

Ex-directors not helping, says Future Lifestyle RP

Priyanka Gawande
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MUMBAI

The counsel representing the resolution professional (RP) of Future Lifestyle Fashions Ltd has filed a plea with the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), alleging a lack of cooperation from former board of directors and promoters of the firm.

According to the RP, allegations pertain to their failure to offer "relevant information", impeding the progress of the resolution process.

Future Lifestyle Fashions (FLF) is the flagship fashion business of the Future Group founded by Kishore Biyani.

Under Section 19 (2) of IBC, or Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, if the promoter or other persons required to assist the interim RP does not cooperate, the RP can file an application before the tribunal.

"In the resolution process, resolution professional has to take complete control of a corporate debtor's affairs and its assets. However, if the information is not available, then it becomes difficult for the RP to proceed further and conclude the process in a time-bound manner," Ashish Pyasi, associate partner at Dhir and Dhir Associates, said. To expedite the process and assist the RP, NCLT can direct the respondents to cooperate, said Pyasi.

The 17 financial creditors of the bankrupt firm, including State Bank of India, Catalyst Trusteeship Ltd and Centbank Financial Services has submitted claims worth ₹3,600 crore. While ₹3,400 crore has been admitted, another ₹210 crore is still under verification. The NCLT appointed Ravi Sethia as interim RP on 4 May.

Flurry of spirit launches raises competition in alcobev sector

New additions come at a time volume consumption in India has crossed pre-covid levels

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NEW DELHI

The Indian alcoholic beverage market is experiencing intensifying rivalry spurred by the launch of several new spirits.

In the past week alone and since April this year, companies such as Radico Khaitan, Allied Blenders & Distillers Ltd, and Khemani Distilleries Pvt. Ltd have introduced multiple spirits across categories such as whisky, gin, and rum. Industry executives say that the main impetus behind this surge of innovation is a mix of stiff competition and growing consumer acceptance of Indian brands.

For instance, in August, TRDP Group, the maker of Mario biscuits and Raj Niwas pan masala, will launch its premium vodka brand under group company NeuWorld Spirits Pvt. Ltd.

Meanwhile, riding on the success of its gin, Jaisalmer, Radico Khaitan has launched a new gin, 'Happiness in a Bottle', which is being initially retailed in Rajasthan, and is expected to cost between ₹2,000 and ₹2,200 a bottle, depending on the state it is being sold in.

"Some years ago, nobody in the world believed we could make world class beverages. Look at where we are now. We are now making products to reckon with, which are successful. We expect this gin to be profitable and to cross the one million case mark in a very short period of time because this product will create a segment of its own," Amar Sinha, chief operating officer at Radico Khaitan told *Mint*.

Others are taking the special edition route to test waters. This May, Stilldistilling Spirits India, which owns Goa-based Moka Zai rum, launched a limited-release barrel aged rare rum Messia.



Indian consumers are proud and happy to acknowledge that local cos can deliver on quality—and at lower prices

The same month, Stranger & Sons gin maker, Third Eye Distillery Holdings, expanded its dark rum portfolio, adding five new variants.

The new spirit additions make sense keeping in mind that volume consumption in India's total spirits market topped pre-covid levels of 2019 in 2022. There was a 20% rise in volume from 2019 to 2020 but a 23% jump in volume consumption from 2021 to 2022, said British beverage alcohol data and insights firm, IWSR.

Jason Holway, a market analyst at IWSR, said this could be because earlier 'imported' used to be synonymous

with premium. But now Indian consumers are proud and happy to acknowledge that local companies can deliver on quality—and at lower prices, as there are no import duties and that premium local brands are evident across all categories.

Organizations are taking the cue in a growth market and launching multiple brands. Officer's Choice blended scotch whisky, for instance, has launched a special edition, bottled-in-origin product from Blairholm Distillers, Scotland.

"Some will succeed and many will fail in this jostle for consumers in a very tightly regulated trade with a limited number of stores. But it will mean there will be a wide array of choices, better quality and innovation, which are great things to have in a market," said Bikram Basu, COO, marketing sales and strategy for Allied Blenders and Distillers.

