition, who speaks to the media almost everyday refused to face the camera today after a poll debacle of his colleagues started pouring in.

Mr Adhikari got the seat of Debashree Chowdhury who was the minister of state for environment changed whimsically. Mrs Chowdhury had won from Raiganj Lok Sabha seat in 2019. She was fielded



An empty road in front of state BJP party office after Lok Sabha election results at Kolkata on Tuesday. MOUL MONDAL

Thakur, state minister for ship-Sandeshkhali, a non-issue ping was able to retain his seat. was raked up by the BJP by Following Mr Adhikari's insismaking reportedly false alletence Dilip Ghosh, former gations of rape. Videos emerged state president and MP from later which claimed the alle-Midnapore was fielded from gations were baseless and the Bardhaman-Durgapur. Mr whole issue was engineered by Ghosh was defeated by former Test cricketer Kirti Azad. Political experts said the poor result of BJP is likely to create a dent in Mr Adhikari's career. They said over the years he had misinformed the BJP headquarters in Delhi.

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, 4 JUNE

Veteran CPM leaders, Mohammad Selim and Sujan

tacharya. The alliance of Congress and CPM did not work well for Adhir Chowdhury who was called the uncrowned king of Berhampur suffered defeat. The poll results show that the CPM is yet to come out of the shock which it received



Dismal show again: CPM draws a blank

CPM Jadavpur candidate Srijan Bhattacherjee at Bijoygarh party office, which was ransacked on Tuesday.

in 2011 Assembly election when the party lost to Trinamul Congress badly. Party heavyweights Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, Nirupam Sen, Asim Dasgupta, Gautam Deb were defeated. The party has not been able to repair the trauma it has been suffering since then. From 2011, the CPM started losing all the by-elections and in most of the election the deposits of the candi-



a bid to cover its own organizational weakness, it blamed In 2024, the CPM had Trinamul terror which came fielded young candidates and in the way in setting up organization in the rural belt. hoped to do well in the election. Party cadres were seen From 2011 till date, the

Most TMC MPs manage to retain their seats





STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE **KOLKATA, 4 JUNE**

CPM did not do any self The BJP and a section of the analysis and went on highlighting Modi-Mamata secret media had criticised Abhishek deal. It did not say a word when Banerjee, national general the BJP deliberately deprived secretary of Trinamul Congress when he spoke about the port this stand of the party and Diamond Harbour model. punished the candidates in Today, his schemes to help the needy have paid dividends and Banerjee was elected from the seat by over 7 lakh votes. Mr Banerjee had announced that he would win by at least 4 lakh votes but the Hindu and minority camps people voted for him leading in previous elections in Berhampore. But this time, to the huge margin which is BJP votes aggravated his fall an all time record from the and at the same time Trinaseat. All the sitting MPs of Trinamul Congress have been elected, some for the third and others for the fourth consecutive time. Mr Sudip Bandyopadhyay is leading in north Kolkata. He is likely to be elected for the fourth consecutive time. Dr Kaloli Ghosh Dastidar, Satabdi Roy, Saugata Roy were elected for the fourth consecutive time. Dipak Adhikari popularly known as Dev, Mala Roy and Mohua Moitra were elected for the third consecutive time. Four actor-turned-politicians were elected, namely, Shatabdi Roy, Dev, Rachna Banerjee, June Maliah and Saayoni Ghosh. PHOTOS BY BISWAJIT GHOSHAL & MOUL MONDAL

The people of Bengal rejected the CPM today with all its candidates occupying distant third position.

Chakraborty, who contested from Murshidabad and Dum Dum were handsomely defeated. The young candidates, including Srijan Bhattacharya in Jadavpur, Dipsita Dhar in Srirampur and Sayan Banerjee were defeated. With this, the CPM which did not have any seat in West Bengal Assembly failed to send anyone in the Parliament too. The lone CPM Rajya Sabha MP is Bikas Bhat-

in South Kolkata and defeated handsomely by Mala Roy, who was the sitting MP.

Nisith Pramanik, minister of state for home was defeated by Trinamul candidate in Cooch Behar Jagdish Kumar Basunia. However, Shantanu

the BJP to reap political benefits. The experts said MrAdhikari will have to face the central leadership and explain to them the poor performance in Bengal as Mr Modi had said the BJP would get the highest number of seats in Bengal.

campaign was directionless and it continued to harp on Modi-Mamata secret understanding and did not highlight Bengal. The voters did not supimportant issues like unemployment and price rise. Also, the party did not have any penetration in the rural belt. In the EVM.



TMC win in Durgapur-Burdwan paves way for civic body polls in August

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE DURGAPUR, 4 JUNE

The huge wins of both Trinamul Congress heavyweight candidates in Asansol and Durgapur of West Burdwan district, the largest industrial zone in the state, has boosted the chances of the civil polls of Durgapur Municipal Corporation Elections in August this year. The elections are due

for more than a year now. After consecutive drubbing of the Trinamul Congress in the hands of BJP in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls in Durgapur West and East Assembly seats, and in the 2021 Assembly polls in Durgapur West seat, the TMC did not take the risk of holding the polls of Durgapur Municipal Corporation, due since in 2023.



In the 2017 DMC, the TMC had swept the polls by winning all the 43 wards. In 2023, the state govern-

ment appointed Anindita Mukherjee as the chairperson of the Board of Administrators (BOA) of DMC. She was mayor of DMC from 2017 to 2023. A top leader of TMC, requesting anonymity, said that with these results the party will go for the polls in August this year.

SSAhluwalia of the BJP had won by huge margins from



Durgapur East and Durgapur West Assembly seats in the 2029 Lok Sabha polls and Lakhsman Ghorui of the BJP had won in 2021 polls from the DurgapurWest assembly seat. However, Pradip Mazum-

dar wrested the Durgapur East Assembly seat and later became the state panchayat minister.

But Kirti Jha Azad, the member of the 1983 World Cup Winning team contested this time from Burdwan–Durgapur Lok Sabha seat and has defeated former state BJP president Dilip Ghosh.

"We are really happy today and thank the people of Burdwan-Durgapur for showering their blessings upon us. Our performance in the industrial belt of Durgapur has

improved immensely compared to 2019 Lok Sabha polls. The Durgapur Municipal Corporation polls will be held this year and we expect to win easily," said Pradip Mazumdar, state panchayat minister and MLA of Durgapur East.

"I thank the people of Durgapur for keeping their trust in me and I dedicate this win to our Didi Mamata Banerjee, who has emerged as even a greater political leader in the Lok Sabha polls in the country. Hopefully, I will be able to raise the issues of Durgapur and try to solve them," said Kirti Azad.

Since the beginning of counting, Kirti Azad had taken the lead today and ended up as winner with a victory margin of about 1,38,031 votes.

It's the BJP that virtually helped the Trinamul Congress candidate Yusuf Pathan to defeat the five-time Congress MP and president of the West Bengal Pradesh Congress Committee (WBPCC) Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury in

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

KOLKATA, 4 JUNE

Berhampore Lok Sabha (LS) constituency, a traditional strong citadel of his party in Murshidabad district.

With the defeat of Mr Chowdhury, who is also a member of the Congress Working Committee (CWC) the party suffered a major setback in the state. Congress has won only one seat in Malda Dakshin in the state. Trinamul Congress had

fielded Mr Pathan, former member of the national cricket team, in Berhampore prompting its rival parties like

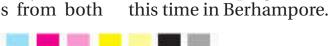


sand votes.

Mr Chowdhury has got more than four lakh votes. "Mr Chowdhury used to

get huge votes from both





BJP votes led to defeat of five-time MP Adhir BJP and Congress to tag him as an 'outsider' because he is a resident of Boroda in Gujarat. Mr Pathan defeated Mr

Chowdhury with a margin of more than 70,000 votes. The heavyweight Con-

dates were forfeited.

on the roads. But the party's

gress candidate did not taste defeat in the last 25 years in Berhampore.

Political observers in Murshidabad felt that Mr Chowdhury's loss was a result of polarized votes in the constituency. For instance, the BJP candidate, Dr Nirmal Saha, who has got around three lakh and fifty thousand votes has paved the way for victory of Mr Pathan, who has secured nearly four lakh and seventy five thou-

mul Congress has enjoyed the maximum percentage of minority vote banks," an observer requesting anonymity said. In the last Assembly elec-

tions, in 2021, Trinamul Congress had won six assemblies while BJP had Berhampore only under the Berhampore parliamentary constituency.

Trinamul Congress's strategic move by nominating the former cricketer Mr Pathan in Berhampore made it difficult for Mr Chowdhury to retain the seat for six times

in a row. No national leader like Rahul Gandhi of Congress was found to campaign for him







Congress & BJP share the spoils equally, BRS decimated in T'gana

Chief minister A Revanth Reddy however was left embarrassed as BJP won his home constituency

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD, 4 JUNE

JP and Congress shared the spoils equally in Telangana winning 8 seats each at the cost of BRS which failed to win a single seat in the state and came in third place in 14 of the total 17 seats including in Greater Hyderabad where they had won most Assembly seats only six months back. Chief minister A Revanth Reddy however was left embarrassed as BJP won his home constituency Mahabubnagar after a neck to neck fight and also easily secured Malkajgiri seat which he had represented till December last year. AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi retained his seat Hyderabad with a huge margin of over three lakh votes, defeating K Madhavi Latha quite convincingly.

Congress won Khammam, Nalgonda, Peddapalli, Bhuvanagiri, Mahabubabad, Warangal, Zaheerabad and Nagarkurnool seats while the BJP retained Adilabad, Karimnagar, Nizamabad and Secun-



derabad constituencies and won Malkajgiri, Chevella, Mahabubnagar and Medak. The North and South divide in the state was very clear with BJP dominating the North including the BRS strongholds and Greater Hyder-

abad area while South went to Congress. N Sri Ganesh of Congress won the Secunderabad Cantonment Assembly by election wresting the seat from the BRS. It is the only MLA seat for Congress from Greater Hyderabad.

Earlier on Sunday, K T

Rama Rao said that the party's

victory in the Mahabubnagar

MLC by-elections signals a cru-

cial turning point in the evolv-

ing political landscape of

BRS came second only in two seats, Khammam and Mahabubabad and in Medak which was its citadel, the party came third after it failed to get a lead of even 20,000 from Siddipet where T Harish had won the election by

more than 80,000 votes just last year. In Medak the BRS has five MLAs including former chief minister K Chandrasekhar Rao who had won from Gajwel. The party working president KT Rama Rao had accused the Congress of putting up weak candidates like in Karimnagar that too just a few days before elections but it was its veteran leader B Vinod who came in third. Accepting the decimation BRS working president KT Rama Rao said, " Today's electoral setback is certainly very disappointing. But we will continue to toil and will rise from the ashes again like a Phoenix."

Most of the defectors such as G Ranjith Reddy and Danam Nagender who joined from BRS to Congress and BB Patil who went to BJP from BRS also lost except Kavya Kadiyam of the Congress who won the Warangal seat. BJP which had won only eight seats in Assembly elections banked on Modi magic since most of the sitting MPs except G Kishen Reddy also had contested Assembly elections but lost.

Big win for UDF in Kerala as BJP opens account with Thrissur win

Radhakrishnan remains the

only saving face for the CPI-

M in an election swept away

by the Congress and its allies

Chandrasekhar conceded

defeat to Congress' Shashi Tha-

roor in the Thiruvanantha-

puram Lok Sabha seat, but said

that the election result in

Kerala indicates that people

are increasingly supporting

the saffron party. Union Min-

ister of State for External

Affairs V.Muraleedharan is

trailing in Attingal con-

Gandhi has scripted victory

again with a lead of 3,50,030

Congress leader Rahul

Union minister Rajeev

in Kerala.

stituency.



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, 4 JUNE

The Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF) is leading in 18 of 20 Lok Sabha seats in Kerala, dealing a severe blow to the ruling CPI-M-led LDF. The BJP is all set to open its Lok Sabha account in Kerala, as the saffron party candidate Suresh Gopi (photo) is leading in Thrissur with a comfortable margin.

The LDF was able to win only one seat in the state. CPI-M candidate, state Minister for Welfare of SC/ST and Backward Classes K Radhakrishnan emerged victorious over UDF's sitting MP

votes over his nearest rival Annie Raja of the CPI in the Wayanad Lok Sabha constituency.

Despite a UDF wave across Kerala, there is a pall of gloom among senior Congress leaders assembled at Indira Bhavan, the party's state headquarters, as party stalwart K Muraleedharan is facing defeat in Thrissur. Muraleedharan is in third place in Thrissur where BJP candidate Suresh Gopi is leading over his CPI rival Sunil Kumar.

Congress candidate Shafi Parambil won the Vatakara seat, defeating former state health minister and senior CPI-M leader KK Shylaja. Losing Vadakara, once a stronghold of CPI-M, even after fielding a strong candidate to survive any wave, has literally shocked the CPI-M.

In Pathanamthitta,Anto Antony is inching towards his fourth victory in the seat by a majority of nearly 50,000 votes over his nearest rival CPI-M leader and former state finance minister Thomas Issac. BJP candidate ,Anil Antony, the son of senior Congress leader and former Chief Minister AK Antony, is in third position here.

doing so much for the peo-

ernment had initiated meas-

ures which were not initiat-

ed in the past and worked for

the development of all sec-

benefit of 53 lakh mothers

and a good future for their

children but we don't know

what happened to the votes

of these mothers and sisters.

"We took steps for the

He claimed that his gov-

ple.

tions.

Today's electoral setback is certainly very disappointing: BRS president KT Rama Rao



AGENCIES NEW DELHI, 4 JUNE

The Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) Working President KT Rama Rao on Tuesday said that TRS (former name of BRS party) has witnessed achievements and failures in the last 24 years since it was founded.

"In the last 24 years since TRS was founded, we have seen it all. Stellar achievements, successes and also many setbacks. The greatest glory: formation of Telangana state will remain our biggest achievement," said K

T Rama Rao. He further hailed TRS for emerging victorious in two consecutive state assembly elections.

He further said this victory in the local bodies' legislative council seat within the Chief Minister's home districts

serves as a testament to the shifting political winds in the state. Voting for all 17 seats in Telangana concluded in the fourth phase of the Lok Sabha "Being a regional party polls on May 13. Telangana witnessed a voter turnout of won two consecutive state

Telangana.

elections with a good major-65.67 per cent. ity 63/119 - 2014 88/119 -In the 2019 Lok Sabha 2018," wrote K T Rama Rao elections, the BRS (then TRS) on social media platform X. won nine of 17 seats, while the

"Currently, the principal BJP and Congress bagged opposition with 1/3rd seats four and three seats, respec-39/119 - 2023. Today's electively. The 2024 Lok Sabha electoral setback is certainly very tions were held in seven phasdisappointing. But we will es over 44 days, running from continue to toil and will rise April 19 to June 1.

from the ashes again like a The results are being Phoenix," he added further. declared on June 4.

33 seats in Tamil Nadu out

of the 39 seats and its allies

DMDK and SDPI contested

five seats and one seat respec-

AGENCIES

AMARAVATI, 4 JUNE

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, whose party YSR Congress was virtually wiped out in the state Assembly elections, said that the results were surprising.

Stating that he did not expect this outcome, he wondered why the YSR Congress suffered defeat despite implementing several welfare schemes, benefiting crores of people.

Interacting with the mediapersons, Jagan Mohan Reddy accepts the people's verdict but vowed to continue working for the people, especially the poor.

He said the alliance could not take away 40 per cent vote share of YSR Congress. "We fell down but will rise with courage.

Jagan also said that it was not new for the YSR Congress to be in the opposition.



Did not expect these results: Jagan Mohan Reddy

"Barring these five years, we spent most of the time in opposition. Struggle is not new to us. We faced many difficulties while in public life and if there are greater hardships we are ready to face them," he said.

The YSR Congress leader also remarked that the alliance was of "big people" like the BJP, N. Chandrababu

Naidu and Pawan Kalyan. He wished all the very best to the new government.

TDP-Jana Sena-BJP alliance is heading for landslide victory as it won 85 seats and was leading in 79 seats. The tripartite alliance was also leading in 21 out of 25 Lok Sabha seats.

YSRCP has won only three Assembly seats and was lead-

ing in eight segments. It was also leading in four Lok Sabha constituencies.

In 2019, YSRCP had bagged 151 Assembly and 22 Lok Sabha seats.

Meanwhile, Jagan Mohan Reddy also listed out the major welfare schemes implemented by him and was surprised why the party had to suffer the defeat after

We provided pensions to 66 lakh elderly people, physically challenged and widows at their doorsteps. We don't know what happened to the affection shown to them," he said.

Jagan claimed that his government did everything for the good of 54 lakh farmers.

"We gave them investment support and helped them in every manner. We don't know what happened to the love shown to 50 lakh farmers," he said.

AIADMK pushed to third place in Tamil Nadu



AGENCIES CHENNAI, 4 JUNE

In a shocking development,

AIADMK ruled Tamil Nadu from 2011 to 2021 and in the 2021 Assembly election, the party won 66 seats with a vote share of 33.29 per cent votes.

tively.

The drubbing of the AIADMK is a major personal defeat for the party's General Secretary and former Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami (EPS).

The party leadership under him expelled senior leader and former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, O. Panneerselvam (OPS) who

Kumaraswamy scripts thumpingvictory, wins Mandya by 2.84 lakhvotes

ate of the Congress Deputy CM.

heartland of the powerful Vokkaliga community in the state.

Kolar Lok Sabha seat by a margin of 71,388 votes. The party had fielded Mallesh Babu as the NDA candidate from the seat against Congress' K.V. Gowtham, a fresh face. As per the official data, Mallesh Babu polled 6.91 lakh votes against Gowtham who managed 6.20 lakh votes.

'Will examine factors for defeat in LS polls' polls in 2019, the LDF won just one seat in Kerala, but never before has its tally looked worse. There could be no

greater political disgrace for the CPI-M than to share the same tally as the BJP in Kerala.

Meanwhile, Opposition Leader in the Kerala AssemblyVD Satheesan said the victory of Congress-led UDF in the Lok Sabha elections in the state is commendable.

Speaking to the media in Thiruvananthapuram, Satheesan said the Congress is not demanding the resignation of Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan in the wake of the defeat in the Lok Sabha polls. He said Congress candidate K Muralidharan's defeat in Thrissur was unexpected. He alleged that the CP-M created a favourable situation for the BJP's win in Thrissur by sabotaging the Thrissur Pooram.



AGENCIES **BENGALURU, 4 JUNE**

Former Karnataka Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy registered a thumping victory in the Lok Sabha elections from Mandya after he defeated his nearest rival Venkataramane Gowda aka Star Chandru of the Congress by 2,84,620 votes on Saturday. Gowda secured 5.67 lakh votes against Kumaraswamy

who polled 8.51 lakh votes. The contest was keenly watched in the backdrop of the rivalry between Kumaraswamy and D.K. Shivakumar, as Gowda is known to be a close associ-

The JD-S derives its core strength from the Mandya region, which is considered the

The JD-S has also won the

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, 4 JUNE

The CPI-M, which faced severe drubbings in the Lok Sabha polls in Kerala, on said Tuesday that the party and the Left Front would examine all the factors that led to their

tors, including the selection of candidates, governmentrelated matters, and other things that led to the defeat. If there is anything to be corrected, we will surely correct it. It is the People, who are the

> final judges in a democracy," Govindan said. He expressed confidence that the party would recover from the defeat. The LDF had suffered a similar drubbing in the 2019 LS polls, but it later won the local self-government polls and the assembly election, he added. As in the last Lok Sabha

a big victory, managed to win just one seat.

Tamil Nadu's principal opposition party AIADMK has been pushed to third place at least on seven Lok Sabha seats, behind the BJP, in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

The party reached a dismal third behind the BJP and

Theni. On at least three more seats, AIADMK has been pushed to fourth place behind BJP and NTK in Kanniyakumari, Tirunelveli, Vellore and Puducherry Union Territory. The AIADMK contested

NDA in Chennai South,

Coimbatore, Dharmapuri,

Ramanathapuram and

Nilgiris,

Madurai,

is highly popular in the southern regions of Tamil Nadu. AIADMK also snapped ties with the BJP in September last year which led to a major erosion in oppo-

sition unity against the DMK.

defeat. Speaking to media persons

here, CPI-M state secretary MV Govindan said the party and the LDF would examine the reasons and the factors that led to defeat.

"We will examine all the fac-

Cong demands resignation of CM Vijayan: Congress' Kerala unit President K. Sudhakaran, who retained his Kannur Lok Sabha seat, on Tuesday demanded that Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan should step down, as the CPI-M-led LDF, after claiming

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

HYDERABAD, 4 JUNE

While TDP chief N Chandrababu Naidu will become the chief minister of Andhra Pradesh for the fourth time and play the role of king maker after BJP's poor show it was Jana Sena chief and actor Pawan Kalyan who emerged from reel hero to the real hero in the saga of NDA's return to power in the state.

Eight months ago, Naidu was arrested in a corruption case by the YSRCP and languished in jail for 52 days before finally getting bail from the Supreme Court. However, it was Pawan Kalyan who first came out firmly in the support of the beleaguered leader, stood outside the Rajahmundry Central jail after meeting Naidu and announced his decision



Pawan Kalyan: From reel hero to real hero of NDA's win

to ally with the TDP, throwinterest for the larger good. ing in the lifeline to the party BJP managed to get six LS seats and ten Assembly seats at the time of a major crisis. Afterwards as an NDA ally he while JSP fought only 2 LS convinced the BJP to include seats and 21 Assembly seats the TDP and when the nationonly to ensure that anti al party which has less than YSRCP vote did not get dividone per cent vote demanded more number of seats he

ed. In 2019, JSP had fought sacrificed his own party's alone and won only one seat

but this time Pawan Kalyan ensured a phenomenal strike rate, winning all the 21 seats that the party contested. After a humiliating defeat from two constituencies last time Pawan Kalyan won the Pithapuram seat this time with a majority of more than 70,000 votes.

