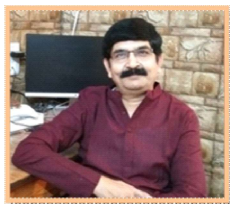


Prevention of Corruption and Fraud in Banks



By: Vinod Chandrashekhar Dixit

Prevention is always better than cure. Managing the risk and consequences of fraud and corruption requires one to have in place appropriate pro-active fraud and corruption management measures. No organisation or administrative process is free of risk.

If the Bank is to help to tackle corruption, it needs to take corruption more explicitly into account in its own economic work and in its internal processes. The first requirement in mainstreaming a concern for

corruption is for the Bank to bring the issue out of the dark. To a significant extent this is already happening. Discussions about the effects of corruption on development have been intensifying within the Bank in recent years.

Fraud is a serious risk that all businesses need to manage, especially in today's globalised economy, where fraud and corruption can easily create a cascading domino effect causing serious financial and reputational loss. Fraud is not defined in criminal law, yet it is commonly understood that it contains an element of cheating or an intention to cheat or deceive. All banks are fully alert against multiple types of frauds, time to time. Possibly there is absence of effective system of verification whether branch machinery is kept well geared up to foil any attempt of incidence of frauds.

New of perpetration of frauds in Banks is pouring in at regular intervals. As days pass on, numbers and amounts are on an increasing spree. According to one survey, 60% of bank frauds have occurred with the connivance or collusion of employees. Staff involved in frauds compared to total strength many not even be 1% means the redeeming feature is that majority of employees are honest. Banking is the only industry where no test check but 100% checking is in force and any transaction involves at least 2 people. Alas! Yet in the name of trust and also due to sheer laziness many employees have undergone mental agony as well as punishment on account of frauds committed by the so called colleagues.

Many people feel that the unprecedented growth of business without matching increase in staff-strength is one of the main reasons for incidence of frauds in public sector banks. While others believe that since there is no system of rewards for good work and punishment for negligence of duty in the banking industry, there is deliberate attempt n the part of some insiders to neglect their duty. On probing deeply into working of banks, it is clear that the real factor for proliferation of frauds is negligence of non-observance of the prescribed systems and procedures by bank-staff. One can trust but never over trust another person. If any work can be done by a single person, why the bank has devised a system of 2 people? Periodical job rotation should be the order of the day, non one is indispensable, if anyone is there, it is better to be watchful.

"Anywhere/Anytime banking" and "Convenience banking" has also brought attendant risks. One of the major risks that loom large is the risk of frauds being perpetrated in a computerized environment.

Technology risks imply risks such as loss of security, financial loss due to lack of controls or ineffective implementation of controls, the risk of software attacks occurring due to lack of adequate safeguards, and so on.

The deficiencies that occur due to some important reasons are:-

- ✓ Weaknesses in the internal control system: non-segregation of duties, breach of password security etc.
- ✓ Manipulations at the data entry level by unauthorized or manipulated entry of data.
- ✓ Manipulations of due dates of loans, altering names and addresses of customers etc.
- ✓ Internal controls are very important and necessary in a computerized environment. Computer-related frauds have, in a number of instances, been attributed to lack of internal controls or ineffective implementation of controls.
- ✓ There are basically five controls that are to be implemented in a computerized set-up. They are Management, Organisational, Operational, Environmental & Application controls.
- ✓ Security of credit card numbers and personal information are among the most important concerns to customers.
- ✓ The highest possibility of breach in E-Commerce systems was reported through the Internet/other external access.
- ✓ The greatest areas of security threat were considered to be system administrators, outsourced service providers, former and current employees, vendor products with weak security controls, denial of service attacks, lack of employee awareness, poor implementation of security policies and hackers.
- ✓ Auditing in a computerized environment involves, among other things, the test-checking of controls to ensure that such controls are actually functional.

A clear statement of commitment to ethical business behaviour throughout the organisation should help to ensure that staff know that they are expected to follow the rules without circumventing controls and that they should avoid or declare any conflicts of interest.

Prevention

- Managers should try to create the conditions in which staff has neither the motivation nor the opportunity to commit fraud.
- The maintenance of good staff morale may help to minimize the likelihood of an employee causing harm to the organisation through fraud.
- Under the right conditions staff is themselves an excellent deterrent against fraud.
- There should be avenues for reporting suspicions of fraud. Staff should be encouraged to report suspicions of fraud either to their line managers, to internal audit or possibly to a hotline set up for the purpose.

If you are prudent you are saved 90%, even if you are not aware of certain well laid down procedures. 10% is consciously left out, as, fraud is a normal business hazard. Never ignore or brush aside any of the curiosity or doubt that may arise in your mind, while doing any of your duties. In fact that is prudence, if there is a lakh of rupees credited in a watchman's account, naturally you should have the curiosity to know how he got that money. Enquire in a friendly way. That will save you from any future harassment.

