SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2024, NEW DELHI, LATE CITY, 22 PAGES

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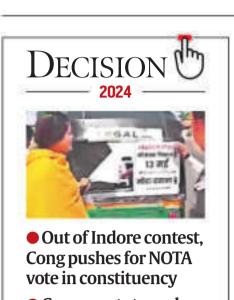
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Cong wants to make Hindus second-class citizens, claims Modi PAGES 7, 8 & 9

12 Maoists killed in Chhattisgarh encounter, second in weeks



JAYPRAKASHS NAIDU RAIPUR, MAY 10

BARELY THREE weeks after 29 Maoists were killed in a gunbattle in Kanker district of Chhattisgarh, another 12 Maoists were shot dead in an encounter with security forces in the state's Bijapur district early Friday.

A jawan of the District Reserve Guard (DRG) was injured in an IED explosion when the team was heading back after the operation.

The number of Maoists killed this year in Chhattisgarh is now 103 — the highest since 2019. Until April-end, 91 Maoists had been killed by security forces.

The Friday incident took place in the Gangaloor area under the jurisdiction of the Pidiya police station in Bijapur district, considered a Maoist stronghold CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

INTERIM BAIL UNTIL JUNE 1: SC SAYS POLLS A LIFELINE, HE IS NOT A THREAT

Kejriwal can campaign



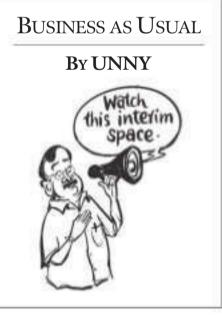
Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal addresses supporters outside Tihar Jail after he got interim bail on Friday. Renuka Puri

Bail conditions: Can't visit file unless it needs L-G nod against dictatorship'

ANANTHAKRISHNAN G NEW DELHI, MAY 10

REFERRING TO a ruling that described elections as "the barometer and lifeline of a parliamentary system and its setup" and underlining that Arvind Kejriwal is "the Chief Minister of Delhi and a leader of one of the national parties" who "does not have any criminal antecedents" and is "not a threat to society", the Supreme Court Friday granted him interim bail until June 1, the seventh and last phase of voting in the ongoing Lok Sabha elections, with certain conditions.

Arrested in the Delhi excise



policy case on March 21 by the **Enforcement Directorate and** subsequently placed in judicial

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

His first remarks: '140 CMO, Sectt; can't sign any crore people have to unite

> **GAYATHRI MANI** NEW DELHI. MAY 10

AMID THE sound of firecrackers. surrounded by hundreds of supporters, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal walked out of Tihar Jail Friday, with a declaration that "humein sabko milke desh ko taanashahi se bachaana hai (all of us have to unite to save

the country from dictatorship)". "Main tann, mann, dhan se lad raha hoon, sangharsh kar raha hoon, taanashahi ke khilaaf. Lekin 140 crore logon ko taanashahi se ladna padega (I'm fighting against dictatorship with all my might, but 140 crore

people will have to do that

INSIDE

KEJRIWAL OUT ON BAIL, AAP TO TWEAK

RULING COULD SET PRECEDENT FOR POLITICAL **DETAINEES PAGE 4 & 7**

too)," he said.

Kejriwal, arrested on March 21 by the Enforcement Directorate in connection with the Delhi excise policy case, has been granted interim bail until June 1 by the Supreme Court.

PM tells Pawar better to join us; he

says no, flags remarks on Muslims

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

POLL STRATEGY

Lordships made themselves part of campaign: BJP's Vinay Sahasrabuddhe

VIKAS PATHAK NEW DELHI, MAY 10

SOON AFTER the Supreme Court granted interim bail to Delhi Chief Minister and Aam Aadmi Party leader Arvind Kejriwal until June 1, the last day of polling, senior BJP leader and party national executive member Vinay Sahasrabuddhe put a question mark on the court's motives.

"By picking a side right in the middle of elections, the lordships that be have made themselves a part of the campaign. When the billion ballots speak, they may not like it!"

When contacted, Sahasrabuddhe told *The Indian Express*: "The Supreme Court order sets a precedent... so people who are charged will, in future, start filing election nominations. There is also a risk that Kejriwal may tamper with the evidence."

Sahsasrabuddhe, former Rajya Sabha MP and former president of Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), said this was his "personal view."

Meanwhile, BJP leaders across the country continued their attacks on Kejriwal, saying that he remained an accused and would be back in jail soon.

Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva said, "He has been granted bail for the election campaign till June 1 but what after that? Getting interim bail does not mean that you have been proven innocent... Criminals also come out on parole and then return. Kejriwal campaigned in 2014 and 2019 too. Being inside or campaigning outside makes no difference to polls. It will not

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Narendra Dabholkar's son Hamid and daughter Mukta **outside the Pune court after the verdict Friday.** Pavan Khengre

Dabholkar murder: 2 get life in prison, alleged mastermind among 3 acquitted

Court flags suspicion, but gives clean chit to three citing lack of evidence

CHANDAN HAYGUNDE & SUSHANT KULKARNI PUNE, MAY 10

Sharad Bhausaheb Kalaskar, and

sentenced them to life imprison-

ment for murder. It acquitted

three others including the alleged

mastermind Dr Virendrasinh

Special judge P P Jadhav acquit-

ted Tawade, lawyer Sanjiv

Gajanan Punalekar and activist

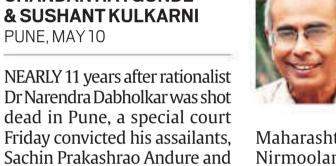
Vikram Vinay Bhave, all linked to

Dabholkar, founder of the

Citing lack of evidence,

Sharadchandra Tawade.

the Sanatan Sanstha.



dead in Pune on August 20, 2013

Was shot

Maharashtra Andhashraddha Nirmoolan Samiti, was shot dead by two motorcycle-borne assailants on the V R Shinde bridge in Pune on the morning of August 20 in 2013.

While acquitting Tawade, the judge said there was a "lot of scope for suspicion" against him, but "the prosecution has failed to provide evidence for it". He also said "there is definitely suspicion" on Bhave and Punalekar "but due to lack of evidence they

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

ORDERS FRAMING OF CHARGES

Sufficient material on sexual harassment by Brij Bhushan: Court

NIRBHAY THAKUR

NEW DELHI, MAY 10

A DELHI court Friday ordered framing of charges against BJP MP and former Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh in the case in which six women wrestlers had levelled allegations of sexual harassment against him.

The court of Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Priyanka Rajpoot said there was sufficient material to frame charges against Bhushan in the offences of outraging the modesty of a woman and sexual harassment (sections 354 and 354A of the IPC) of five women. It said for all allegations levelled against Bhushan by victim num-



BIP MP and

Her charges dated back to 2012. The court noted that it has

found sufficient material against Bhushan for offences under section 506 (1) (criminal intimidation) in the allegations of two victims — number 1 and 5.

Bhushan has not been charged with the offence of stalking (354D of the IPC).

For Vinod Tomar, former WFI assistant secretary and the second accused in the case, the court

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Should all of Parliament security be with CISF? Panel will examine

LIZ MATHEW

NEW DELHI, MAY 10

PAGE 1

society

ANCHOR

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY

FOR THE large part of Nitish

Kumar's 19-year rule in Bihar, his

leadership has been identified

with an efficient administration

that restored law and order in

the state, built road infrastruc-

ture, empowered girls, women

and disadvantaged sections of

with schemes,

BHAGALPUR, MUNGER,

CHAMPARAN, MAY 10

SECURITY AT the Parliament complex could witness a radical overhaul with the Union Home Ministry constituting a panel to assess whether personnel of the CISF (Central Industrial Security Force) should take charge of the entire process — right from managing security arrangements to issuing passes to regulating



PARLIAMENT SECURITY service works under the Watch and Ward committee umder the LS Secretariat. Ex-Secy General PDT Achary says any change should be under the direction of the Speaker, not MHA.

movement of MPs, VIPs, officials and the media, The Indian Express has learnt.

These responsibilities are currently entrusted with the Parliament Security Service, which functions under the almost century-old Watch and Ward committee.

Last month, the CISF was brought in to replace 150 personnel of the Delhi Police, who used to be deployed alongside **CONTINUED ON PAGE 11**

MANOJ MORE PUNE. MAY 10

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi Friday mocked NCP (SP) leader Sharad Pawar's recent statement that smaller regional parties may come closer to or merge with the Congress in the coming years. Without mentioning his name, Modi called Pawar's party the "nakli (fake) NCP" and said it would be better



NCP(SP) chief

We admire

Nehru-

Gandhi

if it joined the BJP-led coalition in Maharashtra "with pride" than merge with the Congress and "die in four days".

Pawar responded to the Prime Minister's jibe, saying he

Muslim stand. Speaking at a rally in Maharashtra's Nandurbar dis-

trict, Modi said: "For 40-50 years, one tall leader from Maharashtra has been in politics. These days, he is making wild statements. After the Baramati election, he is frustrated and disappointed. After discussing with a lot of

would never ditch the Nehru-

Gandhi ideology and join hands

with those who adopt an anti-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

and Dalits, the caste groups that

wagers who lift weight). If I don't

"Look, I am a *poldaar* (daily

constitute Nitish's core base.

get a drink after the day's

work, I will not be able to

sleep in the night. But we

are the ones facing the po-

lice crackdown, the rich

JD(U) sheen off, for Bihar's NDA voters, it's Modi in 2024, not Nitish just more expensive. The police are merely cracking down on

> consumers. The jails are full of poor people. Police does not go after bootleggers and smugglers as they pay them regular bribes," he

> > Kumhar adds that this time he is voting for

Nitish's candidate in Sitamarhi because of Modi, but in 2025, he will vote

In Machchharganwa village of Valmikinagar constituency, Lallan Yadav and Ramakant, a Musahar, discuss how bootleggers have fatas they were earlier. Says Rita Devi, a Kurmi teastall owner in Bettiah in West

Even women do not seem to

be as positive about prohibition

Champaran: "Prohibition is good. A few members of my family died of alcohol. But it should be total. The only good thing is people are not roaming on the roads drunk." Kavita Devi (name changed) from in Jhanjharpur is less complimentary.

"If prohibition was really implemented, I would compliment Nitish Kumar. But men are still drinking and coming home and fighting with their wives. My

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

carefully designed. Credited with identifying women as a separate constituency in the country — long before it became the flavour of many a party —

Nitish also enforced prohibition in the state in 2016.

That, too, was a hit with many women at the receiving end of abuse and distress because of their spouses' alco-

holism. However, a stagnating growth, lack of job opportunities at home, administrative corruption, poorly implemented prohibition, crumbling cities beyond the capital, and his own ideological flip-flops are dimming the halo around Bihar's Vikas Purush.

This was visible in the 2020 Assembly polls, when Nitish's ID(U) was reduced from over 70 seats in the Assembly to just 43

and now in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, it's dimmed further.

While voters, cutting across caste lines, flag his "good work," they report a sense of fatigue with his long reign, frustration with his flip-flops, and impatience with his inability to spur Bihar to the next level. Across the 16 seats JD(U) is contesting, those voting for the NDA are clear: they are voting for Prime Minister Narendra Modi, not for Nitish or his candidate.

PROHIBITION

Among voters, there is special criticism reserved for prohibition, specially from OBCs, EBCs



Bihar CM Nitish Kumar at a rally in Barh on Monday. PTI

epaper.indianexpress.com

hibition should not just be on paper. "Liquor is freely available,

found drunk.

DECISION get away with bribes," says Raju Mandal, a Kurmi, at Dhankaul Bazaar in Sheohar. Mandal has been arrested thrice for being for change.

Vijay Kumhar (EBC), a daily wager from Sitamarhi, says protened on illegal payoffs.

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By Shalini Singh By Shivani Sharma also participated in UPPSC Main in 2019 and cleared AFCAT 2015

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Length, Paper 2:4 Sectional + 2 Full Length)

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

Psychology By Shalini Singh

Geography

By Akshay Sanjay Gurubhaiye

Agriculture

By Dr. Hardeep Singh

Anthropology

Zoology By Shivani Sharma

PSIR By Dr. Bijendra Jha

Sociology

By Dr. Huma Hassan **Economics**

By Prateek Tripathi By Dr. Huma Hassan History Public Adm.

By Dr. Bijendra Jha Mathematics

By Kanhaiya Jha **Physics**

By Prateek Tripathi By Priyanka Godara

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FROM PAGE ONE FULL REPORTS ON WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

Bail conditions: Can't visit CMO, Sectt

custody, Kejriwal has to surrender on June 2.

Rejecting the prosecution's argument that if politicians can be granted interim bail to campaign for elections, there is no reason why an agriculturalist or a businessman should be denied bail to attend to his work, the bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and Dipankar Datta laid down the conditions for interim bail to Kejriwal:

■ he shall furnish bail bonds in the sum of Rs 50,000 with one surety of the like amount to the satisfaction of the Jail Superintendent:

■ he shall not visit the Office of the Chief Minister and the Delhi Secretariat:

■ he shall be bound by the statement made on his behalf that he shall not sign official files unless it is required and necessary for obtaining clearance/approval of the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi; ■ he will not make any com-

ment with regard to his role in the present case; ■ he will not interact with any of the witnesses and/or have ac-

cess to any official files connected

with the case. "The grant of interim bail will not be treated as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case or the criminal appeal which is pending consideration before us," the bench said, referring to Kejriwal's plea against his arrest by the ED.

"It is no gain saying that General Elections to Lok Sabha is

the most significant and an important event this year, as it should be in a national election year. Between 650-700 million voters out of an electorate of about 970 million will cast their votes to elect the government of this country for the next five years. General Elections supply the vis viva to a democracy," it said.

"Given the prodigious importance, we reject the argument raised on behalf of the prosecution that grant of interim bail/release on this account would be giving premium of placing the politicians in a benefic position compared to ordinary citizens of this country. While examining the question of grant of interim bail/release, the courts always take into consideration the peculiarities associated with the person in question and the surrounding circumstances. In fact, to ignore the same would be iniquitous and wrong," it said.

pointed out that the appellant, Arvind Kejriwal, had failed to appear in spite of nine notices/summons, first of which was issued in October 2023. This is a negative factor, but there are several other facets which we are required to take into consideration. The appellant... is the Chief Minister of Delhi and a leader of one of the national parties. No doubt, serious accusations have been made, but he has not been convicted. He does not have any criminal antecedents. He is not a threat to society," the bench said.

"The prosecution has rightly

ent case has remained pending since August 2022. Arvind Kejriwal was arrested... on 21.03.2024. More importantly, legality and validity of the arrest itself is under challenge before this Court and we are yet to finally pronounce on the same. The... situation cannot be compared with harvesting of crops or plea to look after business affairs. In this background, once the matter is subjudice and the questions relating to legality of arrest are under consideration, a more holistic and libertarian view is justified, in the background that the 18th Lok Sabha

General Elections are being held,"

"At this stage, it is not possible

it said.

"The investigation in the pres-

for us to either conclude the arguments or finally pronounce the iudgement. However, there is an intervening factor which has prompted us to consider and pass the present order, namely, 18th Lok Sabha General Elections, which are in progress. As the appeal is pending before us, we do not think it would be proper for us to direct the appellant – Arvind Kejriwal to approach the trial court for interim bail/release. This may not be apt in view of the legal issues and contentions that are under examination and consideration before us," it said.

Earlier, as soon as the bench took up the matter to pronounce its order, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, who appeared for the ED and had opposed any interim relief, said, "Now we have been ap-

proached by Amritpal Singh. That's a concern."

Amritpal Singh, leader of 'Waris Punjab De' who was held under the National Security Act, is in a jail in Dibrugarh, Assam, and wants to contest in the Lok Sabha elections.

Justice Khanna, however, said, "That's something entirely different. You can't compare."

Mehta said he "could not find any precedent to assist Your Lordships either way, that a person is released for campaigning".

Justice Khanna said, "Let's not put into a simple straightjacket like that.". He said the case was registered in August 2022 and Kejriwal was arrested in March 2024 after about one-and-half years. "21 days... should not make any difference," he said, referring to the interim bail period.

Mehta said he should not speak about the case but the bench told him "you are entitled to counter him with equally strong statements".

Senior Advocate A M Singhvi, appearing for Kejriwal, wondered if he could get more time and pointed out that the election results are on June 4. But the bench declined any

further extension. "No, no. We will try and conclude the arguments next week and try to pronounce the judgement, if possible," it said. Mehta said Kejriwal should surrender at the expiry of interim

"He will surrender," Justice

Khanna said.

• Lordships made themselves part of campaign: BJP's Vinay Sahasrabuddhe were not getting bail, the bail for

affect the elections; BJP will win all seven seats of Delhi..."

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said, "What bail has he got? It says that vou are a thief but you can campaign for one month. No respectable person will accept this bail. Such a person will say – I politely decline. What kind of bail is it that you can go out but have to come back on June 2?"

"We respect the decision of the Supreme Court. But the charges still stand and action will be taken on them," Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhami told reporters. Said Rajasthan CM Bhajanlal Sharma: "A new chapter of corruption is being written in the country...He had come along with Anna Hazare ji to remove corruption but drowned himself in it..."

Even as the party officially said that the bail order was no relief for Kejriwal, some BIP insiders acknowledge that the interim bail comes just before Delhi goes to polls and this could pose a "political challenge." Said a BJP leader: "Kejriwal is

not Manish Sisodia, he will play the victim card to the fullest. We have been saying that the charges are serious because AAP leaders

Sanjay Singh and then Kejriwal doesn't change that reality." An RSS leader discounted the

effect of Kejriwal's release saying "floating voters were very few and the lines have already been drawn on both sides". Another RSS insider said that the interim bail would send the wrong signal that politicians can "get away with anything".

• PM tells Pawar better to join us; he says no, flags remarks on Muslims

people, he made a statement. He has said that if smaller regional parties have to survive in politics, they will have to merge with Congress.'

"It means nakli NCP and nakli Shiv Sena have made up their minds to merge with the Congress," he said, referring to Pawar's party and Uddhav Thackeray's party, which are part of the opposition INDIA bloc.

"Chaar din baad Congress mai jakarke marne ki bajay, seena taan karke humare Ajitdada aur Shindeji ke saath aaoo, aapke sabhi sapne poore ho jayenge. (Instead of merging with the Congress and dying four days later, join hands with Ajit Pawar and Eknath Shinde with pride, all your dreams will be ful-

and an area from where many are

This was the second major en-

The Friday encounter began at

counter in Gangaloor within

weeks – 13 Maoists were killed in

6 am at different locations in and

around the Pidiya forest. Bijapur

SP Jitendra Kumar Yadav said they

had received information about

the presence of around 150

Maoists in the Pidiya forest. He

said they were from the West

Bastar division, Darbha division,

People's Liberation Guerrilla Army

(PGLA) Company 2's commander

Vella, platoons 12 and 13, and

Gangaloor area committee secre-

joint operation was undertaken at

night by security forces compris-

ing personnel of the DRG from

Bijapur, Dantewada and Sukma,

Acting on the information, a

tary Dinesh Modiyam.

recruited.

the area on April 2.

• 12 Maoists killed in Chhattisgarh

Incidentally, in an interview

filled)," he said.

to The Indian Express on May 4, Pawar had said: "In the next couple of years, several regional parties will associate more closely with the Congress. Or they may look at the option of merging with the Congress if they believe that is the best for their party."

Asked whether that applied to his own party, the NCP (SP), he had said, "I don't see any difference between the Congress and us.... Ideologically, we belong to the Gandhi, Nehru line of thinking."

On Friday, Pawar hit back at the Prime Minister, accusing him of "taking a stand against one particular community", and stood by

Bastar Fighters, Special Task Force,

were part of the operation. "It was

a joint effort of forces from three

districts with effective coordina-

tion," Dantewada SP Gaurav Rai

said. The gunfight went on for

around 12 hours at more than six

around 40 km from Bijapur dis-

trict headquarters, and 8-10 km

south of the April 2 encounter site.

rity forces destroyed the Maoist

camp and seized a BGL, a 12 bore

gun, a country-made rifle, explo-

sives, medicines, Maoist uniforms,

they came across bodies of 12

Maoists. While returning, a DRG

jawan suffered injuries in an IED

During the search operations,

literature and daily items.

After the encounter, the secu-

The encounter took place

locations.

blast.

Over 800 security personnel

CoBRA and CRPF battalions.

his stand that he follows the Nehru-Gandhi ideology. "We admire the Nehru-

Gandhi ideology. We will not go anywhere and will not leave the ideology. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has made some comments about the Muslim community in his speeches. I have heard them. If we have to take this country forward and remain united, we will have to take all communities together. We cannot sideline one community and think of moving ahead," he said.

"Prime Minister Modi is repeatedly taking a stand against one particular community. Public opinion is building up against him and that is why he is feeling un-

Modi might be feeling our need, but we will never join hands with them by leaving the ideology that we have embraced," the veteran leader said. "Today, our parliamentary and

easy and making such statements.

democratic system is in danger. Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren have been arrested and put in jail. These arrests cannot happen without the role of the Central government and the central leadership," Pawar said. "Prime Minister does not believe in our democratic system. We cannot join hands with any person, party or ideology that does not have not faith in our parliamentary democracy."

Sufficient material, says court

said there was sufficient material to frame charges against him for criminal intimidation in relation to the allegations of one victim. Tomar, however, was discharged of the charge of abetment.

Last month, ACMM Rajpoot had rejected Bhushan's plea seeking further investigation in the case. Earlier, the court had deferred the framing of charges against Bhushan since his advocate Rajeev Mohan sought further investigation in the case, claiming in an application that he was not in Delhi when one of the six wrestlers was allegedly molested.

In June last year, Delhi Police had filed a chargesheet against Bhushan for alleged sexual harassment, assault and stalking of six women wrestlers. In its 1,500page chargesheet, police had mentioned statements of at least 22 witnesses from across four

Deepak Chaurasiya, an OBC

paan shop owner in Munger,

brings together prohibition and

unemployment when he says,

"Nitish babu sirf band karwaye,

states, including wrestlers, a referee, a coach and a physiotherapist, who corroborated the allegations made by the six women wrestlers against Singh.

against Bhushan and Tomar under IPC sections 354 (assault or criminal force with intent to outrage modesty), 354A (sexual harassment), 354D (stalking), 109 (abetment) and 506 (criminal intimidation). Around 220 WFI staffers, wrestlers, referees and coaches, along with Singh and his associates, were among those examined in the case. The police had also filed a 550-

page report in the Patiala House Courts, requesting cancellation of the POCSO Act case against Singh after a wrestler, who was a minor at the time of the alleged incident, and her father, the complainant, withdrew their allegations.

The chargesheet was filed

leader Govind Pansare was shot dead in Kolhapur while he was on a morning walk with his wife

Kejriwal's first remarks

"It is a pleasure being back among you all today; didn't I tell you I would be back soon? I am back," the AAP convenor declared from atop his vehicle after being driven out of the prison complex, from where he left for his Civil Lines residence.

"With the blessings of Hanuman ji, I am back with you again. I want to thank all of you... crores of people across the country sent their love my way. I want

to thank the Supreme Court judges," he said.

He also invited people to join him in large numbers at the Hanuman Temple in Connaught Place on Saturday. "Tomorrow at 11 am, we will all go to the Hanuman Mandir in CP. Afterwards, there will be a press conference at the party office at 1 pm. I request all of you to come to the Hanuman Mandir," he said.

• Dabholkar murder: 2 get life term

are being acquitted".

"There were charges under the UAPA in this case. Due to the negligent approach shown by the competent officer, the charges under the UAPA cannot be proved against any accused," the judge said. He said the charges under IPC

sections 302, 34 and sections of the Arms Act against Andure and Kalaskar have been proved "bevond doubt".

After hearing lawyers from both sides, the court sentenced the duo to rigorous life imprisonment along with a fine of Rs 5 lakh each. "There is something that

needs to be pointed out here. Murder of any person is a very unfortunate incident. However, from the side of the accused, especially by their defence lawyers, in the cross examination and arguments, there were some statements made by them through which they tried to justify the act. This was extremely unfortunate. The defence lawyers should make it a point to ponder over this in the future," the judge said. A total of 20 prosecution wit-

nesses and two defence witnesses were examined during the trial. CBI lawyer Prakash Surva-

vanshi said they will study the judgement and take a call on further course of action including filing of an appeal in the High In a statement after the ver-

dict, Dabholkar's wife Dr Shaila, son Dr Hamid and daughter Mukta said that the conviction of Andure and Kalaskar had reaffirmed their faith in the judiciary. "We will challenge the acquit-

tal of Virendra Tawade, Punalekar and Bhave in the High Court. The CBI has said in the chargesheet that the murder was part of the terrorist conspiracy. However, the main conspirators of the case have not been arrested until now. We hope that the CBI and other investigation agencies in the country will work in this regard," the statement said.

Claiming lapses in the process of the identification parade of the accused, defence lawyers Prakash Salsingikar, Virendra Ichalkaranjikar and Suvarna Avhad Vast said they would challenge the conviction of the two accused in the High Court.

A statement by Sanatan Sanstha said the two convicts are not linked to the outfit and "there is possibility that they are also framed in this case".

The Pune city police, which initially probed the Dabholkar murder, arrested alleged illegal firearms dealer Manish Nagori and Vilas Khandelwal in January 2014. Police claimed a ballistic examination of one of the firearms, seized from them following their arrest by the Maharashtra ATS in October 2013, suggested that it matched the "markings" on a cartridge seized from the Dabholkar mur-

The CBI took over the probe in June 2014, but it never accused Nagori and Khandelwal. During its investigation, the CBI recorded the statement of Sanjay Arun Sadvilkar, a Kolhapur-based artisan, who is also a witness in the Govind Pansare murder case. Like Dabholkar, Communist

Uma on February 16, 2015. Based on Sadvilkar's state-

ment, the CBI made its first arrest that of a Sanatan Sanstha seeker and ENT surgeon Dr Tawade, in the Dabholkar case on June 10, 2016. In September 2016, the CBI filed a chargesheet against

Tawade, naming Sanatan seekers

Sarang Akolkar and Vinay Pawar as the two assailants who shot Dabholkar, Later, contradicting its claim, the CBI arrested Andure and Kalaskar in August 2018 as the two men who shot dead Dabholkar. Kalaskar was among the activists arrested by the ATS on August 10, 2018, in a Nalasopara

arms haul case, following clues obtained from the Karnataka police probe into the Gauri Lankesh murder case. Their interrogation allegedly revealed Andure and Kalaskar's involvement in the Dabholkar murder. In May 2019, the CBI arrested Mumbai-based lawyer Punalekar and Vikram Bhave. The CBI

claimed Punalekar had advised

Kalaskar to destroy the firearms used in the killings of Dabholkar and Gauri Lankesh. The CBI claimed that following Punalekar's instructions, Kalaskar dismantled four country-made pistols and threw the parts from a bridge into a creek

der weapon was never recovered. The CBI alleged Bhave had conducted a reconnaissance before the murder. Both Bhave and Punalekar were later released on bail. Bhave had been convicted in

the Thane auditorium blast case

in Thane in July 2018. The mur-

of 2008. Meanwhile, in September 2021, the CBI framed charges against the five accused. Tawade, Andure, Kalaskar and Bhave were charged with murder, conspiracy to commit murder under sections of the IPC, section 16 of the UAPA pertaining to terrorist acts, and provisions of the Arms Act Punalekar was charged with de-

struction of evidence in the case. In the Dabholkar murder case, the CBI had also arrested three more suspects – Amol Kale Amit Digwekar and Rajesh Bangera — who are also accused in the Gauri Lankesh murder case in Karnataka. But they were not

The court observed that the "prosecution has not proved the offence under section 16 of the UAPA Act against any of the accused. So also, the offence of conspiracy is not at all proved against any of the accused."

chargesheeted.

The two eyewitnesses, who identified Andure and Kalaskar during the trial, were found to be "trustworthy" by the court. Even though the murder weapon was not recovered, the court observed that "it is settled law that seizure of muddemal weapons is not mandatory to prove an offence".

The sisters of Kalaskar and Andure had told the court their brothers were present with them at home for Raksha Bandhan on August 20, 2013, the day when Dabholkar was killed. But the court stated from the evidence "it is crystal clear" that both fired bullets at Dabholkar.

The two convicts hail from Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar (then called Aurangabad district) in Maharashtra. Kalaskar is a farmer while Andure worked as an accountant in a private shop. Their family members broke down in the court premises after the conviction.

tional Chief Secretary of Education

Department K K Pathak. While

teachers complain about extra

• JD(U) sheen off, for Bihar's NDA voters, it's Modi in 2024, not Nitish

husband the other day even broke down Hanuman ii's statue in the house. Now since liquor has become expensive, whatever little money he used to bring home is

UNEMPLOYMENT

also gone," she says.

Then there is anger over unemployment and corruption, for which people appear to hold Nitish responsible.

Umesh Kumar, 25, a Nai by caste and profession, and Pushparaj Kumar Sharma, 27, an unemployed Lohar—both OBC-from Rampurwa in Valmikinagar constituency say they have been Nitish voters but will change the regime in 2025.

They say Bihar's biggest problem is unemployment but the state government and local JD(U)

candidates have done nothing. "They have so much money that they can set up factories for themselves but they won't spend a penny for people," says Sharma.

Deepak Kumar, a 35-year-old Gond from the tribal village of Semara in the constituency raises similar concerns but holds both Modi and Nitish responsible.

"I am not seeking a government job. But at least the government should open a couple of factories here. All the young people in the state are forced to work in other states. I work in Bengaluru as a carpenter. We don't like working outside the state. We are not

treated well and live in pitiable

condition. Look at Karnataka, how

developed it is. Look at Bihar, even

Nepal looks better than us," he

khulwaye kuch nahi." Where factories have been opened, there are complaints of outsiders cornering jobs. "Recently, a dairy opened here

in Munger. But all the jobs have gone to Bengalis there. Don't we in Munger district.

need jobs?" says Santosh Kumar, 25, a Paswan Dalit from Jamalpur The caste survey conducted by the Nitish Kumar government is appreciated but many feel without Modi it won't bear fruits. "Even after the survey, whatever

we will get will come from Modi.

After all, he is the one who has the

funds," says Badshah Mandal

village in Bhagalpur. **CORRUPTION**

Then there are complaints of "afsarshahi" taking away the benefits of Nitish's "sushashan".

"Nitish Kumar must do something about corruption. No work gets done without paying bribes here. Even for Aadhar, block officials are asking for Rs 500. Even for schemes, officials want a cut. If you can't pay, you won't get it," say Deendayal Ram and Ramlakhan Ram, both Dalits from Rampurwa, once a Naxal-affected village in Valmikinagar constituency. It's a voice one hears across Bihar with the refrain being that in Lalu Raj bandits came during the night while in Nitish Raj they sit in government offices during the day.

Having switched sides four

FLIP FLOPS

(EBC), a daily wager from Agarpur times since 2015, voters have also begun to doubt Nitish's once "principled politics". "He did great work in his first term. But since then he has only been focused on his chair. It appears the only thing constant in Bihar these days is Nitish as CM. I do not like the RJD, but Tejashwi is at least standing where he is," says Pushpkumar Kushwaha, an insurance agent from Bhitti village in Bhagalpur. His friend Shani Kumar, a Pasi Dalit, defends Nitish, saying the BJP and RJD are as much of a "Paltu Ram" as Nitish because they chose to align with them despite having been "cheated" earlier.

EDUCATION REFORM One thing getting Nitish a pos-

itive buzz is the new-found discipline enforced in schools by Addi-

pressure and long working hours (schools have been kept open for teachers even during summer vacations to help weaker students), students and parents say this is a much-needed step to reform Bihar's education system "Teachers can't mark attendance and go absent anymore. There is such fear that they don't even sit in chair while teaching. Some fresh batch of teachers brought through the Bihar Public Service Commission are also very knowledgeable," said a bunch of students outside a school in Ramnagar in West Champaran. While Modi's popularity may steer JD(U)'s leaky boat in 2024

polls, Nitish may need more like Pathak's reforms to sail smoothly in the 2025 Bihar Assembly polls.

PARENTS MEET SCHOOL AUTHORITIES

Modern School lets EWS students who were asked to leave to repeat Class 9

ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND NEW DELHI, MAY 10

"IT'S A relief now, after weeks of

Relief was indeed palpable in the voice of the mother of a student of Modern School Barakhamba Road after she shared that the school has allowed her ward a chance to repeat Class 9.

The student is among eight from the EWS/ DG (economically weaker section/ disadvantaged group) categories who sent a legal notice to the school a few days ago after being issued leaving certificates for not clearing Class 9 exams.

After the parents met the school authorities on Friday, the school has relented and allowed the students to repeat the year, said the parents.

"Since we hadn't received any information from the school, we decided to go (to the campus). We were in the school for a few hours today and met the teachers. They have said that the children can attend school Tuesday onwards. We were asked to give in writing that we want readmission," said the parent quoted above.

School Principal Vijay Datta has not responded to requests

The students, four boys and four girls, who began studying in nursery in the school's junior section, had not been able to clear their compartment exams, and were not allowed to repeat the year. Classes for the current academic year began in the first week of April.

The parent quoted above has two children, both in the same school. "For me, it was shocking when they said they wouldn't allow him to repeat the year... we wouldn't have been able to get admission anywhere else for a child who has failed his exams. He was already going for tuitions, now we will ensure that he goes for the best one, so that he can cover up. We have got a chance, but it still feels like a risk," said the parent, who is a housewife while her husband is a driver.

"Modern School has a name... of being the best, and my children got lucky in the draw of lots for admission," she added.

Another parent, who works as a driver, said he was relieved that his son was being "readmitted".

"This school was the closest to home... my job is such that I cannot be sure when I would be free. From here, my wife can



The Indian Express report dated May 9

walk to school to pick the kids up and drop them off. My elder son, in Class 9, also used to play hockey... after Class 12, we will see about which course to get him enrolled in," said the father of two boys, both of whom are in Modern School.

'Hope they won't be treated differently'

The mother of a student who was involved in NCC activities said she is now considering asking her daughter to stop participating in them and focus on her studies.

"In the junior school, she learnt very well. During Covid, with online classes, she lost her footing a little. She has struggled with Maths and Science. They have been readmitted but we are hoping that they won't be treated differently now. She used to perform very well in NCC activities... I've been asking her to drop it now and focus on studies. She has come this far, now she needs to go further," said the parent, a housewife, whose husband does electrical work.

The father of three daughters, all in Modern School, who works as an auto driver, said, "It's not that we want to get them married off... we want them to be able to study, as much as they can."

His daughter had not been able to clear compartment exams in Maths and Science.

The mother of one of the students, who was also unable to clear compartment exams in Maths and Science, said, "Her time was getting wasted, when classes had already begun for everybody else. I've studied only till Class 8-9, and I don't have anything to show for it. I used to work at a private foundation, but the contract ended a year-anda-half ago."

Private schools are required to reserve 25% of seats at the entry-level for students from the EWS, DG, and children with special needs (CWSN) categories as well as provide them with free and compulsory education till Class 8, as per the Right to Education Act.

JANGPURA

Thieves ransack elderly doc's home, tie him up, strangle him

ARNABJIT SUR NEW DELHI, MAY 10

IT WAS a quiet afternoon at C-14 in Jangpura Extension's C Block. Most residents were still at work. Using this to their advantage, four men broke into a house on the upper groundfloor where Dr Yogesh Chander Paul lived with his wife. There, they proceeded to allegedly assault the 63-year-old general physician, tie him up, and strangle him to death. They then ransacked the house and locked up his two dogs in the toilet.

It was Dr Paul's wife, Neena, who discovered the body on returning home at 6.30 pm.

DCP (Southeast) Rajesh Deo said they received a PCR call at 6.50 pm regarding the murder. Dr Paul had been practising for around 40 years. His wife too is a doctor at a Delhi government hospital.

Said the DCP, "The body was found in the kitchen. A forensic team along with a dog squad was called to the spot." He said there were signs of a robbery as the rooms were ransacked. Prima facie, it appears that the accused persons ransacked the

house and then killed Dr Paul. A senior officer, requesting

anonymity, said, "His hands and feet were tied with rope... he was on the floor... his neck bore strangulation marks... there were also signs of assault on his face."

He added that a CCTV camera outside the building showed four persons entering the house at 1.30 pm. By then, Dr Paul had returned from his clinic — a 10minute walk from the house.

"He used to leave for his clinic at 10 am and come home for lunch at 1 pm. He would then return to the clinic at 5 pm and come back around 10 pm," said a neighbour.

An officer said, "The couple

had two dogs but both were locked inside the washroom by the accused men... no one in the building seems to have heard any commotion as most were out for work."

The couple has two daughters, both married.

The amount of money and valuables ransacked is yet to be accounted for, said officers. Another officer said, "It appears that the accused persons carried out a recce of the house and might have come posing as patients as Dr Paul used to consult

Monty, who works as a help at a house opposite Dr Paul's, said, "I last saw him around 1

at his house too."

Extension where Dr Yogesh Chander Paul (above) lived with his wife. Express

(Left) At C-14 in Jangpura

pm when he was returning from his clinic..."

Kapil Kakkar, President of Jangpura Extension RWA, told The Indian Express, "Dr Paul was a jovial person and we even awarded him the society 'best resident of the year' award recently... he was born and brought up here and had been treating patients ever since I can remem-

doctor in the nearby areas." An officer said CCTV footage is being scanned further to track the route taken by the accused. Several teams of the Southeast district's special staff and Hazrat Nizamuddin police station have been deployed to nab the men.

ber... he was quite famous as a

HC raps MCD for failing to shut down coaching centres violating norms

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MAY 10

THE DELHI High Court on Friday expressed displeasure with the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) for failing to ensure strict compliance with the court's earlier directions regarding coaching centres operating without conforming to relevant laws. The HC was hearing a batch of matters related to the operations of coaching centres in Mukherjee Nagar, including a suo motu plea initiated by it in 2023, when it had taken cognisance of a fire incident at a coaching centre in a four-storey building in Mukherjee Nagar.

On April 5, the HC had directed the constitution of an independent inspecting team — headed by advocate Gautam Narayan, the amicus curiae appointed in the matter — to inspect the area and submit a report on the total number of coaching centres operating, and of those, how many were complying with the Unified Building Bye-Laws (UBBL), 2016, and the Master Plan of Delhi (MPD), 2021. Narayan stated that certain coaching centres, which were stated to have been shut down as per the MCD, were found operational under a new management or name.

During the course of the hearing, a division bench of Justices Yashwant Varma and Ravinder Dudeja orally said: "You (MCD) are trying to nitpick the direction, which was to shut them down... Shut it down and file a report. The job that the MCD is supposed to do, the amicus curiae is doing. You created this mess. This is no time for clarification." Narayan, meanwhile, submitted that inspection was carried out on two dates, and that the team had inspected 70 per cent of Mukherjee Nagar, Nehru Vihar, and several places in GTB (Guru Tegh Bahadur) Nagar. He further said that a lot of premises have been converted into establishments "referred to as libraries", adding that these are rooms where cubicles are carved out for people to study.

After several hearings, the HC directed the MCD/DDA (Delhi Development Authority) to forthwith take action to ensure that certain premises, which are non-compliant and in "violation" of the court's earlier "sealing direction" are sealed. It also called for a report by the authorities, "not later than Monday (April 13)".

MANUAL SCAVENGER'S DEATH

against increase in

THE DELHI High Court on Friday issued a notice to

the wife of a deceased sanitation worker in an ap-

peal by the Delhi government challenging an order

directing it to award Rs 30 lakh as enhanced com-

pensation to the woman. The government had challenged a November 23, 2023, order of the single-

judge bench of the HC which had allowed the plea

of a deceased sanitation worker's wife seeking en-

hancement of compensation from Rs 10 lakh to Rs 30 lakh in terms of the Supreme Court's directions

on compensation to the dependents of the victims

issued notice to the deceased worker's wife, while

asking the government to pay the enhanced amount

to her. "The appellants, without prejudice to their rights and contentions, are directed to pay the en-

hanced amount to the respondent within six weeks,"

said the bench. "You pay the amount. We'll see," the bench orally said to the standing counsel for the Delhi

The woman had first approached the HC claim-

ing that she was the widow of a sewer cleaner who was performing the work of manual scavenging.

"...The revised compensation amount from Rs 10

government Santosh Kumar Tripathi.

A division bench of Acting Chief Justice Manmohan and Justice Manmeet Pritam Singh Arora

who lose their lives while manual scavenging.

HC notice in plea

compensation to

worker's widow

MALAVIKA PRASAD

NEW DELHI, MAY 10

Army man dies in bike accident

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

GURGAON. MAY 10

AN ARMY man died in an accident in Gurgaon on Thursday while he was on his way back to rejoin duty, said police on Friday. Forty-year-old Sanjeet Kumar was with his son Vishant (18) when the incident took place at around 10.30 am on Thursday, they added.

Police said that Sanjeet — who was a Havildar in the Army — was posted in Kolkata, and was rejoining duty after a month's leave. Sanjeet was riding the motorcycle with Vishant, a pillion passenger, when the vehicle collided with a private

Know what

Toppers read, to

fulfill their dreams

bus and the duo fell on the ground.

Kapur Singh, a neighbour of the victims who was near the accident spot, filed a complaint. He said: "As soon as Sanjeet and Vishant entered National Highway 48, a bus from Bilaspur Chowk rammed into their motorcycle... and the bus driver fled the spot." Singh called an ambulance and informed the victims' family about the accident. "I admitted Sanjeet and Vishant to a nearby hospital... Due to his critical condition, Sanjeet was transferred to Artemis Hospital, where he was pronounced dead," Singh added.

An FIR has been registered against the accused bus driver under relevant IPC sections at the Bilaspur police station.