Pawan Kalyan also fought against slander as YSRCP called him the "call sheet politician" because of his parallel career as a film hero and also "the adopted son of Chandrababu Naidu." His private life was often discussed as YSRCP leaders including YS Jagan Mohan Reddy took a dig at him for his multiple marriages. Pawan Kalyan, brother of megastar Chiranjeevi goes by the moniker Power star for his fans in the two Telugu states.

Congress shatters BJP's dream for R'than sweep

YASH GOYAL JAIPUR, 4 JUNE

After a gap of a decade, the Congress and its three allies on Tuesday shattered the BJP's hyped dream of sweep-

ing the Lok Sabha elections in Rajasthan, where 25 seats are at stake, for the third time in a row.

The BJP headed by Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma government could save only 14 out of 25 seats while the Congress won 11 with its 3 INDIA bloc allies of CPI-M, Rashtriya Loktantrik Party (RLTP) and Bharatiya Adivasi Party (BAP).

The BJP which tried to manage the tribal leader in Banswara district, lost Bagidora assembly bypoll to Kris-

han Patel of BAP, who won bv 122573 votes against the BJP's Subhash Tamboliya.

This seat was vacated by Mahendra Jeet Singh Malviya, who left his MLAship and joined the BJP to contest Banswara LS seat which he also lost against BAP's Raj Kumar Roat.

CPI-M's Amraram defeated BJP's sitting MP Sumedhanand Sarswati in Sikar by a 72896 votes, RLTP Hanuman Beniwal (sitting MLA) defeated Mirdha families Jyoti Mirdha in Nagaur by a margin of over 41000 votes. Bharatiya Adivasi Party's

Raj Kumar Roat in Banswara defeated Mahendrajeet S Malviya by a margin of 247054 votes.



CBC 48139/12/0003/2425









Modi won his Varanasi seat in UP, defeating his Congress rival Ajay Rai by a margin of 1,52,513 votes

DEEPAK RAZDAN NEW DELHI, 4 JUNE

rime Minister Narendra Modi's government on Tuesday received a mandate to continue in office for a third consecutive term with the support of his political allies, even as the NDA alliance received a massive shock from the Congressled INDIA, preventing him from reaching his target of 400 seats.

The BJP-led NDA has won 291 seats against the requirement of 272 seats to form a government at the Centre. The BJP had 287 seats of its own in the 17th Lok Sabha, but this has come down to 243 this time due to setbacks in several States.

While the Congress increased its own tally from 46 seats in the previous Lok Sabha to close to 100 seats in the 18th Lok Sabha, its INDIA bloc has secured a formidable strength of 233 seats to form a strong Opposition group in the next Lok Sabha. There was a strong swing in votes in favour of the Congress in several States.



Mr Modi won his Varanasi seat in Uttar Pradesh, defeating his Congress rival Ajay Rai by a margin of 1,52,513 votes, according to the Election Commission of India. The Prime Minister received 6,12,970 votes while Mr Rai received

Among the States where the BJP-led NDA suffered a major setback was Uttar Pradesh

4,60,457 votes.

with the maximum number of 80 Lok Sabha seats.

The BJP's main rival Samajwadi Party secured at least 37 seats in the State. The INDIA alliance, of which the Samajwadi Party is a part, won 43 seats, including six by the Congress Party. The BJP won 33 seats and its NDA partner Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD) two. The Prime Minister often

tunistic alliance of political parties keen to get back to power somehow. He described Congress leader Rahul Gandhi as Shehzada (Prince) of the Congress 'family' and often dismissed him and Samajwadi Party leader Akhilesh Yaday as "two boys (ladke)" in his election speeches.

NEW DELHI, 4 JUNE

While Mr Gandhi was set

INDIA bloc meet on Wednesday to decide on staking claim to form govt

adverse environment, the

Congress chief said: "We con-

tested elections on issues relat-

ed to the public like inflation

and unemployment etc. The

public connected with these

campaign Mr Modi did dur-

ing the elections will be remem-

bered in history, he said: "The

public understood the lies

that Narendra Modi spread

about the Congress mani-

reached its end. In the com-

ing days, we all will have to pro-

tect the rights of the people,

the Constitution and democ-

will stake a claim to form gov-

ernment at the Centre, Mr

Kharge said: "Till we don't talk

to our alliance partners and the

new partners who are going

to ally with them. We will talk

to them about how we can

Echoing similar sentiments,

make a majority."

Asked about whether it

racy," Mr Kharge said.

"Our fight has not yet

Asserting that the kind of

issues and supported us."

loss.'

festo."

TheStatesman

KOLKATA, WEDNESDAY 05 JUNE 2024

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, 4 JUNE

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and Congress leader Rahul Gandhion Tuesday categorically said the decision on whether they will include new parties in the alliance to touch the majority mark, which is required to form the government at the Centre, will be decided during INDIA bloc meeting on Wednesday.

They claimed that the mandate of the country was against Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Addressing a joint press conference along with Congress Parliamentary Party(CPP) Chairperson Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi at the party headquarters, Mr Kharge said: "This election result is the victory of the people and democracy. We humbly accept the public mandate. This time the public has not given a clear majority to any one party, especially the ruling party BIP."

Attacking the BJP, he said: "BJP has sought votes on one person and one face (Modi). but now it is clear that the mandate has gone against Narendra Modi. This is a huge defeat

for them morally and politi-Rahul Gandhi said: "The councally. From a moral point of view try has clearly and unanithey have suffered a huge mously stated we do not want MrNarendra Modi and MrAmit Pointing out that the Con-Shah to be involved in the rungress and parties of the INDIA bloc fought the elections in an

ning of this country. We don't like the way they have run this country. We do not appreciate the way they have attacked the Constitution. We do not appreciate the way they have run this country in the last 10 years. It's a huge message to Narendra Modi."

On being asked about whether the INDIA bloc will stake claim to form the government or it will sit in the Opposition, he said: "As we have said earlier. We are going to have a meeting with our partners, the INDIA alliance partners, that meeting is tomorrow and these questions will be raised there and there will be answers there.We respect our alliance partners. We are not going to make statements in the press without asking them their opinion."

Expressing his gratitude to everyone who participated in this election, the Congress leader said: "I am extremely proud of the people of India. I am extremely proud of the people who have resisted this onslaught on the Constitution."

to rely heavily on support from parties like the Nitish Kumar-led Janata Dal (U) which has won 12 seats in Bihar, the Chandrababu Naiduled Telugu Desam winning 16 described INDIA as an oppor-Lok Sabha seats and the Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena with seven seats.

to retain the family bastion of

Rae Bareli in Uttar Pradesh with

a margin of nearly four lakh

votes, and was winning his sitting Wayanad seat in Kerala with

an equal margin, Mr Yadav was

winning his Kannauj seat by

to wrest its old seat of Amethi

where its Kishore Lal Sharma

was set to defeat Union Min-

The NDA suffered revers-

es in West Bengal and Maha-

rashtra also. Now it will have

The Congress also managed

over a lakh of votes.

ister Smriti Irani.

Only last March, Mr Nitish Kumar had assured the Prime Minister that he would remain steady with him in the NDA. "Hum phir aapke saath hai. I assure you that I will not go here and there. Hum rahenge aap hi ke saath," he had said at a public rally.

Jharkhand gives 9 seats to NDA



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI, 4 JUNE**

In the 2024 General Elections, of the total 14 Lok Sabha seats in Jharkhand, the BJP won 8 seats, Jharkhand Mukti Morcha 3, Congress two and the AJSU bagged a single seat.

During the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance

emerged victorious across 12 seats, with the BJP winning 11. The JMM and the Congress got one seat each.

Sitting BJP MP Nishikant Dubey defeated Congress' Pradeep Yadav from Godda.

JMM's Nalin Soren defeated Shibu Soren's daughter-inlaw Sita Soren from Dumka in a direct contest. Sita Soren joined the BJP in March after a family feud with her brother-in-law Hemant Soren and his wife Kalpana.

BJP's Kali Charan Singh won from Chatra, Dulu Mahtao from Dhanbad, Manish Jaiswal from Hazaribagh, Bidyut Baran Mahato from Jamshedpur, Khunti, Annapurna Devi from Kodarma, Lohardaga, Vishnu Dayal Ram from Palamu and Sanjay Seth from Ranchi.

JMM'sVijay Kumar Hansdak defeated BJP's Tala Marandi from Rajmahal while Joba Manjhi won from Singhbhum constituency.

Khunti and Lohardaga seats were won by the Congress.

Five of the 14 Lok Sabha seats are reserved for STs and one for SCs.

The Lok Sabha elections was held in seven phases across the country, from April 19 to June 1. Polling in Jharkhand was held in four phases on May 13, May 20, May 25 and June 1.

Chandrababu Naidu, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar to play significant role in government formation **STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE** ported the then Atal BihariVaj-With the BJP falling short of securing a majority on its own in the Lok Sabha, TDP

chief N Chandrababu Naidu and Bihar Chief Minister and Janata Dal (United) supremo Nitish Kumar have suddenly become two most important political figures whose actions will be keenly watched until the formation of a new government. Both the TDP and the Jana-

> the Jana Sena party, has won a substantial number of Parliamentary seats in the state while Nitish's JD (U) has secured a dozen seats in Bihar. Mr Naidu has been a 'king-

maker' on many occasions in the past. In 1996, when the electorate delivered a fractured mandate in the Lok Sabha polls, Mr Naidu, as the con-Andhra Pradesh. He sup-

payee government which was short of the majority mark. In fact, with 29 seats, TDP was BJP's biggest ally although it did not join the government.

In 2014 too, Mr Naidu contested in alliance with the BJP and joined the Modigovernment, only to leave the alliance in 2018 ahead of the Assembly polls in Andhra Pradesh. A veteran of social justice politics in Bihar, Nitish

Kumar was a minister in the NDA government led by Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Mr Kumar remained a senior partner in the NDA in Bihar and was the BJP's biggest ally in 2009, winning 20 seats in the state when the saffron party did poorly at the national level.

Mr Kumar's politics in the last decade has surprised not tested the Lok Sabha polls in only his detractors but his ardent supporters as well. In 2014, he broke away from

the NDA protesting the rise of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and contested the Bihar Lok Sabha polls alone. He won only two seats. Following this, he joined hands with Lalu Prasad for the 2015 Assembly elections and together they swept the polls. Within two years, however, he broke away and joined the NDA again and the alliance bagged 39 of the 40 seats in Bihar.

However, after the JD(U)fared poorly in the 2020 Bihar Assembly polls despite the alliance winning the elections, Mr Kumar became increasingly uncomfortable with the BJP and broke the alliance in 2022 to form a government with the RJD. But just months ahead of the 2024 polls, he again joined the NDA, ditching the INDIA bloc after playing a pivotal role in putting together the Opposition alliance.

Madhya Pradesh gives stellar result for BJP

GAURAV CHANDRA

BHOPAL, 4 JUNE

Madhya Pradesh gave a stellar result to the BJP amongst all the big states of the country, as the saffron party made a clean sweep of all 29 Lok Sabha seats in MP on Tuesday.

MP is the only big state where the BJP won all the Lok Sabha seats.

New Chief Minister of MP, Dr Mohan Yadav, who surprised everyone by becoming PM Narendra Modi's choice for MPCM in December 2023, has succeeded in consolidating his position further after such positive results came out from the state.

gress always won at least the one seat of Chhindwara Lok Sabha.

This time, however, the BJP has succeeded in wresting that seat too from Congress Lok Sabha Member Nakul Nath, son of former Chhindwara MP and CM Kamal Nath. Significantly, Nakul Nath did

not even go down fighting and his defeat was not at all a close one.

BJP candidate Vivek Banti Sahu comfortably drubbed Nakul Nath by a margin of more than 1.16 lakh votes.

"The voters have given a befitting reply (to Nath) and Lalwani. this is a victory of the people of Chhindwara," Sahu com-The withdrawal of Bamb's candidature also resulted in mented after winning. At Indore, BJP candidate another record. The seat voted Shankar Lalwani received more than 2.18 lakh votes on more than 12 lakh votes, and the NOTA option, which is he created history by winning the all-time record of highest NOTA votes in the country. by a gigantic margin of more than 11.75 lakh votes from



This is highest ever margin of victory in the history of Lok Sabha polls in the country

Indore, Akshay Kanti Bamb, had withdrawn his name on the last date of nomination withdrawal, handing a walkover to nificant in the light of the fact that almost a dozen BJP candidates won by margins of more than four lakh votes.

ta Dal (U) are the partners of

the BJP in the NDA alliance

and but both Mr Naidu and

Nitish Kumar are considered

mercurial leaders with a mass

following as has been demon-

strated by them in the elec-

the Lok Sabha and the Assem-

bly polls in Andhra Pradesh

in alliance with the BJP and

Mr Naidu, who contested

tions.

Former MP CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan drubbed Congress candidate Pratap Bhanu Sharma by about 8.20 lakh votes.

This is Chouhan's biggest poll victory margin in his political career.

Union minister Jyotiraditya Scindia won from Guna by a margin of more than 5.40 lakh votes. This is the biggest victory scored by any member of the Scindia family in Lok Sabha polls.

votes.

BJP candidate from Hoshangabad, Darshan Singh Chaudhary, defeated his Congress rival Sanjay Sharma by about 4.23 lakh votes.

The BJP's Ashish Dubey won by more than four lakh votes from Jabalpur.

BJP candidate Virendra Khatik also won by more than four lakh votes from the Tikamgarh Lok Sabha seat.

In terms of overall vote share, the BJP got about 59.55 per cent votes while the Congress had to settle for 32.5 per cent votes.

However, the BJP fell short

With 31 seats under its belt, NDA dominates Lok Sabha polls in Bihar

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI, 4 JUNE**

venor of the United Front,

propped up the H D Deve

Gowda government with out-

side support from Congress.

He also helped the formation

of the IK Gujral government.

alliance with the BJP and

secured 29 seats in united

In 1999, Mr Naidu con-

The BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) dominated the Bihar Lok Sabha elections by winning 31 of the 40 seats in the state while the INDIA bloc emerged the winner in nine constituencies. Currently, the NDA holds

39 seats in the state.

Among the other constituents of the NDA, the Janata Dal (United) won 14 seats, the BJP 12, and the Lok Janshakti Party-Ram Vilas National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA).

Former Union minister and BJP leader Ravi Shankar Prasad won from the prestigious Patna Sahib seat defeating his nearest rival Anshul Avijit from Congress while saffron party's Rajiv Pratap Rudy won the Saran seat defeating Lalu Prasad's daughter, Rohini Acharya of the RJD.

Pataliputra, the capital city of Bihar, saw Misa Bharti (RJD) defeating Ram Kripal Yadav from the BJP of the NDA and Anshul Avijit KushPurnia Santosh Kumar Kushwaha of the JD (U) defeated RJD's Beema Bharti and Pappu Yadav, the Congress leader who contested the election as an independent candidate. JD-U's Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh won from Munger defeating Kumari Anita of Rashtriya Janata Dal. The Lok Sabha seats won by JD-U include Valmiki Nagar, Sheohar, Sitamarhi, Jhanjharpur, Supaul, Katihar, Bhagal pur, Banka, Munger, and Nalanda.

JD-U's Dinesh Chandra

since the first general elections. Congress candidate from

Dr Yadav has even surpassed his predecessor, longest serving BJP CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan, in terms of winning cent percent Lok Sabha seats in the state.

During Chouhan's regime, and before that too, the Con-

The results from Madhya Pradesh become even more sig-

MP BJP Chief and Khajuraho candidate Vishnu Dutt Sharma scored a win by over five lakh votes.

BJP candidate from Sagar, Lata Vankhede won by around 4.58 lakh votes.

Mandsaur BJP candidate Sudhir Gupta also won by a margin of more than 4.40 lakh

of achieving its target of 68 per cent vote share in Madhya Pradesh.

In a heartwarming gesture, BJP candidate from Rajgarh, Rodmal Nagar, touched the feet of Congress candidate and veteran leader Digvijaya Singh

when the two met during the counting process.

(LJPRV) 5. The Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) won four seats, Congress and the CPI (ML)(L) won 2 seats each while the Hindustani Awam Morcha-Secular (HAMS) bagged one seat.

The RJD and Congress contested the elections under the banner of the Indian

waha from Congress of the INDIA. Union Minister Nityanand Rai won the Ujiarpur seat and Radha Mohan Singh Purvi the Champaran seat while Sanjay Jaiswal defeated Madan Mohan Tiwari of Congress in Paschim Champaran.

Yadav won from Madhepura, Dr Alok Kumar Suman from Gopalganj, and Vijaylakhmi Devi from Siwan.

Among the BJP candidates, Ashok Kumar Yadav won from Madhubani, Giriraj Singh from Begusarai, and Gopal Jee Thakur from the Darbhanga seat.

Bhatol by 3,68,000 votes and

securing it in the 2014 elections

victory to her strong grass-

roots connection and the sig-

nificant support she received

from the influential Thakor community, which has a sub-

stantial presence in Banaskan-

Congress candidate Nilesh

Kumbhani's nomination form

due to inconsistencies in pro-

posers' signatures and the

withdrawal of other contenders

before polling, the Bharatiya

Following the rejection of the

Analysts attribute Thakor's

as well.

tha.

MVA leads in Maharashtra; Geniben Thakor gives Conglone win in Gujarat

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

MUMBAI, 4 JUNE

In a surprise turn of events, the opposition-backed MahaVikas Agadhi (MVA) took a lead in 29 of the 48 Lok Sabha constituencies in Maharashtra on Tuesday, even as the exit polls had indicated a clear majority for the BJP.

Various exit polls had predicted 22 to 35 seats to the Mahayuti (the BJP-NCP-Sena alliance) in Maharashtra, and 15 to 26 seats to the MVA.

Overall, the INDIA bloc has gained lead in 29 seats—Congress in 11, Uddhav Thackeray's Shiv Sena in 10, and Sharad Pawar's NCP in eight seats.

The NDA has a total of 18





his nearest rival.

In the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, the BJP won 23 seats in Maharashtra, while the Shiv Sena (undivided) won 18 seats. The NCP (undivided) won 4 seats, and the Congress won 1 seat.

10. In the run-up to the Lok Sabha polls, battleground Maharashtra witnessed intense contests between the split Shiv

Sena and Nationalist Congress Party factions — Shiv Sena Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray (SHS UBT) and Shiv Sena Eknath Shinde faction (SHS); NCP Sharad Pawar faction (NCP SP) and NCP Ajit Pawar

The BJP contested in 28 constituencies, with its allies Shiv Sena (Shinde) in 14 and the Ajit Pawar-led NCP in five. On the other hand, the Maha Vikas Aghadi members saw Shiv Sena (UBT) competing in 21 constituencies, Congress in 17, and NCP (Sharad Pawar) in

group.

The Lok Sabha election in Maharashtra was held in five phases.

Addressing a press conference, NCP (SP) chief Sharad Pawar said the results showed the situation was favourable in the country for political change, and added that the INDIA bloc leaders are likely to meet in Delhi on Wednesday to decide the



future course of action.

"I spoke to Mallikarjun Kharge and Sitaram Yechury. The INDIA alliance meeting is likely to be held in Delhi tomorrow. Final decision is expected to be taken by this evening," he said.

"I am not sure if the INDIA alliance can form a government.

We will meet to morrow and take a decision unanimously on the future course of action," he added.

As the trends indicated that the BJP might not achieve a majority on its own in the Lok Sabha polls, Pawar said he had not spoken to JD(U) leader Nitish Kumar or TDP chief

Chandrababu Naidu, contrary to media reports.

MP Sanjay Raut said Prime Minister Narendra Modi should concede defeat as people have rejected his government. "We have stopped Narendra Modi in Maharashtra. Narendra Modi should concede defeat as people have rejected his government," the Sena (UBT) leader said.

The Lok Sabha elections in Maharashtra were held in five phases between April 19 and May 20.

The Axis My India exit poll has predicted that the BJP-led NDA is likely to win 28-32 seats out of the total 48 while the INDIA bloc may win 16-20 seats in the state.

In Gujarat, Union Home Minister Amit Shah won from Gandhinagar with a wide margin of over 7.4 lakh votes. He contested against Sonal Ramanbhai Patel from the Congress.

Two-time sitting MP from

GenibenThakor of the Congress secured the Banaskantha Lok Sabha seat, defeating Rekha Chaudhary of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) by a margin of 30,000 votes.

The BJP had aimed to win all 26 seats in Gujarat for the third time.

Thakor emerged as the sole winner from her party. Banaskantha has been a BJP stronghold, with Parbatbhai Patel winning the seat in 2019 by defeating Congress's Parthi

Janata Party (BJP) candidate Mukesh Dalal was proclaimed the undisputed winner from the Surat seat.



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Back to a coalition

Whith the Bharatiya Janata Party falling well short of the half-way mark, and needing the support of whimsical allies such as N Chandrababu Naidu of the Telugu Desam and Nitish Kumar of the Janata Dal (U), India's politics has retreated to the era of coalitions, one where plans for big-ticket reforms such as the Uniform Civil Code, "One Nation, One Poll" or amending the Preamble, will have to yield space to the compulsions of keeping governance on an even keel. While there is no doubt that the National Democratic Alliance, cumulatively poised for an absolute majority, will form the government, its shape and direction will depend on how adroitly the dominant party within the grouping manages the demands of its partners. Certainly, the BJP is wise enough to know that the TDP and the JD (U) are not the most steadfast allies, led as they both are by politicians with Prime Ministerial ambitions.