He added that at present, government and excise is centered only around revenue increase from traditional and time-tested products.

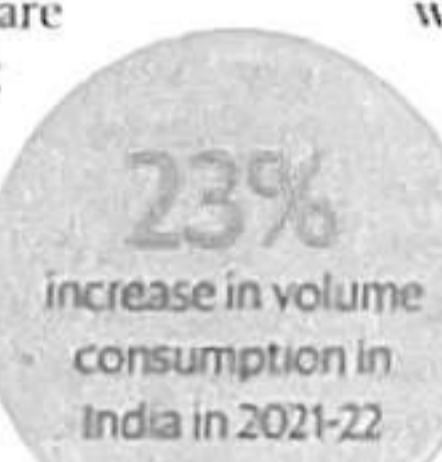
But this must change to let more companies enter the fray, both to innovate

and boost revenue flows from newer sources over time.

While several new spirits like these are well received in many markets, distribution has conventionally been a big challenge for most new entrants. Excise is a state subject and availability of brands can be very challenging due to the distribution network.

Cities like Delhi have faced a huge challenge in recent months due to its excise policy changing over multiple times. Sales growth in national capital is trending down, reaching a negative range, the Confederation of Indian Alcoholic Beverage Companies (CIABC) said in a recent report.

It, however, pointed out that share of Indian products in this segment rose from 18% in FY22 to 20% in FY23, indicating faster growth for homegrown products, compared to imported ones.



Lobby group urges GST Council to cut in-cinema F&B tax

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The meeting of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council, scheduled for later this week, will discuss a proposal to reduce the taxes on certain categories of food and beverages (F&B) sold inside cinema halls from the existing 18% to 5%. The move is a direct outcome of efforts made by the Multiplex Association of India (MAI), an industry lobby group representing cinema owners.

The MAI collaborates with regulatory bodies and industry stakeholders to represent the issues faced by the exhibition sector, and highlight both the opportunities and challenges.

The MAI's representation to GST Council is based on feedback from some of its members on the difficulties after the local authorities mandating 18% taxes on F&B in certain states and towns. This demand contradicts the categorization of F&B inside cinemas as restaurant services, which should be 5%, according to the GST Council's guidelines.

"Cinema theatres across India levy 5% rate on F&B since GST was introduced. However, in the past 12-15 months, some cinemas received notice from local bodies that F&Bs in cinema's can't be treated as restaurant services. Instead of fighting at the local level, we decided to make a representation to the government to avoid unnecessary litigation," Nitin Sood, chief financial officer at PVR Inox Ltd, said.

F&B is one of the most significant sources of revenue for



The move is a direct outcome of efforts made by the MAI

cinema owners and lower or flexible pricing will lead to better financial access to theatres for audiences. "The cost of the movie-going experience will come down and any rebates or subsidies will only make the sector healthier, since it really has been a tough scenario over the past few months," Akshaye Rathi, an exhibitor and film distributor, said.

Considering it is crucial for cinema operators as they contribute 30-32% of annual earnings, trade experts said F&B is the only revenue source cinemas do not have to share with producers or distributors, unlike the earnings from say ticket sales.

While the distributor-exhibitor share keeps changing based on an individual film in the first week of launch, exhibitors take a 52.5% share, which changes to 50% in the second week, and 47.5% in the third. It is also important considering the massive rent and maintenance costs for theatre owners. According to its earnings results, PVR posted revenue of ₹554.2 crore for F&B in the first half of FY23, up 3% compared to the same period of FY20. It was at 32% of overall income.

F&B is one of the most significant sources of revenue for

'Business confidence improved in June qtr'

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NEW DELHI

Business confidence has improved sequentially in April-June, reaffirming the positive trends in economic activity like goods and services tax (GST) collections, as well as air and rail passenger traffic, according to the Confederation of Indian Industry.

CII's business outlook survey indicates an increasing number of businesses are optimistic about prospects of fresh private investments.

The survey done in the May-June period, involved over 180 businesses across sectors and regions with nearly two-thirds representing micro, small and medium enterprises, CII said.