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क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय उ०प्र० प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड 6-बी, नई मण्डी, मुजफ्फरनगर (उ०प्र०)

पर्यावरणीय अनापत्ति हेतु लोक सुनवाई की संशोधित तिथि हेतु आम सूचना

सर्वसाधारण को सुचित किया जाता है कि मै0 उत्तम शुगर मिल्स लि0, इकाई-खाईखेड़ी (डिस्टिलरी डिवीजन) द्वारा ग्राम खाईखेड़ी, ब्लॉक पुरकाजी, तहसील व जिला मुजफ्फरनगर (उ०प्र०) पर 300 के०एल०डी० क्षमता की आसवनी इकाई (केन जूस सिरप/सी अथवा बी हैवी मोलासेस / अनाज आधारित) तथा सह ऊर्जा प्लांट क्षमता 10 मेगावाट पावर प्लांट की स्थापना किये जाने के लिए उ०प्र० प्रदुषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड में लोक सुनवाई हेतु प्रस्ताव प्रस्तुत किया गया है। राज्य बोर्ड द्वारा भारत सरकार के पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार द्वारा जारी अधिसूचना संख्या-एस.ओ.-1533 दिनांक 14/09/2006 के अनुपालन में, इस इकाई को अनापत्ति प्रमाण-पत्र जारी करने से पूर्व लोक सुनवाई की सूचना जारी किया जाना आवश्यक है। उक्त के आलोक में प्रस्तुत प्रस्ताव पर लोक सुनवाई दिनांक 08.04.2024 को मध्यान्ह 12:00 बजे निर्धारित की गयी थी, जिसकी सूचना दैनिक समाचार पत्र इण्डियन एक्सप्रेस एवं अमर उजाला में दिनांक 08.03.2024 के अंक में प्रकाशित करायी गयी थी। लोकसभा सामान्य निर्वाचन 2024 की अधिसूचना प्रभावी होने एवं अपरिहार्य परिस्थितियों के कारण निर्धारित तिथि पर उक्त लोक सुनवाई सम्पन्न नहीं हो पायी थी, जिसकी सूचना भी दिनांक 09.04.2024 के अंक में उक्त समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित करायी गयी थी।

अतः सर्वसाधारण को इस नोटिस के माध्यम से पुनः सूचित किया जाता है कि उक्त लोक सुनवाई की कार्यवाही अब दिनांक 12.06.2024 को अपरान्ह 1:00 बजे अपर जिलाधिकारी (वि०/रा०), मुजफ्फरनगर की अध्यक्षता में इकाई मैं0 उत्तम शुगर मिल्स लि0, इकाई-खाईखेड़ी (डिस्टिलरी डिवीजन), जिला मुजफ्फरनगर (उ०प्र०) में सम्पादित की जायेगी। परियोजना के सम्बन्ध में कोई सुझाव, विचार, टीका-टिप्पणी अथवा आपत्ति लिखित रूप में लोक सुनवाई से पूर्व इस कार्यालय में अथवा लोक सुनवाई के समय दे सकते हैं।

क्षेत्रीय अधिकारी, उ०प्र० प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड, मुजफ्फरनगर

Zonal Office: 75/4, Siddhi Sadan, Halsey Road Near Badshahi Naka Police Station, Kanpur - 208001 E-mail: zokanpur.rec@ucobank.co.in

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES [See proviso to Rule - 8(6)]

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(ies) mortgaged/charged to UCO Bank Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of UCO Bank Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is Where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis on 28-05-2024, for recovery of Bank's Dues from Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) to UCO Bank Secured Creditor. The details are described as below: Demand Notice Date | Description of Immovable Property(les) with known Name & Address of Borrower(s)/ Bank's Dues Guarantor(s) encumbrances, if any Possession Notice Date Deposit Branch:- Firozabad (1028), District -Firozabad; Contact Number(s):- +91-9074098525, +91-9334414353; Email Id:- firoza@ucobank.co.in, zokanpur.rec@ucobank.co.ir Borrower(s): All that part and parcel of the property consists of Rs. 41,23,430.50 24.01.2019 Rs. 48,63,000/ Shri Sateesh Chand S/o Shri (Rupees Forty One Lac Land with building measuring 1022.03 sq ft. 06.04.2019 Rs. 4,86,300/-Twenty Three Thousand Ramswaroop Rathore (94.95 Sq. Mtr.) as per Bahi No. I, Zild No. 4566. Symbolic Possessio Four Hundred Thirty Page No. 105 to 128, Si No. 10364 registered on Address: House No. 346/4, Paisa Fifty Only) as on 16.09.2004 at Sub-Registar-I, Firozabad Mahabeer Nagar Gali No. 7 Tehsil 24.01.2019 (inclusive of & Distt. Firozabad 283203 (U.P.) situated at House No. 346/4, Mahabeer Nagar terest upto 30.09.2018) Gali No.7, Tehsil & Distt. Firozabad, 283203 standing in the Name of Shri Sateesh Chand S/o Shri Vikaram Rathore S/o Shri Sateesh Rathore Shri Ramswaroop Rathore and residing at rate, costs, charges and House No. 346/4, Mahabeer Nagar, Gali No.7, Address: House No.75, Bheem expenses etc. till date of Nagar Gali No. 5, Firozabad Tehsil & Distt. Firozabad, 283203 283203 (U.P.) Details of Boundaries (As per Deed) East: House No. 346/3 of Siyaram and Jaidayal and Murari Lal, West: Rasta Gali 12 Ft., North: Gallery of Siyaram and Jaidayal and Murari Lal after House Ramveer Lekhpal, South: Road

Mahabeer Nagar

Known Encumbrances, if any - Nil All that part and parcel of the property consists of Rs. 18,31,096.00 (Rupees Rs. 20,35,000/-28-06-2018 Borrower(s) Shri Ram Naresh Rajput S/o. Shri land and building measuring 760.00 Sq. Ft. (70.68 Eighteen Lakh Thirty One Square Meter) as per Bahi No. 1, Zild No. 9724, Thousand Ninety Six Only) Rs. 2,03,500/-06-10-2018 Nathu Ram @ Natu Ram Rajput Page No. 163 to 190, Sl. No. 12525, Registered of interest upto 31.10.2017 Symbolic Possession Smt. Malti Rajpoot W/o. Shri Ram on 29.11.2013 at Sub-Registrar-I, Firozabad, plus further interest thereor Naresh Rajpoot, situated at Mohalla - Gayakwad Nagar, Tehsil & at the contractual rate, costs, Both Address 1 : H. No. 95 District Firozabad standing in the name of Shri charges and expenses etc. Gayakwad Nagar (Santosh Nagar). Raipura Road, Opp. Sati Ashram. Ram Naresh Rajput S/o. Shri Nathu Ram till date of payment. Firozabad-283203 (U.P.) Rajput R/o H. No. 95, Gayakwad Nagar Both Address 2: H. No. 370, Nagla Karan Singh, Kotla Road, Firozabad-

(Santosh Nagar), Raipura Road, Opp. Sati Ashram, Firozabad-283203 (U.P.). Bounded by:- East - Plot Sunita Jain; West - 8 Ft. Wide Way; North - 14 Ft. Wide Way; South -Plot Sanjay Jain Known Encumbrances, if any - Nil

Last Date for submission of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) for Bid : 27.05.2024 upto 4:00 PM as per (IST) Date & Time of E-auction :- 28.05.2024 from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM as per (IST) with unlimited extension of 10 minutes each with Bio Incremental Amount of Rs. 10,000/-

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit the websites https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp & https://www.ibapi.in The Borrower's and/or Guarantor's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section 8 of section 13 of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets Note:- Hindi & English versions of this Notice are being published in Hindi & English Newspapers respectively. It is clarified that in case of any contradiction in Hindi and

English version of the Notice, the English version of the Notice will prevail.

Date :- 11.05.2024

Place :- Firozabad

Authorized Officer (UCO Bank)

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank भारत सरकार का उपक्रम



Ph: 0612-2320039, Email: recropat@canarabank.com

PROPERTY FOR E-AUCTION NOTICE E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of movable assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of

Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision 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 movable property mortgaged/hypothecated/Pledged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" on 12.06.2024

SI.	Name/Address/	Name and Address	Outstanding in Rs.	Details of Property	Reserve Price (in Rs)
No.	Contact No./	of the Borrower(s)/			EMD
	A/c No. & IFSC Code	` '			Bid Multiplier
	of the Branch	Mortgagor(s)			
1.	Pareo Branch (1681)	Borrower/Guarantor:	1 1	All that part and parcel of the	
	Contact No.	Mr. Vikash Kumar	(Rupees Five Lakhs Forty	hypothecated Car in the name of Mr.	
	8210998421	S/o Mr. Ram Subash	Seven Thousand Nine	Vikash Kumar S/o Mr. Ram Subash	₹10,000/-
	A/c No. 209272434	Prasad, Vill & Post	Hundred Eighty Eight and	Hundred Eighty Eight and Prasad with the following details: Car	
	IFSC Code:	Pareo, P.S. Bihta,	Paisa Thirty Four Only) as model-Tata Altroz XZ 1.2 RTN BS VI		
	CNRB0001681	Patna District, Bihar-	on 07.05.2024 together with	n 07.05.2024 together with ZXI CNG, Color-Midtown Grey, Chassis	
		802160	further interest and incidental	Number-MAT632115LPNJ5828, Engine	
			expenses and costs till	Number-REVTRN10NZXM23179,	
			realization	Registration Number-BR-01-EZ-4317	
2.	Pareo Branch (1681)	Borrower/Guarantor:	₹4,63,373.23	All that part and parcel of the	₹3,15,000/-
	Contact No.	Mr. Anshu Kumar	(Rupees Four Lakhs Sixty	hypothecated Car in the name of Mr.	₹32,000/-
	8210998421	Verma S/o Late	Three Thousand Three	Anshu Kumar Verma S/o Late Lakshmi	₹10,000/-
	A/c No. 209272434	Lakshmi Narayan	Hundred Seventy Three and	Narayan Verma with the following	
	IFSC Code: Verma, Vill & Post		Paisa Twenty Three Only) as	details: Car model-HYUNDAI GRAND	
	CNRB0001681	Pareo, P.S. Bihta,	on 07.05.2024 together with	i10 NIOS 1.2 MT CORPORATE -	
		Patna District, Bihar –	further interest and incidental	PETROL, Color-Teal Blue, Chassis	
		802160	expenses and costs till	Number-MALB251CLMM140670, Engine	
			realization	Number-G4LALM802815, Registration	
y				number-BR-01-FA-6261	
		Las	Date of EMD 10.06.2024 a	t 4.00 P.M.	

For Detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in www.canarabank.com Date: 08.05.2024 **Authorized Officer** Place: Patna (Canara Bank)

epaper.indianexpress.com

lakh to Rs 30 lakh is increased taking into consideration the prevailing inflation," the appeal submits. The matter is next listed in October.

SKYWATCH

CM KEJRIWAL RELEASED, AAP PLANS CAMPAIGN OVERHAUL

Homecoming after 51 days

Kejriwal holds meeting with senior AAP leaders to chalk out the party's campaign strategy for next 22 days

MALLICA JOSHI & JATIN ANAND NEW DELHI, MAY 10

OVER THE course of the next two days, the Aam Aadmi Party will rewrite its campaign from scratch, with two words expected to dominate the poll pitch — taanashahi (dictatorship) and democracy. In this script, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal is the tiger who has "broken out of jail" to join the fight and a martyr with a message to save the Constitution.

Back home on Friday evening, and after meeting his family members, Kejriwal got into a huddle with senior party leaders to chalk out a detailed campaign strategy.

The reverberations of the relief given to Keiriwal were felt not only in the Aam Aadmi Party, which cancelled all its rallies and programmes for the day and asked all its leaders to reach the party office near ITO, but at a Congress rally as well.

Several kilometres away, a man carrying AAP and Congress flags on his shoulders in North east Delhi's Taharpur announced during an auto-rickshaw rally in support of Congress candidate Kanhaiya Kumar, "Kejriwal has got bail." Kumar, as soon as he got the news, announced in the midst of his campaign, "I congratulate everyone that Arvind Kejriwal ji has got bail."

The BJP, meanwhile, which has held several deliberations on the possibility of Kejriwal's release — with one as recently as last week — will also rethink its strategy by pushing for more rallies by senior leaders, including the PM, sources said.

AAP's strategy is to make sure that Kejriwal campaigns across the country, covering as many constituencies as possible. "He will campaign wherever INDIA bloc parties ask him to and not

candidates are contesting. The entire strategy will now change," a senior AAP leader said.

Where the focus of AAP's campaign so far has been Kejriwal's arrest, the poster of the first roadshow that he will hold on Saturday read, "Tiger is back". The roadshow, in South Delhi's Mehrauli, will also have Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann in attendance.

"His coming out of jail is a big leg-up for us. It is no secret that he is the best speaker we have and his connection with the people is unmatched. But that is far from the only thing that he will have an impact on. Apart from reenergising the cadre, he will have a critical look at organisational tasks assigned to different party workers and make changes wherever required. What we expected is a clear guideline to all workers to campaign for INDIA bloc alliance partners — Congress in the case of Delhi — to the best of their ability and make sure there is synergy on the ground," a senior party leader said.

For the BIP, too, the campaign changes. Sources said that the party feels that his temporary release from jail will have a negative impact on its chances on at least three out of seven seats — Northeast Delhi, Chandni Chowk and West Delhi. "These are seats where the population in JJ colonies and slums is high and their residents have traditionally been AAP supporters, and before that, of the Congress. In 2019, we could manage just a little over 40% of the vote share from those living in such areas in these Lok Sabha seats while the rest was split between AAP and Congress," a senior BJP leader said.

"With both parties not only in alliance with each other but also campaigning together, the chances of a split in their common vote share are getting narrower and possibility of transfer of the vote share of one onto the other is more plausible," the leader added.





Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal hugs his mother after arriving at his Civil Lines residence, Friday evening. (Left) AAP leaders Sanjay Singh and Gopal Rai with Kejriwal's family. Express

NCCSA MEETING, MCD INTERNAL POLLS, SUMMER ACTION PLAN

Will files that are stuck be cleared? Officials wait & watch

JATIN ANAND NEW DELHI, MAY 10

AMONG THE conditions set by the Supreme Court when it granted interim bail to Arvind Kejriwal Friday, two speak to his role as the Delhi Chief Minister: he cannot visit his office, nor the Delhi Secretariat, and can only sign official files when "required and necessary for obtaining clearance/approval of the Lt-

Governor of Delhi". It is the second condition that is crucial, considering that several matters related to Delhi's administration — accepting the res-

ignation of social welfare minister Raaj Kumar Anand, who guit the AAP following Kejriwal's arrest; a meeting of the National **Capital Civil Service Authority** (NCCSA); and the appointment of a presiding officer for the MCD's Mayoral polls — have faced delay due to the CM's arrest in the excise policy case.

While many of these could, government sources said, see the light of day with Kejriwal being released, some that "may trigger a tussle" between Raj Niwas and the AAP-Delhi government could be relegated to the background.

A meeting of the NCCSA —

which presides over the transfer, posting and vigilance-related issues concerning bureaucrats and has not been convened for "at least seven months" according to sources — is currently not a priority as the Model Code of Conduct is in place for the Lok

Other significant matters that have been held up include water availability under the Summer Action Plan and a proposal to temporarily enhance financial powers of the MCD Commissioner owing to alleged hampering of the functioning of the civic body due to lack of

"The L-G has already flagged several issues — from the lack of consumables at Delhi government hospitals and the state of the capital's health infrastructure to the Summer Action Plan, of which significant matters like water and power availability in the city during peak summer, are components. Both sides, especially Raj Niwas, may adopt a wait-and-watch approach for

ment official said. "Under Section 45D of the GNCTD (Amendment) Act, the L-G, who is the Administrator, has the power to appoint authorities, boards, commissions; on the

the time being," a senior govern-

other hand, any issue, irrespective of whether it is a transferred subject like health or education. has to be submitted to the L-G. under section 45 I (4), for his opinion through the Chief Minister and the Chief Secretary under certain conditions," the official added.

These matters, as per the Act, include those which affect or are likely to affect peace and tranquility of the Capital or any particular community, which affect relations of the Delhi government with the Central or any state government and the Supreme Court or Delhi High Court. These also include matters pertaining to the L-G Secretariat: those on which he is required to make an order in his sole discretion; matters specified under general or special order issued by the L-G; and any other matter of administrative importance which the Chief Minister

may consider necessary. "When it comes to it, almost every single matter needs to be routed by the CM to the L-G through the Chief Secretary; in this sense, the order is rather open-ended. Given the seeming lack of clarity around this, both sides are likely to wait for the other to blink first," an official said.

BRS leader Kavitha named as accused in fresh ED chargesheet

NIRBHAY THAKUR

NEW DELHI, MAY 10

THE ENFORCEMENT Directorate (ED) Friday filed its sixth supplementary chargesheet in the money laundering case linked to the now-scrapped Delhi excise policy, naming BRS legislator K Kavitha. This is the first time that Kavitha, who is currently in judicial custody in relation to the case, has been mentioned as an accused in the ED's chargesheet.

The central probe agency had earlier said that Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal — who was granted interim bail in the case by the Supreme Court on Friday till June 1 – was "directly involved in the formulation" of the excise policy, which was drafted "considering the favours to be granted to the South Group".

The 'South Group' refers to a group of individuals from South India that the ED claims "secured uninhibited access, undue favours, attained stakes in established wholesale businesses and multiple retail zones (over and above what was allowed in the policy)", and paid Rs 100 crore to AAP leaders in return. Kavitha is a part of this group, the ED alleged. It had also claimed bribes received from the "South Group" were funnelled into the AAP's Goa assembly poll campaign in 2021-2022.

Kavitha, a member of the Telangana Legislative Council who had been under the scanner of central investigating agencies for almost two years, was arrested from Hyderabad on March 15.

In its remand application against Kavitha, the ED had alleged she met YSR Congress MP Magunta Sreenivasulu Reddy in March 2021 and told him Kejriwal had spoken to her and demanded Rs 100 crore. She allegedly also asked Reddy to arrange Rs 50 crore to give to the CM.

with Kavitha, Along



KAVITHA'S BAIL **PLEA: HC SEEKS ED RESPONSE**

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court Friday sought the ED's response to the bail plea of Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) legislator K Kavitha in the excise case. A single-judge bench of Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma issued notice to the ED permitting the agency to file a response and listed the matter on May 24. **ENS**

Chanpreet Singh, Damodar Sharma, Prince Kumar, and Arvind Singh are also named in the latest chargesheet — these accused had a role in the transfer of funds to Goa for AAP's election campaign, the ED alleged.

As per the ED's remand papers, Prince Kumar and Damodar Sharma were employees of Chariot Production, the company of AAP's former communications in-charge and co-accused Vijay Nair. Sharma allegedly handed over Rs 12 crore to a hawala operator. Chanpreet Singh, as per the ED, was a freelancer working for Nair's company which was managing AAP's election expenses in Goa. According to the ED, Arvind Singh allegedly paid Rs 7 crore to other hawala operators. Arvind was the production head of M/s India Ahead News owned by coaccused Abhishek Boinpally.

Even criminals are allowed parole: BJP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MAY 10

WITH Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal walking out of Tihar Jail, hours after he was granted interim bail by the Supreme Court in the excise policy case, BJP leaders were quick to remind people that "even criminals are allowed parole" and it does not

mean the CM is "guilt-free". Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva said, "Criminals are sometimes allowed parole... we welcome the Honourable court's verdict. Interim bail doesn't mean that you have been absolved of the charges. The charge is still the same — fraud of over Rs 100 crore has taken place in the garb of the excise policy of which Kejriwal is the kingpin."

He also emphasised that the AAP has no local issues for the upcoming Lok Sabha polls because "the state government has done nothing in the last 10 years except to create a stir in the

name of the CM being jailed". Northeast Delhi BJP MF Manoj Tiwari said that "conditional interim bail is a blot on Kejriwal's face, which tells the country that this man is corrupt!" He had already lost his credibility and now it has been

confirmed! With what face will

he face the people now?" BJP candidate from the South Delhi Lok Sabha seat, Ramvir Singh Bidhuri, said, "AAP leaders are promoting it as if Kejriwal has been acquitted or cleared by the Supreme Court... He has only been released on interim bail for 20

days for election campaigning..." Delhi BJP Spokesperson Praveen Shankar Kapoor said AAP's 'Jail ka jawab vote se' campaign' has lost steam. "AAP leaders should remember that Kejriwal would go back to jail on June 2.. Satyendar Jain, who also got bail on medical grounds, had to ultimately go back to jail. Similarly, they should not forget that their other leader, Manish Sisodia, was denied bail yesterday," he added.

'A LOT OF CHANGE WILL NOW BE SEEN IN DELHI'S POLITICS'

Outside Tihar jail, a sea of yellow & blue — and *jhaadus* — welcome CM

GAYATHRI MANI

NEW DELHI, MAY 10 AROUND 5 pm on Friday, a 1-km stretch from Nangal Rai flyover to Tihar Jail's gate no. 4 was a sea of yellow and blue. AAP workers, distributing *mithai*, playing the dhol, holding up jhaadus and raising victory slogans — 'jail ke taale toot gaye, Kejriwal chhoot gaye' — were waiting to welcome their chief and Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal as he stepped

out of prison after 51 days.

They were joined by senior leaders Atishi, Saurabh Bharadwaj, Durgesh Pathak, Shelly Oberoi, Kailash Gahlot, Jasmine Shah and Mahabal Mishra as well as a few local Congress lead-

Pathak said, "It's a big day today, not only for AAP but for the entire country. A lot of change will now be seen in Delhi politics." "We welcome the SC's interim bail. Democracy is alive. Campaigning in the city is going



to see the Kejriwal wave... a storm is going to come...," said Gahlot.

Curious passersby also stopped by their vehicles to join the crowd of AAP supporters.

Sudhir Kumar, 55, a resident of Uttam Nagar, said, "I was going home from my workplace Janakpuri when I saw the

AAP workers celebrate Kejriwal's release from Tihar jail, Friday evening. ANI

news... and came here. In the past 10 years, we supported the BJP, but what have they done except tanashahi?... did they give anything to people?... BJP made a huge mistake by arresting him... he has got bail at a cru-

cial time." Near him, 70-year-old Sushila, a domestic help, was seen arguing with police saying 'mujhe jane do, mera beta aa raha hai bahar mujhe dekhna hai usse..." She told The Indian Express, "... Today, I saw that Kejriwal is being released so I skipped my evening shift to see him... I will meet Kejriwal beta and tell him about my delayed pension. I know once he is out, he will release my pension."

Meanwhile, a rickshaw driver was seen providing free rides to people from the Metro to Tihar jail. The man, Mohammad Khurshid, said. "I am driving this rickshaw on rent and if I am surviving today in Delhi with my family, it's because of Kejriwal...(and his) free electricity, water, education (schemes)...'

Around 6.50 -7 pm, the CM was released and workers burst into celebration and set off fire crackers as he gave a speech. By 8.30-9 pm, the CM reached his Civil Lines residence and was welcomed by his family with garlands as he entered his house and touched the feet of his parents.

Scores of party workers also reached the AAP headquarters to celebrate their chief's release.

IRCON INTERNATIONAL LIMITED NAVRATNA COMPANY

e-Tender No.: IRCON/ELECT/2046/NFR-SRRP/06/OHE Package Date: 10/05/2024 e-Tender for and on behalf of Northeast Frontier Railway is invited from bidders meeting qualifying requirements for the work of "Detailed Design, Engineering, Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 25kV AC 50Hz single phase Overhead Equipment Rigid/Flexible Overhead Catenary System (ROCS/FOCS), Integrated Substation (132/25kV TSS & 132/33kV ESS), Switching Posts (SP & SSP), SCADA, and associated works on Bridges, Tunnels and Open Routes, etc. complete in all respect in connection with Railway Electrification of Sivok-Rangpo New BG Rail Line Project of Northeast Frontier Railway (OHE Package).'

e-Procurement Notice

Estimated Cost of the Work Rs. 22069.63 Lakhs Last Date & Time of e-Bid Submission 31.05.2024 upto 15.00 hrs. For further details, visit website https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app. Corrigendum, if any, would

Executive Director/Electrical, be hosted only on the website. C-4 District Centre, Saket, New Delhi-110017



E-Bids are invited for Open e-Tender (in Single Packet) for Establishing of a Containe Repair Facility for ISO Containers at MMLP Varnama (Gujarat)

CON/AREA-II/ISO Container Repair/VARNAMA/2024 Tender No Rs.66,01,307/- (Inclusive of GST) for Four (4) years. **Estimated Cost** From 11.05.2024 at 15:00 hrs. to 03.06.2024 Date of Sale (On Line) (upto 16:00 hrs.) Last Date & Time of

On 04.06.2024 up to 17:00 hrs

Date & Time of Opening On 05.06.2024 at 15:30 hrs. For eligibility criteria and other details please log on to www.concorindia.com or

eprocure.gov.in or www.tenderwizard.com/CCIL. Bidders are requested to visit the website regularly Executive Director/Area-II



submission

कॉनकॉर concor

Petronet LNG Limited

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT) FOR SELECTION OF CONTRACTOR FOR CAMC OF IESS SYSTEM FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS AT PETRONET LNG LIMITED, DAHEJ

Interested parties are requested to visit our website www.petroneting.in for detailed eligibility criteria along with other necessary details for issuance of Tender document.

Note: PLL reserves the right not to issue the tender document and / or accept or reject any or all the bids at any stage of the process and/or modify the process without assigning any reasons on its sole discretion. No separate notification shall be issued in press. Bidders are requested to visit the website regularly to keep themselves updated.

Manager (C&P)

PETRONET LNG LIMITED GIDC Industrial Estate, Plot No. 7/A, Dahej, Taluka Vagra,

Distt. Bharuch 392130, Dahej, Gujarat, Tel No: 02641-670232/233/235/231 E-mail id:- cnpdahej@petronetlng.in, sumitkumar@petronetlng.in



IRCON INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

Website: www.ircon.org, CIN - L45203DL1976GOI00817 e-Tender Notice

e-Tender (Single packet) for and on behalf of IRCON INTERNATIONAL LIMITED is invited from bidders meeting qualifying requirements for the work of Restoration, Demonstration & Commissioning of following equipment for Modern Coach Factory Project. Lalgnaj, Raebareli (UP). 1. e-Tender No.: IRCON/MECH/P&E/MCF-RBL/CTL Line Date: 10.05.2024

Restoration, Demonstration & Commissioning of Slitter Cum Cut to Length Combination Line. 08.06.2024/3.00 PM Last Date/Time of e-Bid Submission 2. e-Tender No.: IRCON/MECH/P&E/MCF-RBL/Turret Lathe

Installation, Restoration, Commissioning. & Prove out of 02 nos. of Heavy duty Turret Lathe. Last Date/Time of e-Bid Submission 08.06.2024/3.00 PM 3. e-Tender No.: IRCON/MECH/P&E/MCF-RBL/Bogie fab Line Date: 10.05.2024

Restoration, Demonstration & Commissioning of Bogie Fabrication line (KUKA). Last Date/Time of e-Bid Submission 08.06.2024/3.00 PM

For further details, visit website https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app. Corrigendum, if any would be hosted only on the website. GM/Mechancial, IRCON International Limited C-4, District Centre, Saket, New Delhi-110017



icma NIRRCH in Reproductive and Child Health J.M. Street, Parel, Mumbai 400012 Advt. No. ICMR-NIRRCH/PROJ./RG/337/2024

ICMR-National Institute for Research

Online applications are invited up to 15th May 2024 for following Human Resource Positions viz. Scientist 'B' (Non-Medical) [2 Nos. - OBC]; and Scientist 'C' (Non-Medical) [1 No. - UR] for our non-institutional project at Model Rural Health Research Unit (MRHRU), Vani Nashik, to be filled up purely on contract basis. The link for applying online is https://project.nirrch.res.in/. For detailed advertisement please visit our websites at www.icmr.nic.in & www.nirrch.res.in. Please note that, corrigendum / addendum / further information; if any; in respect of this advertisement, will be published on our websites only. Sd/-Director

NORTH EASTERN POLICE ACADEMY

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

North Eastern Police Academy, Ministry of Home Affairs, Umsaw, Umiam, Meghalaya -793123 intends to construct a State of the Art Composite Firing Range. In this regard, interested parties/ companies/ firms having the requisite expertise in the field may visit the Academy on any of the working days within one (1) month from the date of publication of this EoI and may submit the detailed estimate along with structural design and other specifications etc. Interested Parties may contact to this Address: -

> **Director, NEPA** Umsaw, Umiam. Meghalaya-793123. Tele & Fax-0364-2572036 Email: nepa-meg@nic.in

CBC-19101/11/0002/2425

Government of India

Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, (MoPNG)

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

Applications are invited in the prescribed format for filling up the post of Technical Member (PNG), Appellate Tribunal for Electricity.

1. The application form for the above post and the detailed information regarding eligibility and the terms and conditions of service is available on below mentioned website of the Ministry. https://mopng.gov.in/

2. The duly filled in application form along with the desired documents should reach the office of the Joint Secretary (GP Division), MoPNG, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001 within 30 days from the date of advertisement in National Daily paper.

CBC 33101/11/0002/2425



दिनांक: 10.05.2024 सं0 कॉम्फेंड:कोमोडिटी:निविदा 1636 निविदा सूचना

सुधा सफेद मक्खन एवं वसा युक्त दुग्ध चूर्ण बिक्री के लिए निविदा बिहार स्टेट मिल्क की-ऑपरेटिव फेंडरेशन लि. पटना अपने सम्बद्ध संघो एवं इकाई की ओर र इच्छुक निविदादाताओं से 510 मीट्रिक टन सुधा सफोद मक्खन (White Butter, BIS STD) एव 100 मीट्रिक टन वसा युक्त दूध चूर्ण (WMP, ISI Marked) क्रय हेतु निविदा आमंत्रण करती है।

निविदा प्रपन्न कॉम्फेड के वेबसाइट www.sudha.coop पर उपलब्ध है। इच्छ्क निविदादाता (FSSAI एवं जी०एस०टी० सं० के साथ) अपना दर एवं सम्बंधित दस्तावेज निम्न माध्यम से भेज सकते है जो इस प्रकार है:-

 अपना दर बंद लिफाफे पर निर्धारित निविदा प्रपत्र में दिनांक 27.05.2024 के अपराहन 5:00 बजे तक हाथो हाथ / डॉक के माध्यम से निम्न पते पर भेज सकते हैं- बिहार स्टेट मिल्क को-ऑपरेटिव फेंबरेशन लि॰, डेयरी डेवलॉपमेंट कॉम्पलेक्स, पो॰ बिहार भेटनरी कॉलेज, पटना 800014 (बिहार)

2. अपना दर एवं सम्बंधित दस्तावेज ईमेल के माध्यम से दिनांक 27.05.2024 के अपराहन 5:00 बजे तक PDF पासवर्ड प्रोटेक्टेड के रूप में ईमेल tendercomfed@gmail.com पर भेजे एवं

पासवर्ड ईमेल securecomfed@gmail.com पर भेजे । चयनित निविदादाता को आदेश प्राप्त होने के बाद सामग्री का अग्रिम भूगतान कर एक माह के अंदर अपने साधन से उठाव करना होगा। उपरोक्त निविदा को आशिक अथवा पूर्ण रूप से रद्द / संशोधन का अधिकार प्रबंध निदेशक

Regional Office, Samastipu Panchwati Complex, Mohanpur Road, Samastipur (Bihar)

Pin-848101



E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provison to Rule 8 (6) / 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 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 constructive/symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Union Bank of India (secured creditor), will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" on the date mentioned below, for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to Union Bank of India from the below mentioned Borrower(s) & Guarantor(s). The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit are also mentioned hereunder: Reserve Price/ Name & Address Name & Address of Borrower Amount Mortgagor/ Guarantor of Branch EMD/Bid Multiplier

Union Bank of India. 1.Borrower/Mortgag Land and Building in the name Rs. 11,10,000.00/of Ashok Kumar Chaubey S/oor: Mr Ashok Kumar Gopalganj-3 Rs. 1.11.000.00/-4,13,414.17 Late Mahant Chaubey Branch, Ground Choubey, S/o-Late as on Situated At at Mauza-Sirsa, Floor, Sareya, Ward Mahant Choubey, 31.03.2024 No 13, Banjari Road, Resident at Rewatith, P.S-Baikunthpur, Dist.-Gopalganj, Bihar bearing plus Interest land detail as under:- Thana No.-340, Tauzi No. Gopalganj. P.S-Baikunthpur, and other 3473, Khata No. 376, Plot No.-2557, Area 5 dhu BM Mr. Ashutosh Gopalganj, Bihar-Expenses 12 dhurki. Boundry: N- Binda Pathak, S- Baidar Kumar 841409

Date and Time of e-auction 29.05.2024 at 12:00 Noon to 05:00 PM (with 10 minutes unlimited auto extension) For detailed term and condition of the sale, please refer to the link provided in https://www.unionbankofindia.com and https://ibapi.in For Registration, Login and Bidding Rules visit https://www.mstcecommerce.com/ auctionhome/ ibapi/index.jsp

Regional Office, Samastipur Panchwati Complex. Mohanpur Road,

Pin-848101

Date: 10.05.2024

Mob.8861513600

Date: 10.05.2024

Place : Gopalganj



E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Authorised Officer

Union Bank of India

Subhnarayan Prasad, E-State of Bihar, W-Road

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provison to Rule 8 (6) / 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement Rule, 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 constructive/symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Union Bank of India (secured creditor), will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" on the date mentioned below, for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to Union Bank of India from the elow mentioned Borrower(s) & Guarantor(s). The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit are also mentioned hereunder Name & Address Name & Address of Borrower/ Property Reserve Price/

Mortgagor/ Guarantor EMD/Bid Multiplie 1.Borrower: M/s CANDY BELL, Land & building in the Union Bank of Rs. 24.00.000.00/-Proprietor- Sri Chandan Kumar S/o 38.15,167.24 name of Smt Sunita Rs. 2,40,000.00/-India, Hajipur-3 Late Rambabu Paswan, 2. Borrower: Branch, Bubna Devi W/o Late Sri Chandan Kumar S/o Late Rambabu Paswan Centre. 31.03.2024 Rambabu Paswan, (Prop of M/s situated at Mauza Yusufpur, Rev Rajendra Candy Bell & Borrower of A/C Chowk, Hajipur. Thana No 157, Survey Ward No 13 and other Chandan Kumar), 3.Guarantor(1): BM Mr. VIKRAM Anchal Hajipur, S.R.O Hajipur, P.S Expenses Sri Lal Babu Paswan S/o Late KUMAR Town Hajipur, Distt - Vaishali bearing Parmeshwar Paswan Mob.7007500681 land detail as under:- Khata No. 1039. 4.Guarantor(2): Smt Sunita Devi W/o Khesra No.-2775, Area 2.75 Decima Late Rambabu Paswan, All at -Vill & (1198 sq ft) . Boundry: N- Niz, S- Soni Post Sahadullapur, PS Ganga Kumari Mishra, E- Ram Bilas Bridze, Hajipur, Vaishali, Bihar Chaudhary, W-10 ft wide Nizi Rasta

Date and Time of e-auction 29.05.2024 at 12:00 Noon to 05:00 PM (with 10 minutes unlimited auto extension) For detailed term and condition of the sale, please refer to the link provided in https://www.unionbankofindia.com and https://ibapi.in For Registration, Login and Bidding Rules visit https://www.mstcecommerce.com/ auctionhome/ ibapi/index.jsp

Place : Vaishali

Union Bank of India

Authorised Officer

पंजाब नेश्ननल बेंक 🔘 punjabnational bank

"SASTRA DIVISION" Line Bazar, 2nd Floor, Opposite Sadar Hospital, Purnea-854301 Email:cs8261@pnb.co.in, Mob:-9304758933

POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR MOVABLE & IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Punjab National Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 read with the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued demand notices on the dates mentioned against each account calling upon the respective borrowers to repay the amount as mentioned against each account within 60 days from the date of notice(s)/ date of receipt of the said notice(s).

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred to him under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on the date mentioned against account. The borrowers/ guarantor/ mortgagor/legal heirs in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of Punjab National Bank for the amounts and interest thereon. The borrowers attention in invited to provisions of sub-section 8 of section 13 of the act, in the respect of time available, to redeem the secured

SI. No.	Name of the branch Name & Address of the Borrower/ Guarantors	Location & details of the property	Date of Notice u/s 13(2)	Date of Notice u/s 13(4)
1	M/s Devotee Steel Fabri cators & Stockist Prop. Sri Dharmu Narayan Saha S/o Late Sarju Lal Saha Sri Dharmu Narayan Saha S/o Late Sarju Lal Saha Smt Jhumki Saha W/o Sri Dharmu Narayan Saha Sri Ishan Saurav S/o Sri Dharmu Narayan Saha All Add: At -high School Para Dist Katihar Pin 854105 Bo: Katihar DRC (196800)	17.12.2011 Standing In The Name Of Smt Jhumki Saha W/o Sri Dharmu Narayan Saha Mauza Raghunathpur Thana No 671 Tauzi No 19 Khata No 193 Khesra 1678, 1679 Area 16 Decimal 5 Kari Boundary N- Road, S- Biplav Bose E- Shiv Paswan W- Santosh Pal	13(2)- 26.02.2020 Rs. 3860715.94 (Thirty Eight Lakh Sixty Thousand Seven Hundred Fifteen And Ninty Four Paisa Only) + Int + Other Charges & Expenses Thereon) As On .07.01.2020	13(4) (symbolic Possession) 09.05.2024 Rs. 3860715.94 (Thirty Eight Lakh Sixty Thousand Sever Hundred Fifteen And Ninty Four Paisa Only) + Int + Other Charges & Expenses Thereon) as on 07.01.2020

Authorized Officer Punjab National Bank, Sastra Division, Purnea

इंडियन बैंक ATRIBUTED &

Name of the Proprietor /

Date: 10.05.2024

Place: GAYA.

Zonal Office, Gaya(e-AB), Indian Bank South Bisar Talab Road, Gaya,

ALLAHABAD Bihar-823001

{Rule-8(1)}

POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable property)

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Indian Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with rule 8 and 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice u/s 13(2) on the date noted against the account as mentioned hereinafter calling upon the borrower(S) to repay the amount mentioning in the The Borrower(S) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower(S) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken

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 and 9 of the

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 the Indian Bank (e-Allahabad Bank)or an amount and interest thereon. Along with legal expenses and other expenses already incurred to be Name of the branch: BIHARSHARIF AMBER

M/s Virat Enterprises, Prop - Raj Kumar S/o Prakash Chandra, Sahokar, Sohsarai, Nalanda, Bihar Sharif, Bihar - 803118 Name of the accounts Name of the Proprietor / Raj Kumar S/o Prakash Chandra, Sahokar, Sohsarai, Nalanda, Bihar Sharif, Bihar – 803118. Guarantor/Mortgagor: Date of Possession Notice: | 06.05.2024 Date of Demand Notice: 20-02-2024 Amount Outstanding as on ₹ 13,27,255/- (Rupees Thirteen Lakhs Twenty Seven Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Five Only) as on 20.02.2024 along the demand notice: with legal and other expenses incurred & to be incurred by the bank. Registered mortgage all that part and parcel of the land and building along with present / future construction thereon in the name

of Raj Kumar S/o Prakash Chandra located at Mauza - Sohdih, thana no - 140, ward no - 02, Holding no - 1025 -A, PS -Detailed description Sohsarai, Dist - Nalanda, Bihar, Khata No-249, Plot No-1972, Area-0.965 Decimal. of the Property: Bounded by (as per deed): North: 08 ft. Wide Rasta, South: Basant Sao, East: Share of Ajay Kumar, West: Share of Azad Kumar Name of the branch: BIHARSHARIF AMBER Mr. Awadhesh Prasad S/o Late Fakira Mahto, Plot no. 18, Ward no 30/23, Mauza- chak-Mohammad, Murarpur, Mohan Name of the accounts Nagar, PS No.-Laheri, District-Nalanda, Bihar

Guarantor/Mortgagor: chak-Mohammad, Murarpur, Mohan Nagar, PS No.-Laheri, District-Nalanda, Bihar Date of Possession Notice: 06.05.2024 Date of Demand Notice: 24-01-2024 Amount Outstanding as on ₹ 12,35,672/- (Rupees Twelve Lakh Thirty Five Thousand Six Hundred Seventy Two Only) as an 24-01-2024 along with

egal and other expenses incurred & to be incurred by the bank. the demand notice: Registered mortgage of land and building along with present and future construction thereon in the name of Mr Awadhesh Prasad, S/o- Late Fakira Mahto, located at Mauza - Chak Mohammad, Moh-Murarpur, Thana No-124, Ps-Laheri, Dist-Detailed description Nalanda, Ward No-30(O) 23(N), Sub-Division & Sub-Registery -Biharsharlf, District & District Registery-Nalanda, Khata No-2. of the Property:

Mr. Awadhesh Prasad S/o Late Fakira Mahto, Plot no. 18, Ward no 30/23, Mauza- chak-Mohammad, Murarpur, Moha

Nagar , PS No.-Laheri , District-Nalanda, Bihar, 2) Amit Kumar , S/o Awadhesh Prasad, Plot no. 18, Ward no 30/23; Mauza

Bounded by (as per deed): North: Ishwar Prasad Co-sharer, South: Bhagwat Mainto, East: Surendra Mainto, West: Inda

Name of the branch: **BIHARSHARIF MAIN** M/S Akansha Telecom (Prop. Sri Rajnish Kumar Singh S/o Sri Suresh Singh), R/o- Garh Par, Dekuli Ghat, Bihar Sharif, Name of the accounts District- Nalande, Bihar-803101

Name of the Proprietor Sri Rajnish Kumar Singh Slo Sri Suresh Singh, Garh Par, Dekuli Ghat, Bihar Sharif, District- Nalanda, Bihar-803101. Guarantor/Mortgagor: 2) Smt. Manisha Singh , W/o Nityanand Singh, Mohalla-Garh Par, Dekuli Ghat, Biharsharit, District-Nalanda, Bihar-803101, 3) Smt. Nira Singh, W/o Sri Suresh Singh, Mohalla- Garh Par, Dekuli Ghat, BiharSharif, District- Nalanda, Bihar-803101 Date of Possession Notice: 06.05.2024 14-02-2024 Date of Demand Notice:

Rasta, East - Sri Kesho Prasad, West - Niz Mohir Nira Singh.