Be a defensive driver and follow the traffic signals seriously. Chances for accident in that case, are limited. Think it over again what is defensive driving and what the traffic signals in Banking are.

Banks in India can protect themselves against frauds by appreciating and managing technology risks & understanding the implications of software attacks and security and also by understanding the legal recourse available.

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Nobel Prize in Click Chemistry

By: Sanjenbam Jugeshwor Singh



Carolyn R. Bertozzi, Morten Meldal and K. Barry Sharpless

Ever since the birth of modern chemistry in the eighteenth century, many chemists have used nature as their role model. Life itself is the ultimate proof of nature's supreme ability to create chemical complexity. The magnificent molecular structures found in plants, microorganisms and animals have spurred researchers to try to construct the same molecules artificially. Imitating natural molecules has often also been an important part in the development of pharmaceuticals, because many of them have been inspired by natural substances. Sometimes simple answers are the best. **Carolyn R. Bertozzi, Morten Meldal and K. Barry Sharpless** became Nobel laureates for founding and advancing the fields of click chemistry and bio orthogonal chemistry, which has "led to a revolution in how chemists think about linking molecules together," the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said. Click chemistry enables fast and straightforward reactions, where "molecular building blocks snap together quickly," the committee said. The principle can bring real-world benefits in the development of pharmaceuticals and medicine, including more targeted cancer treatments. Sharpless and Meldal pioneered the concept before Bertozzi "took click chemistry to a new level," the organizers said, by developing click reactions that work inside living organisms (or bio orthogonal reactions).

Click chemistry brings two molecules together "almost like a couple of pieces of Lego," American Chemical Society President Angela Wilson told CNN. "Bertozzi was responsible for doing click chemistry within the human body, which is absolutely remarkable," Wilson said. "The three together have opened up new doors for us in what we can do, from pharmaceutical chemistry to materials chemistry," and their work is already being used in manufacturing, she added. Bertozzi told reporters at the winners' press conference over the phone that her advancements are being used "to discover new kinds of molecules we didn't know existed," and means scientists are "doing chemistry inside human patients to make the drugs go to the right place."

Bertozzi, the Stanford University professor said she was told of her win in the middle of the night on the American west coast. "I can hardly breathe," she said of her reaction. "I'm still not entirely positive it's real." Sharpless, a professor of chemistry at Scripps Research in La Jolla, California, meanwhile, became the fifth person ever to win two Nobels, joining a short list that includes pioneering chemists Marie Curie and Frederick Sanger. Sharpless came up with the concept for click chemistry

in 2001, the same year he won his first Nobel prize for chemistry. Working independently, Sharpless and Meldal, who is based at the University of Copenhagen in Denmark, came up with what the Nobel committee described as the "brilliant reaction" synonymous with click chemistry, which involves a catalyzed reaction between azides and alkynes. "If chemists want to link two different molecules they can now, relatively easily, introduce an azide in one molecule and an alkyne in the other. They then snap the molecules together with the help of some copper ions," the Nobel committee said in a document explaining why they had awarded the prize. "It's used to modify materials, for instance if you want them to conduct electricity or collect light or modify surfaces to become antibacterial," explained Johan Elf, a member of The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences and part of the committee that decided the honor. Bertozzi developed click reactions that can be used inside living organisms – because they don't involve copper ions which are toxic. She focused on glycans – complex carbohydrates that are built from various types of sugar and often sit on the surface of proteins and cells.

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2022 is about finding new chemical ideas and letting simplicity and functionality take precedence. **Barry Sharpless**, who is now being awarded his second Nobel Prize in Chemistry, was the one who started the snowball rolling. Around the turn of the century, he coined the concept of click chemistry for a functional form of chemistry, where molecular building blocks snap together quickly and efficiently. The snowball became an avalanche when **Morten Meldal** and **Barry Sharpless** – independently of each other – discovered what has become the crown jewel of click chemistry: the *copper catalyzed azide-alkyne cycloaddition*. **Carolyn Bertozzi** developed click reactions that can be used inside living organisms. Her *bio orthogonal reactions* – which occur without disturbing the normal chemistry of the cell – are used globally to map how cells function. Some researchers are

now investigating how these reactions can be used to diagnose and treat cancer, something we will return to. Let us now follow the first of the two threads that lead to the Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2022.