CII's Business Confidence Index stood at 66.1 in the June quarter, compared to 64 in the previous quarter, and 66.9 in the year earlier.

Most businesses covered in



Chandrajit Banerjee, director general, CII

the survey expected the economy to grow at 6-7% this fiscal year, in line with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)'s estimates of 6.5% economic growth.

Survey participants said the momentum of capital expenditure by central government, strong domestic drivers and a robust financial system are top three factors to aid growth.

The Centre is also counting on improved financial health of

lenders and other companies to kick in a fresh cycle of private investments that could aid further economic growth and create more jobs.

That said, slowing growth in developed economies as well as deepening geopolitical risks may impact economic growth forecast for FY24.

CII director general Chandrajit Banerjee said that the positive outlook in business confidence in the June quarter is encouraging and reiterates the on-ground experience of most industry players.

"Improvement in demand has translated into improvement in capacity utilisation in many sectors, which will lend impetus to private capex."

"An overwhelming majority of respondents (65%) are of the view that the fresh sightings in private investment will be sus-

tained in the current fiscal," he said citing deleveraged corporate balance sheets, which in turn increased the capacity of private businesses "to invest once there is a clear visibility on demand".

In view of the global economic slowdown, 60% of the respondents said there's no change in their international investment plans. Nearly 46% of respondents said their India investment plans will not change but 39% anticipated an increase

in investments.

The survey said businesses expect the pause on interest rate increases to continue "to preserve growth impulses". 62% of the respondents cited muted global growth and geopolitical turbulence to be key concerns for the current financial year.

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M.P. HOUSING & INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER NO. 606/04.07.23 (1st CALL)

Online Percentage Rate Bids for the following work is/are invited from Registered Contractors and Firms of Repute fulfilling Registration criteria :-

System Tender No.	Name of Work	Probable Amount of Contract	Amount of E.M. Cost of Bid Form Including @18% GST	Completion Period (Months)	Date of Submission of Tenders (Last Date)	Date of Opening of Technical Bid
2023_MPHID_289920	Selection of Agency for Marketing of 40 MIG (2 BHK) and 40 HIG (3 BHK) Flats/Units in Lav Kush Heights at Rajiv Nagar, Ayodhya Bypass Road, Bhopal.	Rs. 3590.00 Lakhs	Rs. 71,800.00 Rs. 11,800.00	12 Months Including Rainy Season	24.07.2023 17.00 Hrs.	26.07.2023 12.00 Hrs.

1) Interested bidders can view the detailed NIT on website www.mphousing.in and <https://www.mpeproc.gov.in>

2) The bid documents can be purchased online only as per schedule 10.07.2023 to 21.07.2023 up to 17.30 hrs.

3) Amendments to NIT if any would be published on website only.

E-mail : eedn5hbbpl@mp.gov.in
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CIN No. : L27104WB1989PLC047832
Ph: 033-40447872/8394; Fax No.- 033-40448615
Email I'd: contact@eilgroup.com, Website: www.eilgroup.co.in

NOTICE

Notice is Hereby Given That a Meeting of The Board of Directors of The Company Will Be Held On Monday The 7th Day of August, 2023 At 3:00 P.M. at Its Registered Office of The Company to Approve and take on Record, Interalia, The Un-audited Financial Results (provisional) For The 1st Quarter Ended on 30th June, 2023.

For Enterprise International Ltd.
Sd/- Gopal Das Sarda
Director

Place : Kolkata
Dated : 08.07.2023

Airlines seek tech to curb emissions: Sita

Anu Sharma
anu.sharma@livemint.com
NEW DELHI

Indian airlines are in discussions with aviation technology service provider Sita to adopt solutions for reducing carbon emissions and increasing fuel efficiency, said Sumesh Patel, president of Asia Pacific, Sita (Société Internationale de Télécommunications Aéronautiques), in an interview.

"We are in discussions with Indian airlines to look at various solutions, which can help them in operational efficiency and reduce carbon footprint. Discussions are at an advanced stage and are likely to be finalised in a month or so," he said.