Amount Outstanding as on ₹ 20,56,039/- (Rupee Twenty Lakhs Fifty Six Thousand Thirty Nine Only) as on 14-02-2024 along with legal and other expenses incurred & to be incurred by the bank. the demand notice: Property 1) Equitable Mortgage of land, along with present and future construction thereon in the name of Mrs Nira Singh, Wio-Sri Suresh Prasad Singh, located at Mauza-Mahikhanda, Thana No-116, Tauzi No-1168, Ward No-14, Biharsharif, Nalanda, Detailed description of the Property:

Bihar-803101, Khata No-73, Plot No-685, Area-1.5 Decimal. Bounded by (as per deed): North - Digar Araji, South - Rasta, East-Niz Mokhir Manisha Singh, West-Mohir, Property 2) Equitable Mortgage of land 'along with present and future construction thereon in the name of Mrs Manisha Singh W/o- Sri Nityanand Singh, located at Mauza-Mahikhanda, Ward No-14, Thana No-116, Tauzi No-11068, Biharsharif, Nalanda, Bihar-803101, Khata No- 73, Plot No-685, Area- 1.5 Decimal, Bounded by (as per deed): North - Digar jayjad, South -

epaper.indianexpress.com

Government of India Ministry of Science & Technology Department of Science &

Technology Bhawan, New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi-110016

Technology

VACANCY NOTICE

Applications are invited from Indian citizens for filling up 02 (Two) posts of **Joint Director** in National Atlas and Thematic Mapping Organization (NATMO), a subordinate office Department of Science & under the Technology with headquarters at Kolkata on Deputation (including Short Term Contract) basis. The post of Joint Director, NATMO is a General Central Service Group 'A' Gazetted Non- Ministerial post in Level-12 of the pay matrix (Rs. 78800-209200).

For the application format and details of qualifications, experience, age limit and other requirements etc. visit our website https://dst.gov.in/announcement/recentannouncements.

Sd/-

(Dinesh Chander) **Under Secretary to the Govt. of India** Tele: 011-29512324

CBC 36124/11/0001/2425

CENTRE FOR HIGH ENERGY SYSTEMS AND SCIENCES (CHESS), HYDERABAD ADVERTISEMENT FOR ENGAGEMENT OF APPRENTICES

(Under the provisions of Apprentices Act, 1961, as amended in 1961, 1973 & 2014)

Centre for High Energy Systems & Sciences (CHESS), Hyderabad a premier Laboratory under Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO), is in process of engagement of apprentices for one year in the following disciplines/trades:

SI.	Apprenticeship		Total	Stipend
No.	Category	Essential Qualification	Vacancies	(Per month)
1	Graduate (Degree) Apprentice	B.E/B.Tech in Computer Science & Engineering / Computer Science / Communication & Computer Engineering / Computer Science & Information Technology / Computer Science & System Engineering / Computer Technology & Information Technology / Information & Communication Technology / Information Science & Engineering	02	9,000/-
2	Graduate (Degree) Apprentice	B.E/B.Tech in Electronics Engineering/Electronics & Tele-Communication Engineering / Instrumentation Technology / Electrical & Electronics Engineering/Electronics & Communication Engineering / Electronics & Instrumentation Engineering / Applied Electronics & Instrumentation/ Electronics & Instrumentations / Control Engineering / Electronics & Electrical Communication Engineering/ Electronics & Computer Engineering/Instrumentation & Electronics Engineering/ Embedded System	03	9,000/-
3	Graduate (Degree) Apprentice	B.E/B.Tech in Mechanical Engineering / Manufacturing Engineering / Manufacturing Process & Automation Engineering/Marine Engineering / Material Science & Engineering Materials Management / Mechanical & Production Engineering / Mechanical Engineering (Refrigeration and Air- Conditioning) / Mechatronics	03	9,000/-
4	Graduate (Degree) Apprentice	B.E/B.Tech in Chemical Engineering / Chemical Technology	02	9,000/-
5	Technician (Diploma) Apprentice	Diploma in Computer Science/ Information Technology/ Communication	05	8,000/-
6	Technician (Diploma) Apprentice	Diploma in Electronics / Tele-Communication / Instrumentation / Electrical & Electronics Engineering / Electronics & Communication Engineering	04	8,000/-
7	Technician (Diploma) Apprentice	Diploma in Mechanical / Manufacturing / Production Engineering	05	8,000/-
8	Technician (Diploma) Apprentice	Diploma in Chemical Engineering / Chemical Technology	01	8,000/-

How to apply:

Sd/-Authorised Officer (Indian Bank)

- (1) Candidates are advised to visit https://www.drdo.gov.in/ for detailed advertisement and to be submitted application online through the following website/link: https://rac.gov.in. Candidates are requested to fill up correct details against all the fields along with uploading of scanned copies of all the mandatory documents.
- (2) Before applying, the candidates should ensure that he/she fulfils the eligibility criteria and other norms mentioned in the advertisement.
- (3) B.E / B.Tech & Diploma holders must have registered their names at http://mhrdnats.gov.in, nonregistered candidates are likely to be rejected.

Director **Directorates of Management Services**

CBC10301/11/0027/2425

TATA STEEL SENIOR EXEC MURDER

Suspect killed in encounter in Ghaziabad

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE GHAZIABAD MAY 10

AROUND A week after a senior executive of Tata Steel was killed on his way back home from the Metro station, one of the accused was killed in an encounter by Ghaziabad police while two others were arrested in another raid, on Friday. Police said the accused were drug addicts and had killed Vinay Tyagi while trying to snatch his laptop and phone.

Police said they have recovered the laptop and Tyagi's phone from the accused. Officials said a police sub-inspector was also injured during the gunfight. The accused who was killed has been identified as Daksh, a resident of Mainpuri, UP, currently residing in Sangam Vihar, Delhi. The other two accused have been identified as 20-year-old Yug Dhai, a resident of Seelampur, Delhi, and 24-yearold Luvkush alias Raghav Singh, a resident of Brahmpuri, Delhi.

Vinav Tvagi, Tata Steel's national sales head, was killed on May 4 and his body recovered hours later by the family near Khaitan Public School in Shalimar Garden police station area. The encounter took place near Kanha Complex, said officials.

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited for execution of the following works by Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.), E.C. Railway, Dhanbad:-1. E-Tender No.: 24-DHN-2024-25

Name of the work with its location & completion period: RHR-LBT: Provision of LHS for elimination of Trespass at Km.306/01-03 near Panjarikala between RHR-LBT. 12 (Twelve) Months. Approx. cost of work: Rs. 5,81,39,097.14

2. E-Tender No.: 25-DHN-2024-25 Name of the work with its location & completion period: RCGT-DMX: Provision of LHS for elimination of Trespass at Km.206/27-29 between RCGT-DMX. 12 (Twelve) Months Approx. cost of work: Rs.

5.71,60,773.97 3. E-Tender No.: 26-DHN-2024-25 Name of the work with its location & completion period: RHR-LBT: Provision of LHS for elimination of Trespass near Lalgarh at Km.307/29-31 between RHR-

LBT, 12 (Twelve) Months, Approx. cost of work: Rs. 5,73,68,495.49 4. E-Tender No.: 27-DHN-2024-25 Name of the work with its location &

completion period: Dhanbad Division:-TRR(P)- 13.576 TKM in SSE/P.way/DHN section under ADEN/2/DHN (Balance work) 12 (Twelve) Months. Approx. cost of work: Rs. 1,29,87,601,42 5. E-Tender No.: 28-DHN-2024-25

Name of the work with its location & completion period: GMO: Construction of septic tank at various colonies at GMO under ADEN/1/GMO, 09 (Nine) Months Approx. cost of work: Rs. 97,86,362,40

6. E-Tender No.: 29-DHN-2024-25 Name of the work with its location & completion period: Improvement of recreational activities of swimming pool with ancillary arrangement for water circulation in officers rest house, Dhanbad, 03 (Three) Months. Approx. cost of work: Rs.

7. E-Tender No.: 30-DHN-2024-25 Name of the work with its location & completion period: Improvement of LC road surface. Gate lodge etc. at 15 Level Crossing Gates in DHN-CRP & KDS-TET link Section. 06 (Six) Months, Approx. cost of work: Rs. 74,57,462,91

8. E-Tender No.: 31-DHN-2024-25 Name of the work with its location & completion period: Extension of PF at Phusro and Bokaro & Provision of 4 x 10000 Litres PVC Tank for water supply at Phusro. 12 (Twelve) Months. Approx. cost of work

Rs. 90.04.826.05

9. E-Tender No.: 32-DHN-2024-25 Name of the work with its location & completion period: Dhanbad Division Supply, installation and commissioning of track based Rail Gauge face Lubricator ((hydraulic/electronic type-Total- 59 sets)) under Sr. DEN/2/DHN. 12 (Twelve) Months. Approx. cost of work: Rs. 4,22,88,840.00

10. E-Tender No.: 33-DHN-2024-25 Name of the work with its location & completion period: Dhanbad Division-Supply, installation and commissioning of track based Rail Gauge face Lubricator (hydraulic/electronic type) under ADEN/KQR in the jurisdiction of Sr.DEN/5/ DHN. 12 (Twelve) Months. Approx. cost of

work: Rs. 4,22,88,840.00 11. E-Tender No.: 34-DHN-2024-25 Name of the work with its location & completion period: Dhanbad Division-Supply, installation and commissioning of track based Rail Gauge face Lubricator (Hydraulic type/electronic type)- 63 sets under DEN(Estate)/DHN. 06 (Six) Months.

Approx. cost of work: Rs. 4,51,55,880.00 12. E-Tender No.: 35-DHN-2024-25 Name of the work with its location & completion period: Design and Renovation in connection with FAT setup at Sr. DSTE Office, Dhanbad, 06 (Six) Months Approx. cost of work: Rs. 52,34,642.80 Earnest Money (In Rs.): Earnest Money is applicable as shown in http://www. ireps.gov.in. portal. Date & Time for closing and opening of e-tender: Date of closing of e-tender at 12-00 hours on 03.06.2024. Date of opening of e-tender from 12:30 hrs. on 03:06:2024. Website

e-tendering. For Divisional Railway Manager (Engineering) E.C.R., Dhanbad.

PR/00254/DHN/ENGG/T/24-25/124

particulars: http://www.ireps.gov.in

No manual tender will be accepted against

Kanhaiya Kumar: It's an election between the people and the BJP

SAMAN HUSAIN

Tata Steel

executive

on May 4

"The police were conducting

checks for the accused by block-

ing the road. They spotted two of

them on a bike. But when the po-

lice tried to stop them, they started

fleeing away and fired at the po-

lice team. A sub-inspector, Mangal

Singh, was injured and a suspect,

Daksh, was killed in the en-

counter. The other accused man-

aged to escape," said Dinesh

Kumar P, Additional Police

other location (Bhopura border)

and arrested two more accused,

from whom Tyagi's laptop and

leather bag were recovered.

Tyagi's One Plus phone has been

recovered from the deceased ac-

cused," he added. The official said

the main reason behind the mur-

der is snatching. "All four accused

are drug addicts. They saw Tyagi

walking alone...They snatched

his bag and stabbed him," he said.

Daksh was stolen last year. This

proves that they have been in-

volved in the world of crime...,'

said the official, adding the ac-

cused were unemployed.

"The bike recovered from

"Later, the police raided an-

Commissioner, Ghaziabad.

Vinay Tyagi was killed

NEW DELHI, MAY 10

IT IS an election between the people and the BJP, said Congress leader Kanhaiya Kumar, the IN-DIA bloc candidate for North East Delhi in the Lok Sabha election.

Stating that the main focus of his poll campaign is harmony, justice and development, Kumar, referring to his campaign programmes allegedly being scuttled, said the "BJP can do whatever they like".

Responding to a question about permissions for his campaign being rejected, he said, "This has happened but it is okay...the party in power has an advantage.'

He told *The Indian Express:* "I am not too bothered."

He further said, "Initially, we had plans to file our nomination on May 1 but then he (BJP candidate Manoj Tiwari) decided to file his nomination on the same day. I do not know what exactly happened but I am not too bothered about it..."

Kumar said that Tiwari was, in fact, "campaigning" for him. "Because in every press conference, he blames me while he has been the MP here for a decade and did nothing." he added.

On why voters should choose him, Kumar said because their Parliamentarian has been absent "ever since he was elected". He said, "Talk to anyone... from any party, they will say that we haven't seen him... he hasn't worked. This is why Tiwari is apologising to people and asking for votes in (PM Narendra)



Kanhaiya Kumar during a campaign rally. Express

THE EXPRESS

INTERVIEW

Kanhaiya

KUMAR

INDIA BLOC CANDIDATE

FROM NORTHEAST DELHI

Modiji's name." Continuing his attack on his opponent, Kumar said, "When he (Tiwari) was first elected, he was not the richest MP. Now, he is the richest...So, his wealth is increasing in tandem with the woes of the peo-

> ple." Kumar said he would be an efficient alternative to

"such a bad performance". He said, "By choosing me, they will elect an MP who can fight with the government for their rights."

When asked about the frequent references to religion in his recent speeches, Kumar said, "I am not anti-religion. As far as my understanding of religion goes, it means to stand by the weak, for the truth, and stand

against the hate." He further said, "During the religious gatherings that I used to attend at my home, we would pray for kindness in our hearts and for peace. So, I carry reli-

Stating that humanity was his religion, Kumar said, "If humanity is being divided in the name

gion with me, but

not blind faith."

of any religion, then I do not associate myself with it." Kumar said there has been a shift in the Bharatiya Janata Party

(BJP) campaign focus because of "desperation". "Otherwise, they had started with 'Sabka saath sab ka vikas'," he added.

Saying that BJP's emphasis on "politics of hate isn't new," Kumar said "they have been do-

this since before Independence". "But there is a limit to it," he added. Kumar, though, said it was

not the divisive politics that had brought the BJP to power. "They came to power because there was anti-incumbency against the Congress in 2014," he added.

Kumar said, "When PM was campaigning then, he was talking about vikas (development), jobs, about Rs 15 lakh in every account...so, to think that this polarisation alone got the BJP to power is a political miscalcula-He further said, "The BIP

tries to polarise in its narrative while in the background, it is practising social engineering. They give different hopes to different social groups...In 2014, they campaigned to abolish Income Tax, which attracted the middle-class. But after coming to power, they brought in GST and increased the taxes. There is a limit to divisive politics in this country because a huge population believes in multiculturalism."

Regarding his shift from his ancestral Begusarai, Bihar, to North East Delhi constituency, Kumar said that each time it was the decision of the party he was associated with, and not his own. "Obviously, there is more comfort in the place where one is born," he added.

"Now, I look at it as a coincidence: That I was born on the banks of Ganga and now I am working on the banks of Yamuna, and that my name is Kanhaiya," he said, referring to Lord Krishna.

Rs 5 cr to Rs 363 cr in 10 yrs: Haryana mining

DAY AFTER SC HALTS NEW MINING LEASES

revenue sees uptick; activists call for checks

AISWARYARAJ GURGAON, MAY 10

A DAY after the Supreme Court directed Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan and Gujarat not to accord permission for mining activities in Aravallis until further orders, environmentalists still concerned over the situation said that "legal mining needs to be regulated" across the country. The bench had said its order did not impinge on legal mining activities that are currently being carried out per valid permits and

Kailash Meena, an environmentalist from Sikar in Rajasthan, however, urged the Supreme Court to also look into ongoing mining activities on leases, as rules are not followed on the ground, and it is not restricted to lease boundaries only. "Legal mining should not be allowed close to forest and habitation areas as our wildlife and rural communities have been bearing the brunt of its impacts," Meena added.

The SC had noted in submissions of Advocate K Parameshwar, the amicus curiae in the matter, that "no fresh mining leases or renewal of the existing ones shall be permitted" in the Aravalli ranges in Rajasthan and Haryana until further orders. Meanwhile, the Harvana government's report submitted during the Central **Empowered Committee meeting** in March this year, showed the

revenue in 2023-24 received from four districts — where mining is legal — was pegged at Rs 363.5 crore. This figure stood at Rs 5.15 crore in 2013-14, showed data.

There is a blanket ban on mining in the Aravalli hills of Faridabad, Gurgaon, and Nuh districts as per a 2009 order by the Supreme Court. However, mining is permissible in four districts -Rewari, Mahendergarh, Charkhi Dadri and Bhiwani — in the state.

In 10 years, the state government has raked in a revenue of Rs 3,621 crore, with the biggest jump in Bhiwani and Charkhi Dadri where Haryana's revenue went from Rs 1.13 in 2013-14 to Rs 351 crore in 2023-24. The two districts have 16 mines – the leases of some extending till 2038 — over an area of 627.9 hectare. There are eight mines in Mahendragarh and one in Rewari. Meanwhile, the government said only three violations were recorded in these districts.

Neelam Ahluwalia, an environmentalist, said that she went on ground truthing trips to all seven districts of Haryana, where Aravallis fall, and found that the mountain ranges are rapidly getting destroyed in the state — between legal and illegal mining. "...Haryana will soon become a desert... water-starved at the rate at which the Aravalli hills have been destroyed through legal and illegal mining," Ahluwalia added.

> **FULL REPORT ON** www.indianexpress.com

MANUFACTURING, SUPPLYING & LOADING WORKS

E-Tender Notice No. CON/2024/APR/01 Dated: 08-04-2024. Open tender through e-Tendering System is invited from experienced and reputed Contractor(s) firm(s) for the following works: SN-1 Tender No. CE/CON/K-K/BLS/2024/05 Name of work: Manufacturing, supplying & loading of 50 mm size of Pakui variety machine crushed stone ballast of approved quality conforming to latest RDSO Specifications from quarry Pakur/ Talijhari/Bakudi/Sahibganj/Pinergaria to Railway hopper/wagon and all other connected ancillary works as per requirement in between stations Katihar (including) and Sonaili (including) from Ch: Km 0.00 to Km 17.30 of Katihar Mukuria section and Katihar (excluding) and Pranpur Road (including) from Ch: Km 1,388 to Km 19.70 of Katihar-

Chief Engineer/Con/5 NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY Construction Organization Serving Customers With A Smile

Chairman shall be a full-time incumbent.

Control Board (JSPCB), Ranchi:

Scale of Pay

Method of

Recruitment

Conditions

Qualification

Experience

Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board (JSPCB), Ranchi.

will be applicable.

SPECIAL SECRETARY.

Climate Changes(24-25)D

GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND,

PIN CODE-834002 (JHARKHAND)

PR 324660 Forest, Environment and

NEPAL HOUSE, DORANDA, RANCHI.

mentioned below can apply-

Deputation/on contract/direct recruitment.

officer of State Government/ Central Government

Sub:

Kumedpur section in connection with

Katihar-Mukuria-Kumedpur double line

project of N. F. Railway (Construction).

Approx. value : ₹8,70,09,958.80/-

Date of tender closing: 14:30 hrs. of

29-05-2024 & opening at 15:30 hrs.

of 29-05-2024. For details please visit

NORTHERN RAILWAY NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager/FS, Delhi Division, Northern Railway, in terms of Railway Board letter no. 2022/TC (FM)/10/04 dated 13.06.2022, invites bids through e-Auction (www.ireps.gov.in) for the contract of Management and Operation of Cloakroom (on ROMT basis) situated at PF-1 of Hazrat Nizamuddin (HNZM) Railway Station (Area 71.79 Sq Mtrs) for 5 (five) years as per detail and schedule given below:-

S. No.	Date & time of e-Auction	Assets to be auctioned
1.	24.05.2024 at 11:00 am	The contract of Management and Operation of Cloakroom (on ROMT basis) situated at PF-1 of Hazrat Nizamuddin (HNZM) Railway Station (Area 71.79 Sq Mtrs) for 5 (five) years.

Important notes:

Government of Jharkhand

Department of Forest, Environment and Climate Change

Advertisement

Appointment for the post of Chairman, Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for appointment to the post of Chairman,

The following are the terms and conditions for the post of Chairman, Jharkhand State Pollution

(A) Allowance of the Chairman of the Board, time of joining, salary, provident fund/National

Pension Scheme/Employee Provident Fund, gratuity, retirement age, medical facility and other services

shall be regulated with the applicable rules and orders as holding the post of equal pay scale of the

(B) Appointment to the post of Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board Chairman will be called

External Services and the provisions of State Government/ Central Government for external service

(A) Master's Degree in Environment Science, Bachelor's Degree in Environment related

Management or Bachelor's in Environment Science/Environmental Engineering Technology. 10 years

& Persons from Central Government/State Governments/Public Sector Undertakings having qualification

According to the Seventh Pay Commission Pay Scale Level-15 in the pay matrix.

of experience in the field of environmental protection and pollution control.

Interested and eligible candidates are requested to send their application in the prescribed format in

6 sets within 15 days from the Published Advertisement through the Proper Channel at the Address

sets within 15 days from the Published Advertisement directly at the Address given below

Note- Application performa can be seen at departmental notice board and downloaded from

Retired Persons are requested to send their application in the prescribed format in 6

Sd/-

(Raju Ranjan Roy) Special Secretary,

Forest, Environment& Climate Change Department,

Government of Jharkhand.

www.prdjharkhand.in and http://forest.jharkhand.gov.in and website of JSPCB.

office of the officer concerned.

FOREST, ENVIRONMENT& CLIMATE CHANGE DEPARTMENT,

1. For more information, requirement and various aspects regarding these e-Auctions, interested bidders are advised to visit https://www.ireps.gov.in/html/helpdesk/learning-centre.html. (E-Auction leasing section). Earnest Money Deposit (EMD): 5% of the total contractual bid

value to be deposited online during the auction. EMD of the successful bidder will be retained as Security Deposit. Railway Administration reserves the full and absolute rights to

short terminate these contracts at any point of time and/or for taking any decision regarding the discontinuation/continuation of these contracts with modified/additional terms and conditions depending upon the situation. SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

उत्तर पश्चिम रेलवे निविदा सूचना

वरिष्ठ मण्डल यांत्रिक इंजीनियर (सवमा) अजमेर, भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से निम्मलिखित कार्य तु दिनांक 30.05.2024 को 15:00 बजे तक -निविदा (Single packet system) आमंत्रित की जाती है। E-Tender Notice No.: M-02-CW-ALL-2024-25 Reten Date 09/05/2024, कार्य का नाम: Setting up of quick watering arrangement system at Udaipur station, कार्य की अनुमानित लागत: ₹ 1,06,98,239.59. निविदा दस्तावेज की कीमत: Nil. बयाना राशि: ₹ 2.03.500/ ई-प्रस्ताव का वेबसाइट पर अपलोड करना एवम खुलना: दिनांक 09.05.2024 को अपलोड करना एवम दिनांक 30.05.2024 को 15.30 बजे खुलना। Website Particulars www.ireps.gov.in 546-AR/24

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ENGINEERING WORK

E-TENDER NOTICE NO. 14-ENGG-RNY-2024-25. E-tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following work: Tender No. 1: Brief Description of Item: (1) At Viswanath Charali - Construction of T-III quarters (05 units) under jurisdiction of ADEN/Viswanath Charali in connection with establishment of ADEN and SSE works Unit. (2) At Viswanath Charali - Construction of T- IV (02 unit) quarters, Transit Accommodation and other ancillary works under jurisdiction of ADEN/Viswanath Charali. Tender Value: ₹4,25,36,271.69; Earnest Money: ₹3.62,700.00. E-tenders will be closed at 15:00 hrs. on 29-05-2024 and Opened at 15:30 hrs. on 29-05-2024 at office of the Divisional Railway Manager (Works), Rangiya. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender www.ireps.gov.in

The Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board (JSPCB), Ranchi was established under DRM (Works), Rangiya provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. The Jharkhand State Pollution **NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY** Control Board (JSPCB), Ranchi exercises functions related to prevention and control of pollution. The

will be available in website

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY 🕼

E-AUCTION NOTICE

Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, E.C. Railway, Samastipur for and on behalf of the President of India invites open e-auction only through IREPS (Indian Railway Web Portal) for awarding of contract for Multi Purpose Stall at Harinagar-01 unit, Rusera Ghat-01 unit, Saharsa-01 unit, Garh Baruari-01 unit, Khajauli-01 unit, Jhanjharpur-04 unit, Manigachi-01 unit Panchgachia-01 unit, Sagauli-02 unit Sitamrhi-01 unit, Lohna Road-01 unit, Sakri-01 unit, Supaul-02 unit, Bettiah-01 unit and Bagaha-01 unit for Railway Station Premises and for a period of five (05) years from the date of commencement.

		of experience in the field of environmental protection and pollution control. Or	S. No.	Name of Station	Type of Stall
		Being or having been a member of an All-India Service, in the IAS/IFS cadre, holding or having held	1	Harinagar	
		post not below the rank of Principal Secretary or equivalent post in the State Government and having	2	Rusera Ghat	
		Master's degree in Science or Bachelor's degree in Engineering/Technology. Also having adequate	3	Saharsa	
		knowledge and working experience in the field of Environment protection.	4	Garh Baruari	
5	Age limit	Maximum age limit will be 62 and minimum 55 years on the date of receipt of application in case of	5	5 Khajauli	Multi
		direct appointment.	6	Jhanjharpur	Purpose
6	Tenure Single term of 3 years		7	7 Manigachi	Stall
N	ate: Officers a	working in the Central or State Government or Public Sector Undertaking shall send their	8	Panchgachia	(MPS)
	plication:-	volving in the Central of State Soveriment of 1 tone Sector Chaeraking sharr send then	9	Sagauli	Time St
(1) Throu	igh proper channel.	10	Sitamrhi	
(2) Six se	ets of application should be received in the office of the undersigned.	11	Lohna Road	
(3) An ac	dvance copy of the application may be forwarded to the undersigned, but it will not be dered unless the application is received through proper channel along with following	12	Sakri	
		ments before the last date of submission mentioned below.	13	Supaul	
	(i)	Annual Confidential Report dossier for last five years.	14	Bettiah	
	(ii)	Integrity Certificate / Vigilance Clearance in the enclosed format to be signed by an	15	Bagaha	
		officer not below the rank/scale of Deputy Secretary in Government or controlling	Catal	naue No · SP LMP	S.01 Period .

Catalogue No.: SPJ-MPS-01. Period: 5 years from the date of commencement. Instruction to Tenderers: 01. Availability of e-auction document : E-Auction document is available on the web site of Indian Railway Electronic Procurement System (IREPS). 02. Date and Time fixed for biding of eauction: 03.06.2024, 12:00 hrs. 03. Details of Website where e-auction is to be submitted: Tenders are to be submitted online only through IREPS. For details please visit website www.ireps.gov.in. No Manual tender will be accepted. Divisional Railway Manager(C)/

ECR/Samastipur PR/00249/SPJ/Comml./N/24-25/64

NORTHERN RAILWAY CORRIGENDUM

Azadi _{Ka} Amrit Mahotsav Ref: Tender Notice No. 11/2024-2025 dated 08.05.2024 S.No. 09 Tender Number 77249003RGC Opening date 07.06.2024

Inspection Agency of above referred tender has been changed. All other terms and conditions remain unchanged. The corrigendum has been published on website www.ireps.gov.in. Date: 10.05.2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY E-Procurement Tender Notice No.: 02/2024-25 dt. 08.05.2024

E-Procurement Tender Notice On behalf of the President of India, Deputy Chief Material Manager, General Store Depot, North Central Railway, Kanpur, invites the E-Procurement tender

Tender No.: 53245337 Qty.: 01 NOS Tender Opening date : 11.06.2024 Brief Description: Main Transformer for 3-Phase MEDHA make or Equivalent Note: The complete information of above E-Procurement is available on IREPS websitei.e. https://www.ireps.gov.in/

🖪 North central raïways 🤀 www.ncr.indianraïlways.gov.in 🥼 @northcentralrailway 🗵 @ CPRONCR

NORTHERN RAILWAY CORRIGENDUM

Ref: Tender Notice No. 95/2023-2024 dated 21.02.2024 S. No. 07 Tender Number 77239067RGC Opening date 18.06.2024. Item description of above referred tender has been revised. All other terms

and conditions remain unchanged. The corrigendum has been published or website www.ireps.gov.in Date: 10.05.2024

उत्तर पश्चिम रेलवे ई - ऑक्शन सूचना

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

मण्डल रेल प्रबन्धक (वाणिज्य), उत्तर पश्चिम रेलवे, बीकानेर भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से बीकाने मण्डल पर कमर्शियल पब्लिसिटी RDN-Non digital, Vinly Wrapping, Parking & Pay 8 Use Toilet के ठेके के लिए ई-ऑक्शन प्रारम्भ किये गये है जिनका विवरण निम्न प्रकार है :-केटलॉग संख्या | कार्य का नाम व स्थान ई आक्शन की दिनाक व समय EA-PNU-5-24 Pay &Use Toilet at:- भिवानी, मंडीडबवाली, गोगामेडी 20.05.2024 समय 11:00 बड

EA-PARK-4-24 Parking at हांसी, संगरिया, लोहारू, भिवानी, गोगामेड़ी, 24.05.2024 सरतगढ़, बीकानेर नियर पी आर एस ट व्हीलर & फोर समय **15:00 ਕ**ਤੇ EA-Adv-02-24 Advertisement on station premise Non-Digital 24.05.2024 at सिरसा, श्रीगंगानगर, भिवानी Out of Home advertisement at-SDPL, RMN, NHR EA-Adv-VW-24 Advertisement-Train Exterior (Below Window) 27.05.2024 Train No. 14701/14702 SGNR-BDTS (Daily), 22497/22498 SGNR-TPJ Humsafar Exp (Weekly), 14717/14718 BKN-HW (Triweekly), 14707/14708 BKN-DDR (Daily), 22475/22476 HSR-CBE (Weekly) 12489/12490 BKN-DDR (By Weekly) अन्य सुचना एवं नियम व शर्तों के लिये IREPS की वेबसाईट www.ireps.gov.in पर लॉगिन करे

हमें f 🔞 🖸 /NWRailways 🖾 NWRailways_ पर फॉलो करें

STORES E-PROCUREMENT E-Procurement Tender Notice No. 02/2024; Dated: 06-05-2024. E-tenders are invited for the following work:-

Tender Quantity

Tender

Due On SN. 1, Tender No. 01249102 RC 2 Years Rate Contract for PL No. 6006NS01= 235 Sets (1) Manufacturing & supplying PL No. 6006NS02= 189 Sets 24-05-2024 of 1 in 12 Thick web Switch to PL No. 6006NS03= 5 Sets Drg No. T-6155 & (2) PL No. 6006NS04= 20 Sets Manufacturing & supplying of PL No. 6006NS05= 18 Sets 1 in 8.5 Thick web Switch to Drg No. T-5280 etc.

Description

SN. 2, Tender No. 01249103 RC 2 Years Rate Contract for PL No. 6011NS01= 114000 Nos

supply of (i) Elastic Rail Clip PL No. 6011N02= 69850 Nos MK.III to RDSO Drg No. T- PLNo. 6011NS03= 1788750 Nos 3701, (ii) Elastic Rail Clips PL No. 6011NS04= 1442200 Nos 24-05-2024 MK. V to RDSO Drg. No. T- PL No. 6011NS05= 17000 Nos 5919 & (iii) Elastic Rail Clips PL No. 6011NS06= 8000 Nos for fish plated joints (ERC-J) PL No. 6011N07= 12000 Nos to RDSO Drg No. T-4158 etc

NOTE:- For full details of Tender notice and tender Documents. Tenderer may log on to the website (www.ireps.gov.in) prospective bidder who intend to participate in above tenders are required to log in themselves with the above website and submit their offer electronically, if they are already registered with IREPS. In case they are not registered with IREPS, they are advised to obtain class-III Digital Signature Certificate from the certifying agencies under Govt, of India IT Act 2000 and participate in the above tender

Principal Chief Material Manager/ Con/Maligaon

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY (Construction Organisation)

'Serving Customers with a smile'

Girl abducted from home was sexually assaulted by accused: Police

G2.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI. MAY 10

ON MONDAY, an eight-year-old girl was kidnapped from her house in South Delhi. After a nearly day-long search that involved scanning multiple CCTVs from buses and Metro stations to identify and trace the whereabouts of the accused, police found the child at his home and reunited her with her family. The accused, Arjun alias Mohammad

Umer, 28, was arrested.

A medical examination of the child has now revealed that she was sexually assaulted. At the hospital, police said the girl disclosed that the accused had sold her nose pin and used the money to buy her new clothes and some food for himself. She alleged he changed her clothes and sexually assaulted her. DCP (South) Ankit Chauhan said Friday, "As per the medical examination, the girl's MLC, (carried out at AIIMS) revealed sexual assault and minor abrasions on her upper body."

Police have added charges under the POCSO Act to the existing FIR. Police had earlier lodged a case for kidnapping. It was on May 6 at 3 pm that police received a PCR call of the kidnapping. Police staff reached the spot where the missing girl's father stated that an unknown person had taken away his daughter and she could not be traced. A case was lodged, teams were formed to trace the girl.

Meanwhile, CCTV footage showed the suspect coming from the direction of a bus stop and taking the girl away in the same direction. Police then combed through footage from CCTVs installed in buses stationed at Kashmere Gate ISBT — footage from one DTC bus showed the culprit had boarded the bus at Safdarjung Hospital before getting off near the girl's house. Police then inspected footage from nearby Metro stations and discovered that the man had disembarked at Outub Minar Metro station along with the girl before taking a bus to Andheria Mor. A search was launched in the jhuggis at Andheria Mor; police finally tracked down the suspect's house and found the girl.

NORTHERN RAILWAY CORRIGENDUM Ref.: i) Tender Notice No. 83/2023-2024

Dated : 10.01.2024 ii) Tender No. 15235200A due on 20.05.2024 01. In reference to above tender A new condition in Eligibility criteria has been added. 2. In reference to above tender Special condition has been changed. All other erms & conditions remain unchanged. The Corrigendum has been published on website www.ireps.gov.in Serving Customers With A Smile

GOVT & POLITICS



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



RETURN RALLY

AFTER SENIOR Congress leader Rahul Gandhi addressed a rally in Kannauj on Friday in support of Samajwadi Party (SP) president Akhilesh Yadav, who is contesting from the constituency, it's now the turn of Akhilesh to campaign for Rahul in Rae Bareli. This is the first time Rahul is contesting from Rae Bareli, a seat earlier represented by his mother Sonia Gandhi. Sources in the SP said Akhilesh is likely to address a joint rally with Rahul in Rae Bareli on May 17. The constituency will go to polls on May 20.

STANDING FIRM

A DELEGATION of the INDIA bloc met with the Election Commission on Friday to discuss, among other things, the "delay" in releasing voter turnout figures. It is learned that the Commission, which earlier in the day had issued a rebuttal to Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge for "doubting the sanctity of the electoral process", took a strong line in the meeting with the delegation too. The Commission members, especially Chief Election Commission Rajiv Kumar, is learned to have cited the examples of how the poll panel has acted on complaints, especially those of model code violations, of all stakeholders cutting across political affiliations.

'Defender of terror': BJP slams Aiyar's Pak remarks as Congress distances from row

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MAY 10

THE BJP on Friday attacked the Congress over a video of former Union minister and Congress leader Mani Shankar Aiyar's comments on Pakistan, while the Congress distanced itself from the row saying it was an "attempt to deflect attention from Prime Minister Narendra Modi's daily goof-ups".

In the video which has gone viral on social media, Aiyar is heard saying that "India should accord due respect to Pakistan and hold talks with it". "What if some mad person comes to power there (Pakistan), then what will happen to the country? They have an atom bomb. We also have it. If some mad person takes the atom bomb out and if it explodes at Lahore station, then within eight seconds, the radioactivity will reach Amritsar...," he is heard saying.

Reacting to the row, Aiyar noted in a statement that it is obvious from the sweater he is wearing in the video that he made the comments in winter

several months ago. Addressing a rally in Iharkhand's Khunti, Union Home Minister Amit Shah targeted the Congress and Aiyar saying, "Today Mani Shankar Aiyar is threatening



Aiyar: Made comments months ago

us, and is asking us to respect Pakistan because they have an atomic bomb. A few days ago, Faroog Abdullah, who is an INDI alliance leader, asked us to not talk about PoK because Pakistan has an atomic bomb. I want to tell the Congress and INDI alliance leaders that PoK belongs to India and no one can take it away from us... Our Parliament has passed a proposal with majority votes and it is our stand that PoK is a part of India. By talking about the atom bomb, they are questioning PoK."

Senior BJP leader and Union minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar said Aiyar "wants India to fear Pakistan". "The Congress under Rahul Gandhi has become an apologist and defender of Pakistan and its terrorism," he told a press conference in Delhi.

Following the row, Congress leader Pawan Khera said. "Congress dissociates itself from and disagrees totally with some remarks made by Mr Mani Shankar Aiyar few months ago, which have been revived today by the BJP in attempt to deflect attention from PM Modi's daily goof-ups."

CONG CHIEF LETTER TO OPP LEADERS FLAGGED 'DELAY' IN TURNOUT DATA

Poll panel hits back at Kharge, says can have 'negative impact' on voters

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MAY 10

FOUR DAYS after Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge wrote to leaders of INDIA bloc allies raising concern over the "delay" in releasing voter turnout figures for the first two phases of the Lok Sabha elections, the Election Commission (EC) Friday strongly denied his charges, saving such "utterances" can have "a negative impact on voter participation", and advised him to "exercise caution".

According to EC sources, the poll panel's strongly-worded letter in response to communication between political parties was unprecedented.

Terming Kharge's allegations as "blatant inaccuracies", the EC said there had been "no unusual delay than what is required to collect data from a large number of polling stations".

"The very premise that voter turnout data was released late is devoid of facts as it has always been available on the Voter Turnout app... Needless to add that polling station-wise data of electors and voters is given to agent of the candidate on the day of poll itself at close of poll," the EC said. It said the records showed that no Congress candidate had raised concerns at the close of polling.

Kharge's letter, which was



Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge in Hyderabad. PTI

posted on his X handle on Monday, asked whether the "delay" in releasing the number of voters was an attempt to "doctor" the results. He had expressed concern over the EC releasing turnout figures for phase one and phase two after 11 days and four days, respectively. He also raised concern over the turnout figures increasing by 5.5 percentage points and 5.74 percentage points in the first and second phases, respectively, from what was estimated on polling day and on April 30, when the EC issued a press release giving the final figures.

Responding to the points raised in his letter, the EC said political parties are involved in the process of preparation of the electoral roll and know the details of the number of electors in each constituency; the number of polling station-wise electors is available with every candidate; and there is no scope of de-

viation from the number of votes recorded in the Form 17C, a signed copy of which is given to each contesting candidate at the close of poll. In response to Kharge's con-

cern that there may be an attempt to "doctor" the results, the EC said the total votes polled in a particular EVM is tallied with the number in Form 17C. The EC reply included an annexure that showed the turnout figures for 2019 elections — as first announced and as released later — showing a 1-3 percentage point increase. The release of the final turnout took 5-7 days after each phase.

While rejecting the charges, the EC advised Kharge to "exercise caution and refrain in making such statements".

"Utterances from President of National Political Party attacking the very credibility of the electoral steps and processes can have a negative impact on voter participation and can be seen as a means to deter an elector from exercising their franchise and/or demoralising the huge number of election staff and machinery which is mainly drawn from the respective State Governments...," it said.

"Commission wishes you to appreciate that your comments/ observations/ allegations given in the aforesaid post borders on vitiating the constitutionally mandated work of ECI," the poll panel wrote.

Content, intent of EC letter a blot: Congress

ASAD REHMAN NEW DELHI, MAY 10

THE CONGRESS Friday ripped into the Election Commission (EC) response to party chief Mallikarjun Kharge's statements on voter data, calling it a "permanent blot" on the institution's reputation and reminding the panel that "it is not beyond criticism".

This came even as a number of Opposition parties went to the EC with a letter of their own. A delegation including senior Congress leader Abhishek Manu Singhvi, TMC's Derek O'Brien, SP's Javed Ali, DMK's TR Baalu and CPI's Binoy Viswam visited the EC office in New Delhi Friday. Singhvi told reporters after submitting the letter: "We all spent almost 45 minutes to one hour. Broadly, two major issues were raised."

The letter said: "Till date, the Commission has not provided any proper or official clarification on the above-mentioned delay or the reported variance in the voter data.... the Commission should have not only released the data per Parliamentary Constituency (and Assembly respective

Constituencies) but it should have also released the voter turnout data in each polling station". It also flagged the "Prime Minister's repeated violation" of MCC, saying: "The blatant nature of these violations by Shri Narendra Modi constitutes a direct challenge to this Commission and if left unchecked will leave a deep impact on the democratic fabric of the nation."

Senior Congress leader P Chidambaram slammed the poll panel for its response to Kharge. "There is much that ECI has done and has not done for which it deserves to be criticised. When RBI, C&AG, Finance Commission and other bodies can be criticised, why does ECI think it should not be criticised. Let Parliament meet and let there be a full discussion on the omissions and commissions of the ECI, and all political parties will share their experiences contesting elections under the current ECI...." he posted on X.

Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Priyanka Chaturvedi wrote on X: "Now ECI is issuing threats.... this letter clearly is partisan... and seems like it was drafted by some political person rather than an autonomous body!

Haryana Cong to Governor: Dismiss BJP's minority govt

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE CHANDIGARH, MAY 10

THE CONGRESS in Haryana Friday submitted a memorandum to the Governor demanding that the "minority" BJP government in the state be dismissed, President's Rule be imposed and fresh Assembly elections are ordered.

Senior Congress leader and party chief whip BB Batra, accompanied by Deputy CLP leader Aftab Ahmed, submitted a memorandum addressed to Governor Bandaru Dattatreya regarding the present political situation in the state. Batra said that they handed over the memorandum to the Governor's secretary as Dattatreya "had left for Telangana for some work." Asked if Congress will move the court, Batra said, "Governor is the constitutional head, let him first take a decision in the matter".

Earlier this week, three Independents had withdrawn their support to the Nayab Singh Saini government. Another Independent MLA Balraj Kundu had withdrawn support a couple of years back and is opposed to the current Haryana government, the Congress had earlier said.

The 90-member House at present has an effective strength of 88 with Karnal and Rania Assembly seats being vacant.