Thus the BJP will also work hard on keeping its smaller alliance partners within the flock, and meeting their relatively smaller demands, while seeking numbers from outside the pre-poll coalition to ensure a degree of stability. In any event, this outcome will impact the decisive manner in which the BJP has ruled for the past 10 years, whether it was in introducing reforms or in dealing with political opponents.

An Opposition with more than 200 members in the lower house can make governance in the style the BJP has got used to quite difficult; compromise and accommodation will perforce be the new normal. At the same time, the BJP will need to introspect on where it went wrong, especially in Uttar Pradesh, where the Prime Minister saw his victory margin shrink substantially and the Faizabad (Ayodhya) seat seems to have been lost despite the temple brouhaha, and to a lesser extent in Maharashtra, West Bengal, Rajasthan and Assam. Having said that, the party will draw succor from its successes in Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat, and from the acceptance in the Kashmir valley of its narrative that politicians such as Mehbooba Mufti and Omar Abdullah are opportunists. The Opposition has no doubt got a shot in the arm, and there is no bigger gainer in this election than the Indian National Congress, a party written off by pollsters and pundits alike. As the natural leader of the Opposition, the party will have to practice its politics adroitly if it wishes to stake a claim to governance in 2029. For the first time in recent memory, the party was accommodative of allies and stitched together a viable coalition in the form of the INDIA alliance. In the days and years ahead, it will have to remember these lessons, and eschew the desire to revert to its overbearing ways, especially in dealing with political partners. Among regional parties, the Trinamul Congress, the DMK, the Samajwadi Party, the Shiv Sena faction of Uddhav Thackeray and the NCP of Sharad Pawar all have reason to be pleased by the results. While further analysis will have to await a fuller disclosure of the results and the positions that political formations take, a final point must be made. Exit polls, pollsters and analysts who had projected numbers far at variance from the results have been left with egg on their faces ~ it is time to accept that their projections are at best semi-educated guesses and must be taken with dollops of salt.

Presidential Amorality

George W Bush was questioned about the lies that took him to the Second Gulf War including claimed Weapons of Mass Destruction etc., but it was his father, George HW Bush, who was far more guilty of having brazenly manipulated lies to start the First Gulf War. He had infamously got a 15-year-old girl called 'Nayirah' to get coached and tearfully narrate to US Congressmen as to how Iraqi soldiers had removed babies from incubators and left them to die. She had ostensibly used an assumed name to protect herself. It was only years later that it turned out that she was no such victim but the daughter of the Kuwaiti Ambassador to US!







Babies are not for sale

he Department of Justice (DOJ) shared the good news that at least 500 Facebook accounts closely linked to the black market sale of babies had finally been taken down. The DOJ is not celebrating this feat, however, as it knows only too well that there are many more out there that are actively facilitating the outright sale of babies ~ in some cases by the parents themselves ~ to aspiring parents for some P50,000 each.

"[The online sale of babies] is still prevalent. There are still many accounts that have to be closed down," said Justice Assistant Secretary Jose Dominic Clavano IV, adding that the Marcos administration deems the trafficking of these babies so abhorrent that President Marcos himself wants to be involved. "The President believes the Philippines will not progress if it has such a problem," Clavano said.

As such, the DOJ, through its cybercrime division, has stepped up discussions with the National Bureau of Investigation, the Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking, and Facebook owner Meta, which it believes can and must do more to rid its site of these online sites enabling the sale and illegal adoption of babies.

Clavano said Meta should have more "initiatives, programs, and mechanisms to ensure the widespread protection of children online." The government had in fact been trying to convince Meta to ramp up their monitoring since 2020 when social media emerged as a popular platform for the clandestine baby trade. There have

AP and Odisha

political tsunami in Andhra Pradesh and a competitive battle in Odisha are what results of Aassembly elections in the two states have delivered. The sweeping victory of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) in Andhra Pradesh signals a dramatic shift in the state's political landscape. Meanwhile, in Odisha, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has mounted a successful challenge to the long-dominant Biju Janata Dal (BJD), making this election a crucial turning point for both states. In Andhra Pradesh, the TDP, under the leadership of N. Chandrababu Naidu, has stormed back to power, and will have a two-thirds majority on its own.

Its allies ~ the BJP and the Jana Sena Party – too have done well. The overwhelming mandate reflects a clear rejection of the YSR Congress Party led by Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy. The electorate's dissatisfaction with Mr Reddy's governance appears to have catalysed this landslide, propelling Mr Naidu and his allies to the forefront with promises of development and stability. Key figures like JSP's Pawan Kalyan and BJP's Y.S. Chowdary also made their mark, indicating a broad coalition appeal that resonated across different demographics. The NDA's comprehensive strategy, combining grassroots mobilisation and robust campaign rhetoric, effectively cashed in on anti-incumbency sentiment in the state. The TDP's return to power in Andhra Pradesh not only realigns state politics but also positions the NDA strongly for future electoral contests. At the same time, it will signal the end of the controversy about the state's new capital, while Mr Naidu's clout in the national coalition will mean that the demand for special status for the state will resonate loudly in New Delhi. In Odisha, the political landscape is witnessing a different kind of upheaval. The BJP's aggressive campaign targeting a popular Chief Minister's health and succession plans has paid dividends. The party is heading for a clear majority but the BJD has not entirely lost face. While the results have gone against him, Naveen Patnaik can draw solace from the fact that over the 24 years he ruled, he emerged as the tallest politician the state has ever produced. In many ways, he was the helmsman who transformed the state, and gave its people self-belief, without once being lured by the desire to play a role in national politics. The vote was not so much against his policies, as it was against his age, health and succession plans. As the dust settles on the election, Andhra Pradesh and Odisha are on the cusp of major transformations.

onald Reagan loved using the phrase "Shining city on a hill" as a metaphor for America and all its purported greatness. Implicit in the phrase were insistences of nobility, morality, and uprightness that were specifically American.

The romantic folklore of the 'greatest beacon of hope and democracy that the world has ever known" is from the same fount of American rah-rah-rah. Over time the same sentiment evolved into an even more rousing expression i.e., "American exceptionalism".

Again, it suggested unique virtues of honour, integrity and conduct that were inherently superior to all others. But is it true? Is there such a thing as 'American exceptionalism'? Was it ever so? Or is it yet another case of brilliant brand building with smooth storytelling in the highest temple of capitalism?

Part of this romantic notion and brand appeal extends to its bipartisan national leadership which like the country was invariably made of stellar leaders with impeccable credentials ~ righteous, honourable, and

upright. Like some comic book superheroes, the occupants to the Oval Office were always dashing men (because the gender glass ceiling hasn't been broken as yet in the White House) of steel in a world full of aimless straws blowing in the windy world! Or so we were made to believe, as the monopoly-on-truth was always with Uncle Sam.

Ironically in a rare Op-ed in the New York Times, the muchdespised Russian leader, Vladimir Putin noted, "It is extremely dangerous to encourage people

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authoritarian who can ill afford to talk of moral leadership, Putin did make solid points by putting the mirror in front of Americans, who pretended to be 'exceptional', and somehow superior in thought and action to all others.

They are undoubtedly the best storytellers and brand builders, but beyond that glib marketing, they are like the rest of

the world, or perhaps worse.

The current bonhomie between Washington DC and Delhi too, is a topical and

transactional necessity. In a deeply and dangerously fractured world (no longer Unipolar) it is even given to 'win-win' portents.

But it barely masks the historical hypocrisy and

amorality of the

US, when it comes to its conduct pertaining to India.

In the 1971 Indo-Pak war, the Americans were fully aware of the ground atrocities and genocide as reported by the American Consul General at Dhaka ~ but they ignored the same and knowingly kept supporting the ironfisted dictator, General Yahya Khan.

Even more despicably, they had menacingly sailed their 7th Fleet into the Bay of Bengal, but it was too late, as Dhaka had fallen. Later, declassified White House transcripts from that time would point to the vilest and most ignoble form of Presidential racism and misogyny that got infamously exchanged between the President of the USA

must not forget that God created Actually, US Presidential President Andrew Johnson and ty is not an exception but the duplicity is genealogical in that Bill Clinton to Nixongate and historic norm ~ Trump is only us equal." Despite it coming from an no less than the first Comman- John F Kennedy's personal dalunder the rule of law." on top of that dirty heap.

der-in-Chief or President, the much-revered George Washington, is guilty of attempting to rewrite a winning (though false) story of being the real victorious visionary over British forces in Yorktown in the Revolutionary Wars ~ when it was actually the French allies who had masterminded that battle in Virginia.

Washington's biographer

concocted the story of a young idealist George confessing to his father, "I can't tell a lie, pa" ~ which goes down popular conscience as a

sign of a precocious and moral prodigy, except that it was just a made-up story, not a fact.

Generations later, George W Bush was questioned about the lies that took him

to the Second Gulf War including claimed Weapons of Mass Destruction etc., but it was his father, George HW Bush, who was far more guilty of having brazenly manipulated lies to start the First Gulf War.

He had infamously got a 15year-old girl called 'Nayirah' to get coached and tearfully narrate to US Congressmen as to how Iraqi soldiers had removed babies from incubators and left them to die. She had ostensibly used an assumed name to protect herself.

It was only years later that it turned out that she was no such victim but the daughter of the Kuwaiti Ambassador to US! Whereas President George HW Bush had repeatedly invoked the 'Nayirah' story to galvanise the

liances ~ the murky details about affairs within White House kept tumbling out even as it kept up the moral posture of the 'American Dream' and its accompanying shenanigans.

However, the one to elevate amorality to a fine art is the incorrigible, still defiant, and dangerous Donald Trump.

His debauchery and unbecoming past notwithstanding, the Washington Post factchecker recorded 30,573 lies or misleading statements made by the President in his tumultuous tenure, a shocking average of 21 per day!

A brilliant (if Machiavellian) proponent of the 'Big Lie' technique, his deviousness and knavishness continues to date, as he attempts to stage a surreal comeback, after his recent conviction.

Officially, the candidate of the Republican Party is a felon who could be in jail. But as the framers of the Constitution would have never imagined such a situation, there doesn't seem to be anything that debars him from continuing campaigning or denial of presidency, even if he were to be

behind bars. This recent case of falsifying business records in order to book hush money paid to a lady does not come as any surprise to Trump supporters who even gloat of his 'ingenuity' and All-American Hero persona!

Beyond Trump, it says something about the American electorate per se when in the last 2020 Presidential elections, when much of his peccadilloes and amorality were well established he had still managed 47.8 per cent of popular votes to Joe Biden's 51.3 per cent.

INQUIRER

been some results as seen in the taking down of an increasing number of sites, but still far from expectations.

To help compensate, the DOJ has also enlisted the help of the Filipino public to immediately report illegal activity that may surface on their feed.

But while these initiatives are laudable and should be encouraged, the government should double down on putting the actual criminals behind bars to send a clear and unequivocal signal that these horrendous activities will not be tolerated. Justice Secretary Jesus Crispin Remulla set the right tone when he said that "children are the most precious treasures of society meant to be fully protected by law."

"They are the best investments of today for a better tomorrow. We will never allow anyone to exploit them in any way," Remulla added.

The DOJ has taken a decisive step in this direction after filing qualified trafficking and child exploitation charges against 29-year-old Ma. Chariza Dizon, who tried to sell her 8day-old baby boy for P50,000 to P90,000 with the help of a government employee, Arjay Malabanan, who acted as her broker.

The boy has since been turned over to the Department of Social Welfare and Development while Dizon and Malabanan are facing a life sentence if found guilty of qualified trafficking and child exploitation.

And the reach of the law should extend not just to the peddlers but to the buyers, too, as they are participants in the trafficking scheme that use the anonymity of the internet to carry out their nefarious deeds.

The genuine desire to be parents is not an excuse because there are legal ways to adopt a child.

The National Authority for Child to see themselves as exceptionand his Secretary of State ~ India While it is still for the Amernational mood and launch Care (NACC) of the DSWD has already al, whatever the motivation..... and Indira Gandhi in particular ican courts and the citizenry to issued the reminder: "We enjoin the We are all different, but when we were the specific targets of the **Operation Desert Storm.** decide the future course of From impeachments of public not to patronize or engage in ask for the Lord's blessings, we uncouth Presidential diatribe. action, US Presidential amoraliadoption via online ... This is trafficking in persons and you will be held liable

BHOPINDER SINGH

Governor of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Puducherr

The writer is Lt Gen PVSM AVSM (Retd), and former Lt



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

editor@thestatesman.com

Uncertainty in SA

political scenario of South Africa where the African National Congress (ANC) has lost its political monopoly after ruling the coun-

try for three decades. Election results showed that the party had fallen short of winning an absolute majority for the first time since the end of apartheid in 1994. The ANC which rose to international acclaim on the shoulders of Nelson Mandela is now busy trying to buy its majority in Parliament, which elects the president. It has two weeks to cobble together a government and elect a President. The ANC received about 40 per cent of the vote, which was the largest share but a dramatic drop from the nearly 58 per cent it received in 2019. Rival parties, however, have derided the ANC as corrupt and have vowed never to form an alliance with it. A big question now is whether the ANC would ally with Jacob Zuma, its former leader, who resigned as president in 2018

because of corruption allegations.

SIR, There is a tectonic shift in the A new party that he helped start just six months ago won almost 15 per cent of the vote.

The Democratic Alliance drew the second-largest share, nearly 22 per cent. It is a potential ally for the ANC, but some ANC members have accused the Alliance of promoting policies that would essentially take the country back to apartheid. Incidentally South Africans face one of the world's highest unemployment rates, shortages of electricity and water, and rampant crime. Many voters see the ANC as something of a relic. ANC leaders will have to pull together their highly factionalized party to form a coalition and try to remain relevant in South African politics.

Yours, etc., Shovanlal Chakraborty, Kolkata, 3 June.

LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

SIR, The centre-page article in today's edition, "Language and thinking-I," has raised many pertinent questions regarding the interrelationships between language, thinking and culture.

In a 2008 publication, "The Legacy of French Rule in India (1674 to 1954): An investigation of a process of Creolization," I extensively used the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis mentioned by the author in an attempt to analyze the difference between a Tamilian of French ancestry and an anglophone Tamilian in the erstwhile French colony of Puducherry. In my opinion, this hypothesis has a significant validity and is not to be dismissed as has been so by scholars such as the linguist Guy Deutscher as quoted by the writer. What is required is a judicious negotiation between the strong and weak versions of the hypothesis bringing into play the related notions of acculturation, deculturation, assimilation and creolization.

It is only after the acquisition of a certain critical mass of this linguistic, cultural and cerebral combination that the hypothesis becomes relevant. This can be amply demonstrated by having an informal conversation in French with a francophone Puducher-

rian as opposed to having a conversation in English with a local Puducherrian.

The stimuli which one would receive from each would be different thus taking into account the weak version of the hypothesis whereas the different worldviews of the duo would be reflective of the strong version as the francophone Puducherrian's

would be similar to that of a Senegalese or a Tunisian whereas the anglophone Puducherrian's would be akin to that of a Gujarati or a Bengali.

In the final analysis, these two individuals would be illustrative of differences between French and British colonialism. Yours, etc., Animesh Rai,

Noida, 2 June.

WINS AND LOSSES

SIR, With reference to your report, "BJP secures landslide victory in Arunachal, wins 46 of 60 seats", Prema Khandu's victory has established him as a power centre in the state of Arunachal Pradesh. And he has successfully filled the void created after his father Dorjee Khandu's death. There are some serious questions for the Congress though as this is the state which it ruled for three decades. In this election it even found it difficult to put up candidates in all the seats and contested only 19. And some of its candidates were not even aware of the last date for nominations. In Sikkim, Sikkim Krantikari Morcha won an unprecedented mandate winning 31 out of 32 seats, thanks to Prem Singh Tamang's common man's chief minister image and his pro poor measures like Rs 2000 per month to unmarried women. BJP which parted ways with SKM just before the elections would be sulking big time as it got zero seats in the state. Hope both governments will work for the betterment of their people in the next five years and bring development and job opportunities. Yours, etc., Bal Govind, Noida, 3 June.





Institutional arbitration must get some teeth

P. MADHAVA RAO

n 30 July 2017, Justice B.N. Srikrishna, Retired Judge, Supreme Court of India, Chairperson of the High-Level Committee to Review the Institutionalisation of Arbitration Mechanism in India, submitted his report on the need to institutionalise arbitration mechanisms in India. The Government of India took prompt notice of the report and made the necessary amendments to the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, which have yet to be notified in order to become operational.

With the amendments to the Arbitration and Conciliation Act 1996 in 2019 and 2022, the Government of India ushered in a new era in India's arbitration system, which was previously limited to courts and individual choices. Historically, disputes within families and communities have been resolved by elders. In feudal societies, only a few cases were resolved by monarchs or other formal dispute resolution systems.

Formal judicial systems, or today's courts, evolved alongside the development of democracies and other widely accepted forms of government. India is not exempt from this rule. As the rights-based approach to justice delivery gains traction on a global scale, bureaucratic processes stifle access to justice. The growing burden of over 4.9 crore pending cases in Indian courts has prompted policymakers to consider strengthening



alternative dispute resolution (ADR) mechanisms.

The institutionalisation of arbitration was expected to bring about a paradigm shift in Indian arbitration jurisprudence, allowing arbitration centres to professionally manage arbitration cases directly from disputants without interference or reference by courts. The only requirement for these institutions to arbitrate a dispute is the existence of an arbitration clause in the disputants' contracts or their mutual agreement to arbitrate.

the Supreme Court of India. This was India's first International Arbitration Centre, with headquarters in New Delhi and regional centres in Bengaluru and Hyderabad.

The ICADR was established in 1995 under the Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India, with the goal of promoting alternative dispute resolution methods and providing facilities for them. This was part of a larger agenda to facilitate quick dispute resolution and reduce the burden on courts. The ICADR is a Society registered with the SRA that operates autonomously.

Arbitration, and more specifically Institutional Arbitration, provides an opportunity for parties to dispute the performance or non-performance of agreed-upon activities under any contract that binds them. Property disputes, financial disputes, partnership disputes, franchise disputes, construction disputes, and any other commercial or business disputes may be arbi-

Institutions and file their cases for arbitration without the assistance of lawyers or advocates, as opposed to litigating. Arbitration preserves time, money, and relationships.

Despite much talk about institutionalising arbitration through seminars, workshops, and arbitration weeks, as well as comments from none other than India's honourable vicepresident that it was becoming an "old boys club," the speed with which the Act was amended is not evident in its implementation. Section 11(3A) of the Act requests that the High Courts and Supreme Court designate Arbitration Institutions, which remains a nonstarter, and the Arbitration Institutions' applications are pending with the High Courts for unknown reasons.

Four years after the law was passed, the promised Arbitration Council of India, which would authorise and regulate arbitration institutions, is yet to be fully operational. Except for a small number of Arbitration Institutions founded and funded by well-known law firms, state governments do not provide support for other professionally established Arbitration institutions. Thus, there is an urgent need for the Centre and all High Courts in the country to take note of the Arbitration Institutions operating in each state and designate them as Arbitration Institutions in order to alleviate the much-discussed burden on courts and make India a hub for Alternative **Dispute Resolution.**

US) **100 YEARS AGO OCCASIONAL NOTE**

TheStatesman

KOLKATA, WEDNESDAY 05 JUNE 2024

THE All-India Muslim League wants Swaraj at once, and has passed a resolution to that effect. On the other hand, it has also regretted the fact that Hindu-Muslim relations in various parts of the country are greatly strained. In order to reconcile the first resolution with the conditions postulated by the second, it has passed a third with a view to guaranteeing the continuance of the Muslim majorities in the Punjab and Bengal. In moving the original resolution, Sheikh Abdul Qadir pointed out that "there must be some guarantee so that people might live at peace when Swaraj was attained." Now that the All- India Muslim League has passed the resolutions above referred to, the guarantee has presumably been given. But who is going to see that it is carried out?



INDIAN HOME RULE

MRS. ANNIE BESANT'S PREDICTION

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Speaking in London last night Mrs. Annie Besant said that the only way to prevent relations between Britain and India becoming like those that existed between England and Ireland during the Irish war, was for England to deal with India in a spirit of fairness.

England ought to realize that India

The Justice Srikrishna committee examined the operations of the International Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution (ICADR), India's only international arbitration centre overseen by the Government of India and

No one is aware of ICADR's presence anywhere in the country, and it is unclear whether it died naturally or was suffocated by private institutions.

trated if a contract includes arbitration as a dispute resolution mechanism.

The arbitration institutions maintain complete confidentiality throughout the procedure. Small and medium-sized businesses, the construction industry, civil contractors, families seeking property division among siblings, and others with arbitrable cases can walk into the offices of Arbitration

(The writer is former Senior Advisor, United Nations Development Programme.)

was capable of governing herself and that the constitution should be drawn up by the Indians them-selves.

Mrs. Besant said she knew that Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's heart was with them, and if Labour was returned with a majority at the next election, India would get Home Rule.

LORD OLIVIER WHY FAMOUS **LETTER WAS PUBLISHED**

WITH reference to the questions in the House of Commons regarding the letter of Lord Olivier to Mr Satyamurthi, in a statement to the press Mr. Satyamurthi says that he took the entire responsibility for the publication of the same because (1) the letter was not marked private as letters of men occupying similar positions to Lord Olivier were marked "private" when not intended for publication; (2) the subject matter of the letter was only on public matters on which the Secretary of State had expressed-himself before; and (3) the correspondence was purely in a public capacity.

Mr. Satyamurthi regrets that he is not in position to publish his letter to Lord Olivier since he has not kept a copy, but he has no objection to the publication of the letter. To the best of his recollection he did not object in that letter to communal representation as such, but only took exception to the Ministry being formed on a communal and non-political basis.

Mr. Satyamurthi says that his object in publishing the letter was merely to promote a better understanding between the progressive elements in India and England, and not to create any difficulties for the Labour Government or Lord Olivier. If he has unwittingly done so he sincerely regrets it.

