

# A regional turf India's thrust into Indo-Pacific islands goes far beyond

The maximalist dream of the so-called INDIA alliance, involving the complete seat coordination of all parties opposed to the Bharatiya Janata Party, was never likely to be a reality in West Bengal. In this state, where the BJP has traditionally never had much of a foothold, it was always impossible to conceive of any electoral alliance that involved the ruling All India Trinamul Congress and its age-old adversary, the Communist Party of India (Marxist). Even so, the beleaguered liberal ecosystem centred on the national capital had always hoped that an understanding of sorts involving Rahul Gandhi, M.K. Stalin in Tamil Nadu and Mamata Banerjee would have a symbolic importance in a general election in which Prime Minister Narendra Modi is threatening to run away with all the prizes. Last Sunday, at yet one more of those stupendously large public meetings for which West Bengal is famous, the mercurial AITC supremo snuffed the life out of the INDIA alliance in a very dramatic way. She announced the names of AITC candidates from all the 42 Lok Sabha seats of West Bengal, including the two seats held by the Congress. On its part, the Congress uttered a feeble protest against Mamata Banerjee's 'unilateral' declaration but it could not conceal the fact that the oh-so-clever alliance, whose naamkaran was said to be the handiwork of the Bengali poet-politician, was now dead, publicly strangled before lakhs of witnesses in Calcutta. Whether the oozing self-confidence of the chief minister and her nephew is warranted will be known once the results of the election are out. However, judging from the speeches of the Banerjee duo at the meeting, some conclusions are warranted. First, in resurrecting her 2021 assembly poll plank of being the party of Bengal against outsiders, the AITC made it sufficiently clear that it was fighting the general election to hold on to a regional space. Secondly, the AITC's shrill insistence that the Modi government at the Centre had short-changed West Bengal in welfare payments was at one with the protest politics that had been a feature of Left politics in the state from 1977 to 2011. Mamata Banerjee's indictment of a venal imperial power in Delhi was a melodramatic carbon copy of the gripes associated with Jyoti Basu and past generations of venerable bhadralok Marxists. Decoding the speeches of the AITC top guns is no rocket science. The underlying assertion that the mantle of Swami Vivekananda, Ishwar Chandra Vidyaasagar, Raja Ram Mohan Roy and Rabindranath Tagore had fallen on the Banerjee family of Kalighat could well be inspirational. It could also bolster the younger Banerjee's claim that each of the 42 AITC candidates represent Bengal, no less. However, since the electoral battle ahead is for the control of the Government of India in its entirety, it can safely be assumed that Mamata Banerjee has quite pragmatically concluded that her battle is for a small share of the Opposition space.

The airstrip Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated in Agaleg, Mauritius, with his counterpart Pravin Jugnauth, symbolises India's massive outreach to the island nations in the Indo-Pacific region and the long runway this outreach has going forward. This approach is still in a state of evolution, involving a combination of defence outreach and humanitarian as well as development assistance. Away from the headlines of the jetty and the air strip is the leveraging of India's strong diaspora presence in these islands. India's Islands strategy is aimed at securing the country's maritime interests, countering growing Chinese influence, and ultimately projecting Delhi as a leading regional power. That Jugnauth is a person of Indian origin and that India also launched for Mauritius 'Jan Aushadhi Scheme' that allows the sourcing of about 250 high-quality medicines from the pharmaceuticals and medical devices bureau of India at concessional rates highlights the multiple layers that Indian island outreach policy operates at. The geopolitical canvases of India's islands outreach encompass the vast expanse of the Indian and Pacific Oceans. These islands are outposts that open up vast geographies. They straddle critical sea lanes, chokepoints, and rich marine resources. As the Indian Navy has acquired blue water status, these islands have been the focus of a renewed strategic interest. The ocean's inherent value and its growing intersection with geopolitical rivalries have spurred India to develop a more robust maritime strategy, central to which is nurturing the numerous island nations dotting this oceanic theatre. The fruits of India's island outreach have not happened all of a sudden. There has been a long-term approach followed by the Indian external affairs ministry and turbo charged by political capital invested by PM Modi. India initiated the forum for Indo-Pacific islands cooperation back in 2014, and PM Modi's visit to Port Moresby in Papua New Guinea underlined India's commitment at the highest levels. In the case of