Rana, whose 'give us 15 sec' remark sparked row, booked

SREENIVAS JANYALA HYDERABAD, MAY 10

A CASE has been registered against BJP MP Navneet Kaur Rana for alleged violation of rules of the Election Commission of India — days after her contentious comments during an election rally.

The case was registered at Shadnagar police station under Cyberabad Police Commissionerate based on a complaint by the Flying Squad Team of the EC on May 9 stating that portions of Rana's speech in Hyderabad were in violation of EC rules. The FST specifically referred to her statement that "if you vote for Rahul Gandhi or Congress, vote

goes to Pakistan". On May 9, a row erupted over the speech made by Rana while campaigning for the party's Hyderabad Lok Sabha candidate Madhavi Latha a day earlier. Referring to AIMIM leader Akbaruddin Owaisi's 2012 speech, in which he said that if police is removed for 15 minutes his community would show 100 crore Hindus what it could do, Rana said, "I say, it may take you 15 minutes but it will take us

Telangana CM A Revanth Reddy urged the BIP leadership to expel from the party. "She should be arrested. I ask PM Modi and Amit Shah – do you support your BIP leader...", he said.

only 15 seconds."

SC Kejriwal bail ruling could set Breather for Delhi CM precedent for political detainees Baneriee until the elections were

APURVA VISHWANATH NEW DELHI, MAY 10



a bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and Dipankar Datta, while granting bail to Kejriwal, underlined the significance of participatory democracy saying,

"General Elections supply the vis viva (force that moves) to a democracy".

"It is no gain saying that the General Elections to Lok Sabha is the most significant and an important event this year... Between 650-700 million voters out of an electorate of about 970 million will cast their votes to elect the government of this country for the next five years," the bench said.

The top court's reasoning in effect affirmed the argument made by Kejriwal's counsel, Abhishek Manu Singhvi, that a level playing field during elections was part of the basic structure of the Constitution. "Democracy is part of basic



Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal

structure, free and fair elections are part of basic structure and a level-playing field is also part of basic structure," Singhvi had argued on May 7. But the Supreme

Court's order sets a new precedent for political exigencies during elections. Until now, the top court's intervention to confirm bail granted to political

leaders by High Courts were in instances where regular bail was granted during the course of the trial — and not interim bail necessitated by special circumstances.

This is also evident in the cases cited by the Supreme Court itself in the Keiriwal order. In January, the top court con-

firmed bail to TDP chief and former Andhra Pradesh CM N Chandrababu Naidu, and then in March to Odisha BJP leader Siba Sankar Das. In both the cases, the SC underlined the right to make political speech which, it said, cannot be fettered through bail conditions.

Last September, the Calcutta High Court held that the ED cannot take any coercive steps against TMC leader Abhishek over. In March, the ED told the SC that it will abide by the "no coercive steps" refrain by the High Court. In the Kejriwal order, the top

court said interim bail is granted on the basis of the "facts of each case" and that "this case is "not an exception", although it did acknowledge the high political stakes, noting that "the appellant, Arvind Kejriwal, is the Chief Minister of Delhi and a leader of one of the national parties."

This is significant as it leaves the door open for more such interventions, vis a vis the elections. Former Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren, who was arrested on January 31 in a money laundering case, has a bail application pending in the High Court. The state will vote in the last four phases of the Lok Sabha elections starting May 13.

Apart from allowing him to campaign, the top court's order also partially ring-fences Kejriwal's role as Chief Minister.

In one of its five bail conditions, the Supreme Court allowed Kejriwal to sign official files that are "required and necessary for obtaining clearance/ approval of the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi."

As a chief minister without a portfolio, Kejriwal's primary role in the government is to officially communicate on all matters with the L-G.

boosts Opp: 'Huge sign of winds of change' CPM leader Pinarayi Vijayan said.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MAY 10

AS THE Supreme Court granted interim bail to Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, the IN-DIA bloc partners appeared elated at the fact that one of the best-known political faces in their ranks would soon join the campaign trail, fortifying the opposition's election efforts. The opposition parties had been arguing that his arrest was politically motivated to prevent him taking part in the campaign. That the Narendra Modi gov-

ernment is "subverting institutions" and "misusing" investigative agencies to target political opponents and stifle influential voices in the opposition camp has been a major theme in the opposition campaign so far. Kejriwal being granted interim bail, opposition leaders hope, would bolster this message — that the SC has stepped in to thwart an "authoritarian government's" bid to keep an opposition leader from campaigning.

"This might impact the ongoing general elections, leading to a resounding victory of the democratic forces. It is a strong reminder that no authoritarian regime can prevail long by suppressing dissent," Kerala CM and

Tamil Nadu CM and DMK M K Stalin said, "This victory against injustice strengthens our democracy. Thiru Arvind Kejriwal's release not only symbolises justice but also fortifies our INDIA bloc, bolstering our momentum towards sweeping the elections." Congress media department

head Pawan Khera said: "We also hope that the Prime Minister gets enough time after June 4, when he becomes the former Prime Minister of India, to introspect sitting in Sabarmati Ashram at the kind of politics he has indulged in. We hope the former chief minister of Jharkhand Hemant Soren also gets due justice."

CPI general secretary D Raja said, "Importantly, SC's observation that it took ED two years to initiate action against Arvind Kejriwal suggests that the timing of his arrest, right before elections, was not above suspicion and could be politically motivated." Shiv Sena (UBT) leader

Aaditya Thackeray said, "Arvind Kejriwal ji getting justice and relief against the dictatorial regime in the country is a huge sign of winds of change... More power to him and the INDIA alliance for Bharat. We will protect our Constitution and democracy."

Out of Lok Sabha contest in Indore, Congress campaigns for NOTA vote

CARL YAVEN

ANAND MOHAN J BHOPAL, MAY 10

THE CONGRESS may be out of the ballot paper in Indore, but it's very much in the contest. Left without a candidate after Akshay Kanti Bam withdrew at the last minute, with the court applications of its substitute nominee also falling through, the Congress is now aggressively pushing for NOTA.

The party is on the offensive, with its workers pasting walls and auto-rickshaws with posters, organising torch rallies and meetings, and hosting social media chats, telling voters to choose NOTA come May 13 and teach the BJP "a lesson".

The fact that Indore has been reduced to a "no-contest" may strike a chord given that it is Madhya Pradesh's biggest Lok Sabha constituency, with 25.13 lakh voters.

Plus, it has always been an easy seat for the BJP, with the party having won it since 1989, and in 2019 by 65.59% votes. The

BJP has re-fielded its sitting MP Shankar Lalwani. The Congress got 31% of the votes in 2019, and NOTA 0.31%.

But, as long as there are still candidates in the race — and there are 13 as of now — meaning Indore won't be another Surat (which the BIP won uncontested), the Congress is going with NOTA as its best bet.

The BJP, incidentally, has not scheduled meetings of any of its stalwarts in the seat. Party spokesperson Alok Dubey said that, nevertheless, they are looking at "victory with an overwhelming majority".

The BJP has also attacked the Congress's support for NOTA as "negative politics" and "an attack on democracy".

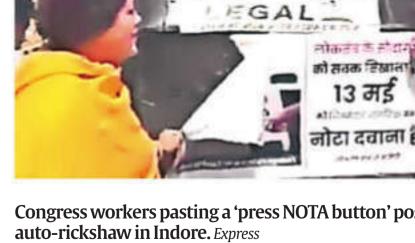
Apart from Lalwani, and now NOTA, the 13 in the contest include a former RSS worker whose agenda is "to reform politics", a young socialist leader, businessmen, property dealers, and employees of private firms. Nine of them are contesting as Independents. Several claim to have been approached by the BIP to

"withdraw". Indore BJP spokesperson Deepak Jain denied that the party was in contact with any of the rival candidates.

Among those in the race is Abhay Jain, who belongs to Janhit Party, floated by former RSS workers ahead of last year's Assembly elections, with the aim of introducing "clean politics" and breaking the state's dualparty system of the BJP and Congress. Jain said: "I am contesting as an Independent as my party is not yet registered. The BIP approached me to withdraw. They told me I was with the Sangh once and should not contest against the BJP. But I refused."

Deepak Jain said his remarks were "fictional and publicity driven".

The other Independent contestants include Pankaj Gupta, a lawyer who practises in Indore's local courts; Ayaz Ali, a local contractor with links in the construction business; local businessmen Ankit Gupta and Mudit Chaurasiya; Arjun Parihar, an engineer; Parmanand Tolani, a



Congress workers pasting a 'press NOTA button' poster on an

property dealer; and private sector employees Lavish Dalip Khandelwal and Ravi Sirwaiya.

Pankaj Gupta said this was his sixth election, after contesting polls for the Assembly and for Mayor and Councillor, without ever winning. He said, "I was asked to withdraw from the contest by the BIP and offered the post of a government lawyer. (But) I want to do public service." Ali said he had previously

tried fighting an Assembly elec-

tion, and added that he was under no pressure to withdraw. The candidates of other par-

ties in the fray include Sanjay Solanki, a businessman contesting on the BSP ticket; Basant Gehlot, a local reporter, contesting on the ticket of 'Jan Sangh Party'; Ajeet Singh, a social worker and nominee of the Socialist Unity Centre of India (Communist); and Pawan Kumar, a private sector employee who has been fielded by the 'Akhilesh Bhartiya Parivar Partv'.

Kumar said his party came up two years ago, in the aftermath of the Covid crisis, as a means to get the government to waive off loans of the working and middle class. "The BIP tried to get me to quit," he claimed.

Asked whether he had faced any such pressure, Gehlot said: "Nobody dared approach me to withdraw."

Among those to have expressed some concern over how the Indore contest has panned out is former Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan, who won the Indore seat for BJP eight times in between 1989 and 2014. She told the media recently that she had been receiving calls from prominent people in Indore who said they were mulling NOTA after Bam's shock withdrawal. She called the withdrawal by Bam "unfair" and said: "I was surprised... This should not have happened. There was no need for this as the writing on the wall was that no-

body can defeat the BIP in Indore." Asked about Mahajan's remarks, BJP spokesperson Deepak Jain said: "Her statements have been taken out of context by the Congress."

Madhya Pradesh BJP chief V D Sharma equated the Congress's appeal for NOTA to "a crime". "The Congress leadership wants to weaken democracy."

He told *The Indian Express*: "Your (Congress) candidate voluntarily withdraws his nomination at the last moment... You are on the wrong side, and you are asking public to vote for NOTA!"

Madhya Pradesh Congress president Jitu Patwari said this was a fair response by the party to "the political crime of kidnapping of the Indore candidate". "There could be many reasons why the Congress candidate left... I don't want to talk about them. But, this act of the BJP, despite receiving huge response from the people, is a challenge to the voters. Electors of Indore should vote for NOTA to teach the BIP a lesson." Patwari said.

Meanwhile. Bam's own fate remains uncertain. While his expected admission into the BIP hasn'tyet happened, on Friday, a court in Indore issued an arrest warrant against him and his father in an attempt to murder case.

Public prosecutor Abhijit Singh Rathore told *The Indian* Express that their lawyer moved an application seeking exemption from personal appearance and that the application claimed that while Bam was out of town for "essential work", his father had been advised rest because of poor health. "But the court ordered the police to arrest them and present them before the court by July 8," Rathore said. The attempt to murder

charges, incidentally, had been added to a 17-year-old case against Bam and his father just days before he withdrew his nomination. Though Bam did not appear

Friday attending events for Parashuram Jayanti with minister Kailash Vijayvargiya in Indore. Asked if and when Bam would be inducted into the BJP, party chief Sharma said: "We have purifiers and X-ray machines installed here. Nothing to worry about."

before the court, he was seen on



'For us, Article 370 was the argument against separatists'

AGA RUHULLAH MEHDI is the National Conference (NC) candidate from Srinagar, which is expected to be one of the most keenly contested battles in the Lok Sabha polls in the Union Territory. Mehdi, an influential Shia leader, will take on Waheed Para of the People's Democratic Party (PDP).

The former minister who served in a government led by Omar Abdullah talks to NAVEED IOBAL about his first Lok Sabha contest, Article 370, and what this election means for the people of Kashmir. *Excerpts*:

This will be your first Lok Sabha election. How did the candidature come about?

I have been expressing my views for a while without the consideration of any election. My concern is the return of dignity and rights that were snatched from us (after Article 370 abrogation).

I wanted for us to mobilise politically and express our dissent... The way people reacted to the farmers' protests and against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), expressing their opinions and protesting democratically. They did not succumb to the decisions taken by the government.

Electoral politics was not a concern then. I continue to believe that I will not be part of the J&K Assembly. Being part of that Assembly for me is tantamount to legitimising the status of that Assembly. No one had predicted Assembly elections would be delayed so much. So then, when deliberations for Lok Sabha elections began in the party, they said the sentiment that you express is what all of India needs to hear. For that. (Parliament) is the forum.

Is Article 370 a poll issue? People have been telling me

that this is not an election for roads and development but an election for our identity and rights and that we need to express in a democratic way that we have not surrendered to this status (of a UT).

What explains the silence in J&K in the last four years?

Protests do not mean that you have to be angry and violent. Protest in a democracy is a healthy factor. The people of J&K were denied that right... This is how the state behaved. They turned J&K into an open-air prison... They created a psyche of fear. When I interact with the public... the only thing I get to hear is, 'We need you to represent us and speak for what we went through.'





INTERVIEW

AGA RUHULLAH Mehdi NC'S SRINAGAR CANDIDATE

Every candidate is speaking of identity and dignity. What makes the NC stand out?

The moment the communication ban was lifted (after Article 370 abrogation), I started speaking on this issue. I was still under house arrest... But since that day, I have been speaking about the rights of the people. (Political leaders) talking about this have begun to speak about this only recently.

Numerically, we cannot change anything in Parliament. But we can try to convey to the country that we are not anti-nationals and Article 370 was an article of faith. We can connect and reach out to the rest of India.

Are people still unaware of the situation in I&K?

The first sentence of the Constitution of I&K is that it is an integral part of India. People are made to believe Modi integrated J&K into India but it was always integrated. People also say terrorism in J&K was because of Article 370. Those who picked guns or had separatist tendencies had nothing to do with Article 370. They rejected the Constitution of India altogether and did not identify with it. For us, Article 370 was the argument against them (separatists). Article 370 was a pro-mainstream and pro-democracy argument.

What are national issues voters in J&K identify with?

They are concerned about the social fabric that has weakened in the rest of India. The way society is divided and the way fundamentalist ideologies are ruling the streets.

FOR MORE LOG ON TO INDIANEXPRESS.COM/ELECTIONS



GROUND REPORT

AS POLLING NEARS. **GAP CLOSES BETWEEN YSRCP AND TDP IN ANDHRA**



A mural in Jalandhar featuring late actor Amrish Puri as Mogambo, urging people to vote. ANI

NORTH MAHARASHTRA

Reliant on Gujarat tor jobs, tactories most pressing demand in Nandurbar

Located on the state border, the ST seat lacks basic amenities, from health to schools

SHUBHANGI KHAPRE NAVAPUR (NANDURBAR), MAY10

EVERY MORNING, Sonali Gavit sets out on a rickety tempo for Umbarpada in Gujarat's Surat district where she works. The interesting aspect of the 25-yearold's journey is that she is not a resident of Gujarat. Sonali lives in the village of Panbara in the Navapur taluka of the Nandurbar district in Maharashtra.

However, Sonali's story is the norm here. Every day, thousands of locals in the tribal-dominated Nandurbar district, like those from Sonali's village, travel across the interstate border to Gujarat as they get an assured daily wage of Rs 350 there.

"In the morning, a train heading to Surat is packed with villagers from Navapur," says Sunder Gavit, a third-year BA student in Panbara. "The villagers go up and down daily." Some migrate to Gujarat for three to six months at

a time on a contract basis, he adds. Across the tribal communities in the Nandurbar Lok Sabha seat, which votes on May 13, unemployment is an issue that resonates. "With no industries, peo-



At the Navapur train station, a line running through the platform marks the Maharashtra-Gujarat border. Express

ple have no option but to work in Gujarat," Sunder says.

Though education is gaining prominence in the tribal belt, jobs are few in Nandurbar. Despite some improved infrastructure and better access to welfare schemes, the district has remained backward for six decades. The Centre's Ujiwala scheme for subsidised LPG, for instance, has reached every home here but women use LPG sparingly — to make tea in a hurry, but not for rice or "bhakri (bread)", which are still cooked on chullahs. "Rs 900 for a

Pramila Gavit, a daily wager. Once a Congress bastion from where Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi and Sonia Gandhi always began poll campaign

cylinder is expensive," says

Maharashtra, Nandurbar has been represented by BJP MP Heena Gavit since 2014. A doctorturned-politician, Heena, 35, has been fielded again by the BJP. She faces the Congress's Gowal Padavi, 32, a lawyer who is the son of former Congress minister and Akkalkuwa MLA K C Padavi.

In the ST-reserved seat, Heena targeted Gowal for being an "outsider". "Gowal has always lived in Mumbai. How will he know the problems of Adivasis?" she says.

Countering his BIP rival, Gowal says, "I am originally from village Asali, taluka Akram. I went to Mumbai to study for my LLB, LLM. But I have spent time in my village and worked in my father's constituency." Gowal says Heena herself lived in Mumbai till 2014 and

VOTE SHARE (%) IN NANDURBAR



Party	2014	2019
BJP	51.89	49.86
Cong	42.32	42.40
VBA	_	2.01

Source: Election Commission

never worked in the constituency before becoming its MP. Nandurbar is among six Lok

Sabha seats in north Maharashtra that have a distinct identity and set of problems, including a lack of basic amenities such as healthcare, drinking water, and schools. But from one village to the next, the overwhelming demand is for factories and industries.

Addressing a rally in Nandurbar on Friday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said unlike the Congress he "understands the problems of deprived sections". "Adivasis and the poor suffered a lot from lack of access to housing, electricity, and water even after 60 years of Independence. But my government has worked hard to improve their lives," he said.

In March, Congress MP Rahul Gandhi visited Nandurbar during his Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra. "The BJP is taking away Adivasi homes and land and destroying jungles in the name of development to favour big industrialists," he said.

The relocation of projects from Maharashtra to Gujarat is another line of attack against the BJP. Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray recently said, "Unemployment is the main problem confronting the youth today. Why should Maharashtra projects shift to Gujarat?"

However, Chief Minister Eknath Shinde has dismissed the Opposition's accusation, saying, "Maharashtra had inked Rs 3.53 lakh crore projects during the World Economic Forum. The state remains a preferred industryfriendly destination."

In Nandurbar though, with the majority dependent on both states for life and livelihood, the relocation of projects from Maharashtra to Gujarat is discussed in whispers.

At the Navapur railway station along the Maharashtra-Gujarat border, a thick line chalked on the platform marks the boundary that separates Maharashtra and Gujarat, with maps of the two states on display on either side. While the ticket window falls in Maharashtra, the station master's office is in Gujarat. But for the Navapur villagers who live in Maharashtra and search for work in Guiarat, the line dividing the states remains meaningless.

I HEREBY **DECLARE**



ABHISHEK BANERJEE, 36 TMC general secretary and Diamond Harbour MP

TOTAL ASSETS ₹2.33 CR (2024) ₹1.38 CR (2019)

Movable assets ₹2.33 cr Immovable assets Liabilities ₹36 lakh Pending criminal 2 FIRs for **IPC** offences MBA, Indian Education Institute of Planning and Management, New Delhi



ABHIJIT "BOBBY" DAS,54 BJP's Diamond Harbour candidate

TOTAL ASSETS ₹99.18 L (2024) ₹41.53 L (2014)

Movable assets ₹34.18 L Immovable assets ₹65 L Liabilities ₹5.53 L Pending criminal 13 FIRs for **IPC** offences Education MSc. University of Calcutta



PRATIKUR RAHAMAN, 34 CPI(M)'s Diamond Harbour candidate

TOTAL ASSETS ₹8.75 L (2024) ₹1.52 L (2021)

₹8.75 L Movable assets Immovable assets None Liabilities Pending criminal 9 FIRs for **IPC** offences LLB, North Education Orissa University

PLAYERS

On Naveen Patnaik's turf, an ex-aide haunts BJD hopes

SUJIT BISOYI BERHAMPUR (ODISHA), MAY 10

THE LAST time the Berhampur

Lok Sabha constituency in south Odisha drew national attention was in 1996 when former Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao contested the seat. Known to be a Congress

fortress then, Rao had won 62.57%

of the votes to defeat the queen of the erstwhile Khallikote royal family and Janata Dal nominee V Sugnana Kumari Deo. The seat, which falls within

Ganjam, the home district of Odisha Chief Minister and Biju Janata Dal (BJD) supremo Naveen Patnaik, is heading for a highstakes battle on May 13 with expelled BJD leader Pradeep Panigrahy, once a close confidant of Patnaik, now the BJP candidate. Even though the BJD has won

the seat since 2009, Panigrahy's entry into the fray and the BJP's recent rise in the seat has made it a prestige battle for the BJD to retain the seat. Panigrahy, a former three-time MLA from Gopalpur

who also looked after Patnaik's Hinjili Assembly seat for more than a decade, understands the nitty-gritty of Ganjam's politics. To take on Panigrahy, the BJD

too has chosen a turncoat -Bhrugu Baxipatra, who had contested the seat as the BIP nominee in 2019 and finished second. Notwithstanding his "outsider" tag given he is a native of Jeypore in Koraput district, Baxipatra is banking heavily on the BJD's robust organisational strength and Patnaik's popularity in the region.

"Ganjam is CM's home district. People here are emotionally connected to the BJD. There may be resentment for some reasons but, by and large, people are satisfied with the state government," said Sangram Nayak, a local BJD leader from the Chikiti Assembly segment in Berhampur.

Though the state's ruling BJD is playing up the multiple forgery and corruption charges against Panigrahy, dubbing him "antipeople", this line of attack is not catching on with voters.

"Nobody can be 'anti-people' because some party termed him



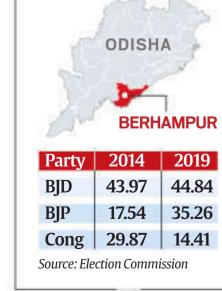
PM Narendra Modi with the BJP's Berhampur candidate Pradeep Panigrahy (second from right) at a rally. PTI

so. I will vote for the BJP because of PM Narendra Modi and his government's work," said Niranjan Patra, who was selling ice-cream near Modi's rally ground in Berhampur on May 6.

Buoyed by its growing vote share over the last Lok Sabha and Assembly polls, the BJP central leadership has been pushing hard to wrest the seat from the BJD. "Whatever votes the BJP got in 2019 in Berhampur is because of the popularity of Modi since Bhrugu was a new face here. There is a strong undercurrent in favour of the BJP," a BJP leader said.

Besides Modi, BJP national president J P Nadda also campaigned for Panigrahy while Union Minister Rajnath Singh had visited the seat in February.

In 2009 and 2014 Lok Sabha polls, the BIP's vote share in



VOTE SHARE (%)

IN BERHAMPŮR

Berhampur was 6.54% and 11.9%, respectively. In 2019, it increased to 35.25%. The BIP also turned the contest here into a bipolar fight in 2019 even though it had finished third in 2009 and 2014. The Congress's vote fell drastically between 2014 and 2019.

In the seven Assembly segments within Berhampur, the BJP has gained considerable ground over the past 10 years. epaper.indianexpress.com

Though the BJP only won the Paralakhemundi segment in the 2019 Assembly polls – with the BJD winning five seats and the Congress one – it recorded an increase in its vote share from single digits in 2014 to above 25% in the Chikiti and Digapahandi segments. While the BJP already has a strong base in the Gopalpur and Mohana segmets, it has improved its presence in urban pockets of the Chhatrapur and Berhampur segmets. In the constituency, voters are

focusing on issues like unemployment leading to large-scale migration, corruption by local BJD leaders and poor infrastructure. "What facilities are you talk-

ing about? (The BJD) was talking about cheap rice, which is also being sent by the Centre. Local BJD leaders are demanding bribes for everything – sanctioning a house under PM Awas Yojana, adding names for the pension scheme and issuing a ration card," said Natha Sahu of Tikarpada.

However, the BIP's weak booth-level organisation may hamper its winning prospects.

Friend who defeated Lalu back in RJD, with a thumbs-up for Misa

SANTOSH SINGH PATNA, MAY 10

HE WAS once the second-incommand of former Bihar Chief Minister Lalu Prasad. Then, having fallen out with him, joined the JD(U) and defeated him in a Lok Sabha poll. Now Ranjan Yadav, 79, is back in the RJD.

Ranjan joined the party on Thursday, calling his return to the RJD a "homecoming'. Afterwards, he met Lalu and said, "The two of us started fighting for social justice together in the 1970s. We are still fighting, not just for social justice but also to

save the Constitution." Ranjan said Lalu's daughter Misa Bharati would win the Patliputra Lok Sabha seat. It is the seat where he defeated Lalu in 2009 and faced Misa in 2014.

After Lalu was jailed in the fodder scam in 1996, he used to be called the "proxy CM". But the two fell out when Lalu chose his wife Rabri Devi as the Bihar CM. Though Ranjan's return to the



Ranjan Yadav (left) joined the RID on Thursday. PTI

RJD may not hold any electoral or political value for the party, it is still big in symbolism in Bihar's competitive caste politics dominated by parties with very similar ideologies that broke off from the Janata Dal of the 1980s. "It shows that Nitish Kumar's

style of politics is on the decline while Lalu continues to remain a key player in the state. Ranjan Yadav's return shows that the RJD is on a path of resurgence under the twin leadership of Lalu and Tejashwi," said a senior RJD leader.



JOINT RALLIES WITH AKHILESH IN KANPUR AND KANNAUJ

INDIA bloc storm is coming in UP, Modi will not be PM, says Rahul: 'Likh ke le lo'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MAY 10

DAYS AFTER Prime Minister Narendra Modi alleged that Rahul Gandhi had stopped taking the names of "Ambani and Adani" since the Lok Sabha elections were notified, the Congress leader on Friday mentioned Adani at least 27 times and Ambani 14 times during a rally in Kanpur and said that by mentioning the names of both the industrialists, the PM has accepted defeat.

Claiming that the alliance of Congress and Samajwadi Party would win no less than 50 of the 80 seats in Uttar Pradesh, Rahul said that Modi would not become Prime Minister after June 4 when the votes will be counted.

Addressing a joint rally with Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav in Kanpur, Rahul said: "I did not stop... Adani-Ambani, Adani-Ambani... and at the end Prime Minister Narendra Modi shivers and mentions the name of Adani-Ambani in public."

"The day the Prime Minister mentioned the names of Adani and Ambani from the stage like this, India's prime minister accepted the defeat. I am telling you, aap likh ke le lo (take it in writing)... Narendra Modi will not be the Prime Minister on June 4, 2024... It's over," he said. In Kannauj from where

Akhilesh is contesting, Rahul said: "In the past 10 years, Modi did not mention Adani and Ambani in thousands of his speeches... When somebody is scared, he takes the name of that person who, as per his belief, can rescue him. For the same reason, Narendra Modi ji took the names of his two friends, appealing to them to come to his rescue."

Referring to PM Modi's charge that *chori ka maal* (loot money) has been delivered to the Congress in tempos, Rahul said: "How does he know that? Why



HAND IN HAND: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav during a rally for the Lok Sabha polls in Kanpur on Friday. PTI

did he not order an ED or CBI inquiry against them?"

"In Uttar Pradesh, the storm of the INDIA bloc is arriving. The biggest defeat of the BIP is going to take place in Uttar Pradesh," he said.

Akhilesh claimed that the BJP has scored low in the first three phases of the election so far. He said that the Agniveer recruitment system will be abolished once they come to power.

Chidambaram attacks PM on Ambani-Adani

Senior Congress leader P Chidambaram said in a post on "X" that PM Modi had made a "very serious allegation" against two prominent industrialists. Chidambaram said that

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's demand for an inquiry by the CBI or ED was absolutely justified. "Why has the Hon'ble Prime Minister (the Minister for CBI) gone quiet in the last 24 hours? Why has the Hon'ble Finance Minister (the Minister for ED) not responded to the demand for an inquiry? Their silence is ominous," Chidambaram posted.

Rahul admits: Cong made mistakes, will need to change its politics

MAULSHREE SETH LUCKNOW, MAY 10

THE CONSTITUTION is helping people to a lesser extent than the country's founding fathers would have expected, and thus, is a success as well as a failure, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said Friday in Lucknow.

He also admitted that some "mistakes" were made by the Congress, adding that his party would have to change its politics in the times to come.

"Congress will also have to change its politics in the times to come. The Congress has also made mistakes," he said.

He also spoke about reservation, the caste system as well as alleged "attacks" on the constitution. Rahul said that the future of a large number of people in the country is decided even before birth. People are put into small segments, which decides for which work they are capable of and which work they cannot do, said Rahul.

"Crores of people of Hindustan have lived this life... where they have not decided their future but instead, society has done it for them. How much capability has been lost in this?" said Rahul, adding that many people stood up to change this, while accepting this reality.

However, Rahul pointed out, those running after power in politics for their entire lives "do not accept this reality, they never accept their own reality nor of others."

Cong wants to make Hindus second-class citizens, says Modi

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA HYDERABAD, MAY 10

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi Friday alleged that the Congress is "anti-Hindu" and its track record is of "loot, appeasement and dynasty politics".

Modi, who addressed election rallies in Hyderabad and Mahabubnagar Lok Sabha constituencies in Telangana, said "those who opposed CAA, UCC and those who talk of 'vote jihad' will be defeated on June 4" when the results of the Lok Sabha polls are declared.

He said the India is now the world's fifth largest economy. "This is the track record of Modi. What is the track record of Congress? It is loot, appeasement, dynasty first, softness on terrorists," he said.

Recalling that bomb blasts used to take place in the country 10 years ago, he said such terror attacks don't take place now. He also recollected the bomb blast at Dilsukhnagar in Hyderabad in 2013. The bomb blasts stopped with the formation of a strong government in Delhi, he said. "But, Congress and INDI al-

liance do not like this. Some forces want to remove Modi for the bloodshed to start again in the country," he alleged. Targeting the Congress on

reservations, Modi termed the national party as "anti-Hindu" and said it knows religion-based reservations are unconstitutional. "Congress wants to make Hindus second-class citizens in their own country," he claimed.

Referring to Rahul Gandhi as 'shehzade' (prince), he said the Congress leader started off with 'mohabbat ki dukaan' which lost steam as elections approached.



PM Narendra Modi at the Bhubaneswar roadshow on Friday

PM holds roadshow in Bhubaneswar, says BJD unaware of grievances

SUJIT BISOYI BHUBANESWAR, MAY 10

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi held a 2.5-km roadshow in Bhubaneswar on Friday night and later targeted the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) government during his sec-

ond visit to Odisha in a week. In a post on X following the roadshow, Modi accused the BJD of detaching from the ground realities, citing it a reason behind growing support for the BIP in Odisha. "While our Government has done extensive work, BJD is totally detached from the ground realities and is oblivious to people's grievances. They have misunderstood the great culture

and ethos of Odisha. No wonder

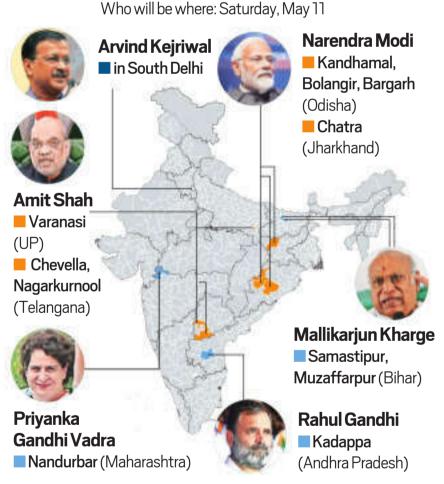
Bhubaneswar and Odisha will support the BJP in record numbers," Modi wrote.

BIP's Bhubaneswar Lok Sabha candidate Aparaiita Sarangi and state unit BJP president Manmohan Samal were present at the roadshow, which drew huge crowds.

The Prime Minister said on X that holding the rally on Akshya Tritiya, a major festival in Odisha, has made his rally all the "more special". He also highlighted his government's contributions for Odisha in various sectors including upgradation of highways, introduction Vande Bharat trains and establishment of nationallevel educational institutions. Modi last visited Odisha on

May 6, when he held two rallies.

THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL Who will be where: Saturday, May 11



BALLOTIN

My own community did not vote for me, cost me seat: BSP candidate

Lucknow: The Bahujan Samaj Party's Firozabad candidate Choudhary Basheer has said that the Muslim community did not vote for him and have lost a "golden chance" for "one of their own" to become their MP. In a video, he is purportedly heard saying that a section of the Muslim community in Firozabad is a slave to a family from Saifai, a reference to Akhilesh Yadav. "I made every effort to engage with the Muslim community. However, members of Firozabad's Muslim community affiliated to SP worked to prevent votes in my favour," he said. **ENS**

'Modi ji rattled... no Pulwama or Balakot, no temple effect... no cakewalk this time'

CONGRESS LEADER ADHIR **RANIAN CHOWDHURY** has been winning from Baharampur in West Bengal's Murshidabad district since 1999. This time, he is facing Trinamool Congress (TMC) candidate and former India cricketer Yusuf Pathan and the BJP's Dr Nirmal Saha. Chowdhury, whose seat votes in the fourth phase on May 13, speaks to RAVIK BHATTACHARYA and ATRI **MITRA** about Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Left-Congress alliance in Bengal, the TMC, and his party's strategy. Excerpts:

What is your assessment

after three phases of polling? The national political scene is changing fast. The diminishing returns of the Modi effect have already set in across the country. Day after day, phase after phase, Modi's fate is being challenged. He cannot say it is a cakewalk this time. Already, Modi *ji* is rattled by the challenge the Opposition has put forth. Nobody can say what is going to happen. There is no Pulwama, no ultra-nationalism, and people's mood is not like it was after Balakot. Ram Mandir, which Modi expected would be a big issue, is having no effect on the ground, even in the Hindi belt.

Across India, Modi's aura, the

BENG



euphoria, and jingoism are withering away.

CHOWDHURY

CONG LEADER

How is your campaign and your alliance with the Left in West Bengal going?

Neither the Congress nor the Left ever indulged in communal or sectarian politics. On this, there was never a fundamental ideological difference between us. Leftist thought exists within Congress ideology, and history

will be surprises waiting for you. **Both Mamata and Abhishek** Banerjee have blamed you for

suggests the two can hold hands.

ranted that we have a pragmatic

alliance. Not a political alliance

per se, but seat adjustment, to

keep ourselves politically rele-

vant and to emerge afresh. So far,

we are progressing well. There

In Bengal, the situation war-

the failure of the INDIA bloc to take off in West Bengal... I have been fighting Mamata

Banerjee's politics of violence which is intended to decimate the Congress in Bengal. For the last couple of years, we have been fighting for our existence. For my party to survive in Bengal, I had to take up cudgels against her. My stand has not changed.

I have just one question for her: What triggered her exit from the INDIA bloc? She had even claimed that she conceived the name INDIA. If Adhir was the trigger, why did she agree to join the alliance in the first place?

What is the Congress strategy in West Bengal?

We are highlighting the miserable failure of the Modi government that is running the country. People are acknowledging and accepting our argument. We are also exploiting anti-incumbency.

But the Congress joined hands with TMC in 2011 to oust the Left in West Bengal?

That was the need of the hour. The CPI(M) of 2011 is the polar opposite of the CPI(M) now. Those so-called *harmads* (miscreants) who were nurtured by the CPI(M), as was alleged by Mamata Banerjee at that time, have now become the damaad (son-in-law) of the TMC.

What do you have to say about your opponent Yusuf Pathan?

Anybody who is entitled to vote and above 24 years of age can fight anywhere in the country. He isn't the issue. My fight is against Mamata Banerjee and the BJP juggernaut.

Are vou confident about getting minority votes?

Minority votes have started to switch over to the Congress and the Left. But, minorities still cast votes strategically. If they think the TMC can win a seat by defeating the BJP, they will give their votes to them. But my gut feeling is that wherever the Congress and Left have any prospect of winning, the entire minority vote could switch over.

Shah in West Bengal's Nadia district on Friday. PTI

RALLYING POINT

Shah rakes up Sandeshkhali, Kharge on PM's

'affinity for M words', Nadda targets INDIA bloc

BJP LEADER AMIT SHAH IN WEST BENGAL

'TMC: TUSHTIKARAN, MAFIA, CORRUPTION'

BJP LEADER and Union Home Minister Amit Shah Friday said "not a single goon of Sandeshkhali" would be spared and alleged that TMC leaders "tortured hundreds of women" there "based on their religion". "We will straighten the goons of Sandeshkhali by hanging them upside down. No one will be spared," Shah said while campaigning for the BJP at Majdia in Ranaghat Lok Sabha constituency in Nadia district.

He alleged that Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee did not catch the culprits of Sandeshkhali due to the politics of "appeasement". "TMC stands for tushtikaran (appeasement), mafia and corruption. Mamata ji, you accord a red carpet welcome to infiltrators because they are your vote bank," the Union Home Minister said. ENS

MALLIKARJUN KHARGE, CONG CHIEF IN TELANGANA 'PM WORRIED AFTER THIRD PHASE OF POLLS'

CONGRESS PRESIDENT Mallikarjun Kharge Friday claimed that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah were worried after three phases of Lok Sabha polls and were thus talking about non-election issues and abusing the Congress.

Referring to the PM's comments that the Congress has stopped talking about 'Adani-Ambani' after the announcement of polls, he said: "(If) money is going in tempo, you are just watching? Money is going from whose house, where is your CBI, where is your Income Tax." He also said that Modi was fond of words starting with 'M' — Mangalsutra, mutton and Mughals. PTI

JPNADDA, BJP CHIEF IN CHANDIGARH

'INDIA BLOC LEADERS IN JAIL OR OUT ON BAIL'

BIP CHIEF I P Nadda Friday called INDIA bloc leaders "an assembly of the corrupt" and "promoters of dynastic politics". He said: "All of them are either in jail or out on bail." Nadda said, "Modi ji says remove corruption. They [opposition] say, save the corrupt and make them flourish." The BJP chief Friday campaigned for party candidates in Ambala and Chandigarh. ENS

ASSET WATCH

With ₹5,705 cr, TDP's Guntur candidate is richest in fray so far

SREENIVAS JANYALA HYDERABAD. MAY 10

Sekhar CHANDRA Pemmasani, 48, the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) candidate for the Guntur Lok Sabha seat in Andhra Pradesh that goes to polls on May 13, is the richest contestant in these polls so far, with his family owning assets worth ₹5,705 crore. Pemmasani is set to make his poll debut in these elections.

A medical doctor who completed his MBBS from the Dr NTR University of Health Sciences in 1999, Pemmasani went to receive an MD in internal medicine

from the Geisinger Medical Centre in Pennsylvania, USA, in 2005. While he is settled abroad, TDP leaders said that he visits his native place "regularly".

Incidentally, in Guntur, Pemmasani replaces another rich candidate of the TDP — Galla Javadev, the MD of Amara Raja Group who had declared assets worth ₹680 crore in 2019 and announced his retirement from politics ahead of the elections.

TDP leader Pattbhi Ram Reddy, seen as close to Pemmasani, claimed that he and his family, hailing from Burripalem village of Tenali, have been supporters of the party for



software for students."

Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani

a long time, and that his father who owned a business in Narasaropet was also a TDP leader. Calling him "a very successful and renowned doctor". the leader said: "Pemmasani has developed a curriculum for students appearing for medical entrance tests in the US and helped in developing some apps and

Pemmasani developed UWorld – an online learning service that helps students prepare for exams like the SAT, MCAT and United States Medical Licensing Examination -- when just 25 and working at Johns Hopkins University. In 2020, he won the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award. Pemmasani remains the CEO of UWorld

well-known for philanthropic activities such as constructing a school and for organising social activities. According to TDP leaders, he first started taking an active interest in political and campaign work during the 2014

In Narasaopet, Pemmasani is As per his affidavit,

elections, and was also involved in 2019. He is also active in the TDP's non-resident Indian cell. "This is the first time he has openly expressed his desire to

contest. He has a clean record and although he has declared crores worth of assets, everything is accounted for, After Galla Jayadev announced that he wants a break from politics, Dr Chandra Shekar started preparing the ground to contest," TDP leader N Vijay Kumar said.

Pemmasani has investments in more than 100 companies and has declared income both in India and the US. He has listed and has one pending FIR against him for IPC offences related to Illegal payments in connection with an election and bribery. Pemmasani's main rival is

Pemmasani also has liabili-

two Mercedes cars. one Tesla

and a Rolls Royce under his mov-

able assets. He also owns land

and property in Hyderabad,

ties amounting to ₹1,038 crore

Tenali and the US.

the YSRCP's Kilari Venkata Rosaiah, who is the sitting party MLA from Ponnur.

In 2019, the TDP's Galla Jaydev defeated the YSRCP's M Venugopal Reddy by a narrow margin of 4,205 votes.

KARNATAKA SEXUAL ABUSE CASES

Third rape case

against Prajwal;

abduction case

four more held in

Emails with blast threats at Ahmedabad schools traced to Pakistan

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE AHMEDABAD, MAY 10

EMAILS THREATENING blasts that at least 36 schools in Ahmedabad received on May 6, a day before the Lok Sabha polls in Gujarat. have been traced to Faisalabad in Pakistan, said Ahmedabad city crime branch officers Friday.

The police said that the threats were issued by a man identifying himself as Tauheed Liagat with an intention to create "fear and panic among the people during elections".

"While the emails were sent from a Russian domain name (mail.ru), investigation so far has revealed that the location from where the mails were sent was from the army cantonment area of Faisalabad in Pakistan. It has been found that the accused puts out anti-India propaganda on social media and operates under different names," said Sharad Singhal, JCP Ahmedabad.

The mass emails, sent to 32 schools in Ahmedabad city and four schools in Ahmedabad rural were termed as "hoax" by the police the same day after searches were conducted by bomb detection and disposal squad, dog squad and Crime Branch teams on the premises of the schools. The mails were also received days after over 100 schools in Delhi-NCR received similar threats from the same Russian domain.