HEDJAZ PILGRIMS PREPAYMENT OF RETURN PASSAGES

The following has been issued by the Government of Bengal: "It is understood from information

received from the Government of Bom-

bay that, by agreement with the princi-

pal shipping companies engaged in the

Israel's isolation grows as war continues

AMRIT POUDEL

ashid Khalidi, in his acclaimed work *Hundred Years of War on Palestine*, outlines the Zionist control over the statehood of Palestine, inter alia, initially through British imperialism and then by American hegemonic ambitions. The longest conflict of the 21st century has erupted into a full-fledged war, this time with Hamas at the forefront, fighting for Palestinian statehood. While Israel maintains military dominance over the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, recent events have shattered its image of having an unbreachable defense and a powerful, moral military. In this piece, we will examine the events that have unfolded since the armed incursion and their implications.

Following the Palestinian "intifadas" (uprisings) in 1987 and 2000 against Israeli occupation, Palestinians have continued their struggle through various means, including protests, boycotts, art and theatre. Though these intifadas led to the signing of the Oslo Accords and Israeli disengagement from Gaza, respectively, they have not yielded significant results. Soon after, despite being considered a terrorist organisation by countries like the United States, Hamas secured a victory over the ruling party, Fatah, in the second Palestinian Legislative Election held in 2006. The rise of Hamas, driven by anti-Zionist and anti-imperialist ideologies, led to several Israeli raids in Gaza and the West Bank, resulting in the capture of senior leaders and the imposition of sanctions. Fast forward to 7 October 2023, Hamas carried out an armed incursion (Operation Al-Aqsa Flood) from the Gaza Strip into Southern Israel and took Israeli hostages as leverage for the diplomatic efforts. While this



However, the extreme measures

to hold Yemen responsible for its action, which involved the bombing of Yemeni military facilities along with the UK and the formation of a multinational force to protect trade in the Red Sea, has failed.

Additionally, the possibility of Hezbollah - a Lebanese political and military group led by Hassan Nasrallah, which has been very vocal in its support for the ongoing resistance by Hamas - joining the conflict fullfledged still lingers as Israel and Hezbollah continue to engage in frequent skirmishes on parts of Israel-Lebanon border, occupied Golan Heights and Syria. However, this would be a big blow to Netanyahu's government, as Hezbollah is a far superior military group than Hamas. Losing support at home and flexing its military prowess, Netanyahu's government struck the Iranian Embassy Complex in Syria, killing 16 people, including eight members of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) in April. One can also interpret this attack as a sign of

Israeli frustration with the Iranianbacked resistance groups in the region (including Hamas, Hezbollah and other proxies) and an attempt to drag the US into a confrontation. This attack, condemned by numerous countries, led to Iran retaliating with missile and drone strikes on some Israeli military bases. The response by the Iranians to the unprecedented attack on its embassy sent a clear message to both the United States and the Israelis about its military arsenal and its readiness to retaliate against any escalation. This event not only exposed a gaping hole in Israel's defense but also

Since the start of the conflict, the Palestinian death toll has exceeded 35,000, with 80,000 more injured. The repercussions of these events are sure to leave an indelible mark on Israel's image, as the International Criminal Court has sought legal action by issuing an arrest warrant against Prime Minister Netanyahu and Defence Minister Gallant. In the diplomatic fallout, Bolivia has severed all diplomatic ties with Israel, while Chile, Colombia, Jordan, Bahrain, Honduras, Turkey, Chad, South Africa and Belize have recalled

Additionally, pro-Palestinian protests across US campuses, which later spread to Europe and other regions, have dealt a significant blow to Israel, both from the public relations and diplomatic perspective. To add to that, talks on a two-state solution have gained much more momentum in the international community, and recently, Norway, Ireland and Spain have announced their willingness to recognise Palestine.

However, the growing isolation of Israel in the international community has had little to no effect on its approach to the ongoing conflict. Days after the International Court of Justice (ICJ) ruling to stop the Rafah offensive, Israel conducted an air strike, which left hundreds of civilians dead, including children.

The silence of Western countries at a time when humanity is at stake is both tragic and horrifying. In contrast,

their ambassadors.

taken by the Israeli government led by Benjamin Netanyahu have proved catastrophic in a geopolitical context and are far from achieving its goal of eradicating Hamas. Moreover, the adventure has become an uphill battle for the Israelis and their allies.

Houthis in Yemen joined the force of resistance by blocking the passage of the Red Sea for Israeli ships and its allies. The initiative of the US

etched Iran as a formidable power in the region.

Furthermore, the ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict has left inedible repercussions on Israel's standing in the global community. The harrowing images and videos coming out of the Gaza Strip have left the international governing body speechless and have led people to reason for Israel as a genocidal state.

to show strong support for the Israeli government, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives Mike Johnson recently invited Netanyahu to speak in the US Congress. It is likely to undermine US diplomacy and its credibility as a peacekeeper across the globe in the future as it facilitates Israel's conduct of a war that's been argued to be a "genocide".

The Kathmandu Post/ANN.

2 3 4 5	6 7 8	ACROSS	15 Patient daughter looked around before taking on job?	27 Where patient might go when heart`s lost pulse	8 Bored about wife's
				(4)	ostentatious display (5)
		TERDAY'S SOLUTION 1 Chastise wife the against child (5) TOTION 4 Small object doe	as advertised on the radio	28 Polish hospital observed nurses (5)	 12 Office staff concealed sign (11) 13 Exposed weaknesses in
		MENTECATIONS small volume (4)		DOWN	principle (3)
		NEIL A FILL A Some surprising	• •		14 Speed of racing driver going flat out (9)
		ENTOFIROIH growth? (4)	(9)	1 Queen's cut up about poet (5)	16 What appears regularly in
		ESTMANDOLIN BSZZEZAA	ccepted as organisation preserving	2 Building on hill in deserted city (7)	diary? (3) 18 Gas starts to oxidise metal,
18 19	20 E M P	HASISEDRUMUP 10 Reunifying divid	international philanthropy led African (15)	3 Lofty idealist's ultimate motive for betrayal (4,7)	affecting main supply (7)
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		DILERCOASTER 11 Skinhead perha		information from man in pub	implicated if I censure banks
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		U A E E R C O 13 Individuals who		back on applause (9)	during speeches (5)
25	BOR	DERLINE AKIN qualified to bet	on race 26 Church official cited over	7 I believe texting about	22 Term for being "in control" (5)

pilgrim traffic, third class tickets for the voyage to the Hedjaz are not issued unless a deposit of Rs. 60 is made with the Company to cover the cost of return passage in addition to the fare to the Hedjaz. This involves no increase in the total expense of the pilgrimage, and, as pilgrims leaving from Bengal will normally take with them funds to cover the journey to the Hedjaz and the return, it will make little practical difference. It is thought desirable to publish the information, however, for the convenience of pilgrims from Bengal on their arrival in Bombay."

LONDON TEA SALES

GOOD INQUIRY FOR ALL GRADES

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Reporting on the London tea market Messrs. W. J. and H. Thom son state that during the week the quantities brought forward have totalled 42,000 packages of Indian teas, 19,000 packages of Ceylon teas, and 6,000 packages of Java teas.

The market is strong, and there is a good inquiry for all grades and qualities; the tone is active with a tendency to advance. Withdrawals have been few.-Copyright.





THUMBNAILS

TBO Tek announces FY24 results: TBO Tek Limited, a travel distribution platform announced its audited financial results for the Q4-FY 2024 and financial year 2024. The company which recently went public with IPO posted strong growth with revenue at Rs. 1393 crore, a 31 per cent increase YoY and profit after tax at Rs 201 Cr, a 35% Increase YoY.

Adani One, ICICI Bank launch credit cards: Adani One and ICICI Bank today launched India`s first co-branded credit cards with airportlinked benefits in collaboration with Visa. Available in two variants – Adani One ICICI Bank Signature Credit Card and Adani One ICICI Bank Platinum Credit Card – they offer a comprehensive and substantial reward programme. The cards come with a plethora of benefits designed to enhance the cardholders` lifestyle and elevate their airport and travel experience.

Job portals saw 22 pc surge in job postings in India over past year: Job portals have witnessed a surge of 22 per cent in job postings in India over the past year, a new report showed on Tuesday. According to HR recruitment company CIEL HR, the number of job postings in December 2022 was 7,143, while in February 2024 it was 8.746. About 65 per cent of Indian startups are now planning to ramp up hiring over the next six months. The report is based on the analysis of 130,896 employees working in 70 startups operating in the country. Last year, the startup ecosystem faced challenges due to economic uncertainty and cautious investor sentiment, which led to a decline in funding and hiring activity. "However, there is optimism for the future, with a majority of startup employees expressing confidence in increased hiring intent over the next six months," the report said. With automation and digitisation cutting across all industry verticals, software development stands top in terms of talent requirement closely followed by sales roles in pre-sales, retail sales and enterprise sales. Moreover, a significant 67 per cent of startup employees expressed openness to transitioning to established companies.

Stock markets witness worst fall in 4 years

The broader market also ended deep in the red, with the BSE SmallCap closing down 6.79 per cent and the BSE MidCap down 8.07 per cent

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, 4 JUNE

he stock market wit-nessed a bloodbath on vote counting day as it delivered a surprising outcome on Tuesday. Market participants expressed concern as despite securing a clear mandate, the BJP-led NDA is not returning with a stronger majority as expected in exit polls.

The market saw its worst fall in the last 4 years since March 2020 and erased all of Monday's gains after exit polls predicted strong numbers for the BJP.

Volatility surged with the India VIX jumping nearly 40% to above 29. This is the biggest jump in the volatility index in at least 9 years.

All sectors were in the red with bank stocks falling by 7.8 per cent, realty dropping



by 9.1 per cent, infrastrucand 16 per cent, respecture declining by 10.5 per tively.

KBK Infographics

cent, and oil and gas stocks The Sensex opened lower losing 11.7 per cent. Stateat 76.285.78 and fell drasrun companies and banks tically to touch a low of retreated by 17 per cent 70,234.43 during intraday The Sensex opened lower at 76,285.78 and fell drastically to touch a low of 70,234.43 during intraday trades. At close, Sensex was at 72,079.05, down 4,389.73 points, or 5.74 per cent.

Nifty 50 opened lower at 23,179.50 and touched a low of 21,281.45 during the day. At close, the Nifty 50 was at 21,884.50, down 1,379.40 points, or 5.93 per cent.

trades. At close, Sensex was at 72,079.05, down 4,389.73 points, or 5.74 per cent.

Nifty 50 opened lower at 23,179.50 and touched a low of 21,281.45 during the day. At close, the Nifty 50 was at 21,884.50, down 1,379.40 points, or 5.93 per cent.

Investors' wealth eroded by around Rs 30 lakh crore, as the market capitalisation of BSE-listed companies slipped to Rs 395.99 lakh crore, from Rs 425.91 lakh crore in the previous session.

The broader market also ended deep in the red, with the BSE SmallCap closing down 6.79 per cent and the BSE MidCap down 8.07 per cent. Among the sectors, barring the FMCG index, which was up 0.95 per cent, all other sectoral indices closed deep in the red. The PSU Bank index was down more than 15%, while the Oil & Gas index was down 11.80 per cent, followed by the Metal and Realty indices. The Bank and Financial Services indices also lost

"This could lead to mean-

were set up for. "India valu-

ations have been expensive

for ordinary corporate earn-

ings growth," UBS wrote in

been the political stabili-

now some of those assump-

tions could come under ques-

emerging market context.

its note.

tion.

tion results. '81 pc firms paid

heavily.

laggards.

Banking heavyweights

State Bank of India (SBI)

had a significant role in the collapse. SBI plummeted

by an enormous 19 per cent,

reaching an intraday low of

Rs 732. Shares of Bank of Bar-

oda, PNB, SBI, Bandhan

Bank, Axis Bank, and

IndusInd Bank, among oth-

ers, slipped up to 9 per

cent, as against a 5 per cent

decline in the Bank Nifty

index. On the election out-

comes, experts pointed out

that a slim majority for

NDA may trigger short-

term uncertainty on the

policy front. However, the

overall outlook for the Indi-

an stock market may not

retreated as global investors

awaited India's official elec-

Asian share markets

drastically change.

HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank

were among the top three



Power stocks witness major downturn amid profit-booking on counting day



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI, 4JUNE**

The power stocks on Tuesday saw a major downturn due to profit-booking in response to initial indications of a mixed outcome in the results for Lok Sabha elections.

The BSE Power index plummeted as much as 8.71%, hitting an intraday low of 7,562.72 levels.

The index had surged as much as 8.15% on Monday after exit polls indicated a decisive victory for the BJPled NDA.

During the morning trade, Adani Green, Adani Energy, and Adani Power saw whopping declines of 18.29%, 14.18%, and 13.6%, respectively. Another key stock, Suzlon, dropped 4.98%.

Other major players such as BHEL, NTPC, Power Grid, NHPC, ABB, CG Power, Tata Power, Siemens, and JSW Energy also saw notable declines ranging from 4.50% to 9.90%.

Realty reality: Top Indian cities to add

45 mn sq ft of retail space in next 5 years

retail market moving towards

RITWIK MUKHERJEE KOLKATA, 4 MAY

developments. Out of the 88 upcoming The next five years, that is Q2 2024 - end 2028, will see a retail developments in the next five years, there will be 12 surge in organized retail space completions. The top seven cities (Mumbai, Delhi NCR, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Pune, Kolkata, Chennai) in India are expected to welcome nearly 45 million sq. ft. through 88 new retail developments, outpacing the supply of the past decade (2014-2023), which was close to 38 million sq. ft.

In response to the evolving preferences of modern shoppers seeking unique experiences, developers are increasingly prioritizing the development of larger retail centres. Recent data from JLL suggests that upcoming retail developments will be larger in size compared to those that became operational in the last decade. Over the past ten years, the average size of new retail supply was nearly 391,099 sq. ft. However, this is expected to increase by 30 per cent to reach 507,341 sq. ft with the

large-sized projects encompassing area of at least 1 million square feet each. These projects will contribute a substantial portion, amounting to 37 per cent of the total supply expected until 2028. This marks a notable increase in comparison to the previ-

ous decade, where retail centres of 1 million square feet and above accounted for just 27 per cent of completed supply. Furthermore, Delhi NCR will see two retail centres of over 2.5 million sq. ft each in the next 5 years, said Dr Samantak Das, Chief Economist and Head Research & REIS, India, JLL.

Increasing global travel has heightened shoppers' awareness, leading to a demand for unique and immersive retail experiences. Larger developments incorporating entertainment, leisure activities, and dining options are creating comprehensive destinations that cater to the modern consumer. Majority (78 per cent) of

of nearly 45 million sq. ft is larger-sized experience-led lease-based that allows developers to have greater control over the quality of the tenant mix and day-to-day management of the property, thus enabling them to command higher rentals. As a result, they can curate a diverse mix of tenants that align with their vision for the development.

the upcoming retail supply

"The existing retail stock, which stands at 89 million sq. ft, is expected to grow by 50 per cent and reach 134 million sq. ft by end-2028. Delhi NCR is expected to garner the highest share (43 per cent) in the supply in the next five years followed by Hyderabad with a share of 21 per cent and Chennai having a share of 13 per cent. Retail assets remain an attractive investment avenue for large foreign institutional investors, who are increasingly opting for greenfield and brownfield development platforms. Interestingly, 16 per cent (7.2 million sq. ft) of the new supply is owned by institutional players," said Rahul Arora, Head of Office Leasing Advisory and Retail Services, India, JLL.

Brokerage firm UBS remains underweight on India amid election results

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, 4 JUNE

UBS, a leading brokerage firm, on Tuesday released a report on the Lok Sabha election results, saying the valuations are expensive, and remain 'underweight' on India.

The report highlighted the possibility that the BJP might not cross the 272mark on its own, paving the way for a coalition government to return after 10 years tion parties coming to power. in India.

It further mentioned three ingful changes in the trajecemerging scenarios. tory of government policies,"

back as the Prime Minister, carrying along the alliance partners. The government may not function as smoothly as in the last 10 years when the PM office had strong control over all the govern-

ment machinery," it said. The second scenario it highlighted is that the NDA will form the government but with a new Prime Minister other than Narendra Modi.

The third scenario it mentioned is that some of the key alliance partners of the BJP switch sides, leading to the INDIA alliance of opposi-

Cancellation of one pair EMU trains between Bandel & Naihati stations

For shifting of Point No. 263A x 372 towards Howrah end due to inadequate Cross-over length over line no. 16 (yard line), 4 hours (from 09.00 hrs. to 13.00 hrs.) Power & Traffic Block will be necessary at Bandel station on UP & DN Naihati line on 05.06.2024 (Wednesday). Consequently, following EMU trains will remain cancelled on 05.06.2024 (Wednesday). From Bandel: 37536 & From Naihati: 37535. Note: (1) The Block will commence after arrival of 37529 Naihati-Bandel Local at Bandel (09.00 hrs.) on 05.06.2024 and after cencellation of block first train will be 37538 Bandel-Naihati Local on Down Naihati line on 05.06.2024. (2) Special or Late running trains during block period, if any, will be 11/11/2019. suitably diverted/controlled enroute. Passengers are requested to follow the public address system of stations. Inconvenience is regretted. **Divisional Railway Manager, Howrah**

ransom to end cyberattack, recover data, for 3rd year in a row'

AGENCIES

NEW DELHI, 4 JUNE About 81 per cent of organisations globally have paid ransom to end a cyberattack and recover data for the third year in a row, a new report revealed on Tuesday.

According to the USbased IT firm Veeam, one in three of these organisations that paid the ransom still could not recover even after paying. In addition, for the third year in a row, more organisations 'paid, but could not recover' than those organisations that 'recovered without paying'. "Ransomware is endemic, impacting 3 out of 4 organisations in 2023. AI is now enabling the creation of smarter, more advanced security, but it's also facilitating growth in the volume of sophistication of attacks," said Dave Russell, SeniorVP, Head of Strategy at Veeam.

The brokerage also went The report surveyed 1,200 on to say that one of the respondents -- comprised of arguments behind India's CISOs (or executives with simrich valuations could have ilar responsibilities), security professionals, and backup ty/policy certainty that a administrators. strong government gave but

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

Therefore, UBS remains KOLKATA(DRT 3) 8th Floor, Jeevan Sudha Buildir underweight on India in the 2-C, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Kolkata-70 Case No.: 0A/755/2017 Summons under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, read with ib-rule (2A) of rule 5 of the Debt Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1993. Exh. No.: 2475 BANK OF INDIA SURENDRA NATH JAISWAL SURENDRA NATH JAISWAL 45A, B.L SAHA ROAD, GROUND FLOOR KOLKATA Kolkata, WEST BENGAL-700053 SUMMONS

As of 12 noon on Tuesday, the Sensex continues its downward trend, down by 4470.38 points, trading at 71,998.40. IndiaVolatilityIndex(VIX),

has advanced 30% in the session after tanking 15%. INDIA VIX has inched 7.21 points, or 34.38% higher at 28.17.

Most PSU stocks are under free fall after trends suggest BJP may fall below 272 seats. As per trends emerging on the voting count day, the BJP-led NDA is poised to return to power but with a weaker majority compared to last two elections. BJP has inched closer to the 300-mark

according to the latest trends.

Form No. 3 See Regulation-15 (1)(a)]/ 16(3) DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL KOLKATA (DRT 3) 8th Floor, Jeevan Sudha Building, 42-C, Jawahar Lal Nehru Road, Kolkata- 700 071 Case No.: TA/985/2014 [Summons under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, read with sub-rule (2A) of rule 5 of the Debt Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1993] Exh. No.: 4181 ICICI BANK LIMITED ABHAY KUMAR SINGH (1) ABHAY KUMAR SINGH **34A, AUROBINDO SARANI** KOLKATA, KOLKATA, WEST BENGAL- 700 005 ALSO AT 6/46, PATHURIAGHAT STREET, KOLKATA- 700 006.

SUMMONS

WHEREAS, TA/985/2014 was listed before Hon'ble Presiding Officer/ Registrar on 29/04/2024 WHEREAS this Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue summons/ notice on the said Application under section 19(4) of the Act, (OA) filed against you for recovery of debts of Rs. 1366531/- (application along with copies of documents etc.

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

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

(ii) to disclose particulars of

properties or assets other than

properties and assets specified

by the applicant under serial

number 3A of the original

(iii) you are restrained from

dealing with or disposing of

secured assets or such other

application;

SEBI sets up committee to review ownership, economic structure of clearing corporations

AGENCIES NEW DELHI, 4 JUNE

Financial market regulator SEBI has formed a committee to review the ownership and economic structure of clearing corporations and suggest measures to ensure that those entities function as resilient, independent, and neutral risk managers.

will be chaired by Usha Thoof India (RBI).

SITUATION

The market regulator said given the substantial growth of Indian securities markets in recent years, clearing corporations as central risk management institutions are

while most clearing corpo-A2018 report of the Com-The ad-hoc committee mittee on review of regula- rations in India were 100 per permitted.

tions and relevant circulars pertaining to Market Infrastructure Institutions (MIIs), headed by R Gandhi (referred

Electrical Works, Event

Management Partners,

rat, who was a former Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank

addition of new supply dur-

ing Q2 2024-2028. This sig-

nifies a notable trend in the

to as Gandhi Committee), had noted that the ownership of MIIs should be dispersed and should be widely held. With respect to clearing corporations, the committee

important. had specifically noted that

cent owned by a single exchange, given that clearing corporations are risk bearing MIIs, it is highly desirable that they should be widely held.