Highlighting a recent collaboration, Patel said "So just as an example when we piloted with Singapore Airlines for 20 aircraft, you can save 5,000 tonne of carbon dioxide annually and save close to \$1 million." The tie



Discussions are at an advanced stage and likely to be finalised in a month or so, said Sumesh Patel, president of Asia Pacific, Sita

up with Singapore Airlines led to utilization of artificial intelligence and data to understand each aircraft's capabilities and suggest the angle and speed for takeoff, to save approximately 5% fuel costs.

While the airlines seek technological solutions to save fuel and reduce carbon emissions, Patel said Indian airports are also actively working on sus-

tainability solutions.

"We just launched a solution at Hong Kong airport, which helps them to monitor carbon footprint for each stakeholder, be it restaurants, or duty-free shops. Discussions are underway even with Indian airports on such steps."

The company is involved in deploying biometric-enabled travel programme, Digi Yatra,

along with all stakeholders at Bengaluru, Varanasi, Kolkata Pune and Vijaywada airports.

"No other country is looking at implementing biometric to such a large scale. India is currently looking at domestic passengers but with this technology you can leverage even for international travel," he said.

Sita is working with Star Alliance to offer biometric-enabled seamless travel experience to flyers across member airlines and destinations. Under this, a passenger will be able to use the same biometric token to travel on Star Alliance airlines' network without any physical document. Besides, it has signed up with European train network, SNCF, for the biometric token.

In India, Sita has tied up with the Airports Authority of India to facilitate cloud solution at 43 airports for more efficiency at kiosks, and curb carbon emissions as the core server rooms get replaced on cloud.

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RESERVE BANK OF INDIA
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AUCTION OF STATE GOVERNMENT SECURITIES

The following State Governments have offered to sell stock by way of auction for an aggregate amount of ₹10,400 crore (Face Value).

Sr. No.	State/UT	Amount to be raised (₹ Cr)	Additional borrowing (Green shoe) option (₹ Cr)	Tenure (in years)	Type of auction
1	Andhra Pradesh	1000	-	18	Yield based
2	Haryana	1000	-	19	Yield based
3	Jammu and Kashmir	1000	-	12	Yield based
4	Kerala	1000	-	15	Yield based
5	Punjab	500	-	20	Yield based
6	Tamil Nadu	3000	-	10	Yield based
7	Telangana	1000	-	16	Yield based
TOTAL		10400	-		

The auction will be conducted on Reserve Bank of India Core Banking Solution (E-Kuber) in multiple-price format on July 11, 2023 (Tuesday). Individual investors can also place bids as per the non-competitive scheme through the Retail Direct portal (<https://rti.rbiindia.org.in>). For further details please refer to RBI press release dated July 07, 2023 (Friday) on RBI website www.rbi.org.in

"Don't get cheated by E-mails/SMSs/Calls promising you money"