Barry Sharpless believed it was time for chemists to stop imitating natural molecules. This often resulted in molecular constructions that were very difficult to master, which is an obstacle to the development of new pharmaceuticals. If a potential pharmaceutical is found in nature, small volumes of the substance can often be manufactured for *in vitro* testing and clinical trials. However, if industrial production is required at a later stage, a much higher level of production efficiency is necessary. Sharpless used a powerful antibiotic, meropenem, as an example. Six years of chemical development work were necessary to find a way of producing the molecule on a large scale. One stumbling block for chemists, according to Barry Sharpless, was the bonds between carbon atoms that are so vital to the chemistry of life. In principle, all biomolecules have a framework of linked carbon atoms. Life has evolved methods for creating these, but it has proven notoriously difficult for chemists. The reason is that carbon atoms from different molecules often lack a chemical drive to form bonds with each other, so they need to be artificially activated. This activation often leads to numerous unwanted side reactions and a costly loss of material. Instead of trying to wrangle reluctant carbon atoms into reacting with each other, Barry Sharpless encouraged his colleagues to start with smaller molecules that already had a complete carbon frame. These simple molecules could then be linked together using bridges of nitrogen atoms or oxygen atoms, which are easier to control. If chemists choose simple reactions – where there is a strong intrinsic drive for the molecules to bond together – they avoid many of the side reactions, with a minimal loss of material. Barry Sharpless called this robust method for building molecules **click chemistry**. Combining simple chemical building blocks makes it possible to cre-

ate an almost endless variety of molecules, so he was convinced that click chemistry could generate pharmaceuticals that were as fit for purpose as those found in nature, and which could be produced on an industrial scale. Azides and alkynes react very efficiently when copper ions are added. This reaction is now used globally to link molecules together in a simple manner. A great deal of decisive scientific progress occurs when researchers least expect it, and this was the case for Morten Meldal. In the early years of this century, he was developing methods for finding potential pharmaceutical substances.

In the early 1990s, Carolyn Bertozzi began mapping a glycan that attracts immune cells to lymph nodes. The lack of efficient tools meant that it took four years to get a grip on how the glycan functioned. This challenging process made her dream of something better – and she had an idea. During a seminar, she listened to a German scientist who explained how he had succeeded in getting cells to produce an unnatural variant of *sialic acid*, one of the sugars that build up glycans. Bertozzi therefore started to wonder whether she could use a similar method to get cells to produce a sialic acid with a type of chemical handle. If the cells could incorporate the modified sialic acid in different glycans, she would be able to use the chemical handle to map them. She could, for example, attach a fluorescent molecule to the handle. The emitted light would then reveal where the glycans were hidden in the cell. This was the start of long and focused development work. Bertozzi started searching through the scientific literature for chemical handles and a chemical reaction she could use. This was no easy task, because the handle must not react with any other substance in the cell. It had to be insensitive to absolutely everything apart from the molecules she was going to link to the handle. She established a term for this: the reaction between the handle and the fluorescent molecule had to be *bio orthogonal*.

(Writer can be reached at: sjugheshwor7@gmail.com)

As I Tip-toe Towards Problems



By: Venerjit Lambamayam

Am I the only one who faces problems in life? I don't think so. We all face problems in our day to day life, it may all start with the disappointment you get while discovering that your college uniform is dirty or to the biggest extent of meeting heavy accidents. I know what problems are - I know how I and most of you all see it. It is something that hinders by slowing things down. Different prob-

lems will arise from time to time but all that matters is how we respond to it. We encounter a large variety of problems during the course of our study, with objectives and obstacles of different types and importance. Finding an effective solution is essential.

It's fascinating to see how successful people approach their problems while others see theirs as an impenetrable barrier. If we want to build physical strength, we apply a bit of resistance to our muscles which is not a comfortable process. But if we go through this process, it will make us become stronger and stronger. So, if you really want to grow, you must face and overcome problems. Problems are an excellent opportunity for growth. See! Having said before that problems are a hindrance but a slight change in how we see can completely change how problems manifest. It all has sides.

Sometimes, let me throw some-

thing new - it's okay to run from problems. We are faced with many social pressures but trust me - you are the one to decide, if it's not worth your effort and time, it's okay to take your comfort. Only if running away will not lose you anything and will not affect others, it's okay. Here, I would not like to generalize all the problems. There are some which need time and extra effort even for moving in or out - like those of relationship problems which are at times hard to handle.

Why I am telling you this is because if you have a feeling that you can't handle the problem and might make your life broken, it's okay to earn feelings of "giving up." You will feel it often during your grinds - it's just as normal as raining on a bright sunny day. But trust me - sometimes listening to your tired heart will also give you satisfaction momentarily but facing it is far better than running away.

A teacher of mine once told me, "If you can solve the problem, why

worry, solve it and if you can't solve the problem, also why worry, don't solve it." Every problem will give you stress and it's normal. Making it all into the bigger light - problems are not consequences but a happening phenomenon. It's a certain partner you will find - like it or not. So, why so much stress? Well! Before I end my lines, let me make it more clear by stating that - if you have something you can't go without - even if you don't like it. Instead of running away thinking it will leave you. Trust me dear readers - YOU ARE WRONG. The speed that you run away from the problem is directly proportional to the speed of the problem that will approach you. IT WILL KEEP RUNNING AFTER YOU. So, like my teacher said, WHY WORRY. Let's face it. Even if you fail, WHY WORRY - at least you tried.