Mauritius, there is mutual interest in strengthening security and the strategic significance of the partnerships underscored by India's defence-related activities on Agaleg Islands. Developing infrastructure on these islands allows India to project power further into the Indian Ocean and serves as a symbol of India's intent to become a more significant maritime security provider. India has cultivated close ties with Mauritius based on historical connections and the presence of a significant Indian diaspora on the island. This relationship has seen substantial progress in the defence realm through regular naval exercises, training programmes, and the establishment of key infrastructure projects. India has already put in place a Coast Guard radar and surveillance network to enhance the Mauritius maritime domain awareness. This project serves the dual purpose of boosting Mauritius defence capabilities and providing India with greater strategic visibility in the Western Indian Ocean. When you have an ambitious forward strategy at play, there are bound to be drawbacks. Maldives is an example. In the trajectory of India's island strategy, Maldives has been a nose dive. Traditionally, India enjoyed extensive influence

in the Maldives on the back of a generous cheque-book and a robust military presence. However, the Muslim majority nation has politics of its own and India has been shown the door more or less. The change of government in the island nation saw increased Chinese outreach and investment, significantly eroding India's influence. While India has made attempts to revive its relationship with the Maldives, events surrounding Chinese presence there have served as a reminder of the vulnerabilities inherent in India's island engagement. India has shown the carrot to its island partners it's important to use the stick for Male. Not doing so will set a wrong precedence. India is the Maldives' closest major supplier. Food staples like rice and wheat, essential medicines, and even fuel for power generation come primarily from India. The proximity and established trade routes make India a natural choice. Additionally, India provides medical evacuations and training for Maldivian personnel. It's time to stop the supplies. Geography matters and Chinese supplies will cost at least twice over and will not be on generous terms. India needs to let Maldives know that there are costs to empty bluster. At the same time, it needs to suppress Maldives, India is doing well to bypass it. Mauritius is just one example. India is working with partners of the Quad where it has refuelling arrangements but the most important island outreach is with France. Here France's blood-stained colonial past is an asset for India. France rings the Indo pacific with colonial possessions and deep legacy relationships as far flung as Seychelles, Madagascar, and Comoros the Reunion islands — and many others. Force de Frappe is riding the surfs with India's island entente. From Mauritius to Fiji a liquid Indian footprint is entering a brave new age. However, for that to be sustained India has to spend more on defence, at least three percent of the GDP so that it has money to back its overseas commitments. As things stand, it is a bit of a stretch for the Indian armed forces to guard India. The new role takes it way beyond the littoral.



## Rohit Sharma Unveils India's First Numberless Prepaid Student ID Card



Ahmedabad, LEO1, a leading Edu-fintech company, has introduced India's first numberless prepaid student ID Card in partnership with NSDL Payments Bank and Mastercard as part of its Financial SAAS for Educational Institutions. This innovative card serves as a secure prepaid card and a student ID card, marking a significant step in digitizing financial transactions in educational institutions, rewarding responsible behavior, and promoting cashless campuses. This strategic alliance underscores LEO1's unwavering commitment to financial innovation, inclusivity, and digital empowerment in the education sector. Rohit Gajbhiye, Founder and Managing Director of LEO1, expressed anticipation about the collaboration, emphasizing the mission to make quality education universally accessible. The partnership signifies a crucial stride in dismantling financial barriers, establishing an environment where stakeholders can confidently embrace digital solutions for fee payments. The launch event unfolded with great anticipation as the card was unveiled in the presence of Rohit Sharma, the Captain of the Indian Cricket team, before a distinguished gathering of officials from LEO1, Mastercard, and NSDL Payments Bank. (19-10)