A technical surveillance was then initiated to trace the sender of the email, said the officer. The police added that the accused individual has been assuming different identities on various social media platforms. Liaquat had also assumed another identity as Hamad Javed.

Inter-Services Organisations Act notified: **Defence Ministry**

New Delhi: The Inter-Services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Act has been notified in a gazette and has been enforced with effect from May 10, the Defence Ministry said Friday. The move comes amid the theaterisation plan envisioned by the government.

Under the theaterisation model, the government seeks to integrate the capabilities of the Army, the Air Force and the Navy, and optimally utilise their resources for wars and operations. Act empowers

Commanders-in-Chief and Officers-in-Command of ISOs to exercise control over service personnel, serving under them, for effective maintenance of discipline and administration, without disturbing the unique service conditions of each individual service.

"...the Act will empower the heads of ISOs and pave the way for expeditious disposal of cases, avoid multiple proceedings and will be a step towards greater integration and jointness among the armed forces," it said.

After 18-month gap, Chinese envoy in Delhi: 'Ready to work, turn the page'

SHUBHAJIT ROY NEW DELHI, MAY 10

AFTER A hiatus of 18 months amid the protracted border stand-off since May 2020, China has finally sent an Ambassador, Xu Feihong, who arrived in New Delhi Friday with his wife Tan Yuxiu.

China is ready to work with India to "accommodate" each other's concerns and find a mutually acceptable solution to "specific issues" through dialogue at an early date, Xu said, Xu, 60, who has served as China's Ambassador to Afghanistan and Romania, was appointed the 17th Chinese Ambassador to India by Chinese President Xi Jinping.

Since March 2022, India has a full-time Ambassador in Beijing, Pradeep Kumar Rawat, an experienced China hand.

Xu said he regards his posting in New Delhi as an "honourable mission and a sacred duty" to im-

Xu Feihong, the new Chinese **Ambassador** to India

prove and advance bilateral ties. "I will do my best to deepen understanding and friendship between the two peoples, expand exchanges and cooperation in various fields, and improve and advance the bilateral relationship," Xu told PTI and China's CGTN-TV in a media interaction in Beijing before leaving for New Delhi.

"China is ready to work with India to accommodate each other's concerns, find a mutually acceptable solution to specific issues through dialogue at an early date, and turn the page as soon as possible," Xu said without elaborating further.

He added: "I noted Prime Minister Modi's comments on

the importance of China-India ties, and the Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson responded to that right afterwards."

In his recent interview with Newsweek magazine, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said India's relationship with China is important and significant. "The Chinese side always be-

lieves that China-India ties should not be defined by any single issue or area; the boundary question is not the entirety of the relationship. Speaking at the Indian Council of World Affairs in September 2014, President Xi Jinping said that we must not focus our attention only on differences and forget about our friendship and cooperation," Xu said.

"I look forward to, and I trust that I will have, the support and assistance from the Indian government and friends from all sectors as I work to perform my ambassadorial duties," he said.

"We face multiple global chal-

lenges such as climate change, food and energy crises, weak economic recovery and so on," Xu said. "Closer communication and coordination on global and regional affairs will not only bring opportunities to both countries and the world but also add stability and positivity to international

relations."

In September last year, in a tit-for-tat response signalling a downgrade of the relationship, India had sent Gourangalal Das, Joint Secretary (East Asia), MEA, as chief guest at the Chinese National Day reception – the first in-person gathering since the start of the Covid pandemic and the Chinese incursions in eastern Ladakh in 2020.

Usually, the government sends ministers, holding a Cabinet rank or a Minister of State portfolio, to National Day receptions. With no full-time Ambassador of China to India for 11 months at that time, the National Day reception was hosted by Charge d'Affaires Ma Jia. She had been officiating as the interim envoy ever since Ambassador Sun Weidong left for Beijing in October 2022.

MEA official spokesperson, Randhir Jaiswal, said Thursday: "We have our Ambassador in China, a new Chinese Ambassador is coming here, it's a normal routine... so that the exchanges can be continued."

India and China have had strained ties over the border standoff in eastern Ladakh since May 2020 and the Galwan border clashes in June 2020, in which 20 Indian soldiers, including a Col-rank officer, were killed. Chinese soldiers were also killed in the clashes.

The new Ambassador will have a full plate. Over 20 rounds of military-level talks have taken place, 50-60,000 Indian and Chinese troops remain locked in a border standoff on both sides of the Line of Actual Control.

KARNATAKA BJP LEADER **DEVARAJE HELD OVER** PRAJWAL VIDEO 'LEAK'

A THIRD rape case has registered against against JD(S) MP and Lok Sabha poll candidate from Hassan Prajwal Revanna based on the complaint of a woman who was employed at the home of his father and JD(S) legislator

The third FIR was registered by the Special Investigation Team (SIT) on May 8 after the woman, who was rescued on May 5 from a farmhouse near Mysuru where she was allegedly confined at the behest of HD Revanna and associates, gave a statement about being attacked by Prajwal while she was employed by his family for six years.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

BENGALURU, MAY 10

HD Revanna.

Unlike in two other cases of rape previously registered against the MP, where Prajwal is accused of repeatedly carrying out sexual attacks on his victims (IPC section 376(2)(n)), the third FIR accuses him of commiting rape on a woman while "being in a position of control or dominance" over the woman (IPC section 376(2)(k)).

Prajwal, against whom charges of sexual assault on several women emerged last month following the leak of explicit videos and images through pen drives distributed in Hassan ahead of the April 26 Lok Sabha polls, has been absconding. He is reported to have flown to Europe on April 27.

In the first case registered on April 28, Prajwal and HD Revanna, who is the son of the former prime minister H D Deve Gowda, were accused of sexual harassment of a woman who worked at the Revanna family home in Hassan.

A second case of rape was registered on May 1 on the basis of a complaint by a former zilla panchayat member in Hassan who accused the MP of sexually assaulting her for over three years and recording videos, which he used to threaten and blackmail her.

The SIT has arrested four more persons in connection with the alleged abduction of the woman victim.The four accused — former Yuva Janata Dal president H K Chitradurga: BJP leader and

Advocate G Devaraje Gowda was arrested Friday night in connection with an explicit video allegedly belonging to Hassan JD(S) MP Prajwal Revanna. According to police, Devaraje Gowda was arrested at Gulihal toll gate by the Hiriyur Police in Chitradurga district for leaking the video in a pen drive. He was arrested on a tip-off received by the Hassan Police, which wanted his presence for the case. A case of sexual harassment has been registered against him, on a complaint by a 36-year-old woman from Hassan district, who alleged that he molested her on the pretext of helping her sell her property.

Sujay, Madhu Kappadi, Manu H and a lawyer, Thimmappa – were allegedly involved in the abduction of the victim on April 29 after the cases of sexual assault by the MP emerged, police sources said.

HD Revanna was arrested on May 4 by the SIT in connection with the abduction case. Sources said several others connected to the family of Revanna's wife are under probe in the case. The kidnap complaint was filed on May 2 by the 20-year-old son of a victim.

No CBI probe: CM

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday ruled out the possibility of handing over the investigations into the sex assault cases against Prajwal to the CBI.

In the wake of the Opposition JD(S) seeking the intervention of Governor Thawarchand Gehlot for a CBI takeover of the investiga tions, Siddaramaiah said: "There is no need to hand over the Prajwal Revanna case to the CBI since we have confidence in the state police," Siddaramaiah said on Friday in Mysuru.

Kerala universities shift to four-year **UG** programmes

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM MAY 10

ALL UNIVERSITIES in Kerala will shift to four-year undergraduate programmes in the academic year that starts next month. Arts and science programmes in the state have traditionally been offered in the three-year format, with each university having a different academic calendar. Higher Education Minister R

Bindu said that the curricula of the four-year UG programmes have been designed with a student-oriented approach, giving them more freedom and flexibility in choosing subjects. The four-year programme will make the courses more internationally compatible, she said.

The minister said the programmes will enable students to design their own degree courses after factoring in their academic as well as career interests.

The programme gives students more flexibility in choosing subject combinations. The minister said that under the existing system, a Chemistry student has to mandatorily take Physics and

Thiruvananthapuram: The ruling

CPI(M) in Kerala Friday likened

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan's

foreign trip to God's rest after cre-

ating the universe, drawing a par-

surrounding Vijayan and his fam-

ily's nearly three-week-long for-

eign tour, CPI(M) central commit-

tee member A K Balan said the

Responding to controversies

allel to the Biblical narrative.

CPM justifies Kerala CM's foreign

trip, compares to God's Biblical rest

Maths. Whereas in the four-year **EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** system, the student can choose subjects as wide ranging as Electronics, Literature or Music along with Chemistry. Otherwise, the student can opt for Chemistry just by itself, she said.

> There will be academic counsellors in all colleges to help students choose their programmes in line with their career aspirations. During the course, students can seek inter-university transfer without changing the programme. Bindu said students who complete 133 credits of the course within three years will be awarded UG degree. Those who complete 177 credits of their course by the fourth year, including internship, will be awarded UG honours degree.

> Students will also have the option to complete their degree in two-and-a-half years, given that they secure the credit requirements in that period. This will be known as the 'N-minus-1' system.

> Along with regular college courses, students also have the option of doing online courses for credits that can be used for completing the UG programme. The classes for the four-year UG programmes will begin on July 1.

Chief Minister did not go to space;

he simply took a break in

Indonesia, which he said, is only

60 km away from Indira point in

the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

after creating the universe in six

days... Are you saying that the

Chief Minister can't even do that?"

Balan said, referring to the Old

PTI

Testament of the Bible.

"Even God rested for one day

Uttarakhand Chief Minister

Uttarakhand commenced on Friday with the ceremonial opening of the gates of the Kedarnath Temple.

■The Chardham Yatra in

opened for devotees, Friday. PTI

Over 7.000 devotees witnessed the ceremony, which was attended by Pushkar Singh Dhami.

Uttarakhand Chardham Yatra Begins

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami at the Kedarnath temple after its portals

■The Uttarakhand Chardham includes a journey through the state's major pilgrim centres Kedarnath, Badrinath, Gangotri and Yamunotri.

AFTER MEA REVISES ITS RECENT CIRCULAR

Uncertainty for Goans who took Portuguese citizenship

PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA PANAJI, MAY 10

PEOPLE FROM erstwhile Portuguese territories in India (Goa, Daman and Diu), whose Indian passports had been revoked after acquiring Portuguese citizenship, could be stuck in limbo after the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) revised its recent circular that had been expected to pave the way for them to apply for an Overseas

Citizenship of India (OCI) card. While a passport 'surrender

tory for those who want to apply for OCI, an April 4 office memorandum issued by the MEA had raised hopes that a 'revocation order' – a document the memo said would be mandatorily issued to those whose passports were revoked – would also be accepted as an alternative document.

certificate' has so far been manda-

However, a corrigendum by the MEA dated April 30 has brought uncertainty in the matter. While the MEA had said in the April 4 memorandum that the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has "decided to accept 'revoca-

tion certificate' as an alternative document in lieu of surrender certificate", the April 30 corrigendum said this is only "under consideration" by the MHA.

The revocation of passports has caused considerable anxiety among people in Goa. In the past 18 months, the issue assumed significance in the state after an even earlier MEA memorandum. dated November 30, 2022, instructed authorities to revoke passports (instead of issuing a 'surrender certificate') of people for "suppressing material information" regarding their

Portuguese citizenship.

Passport authorities then stopped issuing surrender certificates to such people, thereby rendering them ineligible to obtain an OCI card.

Portugal offers those born in Goa before December 19, 1961 – the day Goa was liberated from Portuguese rule – and two future generations the option of registering as Portuguese citizens. Since a Portuguese passport provides the holder visa-free entry to several countries, including the UK and the EU, many in Goa in the last few decades have been transcribing their births in the Central Registry in Lisbon and acquiring Portuguese citizenship to avail employment and educa-

tional opportunities overseas. Thomas Fernandes, a resident of Candolim in North Goa, who acquired Portuguese citizenship in 2015 and whose Indian passport was revoked last year, said, "The earlier office memorandum said the production of a revocation order would suffice for OCI card application. As per the orders of the High Court, I shall be re-applying for an OCI within four weeks."

Hemant's plea

over HC's delay

in pronouncing

order on arrest

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

THE SUPREME Court on Friday

disposed of former Jharkhand

Chief Minister Hemant Soren's

plea over the High Court's delay

in pronouncing an order on his

plea challenging arrest as it

noted that the petition has be-

come infructuous because the

A bench of Justices Sanjiv

order has been delivered.

NEW DELHI, MAY 10

Ex-PFI man among 2 held for 2022 BJP leader murder

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE BENGALURU, MAY 10

THE NATIONAL Investigation Agency (NIA) Friday arrested two more people over the July 2022 murder of Karnataka BJP youth wing leader Praveen Nettaru.

One of them was a former office-bearer of the banned Popular Front of India (PFI), Mustafa Paichar, who had been absconding. He was tracked down to

Anemahal village in Karnataka's Hassan and arrested along with Mansoor Pasha, who was harbouring him, the NIA said.

Nettaru, a Yuva Morcha leader, was hacked to death by two motorcycle-borne assailants in Bellare village of Dakshina Kannada district. The NIA, which took over the case in August 2022, said Paichar, the secretary of PFI Puttur district service team, was involved in imparting arms training to PFI cadres in the area to prepare them for "terrorist attacks".

by family of girl he met on Facebook **EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**

JAIPUR, MAY 10

A 17-YEAR-OLD from Bihar, who was preparing for the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) in Rajasthan's Kota, was allegedly beaten to death by the family of a girl he had gone to meet at a village in Nagaur district, police said.

According to police, the boy had befriended the girl, who is also a minor, on Facebook. On

May 8, he reached her village in an attempt to meet her.

Bihar teen beaten to death in Rajasthan

'The student was a resident of Bihar. He reached Nagaur on May 7, and the next day, on May 8, he reached the village to meet the girl. When the girl's family members found out, they thrashed him brutally," Nagaur Superintendent of Police Narayan Togas told The Indian Express.

"They then took the body to the hospital and told doctors that he died in an accident. The doctors did not believe this as the injuries

did not indicate an accident. Police were then informed, and a postmortem report confirmed the

killing," the SP said. Police also said the accused had tried to flee after taking the body to the hospital, but officers arrived in time to apprehend them.

The girl's father, uncle, and an employee of the family have been taken into custody. The boy's family arrived from Bihar and the body has been handed over to them, police said.

also recorded moderate to heavy

rainfall. In Bengaluru and

Hyderabad, a heavy downpour

caused waterlogging in parts of

the city over the last two days.

The Bengaluru airport Met sta-

tion recorded over 70mm rain-

fall leading to diversion of flights.

tists, while a western distur-

bance was behind rainfall in the

According to the IMD scien-

HC seeks Lokpal reply to JMM plea against CBI probe order

MALAVIKA PRASAD NEW DELHI. MAY 10

THE DELHI High Court on Friday sought the Lokpal's stand in Jharkhand Mukti Morcha's (JMM) plea pertaining to the anti-corruption body's order directing the CBI to probe two properties allegedly linked to JMM president Shibu Soren. The HC had in an interim order on April 23 directed the Lokpal "not to take any action" against the JMM till Friday (May 10) and issued a notice to BJP MP Nishikant Dubey, the complainant before the anti-corruption body.

The Lokpal's direction in its March order had come while disposing of a complaint filed on August 5, 2020, by Dubey, who had urged the Lokpal to investigate 57 properties in Ranchi, Dhanbad, Dumka and other places allegedly belonging to Soren.

The JMM had approached the HC challenging a March 4 Lokpal order that directed the CBI to investigate within six months if the two properties mentioned in the CBI's July 1, 2021 preliminary report, "belonged to the public servant or the political party", under The Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act.

Dubey to file his reply to JMM's pe- SC disposes of tition challenging the Lokpal's March 4 order.

The counsel appearing for Dubey submitted on Friday that his client was the complainant before the Lokpal and his role ended as soon as the complaint was filed. He stated that since the Lokpal wears two hats — that of an adjudicator and a prosecutor — it should have been made a party to the petition.

A single judge bench of Justice Subramomium Prasad then asked the JMM to add the Office of the Lokpal of India as party to its petition and thereafter issued notice to the anti-corruption body.

Senior advocate Arunabh Chowdhury, appearing for the JMM, said they will file an amended memo of parties.

Listing the matter on July 30, the HC continued the operation of its April 23 interim order.

During the hearing Justice Prasad orally gueried as to why should the "author of the order be

asked to defend its order". On April 23 the HC had said, "The CBI is directed to give a report in a sealed cover to the Lokpal on

Khanna and Dipankar Datta noted that the appropriate remedy was to challenge the May 3 HC order and said his other petition challenging the same will come up for hearing next week. "It is clarified that all pleas

and contentions can be raised in the SLP filed challenging the HC order of May 3, 2024," the bench said. Soren had approached the SC alleging that the HC was delaying in giving a decision on his petition challenging his arrest.

FURTHER SPELL IN STORE IN EAST, SOUTH, HILL-STATES: IMD

Rain, after scorching heat, brings relief in several states

NIKHIL GHANEKAR NEW DELHI, MAY 10

AFTER SIZZLING temperatures in April and early May, several parts of the country saw moderate to very heavy rainfall Wednesday and Thursday, and more was expected in the next few days, the Meteorological India Department (IMD) said Friday.

The highest rainfall — 130mm was recorded at Sothuparai, in the foothills of the Western Ghats, in Tamil Nadu's Theni district be-



Western disturbance behind rain in northern hill-states. File

tween Thursday and Friday morning, the IMD said. Thrithala in Kerala's Palakkad district recorded 120 mm rainfall while Alur in Rayalaseema, Andhra Pradesh, and Kalaikunda in West Midnapore, West Bengal, received 90 mm rain each.

According to the IMD, 64.5-124.4 of rainfall is s categorised as 'heavy' rain, while 124.5-244.4 mm is 'very heavy' rain.

Uttarakhand, which has seen

raging forest fires in the past weeks, and other hill-states such as Himachal Pradesh and Assam

favourable wind conditions and high moisture incursion from the Bay of Bengal.

northern hill-states, the other areas received rain due to The High Court had earlier asked

or before 30.04.2024. Lokpal of India is directed not to take any action against the Petitioner till the next date of hearing.'

FROM PAGE ONE

Parliament security

the Parliament Security Service. The change was prompted by the security breach on December 13 last year, during which a few people managed to enter the Parliament Hall and open smoke

Now, deliberations are underway to assess whether the CISF can take over the security entirely. "Strength of the Parliament Security Service is anyway thin since, for the last many years, no fresh recruitments have taken place," a source said.

An order issued on May 3 by the Ministry of Home Affairs states: "With the approval of competent authority in MHA, it has been decided to constitute a Joint Survey Team for conducting re-survey of Parliament House Complex to deploy additional CISF personnel for taking over duties of Parliament Security Service."

The It calls upon Ajay Kumar DIG, CISF, to coordinate with other members of the Joint Survey Team and furnish a report "at the earliest."

Kumar heads the sevenmember survey team, which will include a representative each from the Intelligence Bureau, Delhi Police and Parliament Security.

The order also mentions the duties the CISF could be expected to take charge of: Central Pass Issuing Cell (CPIC) for both Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha; regulating access for MPs, VIPs, senior government functionaries, etc; controlling access to lobbies and galleries; issuing temporary passes; regulating movement in the Press Gallery; coordinating with other security agencies; security arrangements during the Presidential addresses; Presidential and vice-presidential elections; and assistance and protection of the Chair.

"These functions are taken care of by the Watch and Ward staff, who are specially trained for handling MPs, visitors and media with respect and dignity," said a source in Parliament House.

Flagging potential issues with the move, PDT Achary, the former Lok Sabha Secretary General, told The Indian Express, "Parliament is not like an airport or any other public sector undertaking, it has MPs coming from all parts of India. Parliament security is a part

of the Lok Sabha Secretariat and its job is to protect the interest of MPs and facilitate things for them. This cannot be performed by any outside security agency. Parliament security service consists of well-trained personnel who cannot be replaced by a security agency that has no experience in dealing with Members of Parliament. It is under the control of the Speaker and if at all there's a need to change the composition of the parliamentary security system, it has to be done under the direction of the Speaker, not by the MHA. It cannot be performed by any ministry."

The Parliament Security Service came into existence with the formation of the Watch and Ward Committee on September 3, 1929, an initiative taken by Vithalbhai Patel, then president of the Central Legislative Assembly. This followed a bomb throwing incident in the Lok Sabha chamber in April 1929 by Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar

The committee works independently under the Lok Sabha Speaker. While a joint secretary (security) looks after the entire Parliament House complex, the director (security) of the Rajya Sabha Secretariat has operational control over the Upper House, and the director of the Lok Sabha secretariat over the lower house. Currently, Parliament Security Service is "solely responsible for management of access control and regulation of people, material and vehicles within the historical and prestigious Parliament House complex".

Its personnel played a key role foiling the December 13, 2001 Parliament attack, during which two of them – Matbar Singh Negi and Jagdish Prasad Yadav – laid down their lives.

An official pointed out that it is important for the Parliament to have a specially trained group that is independent from the executive. "It is essential to ensure that the government of the day does not limit access to Parliament, impose its security on Parliament, or limit Parliament's potential use of the precincts," the official said. Article 98 of the Constitution also mandates each House to have a separate secretariat staff.

Space Dept's commercial arm seeks pvt partners to manufacture its largest rocket

Gaganyaan mission as well.

While the vehicle was ini-

tially used for missions that re-

Earth's orbit or be placed in the

large geosynchronous orbits —

orbits at over 35,000 km where

the satellites can move in syn-

chronisation with the Earth's ro-

tation — the commercial capa-

bility of the vehicle was first

ANONNA DUTT NEW DELHI, MAY 10

NEW SPACE India Ltd (NSIL) the commercial arm of the Department of Space — has called on private players to manufacture its largest launch vehicle, LVM3.

This is the launch vehicle that propelled Chandrayaan-2 and Chandrayaan-3 to the Moon. A human-rated version of the

demonstrated when it was used to deploy multiple satellites in Six injured as

convoy attacked, party blames Cong workers

JJP MLA's

Chandigarh: The convoy of Jannayak Janata Party's sitting MLA and Hisar Lok Sabha candidate Naina Chautala was allegedly attacked by some people at village Roz Khera in district's Uchana leaving six people injured, the party leaders said. Naina was not hurt.

In a video message, JJP leader Naina's younger son Digvijay Chautala claimed that the hooligans had been identified as Congress workers, a charge denied by the grand old party.

Naina's elder son and former Haryana deputy chief minister Dushyant Chautala said his mother was on her way to attend a programme in Uchana, the Assembly segment he represents.

"Some youths who identified themselves as farmer leaders were followed her convoy from Gogaria. In Roz Khera village, they created nuisance. Six of our party workers including two women sustained injuries. Women's clothes were torn and two men have sustained fractures. They also pelted stones at the convoy in which which one vehicle got damaged," Dushyant said.

A JIP leader said: "Naina ji did not sustain any injuries in the attack, but because tension erupted in the area, she left the venue and all of us went to our party's office in Uchana.'

In Chandigarh, Congress leader B B Batra denied that his party's workers were involved in the incident.

HOW CAN THIS ONE MOVE?

TIME TO

GET UP.

CALVIN

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis

CALVIN & HOBBES by Bill Watterson

IS IT A SNOW

CLOSE THE

MARVIN by Tom Armstrong

When your

roommates

are old ...

SCHOOLS?

DAY? DID THEY

THAT'S A

PAWN ...

the low earth orbit. same vehicle will be used for the

Two batches of 36 satellites each were launched using the vehicle in 2022 and 2023 comquired the spacecraft to escape mercially for internet provider OneWeb. The launch mission came to India after disagreements between Russia and the UK-backed company after the war broke out.

Not only did the vehicle deploy multiple satellites for the first time, it did so in different orbits during the missions.

etter 30.06.2025 S.N.: 7. Description of

works: Carrying out Zone works for

period ending 30.06.2025 on Zone

No.7. Officers colony Road no.1 to 7

(Kaliwari) all inclusive at Izatnagar

period ending 30.06.2025 on Zone

No. 9. Bhojipura (Inc.) to Lalkuan

(Ex.). Approx. Value (Rs.): Rs

98,91,536.84 E.M.D Money: (Rs.): Rs

,97,800/- Cost of Tender Forms Rs. NIL

ssue of acceptance letter 30.06.2025

S.N.: 10. Description of works

🔞 NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY E-Tendering Tender Notice

No. 30/2024 Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.) N.E. Railways Izatnagar For and behalf of Approx. Value (Rs.): Rs president of India invites "OPEN" e- 1,85,88,256.58 E.M.D Money: (Rs.): Rs tender through on Line (E-tendering) for 2.43,000/- Cost of Tender Forms Rs. NIL the following work. S.N.: 1. Description | Completion time/period from the date of of works: Carrying out Zone works for issue of acceptance letter 30.06.2025 period ending 30.06.2025 on Zone No.1. S.N.: 8. Description of works MQP to LC No. 250 A (Both In.) Chaupla Carrying out Zone works for period colony, Bareilly city colony, station front ending 30.06.2025 on Zone No. 8 colony at Bareilly city. Approx. Value Kaliwari (Ex.) to New modal colony & (Rs.): Rs. 1,29,51,533.53 E.M.D Money: DSL shed at Izatnagar. Approx. Value (Rs.): Rs. 2,14,800/- Cost of Tender (Rs.): Rs. 1,96,50,213.54 E.M.D Money forms Rs. NIL Completion time/period (Rs.): Rs. 2,48,300/- Cost of Tender from the date of issue of acceptance Forms Rs. NIL Completion time/period etter 30.06.2025 S.N.: 2. Description from the date of issue of acceptance of works: Carrying out Zone works for letter 30.06.2025 S.N.: 9. Description period ending 30.06.2025 on Zone No- of works: Carrying out Zone works for ZN/2 L.C.No.250 A (Ex)) to L.C No.244 B (in) Station Colony, Loco sheds Station Bareilly City. Approx. Value (Rs.): Rs. 1,27,71,566,26 E.M.D Money: (Rs.): Rs. 2,13,900/- Cost of Tender Forms Rs. NIL Completion time/period from the date of issue of acceptance letter 30.06.2025 Completion time/period from the date of S.N.: 3. Description of works: Carrying out Zone works for period ending 30.06.2025 on Zone No. 3. L.C. No. 244B Carrying out Zone works for period to BPR (Both ex.)Loco Colony, station ending 30.06.2025 on Zone No. 10. colony, S.E./ works /P. way/ Sig., Makrandpur (Ex) Ujhayani (Inc) ADEN/Line office/IZN, SMG Line, station Approx. Value (Rs.): Rs colony, CBJ Line plant &colony/IZN. 1,16,45,980.04 E.M.D Money: (Rs.): Rs Approx. Value (Rs.): Rs. 1,36,05,567.11 | 2,08,200/- Cost of Tender Forms Rs. NIL E.M.D Money: (Rs.): Rs. 2.18,000/- Cost | Completion time/period from the date of of Tender Forms Rs. NIL Completion issue of acceptance letter 30.06.2025 time/period from the date of issue of S.N.: 11. Description of works acceptance letter 30.06.2025 S.N.: 4. Carrying out Zone works for period Description of works: Carrying out ending 30.06.2025 on Zone No. 1 Zone works for period ending 30.06.2025 Ujhayani to Kasganj (Ex. Both) on Zone no.4. Divisional Hospital, and Approx. Value (Rs.): Rs. 1,17,67,118.70 nedical colony (north of IVRI road) E.M.D Money: (Rs.): Rs. 2,08,800/- Cost zatnagar. Approx. Value (Rs.): Rs. of Tender Forms Rs. NIL Completion 99.58,797.15 E.M.D Money: (Rs.): Rs. time/period from the date of issue of 1.99,200/- Cost of Tender Forms Rs. NIL acceptance letter 30.06.2025 S.N.: 12 Completion time/period from the date of Description of works: Provision of

ssue of acceptance letter 30.06.2025 Multisports court (Basketball S.N.: 5. Description of works: Carrying Volleyball, Lawn tennis and Hand out Zone works for period ending ball) at Izzatnagar sports stadium 30,06,2025 on Zone no.5 Divisional office, BRI office ete including office Approx. Value (Rs.): Rs. 2,84,70,435.36 E.M.D Money: (Rs.): Rs colony Izatnagar Approx. Value (Rs.): 2,92,400/- Cost of Tender Forms Rs. NIL Rs. 1,17,38,940.54 E.M.D Money: (Rs.) Completion time/period from the date of Rs. 2,08,700/- Cost of Tender Forms Rs. issue of acceptance letter 08 months. 1. NIL Completion time/period from the date of issue of acceptance letter S.No. 1 to 11 On line e-tender can be 30.06.2025 S.N.: 6. Description of submitted up to 15.00 hrs of dated works: Carrying out Zone works for 07.06.2024, 2. S.No. 12 On line eperiod ending 30.06.2025 on Zone tender can be submitted upto 15.00 No.6. Mech. Workshop. Including hrs of dated 31.05.2024. 3. For full

workshop administrative building and details and submission of bid please

store Depot. Izatnagar. Approx. Value see the Indian Railways IREPS

rom the date of issue of acceptance

IT CAN MOVE FORWARD ONE

OR TWO SPACES

AT FIRST, THEN JUST ONE SPACE

FORWARD, IT

DIAGONALLY.

I'VE GOT THE RADIO ON, SO

HOUGHT, YAWYMA

WE'LL HEAR

GET READY

OH MAN, I HOPE

I HOPE I HOPE!

MY BACK

HURTS AND

MY BIG TOE IS

THROBBING!!

(Rs.): Rs. 1,70,24,130.58 E.M.D Money: website www.ireps.gov.in. Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.) (Rs.): Rs. 2,35,100/- Cost of Tender Forms Rs. NIL Completion time/period CPRO/W-67 Do Not Smoke Bidi/Cigarette in train

...IF IT MAKES IT ACROSS THE

BOARD, IT

BECOMES A

QUEEN AND CAN

MOVE ANY

DIRECTION IT WANTS.

IF SCHOOL'S CLOSED, I'LL

THE MATH HOMEWORK I

PORGOT YESTERDAY. IF

SCHOOL'S OPEN, I'M IN

BIG TROUBLE

.... all

they talk

about is

their

health.

HAVE THE WHOLE DAY TO DO

25. SATYA PRAKASH

UTTRAKHANDI

HARI KISHAN

(MECHANIC)

CAN IT MOVE TO A

DIFFERENT GAME WITH

LESS STUPID RULES?

SUDDENLY

EXTREMELY

RELIGIOUS

I FEEL

DIP/SHABDARTH/CLASSIFIED/0054/24-25

INDEPENDENT

ANY DIRECTION

ANOTHER

DEATHBED

CONVERSION

3-11 MINES

MY HIPS AND

KNEES ARE

KILLING ME!!

AGRICULT

16-year-old girl hacked to death by fiance after the girl learned about her

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE BENGALURU, MAY 10

A 16-YEAR-OLD girl who cleared her Class 10 exams on Thursday was hacked to death by a man she was engaged to, in the Somwarpet region of the Kodagu district of Karnataka.

The incident occurred shortly

exam results.

The accused, Onkarappa alias Papu, 32, attacked the girl with a sword and decapitated her before fleeing.

"She was engaged to the accused but after the intervention of child welfare and police officials, the families were con-

vinced against marrying the girl

till she turned 18. The accused had earlier agreed to the decision but on the evening of May 9, he attacked the girl after fighting with her father and mother," a police officer said.

"He dragged the girl approximately 150 metres away from the house and attacked her with a sword," police said in a statement.

GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ELECTION **OFFICER (NORTH WEST)**

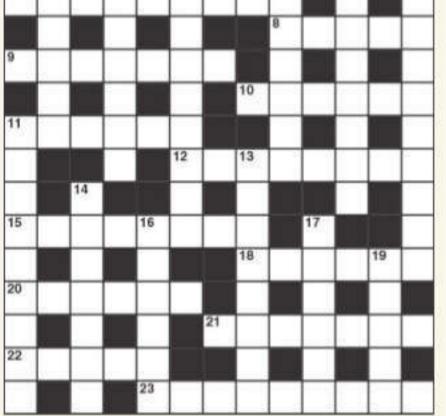
DC OFFICE COMPLEX, KANJHAWALA, DELHI-110081

S.	Name of Candidate	Party	Gover	nment Due	es to Departn	ients dealin	g with	9 GST: Rs. 15,306 VAT etc.: Rs. 11,68,026
No.		affiliation if any	Government Accom modation	Supply of Water	Supply of Electricity	Telephone	Government transport (including Aircrafts and Helicopters)	dues, if any
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	UDIT RAJ	INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	VAT etc.:
2.	YOGENDER CHANDOLIYA	BHARATIYA JANATA PARTY	N/A	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
3.	VIJAY BAUDDH	BAHUJAN SAMAJ PARTY	N/A	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
4.	KM KAJAL	PUBLIC POLITICAL PARTY	N/A	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
5.	ADV. KRUPAL	PRABUDDHA REPUBLICAN PARTY	N/A	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
6.	KHILKHILAKAR	BAHUJAN SHOSHIT SAMAJ SANGHARSH SAMTA PARTY	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
7.	NAND RAM BAGRI	VOTERS PARTY INTERNATION AL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
8.	NARESH KUMAR	RASHTRIYA SAMAJ PAKSHA	N/A	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
9.	POOJA (BHAGTANI)	BHARATIYA JAN JAGRITI PARTY	N/A	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
10.	PRAVEEN GAUTAM	NAVARANG CONGRESS PARTY	N/A	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
11.	PREETI	SAMAN ADHIKAR PARTY	N/A	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
12.	ADVOCATE DR. MAHENDER SINGH CHURIYANA	BAHUJAN DRAVIDA PARTY	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
13.	RAJENDER SOOD	AAM JANSHAKTI PARTY	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
14.	SHYAM BHARTEEY	GAREEB AADMI PARTY	NIL		NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
15.	ADVOCATE SATISH CHANDRA	AMBEDKARIT EPARTY OF INDIA	N/A	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
16.	SUBHASH	ASANKHYA SAMAJ PARTY	N/A	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
17.	SURESH KUMAR	PEOPLES PARTY OF INDIA (DEMOCRATIC)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
18.	SANJAY KUMAR SIWAL	RASHTRIYA JANSHAKTI PARTY (SECULAR)	N/A	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
19.	ADITI	INDEPENDENT	N/A	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
20.		INDEPENDENT	N/A	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
21.	NARESH KUMAR	INDEPENDENT	N/A	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
22.	PARMENDRA MANJHI	INDEPENDENT	N/A	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
23.	PUSHPA NAGRA	INDEPENDENT	N/A	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
24.	PRADEEP KUMAR	INDEPENDENT	N/A	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

(ANKITA ANAND, IAS) RETURNING OFFICER

05- NORTH WEST DELHI (SC), PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY

CROSSWORD 5361



ACROSS 1 Bird catcher's practical joke

(5,4)8 Main area once a disaster (5) **9** Not a good case for alms?

(4,3)10 New models can be seen rarely (6) 11 Summing up saying something further (6)

12 He's smart to order 15 Fool raced around considerably vexed (8) **18** Vigour shown by keener gymnasts (6)

for such a cleaner (6) **21** A hot-rod driver? (7) 22 It's always in poetry that is

strange(5) 23 Protect a worker who is

without sugar (7)

20 There's a natural abhorrence

accused (9)

2 Round hole egg-shaped

3 Offer that is about right although below par (6) 4 Ideas people have even so on a back street (8)

 Questions models?(6) They are steely-eyed (7) I say I'm not affected by hatred(9) For a change a novice has

13 Girl compelled to take a job(8)**14** Where to get tea - with or

16 So accustomed to being in a pickle(6) **17** Prove you are the boss - as Henry VIII did (6)

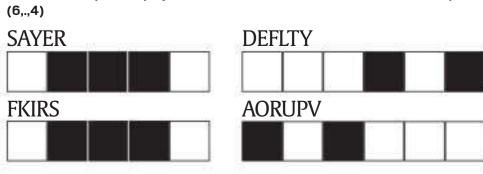
19 Ecologically inexperienced

Solutions Crossword 5360 Across: 1 Incites, 4 Mezzo, 7 Ante, 8 Marginal, 10 Cartoonist, 12 Racket, 13 Ground, 15 Call it a day, 18 Alphabet, 19 Adam, 20 Tenet, 21 Shotgun **Down:** 1 Isaac, 2 Cataract, 3 Spawns, 4 Magistrate, 5 Zany, 6 Obliged, 9 Poles apart, 11 Guide dog, 12 Rampart, 14 Sleeps, 16 Yemen, 17 Spun

JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and

jumble them to get the answer for the given quip. It is in vain to expect our prayers to be heard, if we do not ___ as well as __. - Aesop



as **bray.** - Aesop Answer: It is in vain to expect our prayers to be heard, if we do not strive as well SOLUTION: YEARS, FRISK, DEFTLY, VAPOUR

Difficulty Level 5s Instructions

SUDOKU

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level 1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard;5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius

		5				1		
	7			9			4	
-			8		2			9
	8	7		2		5	1	
	5	3		6		2	7	
3			9		4			1
	1			8			9	
		9				4		

epaper.indianexpress.com

DAY TODAY

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Financial affairs are important, and professional matters could be rising up the ladder of priorities, but it is events in the world with which you have no personal connection which

influence your thoughts. **TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)**

A great philosopher once said that 'in my beginning is my end', suggesting that all future possibilities are

contained within us even before we start. As the Moon plays its part today, it would be worth pondering what sort of future you are creating for yourself.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) Today's emotional Moon takes you right away from materialistic

concerns towards the inner meaning of everything you do. Your spiritual values will help you assess what is worthwhile, and what is not. Only you know what these really are, so your conscience should be vour guide.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) Excellent social stars

urge you to get out and about as much as possible. The best arrangements are those based around joint activities, perhaps with a real purpose. Any sense of achievement will contribute towards a contented day. That's why it's a good idea to press on with the tasks which really matter to you.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23) Recent failures

can be turned into triumphs with extra determination. This is a competitive time which naturally suits all sporting types but, for all of you, the critical decision will be when to leave the starting block. You have about three days at the outside.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

There could be legal matters to sort out, travel plans to arrange, and ethical questions to ponder. In its

essence, though, this is a day for adventure, and it really doesn't matter what you do as long as you stretch yourself. You should also keep a close eye on rising costs.

BY PETER VIDAL

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23) You may benefit immensely from partners' enthusiasm. It's also an excellent day for

pursuing business ventures. Large purchases are suggested, but the key is to be found in Those in the housing market can

other people's involvement. hope for rapid progress. SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23) Partners are sure

to dig their heels in. However, the more certain they appear, the greater their

secret confusion. Therefore, you must be sensitive and sympathetic, and at all costs don't come on like an emotional battering ram you'll only drive people away.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22) Stay active and

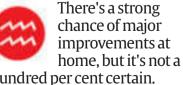
realise that the best relationships are those based on joint interests. In love, pure passion fades, and something needs to

be found to take its place. That is why this is a fine moment to put emotional partnerships on a sounder footing. CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

day for all competitive activities and creative pursuits. It's also a moment to let your hair down and remember that it doesn't matter whether you're young or old. What's important is to be young at heart, and take

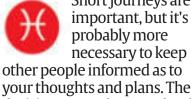
It's a promising

each day as it comes. AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)



hundred per cent certain. What is undeniable is that family relationships lie at the exact centre of everything that vou do. Even people who are a long way away can have an impact on your emotions.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20) Short journeys are



your thoughts and plans. The decisions you take now should be based around practical arrangements - there's no point in keeping your head in the clouds. Educational projects should go well.

WORDLY WISE

THE PRINCIPLE OF GIVE AND TAKE IS THE PRINCIPLE OF DIPLOMACY — GIVE ONE AND TAKE TEN.

— MARK TWAIN

The Indian EXPRESS

∽ FOUNDED BY ∽

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

RIGHT TO CAMPAIGN

SC's grant of bail to Arvind Kejriwal is welcome. It affirms that due process, level playing field, lie at election's core

HE ARREST BY the Enforcement Directorate of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on March 21 — less than a month before voting began for the ongoing general elections — cast a shadow over the largest democratic exercise in the world. It sparked apprehensions about a powerful executive settling scores with its political opponents through investigative agencies under its control in a way that narrows and skews the playing field. On Friday, May 10 — roughly halfway into the election -- the Supreme Court took an important step towards undoing the damage and restoring the impression of fair play. The apex court has granted Kejriwal interim bail until June 1, when voting ends. Of course, the Court could have gone further, and it is regrettable that it didn't — the bail is conditional and limited, he must return to custody on June 2.

Kejriwal was the latest in a slew of prominent leaders — AAP ministers Satyendar Jain and Sanjay Singh, former Delhi Deputy CM Manish Sisodia and BRS leader K Kavitha to be arrested in the Delhi excise policy case. The leaders have been accused and charged under the stringent Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). The Court has made it clear that the grant of bail is not a comment on the guilt or innocence of the accused. At the same time, it has done well to reject the ED's claims — made in an affidavit a day before the SC was to give its judgment — that granting interim bail to the Delhi CM to campaign would create two classes of citizens, and privilege politicians over others. A farmer or businessman, the agency argued, would not get the benefit in similar circumstances, and that the "right to campaign in an election" does not exist. These arguments rightly cut little ice with the court, which pointed out that the context in this case is the general election, "the visa viva to a democracy". And that given that Kejriwal is an elected chief minister and the leader of a national party, a "more holistic and libertarian view is justified". In essence, the Court recognised that an elected official is not just an individual but the people's representative and that participation in the campaign is an inextricable and essential part of a fair election. The ED's affidavit framed an overreach: It is certainly not for the agency to lecture on democracy and rights. The Court did well to snub its attempt to do so and assert its jurisdiction over grant of bail.

The Court's order is significant beyond the current moment. For those playing the game, an electoral victory is often the final end of the democratic process. However, for the democratic system, the rules of the game matter as much, and more. On June 4, there will be winners and losers, but what will endure is the deference by both to that process, which is free and fair and seen to be so too. The SC's grant of bail to Kejriwal upholds its primacy and underlines its credibility, regardless of who wins and who loses.