(The writer is currently on his Bachelor's Degree and also an ex-student of Mega Manipur School)

New India focusing on bold reforms, big infrastructure and best talent: PM



Agency
New Delhi, Nov 2:

Prime minister Narendra Modi said though there is economic uncertainty everywhere, the global community is confident at India's economic fundamentals remaining ever strong. "There is global crisis everywhere, but experts and financial analysts have put India on a bright spot", he said.

Speaking virtually at the inauguration of Global invest-

tors meet which started on Wednesday in Bengaluru, appraising Karnataka and Bengaluru, Modi said when it comes to talent and technology, the first thing that comes to mind is Bengaluru. "This name is not just known in India but across the country", said PM.

Modi also said at the 21st century, the way India is emerging new heights, and from here we have to go further. Last year, India witnessed a record highest of

Foreign Direct Investment of 84 billion dollar in span of one year. PM said they are working continuously on fundamentals, so that country's economy will become even more stronger.

Stressing on investment, PM said instead of putting red carpets to investors, there is a need to put red carpet for creating a suitable environment. Instead of making complex laws, there is a need to make it rationalised for wider reach. New India can be built

only through bold reforms, big infrastructure and best talent. The Gati shakti, India's National Master Plan will change the face of infrastructure. Along with developing infrastructure, existing infrastructure map is being done and to achieve it, shortest and efficient route is being discussed. "We are also focusing on the last mile connectivity and also stressing to make that product a world-class", he added.

Besides Governor Thawar Chand Gehlot and Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, those who were present at the inaugural function included Union Ministers Nirmala Sitharaman, Piyush Goyal, Pralhad Joshi and Rajeev Chandrasekhar.

This edition of the GIM is being held under the theme 'Build for the World' reflecting on the role Karnataka aims to play in the global supply chain, officials said.

The key topics to be addressed during the event will revolve around the sub-themes of innovation, sustainability, equity, and resilience, they said.

PEC urges to end impunity to crimes against journalists

IT Correspondent
Geneva, Nov 2:

Press Emblem Campaign (PEC), the global media safety and rights body, while marking the 2022 International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists on Wednesday commented, "more needs to be done to fight impunity on the ground". Slow progress is made, but still very insufficient, said the PEC after appealing to launch the work for an international convention.

"Recently, five years after the killing of journalist Daphne Caruana Galizia in October 2017 in Malta, two brothers were sentenced to 40 years in prison on 14 October. Justice is very slow but better than nothing," said Blaise Lempen, president of PEC, adding that in Mexico, three persons were condemned on 28 October for the murder of journalist Lourdes Maldonado (killed in January 2021).

Despite these rare examples, impunity is prevailing in most crimes. The masterminds of the crime are not prosecuted. According to a recent UNESCO report, 86% of the crimes against journalists remained unpunished. In 10 years, the drop is only 9%. UNESCO reported an upward trend of resolved cases worldwide from 11% in 2018 to 14% in 2022.

"2022 will be a particularly deadly year for journalists with



Pakistani female journalist
Sadaf Naeem

107 media workers (the latest one is Pakistani female journalist Sadaf Naeem) killed. It is an increase of 57% in 10 months compared to last year. So far Ukraine, Mexico, Pakistan, Haiti emerge as the most dangerous countries for journalists this year. It is important that the killing of journalists in Ukraine don't go unpunished and those crimes must be investigated independently," added Lempen.

PEC is calling again on governments to support the adoption of a United Nations convention on the safety of journalists and other media professionals. Despite 13 resolutions on the safety of journalists adopted at the UN and the adoption of the United Nations plan of action on the safety of journalists and impunity which commemorates its 10th anniversary, the journalists continue to be attacked for doing their job.

In this regard, PEC welcomes the global campaign for the adoption of an international

convention dedicated to the protection of journalists and media professionals, formally launched by the International Federation of Journalists at the 51st session of the UNHRC in Geneva on 30 September last. The convention highlights existing weaknesses and loopholes in international humanitarian and human rights law and the lack of effective enforcement mechanisms.

PEC's south Asia representative Nava Thakuria informed that Pak television reporter Naeem (40) was crushed to death as she fell from a truck during the political march led by former PM Imran Khan on 30 October. The mother of two children, associated with Channel 5 in Lahore, followed the convoy which was proceeding towards Islamabad. Thus, the hard-working journalist died in the line of duty.

Pakistan earlier lost journalists Arshad Sharif, Muhammad Younis, Iftekhar Ahmed, Hasnain Shah, Murtaza Shar and Athar Mateen to assassins since 1 January. It's neighbour India witnessed the murder of journalists Rohit Kumar Biswal, Sudhir Saini, Javed Khan Pathan and Subhash Kumar Mahato. Three journalists (Hashibur Rahman Rubel, Mohiuddin Sarker Nayeem and Abdul Bari) were killed in Bangladesh and Myanmar lost photojournalist Aye Kyaw and reporter Pu Tui Dim to military atrocities.

