

Indian warship 'Tabar' joins Russia's Navy Day parade in St Petersburg

■ In his address on the occasion, President Putin vowed that Russia would continue to strengthen its naval forces and modernise its fleets with high-tech assets, including hypersonic missiles

MOSCOW, July 28 (IANS)

OVER 200 naval vessels, including ships from the Indian, Chinese, and Algerian navies, took part in the traditional maritime parade in St Petersburg to mark Russia's Navy Day on Sunday.

President Vladimir Putin, Defense Minister Andrey Belousov, and Commander-in-Chief of the Navy Admiral Aleksandr Moiseyev oversaw the parade, which takes place on the last Sunday of July, RT reported. In his address on the occasion, President Putin vowed that Russia would continue to strengthen its naval forces and modernise its fleets with high-tech assets, including hypersonic missiles.

Over 15,000 service members and vessels of various classes drawn from Russia's Northern, Pacific, and Baltic fleets, the Caspian flotilla, as well as members of the naval force expedition in Syria, participated in the event. However, ships from the Black Sea Fleet



Russian President Vladimir Putin, centre, Russian Defense Minister Andrei Belousov, second right, and Russian Navy Commander-in-Chief Admiral Alexander Moiseyev, right, greet sailors prior to the main naval parade marking Russian Navy Day in St Petersburg, Russia on Sunday. (PTI)

were absent as they were engaged in active operations in the Ukraine conflict.

The parade is traditionally led by the *Poltava*, a reconstructed 18th-century 54-gun sailing ship. The original ship, launched in 1712, was named after the site of the battle where Russia won a crushing victory over Sweden in 1709, turning the tide of the Great Northern War and paving the way for Russia to become a major world power. Another highlight of the

parade was patrol icebreaker, 'Ivan Papanin', specifically designed for Arctic conditions. Russia currently possesses the largest icebreaker fleet in the world, numbering more than 40 vessels. Other ships in the parade included several small-sized missile ships and corvettes, usually armed with Kalibr cruise missiles, which have a range of more than 1,000 km. The submarine force was represented by the diesel-electric submarine 'Mozhaisk',

which can be armed with torpedoes or Kalibr missiles.

Meanwhile, the Chinese Navy's destroyer 'Jiaozuo' and replenishment ship 'Honghu', the Algerian Navy training ship 'La Soummam', and the Indian Navy's Russia-made Talwar-class stealth frigate 'Tabar', also took part. The naval parade was followed by a parade on land, which included cadets from several Russian naval institutions, as well as a detachment of marines.

China pressures lawmakers from 6 nations not to attend Taiwan meet

BEIJING, July 28 (AP)

CHINESE diplomats are pressuring lawmakers from at least six countries not to attend a China-focused summit in Taiwan, participants told 'The Associated Press'.

Politicians in Bolivia, Colombia, Slovakia, North Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and one other Asian country that declined to be named, say they are getting texts, calls and urgent requests for meetings that would conflict with their plans to travel to Taiwan, in what they describe as efforts to isolate the self-governed island.

The summit begins on Monday and is being held by the Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China, a group of hundreds of lawmakers from 35 countries concerned about how democracies approach Beijing. 'The Associated Press' spoke to the organisers and three lawmakers, and reviewed texts and emails sent by Chinese diplomats to the lawmakers asking whether they were planning to participate in the summit.

"I'm Wu, from Chinese Embassy," read a message sent to Antonio Miloshoski, a member of parliament in North Macedonia. "We heard that you got an invitation from IPAC, will you attend the Conference which will be held next week in Taiwan?" In some cases, lawmakers described vague inquiries about their plans to travel to Taiwan. In other cases, the contact was more menacing: One lawmaker told AP that Chinese diplomats messaged the head of her party with a demand to stop her from going.

Maldives President Muizzu thanks India, China for support to country's economy

■ By K J M Varma

BEIJING/MALE, July 28 (PTI)

PRESIDENT Mohamed Muizzu has thanked India and China for helping strengthen the Maldives' fragile economy, highlighting the importance of the two countries in addressing the Island nation's looming debt crisis and its future development.

China and India provide the most assistance in repaying the country's debt, President Muizzu said on Friday at an official function held to mark the 59th anniversary of the country's independence.

"I thank the Chinese Government and the Indian

Government on behalf of the Maldivian people for their cooperation with this effort to strengthen the economy, to assure our economic sovereignty, for the sake of the Maldivian people," Muizzu was quoted as saying by Maldivian news portal adhadhu.Com.

Muizzu came to power last year on an anti-India campaign plank seeking the removal of around 80 Indian military personnel operating helicopters and Dornier aircraft donated by India.

China for its part has scaled up its relations with Maldives, since Muzzu, widely regarded as a pro-Beijing leader, took

over power.

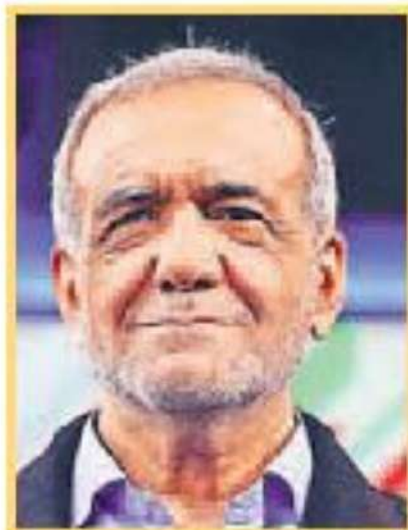
Early this year, he visited China during which the two countries elevated their ties to a comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership and signed 20 agreements followed by a military assistance pact with Beijing much to the disquiet of India as Maldives is its closest neighbour located strategically in the Indian Ocean. He also permitted Chinese research vessels also regarded as "spy ships" to berth in Maldives waters after Sri Lanka banned them for a year.