FLIP FLOP FLIP

Export bans and arbitrary restrictions imposed in response to food inflation hurt both producers and consumers in long term

ORPORATES WANT STABILITY and predictability in government policy. Farmers and agri entrepreneurs also desire it, but are denied the same. The double standards were seen in the May 2022 decision to ban all wheat exports, days after a Union minister spoke of India being ready to feed the world and sending trade delegations to explore new markets for the cereal. More recently, onion exports were, first, in November 2023, not allowed at a floor price below \$800 per tonne and, a month later, stopped altogether. Earlier this month, days before Lok Sabha polls in Maharashtra's main onion-growing belt, the ban was removed. But the shipments are now subject to both a minimum export price of \$550 per tonne plus a 40 per cent duty. Imagine if corporates were to be put through such policy flip-flops. Forget improving the investment climate or ease of doing business, these amount to government-created uncertainty.

The government's defence of export curbs — extended to non-basmati rice, sugar and even de-oiled rice bran, a livestock feed ingredient — is that they are aimed at controlling food inflation and protecting consumers. This argument, however, ignores the interests of producers, who are mostly farmers with limited lobbying power, except during election time. A Rs 5/kg increase in onion prices may stretch the monthly budget of an average household consuming 5-6 kg by Rs 25-30. But for a grower harvesting 10 tonnes of the bulb per acre, a Rs 5/kg price reduction translates into a revenue loss of Rs 50,000. What is an inflation problem for the consumer is a livelihood issue for the farmer. The latter also does not have the flexibility to switch crops like the former can, by buying less of one and more of another item.

India's agricultural exports, as an analysis in this newspaper has shown, fell to \$48.8 billion in 2023-24 from the record \$53.2 billion of the previous fiscal. Much of this decline has been a fallout of the export bans and restrictions imposed in response to food inflation and domestic shortfall concerns. The country needs a new export-import policy balancing the interests of consumers and producers as well as the short- and long-term imperatives of the farm sector. Controls, even where necessary, should be temporary and rulesbased, taking the form of tariffs as opposed to outright bans or quantitative restrictions. The government can also create a buffer stock of all essential commodities to enable market intervention and curb excess price volatility. Ultimately, it needs to realise that building export markets takes time and effort, while undoing that requires just a stroke of the pen. Also, nothing hurts consumers more in the long term than hurting producers.

APE FOR OIL

Malaysia is hoping to rid palm oil of unsustainability tag through 'orangutan diplomacy'. There is an irony here

NIMALS CAN MAKE for great PR. Just as once upon a time, a dog, horse or ermine in a royal portrait could communicate a monarch's qualities (fidelity, power and purity, respectively), in the modern era, animals are used by nations to signal commitment to certain values. For decades, China used the giant panda to make diplomatic overtures and thaw cooler-than-ideal relations with other nations. Now, inspired by the success of China's "panda diplomacy" — few, after all, can resist the cuddly black-and-white bear — Malaysia's commodities minister Johari Abdul Ghani has said that orangutans will be gifted to trade partners who buy the country's palm oil. This, he believes, could be a way for Malaysia to distance itself from accusations of unsustainability made against palm oil plantations.

History, however, shows that even the most exotic or beautiful of animals can't make up for everything. Last year, for example, amid diplomatic tensions between the US and China over a range of issues, reports began circulating of pandas in American zoos being in poor health, leading to a high-octane campaign in China for the return of Ya Ya the panda from Memphis Zoo. Further back in history is the example of Soliman the elephant, given as a wedding gift by King John III of Portugal to Archduke Maximilian of Austria in 1551. The pachyderm's arrival in Vienna reportedly led to a strain in the latter's marriage as not only did Soliman steal the spotlight during the royal couple's honeymoon, the Archduke himself paid more attention to the latest addition in his menagerie than to his new bride.

The only one of the great apes in Asia, the orangutan is an endangered species that is found only in the tropical forests of Borneo (Malaysia and Indonesia) and Sumatra (Indonesia). For Malaysia, facing pressure from environmental groups due to the deforestation caused by expanding palm oil plantations, its diplomatic gift may be laden with far more irony than intended.

The owner's corner



IPL owners need to stay in it. They must understand they can't undermine the stars who get fans to stadiums

SANDEEP DWIVEDI

TWO SEASONED FORMER international cricketers and commentators of repute – former South African captain Graeme Smith and New Zealand all-rounder Scott Styris didn't sound too happy with what they were seeing. Lucknow Super Giants captain KL Rahul, still in his sweat-soaked jersey, stood fidgeting with his helmet strap, nervously listening to his highly-agitated team owner Sanjiv Goenka.

LSG had just suffered a 10-wicket loss to SunRisers Hyderabad, a result that could cost them a play-off place and Goenka didn't seem to be extending his polite commiserations to his captain, one of world cricket's brightest stars and someone earmarked as a potential leader by BCCI.

Goenka, the billionaire chairman of RPSG Group, who paid a record Rs 7,090 crores to own the IPL franchise, kept waving his hands wildly. Rahul, meanwhile, would make a feeble attempt to reply, but would get cut off. He gave up, dropped his head and stared at the helmet in his hands.

These were disturbing frames. Smith, on air, said that such conversations should be held behind closed doors and not in a stadium with multiple cameras. Styris said Rahul had done well to keep his cool. These are not lilylivered experts, they have seen the world.

Within hours, a million fingers would type their outrage and angst on social media. Coaches ticking off the team on the field of play, rivals carrying their fights beyond the boundary line, from the Little Leagues to IPL — these were within tolerable limits. But a non-cricketer owner lecturing an Indian cricketing star was a transgression worthy

of a send-off. Cricket isn't used to such visuals. But the ongoing edition of the world's fastest growing sports league has seen new lows. Conventions have been flouted and decorum has been ditched. Some lines have been crossed and others have been blurred.

Days before Goenka got his primary school principal behaviour to the cricket field, another high-profile owner was targeted by fans for his stadium behaviour. Delhi Capitals' co-owner Parth Jindal played the stereotyp-

tioning the umpire about a contentious catch on the boundary line towards the end of a thrilling game at Kotla. Once again, it didn't look right. DC's social media team would later put out a video of Jindal shaking hands with Samson, congratulating him on his selection for the World T20 team. The damage control done afterwards was too little, too late. IPL owners need to understand that they can't undermine the stars who get fans to the

ical angry Delhi fan when Rajasthan Royals

skipper Sanju Samson seemed to be ques-

stadium and give them the rare opportunity to sneak into the stadium-sized spotlight, with the world's eyes on them. They own teams, not team members. The owners might be captains of indus-

try and corporate giants but in the sporting arena, especially for the fans, they are extras with a few lines. For years, cricketers have been the icons of this nation; they can't be pushed around in full public view in a stadium full of their fans.

It is the IPL's obnoxious auction process that gives owners a false sense of proprietary rights over the players. For most, cricket is one of their many corporate acquisitions and part of their business diversification strategy. That's why an IPL team gets treated like a commercial unit with cricketers as employees on their payrolls. But sport isn't governed by rules taught in business schools and it is not an investment that gives regular annual dividends. And a captain can't be treated like a fumbling floor manager.

The IPL broadcasters too need to understand this "first rule". In this season of infringements and infighting, they too have breached an important protocol. They too took the players-turned-commentators, many of them stalwarts of the game, for granted. Last week Star Sports faced allegations of playing former players and a current star against each other. Ironically, this too happened live on television. Once again, it was a case of a cricketing great being sold down the river.

It all started with commentators being critical of Virat Kohli's low strike rate against spinners. This perturbed Kohli who questioned the credentials of the now-retired legends of cricket commenting on his game. "I am not quite sure if you've been in that situation yourself to sit and speak about the game from a box. I don't really think it's the same thing," Kohli said.

Kohli's caustic comments were gold for Star Sports, which kept playing them on loop. They seemed to be missing the crucial point that Kohli was being critical of their own commentators. Gavaskar, not one to miss a chance, vented his angst at Stars Sports in a preview show before the Kohli game. Ironically, it was live on Star Sports: "Star Sports needs to understand they've shown it enough times. Everybody got the message. I'll be very disappointed if Star Sports shows it once more. That'll be questioning all of us commentators, not just these two (Matthew Hayden and Gavaskar), those in the box, those earlier on. You're questioning their knowledge, their expertise," he said.

T20 cricket aspires to go global by breaking into the American pro-sports market, and has already been included in the Olympics. But with such lofty ambitions, it cannot possibly continue with these petty, amateurish antics undermining its biggest cricketers, and relaying the catfights of its flagship event around the world. T20 has enough on-field drama, it does-

n't need storylines suited for reality TV playing on the sidelines. The popcorn is sold to spectators in the bleachers, it's not meant to be munched on by cackling broadcasters, sabotaging their own commentators who may be critical of a cricketing metric like strike rate.

At just 17, IPL is a juvenile compared to the far more evolved and grander sporting leagues around the world, where global sports stars play for far richer owners. Cricket in India can take cues from football in Europe and basketball in the US. There, owners respect the sanctity of the team dugout and have the patience to delay difficult conversations to a time when the cameras aren't on them. With time, IPL will evolve, but a pushback from players can send the owners back to their corner for good.

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Blurring The Line

It is the IPL's obnoxious

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business diversification

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'Baby Reindeer' forces us to ask if an abuser can be a victim

Adya Goyal

IF YOU'VE WATCHED the Netflix series Baby Reindeer, chances are, the words "sent from my iPhone" haunt you. The seven-part autofiction thriller-drama tells the story of Donny Dunn, a bartender trying to make it as a comedian, and his chance encounter with a lonely woman, Martha Scott (Jessica Gunning), that turns into an obsession — for her. Through the course of the show, she stalks him, showing up at his place of work, disrupting his gig, attacking his partner, and threatening his parents. She sends him hundreds of hours worth of voice messages and a total of 41,000 emails. Yet, she is not the most disturbing part of Dunn's life.

As we later learn, a younger Dunn was previously assaulted by an older writer, Darrien (whose real identity remains unknown). It is a dark, twisted narrative that depicts, accurately, survivor guilt and blame. But what it doesn't necessarily do, is allow us to feel sorry for the victim — at least, not entirely.

British comedian Richard Gadd, playing Dunn, is the writer of the show and the survivor. His play by the same name debuted at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in August 2019 and later moved to the Bush Theatre in London for a five-week run. Similar to the approach taken by Australian comedian Hannah Gadsby in her Netflix special Nanette, while performing, be it on stage or on camera, Gadd is both the art and the artist. Both comedians, who have suffered abuse and/or hate, turn their trauma into art.

Instead of laughter, audiences at both shows were privy to some of the most devas-

INDIAN EXPRESS

The repercussions of this abuse manifest themselves in his 'confusion' over his sexual identity, anxiety, need for validation and worst of all, in his seeking out Darrien. The story with Martha begins similarly. She recognises the 'deer in the headlights' within him instantly (as Gadd himself admits) and goes on to exploit it. The power dynamic in that relationship operated not within the gendered framework of him as 'man' and her as 'woman'.

tating details of these comedians' lives. While Gadsby's special focuses on her experiences of discrimination as a queer person; Gadd describes his sexual assault. However, through Baby Reindeer, Gadd really did end up controlling his own narrative.

Many works of art, be it films, books or paintings, are the result of survivors and victims making sense of their trauma through another medium. For instance, Italian painter Artemisia Gentileschi — who was raped by her famous painter father's friend Agostino Tassi — explores her trauma through paintings that are far more visceral depictions of scenes from the Bible and other mythologies than their usual representation (for instance, Judith Beheading Holofernes, now at the Uffizi Gallery in Florence). French writer Vanessa Springora's 2021 Consent: A Memoir details how she was groomed from the ages of 14 to 16 years by writer Gabriel Matzneff when he was more than three times her age. Director Jennifer Fox's *The Tale* (2018) is her way of reckoning with her sexual abuse by her running coach and two-time Olympic medallist Ted Nash when she was 13.

In all the examples above, there is a clear "victim" and a clear "perpetrator" — as is in the case of Gadd's harrowing assault by Darrien. But even as Gadd unflinchingly portrays Darrien's abuse, there is a marked sense of hesitation in labelling Martha as his "abuser". And by simultaneously narrating two stories, Gadd complicates the binary between the "perpetrator" and the "survivor".

The repercussions of this abuse manifest

themselves in his "confusion" over his sexual identity, anxiety, need for validation and worst of all, in his seeking out Darrien. As the audience, one can't help but flinch over these decisions by the protagonist.

The story with Martha begins similarly. She recognises the "deer in the headlights" within him instantly (as Gadd himself admits) and goes on to exploit it. The power dynamic in that relationship operated not within the gendered framework of him as "man" and her as "woman". Rather, it was dictated by his traumatic assault by a 50-yearold writer who promised him fame but instead, left him vulnerable to a seemingly gentle, middle-aged woman.

In a 2019 interview with *The Guardian*, Gadd said, "It would be unfair to say she was an awful person and I was a victim... That didn't feel true." To The Independent, he said, "I can't emphasise enough how much of a victim she is in all this." He sincerely believes her to be a subject of the "system".

And herein lies the survivor's dilemma a Stockholm syndrome of sorts, where the victim begins to not only understand the actions or the motives of the abuser but is also able to sympathise with them. Societal pressures force victims to make up their minds one way or another — but as Gadd showed us, it is not as black-and-white for those who have suffered severe trauma. There can be no "rational" response to an experience that was unconscionable to begin with.

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May 11, 1984, Forty Years Ago

SIKH LEADER SHOT FORMER AKAL TAKHT chief Giani Pratap

Singh was assassinated at Amritsar, two violent Nihangs were killed and another two were captured near Abohar in Ferozepur district as authorities claimed success in nabbing two more alleged terrorists besides recovering arms and ammunition. Giani Pratap Singh, who held the highest temporal seat of the Sikhs in the '60s, was shot dead by three young boys who were regular visitors to his home.

USSR'S PEACE PLEDGE SOVIET PRESIDENT KONSTANTIN Chernenko

pledged not to use nuclear weapons against countries which have renounced the production and acquisition of such weapons and do not have them on their territory. At a dinner hosted in honour of the visiting King of Spain, Juan Carlos, Chernenko expressed the Soviet Union's conviction that observance of peaceful relations between nuclear powers and a firm commitment to giving up the first strike option would help strengthen peace.

NATIONAL FILM AWARDS

THE NATIONAL FILM scene has now been made truly national with the selection of Adi Shankaracharya — the first-ever feature film in Sanskrit — as the best feature film of 1983 by the 31st National Film Festival jury. Om Puri has been adjudged best actor for Ardh Satya. Actress Shabana Azmi has bagged the best actress award for the second time for Khandar.

INDIA-US TALKS

WHILE NO DRAMATIC developments are expected during US Vice President George Bush's visit, his talks with PM Indira Gandhi will be wide-ranging, covering bilateral relations and issues of regional and global concern. The Prime Minister is certain to raise several issues concerning Washington's policies in South Asia, particularly regarding Pakistan.

- THE WASHINGTON POST

THE IDEAS PAGE

A hollowed out protest

Galgotias students' unawareness speaks of a system that peddles buzzwords, discourages them from speaking up against power



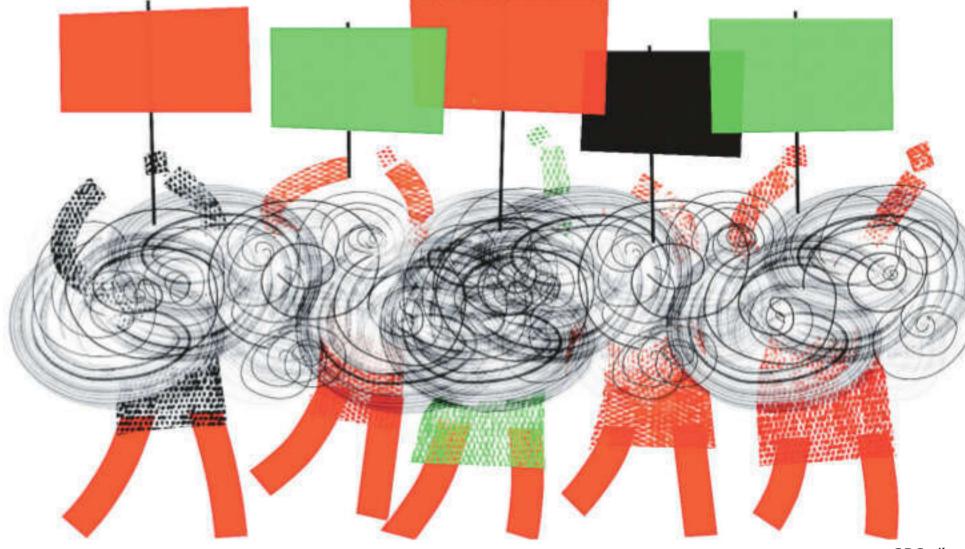
Sanjay Srivastava

A PRIVATE UNIVERSITY in Uttar Pradesh has attracted what seems like unwelcome publicity across traditional and social media. A group of students from Galgotias University in Greater Noida was recently interviewed at a protest march. They carried posters and chanted slogans that criticised past and future policies of the Congress party. The party's election manifesto was a particular target, with students displaying placards that claimed that Congress would seek votes through false promises and redistribute wealth. These reflect recent comments by Prime Minister Narendra Modi who was more specific in his comments that, were the Congress to be elected to power, wealth would move from one religious community to another. Students also carried posters with hammer and sickle images that decried "urban naxals".

The point of the media outrage over the event was that, when asked by a TV news reporter about the issues that the students claimed to be concerned about (including inheritance tax, "urban naxals" and the Congress manifesto), the protestors seemed largely clueless. They provided confused answers about what it is they were protesting about and it seemed unlikely that anyone present had actually seen the Congress manifesto, let alone read it. It was, as if, they had been handed some banners and told to look appropriately agitated. Unfortunately for them, however, they encountered an alert news reporter who decided to ask some (not very difficult) questions.

Public anger over the protestors' lack of knowledge about matters of public and private interest about which they were ostensibly protesting is entirely justified. However, this is not an episode that is necessarily about the end of critical thinking and public awareness at one particular institution whose students were found to be particularly ill-informed. The lack of meaningful engagement with (and knowledge of) critical issues that shape public and private life and affect it is part of some broader trends. And, it affects many different kinds off educational contexts, both "elite" and those where students might be first generation university goers whose primary aim is to secure gainful employment rather seek a "broadening" of horizons of thought.

It is important to note that a few days after the apparent public relations disaster, Galgotias University published full-page newspaper advertisements outlining its achievements and special character as an educational institution. The centrepiece of the advertisement was a photo of students staring at computer screens inside a wellscrubbed "laboratory" and the tagline "Galgotia's Active Learning Ecosystem". The surrounding text consists of phrases such as "Living Teach Less Learn More Pedagogy", "Cultivating Job Creators over Job Seekers", "Highly Experiential" and "Embraces



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C R Sasikumar

Technological Advancements".

There is also information about the different ranking systems in which the university has excelled. It is "Top 50 in India in Innovation", "Amongst #91 in India (Management Category)", "Top 3rd...for Filling Maximum Patents" and "By NIRF Ranking 2023". The logo of the Ministry of Education, Government of India, is included among others that are displayed.

The manner in which the advertisement seeks to counter any adverse publicity regarding the bleak level of its students' public awareness of current affairs and their actual interest in it is notable. It does this through a series of technocratic slogans or banners that, upon further inquiry, may be just as empty of content as the ones raised by the protestors. Bannerism is an important aspect of what now passes as a method of imparting learning skills as well as avenue for acquiring "advanced thinking". The most critical task of those who administer education is to reflect on combining education's long-term goals of producing inquiring minds with the concurrent need for producing employable graduates. Bannerism, on the other hand, substitutes this for a series of techno-jargons whose key effects are to make educational administrators look "smart" and produce unemployable graduates. Bannerism lies at the heart of the lack of knowledge displayed by the student protestors. It is something that is part of an unfolding educational strategy employed by many educational institutions.

There is a second aspect to bannerism that relates to the administrative sleight of hand where "critical thought" is reduced to a form of aesthetic activity. Here, the banners and slogans might be about "openness" and "spirit of inquiry". However, this form of bannerism translates these ideas as an inclination towards the ability to make different lifestyle choices. One might like butter chicken but should not be close-minded towards trying out a ham and pineapple pizza. Consider, for example, the statement by, Sanjeev Bikhchandani, one of the founders of Ashoka University, an institution whose reputation is built upon its "liberal arts" focus.

Ashoka's faculty published a paper that suggested electoral manipulation by the BJP, Bhikchandani spoke against faculty and staff protests that sought to foreground the importance of scholarly autonomy and independent research. "Ashoka," he noted "is merely a liberal arts and sciences university. It values openness and a spirit of inquiry. It must guard against becoming an ideological ghetto and therefore not very open." The statements by Bhikchandani are also

a form of bannerism, one that lies at a different spectrum than that in the context of Galgotias University but shares something with it. This form of bannerism consists in being vocal about "fundamental" human values and simultaneously suggesting that "openness and a spirit of inquiry" do not mean a questioning of structures of power or exploring processes of change. Rather, it is about an "openness" of style and a "spirit of inquiry" that is disassociated from inquiring about why is it that things are the way they are and, instead, simply concerned with describing the world as consisting of many different things. It is an aesthetic mode of liberalism, one where everything has a purpose and where we should primarily delight in recognising this "wonderful" diversity of the world. Speaking up against existing structures of power — in order to think of a more equitable world, for example — are not part of this tradition of "openness" and "spirit of inquiry".

In the wake of a controversy where one of

It is these forms of bannersim that might explain the ways in which those we might expect to have a nuanced understanding of social and political life — "university people" deal with issues of public importance. There are ways in which, at the current time, those who oversee different kinds of universities — the "technological" and the "arts and humanities" focussed — might subscribe to a very similar way of thinking about the world, one produced through bannerism.

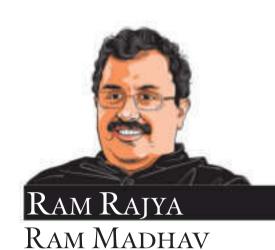
The writer is British Academy Global Professor, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, SOAS University of London

At ease with diversity

"Mr Trump's reelection is the kind of nightmare scenario any responsible politician would go to great lengths to prevent. But there have to be limits. The only thing worse than playing Machiavelli for a good cause is playing Machiavelli

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

PMEAC report on population indicates that all communities are close to a healthy growth mark, unlike demographic patterns elsewhere



for a good cause and losing."

EVA VLAARDINGERBROEK, A young conservative political activist from the

Netherlands, has become famous after YouTube decided to pull down a video of her speech at a recent Conservative Political Action Conference in Budapest. YouTube described the video as "hate speech". In the speech, that secured more than 50 million views on Twitter, Eva asserted, supported by data, that Europeans are becoming a minority in Europe. The Great Replacement Theory is no longer just a theory, she argued, "but a reality". "Let's take Amsterdam, the capital. It currently consists of 56 per cent migrants, The Hague has 58 per cent migrants and Rotterdam has almost 60 per cent migrants. Of course, most of these immigrants come from non-Christian, Non-Western African and Middle Eastern countries. The Dutch population is already outnumbered in the majority of our cities", Vlaardingerbroek states. She adds that London has 54 per cent migrants and Brussels has 70 per cent migrants.

Vlaardingerbroek's reference to the socalled "Great Replacement Theory" is interesting. First talked about in the late 19th century, it argued that Jews and some Western elites were conspiring to replace white Americans and Europeans with people of non-European descent, particularly Asians and Africans. In France, Renaud Camus formally codified this theory through a book in 2011 Le Grand Remplacement. Surveys show that around 60 per cent of the French believed some aspects of this theory while not less than a third of Americans and Europeans also do so. A recent study by three members of the

PM-Economic Advisory Council in India, Shamika Ravi, Abraham Jose and Apurv Mishra, "Share of Religious Minorities – A Cross-Country Analysis," confirms this trend about the radically changing demographics of the OECD countries. Drawing data points from 1950 to 2015, a three-generation period of 65 years, this study concludes that of the 35 out of the 38 OECD countries or the "developed world" it analysed, 30 countries have witnessed a steep decline in the share of the majority religious denomination – Roman Catholics in this case. The study covers 167 countries — by far the most exhaustive, although basic — and finds that the average reduction of majority populations globally during the period was 22 per cent. However, it also shows that the decline was much steeper in the OECD countries where the average decline of the majority religious population was at 29 per cent. Data about Africa too is revealing. Animism or native religion was the dominant religion in 24 countries in Africa in 1950. By 2015, it was no longer a majority in any of these.

It is in this background that the study looks at the data sets available about India too. "In

keeping with the global trends of declining majority, India too has witnessed a reduction in the share of the majority religious denomination by 7.81 per cent," it states. The authors hypothesise that the increase in the population of minorities could be a "good proxy" for arriving at the conclusion that they were "flourishing" in the given country. In India's context, a 7.81 per cent increase in the populations of Muslims, Christians, Sikhs and Buddhists (Parsis and Jains saw a decline) indicated that contrary to the propaganda, especially in the Western media, the minorities enjoy relative comfort in the country.

The authors end the report by stating that "contrary to the noise in several quarters, careful analysis of the data shows that minorities are not just protected but indeed thriving in India. This is particularly remarkable given the wider context within the South Asian neighbourhood where the share of the majority religious denomination has increased and minority populations have shrunk alarmingly across countries like Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bhutan and Afghanistan. India's performance suggests that there is a conducive environment to foster diversity in society. It is not possible to promote better life outcomes for the disadvantaged sections of society without providing a nurturing environment and societal support through a bottom-up approach"

Data is a double-edged weapon. It can often be deceptive too. One could see that in the media and social media debates following the publication of the study in India. Rather than understanding the purpose of the study to negate the propaganda about the status of minorities in India, the debate largely shifted to the growing numbers of the minorities and dangers to the majority community thereof.

A comprehensive study about the growing minority population in India, "Religious Demography of India", was published by J K Bajaj, M D Srinivas and A P Joshi in 2003. Going down to the district level, that nearexhaustive study warned of the unbalanced growth of minority populations in the country. It triggered a widespread debate along similar lines at that time too.

However, new data also reveals that population growth rates in India are gradually coming closer to the healthy growth mark. Total Fertility Rate (TFR) data (number of births a woman gives in her lifetime), a credible indicator to project population growth, shows that in India, against the preferred TFR of 2.19, the national average is hovering around 2. It is a decline from 2.2 in 2015 and 3.4 in 1991. This decline, according to the National Family Health Survey data, is across all religious groups. Between 1991 and 2015, this decline for Hindus was from 3.3 to 2.1, while that of Muslims was from 4.4 to 2.6. Today, the figures for Hindus and Muslims have further declined to 1.9 and 2.4 respectively.

If the trend continues, India is expected to see healthy population patterns in the coming decades. PMEAC's conclusions in a way indicate the same thing that minorities enjoy all benefits and lead a comfortable life in India, while demographic changes in the whole world continue to be a matter of concern.

> The writer, president, India Foundation, is with the RSS



His own light

Rashid Khan's music was a healing and illuminating force

OOPALEE OPERAJITA

CLASSICAL INDIAN MUSIC has lost one of its greats. Ustad Rashid Khan (1968-2024), of the Rampur-Sahaswan gharana, was only 55 when he was snatched away from us on January 9 this year, succumbing to prostate cancer. He had at least 20 years of singing ahead of him. His passing reminds me of the premature loss of genius Carnatic instrumentalist Mandolin Srinivas at 47; of the great G N Balasubramaniam; and, earlier, of Amir Khan, Nikhil Banerjee, and D V Paluskar.

Rashid burst on the scene after an apprenticeship in Kolkata. His gurus were his maternal uncle. Ustad Nisar Hussain Khan. and Ustad Ghulam Mustafa Khan of the Rampur-Sahaswan gharana, founded by Ustad Inayat Hussain Khan, his great grandfather. As in the manner of all great artistes, Rashid achieved a style which was his own quite early on.

Our sense of loss is compounded by what might have been — for classical Indian musicians are at their peak in their 50s and 60s; and some perform, with vigour, well into their 70s and 80s. I valorise listening to musicians in their later years: There is no substitute for the depth accruing from the rich and varied experiences of life which impacts your art.

I first heard Rashid Khan in the late 1980s in Kolkata. I was in the city to perform at Kala Mandir, and he was featured elsewhere. I made it a point to travel across the city to listen to him, a young singer holding

out a rare promise. His rise was meteoric. In an age when trite music goes "viral"

and, for the most part, the cult of the impermanent permeates our lives — Rashid was heard quizzing a journalist: "Yeh going viral kya hota hai? (What does this 'going viral' mean)?" Again: In climes in which the hideously lightweight and fleeting is prized. the grandeur, depth, and mellifluousness of Rashid's music was both a benchmark and a beacon.

In classical dance and music, and in multiple art forms, there are no shortcuts to diligent and regular study. Once you have been through the rigours of intensive training, the music and dance simply flow, even as you continue learning — and, indeed, must. Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra taught me Odissi for 12 consecutive years, but I stayed with him for 30 years, always learning, training, and being enriched; as well as performing with him across the world.

Rashid's voice was one of his most prized natural assets — it was sonorous, vigorous, and deep, yet memorably pleasing and silken. In its timbre, it sounds very much like another favourite singer of mine, Ustad Amir Khan. The popular lexicon of Hindustani music will likely categorise this as dard (a yearning, where pleasure and pain are conflated) — it is similar to what the great pianist Dinu Lipati possessed: Critics called it *el duende* or the holy spirit. Dard to my mind, also symbolises the simultaneous holding of — in your voice, music, and art — the delight, mystery, and angst of existence. In absorbing art, as one critic noted: "We are carried out beyond ourselves to find ourselves."

Rashid's music does precisely that for us: It is transformative and expansive. His aalap and vilambit khayal showed him up as the master he was. When you listen to him sing Bageshri, or Bhimpalasi, the shared ecstasy ultimately leads to a heightened sense of being. All great art effortlessly effects such a transformation.

Today, some musicians use music to divide, and disrupt — through the artifices of vociferation, and feeble impertinences. Rashid Khan's music was — as all great music is — a healing, cohesive, and illuminating force. In a memorable jugalbandi in Bengaluru, Rashid sang the popular Kannada song by the seer Vyasaraya (1450-1539) Krishna nee begane baro — urging the child Krishna to swiftly appear — in the *raga* Kalyani/Yaman Kalyan. As I listened to Rashid, I thought, the infant Krishna would have crawled right up to him, owing to the lilting richness and the genuine affection in his voice.

Where is the Christian or the Hindu versus the Muslim here? Why is there a need to debate in which century, and from which creed, Hindustani music originated? Bharata's Natyashastra — a treatise on dance, the arts, and theatre, devotes an entire chapter to classical Indian music, and dates back to the 2nd century BCE. Where is the sense in being territorial when the very

language of music is universal and transcends barriers? Why can we not let music grant to all — rich or poor, young or old, Parsi, Christian, Hindu, Muslim, or Jewish

– the aquamarine sky of the soul? Empedeocles wrote about how happy the person is who has gained the wealth of divine thought. Even happier are those whose intrinsic natures have allowed them the bliss of merging into the immeasurable beyond, through music.

The raga Bageshri, a midnight raga, is a favourite of mine (it was the late great Kishori Amonkar's favourite too, as she told me decades ago). When you listen to Rashid sing Bageshri, you have scant need for much else: His melodies rise to address all of creation. Rashid always sang in perfect sur, never once deviating from the rigours of exacting pitch.

Music is illumination — Astraya purusham swayam jyotirbhavati: In this state, the person herself becomes the light; and she is also svena jyotisha prasvapithi, that is: revealing herself by her own lustre. (Brihadaranyaka Upanishad IV.iii.9.) Rashid Khan was his own light, and his music was our light too.

The writer was appointed Distinguished Fellow at Carnegie Mellon University in 1990. She is a global adviser on public policy, communication and international relations and an Odissi and Bharatanatyam artiste and choreographer

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SS Paul, Nadia

TO DRAW IN YOUTH

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Parties to blame, need to do more' (IE, May 10). Young voters find it difficult to relate to political leaders whose average age is above 50. Students live with the perception that politics is a bad word and is best kept at arm's length as a profession. Many young citizens who sign up as voters end up not voting. Therefore, it is important for political parties not only to motivate young persons to register but also to cast their votes. This needs to be a year-long process instead of picking up steam before poll season.

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Parties to blame, need to do more' (IE, May 10). The youth are the future of our nation. Why then are young people disengaged from politics? The answer lies in contemporary political parties' relentless pursuit of power, which sidelines genuine concerns. Dissent is often silenced, attacks on Opposition only deepen the issues. The youth prioritise job security, nation-building, and trust in science over divisive politics and religious agendas. Their focus is on national development and societal unity. It's imperative for politicians to recognise these shifts, as ignoring them risks eroding the very fabric of our nation.

Ajay Corriea, Vasai

TATA MUST RETHINK

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Turbulence in the air' (IE, May 10). The strike by Air India Express employees has thrown the airfare itineraries out of gear. The Tata group of companies are of repute and have an established and respected work culture. But the current developments run counter to their stature. Safeguarding the interests of human capital is paramount for any business group to make mergers seamless. These moves are invariably counter-productive.

Deepak Singhal, Noida

HOLISTIC LEARNING

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'The good doctors' (IE, May 8). While the idea proposed by the UGC to grant both four-year bachelor's degree holders and master's degree holders access to doctoral research opportunities is appreciable, efficacy of the entry-test, UGC-NET is questionable. Former NCERT director Krishna Kumar once called this test "notorious" and emphasised its heavy reliance on rote memorisation. In light of this, it becomes imperative for universities and UGC to reconsider their approach to admissions, ensuring that they prioritise holistic evaluation methods that encourage critical thinking, creativity, and diverse perspectives.

Mohsin Ilahi, Nasirabad

AT LEAST 50 people have died in Afghanistan in flooding following heavy rain in the northern province of Baghlan Friday, Interior Ministry said, adding that the toll may rise. The ministry said there had been flooding in over five districts after heavy rains. **REUTERS**

WILL FIGHT WITH FINGERNAILS: NETANYAHU IN VEILED RESPONSE TO U.S.

Israeli tanks encircle Rafah's eastern half, 1 lakh Gazans flee city in a week

Residents say Israeli tanks, jets target all of Rafah, not only its east

REUTERS CAIRO, MAY 10

ISRAELI TANKS captured the main road dividing the eastern and western halves of Rafah on Friday, effectively encircling the entire eastern side of the city in the southern Gaza Strip. Residents described almost

constant explosions and gunfire east and northeast of the city on Friday, with intense fighting between Israeli forces and militants from Hamas and Islamic Jihad. Hamas said it ambushed

Israeli tanks near a mosque in the east of the city, a sign the Israelis had penetrated several kilometres from the east to the outskirts of the built-up area.

Israel has ordered civilians out of the eastern half of Rafah, forcing tens of thousands of people to seek shelter outside the city. More than 100,000 people have fled Rafah in the last five days, said the UNICEF Senior Emergency Coordinator, Hamish Young.

"The army is targeting all of Rafah not only the east with tank shells and air strikes," said Abu Hassan, a resident of Tel al-Sultan. Israeli tanks have already

sealed off eastern Rafah from the south, capturing and shutting the only crossing between the enclave and Egypt. An advance on Friday to the Salahuddin road that bisects the strip completed the encirclement of the "red zone" where they have ordered residents out.

Netanyahu, in apparent response to a US warning of haltung weapons supply, said Israel would "fight with our fingernails" if it must.

Prime Minister Benjamin

In a U.S. television interview, he said he hoped Israel would overcome its disagreements with President Joe Biden.

POLAND

PM reshuffles Cabinet ahead of EU elections

Warsaw: Poland's Prime Minister Donald Tusk on Friday announced changes in his Cabinet to replace four ministers running for the European Parliament next month. The reshuffle is also seen as a chance to bring in new energy into Tusk's government that took office in December and embarked on deep reforms in many areas, including justice and the media. Tusk said that, while no one should think that his position has no time limits, the ministers have fulfilled their tasks.

PAKISTAN

First images from Lunar probe sent on Chinese craft

Islamabad: Pakistan's maiden lunar orbiter sent the first images of the sun and the moon, days after it was launched as part of China's moon mission, it was announced on Friday. Pakistan's mini satellite

'iCube-Qamar' was launched as part of China's Chang'e-6 lunar mission on May 3 from the Hainan province. The images were unveiled at a ceremony organised at the China **National Space Agency** (CNSA) to mark the successful mission, Maria Tariq, spokesperson of Pakistan's national space agency Suparco, told Dawn.com. She said that pictures were officially handed over to Pakistan's ambassador to China,, at the data handover ceremony in Beijing.

Israeli tanks mass in south Gaza's Rafah, on Thursday. Reuters

UN General Assembly passes motion backing Palestinian statehood

THE NEW YORK TIMES UNITED NATIONS, MAY 10

THE UNITED Nations General Assembly on Friday overwhelmingly adopted a resolution declaring that Palestinians qualify for full-member status at the United Nations, a highly symbolic move that reflects growing solidarity with global Palestinians and is a rebuke to Israel and the United States.

The resolution was approved by a vote of 143 to 9 with 25 nations abstaining. The Assembly broke into a big applause after the vote. The United States voted no.

The resolution was prepared by the United Arab Emirates, the

Iranians vote in

hardliners lead

Tehran: Iranians voted Friday in

a runoff election for the remain-

ing seats in the country's parlia-

ment after hard-line politicians

dominated March balloting.

People in 22 constituencies

across the country will elect 45

representatives from a pool of 90

candidates, 15 of whom are con-

resentatives will be chosen from

32 candidates, all hard-liners.

Final results are expected on

Monday, though counts in

smaller constituencies are likely

ondary role in governing the

liners won 200 out of 245 seats,

with more moderate candidates

taking the other 45. A total of 25

million ballots were cast, for a

was 42% in the 2020 parliamen-

The previous lowest turnout

turnout of just under 41%.

Iran's parliament plays a sec-

In the March election, hard-

In the capital, Tehran, 16 rep-

sidered moderate.

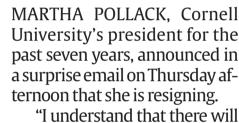
before that.

initial polling

runoffs after

Cornell president quits amid row over action against Gaza protesters current chair of the UN Arab Group. The 193-member General

THE NEW YORK TIMES MAY10



be lots of speculation about my decision, so let me be as clear as I can: This decision is mine and mine alone," she wrote in an email, addressed to "Cornellians."

Pollack's resignation means that four of the eight Ivy League universities — Harvard, Yale, the University of Pennsylvania and Cornell — will now be in various stages of leadership transition,



three of them with interim presidents already in charge or presidential searches underway.

Pollack leaves at a time of controversy over disciplinary action Cornell has taken against pro-Palestinian student protesters. Cornell has taken what some professors called draconian measures against six protesters. Critics have found the measuresparticularly disturbing coming in a year when Pollack launched a campus free-expression initiative.

TENSIONS ESCALATE IN SOUTH EAST ASIA

China military says it 'drove away' US destroyer in South China Sea

REUTERS BEIJING, MAY 10

civilians.

CHINA'S MILITARY closely monitored and "drove away" USS Halsey that entered the territorial seas of Paracel Islands in the South China Sea on Friday, Southern Theater Command of the People's Liberation Army said Friday.

Assembly took on the issue of

Palestinian membership after the

United States in April vetoed a res-

olution before the Security

Council to recognize full mem-

bership for a Palestinian state. The

majority of Council members

supported the move, but the

United States said recognition of

Palestinian statehood should be

achieved through negotiations

between Israelis and Palestinians.

Gilad Erdan, a sharp critic of the

body, said voting for a Palestinian

state would be inviting "a state of

terror" in its midst and rewarding

"terrorists" who killed Jewish

Israel's ambassador to the UN,

The US move "seriously infringed on China's sovereignty and security," the military said.

"It is yet another iron proof of its navigation hegemony and militarization of the South China Sea," it said, adding its troops would stay on high alert and safeguard national security.

The US Navy said the destroyer asserted navigational rights and freedoms in the South China Sea near the Paracel Islands "consistent with international law."

The USS Halsey exited the area after its operation and continued on in the South China Sea, the statement said.

China's latest dispute between and US came amid its tensions in the strategic South China Sea with the Philippines.

Philippines' top security official suggests expelling China diplomats in 'leaked' call

REUTERS

MANILA, MAY 10

THE PHILIPPINES' national security adviser called on Friday for Chinese diplomats to be expelled over an alleged leak of a phone conversation with a Filipino admiral in a significant escalation of a bitter row over

the South China Sea.

China's embassy in Manila had orchestrated "repeated acts of engaging and dissemination of disinformation, misinformation and malinformation", with the objective of sowing discord, Eduardo Ano said in a statement.

Those actions "should not be allowed to pass unsanctioned without serious penalty", he said.

Chinese foreign ministry called the comments provocative and said Chinese diplomats in the Philippines had to be allowed to do their job. "China solemnly requests the Philippine side to effectively safeguard the normal performance of duties by Chinese diplomatic personnel, stop infringing and provoking, and refrain

from denying the facts," Lin said.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA LONDON, MAY 10

> IF VOTED to power in the next election, the Labour Party will "replace gimmicks with graft" by scrapping the Rwanda scheme to partly fund a new "elite" border unit to "smash" people smuggling gangs to tackle small boats crossing the English Channel, Labour

leader Keir Starmer said Friday. On April 23, British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak welcomed the passage of his government's controversial Safety of Rwanda Bill by Parliament overnight and pledged that nothing would stand in the way of illegal migrants being flown out to Rwanda.

Sunak has made stopping such boats from making dangerous journeys across the Channel one of his priorities ahead of a general election expected later this year. Starmer's announcement comes after his shadow health secretary Wes Streeting claimed more Tory MPs were considering defecting to Labour be-



Keir Starmer in Dover on **Friday.** Reuters

cause of "division and incompetence" in Rishi Sunak's government. In a speech at Dover, a coastal town in England's southeast, the Labour leader accused the Conservatives of operating a "Travelodge amnesty" by housing asylum-seekers in hotels rather than processing their claims.