Indo-French Bilateral Exercise - "Garuda VII" Being Held at Air Force Station Jodhpur in Rajasthan

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, Nov 2:

Indian Air Force (IAF) and French Air and Space Force (FASF) are participating in a bilateral exercise- "Garuda VII", being held till November 12 at Air Force Station Jodhpur in Rajasthan.

In this exercise, being held since October 26, FASF is participating with four Rafale fighter aircraft, one A-330 Multi Role Tanker Transport (MRTT) aircraft and a contingent of 220 personnel. The IAF is participating with Su-30 MKI, Rafale, LCA Tejas and Jaguar fighter aircraft, as well as the Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) and Mi-17 helicopters.

The IAF contingent also includes combat enabling assets like Flight Refuelling Air-



The aircraft moving in formation as part of exercise- "Garuda VII". (Photo credit: Defence PRO).

craft, Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) and Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEW&C). This joint exercise will provide a platform for both the countries to enhance operational capability and interoperability, while also sharing best practices, an official statement read.

This is the seventh edition of the bilateral exercise. The first, third and fifth editions were conducted in India in 2003, 2006 and 2014 at Air Force Stations Gwalior (Madhya Pradesh), Kalaikunda (West Bengal) and Jodhpur

(Rajasthan), respectively. The second, fourth and sixth editions were conducted in France in 2005, 2010 and 2019.

Participation of the IAF and FASF in this exercise will promote professional interaction, exchange of experiences and enhancement of operational knowledge, besides strengthening bilateral relations between the two countries.

There will be professional interaction, enhancement of operational knowledge, and also exchange of experiences. At the end of this drill, the lessons learnt will help the Air Force to add more teeth to its war waging capabilities. The more such bilateral and multilateral drills the more lessons our forces learn which can be used later, an IAF officer said.

India records 1,190 fresh COVID-19 cases

Agency
New Delhi, Nov 2:

With 1,190 fresh cases, India's COVID-19 tally has gone up to 4,46,55,828, while the number of active cases of the infection has declined to 16,243, the Union health ministry said on Wednesday.

The death toll due to the viral disease has climbed to 5,30,452 with 1,375 more fatalities, including 1,369 deaths reconciled by Punjab and two reconciled by Kerala, according to the ministry's data updated at 8 am. The active cases account for 0.04 per cent of the total caseload, while the national COVID-19 recovery

rate has gone up to 98.78 per cent, according to the ministry's website.

A decrease of 1,375 cases was recorded in the active Covid caseload in a span of 24 hours.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease has climbed to 4,41,09,133, while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.18 percent, the ministry said.

According to the ministry's website, 219.66 crore doses of Covid vaccines have so far been administered to beneficiaries across the country.

India's Covid tally had crossed the 20-lakh mark on August 7, 2020, 30 lakh on August

23, 2020, 40 lakh on September 5, 2020 and 50 lakh on September 16, 2020.

It went past 60 lakh on September 28, 2020, 70 lakh on October 11, 2020, 80 lakh on October 29, 2020, 90 lakh on November 20, 2020 and the one-crore mark on December 19, 2020.

The country crossed the grim milestone of two crore Covid cases on May 4, 2021, three crore cases on June 23, 2021 and four crore cases on January 25 this year.

Of the four deaths reported in a span of 24 hours, one each was recorded in Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Puducherry and Rajasthan.

Career Guidance

Digital skills that are required in banking sector



By: Vijay GarG

Digital skills that are required in banking

Upskilling and reskilling are necessary given the current digital transition. Banks are redesigning their organisations and redefining employee positions to support various digital banking projects. According to a report by Cognizant, this has become so crucial that failing to do so will put banks in danger of losing their training expenditures

as newly qualified workers seek alternative employment possibilities. These digital skill sets will set you apart from the competition, especially given the requirement for a significant culture shift to support digital transformation.

When was the last time you visited the bank? Although banking has expanded to mobile and e-banking. Your debit/credit card and mobile banking applications are probably used more frequently now. Before Covid-19 boosted the usage of contactless payments, transactions, and transfers, digital transformation was already underway. As a result, the application of artificial intelligence (AI) in finance and data science has grown significantly.

Today, financial institutions can cut down on the time and expense of processing payments when they are done digitally.

For individuals searching for a stable career path, the expanding importance of AI and Data Science in banking and insurance has greatly increased demand (and potential).

Financial institutions welcome the following technical skills in new hires. Graduates with an understanding of the following fields are preferred in the industry:

Blockchain: Blockchain offers a very secure log of transactions that enables verification by all parties. Blockchain's strength comes from its accessibility, as opposed to the 'lock box' method of financial security. Since the shared ledger is transparent, any effort to change or distort the data would be discovered.