10/7/23 mint 10/7/23

2 Eastern Region

Eastern Command of Indian Army and Red FM celebrate Vijay Diwas

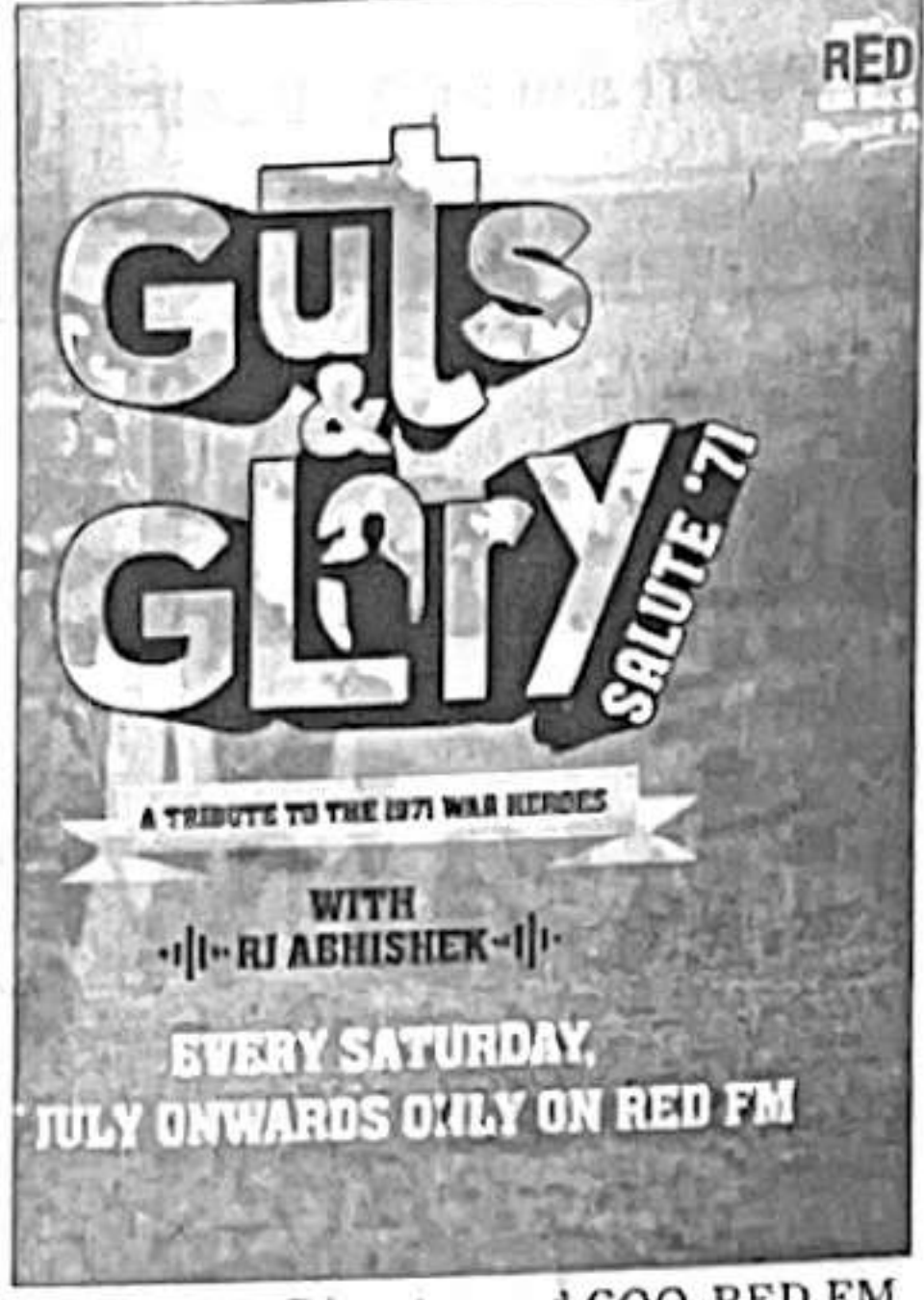
EOI CORRESPONDENT

KOLKATA, JULY 8 /- Radio channel and entertainment network 93.5 RED FM announced its partnership with the Eastern Command of the Indian Army to commemorate Vijay Diwas with a grand celebration titled "Guts and Glory - Salute 71".

This event aims to pay tribute to the historic victory of the 1971 war and honor the brave soldiers who made it possible. As part of this unique initiative, Red FM will captivate its audience on-air with narrations of intriguing war stories that depict the valiant efforts of the Indian armed forces during the 1971 war. Listeners will have the opportunity to learn about the heroic deeds of our soldiers, their unwavering spirit, and the sacrifices they made to ensure our nation's victory. Red FM will also collate all stories as episodes under a podcast, which will be available on various audio streaming platforms, sources informed.

In addition, "Guts and Glory - Salute 71" will recognize and award the heroic soldiers along with citizens of North East India, who displayed exceptional courage and dedication during the triumphant war, sources said. Reflecting on the announcement, Lieutenant General Rana Pratap Kalita, said: "I am delighted to know that Red FM has taken the initiative to narrate stories of valour and courage of our soldiers who fought in the 1971 war. In our vision to salute the bravery of the heroes, we are delighted to present to you Guts & Glory - Salute 71, as part of this year Vijay Diwas Celebration. We are hopeful to present a deeper insight into the triumphant moment of Indian history."