Meanwhile, British Home Secretary, James Cleverly said, "Labour have no plan to stop the boats...They will create a haven for criminal gangs, not stop them". He said: "Labour voted over 130 times against tougher legislation to stop the boats."

Russia launches ground

KYIV OFFICIAL SAYS RUSSIAN TROOPS PUSHED 1 KM INSIDE BORDER

offensive on Kharkiv, Kyiv rushes troops to new front

Zelenskyy says Ukraine forces prepared to face assault

REUTERS

KYIV, MAY 10

RUSSIAN FORCES launched an armoured ground attack on Friday near Ukraine's second city of Kharkiv in the northeast of the country and made limited gains, opening a new front in a war that has long been waged in the east and south.

Ukraine sent reinforcements as fighting raged in the border areas of the region, the defence ministry said, adding that Russia had pounded the frontier town of Vovchansk with guided aerial bombs and artillery.

A senior Ukrainian military source who declined to be named said Russian forces had pushed 1 km inside the Ukrainian border near Vovchansk. The source said Russian forces were aiming to push Ukrainian troops as far back as 10 km inside Ukraine as part of an effort to create a buffer zone, but that Kyiv's troops were trying to hold them back.

Ukraine sent reinforcements as fighting raged in the border areas of the region, the defence ministry said, adding that Russia had pounded the frontier town of Vovchansk with guided aerial bombs and artillery.

"Russia has begun a new wave of counteroffensive actions in this direction," President Volodymyr Zelenskyy told a news conference in Kyiv. "Now there is a fierce battle in this direction."

Ukraine had warned of a Russian buildup in the area, potentially signaling preparations for an offensive or an effort to divert and pin down Ukraine's overstretched and outnumbered defenders. It was

Will scrap Rwanda

scheme if voted to

power, says Labour

leader Keir Starmer





unclear if Moscow would develop the attack. Zelenskyv has said Russia could be preparing a big offensive push this spring or summer.

Kyiv's forces were prepared to meet Friday's assault, but Moscow could send more troops to the area, he told reporters.

Kharkiv region's governor

said the length of the border and the settlements in it were a "grey zone" and confirmed active fighting taking place.

At least two civilians were killed and five more were injured during heavy Russian shelling of border settlements, said Governor Oleh Synehubov.

Zuma in court seeking right to run in S Africa's pivotal election



South Africa President **Jacob Zuma**

REUTERS JOHANNESBURG, MAY 10

SOUTH AFRICA'S top court began hearing legal arguments on Friday on whether ex-president Jacob Zuma can run for parliament, a case whose outcome will affect a wide open national elec-

tion on May 29 and could cause

security problems if he loses.

Zuma, who was forced to quit as president in 2018 and was sentenced to jail in 2021, has fallen out with African National Congress and has been campaigning for a new party, uMkhonto we Sizwe.

The case stems from a decision in March by South Africa's electoral commission to disqualify Zuma on the basis that anyone given a prison sentence of 12 months or longer cannot hold a parliamentary seat.

In 2021, Zuma was sentenced to 15 months in jail for failing to appear at a corruption inquiry.

ONCE-PERSECUTED FAITH GAINS MOMENTUM

Shunned for centuries, Vodou offers solace to Haitians amid gang violence

DÁNICA COTO

tary election.

PORT-AU-PRINCE, MAY 10

THE VODOU faithful sing, their voices rising above the gunfire erupting miles away as frantic drumbeats drown out their troubles. They pause to swig rum out of small brown bottles, twirling in unison as they sing in Haitian Creole: "We don't care if they hate us, because they can't bury us."

Shunned publicly by politicians and intellectuals for centuries, Vodou is transforming into a more powerful and accepted religion across Haiti, where its believers were once persecuted. Increasingly, they

seek solace and protection from violent gangs that have killed, raped and kidnapped thousands in recent years.

Violence has left more than 360,000 people homeless, largely shut down Haiti's biggest seaport and closed the main international airport two months ago. Basic goods including food and life-saving medication are dwindling; nearly 2 million Haitians are on the verge of famine.

Amid the spiraling chaos, numerous Haitians are praying more or visiting Vodou priests known as "oungans" for urgent requests ranging from locating loved ones who were kidnapped to finding critical medication



Vodou pilgrims attend a Mass marking the feast day of agriculture and work in Port-au-Prince, earlier this week. AP needed to keep someone alive.

"The spirits help you. They're always around," said Sherly Norzéus, who is initiated to become a "mambo," or Vodou priestess. In February, she invoked Papa Ogou, god of war and iron, when 20 armed men surrounded her car as she tried to

flee the community of Bon Repos. "We are going to burn you alive!" she recalled the gunmen yelling. "I prayed to Papa Ogou. He helped me get out of the situation," Norzéus said. When she opened her eyes, the gunmen sig-

naled that she was free to leave. Vodou was at the root of the revolution that led Haiti to become the world's first free Black

republic in 1804, a religion born in West Africa and brought across the Atlantic by enslaved people. The syncretic religion that melds Catholicism with animist beliefs has no official leader or creeds. It has a single God known as "Bondye," and more than 1,000 spirits known as the lwa. Some experts consider it a re-

ligion of the exploited. "Vodou is the system that Haitians have developed to deal with the suffering of this life, a system whose object is to minimize pain, avoid disaster, soften losses, and strengthen the survivors as much as the survival instinct," Haitian sociologist Laënnec Hurbon wrote in a recent essay.

ence, Vodou remained oppressed. The country's new leaders condemned Vodou worship, as did the Catholic Church. The church demanded parishioners take an oath renouncing Vodou in 1941. But Vodou persisted. By

Even after Haiti's independ-

2003, Jean-Bertrand Aristide, a Salesian priest who became Haiti's first democratically elected president, recognized Vodou as one of Haiti's official religions. Since 1920s. Vodou has also become a key ingredient in Haiti's rich cultural scene, inspiring music, art, writing and dance Despite the formal recogni-

tion, Vodou remains shunned by some Haitians.

15 BIGPICTURE

ALF AN hour to midnight, the wail of the engine slices through the humid air of Ernakulam Junction. What follows is a scramble to slide and squeeze supple bodies and their luggage through the crowded doorway. A policeman on the platform curses and wields his lathi that lands on the steel rod of a window, an overzealous vendor is still pitching his sales, sprinting like a relay runner even after the entirely unreserved train has taken off. The Ernakulam Junction-Howrah Junction Antyodaya Express brakes with a heavy grunt, as if it has forgotten something or someone, before it lumbers along its tedious 2,238-kilometre cross-country run.

The platform, where multitudes had assembled, is now deserted. There is no one to see them off, to wave a goodbye or stifle a tear. The train has swallowed the multitudes – the nameless, faceless men who are part of Kerala's 34-lakh interstate workforce and who are now on a journey back home for a price of Rs 575. It's a journey back to the familiar — to the pungent fragrance of smoking mustard oil to children climbing on to their shoulders and long evenings with brothers and uncles on endless cups of lebu cha (lemon tea). But this time, as they fill every inch of the train's general compartment, they do so with an added purpose. Almost all of them are men in the coach headed home to vote — to West Bengal, Odisha and Assam, states that are in different stages of elections for the Lok Sabha.

'You will end up standing till Howrah'

Among the passengers is Moosa Haq, 29, wiry and smile-ready, who works as a butcher in a meat stall in Mala, a small town an hour from Kochi, who is now headed to his village near Ranaghat in Nadia district. "Even when we leave our villages, no one comes to see us off. So why should anyone care for us here? I have friends, but they have their own things to do," he says, tucking his bag onto the wooden overhead rack. In the bag, he says, are saris for his wife, toys for his daughters and some sweet murukku for his mother.

He blankly scans the faces of strangers in the coach, one of the 16 compartments in the fully unreserved train. Most of them are like him, migrant labourers, or as they are called here, guest workers. Some sit upright on their seats, the skin of the cushion peeled, baring the spongy foam; others lie on the floor; a few have climbed into the luggage rack, their heads bent, brushing the ceiling. Many are standing, constantly on the lookout for a space to sit or even stand comfortably.

Moosa sympathises with them: "If you don't get a seat here, you will end up standing till Howrah." Then with a triumphant grin, he adds: "Aaj kismet mere saath tha (Luck was on my side today). I got a side seat, near the window." The advantages are many — he doesn't need to share his seat with anyone, he can feel the breeze on his face, even if it's skin-burning hot, and can occasionally light up a *beedi*, which, he says, is his only indulgence. "We spend all our life trying to make things easier for our family, we see them just once a year. So we need some entertainment in life," he says justifying his addiction.

It was seven years ago that Moosa travelled to Kerala for the first time. A friend had promised him work at a salon, but by the time they reached the place, the job was already taken. He ended up doing odd jobs before he got the butcher's job. "Acha hain, sir. Mahine mein 10-15 hazaar kamathe hain (It's good... I end up earning about Rs 15,000 a month)," he says.

He usually goes home once a year, during Ramadan, mostly late March or April. Instead, this year, he travelled in February for the birth of his second daughter, and this journey, he will club the polls and Bakrid (which falls in June). Politics neither fascinates nor intrigues

him. He does not know the name of the candidates contesting from his constituency, Ranaghat, which votes on May 13. For the record, the tussle is between incumbent Jagannath Sarkar of the BJP and TMC's Mukut Mani Adhikari. Those names hardly strike any chord, though he admires the state Chief Minister and Trinamool leader Mamata Banerjee. "For a woman to become a CM takes a lot of courage. And she is doing good for the poor, I have heard from friends," he says But he largely stays away from politics. "I don't even watch reels of politicians, unless there is some comedy. Waste of time," he says.

But the local politicians are paying for his trip, besides giving him other "gifts" (money,



A night on the migrant express

In the midst of a high-stakes general election, as the weekly Ernakulam-Howrah Antyodaya Express sets off on a cross-country journey, every inch of its space packed with migrants making their journey from Kerala to states in the east, SANDIP G joins them for conversations on what awaits them back home – food, family and this time, a crucial franchise

a liquor bottle, biriyani). "Usually, they book tickets, but this time it did not happen. Don't know why, maybe because there are too many people and a few trains, so they can't book for all," he says.

There are only five trains from Ernakulam to Howrah every week. Only two trains, one weekly and another that runs five times a week, connect Kerala to Assam.

Beyond the crammed aisle, sticking out his neck, Moosa's friend Afsal Ismaili, who is from Asansol and works in a sawmill in Chalakudy in Kerala's Thrissur district, shouts, "Who cares for us?"

Afsal is 45, battle-hardened and welltravelled – from "Ladakh to Kanyakumari", he claims. As a youngster, he was attracted to politics, and would attend rallies of the CPI(M), before he realised it's a futile endeavour. "We are remembered only during elections," he says, adding, "The local councillor's secretary doesn't even know me, but he has been calling almost twice a week on my phone to ensure that I reach there in time for the election. I told him, 'ticket kar do, full bottle kar do'. He didn't manage the ticket, but has promised full refund and Rs 100 extra, besides 'full bottle'. I wouldn't vote if they don't pay the amount for the ticket," he says, before quickly saying, "No, no I'm joking, I have never missed an election in my life."

The star attraction in Asansol is yesteryear actor and TMC candidate Shatrugan Sinha. He has watched his movies, but says he loves the movies of his daughter Sonakshi more. Sinha is the sitting MP, but Afsal fears whether his opponent, BJP's S S Ahluwalia, will topple him. "Sardarji acha aadmi hain, lekin galat party mein hain (Ahluwalia is a good man in the wrong party)," he says.

But for Afsal, all the discourse around elections isn't pleasant. "I live in a Hindu majority area. We were all like brothers. Now some of them call us Bangladeshis. It's true, our ancestors came from Chittagong (in Bangladesh), but so have most of them



(Top) The Antyodaya Express with 16 coaches, all unreserved, is almost always packed with migrants; passengers stop for a meal. Sandip G

(Hindus). All this Hindu-Muslim talk, especially by the BJP, is destroying our brotherhood," he says.

Which is why, Afsal says, he doesn't invest too much into politics. For, soon after the polls they are forgotten too, much like the promises the politicians make. "Twenty years ago, we were promised two-room houses with concrete roofs. But we still live in asbestos-roofed rooms," he says. The roofs creak in monsoon, the heat becomes intolerable in the summer months, and the toilets are in terrible shape. He is saving money so that his children needn't fear the monsoon or endure the summer's wrath. He fled home when he was 15, driven out by his own father because the family was still expanding.

His only fear is if he would lose the job back in Kerala by the time he returns. But Moosa

reassures him, "We survived the lockdown and COVID-19, so we will survive anything."

'Those who died on Coromandel were people like us'

As the train races past Coimbatore, Ansari rears his head from the adjacent seat and says, "Covid times were hard, but so is every day. So we try not to think of past struggles."

In March last year, Ansari nearly boarded the Coromandel Express — a migrant train much like this one which was on its way from Shalimar in Howrah to Chennai. At the Bahanaga railway station in Odisha's Balasore district, the Coromandel collided with a goods train and then ricocheted into a passenger train, killing nearly 300 people. "Who were the people who died? Most in the reserved compartments were saved;



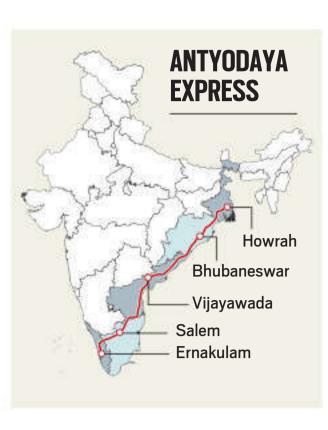
Even when we leave our villages, no one comes to see us off. So why should anyone care for us here (in Kerala)? I have friends, but they have their own things to do

MOOSA HAQ A RESIDENT OF NADIA DISTRICT

only those in the general coaches, labourers like us, died. Come to my village, there are parents who believe that their missing sons from that accident will come back," he says, his eyes seething with rage. That day, his plan

was to buy a ticket from Murshidabad to Vijayawada and board another train to Thrissur, where he was working in a bakery. But the Coromandel was so crowded that he couldn't get in.

The 33-year-old is from Naoda near Berhampore in Murshidabad, a long-time bastion of the Indian National Congress. He strikes a Kerala connect — the lotus has never bloomed in his constituency, he says. Though he is critical of the sitting MP, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury of the Congress who had had an undefeated run since 1999, he would rather see him win instead of the



BJP's Nirmal Kumar Saha or Trinamool's Yusuf Pathan, the former cricketer. His grandfather and father were all staunch supporters of the Revolutionary Socialist Party during the Tridib Chaudhuri years, he says. "They were honest, hardworking and spent too much time in politics. That's why we remain poor and I have to travel all the way to Kerala to support them," he says. Then he implores: "Yeh baat chhod do, sir (forget all this)." He then flips his mobile phone — which he ties to the lungi, lest it be stolen — and plays a Bengali melody by Arijit Singh.

'My home feels nearer'

Talks and songs fill the night, like the locomotive that blasts past a bridge over the limpid silver of the Bharathapuzha river and the inky ghats. "Pehli raat to aisa hi hain (The first night on the train is like this). We keep talking till the morning, watching each other settle down, seeing new people, meeting some others. It's all about the joy of reaching home soon," says Afsal.

The ceaseless rush of passengers makes their nights longer, before they twist and turn and slip subconsciously into slumber. Fatigue hits them when they wake up the next day, somewhere past Salem in Tamil Nadu, much after the first rays of sun had slithered in through the windows and the chai vendors had fully strained their vocal cords.

Dreariness displaces enthusiasm. It's to do with the scenery, says Ansari, peering his drooping eyes along the endless stretch of wastelands past Salem. "It only gets worse once you enter Andhra (Pradesh). I cannot imagine the heat," he says. Especially this May, when the heatwave has not spared any of the southern states. "40 (degree Celsius) in Kerala, 45 in Tamil Nadu, 50 in Andhra), says Ansari.

Like most others in the coach, he is only in his lungi. He wonders whether he has to tear that away by the time the train reaches Kharagpur Junction.

Around 1 am, he unpacks a tightly knot polythene bag stuffed with rotis. In another plastic tumbler is the aloo bharta he has cooked. The train, he says, doesn't have a pantry car and the vendors largely sell stale food. "We are poor, so they can sell us weekold food. And you know how difficult it is to find your way (through the crowds) to the toilet, which invariably wouldn't have water. So I don't want to take any risks," he says.

Just then comes along a ticket checker, who they call "kaala jadugar" for their black coats and the knack of popping up from nowhere. Moosa shows his ticket, which the TTE carefully studies, before almost flinging it back at him.

"He was looking to see if it's an old ticket," Moosa says later. "Everyone is suspicious of us and, of course, rude," he says. Perceptions have hardened since last month, when a TTE was pushed to the tracks from a moving train (Ernakulam-Patna Express) and eventually succumbed to his injuries. A couple of years ago, a guest worker allegedly assaulted a TTE in the same Ernakulam-Howrah train. "We are scared to travel in these trains. There is no security for our lives," says a TTE, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Ansari understands their paranoia, but says, "If you treat us with respect, we too will. At the end of the day, we are all trying to earn a livelihood."

At 10 am, the train jerks and pauses at Katpadi Junction, the last stop in Tamil Nadu, before it slithers into Andhra Pradesh. The same sequence repeats — a human torrent lashing into the coach, policemen hurling expletives, and vendors trying to sell their products, and Moosa and friends staring into their

"One fourth of the journey is over, my home feels nearer," he says.

The engine wails.

In Dalit man's suicide, shadows from a 2016 murder-gangrape case

CHANDAN HAYGUNDE

AHMEDNAGAR

A SCUFFLE at a 'tamasha' event that ended in the suicide of a Dalit man has left a village in Ahmednagar district on the edge. What has added to the tensions are shadows of the past.

It was in the same village that a 14-yearold Maratha girl had been raped and murdered, allegedly by three persons, in July 2016, an incident that set off Maratha protests across Maharashtra. Besides, the protagonists in both cases are related.

The suicide

Of the three men arrested for the Dalit man's suicide, one is the brother of the Maratha girl in the 2016 gangrape and murder case. And the Dalit youth who died by suicide is related to one of the convicts in the 2016 gangrape case.

On May 2, the 37-year-old Dalit man was found hanging from the ceiling at his home. Police said family members found a four-line suicide note in his pocket in which he blamed the Maratha men. Within 24 hours, the Ahmednagar Police arrested three of the accused for alleged abetment of suicide.

According to the complaint filed by the Dalit victim's father, his son had gone for the tamasha, a popular folk art form, on the night of May 1, but did not return home. The following morning, the father got to know from villagers that his son had got into a scuffle and was allegedly thrashed by upper caste men. Family members alleged that they found him lying naked at the village crematorium and brought him home on a motorcycle.

The FIR says the victim told his father that around 11.30 pm on May 1, when he started dancing at the tamasha, the three



accused made casteist remarks and assaulted him. As matters got out of hand, the tamasha was stopped. Later, as the victim was on his way home, the accused allegedly took him to the cremation ground, forced him to strip and assaulted him, the FIR

Around 3.30 pm the next day, the victim allegedly hanged himself at his residence. He is survived by his parents, wife and two sons.

Police have booked the three accused in the suicide case under relevant sections of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. A court has remanded them in police custody till May 8.

Superintendent of Ahmednagar Police Rakesh Ola told *The Indian Express*, "An FIR was lodged as per the complaint of the deceased's father and the accused were arrested. Further probe is on."

The father of the accused said the case was "false" and that his son had been framed in the case. "We got to know that a minor scuffle had happened since the man (the victim) was drunk and was causing a ruckus at the tamasha programme. My son was among those who intervened to stop the brawl. It is a lie to say that my son assaulted and thrashed him. We have no connection with the suicide. The case is false. We have complete faith in the law. Truth

will prevail."

Police sources said given the caste angle and the shadow of the 2016 incident, the case was being handled sensitively.

The 2016 rape-murder case

The gangrape and murder of the 14year-old Maratha girl, allegedly by Dalit men from the village, had set off protests across Maharashtra's towns and villages.

As per police records, around 6.45 pm on July 13, 2016, the victim was returning home on a bicycle from her grandfather's house when the three accused stopped the girl and sexually assaulted her before murdering her.

A day later, police arrested three Dalit men in the case and booked them under sections of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and IPC sections related to murder. In November 2017, the Ahmednagar district and sessions court awarded death sentences to all three. In

September last year, the main accused in the gangrape-murder case, allegedly died by suicide at Yerwada Central Prison in Pune. He is the cousin of the Dalit man who died by suicide last week.

The father of the Dalit man told The Indian Express, "We never supported our relative who got death sentence for the rape and murder of the minor girl. Still, my son, who worked as a peon at the gram panchayat office, lost his job. Those who are responsible for my son's death are powerful people. The main accused (the brother of the minor who was raped and killed in 2016) is an influential person and walks around with a pistol."

The father of the main accused in the suicide case says, "Owing to threats following my daughter's death, my son got a gun licence from the government. It was never misused. We have good relations with all communities in the village," he said.

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Dabholkar murder case: Recall of twists and turns over a decade

SUSHANT KULKARNI& **CHANDAN HAYGUNDE** PUNE, MAY 10

MORE THAN a decade after rationalist Narendra Dabholkar's murder, a special court in Pune convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment his two assailants, Sachin Andure and Sharad Kalaskar. The court, however, acquitted Virendrasinh Tawade, Sanjeev Punalekar and Vikram Bhave due to lack of evidence.

"On one level we are satisfied that the two assailants have been convicted... But the questions about the masterminds and overarching conspiracy behind the murder remain unanswered," Dr Hamid, Dabholar's son, told reporters outside the court complex.

Dabholkar's 2013 murder was followed by those of communist leader Govind Pansare, Kannada scholar M M Kalburgi

(both in 2015), and Bengaluru-based journalist Gauri Lankesh (2017). Over the years, investigating agencies examining these cases have pointed to similarities between them, and the possibility of common perpetrators.

Anti-superstition crusader

Dabholkar, a doctor by profession, revitalised Maharashtra's anti-superstition movement in the late 1980s by founding the Maharashtra Andhashraddha Nirmoolan Samiti (MANS). He took on tantriks and godmen, who he believed exploited the public by promising miracles and promoting unscientific thinking. He was also the long-time editor of Sadhana, a socialist Marathi weekly, and active in anti-caste movements in the state.

On August 13, 2013, Dabholkar, 67, was shot dead by two men while on a morning walk in Pune. Days later, the Maharashtra government cleared the long-pending Anti-Superstition

and Black Magic Ordinance, which went on to become law in December 2013.

Early arrests, no breakthrough

Soon after the murder, Thane Police arrested alleged firearms dealer Manish Nagori and his aide Vikas Khandelwal in an unrelated case. They were later transferred to the Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS), and 40 illegal firearms were allegedly recovered. A ballistic examination of one of the firearms reportedly matched with markings on a cartridge seized at Dabholkar's murder spot.

This led Pune Police to arrest the duo who were produced in court on January 21, 2014. Nagori and Khandelwal claimed that ATS chief Rakesh Maria offered them Rs 25 lakh for confessing to Dabholkar's murder — a claim they later retracted. The duo were eventually released on bail, never to be chargesheeted in the case. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)

found no prosecutable evidence against them.

CBI takes over investigation

The CBI took over the probe in June 2014, following a Bombay High Court order. Based on a statement by Kolhapur-based Hindutva activist Sanjay Sadvilkar, also a witness in the Pansare murder case, the agency arrested ENT surgeon Tawade on June 10, 2016. Tawade, linked to Goa-based rightwing outfit Sanatan Sanstha, had already been arrested by the

The CBI accused Tawade of mastermindand Vinay Pawar had shot Dabholkar.

In August 2018, however, the agency ar-

instead, and told the court it was they who had killed Dabholkar. Both men are also accused in the Pansare murder, and Kalaskar is an accused in the Gauri Lankesh murder as well.

In May 2019, CBI arrested Mumbai-based Sanatan Sanstha lawyer Punalekar and his aide Bhave, alleging that Punalkar had advised Kalaskar to destroy the firearms used in multiple murders — including those of Dabholkar and Lankesh. According to the CBI, following Punalekar's instructions, Kalaskar had dismantled four country-made pistols and thrown its parts into a creek near Thane on July 7 in 2018.

The CBI claimed to have recovered the weapons in March 2020. But a CBI investigation officer later told the trial court that efforts to recover the weapon used in Dabholkar's murder were unsuccessful.

Question of larger conspiracy

A UAPA special court framed charges

against Tawade, Punalkar, Bhave, Andure, and Kalaskar on September 15, 2021.

Tawade, Andure, Kalaskar, and Bhave were charged under Section 302 (murder) read with Section 120B (criminal conspiracy) of the IPC, Section 16 of the UAPA (punishment for terrotist act), and provisions of the Arms Act Punalekar was charged under Section 201 IPC (causing disappearance of evidence). They pleaded not guilty.

Members of Dabholkar's family have claimed that higher-ups in Sanatan Sanstha (above Tawade) were involved in the murders of Dabholkar and the others, but their role was ignored in the investigation.

During the trial, however, CBI investigation officer S R Singh disputed this, saying that the agency had recorded Sanatan Sanstha founder Dr Jayant Athawale's statement in February 2016, and found nothing incriminating. The Sanstha has denied any role in the murders.

EXPLAINED LAW

CHARGES ARE FRAMED AGAINST BRIJ BHUSHAN: WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

AJOY SINHA KARPURAM NEW DELHI, MAY 10

A TRIAL judge in Delhi framed charges against BIP MP and former Wrestling Federation of India chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh under Sections 354 (assault or criminal force to woman with intent to outrage her modesty) and 354A (sexual harassment) of the Indian Penal Code on Friday. Singh has been accused of sexual harassment by several women wrestlers.

Framing of charges

After police register an FIR and conduct an investigation, they file a chargesheet in the trial court detailing the offences allegedly committed and the evidence collected during the investigation. Police filed a 1,500-page chargesheet on June 15 last year, charging Brij Bhushan with Sections 354, 354A, and 354D (stalking).

The Rouse Avenue court that framed charges under IPC Sections 354 and 354A, noted that it has found sufficient material to frame charges for the offence of criminal intimidation in the allegations of two of the complainants.

The framing of charges means the trial judge has found a *prima facie* case against the accused, based on the material in the chargesheet. This is not a determination of whether the accused has committed the alleged offences — it is only an acknowledgment that sufficient grounds exist to proceed with the trial.

After the trial judge frames the charges, if the accused pleads innocent, the next step is the summoning of witnesses for cross-examination by the defence lawyer(s). After witnesses are examined, both sides present their arguments. Upon completion of arguments, the judge may reserve judgment. If the judge decides to convict the accused, the court will also pronounce the sentence.

Sections of Penal Code

हिंदी माध्यम

एडमिशन आरंभ

Sections 354 and 354A, along with Sections 354 B-D are often classified as

"offences against women".

Section 354 states that whoever assaults or uses criminal force against a woman "intending to outrage or knowing it to be likely that he will thereby outrage her modesty" shall be punished with a term of imprisonment between 1 and 5 years and/or a fine.

not defined in the IPC. However, the Supreme Court in State of Punjab v. Major Singh (1996) held that "...the essence of a woman's modesty is her sex. The modesty of an adult female is writ large on her body. Young or old, intelligent or imbecile, awake or sleeping, the woman possesses a modesty capable of being outraged." Section 354A deals with sexual harass-

ment, which is defined as follows: first, "physical contact and advances involving unwelcome and explicit sexual overtures"; second, "a demand or request for sexual favours"; third, "showing pornography against the will of a woman": fourth. "making sexually coloured remarks".

treated more severely, and carry a punishment of up to 3 years in prison and a fine. The fourth act can be punished with a term of up to 1 year and a fine.

do", is guilty of criminal intimidation.

Section 506 lays down the punishment for criminal intimidation: up to 2 years' imprisonment, which can extend to 7 years if the person threatens to cause death, grievous hurt, destruction of property by fire, "impute unchastity to a woman", or commit an offence punishable with death, life imprisonment, or up to 7 years' imprisonment.

The phrase "outrage her modesty" is

The first, second, and third acts are

The trial judge has also seen fit to frame charges of criminal intimidation against Brij Bhushan, which is defined in Section 503 of the IPC. It states that anyone who threatens another person with an "injury to his person, reputation or property" with the intention to "cause alarm to that person, or to cause that person to do any act which he is not legally bound to do, or to omit to do any act which that person is legally entitled to



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TARGET CLAT

Mukherjee Nagar 16 May | 3 PM

16 May | 6 PM

Israel. Friedman wrote. And "that will hap-

pen only if Israel...get[s] out of Gaza, freeze[s] the building of settlements in the

West Bank and embark[s] on a three- to

five-year 'pathway' to establish a Palestinian

a difficult re-election battle in November,

this scenario could bring significant bene-

fits. Also, a successful conclusion of the US-

Saudi mutual defence treaty would signal

that America is back in play in the Middle

East, where Beijing announced its increas-

ing strategic clout by brokering a peace deal

between Riyadh and Tehran in March 2023.

For US President Joe Biden, heading into

state in the occupied territories."

Maharashtra Police in the Pansare case.

ing the conspiracy to kill Dabholkar, citing the "long standing enmity/ hatred" between MANS and Sanatan Sanstha as motive. In its 2016 chargesheet against Tawade, CBI said absconding Sanstha members Sarang Akolkar

rested Sanstha activists Andure and Kalaskar

EXPLAINED POLITICS

Turnouts, delays, Form 17C

ECI has rejected allegations that the declaration of final voter turnouts have been unfairly delayed. Why are data on voting percentage revised after the polling date? Some key questions answered

DAMINI NATH

NEW DELHI, MAY 10

THE ELECTION Commission of India (ECI) on Monday strongly refuted allegations by Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge – made in a letter to INDIA allies on May 6 — that the "delay" in the release of final voter turnouts indicated an "attempt to doctor the final results". Kharge had asked why the first-phase

turnout increased by 5.5 percentage points and the second-phase turnout by 5.74 percentage points between the close of polling and April 30, when the final voting figures for both these phases were released.

What were the initial and final turnout figures in the first two phases of polling?

In an official release issued at 7.55 pm on April 19, the ECI said turnout in the constituencies where votes were cast in the first phase was "over 60% at 7pm". The release said the final figure was likely to be higher after reports came in from polling stations where voting continued beyond the scheduled cut-off of 6 pm to allow voters who had already entered the stations to vote. A day later, most reports, including those

in The Indian Express, said turnout was 65.5%, attributing it to senior officials in the ECI.

On April 26, when votes were cast in the second phase, the ECI press release, issued at 9 pm, put the turnout at 60.96% at 7 pm. News organisations subsequently reported a more-or-less final figure of 66.71%, based on unofficial confirmation from senior ECI

On April 30, the ECI released the final figures for both phases through an official release, which put the phase 1 turnout at 66.14% and the phase 2 turnout at 66.71%.

After voting in the third phase on May 7, the ECI first released an estimated turnout of 61.45% at 8 pm, and then revised it some time before midnight to 64.4% for 11.40 pm. The day after, this turnout figure was updated to 67.33%.

In its first press release on May 7 evening, the ECI said it would release the final turnout data by May 11.

Why is there a difference between initial and final voter turnout numbers?

According to the ECI, the initial number is a preliminary estimate, which changes. ECI officials say the higher final figure does not mean that votes were cast even after polls closed — it could be simply due to the fact that the Returning Officers (ROs) sent in the



Opposition INDIA leaders outside the Election Commission of India's offices at Nirvachan Sadan in New Delhi on Friday. PTI

DECISION

2024

updated data late.

According to the ECI officials, even the data released on April 30 is not final — that figure will be known only after postal ballots are counted on the day of counting (June 4) and added to the turnout.

On both April 19 and April 26, state- and constituency-wise turnouts were available in real time on the ECI's Voter Turnout mobile application. This app — which was launched by the ECI after the second phase of polling in 2019 — carries this disclaimer: "This is an approximate trend, as data from some Polling Stations (PS) takes time and this trend does not include data of postal ballot voting. Final data for each PS is

shared in Form 17C with all Polling Agents." Form 17C is made available to all candidates through their polling agents at the close of polling. Form 17C includes the total numbers of electors and voters at the seat. This information is not available on the Voter Turnout app. (More on Form 17C below)

Were the official turnout figures released 11 days and 4 days after phases 1 and 2 of the voting respectively unusually delayed?

No, says the ECI. In its response to Kharge, the ECI provided details of the release of official turnout data for the 2019 Lok Sabha election and state Assembly elections over the past few years. This data, it said, "would testify there is no unusual delay than what is required to collect data from large number of polling stations". The data provided by the ECI showed a 1-3 percentage point increase in the turnouts in the 5-7 days it took to release the phase-wise turnouts in 2019.

ECI officials say it takes time to verify and collate the data, particularly from remote polling stations. In some cases, polling parties have to make it back from these remote locations to the district headquarters, where they have a stable Internet connection to transmit the data.

In its letter to Kharge, the ECI said that after the polling parties arrive, documents are scrutinised by the Returning Officers in the presence of candidates and observers. The RO then completes data entry, and publishes the data on the Voter Turnout app.

"This process takes P+1 (polling day plus 1) or P+2 (polling day plus 2) days depending on constituencies and arrival schedule of polling parties due to geographical and weather conditions. This data may further get updated for any constituency where repoll is being conducted, on conclusion of repoll and arrival of parties which is normally on P+4 days," it said.

And what is Form 17C? To whom is it issued, and when?

As per the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961, there are two forms that have data on 17A and 17C.

the number of electors and voters — Forms

The former is a register of voters, in which polling officials record the details of every voter who comes into the booth and signs the register. The latter is the account of the votes recorded.

Form 17C is issued to the polling agents of candidates at the close of polling.

It has the identification numbers of the EVMs used in the polling station; the total number of electors assigned to the polling station; the total number of voters as entered in the register for voters (Form 17A); the number of voters who decided not to record their votes after signing the register; the number of voters who were not allowed to vote; and the total number of test votes to be deducted. and total number of votes recorded per EVM. Part-II of the same form carries the re-

sults of the counting, which are entered on counting day. The data in Form 17C are considered final

and lie at the heart of any Election Petition that may be filed challenging the result. In a statement issued on April 30, the ECI said the "actual data of Form 17C shall prevail which is already shared with candidates". Apart from being the record that is to be

used in a possible legal challenge, the data in Form 17C are also used by candidates to verify the results on counting day. The number of electors and those who cast their votes as recorded in Form 17C can be matched with the EVM count.

Why is there a demand to make the Form 17C data public? Activists have sought to make a case for

full transparency. Also, they say, even if Form 17C is made available to the candidates agents, given the large numbers of polling stations at each constituency, difficulties of coordination, and shortage of resources many candidates find it impossible to collate all the figures for the constituency as a whole.

The ECI has said that it is not "legally bound to publish any voter turnout data at aggregate level". It has sought to allay concerns by reiterating that the provision of Form 17C is a statutory requirement, and no candidate or party has alleged that they have not received the form at the close of polling.

Also, on the day of counting, the counting supervisor must certify in Part-II of the form that there is no discrepancy in the votes counted and the votes recorded in Part-I on polling day. This is countersigned by all candidates or their representatives, and discrepancies, if any, can be challenged, the ECI says.

Israel, Saudi Arabia, and churn in the Middle East: the view from India

IN FACT

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SHUBHAJIT ROY

THE UNITED STATES is trying to forge a mutual defence treaty with Saudi Arabia, and help Israel in its conflicts with Hamas and Iran, such that "Israel and Saudi Arabia are trading places", columnist Thomas Friedman

wrote in The New York Times last week. According to the article, the Saudi-US deal will pivot on the specific ways in which the US will control the civilian nuclear energy programme that the kingdom will get; the precise — whether explicit or less formal nature of the mutual defence pact; and on Saudi Arabia's commitment to not move from US dollars to the Chinese yuan in pricing oil.

However, for the deal to go through, it is

critical that Saudi normalises relations with

India and Saudi Arabia For India, a US-Saudi Arabia pact and peace between Israel and Iran and Israel and Hamas could mean an opportunity to better harness the region's potential.

Especially over the past decade, India has sought to build its relationship with Saudi Arabia, where the young Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman (MBS) has been driving a range of radical reforms to put his country in better sync with the 21st century world.

India-Saudi trade was valued at \$52.76 billion in 2022-23. India is the second largest trade partner for Saudi, while Saudi is India's fourth largest trade partner. Energy cooperation is at the heart of the relationship; Saudi Arabia was India's third largest crude and petroleum products sourcing destination in 2022-23.

Major Saudi investment groups ARAMCO, SABIC, ZAMIL, E-holidays, and Al Batterjee Group have invested in India. Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund (PIF) has put in approximately \$4.6 billion in Indian startups such

as Delhivery, FirstCry, Grofers,

Ola, OYO, Paytm, and PolicyBazaar. The more than 2.4 million strong Indian community in Saudi Arabia is seen as a living bridge between the two countries, and the Indian diaspora is widely respected in the kingdom for their contributions.

India and Israel

India's ties with Israel have become steadily more visible and significant over

the past decade or so, centred mainly on defence and security, innovation, agriculture, and water.

Trade volumes have risen from around \$200 million in 1992 (consisting primarily of diamonds) to \$10.7 billion (excluding defence) in 2022-23, of which Indian exports were around \$8.4 billion. India is Israel's sec-

ond-largest trading partner in Asia, and the seventh largest globally. Israel has been a major supplier of

defence equipment, as well as of hightech communications systems that have helped meet some of India's security tech challenges. Israel is an important partner to India in the innovation ecosystem — smart irrigation systems being an ex-

ample of cooperation in this field. Potential and challenge

The strengthened bilateral strategic partnerships have allowed India to delink its domestic politics from its foreign policy and strategy in the region as a whole. After more than three decades of diplomatic work on its relationships in the Middle East, New

Delhi had begun to reap some benefits. In July 2022, Prime Minister Narendra

Modi participated virtually in the first leaders' summit under the I2U2 framework along with Israel's then Prime Minister Yair Lapid, UAE's President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, and President Biden.

And in September 2023, the ambitious India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor connectivity project was launched on the

sidelines of the G20 Summit in New Delhi. But the October 7, 2023 terrorist attacks by Hamas in southern Israel, and the consequent retaliatory military response from Israel on Gaza have posed difficult challenges for India's diplomatic strategy. New Delhi will welcome a durable peace in the Middle East, with a stronger American presence in the region it considers its extended

neighbourhood.

Netanyahu and MBS Two of the most important leaders in the region, MBS and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel, have undergone major

reputational transformations in recent years. MBS, who was tarnished by his war in

Yemen and alleged involvement in the murder of dissident journalist Jamal Khashoggi in 2018, appears to some commentators today as the great liberaliser after decades of hardline absolutist rule that had stifled Saudi society.

His sweeping reforms, including new rights for Saudi women, have given MBS a reputation that makes it easier for the leaders of many western democracies to do

business with him. On the other hand, Netanyahu has become, in the company of his far right allies, a hawk who appears to link the continuation of the war in Gaza to his own political survival. His intransigence has made the US steadily more impatient — and Biden said this week that he had told Netanyahu that he would halt weapons shipments if the Israeli military invaded Rafah, the south-

ernmost city in the Gaza Strip. The warning has not had an impact on Netanyahu. Halting the war is key to Biden's re-election campaign. American university campuses are in turmoil, and polls suggest that young Democratic voters are upset with the US's support for the war.

USD RATE

SILVER

⊘ ₹83.49 ₹73,200 Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) as of May 9

Gold continues to glitter:

What is the expectation on

investment returns in 2024?

84.36 ⊗ ₹85,500

SENSEX: 72,664.47 ▲ 260.30 (0.36%) NIFTY: 22,055.20 ▲ 97.70 (0.44%) NIKKEI: 38,229.11 ▲ 155.13 HANG SENG: 18,963.68 ▲ 425.87 FTSE: 8,447.39 ▲ 66.04 DAX: 18,806.40 ▲ 119.80

BRIEFLY

BoB Q4 profit rises marginally to ₹4,886 crore

New Delhi: Bank of Baroda on Friday reported a 2.3 per cent growth in its standalone net profit of Rs 4,886 crore for the March quarter, restricted by a hit due to its exposure to the grounded airliner Go First and also setting aside money towards pension liabilities. PTI

India's forex reserves up by \$3.66 billion

New Delhi: After three consecutive weeks of drop, India's forex reserves increased by \$3.668 billion to \$641.59 billion for the week ended May 3, the RBI said on Friday. The kitty dropped \$2.412 billion to \$637.922 billion for the previous week ended April 26. PTI

RBI appoints new Executive **Director**

New Delhi: Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Friday appointed R Lakshmi Kanth Rao as Executive Director. Prior to being promoted, Rao was serving as Chief General Manager-in-Charge in the Department of Regulation, RBI said in a statement.

DURABLES SLOWED, NON-DURABLES REVIVED IN MARCH

Factory output eases to 4.9% in March, grows 5.8% in FY24

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, MAY 10

FACTORY OUTPUT, as measured by the Index of Industrial Production (IIP), slowed to 4.9 per cent in March from 5.6 per cent in the previous month, but was higher than 1.9 per cent growth in the year-ago period, data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) on Friday showed. A favourable base effect supported growth in March even as mining slowed to a 19-month low.

For the full financial year 2023-24, the factory output grew 5.8 per cent, marginally higher than 5.2 per cent in the previous year, with a pickup in manufacturing and construction goods

In the January-March quarter, industrial output growth averaged 4.9 per cent compared with 6.2 per cent in the previous quarter that is likely to contribute to a slowdown in Gross Domestic Product(GDP) growth in Q4, data for which is slated to be released at the end of this month.

Economists said the slowdown in industrial output is likely to have come on the back of a moderation in the government's capital expenditure towards the year-end. Consumption showed



a mixed picture in March, with a pickup in rural demand as against the urban demand.

"The slowdown in March was driven by infrastructure and construction goods, reflecting moderating government capital expenditure at the end of the fiscal. Among consumer products, while durables slowed, non-durables revived this month, hinting at a moderation in urban demand and a revival in rural demand. Rural demand, which was a key drag for consumption last fiscal, could revive this fiscal. Early weather forecasts predict a normal monsoon this year. However, the lagged impact of the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) rate hikes and regulatory tightening of credit could have a moderating impact, especially for

urban consumption. A lower fis-

cal impulse this year is further expected to dial down the capex support to growth," Dharmakirti Joshi, Chief Economist, CRISIL said.