Blockchain technology can potentially be used in a wider range of financial transactions in the future, enabling the safe

execution of new types of transactions and documents in the digital space. Hence, there is a high demand for professionals who have acquired the necessary skills in blockchain technology.

Cloud CRM and Services: With the use of CRM banking technology, each department may build up distinct triggers for providing extra services while having access to the same data across all client profiles. Staff members may consult detailed customer profiles built from marketing, sales, and service data to find fresh possibilities to convert leads. They will be able to build a seamless and personalised experience for the consumer and a quick conversion process for you since they will not have to start over every time an interdepartmental lead enters the funnel. Hence, graduates with a knowledge of CRM and cloud

services have a lucrative future in banking and finance.

AI/ML for information-based service offerings/products: According to recent research, around 80% of banks know the potential advantages AI may bring to their industry. Graduates with skills in AI and ML are thus in high demand. As per another estimate, banks are expected to save \$447 billion by utilising AI apps by 2023. These figures show that the banking and financial industry is moving quickly toward AI to increase productivity, service, and ROI while lowering costs.

Digital/Online Communications and Servicing: A variety of digital features are added to Virtual Relationship Manager, including web chat (an AI-based chatbot), remote banking using your smart devices, and service support through chat centres, includ-

ing Facebook Messenger. These products are well-liked by HNW (high net worth) and tech-savvy clients that prefer phone support over in-person assistance. Hence those possessing the soft skills for online communication for customer service are in high demand, especially in the banking sector, where people have multiple queries and require quick and efficient responses.

UI/UX: With the growing adoption of finance-related applications and digital transactions, it becomes important for banks and financial institutions to invest in talent to cater to their UI/UX requirements. While banks and finance businesses look to expand their digital services, a large part of product development is envisioning what a product will look like. Depending on the stage of development, they require UI/UX de-

velopers to create wireframes, low or high-fidelity prototypes, mockups, or user flows. UI/UX is one of the growing skills across markets and is to scale in the future.

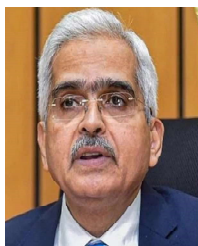
Open source, SaaS and Serverless Architecture: These three components help businesses upscale banking services and offer a seamless customer experience. SaaS (software as a service) enables businesses to get all the software services they require without developing the software themselves. Using serverless architecture, businesses can concentrate on building code rather than managing it. Using open-source software, firms may use pre-existing, cost-free software libraries that are simple to include in their code. With expertise in these fields, a graduate can get a highly paid job owing to these skills' benefits to the banking sector.

Central Bank Digital Currency is going to be major transformation of the way business is done: RBI Guv

Agency
New Delhi, Nov 2:

Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das said CBDC is going to be a major transformation of the way business is done — the way transactions are conducted and highlighted that RBI is among the very few central banks in the world which have taken this initiative.

While addressing FIBAC on Wednesday, Governor Shaktikanta Das said, "Yesterday, we launched the trial of our digital currency, Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) project. It was indeed a landmark moment in the history of currency in our country. Going forward, it will be a landmark achievement so far as the functioning of the entire economy is concerned."



FIBAC is an annual banking conference, organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and Indian Banks' Association (IBA).

Here in this conference, Das said, "Will to try and launch the CBDC in a full-fledged manner in the near future," he said. CBDC is a digital form of currency notes issued by a central bank. Das announced that the retail part

of the CBDC trial will be launched later this month and added, "We will announce the date separately, but I don't want to give a target date by which time the CBDCs will be launched in our full-scale manner, because this is something where we have to proceed very carefully. This is the first time the world is doing it. We don't want to be in a great hurry, we want to learn from the experience."

Das also announced that end-to-end digitalisation of Kisan Credit Card (KCC) loans will be launched on a nationwide basis during the calendar year 2023. "Based on the learnings and experience of the pilot project of end-to-end digitalisation of KCC loans, our endeavor would be to launch it in a full-scale manner if everything goes alright, not only for the farmers' loans, but also for the SME

loans. We hope to launch it on a nationwide basis during the calendar year 2023," he said. RBI started the pilot project of end-to-end digitalisation of Kisan Credit Card (KCC) loans in September 2022 in selected districts of Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu with Union Bank of India and Federal Bank, respectively, as partner banks and with active cooperation of the respective state governments.

"This pilot project on digitalisation of KCC lending is expected to play a pivotal role in facilitating credit flow to the unserved and underserved rural population by making the credit process faster and more efficient. When fully implemented, this has the potential to transform the rural credit delivery system of the country," the Governor added.

Assam Rifles organised Vigilance Awareness Gram Sabha

IT News
Imphal, Nov 2:

Khuga Battalion of Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) organised Vigilance Awareness Gram Sabha in forward village of Churachandpur district Manipur as part of vigilance Awareness Week today.