Further, the Gandhi Committee had also noted that with the clearing corporations being sensitive and high riskbearing and risk managing entities, listing of clearing corporations should not be

Firstly, it highlighted that it added. the Modi government will UBS goes on to question come with an alliance, but the Indian market valuations, saying that this was not may not function smoothly. "Narendra Modi will come an election outcome that the current market valuations

Classified

SITUATION VACANT

Advertisement for **Research Grant**

Post Graduate and Post Doctoral Trainees interested in carrying out research related to Endocrinology are requested to contact the Endocrine Society of Bengal office (from Monday to Friday except Governfollowing address: ment holidays, 10.00 am to 1.00 pm) at the following Chapter. address: Hony. General Secretary, Endocrine Society of Ben-Room No 12, Deptt. of Endocrinology,

IPGME&R, Ronald Ross Building. 4th Floor, Room No 4, 244 AJC Bose Road, Kolkata 700020.

0al

The last date for submission of completed application is 30th June 2024.

ADVERTISEMENT during 05-06-2024 to 30-06-2024 -Advertisement for procurement by Saraswaty Press Ltd. and West Bengal Text Book Corporation Ltd. during 05-06-2024 to 30-06-2024 for various raw materials, consumables, spares, Equipment, Services Machines, various Finished Goods, Civil construction,

June 2024.

Scrap etc. Details are being VACANT posted at our following websites: www.saraswaty Advertisement for press.org.in / www.wbtext **Research Grant** bookcorporation.org.in Eligible vendors are invited Post Graduate and Post Doctora to participate in these tenfrainees interested in carrying out ders. esearch related to Diabetes are equested to contact the RSSDI WB office (from Monday to Friday CHANGE except Government holidays, **OF NAME** 0.00 am to 1.00 pm) at the Hony: General Secretary, RSSDfWB I Debanjana Das W/o Sudipta Roy Residing at Deptt. of Endocrinology, IPGME&R, HH-20/1/21, Gopal Ronald Ross Building, 4th Floor, Bhawan, Baguipara, Baguiati, Rajarhat, 44 AJC Bose Road, Kolkata 700020. Gopalpur(M), P.O.-Aswini The last date for submission of Nagar, W.B.-700159, Dist ompleted application is 30th N24 Pgs shall henceforth be known as Debanjana Roy as declared before the First Class Judicial TENDERS Magistrate Sealdah Court vide Affidavit No. 5226 Dated 03/06/2024. Debanjana Das and Debanjana Roy both are same and identical person.

PUBLIC NOTICES The Statesman NOTICE Smt. Suparna Ghosh CLASSIFIED nereby declaring that at present I am residing at a **TO BOOK** flat at top floor situated at premises No. 130, AN Bansdroni New Govt. Colony, Kolkata **ADVERTISEMENT** 700070. If there is any PLEASE other legal heir/heirs of the property please CALL contact with Anirban Chakraborty (Ph. No. 9804143363), F-681/06, 98307 80924 Advocate, Alipore Police Court, Kolkata 700027. (SHUBHRO **DEV MITRA) All Advertisements** 98308 74087 are carried Free of 033 4801 8471 cost on our website https:// epaper. thestatesman.com

EASTERN RAILWAY

CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF ADVANCED COMPUTING सीडैक **Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology** Govt. of India CDAC Anusandhan Bhawan, C-56/1, Sector-62, Noida-201309 Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), a premier research organization of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Govt. of India, carrying out R&D across a wide spectrum of ICT thematic areas, looking for the following IT / Computer professional, for project based positions for appointment on purely contract basis, for its Noida Centre in different areas like Project Management & Implementation of Design Linked Incentive Scheme / Electronics / VLSI / Chip design / Software Application Development / DevOps Engineer / UI / UX Designer / Microservices Architecture: Name of the Post Domain No. of

			Positions
Program Manager (9-15 years experience)	Project Management & Implementation Scheme / Electronics / VLSI / Microelect		2
Project Manager (9-15 years experience)	Software Design & Development / JAVA Project Management and Implementation		2
Senior Project Engineer (3-7 years experience)	Electronics / VLSI / Microelectronics		2
Senior Project Engineer (3-7 years experience)	JAVA, J2EE Software / Web Application Development, DevOps, Microservices A		17
Project Engineer (1-4 years experience)	JAVA, J2EE Software / Web Application Development, UI / UX Design	1	36
different domains and	andidates may visit: www.cdac.in for divisions, eligibility, remuneration online from 05-06-2024 onwards.		
Commencement of onli candidates	ine Registration of application by	05-06-/ (Wedne	

Last date for online registration of application by

Hon ble Presiding Officer/Registrar on

WHEREAS this Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue summons/notice on the said Application under section 19(4) of the Act, (OA) filed against you for recovery of debts of Rs. 2936809.71/- (application along with

WHEREAS, OA/755/2017 was listed before

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

assets and properties disclosed (i) to show cause within thirty days of the under serial number 3A of the original application, pending hearing and disposal of the service of summons as to why relief prayed for should not be granted; (ii) to disclose application for attachment of particulars of properties or assets other than properties and assets specified by the properties; (iv) you shall not transfer by way applicant under serial number 3A of the of sale, lease or otherwise, original application; (iii) you are restrained except in the ordinary course of from dealing with or disposing of secured his business any of the assets assets or such other assets and properties over which security interest is disclosed under serial number 3A of the created and/ or other assets and original application, pending hearing and properties specified or disclosed disposal of the application for attachment of under serial number 3A of the properties; (iv) you shall not transfer by way original application without the of sale, lease or otherwise, except in the prior approval of the Tribunal; ordinary course of his business any of the (v) you shall be liable to account assets over which security interest is created for the sale proceeds realised by and/or other assets and properties specified sale of secured assets or other or disclosed under serial number 3A of the assets and properties in the original application without the prior approval ordinary course of business and of the Tribunal; (v) you shall be liable to deposit such sale proceeds in the account for the sale proceeds realised by account maintained with the sale of secured assets or other assets and bank or financial institutions properties in the ordinary course of business holding security interest over such assets. You are also and deposit such safe proceeds in the account maintained with the bank or directed to file the written financial institutions holding security interest statement with a copy thereof furnished to the applicant and to appear before Registrar on

over such assets. You are also directed to file the written statement with a copy thereof furnished to the applicant and to appear before Registrar on 03/09/2024 at 10.30 A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence. Given under my hand and the seal of

this Tribunal on this date: 13/07/2023. Sd/- Registrar-in-Charge Government of India Ministry of Finance

Kolkata Debts Recovery Tribunal-3

Signature of the Officer

23/07/2024 at 10:30 A.M. failing which the application

shall be heard and decided in

Given under my hand and the

seal of this Tribunal on this date:

Authorised to issue summons

your absence.

24/05/2024.







CBC 06130/12/0002/2425

19-06-2024

(Wednesday)











candidates





tender document : Nil. Completion

period : 36 months. Date of closing

documents and other details can be

obtained from the website www.ireps.

gov.in The bidding for the tender is to

be submitted through e-tendering on

allowed against this tender and any

12.07.2024 at 15.00 hrs. The tender

EASTERN RAILWAY

Tender No. DL AMC EOT CRANE HWH 122 dated 31.05.2024. Sr Divisional Mechanical Engineer/ Diesel, Eastern Railway, Howrah DRM Building near Railway station, Howrah-711101 invites open E-Tender in single packet system against Tender No. DL_AMC_EOT CRANE_HWH_122 closing date 02.07.2024 at 15.00 hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Name of Work: Annual Maintenance Contract of 7 nos. EOT Crane at Diesel Shed, Eastern Railway, Howrah for 2 years. Advertised value : Rs. 1,02,95,550/ Earnest Money : Rs. 20,600/ Tender document cost: 0/-, Date/ Time of Uploading Tender 31.05.2024 at 12.45 hrs. Validity of offer : 120 days. Period of completion : 24 months. Bidding start date : 18.06.2024. Bidding style : Single rate for each schedule item. Contract type : Works Contract Category : Expenditure Ranking order for bids: Lowest to highest. Expenditure type: Capital (HWH-80/2024-25) (Works). Tender Notices are also available at Website www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

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ejected.

On behalf of the President of India, The Principal Chief Materials Manager North Central Railway, Prayagraj, (An ISO 9001: 2015 certified unit) invites the following E-Procurement Tenders

S. N.	Tender No.	Short Description	Qty.	Tender Opening Date
1	80231017C	Shell Gadus S 5 V 42 P 2.5 Grease	1342 Kgs	24.06.2024
2	80244000	Servoplex SHC-120 (IOCL) Grease	1700 Kgs	27.06.2024
3	80244101	Hydraulic Oil HLP-68	77180 LTR	05.07.2024
4	64235159	Hydraulic Pin Puller	23 Set	01.07.2024
5	64235108C	Seal Kit	962 Set	08.07.2024
6	64245022A	Fan Drive Motor	03 Nos.	01.07.2024
7	64245100A	Hydraulic Pump	07 Nos.	01.07.2024
8	64245082A	Shaft and Seal	08 Nos.	03.07.2024
9	64245083A	Shaft for Cutting Chain and Seal	09 Nos.	03.07.2024
10	64235079E	Adopter	5360 Nos.	03.07.2024
11	63245357	Polyethylene Dowels for Concrete Sleepers to RDSO Drg. No. T-3002	100000 Nos.	26.06.2024
12	63235125C	Manufacture and supply of Prestressed Monoblock Concrete Sleepers Sets (Pretensioned type) for BG Fan shaped Turn out 1 in 12 as per RDSO Drg. No. T-4218/T-4732	835 Set	24.06.2024
13	20242798	OIL INJECTOR PUMP COMPLETE	11 Nos.	01.07.2024
14	20231990B	ABUTMENT PIECE FOR TRACTION MOTOR	74 Nos.	28.06.2024

EASTERN RAILWAY Tender Notice No. : EL-17-24, dtd. 03.06.2024. E-Tenders are invited by EASTERN RAILWAY the Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer **Detailed Tender No. 6WTCAOCER** (G), Eastern Rallway, Asansol, Pin-2024-25 : Open E-Tender in Two 713301 from reputed tenderers Stage Reverse Auction System having valid Electrical contractor dated 31.05.2024. Tender for open licence and capable to complete the e-tendering is invited by the Chief following work financially : Name of Administrative Officer/Con, Eastern the work with its location Railway, Kolkata, 17, Netaji Subhas Asansol Division - DRM Building Road, Fairlie Place, Kolkata-700001 for cooling system in control office. Tender value : Rs. 59,96,269.30 the following work: Name of work: Earthwork in cutting and filling, Earnest Money: Rs. 1,19,900/-Cost of tender documents : Nil blanketing, construction of minor bridges, major bridges, RUB, ROB,

Date & time of closing & opening 25.06.2024 at 11.00 hrs retaining wall, level crossing, side drain Completion period for the work catch water drain, P.Way work and 90 days. Complete details can be other ancillary works in between seen in the Railways website Kalipahari to Asansol division including (ASN-72/2024-25) ireps.gov.in yard from IR Ch. 205.000 Km to 260.2

Tender Notices are also available at Website Km in connection with construction of www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in multi tracking Railway BG line. Approx Follow us at : M @EasternRailway value : Rs. 947.57,32,247.14. Earnest G @easternrailwayheadquarter Money: Rs. 1,00,00,000/-. Cost of



manual offer if received, shall not be Advt. No. AM 1847 accepted and will be summarily Applications are invited for (CON-24/2024-25) one post of Junior Tender Notices are also available at Website www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in Research Fellow under Follow us at : M @EasternRailway MoES funded Project in the G @easternrailwayheadquarter Department of Aerospace Engineering & Applied Mechanics, IIEST Shibpur. Please visit the website http://www.iiests.ac.in. (W. Code DRC-006/24-25)

under "Employment" for details. Dean (R&C)

Railway Locomotive Workshop,

Jamalpur , Dist. - Munger, Bihar,

Pin-811214 from reputed tenderers having sufficient experience,

capability and financial status for

the following work : Name of work

Comprehensive Annual Mainte

nance Contract (CAMC) of Vertical

Turret Lathe, Make - M/s Sahil

Alloys & Machine Tools, Betala

(Plant No. - 10786) of Wheel Shop/

Jamalpur for a period of 3 years.

Location of work : Eastern Railway

Workshop, Jamalpur, Munger

Bihar, Pin-811214. Tender value

Rs. 24,57,680/-. Bid Security/EMD:

Rs. 49,200/-, Cost of Tender

Tender closing date & time

location where complete details

of tender can be seen etc.

www.ireps.gov.in hyperlinked with

www.er.indianrailways.gov.in and

Dy. CME (Prod) office, Eastern

Railway, Locomotive Workshop,

Jamalpur on any working day. Note

Bidders/tenderers should ensure

that tender document along with all

the annexure have been perused by

them and have visited the site and

have satisfied themselves as to the

nature of work and the site

condition. For ready reference, GCC

may be downloaded from the

Ministry of Railways (Railway

Board) - Indian Railway website

whose download link is http://

www.indianrailways.gov.in/railway

board/uploads/directorate/civil engg

General Conditions of Contract Apri

Tender Notices are also available at Website

www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

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2022.pdf

(MISC-68/2024-25)

document :

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY EASTERN RAILWAY Tender Notice No. F/Dy.CME E-OPE TENDER NOTICE (Prod)/WMP/OFF/CAMC/Sahil-VTL-E-OPEN TENDER NOTICE NO. S&T/SEE/ 10786, dated 01.06.2024. Open

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY CORRIGENDUM SR DMM-Ajmer, acting for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tender against Tender No. 52245297 closing date 20/05/2924 at 14:25 Hrs.

JOONKOOK HWANG

SEOUL'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

Due to administrative reasons this tender will be opened from date 20/05/2024 at 14:25 Hrs to date 07/06/2024 at 14:30 Hrs., all others terms & conditions will remain unchanged. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this lender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Description of Work: Supply, Installation, testing & commis-sioning of 25 Watt VHF Set with 12 V/10 Amp SMPS Power Supply and 6.5 dB Antenna Model CP-22E and 30 Meter length RG213 Co-axia cable with suitable connectors at both ends Specifications as per RDSO/SPN/TC/107-2018 /er 2.1 or Latest. Quantity: 95 Nos. Revised date and time for submission of E-tender: Submission of E-tender up to 07/06/2024 at 14:30 Hrs. Website particular: www.ireps.gov.in Date of Corrigendum issued: 17.05.2024, 24.05.2024 & 03.06.2024 646-PM/24 646-PM/24

Malicious activities in cyberspace such as cyberattacks, the targeting of

critical infrastructure are already widely considered as amplified threats to international peace and security and they are transnational nature

EASTERN RAILWAY Open Tender Notice No. MC-OBHS-

LD-SYAE-24, dated 03.06.2024. Sealed tenders are invited by the Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer (Chg. & T/S), Eastern Railway, Howrah, DRM Building near Railway station, Howrah-711101 for the following work : Name of the work : On Board Housekeeping services and linen distribution in AC coaches of Mail/Express trains maintained at Sorting Yard Depot of Howrah Division. Eastern Railway for 3 years. Tender value: Rs. 57,87,45,468.01. Earnest Money to be deposited Rs. 30,43,800/-. Period of contract 36 months from the date of commencement of work. Website particulars for submission of tender online : www.ireps.gov.in Bid closing date & time : 24.06.2024 upto 12.00 hrs. (HWH-84/2024-25)

Tender Notices are also available at Website www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in Follow us at : @@EasternRailway G @easternrailwayheadquarter

US seeks UNSC backing for Gaza cease-fire plan

TheStatesman

KOLKATA, WEDNESDAY 05 JUNE 2024

Hamas has said it views US president Biden's proposals positively

AGENCIES

UNITED NATIONS, 4 JUNE

he United States urged the U.N. Security Council on Monday to support the threephase plan announced by President Joe Biden aimed at ending the nearly eight-month war in Gaza, freeing all hostages and sending massive aid into the devastated territory.

U.S. Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield said the United States circulated a draft resolution to the 14 other council members to back the proposal for ending the conflict that began with Hamas' surprise attack in southern Israel on Oct. 7 that killed some 1,200 people, mostly Israeli civilians.

"Numerous leaders and governments, including in the region, have endorsed this plan and we call on the Security Council to join them in calling for implementation of this deal without delay and without further conditions," she said in a statement.

The brief draft resolution, obtained by The Associated



accept it fully and implement his government if Netanyahu its terms without delay and agrees to a deal that doesn't without condition." Hamas eliminate Hamas. has said it views the propos-Netanyahu told parliaal "positively." ment's Foreign Affairs and

It makes no mention of Israeli acceptance of the deal.

When Biden made the announcement he called it an Israeli offer that includes an "enduring cease-fire" and Israeli withdrawal from Gaza if Hamas releases all hostages it is holding.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told his hardline governing partners Monday the proposal announced by Biden would meet Israel's goal of destroy-Press, would welcome the ingHamas, according to local May 31 deal announced by media. The ultranationalists have threatened to bring down

' COAST RAILWAY

Tender No. eT-M-CD-BBS-CCTV-AMC-09-24

Name of the Work: ANNUAL MAINTENANCE

CONTRACT OF CLOSED CIRCUI

SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM PROVIDED

IN LHB COACHES OF COACHING DEPOT

BHUBANESWAR, FOR A PERIOD OF

Advertised Value: ₹70,34,834.32, EMD

₹1,40,700/-, Cost of Tender Document

Bidding Start Date: 04.06.2024, Date &

time of Tender Closing: 18.06.2024.

Manual offers are not allowed against thir

tender, and any such manual offer received

Complete information including e-Tender

EASTERN RAILWAY

General

Sr. Coaching Depot Officer

Bhubaneswar

Station

Cleaning

Dusting)

(HWH-85/2024-25)

₹5,900/-, Completion Period: 12 Months.

been killed would be returned to their families. There would be a surge in humanitarian assistance, with 600 trucks a day entering Gaza.

In the second phase, all the rest of the living hostages would be released, including soldiers, and Israeli forces would withdraw from Gaza. Biden said if Hamas lives up to its commitments, the temporary cease-fire would become a "cessation of hostilities permanently."

About 250 people, mainly Israeli civilians, were abducted on Oct. 7, then more than 100 were freed in a short truce in late November and early December. Israel says about 80 hostages are believed to still be captive, alongside the remains of about 43 others.

Israeli bombardments and ground offensives in Gaza, which Hamas has ruled, have killed more than 36,000 Palestinians, according to Gaza's Health Ministry, which does not distinguish between combatants and civilians.

The third phase of the plan announced by Biden calls for the start of a major reconstruction of Gaza, which faces decades of rebuilding from devastation caused by the war.

Note: The complete information of above tenders can be seen and downloaded from IREPS website i.e. https://www.ireps.gov.in. Fory any change/ corrigendum in tender, please visit this website regularly. No separate corrigendum/change will be published in news paper. 966/24(DG)

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EASTERN RAILWAY

E-Auction Notice No. COM/PUB/HWH/RDN/LOCO, Dtd. 31.05.2024. E-Auction is invited by Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Eastern Railway, Howrah, 3rd Floor, New Complex Building, Howrah - 711101 for awarding contract of commercial publicity rights. The Auction Catalogue have been uploaded in www.ireps.gov.in Catalogue No. : HWH-RDN-LOCO. Seq. No., Lot No. & Description are as follows AA/1, ADVT-HWH-BWN-OSD-86-23-1, Awarding rights for Display of Railway information and Advertisement through Railway installed 6 nos. of Video Walls inside Barddhaman station at different locations on 50:50 time/space sharing basis for a period of three years. AA/2, ADVT-HWH-HWH-OSD-94-23-1, Installation, operation and maintenance of Digital Passenger Reservation Chart Board Kiosk at Howrah station (PF-9) with scope of commercial advertisements on 50:50 time/space sharing basis for a period of five years. AB/1, ADVT-HWH-BZL-OSN-22-22-1, Awarding contract of Commercial Publicity Rights at Belanagar station. AB/2, ADVT-HWH-KCY-OSN-52-22-1, Awarding contract of Commercial Publicity Rights at Kaicha station. AB/3, ADVT-HWH-DNHL-OSN-35-22-1, Awarding contract of Commercial Publicity Rights at Dhaniakhali Halt station. AB/4, ADVT-HWH-GRAE-OSN-38-23 Awarding contract of Commercial Publicity Rights at Gurap station. AC/1, ADVT LOCO-HWH-HWH-95-23-1; AC/2, ADVT-LOCO-HWH-HWH-96-23-1; AC/3 ADVT-LOCO-HWH-HWH-97-23-1; AC/4, ADVT-LOCO-HWH-HWH-98-23-1; AC/ 5, ADVT-LOCO-HWH-HWH-99-23-1; AC/6, ADVT-LOCO-HWH-HWH-100-23-1 AC/7, ADVT-LOCO-HWH-HWH-101-23-1, AC/8, ADVT-LOCO-HWH-BWN-102 23-1; AC/9, ADVT-LOCO-HWH-BWN-104-23-1; AC/10, ADVT-LOCO-HWH-BWN 105-23-1: AC/11, ADVT-LOCO-HWH-BWN-106-23-1; AC/12, ADVT-LOCO-HWH BWN-107-23-1; Advertisement rights for displaying of Commercial Advertisemen by way of Branding (by the mean of PU painting) on the exterior surface of Electric Locomotive (WAP-4) primarily maintained by Howrah Division (Howrah Diesel shed depot) for a period of 3 years. AC/13, ADVT-LOCO-HWH-BWN-108-23-1; AC/14 ADVT-LOCO-HWH-BWN-109-23-1; AC/15, ADVT-LOCO-HWH-BWN-110-23-1 AC/16, ADVT-LOCO-HWH-BWN-111-23-1; AC/17, ADVT-LOCO-HWH-BWN-112-23-1; AC/18, ADVT-LOCO-HWH-BWN-113-23-1; AC/19, ADVT-LOCO-HWH-BWN-114-23-1; AC/20, ADVT-LOCO-HWH-BWN-115-23-1; AC/21, ADVT-LOCO-HWH-BWN-116-23-1; AC/22, ADVT-LOCO-HWH-BWN-117-23-1; Advertisemen ights for displaying of Commercial Advertisement by way of Branding (by the mean of PU painting) on the exterior surface of Electric Locomotive (WAG-5) primarily maintained by Howrah Division (Barddhaman Diesel shed depot) for a period of 3 years. Auction start date & time: 18.06.2024 at 11.00 hrs. (HWH-81/2024-25) Tender Notices are also available at Website www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in Follow us at : M @EasternRailway () @easternrailwayheadquarter

EASTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. NIT/02/24/32, dated 03.06.2024. Principal Chief

Date: 31.05.2024 -OT/24-25/13 e-tenders are invited by the Chief The DRM (Sig. & Telecom)/SEE for and Workshop Manager, Eastern

on behalf of the President of India invites Open E-Tenders for the following works. The last date of online E-tendering is 21.06.2024 up to 12:00 hrs. All information and tender documents related to E-tender is available on website - www.ireps.gov.in. SI.No. : 1, E-Tender No. : S&T/SEE/E-OT 24-25/13, Name of Work : SEE DIV. Provision of DUAL MSDAC in TGA-BJU IBH & provision of UFSBI Mux for signaling controllers in BJU-DKGS section. Approx Cost (In Rs.) : 2,03,69,537.57, Earnest Money (In Rs.) : 2,51,900.00, Cost of Tender Document (In Rs.) (Nonrefundable): 0.00, Completion period: 06 (Six) Month from date of issue of LOA

Nil. Period of The above tender notice is available or completion : 3 years from the date website www.ireps.gov.in. Uploading date of physical start of CAMC work of 31.05.2024. RIGHT OF RAILWAY TO DEAL machine. Quantity : 1 machine WITH TENDER: Railway Administration reserves the right to postpone /modify or to 24.06.2024 at 15.00 hrs. Validity of cancel any one or all the tenders without offer : 60 days. Website assigning any reasons. particulars and notice board

Divisional Railway Manager/Sig. & Telecom E. C. Railway Sonpur PR/00400/SEE/S&T/T/24-25/36

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

Chief Project Manager, Gati Shakti, N.W. Riy Bikaner for and on behalf of President of India invites open E-Tender for the following works up to 15:00 Hrs on 24/06/2024 as below:-SN. 1. Tender No.: 04-2024-GSU-BKN, Name of Work with its Location: Construction of Cantilever Steel Shed, CC Rail Level Goods Platform, CC Approach road, Goods Office, Canteen, Labor room, Merchant rooms and other miscellaneous work in connection with provision of upgradation/modernization of nfrastructure at Sirsa Goods Shed over Bikaner division. Appro Cost of Work: Rs. 160328723.39; Bid Security Amount (in Rs.): Rs. 951700.00; Date and Time for submission of tender & Opening of tender: Bidding start date on 10/06/2024 & Tender closing Date & time up to 15:00 Hrs on 24/06/2024. Note: Other terms & conditions will be shown on the website: www.ireps.gov.in 643-PM/24 olow us on 👔 🕅 🖸 NWitaliways 🗄 NWitaliways

EASTERN RAILWAY EASTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No. : EL/HWH/25/ 21(Notice)/584, dated 03.06.2024. 21(Notice)/583, dated 03.06.2024 Divisional Railway Manager, Eastern Railway, Howrah, DRM Building near Railway station, Howrah-711101 invites open e-tenders for the under mentioned electrical work : Tender No. : EL-HWH-25-21-3276-R1 Name of Work: Provision of Wate Cooler at station platform over Howrah Division. Tender Value Rs. 2,26,47,647/-. Bid Security (Earnest Money Deposit) Rs. 2,63,200/-. Completion period 180 days. Closing date and time of tender : 24.06.2024 at 15.00 hrs. In case the date of closing mentioned in the Notice Inviting Tender is the Notice Inviting Tender is delared a delared a holiday/bandh/strike on any holiday/bandh/strike on any account, account, the date of closing tender he date of closing tender online wil online will not be changed as the not be changed as the application in application in the website of IREPS the website of IREPS does not permit does not permit submission of any submission of any offer after closing offer after closing date and time of the date and time of the tender. However, tender. However, opening of tenders opening of tenders online will be done online will be done on any convenient on any convenient day after closing day after closing date and time of the date and time of the tender. The tender. The details of tender are details of tender are available at available at website www.ireps. website www.ireps.gov.inTenderers gov.inTenderers are requested to are requested to submit their offer submit their offer online on the online on the above website above website. (HWH-82/2024-25) Tender Notices are also available at Website Tender Notices are also available at Webste www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in ww.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in Follow us at : @@EasternRailway Follow us at : @@EasternRailway G @easternrailwayheadquarter G @easternrailwayheadquarter

Biden and call on Hamas "to

eligible to serve in the ADF. AGENCIES

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

Open Tender Notice No. : RS-TPKF

MCA-V-213306-RT, dated 01.06.2024

e-Tender is invited by Sr Divisional Electrica

Engineer (TRS)/EMU Carshed, Tikiapara

S.E.Railway for & on behalf of the Presiden

of India for the following works upto 15.00

hrs. on the date mentioned against item

will be opened at 15.30 hrs. : Description

of work : Sweeping, cleaning of EMU

rakes, garbage removal etc. at Mecheda

stabling yard S.E. Railway for a period o

03 years. Tender Value : ₹ 59,18,055.93

EMD : ₹ 1,18,400/-. Cost of Tende

Documents : ₹ 5,000/-. Completion

Period : 36 Months. Date of Submission

Australian Defence Force recruitment to be opened to non-

citizens: Foreigners who have lived in Australia for at least

12 months will be eligible to join the nation's armed forces

from 2025, the federal government has announced. Richard

Marles, the minister for defence and deputy prime minister,

and Defence Personnel Minister Matt Keogh announced the

initiative on Tuesday in Canberra, saying it would help grow

the Australian Defence Force (ADF), Xinhua news agency

Zealanders who are permanent residents of Australia and

have lived in the country for at least 12 months will be able

to join the ADF from July 1. Starting in 2025, citizens from

all other countries who meet the same criteria will become

ONE YEAR.

1530 hrs.

shall be ignored

reported. Under the expanded eligibility criteria, New

American hostages would be released at this stage, and remains of hostages who have

Defense Committee on Mon-

day that Biden gave an outline

of the deal but not all the

details, and he said there are

of the proposed deal would last

for six weeks and include a "full

and complete cease-fire," a

withdrawal of Israeli forces from

all populated areas of Gaza and

the release of some hostages,

including women, the elder-

ly and the wounded, in

exchange for the release of hun-

dreds of Palestinian prisoners.

Biden said the first phase

"gaps."

Israel declares 4 more hostages are dead in Gaza, including 3 older men from Hamas video



AGENCIES JERUSALEM, 4 JUNE

Four more hostages kidnapped on Oct. 7 were declared dead by the Israeli military ~ including three older men seen in a Hamas video begging to be released. Monday's announcement heightens pressure on the Israeli government to agree to a U.S. cease-fire proposal that could secure the return of the hostages still held in Gaza and end the eight-month war.

About 80 hostages in Gaza are believed to be alive, alongside the remains of 43 others. In the days since President Joe Biden announced the cease-fire proposal Friday, Israel has seen some of its largest protests calling on the government to bring them home.

Although Biden said the proposal was Israeli, the İsraeli leadership has appeared to distance itself from the plan, vowing to keep conducting military operations against Hamas until the militant group is destroyed.

All four of the men declared dead Monday night ~ Nadav Popplewell, Amiram Cooper, Yoram Metzger and Haim Peri ~ were kidnapped and taken into Gaza still alive, according to the Hostages Forum, a grassroots group representing the families of the hostages. "It is time to end this cycle of sacrifice and neglect," the group said following the announcement. "Their murder in captivity is a mark of disgrace and a sad reflection on the significance of delaying previous deals." The group called on the government to immediately approve the new ceasefire plan. Hundreds of people, including relatives of the captives, gathered outside Israel's Defense Ministry and military headquarters in central Tel Aviv late Mon-

er protests took place across the country. About 100 captives were released during a weeklong exchange of hostages for Palestinian prisoners in November. Three of the men declared dead Monday

had female relatives who

were released during the exchange. Israel's military spokesman, Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari, said the four hostages were killed while they were together, during the army's operation in Khan Younis in southern Gaza.

He said the four were killed months ago, but that recent operations allowed the military to gather enough intelligence to confirm the deaths.

Their bodies are still being held by Hamas, and the cause of death was not immediately known. Hamas claimed in May that the other hostage pronounced deceased, Nadav Popplewell, died after being wounded in an Israeli airstrike, but provided no evidence. Popplewell was over 50.

"We are checking all of the options. There are a lot of questions," Hagari said.

Cooper, Metzger and Peri were all age 80 or older. They appeared in a video in December released by Hamas under the title, "Don't let us grow old here." In the video, the three men appear gaunt, wearing thin white T-shirts. "We are the generation who built the foundation for the state of Israel," Peri said, noting that all the men had chronic illnesses. "We do not understand why we have been abandoned here." Cooper was an economist and one of the founders of Kibbutz Nir Oz, according to the hostages forum. Metzger helped to found the kibbutz winery and Peri built the community's art gallery and sculpture garden.

work will be accepted. Tender Notice No. : EL/HWH/25/ Divisional Railway Manager, Eastern Railway, Howrah, DRM Building near Railway station, Howrah-711101 invites open e-tenders for the undermentioned electrical work : Tender No. : EL-HWH-25-21-3320. Name of Work: Cleaning of pantry appliances of LHB pantry cars and mini pantry appliances of LHB AC coaches for 24 months. Tender Value: Rs. 42,88,946/-. Bld Security (Earnest Money Deposit): Rs. 85,800/-. Completion period : 24 months. Closing date and time of tender : 26.06.2024 at 15.00 hrs. In case the date of closing mentioned in

may visit website www.ireps.gov.in for ful details, description, specification, corrigen dum of the tender and submit their bids online. In no case manual tender for this

Bld No. Gem/2024/B/5004724 e-Tender is invited by Chief Engineer(Con) dated 01.06.2024. E-tender II/Garden Reach, S.E.Railway for and on invited by Sr.DEnHM, Eastern behalf of the President of India for the Railway, Howrah, DRM Building near following works. Following tenders have Railway station, Howrah-711101 to been uploaded on website www.ireps. the following work : E-Tender No. gov.in The tenders will be closed at 12.00 MC/EnHM-HWH/15 hrs. on due date. SI. No. & e-Tender Notice Cleaning. Description : Cleaning. No.; Brief Description of Works; Approx. Sanitation and Disinfection Service Cost; Bid Security respectively : (1) 4495-Outcome based - Public Transport GRC-CE-C-II-42-2024, dated 03.06.2024 Execution of earthwork in formation places (Sweeping, Mopping, construction of bridges, protection works, track linking, supply and spreading o Cleaning of toilets, urinals and ballast, transportation of p.way materials, waterbooth thrice daily, rag picking supply of p.way fittings, construction of from tracks of width 8 ft from the S&T service buildings for the double line centre of track on both sides i.e. 16 fly over work of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited ft alternate day at BGNA, BPSGRP, siding at Jhansuguda under the jurisdiction MLYA, TIT, TKPH, TLPH, DTAE, of Dy. Chief Engineer (Con), Jharsuguda GFAE, KMAE, KNJ and daily a in Chakradharpur Division of S.E. Railway; KOLF, DHAE, PTAE, VSPR ₹ 267.13 Crore; ₹ 1,00,00,000/-. (2) 4435-Cleaning of colony and track drain GRC-CE-C-II-47-2023, dated 04.06.2024; area in sq m alternate day, Execution of work for Construction of Road Outdoor, Collection & Disposal Over Bridge for Railway Portion of Level waste management service Crossing No. 256 (1 x 54M Bow String collection, Lifting, transportation, Girder + 2 x 18.00m composite Girder) and unloading, segregation of garbage. 01 Span over Level Crossing No. MCL/1 dry waste. Estimated Bid Value (Span 1 x 18.00m composite girder) in Rs. 1,78,92,133/-. Contract period between Jharsuguda to Dhutra yard under the jurisdiction of Dy. Chief Engineer/CON/ 2 years. Bid offer validity (from Jharsuguda in Chakradharpur Division of end date) : 90 days. Bid end date S.E. Railway; ₹ 20.08 Crore; ₹ 11,54,200/-& time : 22.06.2024, 20.00 hrs. Bid Completion period : 24 months for sl. no. opening date & time: 22.06.2024, 1 and 18 months for sl. no. 2. Closing 20.30 hrs. The tender notice along Date : 25.06.2024 for sl. no. 1 and with the documents are available in 27.06.2024 for sl. no. 2. Interested the GeM portal https://gem.gov.in (HWH-83/2024-25) tenderers may visit website www.ireps. gov.in for full details/description/specifica-Tender Notices are also available at Website tion of the tenders and submit their bids www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in online. In no case manual tenders for these Follow us at : M @EasternRailway items will be accepted. N.B. : Prospective G @easternrailwayheadquarter Bidders may regularly visit www.ireps. gov.in to participate in all other tenders. (PR-219)

Upto 15.00 hrs. of 27.06.2024. Date o documents of the above e-Tenders is available Opening : 27.06.2024. Interested tenderen in website http://www.ireps.gov.in PR-175/P/24-25

(PR-218

Materials Manager, Eastern Railway, 2nd floor, 17, Netaji Subhas Road, Fairlie Place, Kolkata-700001 invites e-tenders for supply of the following items. SI.No., Tender No., Description of Stores, EMD are as follows :- Tender Opening Date : 19.06.2024, Time : 13.30 Hrs. (1) 20231942, Procurement of - Hanger block for bolster suspension of M/coach to ICF Drg. No. EMU/M-0-5-006, Alt - 's/2' (Small S/2) & RDSO's STR No. C-K-202. Amendment Slip No. 1 of Aug, 2002, ₹ 56,450/-. Tender Opening Date 20.06.2024, Time : 13.30 Hrs. : (2) 10231942A, Set of contact fixed and moving for contactor etc., ₹ 70,360/-. Tender Opening Date : 21.06.2024, Time : 13.30 Hrs. : (3) 08241465, Procurement of domestic refrigerator etc., ₹ 71,640/-(4) 10231153, POH replacement kit, ₹ 2,40,630/-. Tender Opening Date 25.06.2024, Time : 13.30 Hrs. : (5) 10241916A, Set of cylindrical roller bearing ₹ 2,65,230/-. Tender Opening Date : 27.06.2024, Time : 13.30 Hrs. (6) 11231845A, "O" ring, ₹ 0/-. Tender Opening Date : 28.06.2024, Time : 13.30 Hrs.: (7) 08231060, Procurement of Polymide covered copper conductor 3.8x1.1 mm etc., ₹ 59,230/-. (8) 20231097, Procurement of - Modified hanger for bolser suspension (motor bogie) to RDSO SK No. 95006 Alt-1 etc., ₹ 92,540/-. Tender Opening Date : 01.07.2024, Time : 13.30 Hrs. (9) 19241042, L-type composite brake block etc., ₹ 59,330/- (10) 21245014, Component of Body Arrangement for BTPN wagon etc., ₹ 72,200/-. (11) 21245016, Centre Pivot & side bearer arrangement for BTPNM1 variant 'A' wagon etc., ₹ 87,460/-. (12) 10241874, Purchase of Drum type Reverser etc., ₹ 1,11,860/-. Tender Opening Date 03.07.2024, Time : 13.30 Hrs. : (13) 20241044, Bogie bolster arrgt. complete for M/coaches (modified bogie)., ₹ 0/-. Tender Opening Date : 04.07.2024, Time 13.30 Hrs. : (14) 20241886, Helical spring (outer) for bolster suspension (modified) of EMU Tr. coaches, ₹ 2,99,610/-. Tender Opening Date 05.07.2024, Time : 13.30 Hrs. : (15) 10242539, POH kit for ELGI make compressor etc., ₹ 2,74,000/-. Tender Opening Date : 12.07.2024, Time : 13.30 Hrs. : (16) 10241127, Sub kit POH-1 for POH maintenance of N-32 tap changer, ₹ 8,57,410/-. Tender Opening Date : 17.07.2024, Time : 13.30 Hrs. (17) 20241034, Flexible hose with end fittings for MR pipe end connection in EMU coaches to KPA Drg. No. ER/KPA/EL/PN.3HE.24168, ₹ 0/-. Tender Opening Date : 25.07.2024, Time : 13.30 Hrs. : (18) 10241005, Suspension spring (primary), ₹ 98,790/-. Tender Opening Date : 29.07.2024, Time : 13.30 Hrs. : (19) 20235044. Bombardier make Traction motor with pinion for MRVC phase-2 Bombardier rakes, ₹ 6,89,590/-. Tender Opening Date : 29.08.2024, Time : 13.30 Hrs. : (20) 20241022, Bolster helical spring (outer) of MEMU coaches, ₹ 91,080/-, Tender Cost: Rs. 0/- for all. Note : All above mentioned tenders are e-tenders and all tenderers are requested to submit their bids on-line through the IREPS website at https://www.ireps.gov.in For more details regarding the above mentioned tenders and other supply tenders please visit **IREPS** website (Stores-16/2024-25)

Tender Notices are also available at Website www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

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etter No.: DRM/C/AGRA NOT n Behalf of The President entral Railway, Agra invite	ICE INVITIN	NG E-AUCTION	rcial Manager, North	
Category: Parcel	Aucti	on Catalogue No.: A	GRA-LEASING-29	
Asset Detai	ls	E-Auction Start Date and Time	E-Auction End Date and Time	
01 (F1) SLR Unit in Tr	rain.no. 12178	14.06.2024 at 10.30 hrs.	14.06.2024 at 11.00 hrs.	
01 (F1) SLR Unit in Tr	rain no. 12547	14.06.2024 at 11.00 hrs.	14.06.2024 at 11.10 hrs.	
01 (F1) SLR Unit in Train no. 20976		14.06.2024 at 11.10 hrs.	14.06.2024 at 11.20 hrs.	
01 (R1) SLR Unit in T	rain no. 05914	14.06.2024 at 11.20 hrs.	14.06.2024 at 11.30 hrs.	
01 (F1) SLR Unit in Tr	01 (F1) SLR Unit in Train no. 11905		14.06.2024 at 11.40 hrs.	
01 (F1) SLR Unit in Tr	rain no, 19818	14.06.2024 at 11.40 hrs.	14.06.2024 at 11.50 hrs.	
01 (F1) SLR Unit in Tr	rain no. 05914	14.06.2024 at 11.50 hrs.	14.06.2024 at 12.00 hrs.	

Metro Railway, Kolkata

Office of the Principal Chief Operations Manager, Metro Railway, Kolkata on behalf of President of India invites e-Auction leasing for operation & maintenance of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs) at Dakshineswar, Netaji & Sealdah Metro Railway Stations. Participants are to bid online mode only through e-Auction leasing module of website www.ireps.gov.in

S/No.	Lot No./Category	Name of Metro Stations
1.	PMBJK-MTRO-KDSW-PMBJK-1-24-1	Dakshineswar
2.	PMBJK-MTRO-KNTJ-PMBJK-2-24-1	Netaji
3.	PMBJK-MTRO-SDHM-PMBJK-3-24-1	Sealdah
	est Money : ₹ 50,000/- for each. Da ction : On 18.06.2024 at 12.00 hrs. Principal Chief Operat	
Follo	w us at : M/metrorailwaykol ()/me	trorailkolkata

Spacecraft unfurls China's flag on the far side of the moon and lifts off with lunar rocks to bring home: China said its lunar spacecraft unfurled the country`s red and gold flag for the first time on the far side of the moon before part of the vehicle blasted off early Tuesday with rock and soil samples to bring back to Earth. The mission was hailed as a success in China, which has made significant advances in a space program that aims to put a person on the moon before the end of this decade. The Chang`e-6 probe was launched last month and its lander touched down on the far side of the moon Sunday. Its ascender lifted off Tuesday morning at 7:38 a.m. Beijing time, with its engine burning for about six minutes as it entered a preset orbit around the moon, the China National Space Administration said. AGENCIES



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'INDIAlliance' upsets the BJP's apple cart in UP

The saffron party failed to counter the narrative of PDA and the caste equation built by the Opposition

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW, 4 JUNE

he Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA), with its narrative of PDA ((Pichre, Dalit and Alpashankhak) and caste equations, upset the BJP apple cart in the Lok Sabha elections in Uttar Pradesh. The pre-poll alliance of the

Opposition parties won 43 seats in the state, including 37 won by the Samajwadi Party (SP) and six bagged by Congress while the BJP-led NDA won 36 seats, including 33 won by the BJP, two by the RLD, and one by the Apna Dal (S). One seat was won the Azad Samaj Party. The BJP failed to cash in on

the Ram temple card and its welfare schemes, as going by the indications, the backwards and Dalits did not support

NDA candidates. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 22 rallies and five roadshows could

not translate into votes the way they were expected. He even won the Varanasi seat with a lesser margin than in the 2019 and 2014 Lok Sabha elections.

The election sprang a surprise with the emergence of a new alternative Dalit leader against Mayawati. It's the Azad Samaj Party (Kanshi Ram) founder chief Chandrashekhar, who won from the Nagina seat from where the BSP can-

didate got a measly 5,000 votes. This is the first election in which SP chief Akhilesh Yadav proved his political acumen emerging from the shadow of his charismatic father, the Late Mulayam Singh Yadav.

Among the 11 Union ministers in the fray, seven lost the elections including Ajay Kumar Mishra Teni (Kheri), Kaushal

Kishore (Mohanlalganj), Smriti Irani (Amethi), Mahendra Nath Pandey (Chandauli), Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti (Fatehpur), Sanjeev Baliyan (Muzaffarnagar) and Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma (Jalaun).