Speaking on the announcement, Nisha



Narayanan, Director and COO, RED FM, and Magic FM, said: "On the occasion of Vijay Diwas, we are elated to be joining hands with the Eastern Command of the Indian Army to honor the lives of the 1971 war veterans. Our army men live through times that are unimaginable to us. The sacrifice of our veterans is truly unfathomable but as a brand, we are looking forward to commending the valor of the keepers of our nation. The Guts & Glory - Salute 71 initiative will also recognize the unsung heroes who walk amongst us as common citizens. We are hopeful that these stories will enrich us with empathy and esteem for the gallant troops who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom."

Parties condemn violence in Bengal panchayat poll; BJP seeks Prez's Rule

KOLKATA, JULY 8 /- Cutting across ideological lines, all parties in West Bengal on Saturday condemned the killing of 11 people in various districts as voting for the panchayat elections is underway, while the Opposition BJP called for President's Rule in the state.

The ruling Trinamool Congress, which lost six of its supporters to poll violence, accused the Opposition of instigating violence and criticised the central forces for their failure to protect the voters. State Congress president Adhir Chowdhury, on the other hand, alleged that TMC goons are having a free run and people's mandate has been looted. The CPI(M)'s West Bengal secretary Md Salim claimed that the central force was not properly mobilised. Among those killed since midnight were six TMC members, and one worker each of the BJP, CPI(M), Congress and the ICFI, and another person whose political identity could not be known. Senior state minister Sashi Panja said, "Shocking incidents are being reported since last night. BJP, CPI(M) and



An injured voter being taken to hospital by policemen---Photo: EOI

Congress had colluded, demanding central forces. Where are they deployed? TMC workers are being murdered. Where are the central forces?"

In a statement, the TMC said 27 people were killed since the panchayat elections were announced on June 8 and 17 of them are from Trinamool, which is over 60 per cent of the total fatalities. "If Trinamool were indeed instigating

violence, as the media is alleging, why would their own workers be targeted and killed? The Opposition has conceded defeat and is now attempting to shape the narrative around how violence affected the election, utilising their allies in the media," it said. Across West Bengal, there are more than 60,000 booths but only 60-odd booths have witnessed disruption during the

polling process. The statement said adding that a single incident of violence has been reported. Leader of the Opposition in the state Assembly, Suwendu Adhikari of the BJP, demanded that President's Rule be imposed in the state. "A free and fair election under the state administration is a mirage. It is only possible only if elections are held under President's Rule or Article 355," he said.

Article 355 of the Constitution states that it is the duty of the Union to protect the states from internal disturbances and

external aggression. BJP leader Rahul Sinha claimed that the SEC is working as per the direction of the state's Trinamool Congress government and it has failed to discharge its duties totally.

"This is evident from the way they are conducting the polling today. At several booths, there are no central forces, while the state police are also absent in a few. I have got photographs as well as videos where CCTV were not connected to wires even. This actually helped the miscreants carry out violence," he said. CPI(M) state secretary Md Salim said, "The central force was not properly mobilised in spite of the High Court order and it was a goof up between central and state forces." "Ultimately, it is the people who have been suffering, he said.

"There is rampant usage of arms and the ruling Trinamool Congress is behind all these incidents. They had planned it well in advance to create disturbances on the polling day and loot votes. But I am happy to see that in some places, people have put up resistance," senior CPI(M) leader Dr. Sujan Chakraborty told PTI. State Congress president Adhir Chowdhury said the election has turned into a farce as the "TMC goons are having a free run, and people's mandate has been looted." (PTI)

Jharkhand MNREGA scam: SC grants protection from arrest to husband of suspended IAS officer

NEW DELHI, JULY 8 /- The Supreme Court has granted protection from arrest to Abhishek Jha, the husband of suspended Jharkhand cadre IAS officer Pooja Singhal, in a money laundering case arising out of the alleged MNREGA scam in the state. The court's decision came after the Enforcement Directorate (ED) said he may be given the relief to look after the medical needs of his daughter. Singhal, a 2000-batch IAS officer, is the main accused in the alleged scam involving embezzlement of public funds of Rs 18.07 crore when she was the deputy commissioner of Khunti district. A bench of justices S K Kaul and Sudhanshu Dhulia noted that Singhal, who was earlier released in view of her daughter's medical needs, is already in custody. "Since the petitioner husband was available to look after the medical needs of the child, this court, for the time being, asked the wife to surrender and she has surrendered," the bench said.