He also praised Rs 400 crore assistance by India and sought to restructure debt owed to India by Maldives.

MASOUD PEZESHKIAN endorsed as Iran President

TEHRAN, July 28 (AP)

IRAN'S supreme leader on



Sunday formally endorsed Masoud Pezeshkian as President, allowing the reformist politician

and heart surgeon to take charge of a country weakened by economic sanctions over its nuclear programme.

During an endorsement ceremony, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei urged Pezeshkian to prioritise neighbours, African and Asian nations as well as countries that have “supported and helped” Iran.

New Governors in nine States



Santosh Gangwar
(Jharkhand)



Haribhau K Bagde
(Rajasthan)



Jishnu D Varna
(Telangana)



Lakshman Prasad Acharya
(Assam)



Gulab Chand Kataria
(Punjab)



C P Radhakrishnan
(Maharashtra)



Om Prakash Mathur
(Sikkim)



Ramen Deka
(Chhattisgarh)



C H Vijayashankar
(Meghalaya)

NEW DELHI, July 27 (PTI)

LAKSHMAN Prasad Acharya has been made the Governor of Assam with the additional charge of Manipur while Gulab Chand Kataria has replaced Banwarilal Purohit as the Governor of Punjab under

major gubernatorial appointments announced on Saturday night.

Acharya has replaced Kataria, who has also been appointed the administrator of the Union Territory of Chandigarh, according to a communique issued by the

Rashtrapati Bhawan.

"Lakshman Prasad Acharya, Governor of Sikkim, appointed as Governor of Assam and has also been given additional charge of the Governor of Manipur," the statement said.

Jharkhand Governor C P Radhakrishnan has been

appointed as the Governor of Maharashtra, it said. Santosh Kumar Gangwar will be new Jharkhand Governor in place of Radhakrishnan.

Haribhau Kisanrao Bagde has been appointed as the Governor of Rajasthan, Jishnu

(Contd on page 5)



Business **'VISION FOR VIKSIT BHARAT @ 2047'**

'India needs to be \$30 tn economy with per capita income of \$18,000'

NEW DELHI, July 28 (PTI)

INDIA needs to strive to be a USD 30 trillion economy with a per capita income of USD 18,000 per annum by 2047, the approach paper for vision for Vikshit Bharat in 2047 has said.

NITI Aayog in a paper titled 'Vision for Viksit Bharat @ 2047: An Approach Paper' said India needs to avoid the

Middle-Income trap and carefully work towards breaking out of it.

"As for the economy, to become a developed nation, we need to strive to be a USD 30 trillion economy by 2047 with a per capita income of USD 18,000 per annum.

"The GDP would have to grow nine times from today's USD 3.36 trillion and the per capita income would need to

Ideas For the Vision VIKSIT BHARAT @2047

"The GDP would have to grow nine times from today's USD 3.36 trillion and the per capita income would need to rise 8 times from today's USD 2,392 per annum," NITI Aayog's paper titled 'Vision for Viksit Bharat @ 2047' said.

rise 8 times from today's USD 2,392 per annum," it said.

The paper also noted that progressing from a middle-income to a high-income level requires sustained growth in the range of 7-10 per cent for 20-30 years and very few countries have managed to do this. Defining the concept of Vikshit Bharat, the paper said it is Bharat which will have all the attributes of a developed country with a per capita income that is com-

parable to the high-income countries of the world today.

It is Bharat whose social, cultural, technological, and institutional features will mark it out as a developed nation with a rich heritage and one that is capable of functioning at the frontiers of knowledge.

The World Bank defines high-income countries as *(Contd on page 5)*

Making bogus claims to get refunds **PUNISHABLE OFFENCE: I-T Deptt**

NEW DELHI, July 28 (PTI)

THE I-T Department has asked Income Tax return filers to not make bogus claims for expenses, under-report their earnings or exaggerate deductions as this is a punishable offence and causes a delay in issuance of refunds.

The ITR filing season for assessment year 2024-25 will end on July 31 for all categories of taxpayers whose accounts

Filing Income Tax Refund



are not supposed to be audited. According to the Income Tax Department and its administrative body Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), over five crore ITRs have been filed, as of July 26.

In a recent public communication, the Income Tax Department asked taxpayers to file their returns correctly to get timely refunds. "Refund claims are subject to verification *(Contd on page 5)*

Tax clearance certificate only for defaulters, clarifies Govt

NEW DELHI, July 28 (PTI)

AFTER social media outrage over a Budget proposal making it mandatory to get tax clearance certificates for going abroad, the Government on Sunday clarified that the proposed amendment is not for all, and only those accused of financial irregularities or having substantial tax arrears need

such clearance.

The Finance Ministry, in the Finance Bill, 2024, has proposed to add the reference of the Black Money Act, 2015, to the list of Acts, under which any person should clear his liabilities to obtain the tax clearance certificate.

"The proposed amendment does not require all the residents to obtain the tax clear-

ance certificate," the ministry said in a statement.

As per section 230 of the Income-tax Act, 1961, every person is not required to obtain a tax clearance certificate. Only in the case of certain persons, in respect of whom circumstances exist, which make it necessary to obtain a tax clearance certificate will be required to obtain such a certificate.