Two UP ministers, Jaiveer Singh (Mainpuri) and Dinesh Pratap Singh (Rae Bareli) lost the elections while Bhojpuri actor Dinesh Lal Yadav Nirahua lost from Azamgarh.

The Union ministers, who won the elections, are Rajnath Singh (Lucknow), Pankaj Choudhury (Maharajganj), S P Singh Baghel (Agra), and Anupriya Patel (Mirzapur). Actor Arun Govil won from Meerut in his maiden attempt.

As per the ECI statistics, the vote percentage of the BJP dipped to 41.56 per cent this time from 49.98 per cent it had in the 2019 polls after winning 62 seats. In the 2014 polls, the



saffron party got 42.65 per cent of votes by winning 71 seats.

The SP, which had got 18.11 per cent of votes after winning five seats, this time, almost doubled its vote share to 33.07 per cent while Congress got around 10 per cent of votes by contesting 17 seats while it had received 6.36 per cent in 2019 polls. In 2014, the SP won five seats and got 22 20 per cent of the votes while winning 2 seats and receiving 7.50 per cent of the votes.

The most depressing performance was that of the BSP which drew a blank after contesting all 80 seats this time. The Mayawati party received 9.30 per cent of votes. In the 2019 polls, the BSP won 10 seats by getting 19.43 per cent of the votes and in the 2014 polls, it got 19.60 per cent of votes but could not win a seat.

Political experts feel the mandate in UP has gone against the NDA as it could not counter the narrative of the INDI Alliance against their '400 paar' slogan linking it to an effort to change the Constitution to end the reservations.

"Issues like unemployment, Agniveer, and inflation raked up by the Opposition prompted the backwards and Dalits to vote en mass in favour of the INDI Alliance candidates. As the BSP failed to retain its vote bank, the Dalit votes went to the INDI alliance candidates," says the expert.

Besides, annoyance against the sitting BJP candidates added to the defeat of the NDA candidates. As per the result so far, the SP of the INDI Alliance won 33 seats, including the all-important Faizabad seat and claimed Ayodhya where the Ram temple has

been constructed. Congress contributed to seven seats to the alliance tally. Rahul Gandhi won by a record margin of over 3.65 lakh votes. Akhilesh Yadav too won from Kannauj while his wife retained the Mainpuri seat. There were

several surprise upsets in UP. KLSharma, a close confidant of the Gandhi family, defeated Union Minister Smriti Irani. Nine-time MP Maneka GandhilostherSultanpurseat.The loss of its sitting MP from Faizabad Lallu Singh was a big blow to BJP's religious agenda.

The seats was by SP are: Kairana, Muzaffarnagar, Moradabad, Rampur, Sambhal, Firozabad, Mainpuri, Etah, Aonla, Badaun, Kheri, Dhaurahara, Mohanlalganj, Sultanpur, Pratapgarh, Etawah, Kannauj, Jalaun, Hamirpur Banda, Fatehpur, Kaushambi, Phulpur, Faizabad, Ambedkar Nagar ,Shravasti ,Basti ,Sant Kabir Nagar, Lalganj, Azamgarh, Ghosi, Salempur, Ballia, Jaunpur, Machlishahar, Ghazipur, Chandauli, Mirzapur and Robertsganj.

Congress won from Saharanpur, Allahabad, Rae Bareli, Amethi, Amroha, Sitapur and Barabanki. BJP candidates won from Meerut, Ghaziabad, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Aligarh, Hatras, Mathura, Agra, Fatehpur Sikri, Bareilly, Pilibhit, Shahjahanpur, Hardoi Mishrikh, Unnao, Lucknow, Farrukhabad, Kanpur, Akbarpur, Jhansi, Bahraich, Gonda, Dumariyaganj, Maharajganj, Gorakhpur, Kushinagar, Deoria, Bansgaon, Bulandshahr, Kaiserganj, Varanasi and Bhadoi.

The RLD won the Bijnore and Baghpat seats. The Apna Dal (S) won Mirzapur while the Azad Samaj Party won the Nagina seat.

BJP faces setbacks in North-East as Congress and regional parties gain ground STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

Akhilesh moving fast on his 'bicycle', bags 37 seats in UP

RITA SACHDEVA

Congress poised for victory in both Lok Sabha seats in trouble torn Manipur

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE IMPHAL, 4 JUNE

The ethnic crisis in Manipur, a central issue in the Congress's poll campaign,



opponent, Kachui Timothy Zimik, by over 2,700 votes.

paign. Manipur, a BJP-ruled state, has only two Lok Sabha seats. Inner Manipur encompasses mostly the valley

Despite repeated rebuttals from Home Minister Amit Shah and Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh,

the Opposition continued to

critique the Centre's han-

the party's Bharat Jodo Nyay

Yatra from a region in

Manipur, which bolstered the

Rahul Gandhi launched

dling of the crisis.

during the election cam-

GUWAHATI, 4 JUNE

Reflecting the nationwide trend, the BJP is experiencing significant setbacks in the North Eastern states, with Congress and regional parties regaining some lost ground.

By evening, the BJP was leading in 12 seats, while its allies were ahead in three, out of the total 25 seats in the region, including Sikkim.

This is a decline from the 19 seats the NDA secured in 2019, with the BJP winning 14 seats and its allies 5.

In contrast, the Congress is seeing a resurgence in the North East, leading in eight seats, an improvement from the four seats it won in 2019.

Additionally, regional parties are making a notable impact on the electoral landscape.

In Assam, which holds a maximum of 14 seats in the region, the BJP is leading in 8 seats. Its allies, the Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) and the United People's Party Liberal (UPPL), are leading in two others.

Congress leader Gaurav Gogoi has emerged victorious in the Jorhat constituency.

A significant development in Assam is the complete defeat of the All India United Democratic Front (AIUDF), with its leader, Badruddin Ajmal, trailing by a huge margin in the Dhubri constituency to Congress candidate Rockybul Hus-



sain.

In Tripura, the BJP continues its strong performance, winning both parliamentary seats. Former Chief Minister Biplab Deb won in the Tripura West constituency, while Kirit Prady-

ot Deb Barman secured victory in Tripura East.

In Arunachal Pradesh, the BJP is leading in two seats, with Union Minister Kiren Rijiju leading comfortably in Arunachal West and Tapir Gao ahead in Arunachal East.

In Manipur, a state often plagued by unrest, the Congress is leading in both parliamentary seats.

JNU professor Angomcha Bimol Akoijam is ahead in Inner Manipur, while Alfred Kanngam S Arthur leads in Outer Manipur.

In Meghalaya, the ruling National People's Party (NPP) faced significant setbacks, with both its candidates trailing by large margins. Congress's Saleng Marak is leading against former minister Agatha Sangma, the sister of the Meghalaya Chief Minister, in Tura.

NEW DELHI, 4 JUNE

For the first time since the 2017 elections, the Samajwadi Party, led by Akhilesh Yadav, has tasted success. After losing badly in two consecutive assembly elections and one Lok Sabha election, the party now appears to be making a remarkable comeback, securing 37 seats in Uttar Pradesh.

In 2019, the Samajwadi Party won only 5 seats in the country's largest state. The BJP, on the other hand, is leading on only 32 seats in the state against its mammoth target of 70. The BJP had won 62 seats out of the total 80 in the 2019 general election.

Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav has been campaigning with his PDA (Backward, Dalit and Minority) slogan in this election. Interestingly, this marks the SP's most impressive performance in Lok Sabha elections after Mulayam Singh Yadav's demise.

The manner in which AkhileshYadavincorporated caste equations into this election seems to have weakened the BJP's electoral calculations. The 1973-born Akhilesh Yadav has demonstrated a remarkable ability to rally support and mobilise his party's cadre, thereby playing a crucial role in shaping the regional and national political dynamics. Watching the trend, it seems that the Bahujan Samaj Party's vote bank also went in favour of the Congress and the SP.

appears to have resonated with the electorate.

The Congress is currently leading in both Lok Sabha seats in Manipur, specifically the Inner and Outer (reserved) constituencies.

In the Inner Manipur constituency, Congress candidate Angomcha Bimol Akoijam has established a significant lead over his closest rival, Thounaojam Basantakumar of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), by more than 62,000 votes. Akoijam, a 57-year-old

professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) in Delhi, represents the valleydominant Meitei community, which has shown substantial support for him, especially in areas where

the Congress has traditionally been strong.

Meanwhile, in the Outer Manipur constituency, Congress candidate Alfred Kanngam S Arthur is leading his Naga People's Front (NPF)

areas, while Outer Manipur, a reserved constituency, covers nearly all the hill regions.

The Meitei community has faced conflicts with the Kuki-Zo tribes over issues related to land, resources, and affirmative action policies. Interestingly, no Kuki-Zo candidate from any party participated in this election.

The broader Opposition alliance, known as INDIA, leveraged the Manipur ethnic crisis as a central issue party's visibility and voter engagement. Elections in Manipur were conducted in two phases, on April 19 and April 26, with the Congress now poised to claim both parliamentary seats amidst a

backdrop of complex socio-

political dynamics.

Shift in Dalit politics: BSP sinks, Bhim Army leader rises in UP

AGENCIES

LUCKNOW, 4 JUNE

The Bahujan Samaj Party has sunk and a new Dalit leader has risen in the Lok Sabha elections in Uttar Pradesh.

This is the biggest takeaway of these elections from the state.

Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) has failed to win even a single seat in Uttar Pradesh while Chandrashekhar of Aazad Samaj Party (Kanshi Ram) and founder of Bhim Party was leading massively in the Nagina seat without any support from any political party or leader. His victory with over one

lakh votes in Nagina, a reserved seat, signifies a clear shift in Dalit votes. The BSP had also fielded its candidate in Nagina and Akash Anand, when he cam-



paigned there, targeted Chandrashekhar and warned his voters to beware of 'woh

Chandrashekhar fought a lonely battle but he was con-

fident of his victory. "All parties have positioned themfident of their support," he said two days ago.

"I do not need any star campaigners because my stars are my voters. They know I will always be there for them and that is what matters in the end," he had said.

Though Chandrashekhar

Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) has failed to win even a single seat in **Uttar Pradesh while** Chandrashekhar of Aazad Samaj Party (Kanshi Ram) and founder of Bhim Party was leading massively in the Nagina seat without any support from any political party or leader.

carefully avoided any criticism of Mayawati, he ensured that the voters realised the difference between the two. A Bhim Army supporter

explained, "Chandrashekhar has always made sure to visit every Dalit home where any member has been targeted -- whether it is in Hathras, Kanpur Dehat, Lakhimpur or any other place. His team runs schools for Dalit children in various cities in western UP and he

even extends legal help to affected families. Mayawati has never bothered to reach out to families who suffer. People, especially youth, in our community are slowly gravitating towards the Bhim Army, also known as the Azad Samaj Party."

Buoyed by its leader's victory in Nagina, the Bhim Army plans to build up its organisation across the state.

"Yes, we are planning to strengthen the party organisation and prepare for the Assembly elections," said a Bhim Party leader.

As per the Election Commission data, Chandrashekhar was leading with a margin of 1,45,053 over his nearest rival, BJP's Om Kumar.

Chandrashekhar polled 4,91,045 votes while the BSP's Surendra Pal Singh secured 12,864 votes so far.



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Paper-folding art (7)

Marsupial (5)

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6 Nomenclature (11)

13 Propulsive force (6)

5 Challenge (4)

7 Ill-used (6)

14 Curdle (7)

15 Cleaned (6)

18 Signified (5)

16 Respectable (6)

19 Garden pest (4)

ACROS5

1 Large black bird (4) 3 The 11th letter (3) 8 Warship (7) 9 Alloy (5) 10 Rub out (5) 11 Eyelash make-up (7) 12 Easy target (7,4) 17 Naval commander (7) 19 Scorch (5) 20 Obverse side of a coin (5)21 Swiss cheese (7) 22 Speck (3) 23 Apartment (4)

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By arrangement with The Independent Figures in parentheses denote the number of letters in the words required

RED EYE/Bill Yates & Mel Casson

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DADDY DAZE/John Kovaleski

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India's record-breaking heatwaves A sign of worsening climate change

ndia is being hit by one of its hottest heatwave ever, with many parts of the country experiencing consistent temperatures of over 50 degrees Celsius. An outlier temperature of above 52 degrees Celsius was reported in Delhi, but this is still being evaluated and rechecked, while city authorities also warned of a risk of water shortages and the power grid tripping. Delhi's city record of 49.2 degrees Celsius from 2002 had been broken with temperatures reaching 49.9 degrees Celsius on 27 May 2024.

Climate change, predominantly caused by burning fossil fuels and exacerbated by human interference, is making heatwave hotter and more likely to happen everywhere in the world, according to scientists who study how extreme events are changing. Cities are more vulnerable to the compounding effects of urbanisation and climate change.

Dr Friederike Otto, Imperial College London and director of World Weather Attribution says,"This devastating heat is not a natural disaster. The suffering India is facing is worse because of climate change caused by burning coal, oil and gas and deforestation. What we are seeing in India is exactly what scientists said would happen if we didn't stop heating the planet. To avoid making the problem worse, the world needs to end fossil fuel use. Unless we do it, terrible heat like this will happen more and more often, and it will get even hotter. The heat will become worse, and the death toll will continue to rise, fast." Dr Krishna AchutaRao, Professor and Dean, Centre for Atmospheric Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi adds "The widespread, long-lasting and intense heatwave conditions over India and many other parts of the world are the direct result of climate change caused by human emissions of greenhouse gases. There is an urgent need to take adaptation steps to control the rising global average temperatures, else the result is in front of us." According to the IPCC, heatwave that occur once every 10 years without human-caused warming are now likely to occur 2.8 times more often (or once every 3.6 years) and are 1.5 degrees Celsius warmer because of climate change caused by burning fossil fuels. Extreme heatwave that occurred once every 50 years without human-caused warming are now likely to occur 4.8 times more often (or once every 10.4 years) and are 1.5 degrees Celsius degrees warmer. If emissions are not cut much faster than planned, they will become 2-3 times more common again. Elaborating on this further, Aarti Khosla, Director, Climate Trends comments, "Heatwaves are clearly the single largest threat to India's well being today. Record-breaking heat of over 48 degrees Celsius across north, west and central India shows that climate crisis is a nice-to-push rhetoric as long as one hasn't experienced a 50 degrees Celsius heatwave.

"It is very concerning that annual trends in heatwaves now show temperature departures of 5-9 degrees Celsius from the normal summer weather. The latest research also shows that urbanisation alone has led to an overall 60 per cent enhancement in warming

heat illnesses for the entire population. Night time temperatures remained as high as 36 degrees Celsius in some locations - which is particularly dangerous as it means people cannot cool off at night.

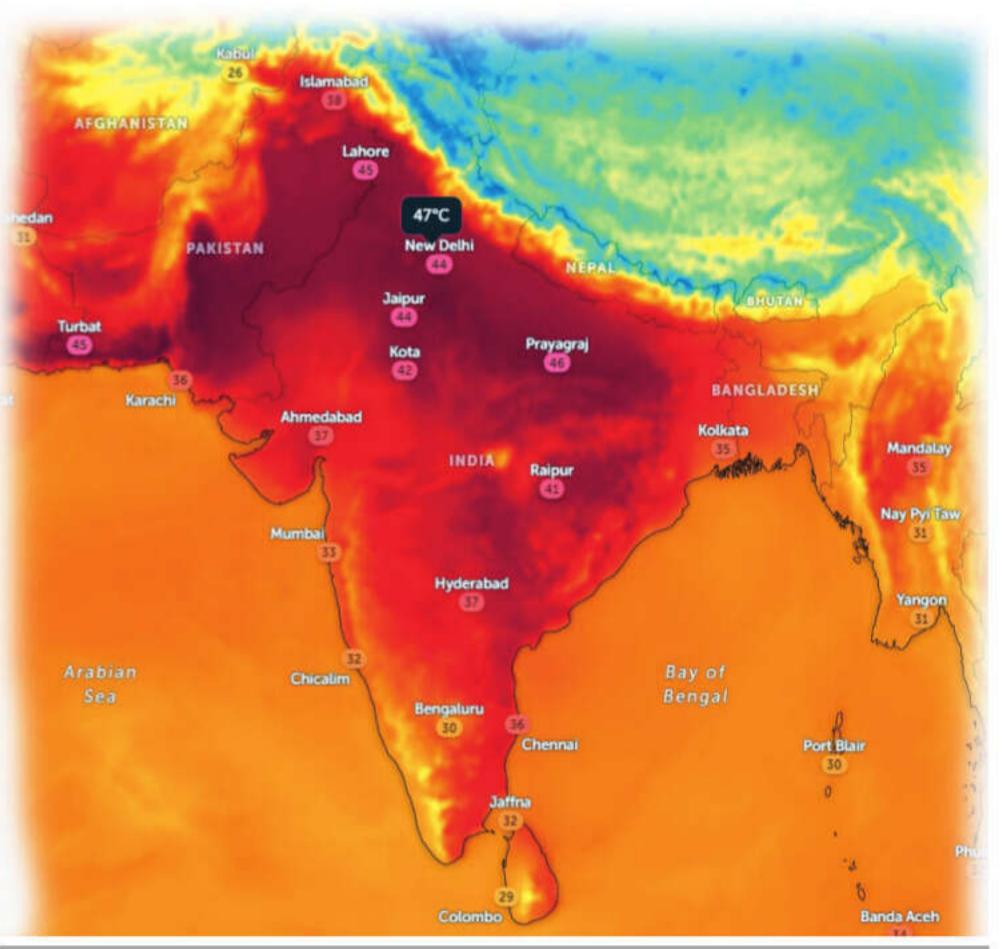
There have been over 16,000 heat stroke cases and 60 heat-related deaths since March 2024, although this number is likely a huge underestimate. Aditya Valiathan Pillai, Fellow, Coordinator - Climate Adaptation and Resilience, Sustainable Futures Collaborative says "Delhi sustained high temperatures nearing the 50s brings the focus back on its Heat Action Plan. In this infernal heat, millions of heatexposed workers without access to cooling will struggle to earn their wages, protect their families and stay safe. Heatwave preparedness and response measures in Delhi's newly minted Heat Action Plan must be implemented immediately.

"Of equal importance are long term solutions like trees, changing how buildings are structured and reducing the density of built areas to combat the urban heat island effect."Heat in India and South Asia is characterised by being extremely humid, which makes it more dangerous for human health. High humidity levels prevent the body from cooling itself through sweating, raising the risk of heat strokes and other life-threatening conditions. The combination of intense heat and humidity poses life-threatening risks to the population, exposing the population to conditions that exceed human tolerance. This risk is further increased in cities, as they are often warmer than rural areas. Dr Arun Sharma, Professor, Community Medicine comments "Exposure to high atmospheric temperatures is harmful for the human body. Prolonged exposure to such high temperatures can cause heat stroke. It is recognised by fever above 104 degrees Fahrenheit, dry skin and loss of consciousness. High temperatures

may also cause sunburn, irritation in the eyes and dehydration.

"To protect and avoid exposure to direct sunlight, use an umbrella and sunglasses. Keep the body hydrated

with frequent, small intakes of water, fruit juice, coconut water, lemon drinks, etc. Avoid going out in extreme heat conditions. Sunscreen lotions also help protect against adverse effects on the skin. If eyes start itching, wash frequently with clean, cold water. Avoid sudden changes in temperature, like walking out of air-conditioned rooms straight into sunlight and vice versa."



across Indian cities. This means that the more we develop new cities, the more we have to be mindful of not throwing people in the ditch with high heat.

"This is a wake up call for urgent transformations to reduce the impact of the heat island effect. Between 1970 and 2018, India's urban population increased fourfold to 460 million. That's more than one-third of Indians living in extreme vulnerability to climate threats, impacting both productivity and health.'

Extreme heat forced schools to close early for the summer in India. Temperatures in at least 37 cities exceeded 45 degrees Celsius, with warnings of a 'very high likelihood' of

Escherichia coli-A complete walkthrough and guide

DR TAPAN KUMAR MAITRA

he organism was first isolated from faeces in 1885 by T. Escherich. *E. coli* is a common inhabitant of the large intestine of humans and mammals. It is also found in the guts of birds, reptiles, amphibians, and insects. The bacteria are excreted in great numbers from within the faeces and are always present in the external environment (soil, water, food, and other objects).

E. coli are straight rods measur ing 0.4-0.7 in breadth and 1-3 in length. They occur as individual organisms or in pairs and are marked by polymorphism There are motile and nonmotile types. The G+C content in DNA is 50-51 per cent. E. coli is a facultative anaerobe.

Certain strains of E. *coli* are conditionally pathogenic. They contain a gluco-lipo-protein complex with which their toxic, antigenic, and immunogenic properties are associated. Some strains possess haemolytic properties deter mined by plasmids. Pathogeni diseases are E. coli of the O-groups-23, -32, -115, -124, -136, -143, -144, -151, and others; (3) the causative agents of cholera-like diarrhoea are the O-groups-6, -15, -78, -148, and others, they produce thermolabile and thermoresistant enterotoxins.

The infection is acquired from sick children or carriers. Pathogenic *E. coli* serovars are found on various objects. It is assumed

that E.

tion, and conditions following infectious diseases facilitate the onset of various E. coli infections. In a number of cases, the organism is responsible for food poisoning.

In individuals who have suffered diseases caused by pathogenic E. coli serovars, cross-immunity is not produced, owing to which re-infection may occur.

Over 85 per cent of *E. coli* strains contain inhibiting substances, colicins, marked by antagonistic properties in relation to pathogenic microbes of the enteric group; they are used as therapeutic and preventive agents, e.g. colibacterin (E. coli M 17, etc.).