The awareness oriented

Gram Sabha was organised at Songdoi. During the sabha, villagers were briefed about corruption, its effect on development of nation and measures to eradicate corruption from grass root level. Due emphasis was given on types of vigilance i.e. Preventive Vigilance, Punitive Vigilance & Surveillance and Detection Basic aim of the drive was to

bring together all the stakeholders to participate in the prevention of corruption and to raise public awareness about the threats posed by corruption. In this regard the gram sabha was adequately organised to percolate down the essence of vigilance, prevailing anomalies and mitigation measures/ preventive laws.

Contd. from Page 1

Congress-BJP clash: Tension.....

At least five firefighters sustained injuries and a department vehicle was also vandalised in the clash.

The injured Tripura fire department personnel are: Ranjit Das, Jayanta Bhowmik, Pradyuth Banik, Sujit Saha and Zakir Hussain.

Receiving the information

about the incident the fire department personnel rushed to the spot to rescue the injured.

However, while rescuing the injured persons, fire fighters were also attacked.

The injured firefighters were then rushed to the Bishalgarh sub-divisional hospital in Tripura.

Later, one of the injured

firefighters was referred to the GB hospital in Agartala, Tripura as his condition is stated to be critical.

Angry over the police inaction on the incident, the Congress workers blocked a major road in the area to lodge their protest in regards to alleged opening of fire by a BJP worker and demanded immediate arrest of the accused.

Modi Government plays trick on.....

Moreover, there is a long history of misuse of this provision during the British Raj and in independent India. During the colonial rule, the sedition law was used primarily to suppress dissent and imprison freedom fighters which included even Mahatma Gandhi and Bal Gangadhar Tilak. Under BJP rule, there is an unprecedented spurt in registration of sedition cases against opposition leaders, journalists, human rights activists, and other civil society members etc, who happen to criticize the malfunctioning or faults of the government. The provision has clearly been misused to silence the critics and suppress dissent, allegedly to establish autocratic Hindu Rashtra, against the spirit of 'secular democratic republic' of the Constitution of India.

Thus, the sedition law is seen as a threat to existence of democ-

racy. It is due to this reason that the Editors Guild of India, Major General (Retd) SG Vombatkere, former Union Minister Arun Shourie, People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL) and others have challenged the provision contending that the law causes a "chilling effect" on free speech and is an unreasonable restriction on the fundamental right to free speech and expression.

It would be unfortunate if Modi government succeeds in tricking the country by amending or diluting the provision and retaining it in the Penal Code. The Supreme Court of India has a great responsibility in protecting the citizens against such tricks in name of the "promised review" to retain it from the backdoor. Sedition law must go. (IPA Service)

Contractors who repaired Morbi bridge not qualified for such work: Prosecution tells court

Agency
Morbi, Nov 2:

The contractors who carried out repairs of the ill-fated suspension bridge at Morbi in Gujarat were not qualified to carry out such jobs, the prosecution told a court here.

While the bridge flooring was replaced, its cable was not replaced and it could not take the weight of the changed flooring, the prosecution, citing a forensic report, told the magistrate's court on Tuesday.

The collapse of the bridge on Sunday evening claimed over 140 lives.

Chief Judicial Magistrate M J Khan remanded four of the arrested accused — two managers of the OREVA Group and two sub-contractors who had repaired the bridge — in police custody till Saturday.

The court remanded five other arrested men, including security guards and ticket booking clerks, in judicial custody as police did not seek their custody, prosecutor H S Panchal said.

Police had on Monday booked nine persons under Indian Penal Code Section 304 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder).

The four accused remanded

in police custody were OREVA managers Dipak Parekh and Dinesh Dave, and repairing contractors Prakash Parmar and Devang Parmar, hired by the OREVA Group.

Citing a Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) report, Panchal told the court that forensic experts believed the main cable of the bridge snapped because of the weight of the new flooring.

"Though the FSL report was presented in a sealed cover, it was mentioned during the remand plea that the cables of the bridge were not replaced during the renovation and only

flooring was changed, the weight of the bridge increased due to the four-layered aluminium sheets for the flooring and the cable snapped due to that weight," Panchal told reporters.

The court was also informed that both the repairing contractors were "not qualified" to carry out such work.

"Despite that, these contractors were given the bridge repair work in 2007 and then in 2022. So the accused's custody was needed to find out what was the reason for choosing them and at whose instance they were chosen," the prosecutor said.

Sports

2nd Masters Athletic Championship 2022 concludes



IT News
Imphal Nov 1:

2nd Master Athletic Championship which begins from October 30 concluded. Award distribution function of the championship organized by Master Athletic Association, Imphal West was held yesterday at Khuman lampak Main Stadium.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairman of the Organising Committee, Nahakpam Sanatomba said the championship was organized with aimed to improve the health condi-

tion of the aged people and also to relieve from tension which they often face at home. Award given to the veteran sports championship may not be able to help much but it is an attempt to boost their moral.