# How is Russia-Ukraine war becoming a frozen conflict forever

As the war in Ukraine is entering its third year, few observers would have imagined that it would still be raging. After the dramatic swings in territorial control during 2022, when the Ukrainian military managed to recapture parts of the Kharkiv region and the city of Kherson, the war settled into a positional and attritional grind in 2023, with both the tempo of operations and the intensity reducing. The Ukrainian counteroffensive failed to deliver substantial territorial gains. The momentum generated by Ukraine's success in the first year of the conflict has given way to a sense that, despite ongoing fighting, the frontline is not moving and the risk of a forever frozen conflict is growing. The US is wrangling over funding, and although most European leaders remain firm in their support for Kyiv, it is becoming increasingly difficult for them to maintain that same level of support among their public. Cost-of-living concerns are leading many Europeans to question the sustainability of continued funding for Ukraine, and the outbreak of war in the Gaza Strip has divided the West's attention. The Ukraine War has upended many of the theories of war, including the one that modern wars will be short and swift. Why is this war dragging on? The fact is that war is the worst way to settle political differences. As the costs of fighting become apparent, adversaries usually look for an agreement to end the conflict. Many wars, of course, do last longer. There are many reasons why compromises fail to take place. These could range from public opinion against a compromise to leaders thinking that a defeat or the end of a conflict could threaten their own position, particularly when there is a lack of understanding between one's own strength and that of the enemy, as articulated by Sun Tzu many centuries ago, leading to underestimating the damaging consequences of the conflict and when there

is a fear of an existential threat. This manifests itself with Russia being uncomfortable with NATO at their doorstep and Ukraine fearing the loss of their sovereignty. All these factors have kept the war going. Of course, the above reasons are rooted in a situation where there is not a clash of ideologies such as communism versus capitalism, autocracies versus liberal democracies, or on religious grounds. Peace is impossible if ideological barriers prevent negotiations. Such values and ideas will continue to play a leading role in the war waged in the future. The West has grown more rights-based over time, resulting in its defending certain liberal principles, whatever the consequences. Compared with last year, Ukraine faces two challenges. Militarily, it has been pushed due to the failure of its counter-offensive and by the sheer force of troops in Russia's favour. A Ukrainian victory will require strategic endurance and vision, as well as the ability to sustain losses. Apart from this, the West—and particularly the US—has struggled to provide the military aid Ukraine needs to sustain the fight. Ukraine can't turn the military tide without more Western military aid, but it has struggled to get more military aid unless it can demonstrate that it can win on the battlefield. The two key challenges are obvious. The first is how to get more weapons to Ukraine. The second is how Europeans can defend themselves without US backing. Russia, on the other hand, is now operating from

in part by sending some troops to Poland and other European countries for additional combined arms training before the counteroffensive began. But Kyiv's efforts were still insufficient for the task of retaking more of the South. This year, the Russians have met with success by capturing Avdiivka. The now-destroyed city carved a bulge in the front line that undermined critical Russian logistical operations. It sits only a few miles from the city of Donetsk, which Russia has occupied since 2014. Its fall allows the Russian military to move troops and equipment more efficiently as it presses in other directions. There is another think that has been exposed with the removal of General Zaluzhny, which was the differences regarding the new conscription law that would increase the size of the military. He had proposed mobilising close to 500,000 troops, a figure President Zelensky viewed as impractical given the scarcity of uniforms, guns, and training facilities and the potential challenges related to recruitment. President Zelensky said publicly that Ukraine lacks the funds to pay so many new conscripts. General Zaluzhny countered that Ukraine is already short of forces because of mounting casualties and needs to match the 400,000 new soldiers that Russia plans to mobilise.

## HCG Cancer Centre Ahmedabad and Sports Club Unite for Courageous Hearts



Ahmedabad, HCG Cancer Centre, Ahmedabad, in collaboration with Sports Club, announced the 'Courageous Hearts' initiative, driven by a collective commitment to raising awareness about ovarian cancer, empowering survivors, and fostering preventive healthcare measures for the well-being of women. The event was hosted by Dr. Kalpana Kothari, Chief of Gynaec Oncology Department, Senior Consultant in Robotic Surgery, and HIPEC Surgeon, Dr. Manasi Shah, Medical Oncologist, Dr. Viral Patel, Gynaecological Oncologist and Robotic Surgeon, and Dr. Nidhi Gupta, Gynaecological Oncologist at Sports Club in Ahmedabad to spread awareness about

ovarian cancer. As a part of the event ovarian cancer survivors, walked the ramp and carried placards to raise awareness on cancer. Around 200 survivors participated in the walk, symbolizing strength, and resilience. A vibrant flea market was also set up at the Ahmedabad Sports Club. The flea market not only offered attendees the opportunity to support the cause through purchases but also served as a community-driven effort towards a worthy cause. The funds collected from the flea market will be utilized for vaccination of young orphan girls against cervical cancer which will be conducted on 12th May 2024. (19-10)