Besides this, *E. coli*, as well as other common inhabitants of the intestine, are capable of synthesising various vitamins (K2, E, and group B), which are indispensable to the human organism. The ability of various *E*. *coli* serovars to suppress the growth of Mycobacterium tuberculosis has also been observed. The suppression of *E*. coli and other members of the biocoenosis may result in a chronic disease known as dysbaceriosis.

Hush no more: **Breaking the silence around STIs**

SRISHTI BHOWMICK

ilence is powerful only until you break it. Today, as the world triumphs over groundbreaking inventions in the realm of medicine, a grave epidemic seems to rear up its ugly head in a silent sneer. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), about 2.5 million people lose their lives annually owing to global HIV, viral hepatitis and sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Such alarming numbers call for urgent action and a much-needed shift in our approach to sexual health.

While we all go about our lives thinking that it wouldn't happen to us, STIs could practically happen to anyone regardless of age, gender, or sexu-

al orientation. In a WHO report, approximately eight million adults aged 15-49 were infected with syphilis and over 500 million people were estimated to have contracted herpes simplex virus (HSV). More so, human papillomavirus (HPV) infection is related to 311,000 cervical cancer deaths each year. Most of the STIs, Patients with *E. coli* enteritis are though curable, often remain asymptomatic. This makes them a silent yet deadly challenge, as one can carry and transmit the infection without even knowing it. But regular tests and proper vaccination can help us take huge leaps in preventing severe health outcomes like infertility, cancer, pregnancy complications and a heightened risk of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).

shares, "I was so scared and confused when I first noticed the symptoms. I could only read about my symptoms online. It took me a lot of time to gather the courage to see a doctor because I was embarrassed by what others might think". If only we choose to speak about STIs more openly and without undue shame, people might be able to seek treatment sooner, just like they do for any other infection.

In order to create awareness, ent public health initiatives ent must invest their our efforts (HIV, Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, (HIV, Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, (HIV, Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, Herpes, Syphilis) STI Herpes, Syphilis) STI Herpes, Syphilis)

towards education and open dialogue about safe sex practices. The silence needs to evaporate first. Conversations about sexual health within families, schools and communities can encourage individuals to make safer choices. Prevention is surely better than cure. Using condoms, getting vaccinated, and regular screenings can drastically reduce the risk of contracting STIs.

investing in sexual education programs, improving healthcare infrastructure and promoting further research into prospective treatments.

As the tide of STIs takes over the globe, it can prove hazardous to

22-year-old Sucheta Halder men- be intimidated into silence. But by

cultures possess endotoxins and thermolabile neurotropic exotoxins.

The antigenic structure of E. coli is characterised by variability and marked individuality.

Genus Escherichia includes one E. coli species consisting of several biotypes and serotypes. They are differentiated according to cultural, biochemical, and serological properties.

The genus *Escherichia* includes *E*. coli, E.freundii, E. intermedia, and others.

E. coli survives in the external environment for months. It is more resistant to physical and chemical factors of the external environment than the typhoid and dysentery bacteria. E. *coli* is killed comparatively rapidly by all methods and preparations used for disinfection.

The pathogenic serovars of *E. coli* cause severe infections in calf sucklings giving rise to an extremely high mortality. A parenteral injection of the culture into rabbits, guinea pigs, and white mice results in a fatal toxico-septic condition.

Definite *E. coli* serogroups are capable of causing various acute intestinal diseases in humans: (1) the causative agents of E. coli enteritis in children are O-groups-25, -26, -44, -55, -86, -91, -111, -114, -119, -125, -126, -127, -128, -141, -146, and others (they cause diseases in infants of the first months of life and in older infants); (2) the causative agents of dysentery-like



coli enteritis is transmitted not only by the normal route for enteric infections but also through the respiratory tract by droplets and dust.

E. coli may cause colibacillosis in adults (peritonitis, meningitis, enteritis, toxinfections, cystitis, pyelitis, pyelonephritis, angiocholitis, salpingooophoritis, appendicitis, otitis, puerperal sepsis, etc.). Overstrain, exhaus-



prescribed antibiotics (tetracycline with vitamins C, B1 and B2) and biopreparations (coli autovaccine, coli bacteriophage, colicin, bacterin, bificol, bifidumbacterin). Physiological solutions with glucose are injected to control toxicosis.

This organism is widely spread in nature. It occurs in soil, water, food ingredients, and on various objects. For this reason, E. coli serves as an indicator of faecal contamination in the external environment.

The author is an associate Professor (retd.) & former head of the Department of Botany at Ananda Mohan College.

The hardest challenge lies in breaking the silence and stigma around STIs. Many shy away from seeking the help they need due to social stigma and misconceptions about sexual health. Dr Chaitali Roy, a leading gynaecologist & obstetrician in Kolkata with more than 24 years of experience, says, "It is important that the patient feels free enough to open up. Their lack of awareness about the vital need for safe sex practices holds them back. I often find them too embarrassed to get tested or even talk about their symptoms".

One patient who wishes to stay anonymous

tions how she came to know about the HPV vaccine, "I thought it would be just another boring seminar at college. But that day, I learnt that taking the HPV vaccine can exponentially reduce the chance of cervical cancer. Surprisingly, it is also very easily accessible."

While the conversations need to start, it is important that healthcare professionals are better trained to handle STI cases sensitively and maintain confidentiality, which will help the patients open up as they will feel safe and heard.

Government and health organisations, in a collaborative effort, can help solve the problem by

bringing up the topic first, each of us can contribute to the safety of our collective sexual health. As more and more voices pour in, the pervading silence that was once powerful will break apart and give way to a world where sexual health is no longer hushed away; instead, it is prioritised and protected.







CMYK



'INDIA'S TEAM BALANCE COULD BE A PROBLEM'

Former New Zealand all-rounder Scott Styris feels that the Rohit Sharma-led Team India has a problem with their team balance in the ongoing T20 World Cup. Styris acknowledged the talent of the Indian squad but also pointed out their weak points while announcing his five favourite teams of the tournament. "I think there are probably four or maybe five (favourites) at any given time if they all find their form. South Africa looks quite good coming in. The conditions will be very interesting, it can be the determining factor. India has got a lot of talent, but they have holes as well. They don't field really well. The balance of the team could be a problem," Styris told agencies.



For more updates www.thestatesman.com

T20WC: India look for winning start against Ireland

The Irish team is expected to face an uphill task from the likes of Kuldeep Yadav and Jadeja and the Indian pace unit

TRIDIB BAPARNASH

NEW DELHI, 4 MAY

here is no doubt that the 2024 Lok Sabha poll results will attract Page 1 headlines on Wednesday, but far from the political slugfest, there is another exciting battle on the cards that could keep India glued to TV sets on Wednesday.

The heartbreak of November 19, 2023 is still very fresh for every Indian cricket fan even as the cricket team gears up for another shot at glory when the Rohit Sharma-led side takes on a plucky Ireland in their first Group A match of the T20 World Cup in New York.



on the global silverware, but ly get over the line in the in this format, it will be inter- accommodate Jaiswal at the



look to play Shivam Dube and include an extra spinner in the line-up.

On a slow track and a sub-par outfield at the Nassau County ground, the key to India's success could be to handle Irish left-arm spinner George Dockrell. Besides Dockrell, the Irish side boasts of a number of experienced campaigners in Paul Stirling, Josh Little, Harry Tector, Andy Balbirnie, who will be keen on creating an upset, especially after managing to beat Pakistan at home very recently. Little also is fresh from his IPL stint with the Gujarat Titans and the troika of Balbirnie, Stirling and Tector are more than reliable rolling their arms.

Norway Chess: Praggnanandhaa defeats reigning world champion Liren in Armageddon

AGENCIES STAVANGER, 4 JUNE

Round 7 of the Norway Chess tournament witnessed gripping matches with tense moments that significantly impacted the standings as India's prodigy R Praggnanandhaa scored another upset by defeating world champion Ding Liren in the armageddon game and, Magnus Carlsen lost his armageddon game against Hikaru Nakamura on time.

One of the highlights of the day was the match between Koneru Humpy and Vaishali R as Koneru Humpy scored the only classical victory of the day in both tournaments. With this loss, the former tournament leader Vaishali's winning chances have significantly decreased.

The world champion Ding Liren, who has been underperforming with four losses

The armageddon tiebreak was one of the most intense games so far in the tournament, as Nakamura won when Carlsen's time ran out on the clock. This win brought Nakamura within half a point of Carlsen, who is leading the tournament with 13 points.

Fabiano Caruana sacrificing his knight against Alireza Firouzja almost backfired but managed to play a draw in classical chess before the latter gave no chances in the decider. In the Norway Chess women's tournament, the classical game between coleaders Anna Muzychuk and Ju Wenjun ended peacefully. However, it was Muzychuk who won the armageddon tiebreak to lead the standings with just half a point ahead of the world champion Wenjunn. In another closely-fought game of the day, Lei Tingjie defeated

Pia Cramling in the

armageddon.



The poignant sight from the Narendra Modi Stadium on that fateful November evening, when Rohit Sharma desperately tried to hide his welled-up eyes from the TV cameras as he quietly climbed the steps of the dressing room. There was also Virat Kohli, who even after scoring those 765 invaluable runs, had to satisfy himself with the

runner-up medal. Both Rohit and Kohli have individually laid their hands the other senior pros in the knockouts.

Indian team, like Jasprit Bum-Having comfortably won rah and Ravindra Jadeja will the warm-up contest against be desperate to finally find Bangladesh, the Indian team themselves a part of a chamhas got a fair idea about the pion team when the Indian nature of the virgin wickets team officially starts their in the US, and as is clear from campaign on Wednesday. the games so far, run-scoring won't be as easy as was Even as the Indian selectors reposed faith in their most during the Indian Premier League the last couple of experienced lot, despite the current batch faltering at the months.

final two hurdles way too Heading into the contest many times, it remains to be against a gutsy Irish side, seen whether they can finaland isn't exactly a minnow

top. esting to see whether India

persist with the tried and tested combination at the top of the order or promote Kohli to open with Rohit, sacrificing Yashasvi Jaiswal.

In the practice game, India's experiment to open with Sanju Samson didn't materialise, but Rishabh Pant's batting at No.3 was like a breath of fresh air. But with Kohli back in the mix, it remains to be seen whether Pant bats down the order to

The other positive from India's warmup game was the form of Hardik Pandya with both the bat and ball, and he would be raring to have a

cracker of a World Cup to drag himself out of a low phase in the last couple of months. At the Cantiague Park nets

on Monday, Pandya was spotted bowling to Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav and Rohit, and if he can bowl at least three overs every match, the team can also

Having said that, the Irish team is also expected to face an uphill task from the likes of Kuldeep Yadav and Jadeja, apart from the Indian pace unit.

All said and done, a comfortable win against the 'Green Shirts' on Wednesday will give Rohit & Co the muchneeded momentum before they take on the more famous Men-in-Green in the highoctane June 9 clash at the same venue.

in a row, finally stopped the bleeding with a much-needed draw against India's Praggnanandhaa R. However, he missed a trick and lost the armageddon tie-breaker, with Pragg remaining on the third spot of the standings (11 points).

In the highly anticipated game between Magnus Carlsen and Hikaru Nakamura, the classical game ended in a draw relatively quickly, as both sides avoid-

'We're on to final stage of preparations': India head coach Igor Stimac before facing Kuwait

AGENCIES KOLKATA, 4 JUNE

India head coach Igor Stimac opened up on Blue Tigers' preparation for the upcoming FIFAWorld Cup Qualifiers against Kuwait and Qatar and said that they are on the final stage of practice now.

The Blue Tigers had started training in Bhubaneswar on May 11 before travelling to Kolkata.

Stimac took to his official X account and said that they are ready to face Kuwait and Qatar in the upcoming qualifier matches. He added that they need to make their tactics right and need to be mentally strong.

"The players are ready to go, we're on to the final stage of preparations for Kuwait and Qatar. It's all about getting out tactics right and making sure we are all mentally exactly where we need to be," Stimac wrote on X.

The match has a lot of significance for Indian football fans as it will mark the last appearance of legendary captain Sunil Chhetri in an international outing. Earlier in May, the 39-year-old announced that June 6 would



India are currently placed second in the group, with four points from four matches. The top two teams in the group will qualify for Round 3 of the FIFAWorld Cup Qualifiers and

book their berth at the AFC Asian Cup Saudi Arabia 2027. India's quest for a place in the third round of the FIFA

World Cup 2026 and AFC Asian Cup 2027 Preliminary Joint Qualifiers suffered a serious jolt when they went down to Afghanistan 1-2. The winners trailed 0-1 at half-

time. The Blue Tigers will take on Kuwait on June 6 at the iconic Salt Lake Stadium. The second qualifier match will be played on June 11 against Qatar. The second

match will be played at Jas-

India Squad: Goalkeepers: Amrinder Singh, Gurpreet Singh Sandhu.

Defenders: Amey Ganesh Ranawade, Jay Gupta, Lalchungnunga, Muhammad Hammad, Narender, Nikhil Poojary, Roshan Singh Naorem.

Midfielders: Brandon Fernandes, Edmund Lalrindika, Imran Khan, Isak Vanlalruatfela, Jeakson Singh Thounaojam, Mahesh Singh Naorem,

Mohammad Yasir, Nandhakumar Sekar, Rahul Kannoly Praveen, Suresh Singh Wangjam, Vibin Mohanan.

Forwards: David Lalhlansanga, Jithin Madathil Subran, Lalrinzuala, Parthib

NADA revokes wrestler Bajrang Punia's provisional suspension

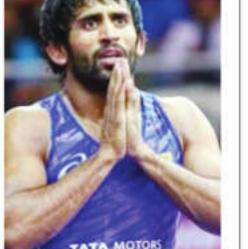
STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, 4 JUNE

Tokyo Olympics bronze medallist grappler Bajrang Punia received a muchneeded shot in the arm after the Anti Doping Disciplinary Panel (ADDP) has revoked the provisional suspension slapped on him a couple of months back.

Punia was served a notice by National Anti Doping Agency (NADA) on April 23 following his refusal to give a sample after the selection trial for Olympics qualifier on March 10 in Sonepat, and subsequently the world governing body UWW also took similar action.

Bajrang had challenged the provisional suspension through his lawyers and reiterated in his reply to ADDP that he never refused to provide sample but just wanted to know why NADA has not replied to his earlier query on action taken by the National Anti-Doping Agency for sending expired kit to take his sample in December 2023.

The NADA Disciplinary Panel, comprising Sunny Choudhary, Dr. Rana Chen-



notice of charge is yet to be issued to the athlete" and ordered "the provisional suspension of the athlete is revoked till NADA decides to issue the notice of charge to the athlete for the violation of anti-doping rules."

It remains to be seen whether NADA pursues the matter further and decides to issue Notice of Charge to Bajrang. If the Notice of Charge is not issued, the matter will be closed and if it is issued, a final hearing will be conducted.

The NADA disciplinary panel said it is premature to go into the merits and demerits of the case, and added if NADA decides to issue the notice of charge to the ath-

T20 World Cup: Farooqi takes five wickets as Afghanistan crush Uganda

AGENCIES **GEORGETOWN, 4 JUNE**

Fazalhaq Farooqi's five-wicket haul powered Afghanistan to a dominating 125-run win over debutants Uganda in the Group C match of the ICC Men'sT20WorldCuponTuesday (as per IST), here at Providence stadium.

Despite fightback from Uganda bowlers in the death overs, Afghanistan posted a strong total of 183/5 on the back of a brilliant opening stand of 154 runs between Ibrahim Zadran (70 off 46) and Rahmanullah Gurbaz 76 off 42).

In defense of a huge total, Farooqi set the tone for the win with his scintillating bowling display, picking up 5-9 to bundle out Uganda for 58 in 16 overs and wrap up a massive win for his side.

Brian Masaba won the toss and elected to bowl first. Afghanistan's openers capitalised on favorable batting conditions and Uganda's fielding lapses. Gurbaz led initially, with Zadran joining him, hitting four boundaries in the sixth over.

The duo continued to dominate, with Gurbaz reaching his maiden T20World Cup fifty in



Afghanistan crossed the 100-run mark by the 10th over, aided by an eventful 25run over from Bilal Shah which included five no-balls and five wides, propelling them past 150. Skipper Masaba eventually claimed Uganda's first wicket, dismissing

Ibrahim Zadran and breaking

Experienced tweakers

the 154-run opening stand.

Alpesh Ramjani and Masaba

then picked two more over the

next couple of overs to clean

up the Afghanistan top-order.

Uganda bowlers got their act

right in the death, conceding

22 runs for merely three wick-

gave Afghanistan the perfect

start dismissing Ronak Patel

(4) and Roger Mukasa (0) off

back-to-back deliveries. While

Defending 183, Farooqi

ets in the final four overs.

by the barest of margins, Afghanistan had their third when Mujeeb Ur Rahman dismissed Simon Ssezai for 4.

When Naveen-ul-Haq the third bowler to be introduced in the game, picked two wickets in his first over, Uganda were in dire straits at 18/5. A brief stand between Riazat Ali and Robinson Obuya steadied the ship temporarily, but Farooqi returned to deliver further blows and strengthen Afghanistan's grasp on the game.

Farooqi finished with 5/9, while the finishing blows were delivered by skipper Rashid Khan.

Brief scores: Afghanistan 183/5 in 20 over (Ibrahim Zadran (70), Rahmanullah Gurbaz 76); Brian Masaba 2-21) beat Uganda 58 all out in 16 overs



be his last appearance in the international arena.

sim Bin Hamad Stadium at Al Sadd Club in Qatar.

Sundar Gogoi, Rahim Ali, Sunil Chhetri.

gappa and Abantika Deka, on May 31 noted that "the

lete then the matter will be listed for final hearing.

the ninth over, featuring four sixes and two fours.

(Robinson Obuya 14; Fazalhaq he missed out on a hat-trick, with Riazat Ali Shah surviving Farooqi 5-9) by 125 runs.

Dravid confirms T20 World Cup as his final assignment

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, 4 MAY

On the eve of India's T20 World Cup campaign opener against Ireland in New York on Wednesday, head coach Rahul Dravid has confirmed that the tournament will be his final assignment with the national team, and he won't be applying for the position again.

Dravid's comments came as expected, but this was the first official confirmation that India will have a new coach come July. His confirmation came when he was asked if this World Cup was going to hold extra importance for him.

"Every tournament is important. Every game that I've coached for India has been very important for me. For me, this is no different just because it is going to be the last one that I'm in charge of. I love doing the job. I've really enjoyed coaching India,

and I think it's a truly special job to do. I've enjoyed working with this team, and it's a

great bunch of boys to work with," the former India captain said.

"Unfortunately, just the kind of schedules (that are in place in international cricket) and where I find myself in this stage in my life, I don't think I'll be able to re-apply," he confirmed.

However, Dravid stressed on the importance of carrying on with the same intensity in his final assignment as India aim to end the decadelong ICC title triumph at the 2024 T20 World Cup, co-hosted by the US and the West Indies.

"Having said that, it's no different for me to be very honest. I don't see this anything particularly different or significant. From the first day I took the job, I always felt that every game was important and every game mattered, and

that will not change," Dravid said. Dravid took over as the head coach in November

2021 and his original contract with the national side was till the end of the 2023 ODIWorld Cup, but was handed an extension to June 2024 after the team managed to produce a near-perfect campaign until the loss to Australia in the ODI World Cup final.

In April, the BCCI had invited applications for the head coach job following the T20World Cup. Back then, the BCCI secretary Jay Shah had stated that Dravid can reapply for the role but the latter on Monday deemed it unlikely. The board has so far received close to 3,000 applications for the role, but former India opener Gautam Gambhir is widely speculated to succeed Dravid, although it is still not confirmed whether the two-time World Cup winner has applied for the posi-



tion.

Consistency the key Meanwhile, Dravid also spoke on the importance of being consistent in such big-

ticket tournaments, and praised his team's effort for a blemish-free run in the past two World Cups (T20 WC 2022 and 2023 ODIWC) under

him, even as he expects the side to finally win that crucial knockout in the Americas.

"To be very honest, I think we've actually played really well in these World Cup tournaments. In terms of our consistency, we've been very consistent. Making the semifinal in the first, in the T20 one in Australia (in 2022). The World Test Championship is slightly different in terms of it's not one tournament, but it's a whole cycle, but playing extremely well in the cycle to get to the final there again (in 2023). The 50-over World Cup where we had a great run and went into the final (in 2023). In terms of our consistency, in terms of the quality of cricket that we have played in these big tournaments, I think we've been right up there with some of the best teams," he said.

"We can't say that we've not played good cricket in these tournaments. Yes, we probably haven't been able to get across the line in that one knockout game. The (2023 ODI) final in Ahmedabad or the (WTC final) game at The Oval and then again at Adelaide in the T20 semi-final. So we just probably haven't been able to execute in that last

phase. "Hopefully we play good cricket to get ourselves into those positions again. Then maybe play good cricket on the day to get across the line. But the important thing when you start these tournaments is not to think about that. It is to actually think about getting into those positions again. I think that's as hard as actually winning those games at times. You have to find yourselves in those positions where you are pushing for glory, and that's all you can do as a group and as a team. Our whole goal will be to try and get ourselves once again into a position where we give ourselves a chance to be able to, um, win a tournament," he added.

Dravid said the Indian team would need to focus more on their decision-making than expectations to get past the knockouts hurdle.

"To be able to read and understand conditions that will be different in various places. It's our ability to use our experience. It's our ability to execute in the middle. It's our ability to make the right decisions whether with the bat or with the ball at those critical moments, which will be the defining factor."

"We would rather focus on that rather than kind of worry about the expectations. Of course, there are expectations and it's a great thing that people are rating our team highly because that means that we've been playing good cricket and we've got a good squad together," he summarised.

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