During the championship various events for both male and women such as Discuss throw, 100 meter, 400 meter, 800 meter race, 5000 meter walk race, Javeline, Shot-put, Hammer, Triple jump, Long jump, etc. were held and the prizes were handed over to the winners.

T20 World Cup: Netherlands beats Zimbabwe by five wickets

Agency
Adelaide, Nov 2:

In-form opener Max O'Dowd slammed a fine half century after a clinical show by the pace bowlers as Netherlands beat Zimbabwe by five wickets for their first win of the ongoing T20 World Cup here on Wednesday.

The Netherlands chased down the small target of 118 with two overs to spare with O'Dowd hitting 52 from 47 balls, reaching 120 for 5 to collect their first points — two — though they are already out of the tournament.

Zimbabwe was also virtually out of the tournament after Wednesday's loss.

Paul van Meekeren (3/29) led the Dutch's disciplined pace bowling show after Zimbabwe opted to bat, while Brandon Glover, Logan van Beek and Bas de Leede also returned with two wickets apiece to skittle out the African side for 117 in 19.2 overs.

In its must-win match, Sikandar Raza was the lone bright spot for Zimbabwe in an otherwise sloppy batting display by the team as the star all-

rounder smashed a 24-ball 40 (3x4, 3x6) to take them past the 100-run mark.

But the target of 118 proved way below par as the Dutch cantered home in 18 overs en route to their first win of the Super-12 stage.

The 'Orange Army' will face South Africa in their last match on Sunday.

Zimbabwe, who had a stunning win over Pakistan earlier in the tournament, next face tournament favourites India in their last match at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on Sunday.

Netherlands came up with a solid and steady start with the long-haired O'Dowd steering their ship.

At the half-way mark, they were 67/1 as O'Dowd brilliantly held the innings together.

O'Dowd started to break loose and took on Luke Jongwe with two boundaries in a row to complete his 11th fifty, and fourth in a World Cup.

Needing nine runs from 30 balls, the win was delayed as Netherlands committed a bit of harakiri near the finishing line, losing O'Dowd and skipper Scott Edwards (5) in the space

of nine balls.

In the end, de Leede slammed two boundaries in his run-a-ball 12 not out to seal the win.

Earlier, Zimbabwe batters, barring Raza, showed complete lack of application.

Only two Zimbabwe batters reached double-digit figures and they consumed 66 dot balls, summing up their plight in their must-win match.

Wickets kept on falling around Raza as he looked like batting for a different team, with supreme control and confidence.

Pacer Brandon Glover (4-1-29-2) troubled the Zimbabwe batters early on, extracting swing from the Adelaide Oval as he gave a twin blow inside the Powerplay by dismissing skipper Craig Ervine (3) and Regis Chakvba (5) in successive overs.

The top-three Wessly Madhevere (1), Ervine (3) and Chakvba (5) failed to get going and managed 20 runs in Powerplay.

Reeling at 20/3, Raza straightaway got going with his swivel shots to counter-attack the Dutch bowlers.

MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

NOTIFICATION

Imphal, the 2nd November, 2022

No. 01/06(02)/2022-LA (E)DR: The following are the Roll Nos. of successful candidates for direct recruitment to the 2(two) posts of **Committee Officer** on regular basis in the Manipur Legislative Assembly Secretariat as per the interview/viva-voce held on 27/06/2022.

Roll Nos. (not in order of merit): 0239 (UR) & 06 (ST)

The successful candidates are, therefore, informed to report to the undersigned for completion of necessary formalities during office hour.

Sd/-
G. Tapankumar Sharma
Joint Secretary (Admn),
Manipur Legislative Assembly

Name Change

I, the undersigned, Thokchom Bheigyabati Devi do hereby declare that I have relinquished, renounced and abandoned the use of my old name **Chingangbam Ongbi Bheigyabati Devi** as I have assumed my new name **Thokchom Bheigyabati Devi**.

Sd/-
Thokchom Bheigyabati Devi
Kairang Maning Leikai
Imphal East District, PO - Mantripukhri

Name Change

I, the undersigned, Chingangbam Rameswar Meitei do hereby declare that I have relinquished, renounced and abandoned the use of my old name **Chingangbam Rameswar Meitei** as I have assumed my new name **Chingangbam Rameswar Meitei**.

Sd/-
Chingangbam Rameswar Meitei
Kairang Maning Leikai
Imphal East District, PO - Mantripukhri

Name Change

I, the undersigned, Keisham Pramodini Devi do hereby declare that I have relinquished, renounced and abandoned the use of my old name **Keisham Pramodini** as I have assumed my new name **Keisham Pramodini Devi**.

Sd/-
Keisham Pramodini Devi
Kairang Maning Leikai
Imphal East District, PO - Mantripukhri