**WESTERN RAILWAY - AHMEDABAD DIVISION**  
**VARIOUS WORKS IN CONNECTION WITH PROVISION OF MSDAC**  
DRM/S and T acting for and behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders against Tender No DRM-Snt-ADI-Sig 09 2023-24 closing date 08-04-2024, 15:00 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. Tender No. DRM-Snt-ADI-Sig 09 of 2023-24 (1) Name of Work: Part supply of signalling material, installation, testing & commissioning on connection with provision of MSDAC at KHODIYAR in AHMEDABAD-MAHESANA section of Ahmedabad Division. (2) Estimated Cost of Work ₹. 2,20,84,000/- (Rs. Two Crore Twenty Lakh Eighty Four Thousands Two Hundred Forty Two Rupees and Twenty Two Paise only) (3) Earnest Money Deposit: ₹ 2,60,40,00/- (Rs. Two Lakh Sixty Thousands Four Hundred only) (4) Date & Time of closing of tender and opening of tender: Not later than 15:00 hrs. of 08-04-2024 and Opening on 08-04-2024 at 15:30 hrs. (5) Website of E-Tendering: [www.treps.gov.in](http://www.treps.gov.in) ADI-307  
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**SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE**

**ICICI Bank** Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd., Office Number 201-B, 2nd Floor, Road No 1 Plot No-B3, WIFIT IT Park, Wagle Industrial Estate, Thane, Maharashtra- 400604

**Whereas** The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) R/w Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, (on underlying pool assigned to ICICI Bank by Dewan Housing Finance Ltd.) in relation to the enforcement of security in respect of a housing loan facility granted pursuant to a loan agreement entered into between DHFL and the borrower, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Number (Loan Account Number (DHFL Old LAN & ICICI New LAN))	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Ashok Kumar Tiwari & Mrs. Aradhna Tiwari- (Old DHFL Lan No- 1800008861 & New ICICI Lan No- QZBRD00005030827)	Plot No. 111, Green City Opp. Green Park, Goid Industrial Jitaji Masjid Rd, Gidc Moje- Jitaji, Block 113, Ankleshwar- 393001/ March 19, 2024	November 21, 2023 Rs. 2,66,848/-	Vadodra

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantor(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.  
**Date : March 22, 2024**  
**Place : Ankleshwar & Vadodra**  
**Authorized Officer**  
**ICICI Bank Limited**

**ICICI Home Finance** Corporate Office: ICICI Home Finance Company Limited ICICI HFC Tower, Andheri- Kurla Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai- 400059, India  
Branch Office: 1st Floor, 101 & 102, SPG Empressa, opposite LG Showroom, BS. Passport Seva Kendra, near Mithakhali Six Roads, Navranpura- 380009  
[See proviso to rule 8(6)]

**Notice for sale of immovable assets**

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **Symbolic Possession** of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd., will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is", as per the brief particulars given hereunder:

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s)/ Co Borrowers/ Legal Heirs. Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured Asset (s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Siddhant Samar (Borrower) Gargi Jain (Co Borrower) Loan A/c No. LHAHZ00001341963 LHAHZ00001339821	All that piece and parcel of the residential flat being constructed property bearing Unit No. 501 on Fifth Floor of Block J, in the land accommodating the Blocks B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I and J of the Scheme "Radhe Kishan" of the Non Agricultural land Bearing Final Plot No. (275/1+2+3) 1+125/2 (allotted in Lieu of (1) consolidated Survey No. 247/1+255-1+2+256 Paiki (northern side) (consolidated of Old revenue Survey No. 247/1, Survey No. 247/2, Survey No. 255/1, Survey No. 255/2, Survey No. 256, Survey No. 84/2 (southern Side), Survey No. 371, Survey No. 390 Paiki (northern Side) which is now comprised in Draft Town Planning Scheme No. 1 (mahemdabad-Khatraj), situated, lying and being at Mouje Mahemdabad, Taluka Mahemdabad in the Registration District of Kheda and Sub-District of Mahemdabad.	Rs. 26,57,923/- March 19, 2024	Rs. 22,32,563/- Rs. 2,23,260/-	April 15, 2024 11:00 AM 03:00 PM	April 23, 2024 02:00 PM 03:00 PM

The online auction will be conducted on website [www.icicifinancial.com](https://www.icicifinancial.com) of our auction agency **Globe Tech**. The Mortgages/ notice are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till **April 22, 2024 before 05:00 PM** else these secured assets will be sold as per above schedule.  
The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) RTGS/ Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at **ICICI Home Finance Company Limited, 1st Floor, 101 & 102, SPG Empressa, opposite LG Showroom, BS. Passport Seva Kendra, near Mithakhali Six Roads, Navranpura- 380009** on or before **April 22, 2024 before 04:00 PM**. The Prospective Bidder(s) must also submit signed copy of Registration Form & Bid Terms and Conditions form at **ICICI Home Finance Company Limited, 1st Floor, 101 & 102, SPG Empressa, opposite LG Showroom, BS. Passport Seva Kendra, near Mithakhali Six Roads, Navranpura- 380009** on or before **April 22, 2024 before 05:00 PM**. Earnest Money Deposit Demand Draft (DD) should be from a Nationalized/Scheduled Bank in favor of "ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd.- Auction" payable at **Mahemdabad**.  
For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact **ICICI Home Finance Company Limited on 9920807300** or our Sales & Marketing Partner **NexXen Solutions Private Limited**.  
The Authorized Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons.  
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit <https://www.icicifinancial.com>  
**Date : March 22, 2024**  
**Place : Mahemdabad**  
**Authorized Officer**  
**ICICI Home Finance Company Limited**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given to all suppliers who supply manufactured goods and/or services to us and are micro, small and medium enterprises. Such suppliers may approach within 7 days of publication of this advertisement along with their self certified copy of updated udyam registration certificate, stesalit limited, 25-26, 35, 42-43, 44, 114, dic, industrial area, plot no.1, surajmalja, labana, baddi, distt. solan, H.P.- 173205 and/or 530,531,532 ecotech-III, udyog kendra-II, greater noida-201306 (purchase@stesalititd.com)

**BEFORE MR. HARSHIT AGARWAL**  
SOLE ARBITRATOR  
In the matter of arbitration between:  
Axalta Coating Systems Pvt. Ltd.  
Vs  
V. Raj Motors .....Claimant  
.....Respondent  
To  
V. Raj Motors, a partnership firm, Having its office at Plot No. 150, Near Wasa Quarters, Bhavnagar - Rajkot Road, Chittra, Bhavnagar - 364003  
Whereas the above named Claimant filed an Arbitration Petition against the Respondent before the Ld. Arbitrator, Mr. Harshit Agarwal. That the Ld. Arbitrator passed an order dated 19.02.2024, whereas this order issued service to the Respondent named above by way of publication in English and Local language Newspaper. AND Whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the court that it is not possible to serve you on the ordinary way, therefore this notice is given by publication directing you to make appearance before the Hon'ble Sole Arbitrator Mr. Harshit Agarwal on 03rd April of 2024 at 5 P.M. The link for the video conferencing for all times to come in as under : [meet.google.com/vva-nccf-ary](https://meet.google.com/vva-nccf-ary). Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day mentioned above, the Petition will be heard and determined in your absence. Given under the hand and the seal of the Hon'ble Sole Arbitrator in terms if order dated 19.02.2024.  
-Sd-  
Harshit Agarwal  
Sole Arbitrator  
9811026362  
557, Basement, SarvapriyaVihar, New Delhi-110016