"ASG (additional solicitor general appearing for the ED) fairly submits that in view of the custody of the wife, in order to look after the medical needs of the daughter who requires medical attention, the petitioner (Jha) may be protected against arrest, more so, as he is also running

a speciality hospital. We take the aforesaid statement on record and dispose of the petition," the bench said in its order passed on July 5. The top court passed the order while hearing Jha's plea challenging the May 18 order of the Jharkhand High Court denying him anticipatory bail in the case. "Needless to say that the petitioner (Jha) will be appearing before the court where the complaint has been filed," the bench said, while disposing of the plea. On June 23, his plea had come up for hearing before a vacation bench of the apex court which had refused to grant him anticipatory bail and posted the matter for hearing on July 5.

On May 18, the High Court had dismissed his anticipatory bail plea and asked him to surrender before the court in four weeks. "As held by the Supreme Court, in offences under PMLA rigors of Section 45, will apply. Considering the magnitude of crime involving proceeds of crime to the tune of crores with evidence of it being carefully layered and laundered through investments, materials on record, risk of flight and for the plea taken on behalf of the ED, I do not find this a case fit for grant of anticipatory bail," Justice Gautam Kumar Chaudhary of the High Court had said

Consensual sex not rape if promise of marriage is broken: Orissa HC

CUTTACK, JULY 8 /- The Orissa High Court has said that if a consensual physical relationship was based on a promise of marriage which could not be materialised for some reasons, it cannot be considered rape. The High Court quashed the charge of rape faced by a Bhubaneswar-based man. The allegation against him was brought by a woman who is a friend of the petitioner and is in a matrimonial dispute with her husband for five years. The other allegations against the petitioner such as cheating are left open for investigation. Justice R K Pattanaik said in the order.

"There is a subtle difference between a breach of promise which is made in good faith but subsequently could not be fulfilled, and a false promise to marry." "In the former case, for any such sexual intimacy, an offence under Section 376 IPC is not made out, whereas, in the latter, it is, since the same is based on the premise that the promise of marriage was false or fake from the very beginning," the High Court order of July 3 read. The Supreme Court in an order had said that if two persons maintained a

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Manish Das, S/o Sambhu Nath Das, R/o-939, Sahid Heaman Kuanr Basu Sarani, Arati Apartment, Kolkata-700074. That my name has been wrongly recorded as Kumar Manish in Bihar School Examination Board, That Manish Das and Kumar Manish is the same and one identical person. Vide an affidavit (No. 6455) Ld. 1st Class Judicial Magistrate Court at Scaldah Dated on 06/07/2023.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Sindhu C is legally wedded spouse of No 15732576K Rank - L /NK Name: Prasanth V. permanently residing 3/190, Elumalaiyan Nagar, Pannaswaramad, Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu, Pin - 635112 declare that I have change my name from Sindhu P to Sindhu C. As per affidavit before the Notary Public at Alipore on 07 July 2023. Both Sindhu P and Sindhu C is the same and one identical person.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Subhas Halder (Date of Birth - 26/09/2000), S/o Ashok Kumar Halder, R/o - Manmathapur Kachanpara, P.O - Manmathapur P.S. -> Dhofahat, South 24 Parganas, W.B, Pin- 743347, declare that I have change my name Subhas Halder to Subhas Halder. As per affidavit in the Court of Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) J Diamond Harbour, South 24 Pgs on 01 July 2023. Both Subhas Halder and Subhas Halder is the same and one identical person.

NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given to the Public at large that my clients Mr. Rana Ghosh & others has already cancelled one Development Agreement along with Development Power of Attorney with M/S. Joy Shree Guru Construction by a deed of cancellation of development agreement vide no. 152403683/2023 before A.D.S.R. Sodepur on 19.05.2023 in connection with their property situated at holding no. 42, Arunachal, ward no. 12 within the limit of Khardah Municipality, P.S. - Nardaha, Kolkata-700118. All persons having any claim are hereby required to make the same known to the undersigned within 7 days from the date hereof, failing which the claims of such person/s will be deemed to have been waived and/or given up or abandoned and same shall not be entertained thereafter.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Anik Sen, S/o Late Asit Baran Sen, Butmy Driving Licence (No-WB25-20190011819) my father's name is wrongly recorded Late Asit Sen. Shall henceforth vide Affidavit at Barrackpore Court/Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) Dt. 07.07.2023 declared my father's original name Asit Baran Sen. Asit Baran Sen & Asit Sen same & one identical Person.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Subhas Sutradhar, My son (Saheb Sutradhar), Madhyamik Exajamination, Educational Documents wrongly recorded my name is Subhas Sutradhar. Shall henceforth vide Affidavit at Barasat Court/Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) Dt. 13.6.2023 declared my correct name is Subhas Sutradhar. Subhas Sutradhar & Subhas Sutradhar same & one identical Person.

JD-U rubbishes speculations of cracks in Mahagathbandhan

PATNA, JULY 8 /- Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's JD(U) on Saturday rubbished speculations of cracks appearing in the Mahagathbandhan, which it had joined less than a year ago after quitting the BJP-led NDA. The speculations have been rife since a fresh charge sheet was filed against Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav, who belongs to the RJD, the coalition's largest Constituent, and whose name figured in the land for hotels scam that had led Kumar to snap ties in 2017. Moreover, of late RJD leader and Education Minister Chandra Shekhar has been involved in a spat with the Chief Minister's trust. However, addressing a press conference here, JD(U) state president Umesh Singh Kushwaha asserted: "There is no problem within the Mahagathbandhan. These are all rumours fuelled by the BJP which is in desperation over momentum gained by the Opposition unity drive initiated by our leader".

He also scoffed at claims by leaders of the BJP and its existing and prospective allies that a number of JD(U) legislators and parliamentarians were "in touch" with them and were

willing to jump ship. "Such talks have been around since the JD(U)'s inception but the party has remained intact," Kushwaha said adding: "These are BJP's antics but these will not work. The party is certain to face a rout in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls". JD(U) chief spokespersons and MLC Neeraj Kumar, who talked to media persons separately, echoed similar views even as he expressed concern over the sulking education minister not going to his office ever since the department issued a communication forbidding his personal secretary from entering the premises.

"Education is one of the busiest departments. I know this as a representative of the Teachers' constituency. But it is a matter concerning the council of ministers and it will not be proper for me to speak much on the same," said the JD(U) MLC who is a former minister. A section of the media here has predicted "another U-turn" by the Chief Minister, who had snapped nearly two decades old ties with the BJP in 2013 and returned to the NDA four years later. Kumar's visit to Rajgir, in his home district of Nalanda, during the day has also left the rumour mills in overdrive with many recalling "major decisions" by the septuagenarian leader at sojourns in the pilgrim town. According to the Chief Minister's Office, Kumar is in

Nalanda to inspect preparations for a month-long religious fair. Neeraj Kumar also bristled at the BJP's demand that Kumar make Tejashwi Yadav resign or sack him, reminding the Chief Minister of his action six years ago. "And what about the BJP-led government in Maharashtra where so many leaders previously accused of corruption by the party are now honourable members of its cabinet", asked the JD(U) leader. (PTI)

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NOTICE
Notice is Hereby Given That a Meeting of The Board of Directors of The Company Will Be Held On Monday The 7th Day of August, 2023 At 3:00 P.M. at Its Registered Office of The Company to Approve and take on Record, Inter alia, The Un-audited Financial Results (provisional) For The 1st Quarter Ended on 30th June, 2023.

For Enterprise International Ltd.
Sd/- Gopal Das Sarda Director

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