Manufacturing, which accounts for 77.6 percent of the weight of the IIP, grew by 5.2 per cent in March as against 4.9 per cent in February and 1.5 per cent in the year-ago period. In FY24, manufacturing output grew 5.5 per cent as against 4.7 per cent in the previous year.

Mining output slowed to a 19month low of 1.2 per cent in March, down from 8.1 per cent in February and 6.8 per cent in the year-ago period. For FY24, however, mining output increased by 7.5 per cent as against 5.8 per cent in FY23. Electricity output grew 8.6 per cent in March as against 7.5 per cent in February and a con-

traction of 1.6 per cent in the yearago period.

Output of capital goods — an indicator of investment — grew 6.1 per cent in March, higher than 1 per cent in February but lower than 10 per cent in the year-ago period. For FY24, it slowed to 6.2 per cent from 13.1 per cent in the previous year.

On the consumption front, consumer durables output, which reflects consumption demand, grew 9.5 per cent in March as against 12.4 per cent in February and a low base of (-)8 per cent in the year-ago period. Consumer non-durables output, which reflects fast-moving consumer goods, grew 4.9 per cent in March as against (-)3.5 per cent in the previous month and (-)1.9 per

cent in the year-ago period. "Consumer durables and nondurables in FY24 recorded a much lower growth at 3.6 per cent and 4.0 per cent respectively suggesting continued weakness in consumption demand. Even in terms of output level these two segments are much more precariously placed vis-a-vis other usebased segments," a note by India Ratings' Principal Economist Sunil Kumar Sinha and Senior Analyst Paras Iasrai said.

> **FULL REPORT ON** www.indianexpress.com

The recovery in hiring was mainly driven by production and manufacturing, healthcare, chemicals and fertilisers, engineering, cement, construction, retail among other sectors

Retail, automotive, real estate, IT and oil/gas/power industries showcased moderate growth in

industries, shipping/marine, FMCG, printing/packaging saw a yearly downtrend in recruitment Metro regions of Bengaluru,

Sectors such as agro-based

Delhi-NCR, and Mumbai led the way as startup hubs

Majority of startups no longer offer remote work options

Decline in remote-work opportunities: 3% in April 2024 from 8% in April 2023

Foundit Insights Tracker

MUMBAI, MAY 10

HITESHVYAS

LONG BEFORE stocks, mutual funds and other financial instruments became part of the broader mix of investment options, gold has a preferred choice for parking wealth in India. The yellow metal is considered a safe haven asset, which provides a hedge against inflation or any kind of financial uncertainties. Apart from buying physical gold, the other options to invest in gold include instruments such as Sovereign Gold Bonds (SGBs), digital gold and gold exchange traded funds (ETF).

Why has gold been a preferred investment?

Gold has been an attractive investment asset for investors across the globe, including India, due to its outstanding return of more than 50 per cent compound annual growth rate (CAGR) in the domestic market over the last two-and-a-half years, said Deveya Gaglani, Senior Research Analyst - Commodities, Axis Securities. It is universally recognized as one of the best investments to preserve value, capital, as well as purchasing power.

According to World Gold Council, Regional CEO, India, Sachin Jain, gold is at the centre of celebrations on auspicious occasions in India and consumers celebrate auspicious occassions such as Akshaya Tritiya by purchasing gold, besides buying the yellow metal for marriages and family events in the form of gold coins, bars, jewellery and ticket purchases through digital gold buying platforms.

"Indian households have a strong cultural affinity for gold, and the appreciation in prices has further strengthened the demand for gold as an investment asset, resulting in increased consumer interest in Gold ETFs. Given the strong cultural connect, any shortterm softening of gold prices could see record gold demand this Akshaya Tritiya," Jain added.

How much have gold prices surged?

Gold prices recently reached historic levels of Rs 70,000 in India, mainly due to geopolitical tensions and Central Banks' accumulation of gold reserves, which have outweighed the hawkish stance

GOLD PRICES IN LAST 10 YEARS

Akshaya	Gold Price (24 Carat	Returns
Tritiya date	/₹per 10 gram)	in%
May 2	30,182	-
April 21	26,936	-12.05
May 9	29,805	9.63
April 28	28,873	-3.23
April 18	31,534	8.44
May 7	31,729	0.61
April 26	46,527	31.81
May 14	47,676	2.41
May 3	50,808	6.16
April 22	59,845	15.10
May 10	71,240	16.00
	May 2 April 21 May 9 April 28 April 18 May 7 April 26 May 14 May 3 April 22	May 2 30,182 April 21 26,936 May 9 29,805 April 28 28,873 April 18 31,534 May 7 31,729 April 26 46,527 May 14 47,676 May 3 50,808 April 22 59,845

adopted by US Federal Reserve of-

ficials this year, Axis Securities' Galani said. Gold prices have witnessed a sharp rally in the month of March 2024, with prices hitting all-time highs in domestic and international markets. Gold prices in India have crossed Rs 73,000 per 10 gram while at COMEX prices have crossed \$2400 per ounce mark, said Tapan Patel, Fund Manager-Commodities. Tata Asset

What is the outlook on gold prices?

EXPLAINED

Management.

Gold prices may continue to get support from global macro

headwinds, Central Banks' buying

and geopolitical factors. The US Fed pivot of interest rate cycle may provide a sudden boost to the prices where market is still bracing for 'higher-for-longer' rate scenario, said Tata Asset Management's Patel. According to Geojit Financial Services' Head of Commodities Hareesh V, "Since domestic gold prices are hovering near record highs, there is a chance of a technical correction in gold price in the immediate run." But in the long run, firm overseas prices, increased physical demand, and a weak rupee would assist prices to retain their bullish outlook, he said.

What is the expectation on gold investment returns?

"We believe this year itself we are going to witness a slowdown in the returns generated by gold, compared to the last two years.

This conjecture is based on several factors, one of the key ones being the strengthening of the US dollar riding on the back of an expected relaxation of interest rates by the

Wealth Management. In addition, Central Banks of the world are currently on a buying spree. Such a spree will definitely taper down within the next

Fed later this year," said Shashank

Pal, Chief Business Officer, PL

one or two quarters, thus markedly lowering demand, Pal added.

What should investors

Gold is one of the best long-term assets which offers both safety and decent re-

turn to its investors. Domestic gold has more than doubled in the last 5 years, and it gained 10 times since 2003. So, investors can make use of every price correction to add the metal into their portfolio for long-term benefits, Geojit Financial Services' Hareesh said.

Analysts recommend buying gold in smaller denominations rather than making large pur-

Investors should consider factors such as market trends which are a bit volatile, geopolitical events on West Asia crisis and delay in interest rate cuts by the US Federal Reserve, and their own financial goals before investing in gold during Akha Teej or Akshaya Tritiva said Jateen Trivedi, VP Research Analyst - Commodity

and Currency, LKP Securities.

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

premium up 61% in Apr vidual single plans and 10 per **ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU**

Life insurers' new biz

MUMBAI, MAY 10

LIFE INSURANCE industry reported a 61.23 per cent jump in new business premium (NBP) at Rs 20,258.86 crore in April 2024, as against Rs 12,565.31 crore in the same period of last year.

The growth in NBP was mainly due to group single premium which rose over 126 per cent, according to the recent data released by the Life Insurance Council. New business premium is the premium earned by issuing new insurance policies in a

The industry showed a growth of 19 per cent in the number of policies sold in indi-

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU

Foreign portfolio investors (FPIs)

net sold Rs 17,083 crore of Indian

equities in May so far amid hard-

ening of US bond yields and out-

performance of Chinese and

by National Securities

Depository Ltd (NSDL), FPIs, on

a gross basis, purchased Rs

108,959 crore worth of equities

and sold Rs 126,042 crore till

May 10. In April, overseas in-

vestors dumped Rs 8,671 crore

contributed to the fall in bench-

mark stock market indices.

Sensex and the Nifty 50, which

declined by 2.6 per cent each, in

Chief Investment Strategist V K

Geojit Financial Services

Heavy selling by FPIs also

According to data provided

MUMBAI, MAY 10

Hong Kong markets.

of domestic shares.

the current month.

cent growth in individual nonsingle plans, the data showed. During the month, around 49,205 life insurance agents were added.

Quoting Life Insurance Council's latest figures, the insurance behemoth said the total premium collected by LIC in April 2024 was Rs 12,383.64 crore -- 113.14 per cent higher than the Rs 5,810.10 crore premium collected the same month a year ago.

The achievement can be attributed to LIC's implementation of innovative marketing strategies and its strong reputation for reliability and customer-centric services, the insurer said in a statement.

FPIs sell ₹17,083 cr of equities in

AGGRESSIVE SELLING

Apart from the high

the Chinese and Hong

US bond yields, the

outperformance of

Kong markets has

triggering foreign

been the new factor

institutional investors

Vijayakumar said that a major

trend in the market is the aggres-

sive selling by FIIs (foreign insti-

tutional investors) so far this

month. It is important to under-

stand that there is a new factor

triggering FII selling, apart from

the high US bond yields. This is

the outperformance of the

Chinese and Hong Kong mar-

"During the last one month

May so far; 'likely to continue'

BY INVESTORS

manufacturing sector: Report Hiring in India increased in April compared to the same

month in 2023, indicating a recovery in employment opportunities, as per foundit Insights Tracker report

Hiring grew 9% in Apr led by



37% Increase in number of startups since last year

while Nifty is down 1.5 per cent

the Shanghai Composite is up by

2.62 per cent and Hang Seng is

up by a whopping 8.8 per cent.

Chinese and Hong Kong markets

earnings) around 10 while India

is expensive with double the PE

of these markets," Vijayakumar

mance of the Chinese and Hong

due to FII selling, he said.

rounding election results.

So long as this outperfor-

Though domestic institu-

tional investors (DIIs) are buying

they are not as aggressive as they

were due to some concerns sur-

bought Rs 43,307 crore and in

the debt-VRR (Voluntary

Retention Route), they pur-

chased Rs 7917 crore, NSDL data

In the debt market, FPIs net

said.

showed.

Rise in total no. of jobs provided by startups

Telecom dept directs telcos to block 28,200 phones used in cybercrimes

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, MAY 10

are cheap with PEs (price to DEPARTMENT THE Telecommunications (DoT) has directed telecom operators to block more than 28,000 mobile handsets across the country due to their involvement in cybercrime. The department has Kong markets continue, FIIs are also asked them to carry out likely to sell. The weakness in reverification of 20 lakh mobile frontline financials is primarily connections linked to these

handsets. "DoT, Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and State Police have joined hands for curbing the misuse of telecom resources in cyber-crime and financial frauds. This collaborative effort aims to dismantle networks of fraudsters and protect citizens from digital threats," the Ministry of Finance said in a statement.



DoT has directed to carry out reverification of 20 lakh mobile connections.

"Analysis carried out by MHA and State Police have revealed that 28.200 mobile handsets were misused in cybercrimes. The DoT further analysed and found that a stag-

gering 20 lakh numbers were used with these mobile handsets. Subsequently, DoT issued directions to telecom service providers for pan India blocking of 28,200 mobile handsets and to carry out immediate reverification of 20 lakh mobile connections linked to these mobile handsets and disconnect failing re-verification," the statement

In March, the Union Minister for Communications Ashwini Vaishnaw had released the Digital Intelligence Platform (DIP) for coordination among various stakeholders – including the government, financial entities like banks and online platforms – to curb the misuse of telecom resources in cybercrime and financial frauds. The platform also contains information regarding the cases detected as misuse of telecom resources. It can only be accessed by authorised stakeholders and not by the public.

In August last year, the department had mandated that dealers selling SIM cards register themselves with telecom operators in a bid to crack down on dealers engaged in issuing fraudulent SIM cards. The government has also discontinued the provision of issuing bulk connections, replacing it with a provision for businesses to obtain connections for their employees and other purposes afthorough know-your-customer (KYC)

process. In case of any illegal activity, the dealership will be terminated and blacklisted for three years. The process of verification should be done within a

year, the ministry had earlier

said.

IT hardware PLI: 17 cos to begin production in '24

NCLAT asks Google, CCI to file replies over Play Store billing policy

New Delhi: The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) on Friday directed Google and Competition Commission of India (CCI), among other respondents, to file their responses over the petitions filed against the Play Store billing policy. A two-member bench directed them to file a reply within a week and counter reply, if any, and directed to list next hearing on May 24.

The appellate tribunal's direction came over petitions filed by the Indian Broadcasting and Digital Foundation (IBDF), Indian Digital Media Industry Foundation, People Interactive India, and Kuku FM operator Mebigo Labs. They have challenged the order passed by the CCI declining to grant interim relief against the billing policy. PTI

JANUARY-MARCH QUARTER RESULT

Tata Motors consolidated net profit jumps 219%

SWARAJ BAGGONKAR MUMBAI, MAY 10

TATA MOTORS' consolidated net profit for the three months to March jumped 219 per cent year-on-year to Rs 17,529 crore, driven by a superior mix, strong realisations at Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) and a significant deferred tax credit.

A Bloomberg consensus estimate had pegged the figure to come in at Rs 6,967 crore for Q4. Consolidated revenues grew by 14 per cent y-o-y to Rs 1.19 tril-

lion, lower than the *Bloomberg* estimate of Rs 1.20 trillion. There was a deferred tax credit of Rs 9,478 crore during the reporting quarter, including Rs 7,093 crore pertaining to JLR.

PB Balaji, group CFO, Tata Motors said, "The India business is now debt-free and we are on track to become net automotive debt-free on a consolidated basis in FY25. The strong performance has also helped us recognise deferred tax assets."

Ebitda margin improved to 14.9 per cent in Q4 from 13.3 per cent in the year-ago period. The increase was driven by ILR, whose own margins stood at 16.4 per cent, followed by 12 per cent at the commercial vehicle division and 7.3 per cent at the passenger vehicle division.

The company's net automotive debt ended at Rs 16,000 crore by the end of FY24. Its board has decided to recommend a final dividend of Rs 3 per ordinary share and a special div-

idend of Rs 3 per ordinary share. For FY25, JLR has raised its investment spend to £3.5 billion from £3.3 billion in FY24, which was higher than the £3 billion

guided previously. There will be no change in the investment spend at Tata Motors at Rs 8,000 crore for the fiscal. This will go into technology development and new products, said Balaji.

Tata Motors' global wholesales during the reporting quarter rose 8 per cent y-o-y to 377,100 units, including a growth of 16 per cent in ILR volumes to 110,200 units.

Commercial vehicle wholesale dipped 6 per cent to 111,300 units while that of passenger vehicles grew by 15 per cent to 155,600 units.

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, MAY 10 MAJORITY OF the personal com-

puter and server makers selected under the IT hardware production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme are expected to start production this year, ministry of electronics and IT (MeitY) secretary. S Krishnan said on Friday.

A total of 27 companies had received approval under the Rs 17,000-crore PLI scheme last year. Of these, 17 are expected to start the production this year.

"Around 6-7 of them started

plans to start production next year," Krishnan said on the sidelines of the inauguration of a high-end computing server manufacturing unit of Netweb Technologies in Faridabad. The targets given by the sec-

production last year and two have

retary is significant because the government is looking to increase domestic value addition. "We are periodically reviewing the progress in IT Hardware

PLI. We are quite satisfied with the way things are," Krishnan The government, in

November 2023, approved the

application of 27 companies, including Dell, HP, Foxconn, Lenovo. Netweb Technologies, under the revised IT hardware PLI scheme.

Meanwhile, on Friday, Netweb Technologies inaugurated its end-to-end, high-end computing server, storage and switch manufacturing facility.

The facility includes printed circuit board (PCB) design, manufacturing and SMT (surface mount technology) line for highend servers, storage and switches, with advanced manufacturing skills.

The facility is expected to create hundreds of local jobs, the company said. "The ability to design and

manufacture high-end technology domestically is not just a matter of pride but a strategic imperative," Krishnan said, adding that it is key for India to achieve Atmanirbharta in technology ar eas such as high-end computing Sanjay Lodha, CMD of Netweb

Technologies said, "the new facility will significantly enhance India's capability to deliver comprehensive data centre computing solutions, covering everything from design to final product". Netweb is also a beneficiary

under the IT Hardware PLI. **FE**

18 CLASSIFIEDS & TENDERS

Classifieds

PERSONAL

It is for general information that I,Nirmla,daughter of,Late Shri Richhpal Singh, resident of, H.No. 61, Sector-21-B, Faridabad-121001, Haryana, declare that name of mine has been wrongly-written as Nirmala in my service book. The actual name of mine is Nirmla respectively, which may be amended accordingly 0040727874-9

I. PRADEEP KUMAR, S/O-PARSHURAM, R/O. JHUGGI-K-**BLOCK-A-759, JAHANGIRPURI DELHI 33, HAVE CHANGED MY** NAME TO PRADEEP, PERMANENTLY. 0040727871-10

I,hitherto known as Rajesh,D/o Nathi Ram W/o-Ramesh Chand, R/o S-117, S-Block, Pandav-Nagar, Shakar Pur Baramad, Shakarpur, East Delhi, Delhi-110092, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Vinita 0040727899-6 Verma.

I,hitherto known as Amitabha

Barua, S/o Adhir Kumar Barua, R/o C-12/1, Radio Colony, Kingsway Camp, Dr. Muhkerjee Magar, North West-Delhi, Delhi-110009, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Ayush Barua. 0040727899-7

Mukesh Kumar, R/O-H.No.03, Street No.01, Shiv Shakti Enclave, Salarpur, Sector-81, Noida, U.P. 201304, inform that my mother name has been wrongly mentioned in my high School Marksheet Archana Chauhan instead of Archna Chauhan.

I,Yash Chaudhary,S/O-Mr.

0040727921-2

I,Vijay Kumar,S/o Mangat Ram, R/o C N-105, Raja Pur Village, Sector-9, Rohini, North West Delhi, Delhi-110085, have changed the name of myminor daughter Ritu aged-16vears and she shall hereafter be known as Ritu Sisodia.

0040727899-4 I, VIRENDER GARG, S/O SATDEV

GARG,R/o B-006,JM Florence, Tower-B, Sector Techzone-4, Greater-Noida, Gautam-Budh Nagar(UP)have changed my name to VIRENDER KUMAR GARG, for all 0040727908-5 purposes. I.VICKY ARORA S/O KASTURI LAL

R/O C-125/26,NEHRU VIHAR DELHI-110054, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO MADHAV SHARAN ARORA.

0040727874-10

ASLAM S/O SAGIR AHMAD R/O A-16, MAIN SHALIMAR GARDEN, SAHIBABAD, GHAZIABAD, UP-201005 CHANGED MY NAME TO MOHD ASLAM 0130042001-1 **I,Sunil** Kumar,S/o-Late.Surpat

Singh,R/o-591-A/2-B/2,Arjun-Gali.Vishwas Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi-110032, have changed the name

of my-minor son Aakash Aged-13Years and he shall hereafter be known as Aakash Kumar. 0040727908-8 I,Shubham Singhal,S/o Sh.Ajit

Singhal R/o Plot.No.5-6.3rd-Floor, Pocket-D-14, Rohini, Sector-7, Delhi-110085, declare that name of my daughter has been wrongly mentioned as Preshu Singhal in her birth certificate, while her correct name is Shreeja Singhal.

0040727874-8

I,SUNIL KUMAR Son of RATI RAM,R/o 48/3, FIRST-FLOOR, BASANT GAON, NEW DELHI-110057, have changed the name of my minor-Daughter VANSHIKA to VANSHIKA YADAV, for al purposes. 0040727871-7

I,SHISHU PAL,S/O TOTARAM,R/o Plot No.231, GF-II, Gyan Khand-1,Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, (UP) have changed my name to SHISHUPAL PRAJAPATI, for all purposes.

0040727908-3 I,SAROJ BALA,W/O RAKESH

GARG,R/O E-1/10D,BUDH VIHAR PHASE-1, DELHI-110086, have changed my name to SAROJ BALA GARG.

0040727871-4

,SANJIV KUMAR,S/O DHAN SINGH,R/o H.No.20,Housing Complex, River Heights, Rajnagar Extension, Ghaziabad(UP)-201017,have changed my name to SANJEEV KUMAR. 0040727908-7

I.SACHIV KISHORE BHATNAGAR, S/O-LATE SH.M.K. BHATNAGAR, R/o 64-C, POCKET-A, MAYUR VIHAR, PHASE-2, DELHI-110091, have changed my,name SACHIV KISHORE **BHATNAGAR to SACHIV** BHATNAGAR.for all future 0040727899-2 purpose.

I,Rohit Agarwal,S/o Narottam Das Aggarwal, R/o G-1104,Exotica-Fresco,Sector-137, Noida, Gautam Budh-Nagar, Uttar-Pradesh-201305, h ave changed my name, from Rohit Agarwal to Rohit Aggarwal, for all, future purpose. 0040727874-6

I.Rajive monga, s/o-Radha Krishan, Add-plot no-48,Third Floor Pocket-4A Sector-23, Rohini Delhi-110085, changed my name to Rajiv

0040727874-1 Kumar. I, Ashok Kumar Batra S/o Alam Chand Batra R/o 7/46A, Ramesh Nagar, Delhi-110015, have changed my-

name to Ashok Kumar for-allpurposes. 0040727927-4 I Prabjot Kaur W/o Gurpreet Singh G-1 Abchal Nagar

Chander-Vihar Nilothi Extn

Delhi, have changed my name

to Prabhjot Kaur. 0040727908-2

I,Rajesh Kumar Singla S/o Sheeshpal Singla R/o-C-122,G.F Maharana, Pratap Enclave Pitampura Delhi-110034, changed my name to

I,RITA RANI W/O-VIRENDER KUMAR GARG R/o,B-006,JM Florence, Tower-B, Sector Techzone-4, Greater Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar(UP)have changed my name to RITA GARG, for all purposes.

Rajesh Kumar. 0040727921-3

0040727871-5

I,RAKESH KUMAR,S/O SURESH KUMAR GARG,R/O E-1/10 D,BUDH VIHAR PHASE-1, DELHI-110086, have changed my name to RAKESH GARG. 0040727871-3 I,RAJESH KUMAR,S/O KANWAR SINGH SAINI.R/O BK-

to RAJESH KUMAR SAINI.

1/69.SHALIMAR BAGH, DELHI-110088, have changed my name

I,RAHBRE AZAM JAFRI S/O-BAHAR AHMED JAFRI, R/O-PLOT NO.B-7/35,GROUND FLOOR, SECTOR-17.ROHINI.DELHI-110089.HAVE **CHANGED MY NAME TO**

I,Pardeep S/o Nasib Singh H.No.186, VPO. Kaloi District Jhajjar (Haryana)-124103,have changed my name to Pardeep Kumar. 0040727899-1 I,PRABHA VATI W/O, KULDEEP

RAHBRE AZAM. 0040727921-1

CHANDER BEHAL,B 1/051,TOWER-12, PURVANCHAL ROYAL CITY SECTOR CHI-5, GREATER NOIDA KASANA, U.P-201310, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SNEH PRABHA. 0040727871-6

I,PHOOLBADAN YADAV,S/O LATE

SURAJNATH, JHUGGI.NO A-705 **BEHIND K BLOCK** JAHANGIRPURI DELHI-33.HAVE **CHANGED MY NAME TO** PHOOLBADAN. 0040727874-3

GARG,R/O E-1/10 D,BUDH VIHAR PHASE-1, DELHI-110086, have changed my name to PAWAN GARG. 0040727871-2 I,NIDHI D/O.JAGAT NARAYAN

I,PAWAN KUMAR S/O RAKESH

SHARMA,R/O.130/A,3RD-FLOOR, DSIDC-COMPLEX, **KOTLA MUBARAKPUR** ALIGANJ, SOUTH DELHI 110003, changed my name to **NEW...** NIDHI SHARMA, for all, future purposes.

0040727921-6

I, Master Rajat, son of, Uma Shanker Singh presently, residing at, Village-Haray pur post office -sohil patty.Distt-Siwan-841406Bihar, have changed my name.from master Rajat to Rajat Singh Rathore, videaffidavit, Dated-10.05.2024, at New-delhi 0040727899-8

I,MANOJ KUMAR CHAUDHARY, S/O NARSINGH CHOUDHRY,R/o 212,Desire Residency, Ahinsa Khand-2,Indrapuram, Ghaziabad(UP)-201014, have changed my name to MANOJ KUMAR CHOUDHARY for all purposes. 0040727908-6

I,Lalita Bhati,W/o Rajesh Kumar, R/o-345, C-2 Ph.-4,Gali.No.9,Ayanagar,New Delhi-110047 declare that my name has been wronglywritten as Lalita Devi in my husband's Army service records. My correct name is Lalita Devi and DOB is 20/9/1983. 0040727921-5

I,Kanika Puri,D/O Kamal Kumar, R/O H.NO.S-1/17, Tibbia Collage, Karol Bagh, Delhi-110005 Have Changed my Name to Kanika. 0040727874-2 I,Ishpreet Singh,Son

of, Satvinder Singh, R/O House.no-10/289,DDA-flats Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019, have changed my Name to ISHPREET and Surname SINGH, Permanently.

0040727874-4

I,GUDDI D/O BHIKAM SINGH,R/O H.NO-E-321.BLOCK-E.MANGOL PURI.DELLHI-110083.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME GUDDI TO GITIKA SINGH, FOR FUTURE.

0040727908-1

I.Ex-No-12954251X. NK Akhter Hussain Wani, S/O- Ali Mohd Wani, R/O-Shaligung, Tehsil-Lalpora, District - Kupwara. In my service records my name has been wrongly mentioned as Akther Hussain Wani instead of Akhtar Hussain Wani as in School records. It needs correction. Objections be filled to concerned 0020475752-1 authorities.

I,Bharat Bhushan Malhotra S/o Nand Kishore R/o NU-5B. Pitampura Delhi-110034, have changed my name to Bharat Bhushan, For all purposes.

0040727899-3

I.BABLI RANJAN W/O MADHUKAR KUMAR R/O,H.N.-52, GALI NO-15, A-1, BLOCK **BANGALI COLONY SANT-**NAGAR.BURARI DELHI-110084, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO BABLI KUMARI.

0040727874-5

I,Attar Singh Yadav, Aadhar. no. 455884005431) S/o-Late Sh.Pahlad,R/o-H.No.58/31A, Gali.No.3, West Rajiv Nagar, Distt.-Gurugram, inform that ATTAR SINGH YADAV & ATTAR SINGH.both names are same 0040727921-4 person. I Mrs. Kumari Korivi .W/o -No

15179695N, Nayak (GNR) **VENKATA SWAMY KORIVI Unit** 29 RR BN Village Konda Peta, Giddalur, PO: Giddalur Dist. Prakasam, Andhra Pradesh-523357 my name has been wrongly mentioned in army documents of my husband as Kumari and Correct is Kumari

Korivi 0020475753-1 I. Heena W/o Md Yunus R/o 9/4928 Street-3, Old Seelampur, East Delhi have changed my name to Hina. 0070902684-1

I,Anshu Goyal,W/o-Rohit Aggarwal, R/o-G 1104, Exotica-Fresco, Sector-137, Noida, GautamBudh-Nagar,Uttar Pradesh-201305, have changed my name, from Anshu Goyal to Anshu Aggarwal, for all, future purpose. 0040727874-7

I,ANIL KUMAR,S/o RATI RAM,R/o 48/3, FIRST FLOOR, BASANT GAON, NEW DELHI-110057, have changed the name of my minor-Daughter DEEKSHA to DEEKSHA YADAV, for all 0040727871-8 purposes.

I,Neha Tagra,W/o Lukesh R/o-HD-17, Pitampura Delhi-34, have changed my name from Neha Tagra to Neha Messon, permanently.

0040727871-1

I. Vineet Kumar Khattar S/o Subhash Chander R/o 784, Jheel Khuranja, Krishna Nagar, East Delhi, Delhi-110051, have changed my name to Vineet Khattar. 0040727927-2

I, Sweta Maan W/O Ankur Maan born on 09/08/1991 residing at "IRIS-1003, Paramount Floraville, Sector 137, Noida, G.B. Nagar, U. P.(201305)", have changed my name to Sweta Chahar vide affidavit dated (08/05/2024) before notary Renu Bala at Noida for all future purposes. 0050241765-1

I, Shivam Kumar S/O Prabhat Kumar, R/o Kaushalya Apartment, Shalimar Palace, Kn-503, Plot No-46,2nd Floor, Shakti Enclave, Burari, North Delhi- 110084, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Shivam Singh. 0070902596-1

I, Shikha W/o Paramveer Kohli R/o H-903, JM Florence, Tech Zone-4 Greater Noida West, Gautam Buddha Nagar U.P-201308 Have Changed my name after marriage to Shikha Kohli for all future purposes.

0070902604-1

I. Shikha Khattar D/o Ramesh Kumar Huriya R/o B-6, SF-4, Ramprastha Colony, Chander Nagar, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201011, have changed my name to Shikha Huriya. 0040727927-1 I, Sanjana Thapa D/O Shri.

Devendra Singh Thapa R/O 5/52C, Kalpana, Sector-5, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201010 have changed my name to Sanjana. The date of the affidavit for the name change is 07.05.2024. 0040727795-1

I, SREEKUMAR M G S/O G K NAIR

R/O 22-C, POCKET-6, MIG FLATS, MAYUR VIHAR PHASE-3, VASUNDHRA ENCLAVES, DELHI-110096 have changed my minor daughter's name from **VAISHNAVIS NAIR to** VAISHNAVI SREEKUMAR for all Purposes. 0070902568-1

I, S P Garg S/O Hanuman Sahai. R/O 16A, Commissioner Lane, Civil Lines, Delhi 110054 have changed my name to Satya Prakash Garg vide notarized doc 01802/24 dt 10-05-24

0070902594-1

I, Rajesh Kumar S/o Om Prakash R/o B-51, Surajmal Vihar, East Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Rajesh Kumar Verma. 0040727927-3

I, Pravesh Kumar S/o Kapoor Singh R/o 310, VPO-Bhadani (94), Jhajjar, Haryana-124104 have changed my name to Parvesh Kumar 0070902685-1

I, Pranali, wife of No-14840182Y, NK/MT Patel Brijeshkumar Mahendrabhai, R/o A/5, Narsinhdham Society Part-4, New VIP Road, B/H Bakor Nagar, Vadodara, Gujarat-390019, have changed my name from Pranali to Patel Pranali Brijeshkumar, vide affidavit dated 30-Apr-2024, before Notary Public, Delhi.

0040727776-1

I, Pearl Dhupar D/O Sudhir Kumar Dhupar, R/o A-2/284, Janakpuri, Delhi- 110058. Declare that Name of Mine and My Father has been wrongly written as Pearl Dhooper and Sudhir Dhooper in my **Gradution Certificate. The** actual name of Mine and My Father are Pearl Dhupar and Sudhir Kumar Dhupar, which may be amended accordingly. 0070902678-1

I, No-14840182Y, NK/MT Patel Brijeshkumar Mahendrabhai, R/o A/5, Narsinhdham Society Part-4, New VIP Road, B/H Bakor Nagar, Vadodara, Gujarat-390019, have changed my minor son's name from Vishnu to Patel Vishnu Brijeshkumar, vide affidavit dated 30-Apr-2024, before Notary Public, Delhi.

0040727776-5

I, Ishani D/o Abhishek Kumar R/o B-727 Amrit Vihar Gali no.-11 Burari-84 have changed my name Ishani to Ishani Gupta for all future purposes.

0040727802-1

I, No-14840182Y, NK/MT Patel Brijeshkumar Mahendrabhai, R/o A/5, Narsinhdham Society Part-4, New VIP Road, B/H Bakor Nagar, Vadodara, Gujarat-390019, have changed my minor daughter's name from Jahanvi to Patel Jahanvi Brijeshkumar, vide affidavit dated 30-Apr-2024, before Notary Public, Delhi.

0040727776-4

I, Neeru Shankardatta Joshi & Joshi Neeru Shankar W/o Ram Kumar Giri R/o 122/A, Gandhi Nagar Ghaziabad have changed my name to Neeru 0070902683-1 Joshi Giri.

I Naveen S/o Prakash Singh R/o 25/3, Ch. Shikarpur Compound, D M Road, Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh-203001 have changed my name to Dr. Naveen Lohia for all purposes in future.

0040727778-5

I, Mohd Yunus S/o Saifullah R/o 9/4928, Gali.-3, Old Seelampur, East Delhi have changed my name to Md Yunus.

I, Mohammed Mubin, S/o-

0070902693-1

Mohammed Ismail, R/o:-H.No.-787,2nd Floor,Right Side,Gali No-7, Zakir Nagar, Okhla, South Delhi-110025, have change my name to Mohd Mubeen, S/o-Mohd Ismail, for all purposes. 0040727899-5 I, Manjeet Kumar Dagar S/o Sh.

Tej Singh Dagar R/o H.No. 263C, Firan Pana, Isa Pur, Delhi-110073, have declare that in my son Raghav Dagar school record mine and my wife name mentioned as MANJEET SINGH DAGAR & SEEMA instead of MANJEET KUMAR DAGAR & SEEMA RANI. In future we will be known as MANJEET KUMAR DAGAR & SEEMA RANI for all purposes, which may be amended accordingly.

0070902611-1

0040727776-2

I, Mahendra Bhai, Father of No-14840182Y, NK/MT Patel Brijeshkumar Mahendrabhai, R/o A/5, Narsinhdham Society Part-4, New VIP Road, B/H Bakor Nagar, Vadodara, Gujarat-390019, have changed my name from Mahendra Bhai to Patel Mahendrabhai Chaturbhai, vide affidavit dated 30- Apr-2024, before Notary Public, Delhi.

I, Lokeshwar Nath S/o Rana Igbal Nath Sharma R/o-H.No-103, Block-KP Maurya Enclave, Pitampura, Delhi-110034, have changed my name to Lokeshwar Nath Sharma, Permanently. 0040727865-1

I, Lakshmi Thapa W/O Shri Devendra Singh Thapa R/O 5/52C, Kalpana, Sector-5, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201010 have changed my name to Laxmi Devi. The date of the affidavit for the name change 0040727794-1 is 07.05.2024.

I, Kishan Pasl Singh Narma S/o Shri Sharwan Kumar R/o Village Sehal, Post Bahadurgarh, Distt. Hapur, (U. P.)-245208 have changed my name from Kishan Pal Singh Narma to Kishan Pal Singh for 0040727777-1 all purposes.

I, JITENDRA S/O RISHIPAL SINGH **R/O 77, GALI NO. 2, NEW** KARHERA COLONY, MOHAN NAGAR, GHAZIABAD, UTTAR PRADESH-201007 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as JITENDRA DHIMAN. 0070902682-1

I. Ishu Kumar S/o Suresh Chand

R/o Plot No.3, Street No.1, Block-F1, Pradhan Enclave,

Burari, North-Delhi-110084 my mother name is mentioned in some documents as Devi. But correct name is Shri Mati Devi for all future purposes. 0040727797-1 I, Dharmistha Ben, Mother of No-14840182Y, NK/MT Patel Brijeshkumar Mahendrabhai,

R/o A/5, Narsinhdham Society Part-4, New VIP Road, B/H Bakor Nagar, Vadodara, Gujarat-390019, have changed my name from Dharmistha Ben to Patel Dharmishthaben, vide affidavit dated 30-Apr-2024, before Notary Public, Delhi.

I, Dhanas D S/o. R. Dineshan R/o. 46-D, Pocket B-7, Mayur Vihar Phase-3, Delhi-110096 I declare that my father's name wrongly Written in my Educational 10th certificate as Dineshan R. his actual & correct name is R. Dineshan for all purposes.

0040727854-1 I, Baljit Sarup S/O Gurudev Sarup, R/o H no - 141, Ground Floor, KH no -61, Village Rajpur Khurd, South Delhi- 110068, I have changed the name of my minor daughter Bahrpoor aged about 17 Years and She shall hereafter be known as Bharpoor Sarup 0070902599-1

I, Baljati Devi, spouse of Ramoo Singh resident of E-201 Plumeria Garden Estate Omicron-3 Plot No GH -1 Greater Noida Gautam Buddha Nagar Uttar Pradesh 201310. have changed my name from Baljati Devi to Soni Singh vide affidavit dated 07/05/2024 before notary Virendra Singh. Gautam Buddha Nagar

0050241771-1

I, Amit Kumar Makhija S/o Chaman Lal Makhija, R/o-M-44, First-Floor, Greater Kailash,Part-I,New Delhi-110048, have to changed my minor son name from Aryaveer Makhija to Arya Veer Makhija, for all future purposes. 0040727780-1

I Yogesh Bharti Yadav D/o Sh. Keshri Chand Yadav R/o 5/288A, Near Old Farsh Bazar, Mohalla Sarai, Shahdara, North East Delhi, Delhi-110032 have changed my name to Bhartti Yadav for all purposes.

0040727778-3

I Renu Gaur D/o Muni Lal W/o Jai Dev Kumar Sharma R/o B-32. Eden Towers, Plot No.20, Opposite BGS International School, Dwarka, Sector -5, South West Delhi, Delhi-110075 have changed my name to Renu Sharma for all purposes. 0040727778-4

I PRATIBHA D/O RAM SEWAK

MAURYA R/O House-No.169-B, Pocket-GG-1 Vikas-Puri, Tilak Nagar West-Delhi, Delhi-110018, have changed my name to PRATIBHA MAURYA. 0040727927-8

I Sahil S/o Sh. Suresh Kumar R/o

A/100, Karam Pura, Ramesh Nagar, Delhi-110015 have changed my name to Sahil Katna for all purposes. epaper.indianexpress.com

I Megha Kukreti D/o Sh.Vinod Kukreti W/o Sh.Sorabh Jain R/o 854/56, 1st Floor, Lekhu Nagar, Tri Nagar, Onkar Nagar, North West Delhi, Delhi-110035 have changed my name after

purposes.

I Dinesh Kumar R/o C-33, Anand Niketan New Delhi-21 have changed my minor daughter name from Anya Singh to Anya for all future purposes

marriage to Meghaa Jain for all

0070902608-1

0040727778-1

I, Ritika Jain W/O Rajiv Kumar Jain R/O-705 L/10 Ward no.6, Mehrauli, New Delhi-110030 have changed my name from Renu Jain to Ritika Jain after marriage. Renu Jain and Ritika Jain both names belong to same person. And my correct date of birth is 16/07/1972 and not 16/07/1971. 0130042002-1

Sudarshan Kumar agarwalla, Address W-3/33 Wellington Dlf City phase 5 gurgaon haryana 122009, changed my name to Ashwani Kumar agarwalla. 0040726443-1

I, Ashwani Kumar Arya S/o

LOST & FOUND

I Poonam Verma W/o Sh. Ravi Verma R/o 43-B, S/F, Govind Park, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-110051 have lost my Agreement to Sell & Payment Receipt executed on 03.06.1974 by Ram Parkash Narang in favour of Ram Bhaj W.R.T. Plot No.12, New Gobind Pura Extn., Delhi-110051. Finders may contact at above address. 0040727778-6

lost my original Allotment letter & Possession letter of Flat No.A-403, Khushboo Appartment, Sector-Pi 1st, Greater Noida U.P.If anyone finds them pl contsct Rajender Nath Mujoo. Mob. 9899718241

0070902688-1

0040727782-1

0040727899-10

I, Chandrani Roy Talukdar W/o Mr. J.B. Roy Talukder R/o 504A, CBIP CGHS, Nayantara, Plot 8B, Sector-7, Dwarka, Delhi declares that the Unit No. ABDEN-0501 of Ansal Highland Park Sector-103, Gurgaon. Receipt No. 0581244, 0595762, 0599364, 0603386, 0612602, 0613201, 0634213, 0621326, 0564382, 0650624 total amounting to Rs. 70,19,647/have been actually lost near Dwarka Delhi. Contact:

I,Amit Rani,W/o-Deepak Lather, R/o-Karsolya Pana District Jind(Haryana)-126101, have Lost my Other-Property Registry.No.3604, Dated-05-03-1993.has been Lost Somewhere in Bahadurgarh on Dated 03.04.2024.Finder Contactabove address# 9818886309.

9818420547

We, Mahesh Kumar Goel and Aman Goel hereby inform that we have lost our original allotment-letter dated-08.04.2011 issued by HSIIDC Itd., Haryana for our Plotno.206,Phase-1,Udyog Vihar, Gurugram, Haryana. If any person find this document, please send the document to address C-8, Pushpanjali enclave, Pitampura, Delhi-

110034. Ph.-9899026781.

0040727874-11

RECRUITMENT

OTHERS

SITUATION VACANT

Greenfields Public School (Senior Secondary) Dilshad Garden, GTB Enclave Delhi - 110093 Tel. 22584740, 22118756 Requires

PRINCIPAL Candidates must have

minimum 10 years experience of teaching as TGT/PGT/Vice Principal. Female candidates with age not exceeding 50 years and experience of Administrative charge of a recognized Sr. Sec. School. shall be preferred. Apply within ten days on prescribed application form available at school reception from 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m or sent resume by Email at : info@greenfieldspublicschool.com Only short-listed candidates shall be called for Interview.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

By it known that my client SHR GURPREET SINGH SON OF SHRI SATINDER SINGH HOUSE NO.7, ROAD NO.84 WEST PUNJABI BAGH, NEW DELHI-110026, has Lost his Property Documents (i.e. Original Sale Deed, 16.04.1962 in favour o Shri S. P. Sethi) related to H.No.7 Road No.84, Punjabi Bagh West New Delhi-110026. Finders Pla Contact Adv. Puneet Chugh Mobile: 09310013613, Address Chamber No.1, Old SDM Office, Main Rohtak Road, Nangloi, New Delhi-110041.

PUNEET CHUGH Advocate Chamber No.1, Old SDM Office Main Rohtak Road, Nangloi New Delhi-110041

B-3/83, Basement

Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi-29

PUBLIC NOTICE Smt. Rajwanti Devi W/o Sh. Ashoi Kumar R/o H-739 B. Palan Extension, Sector-7, Dwarka, Ne Delhi-110077 to bring to the notice of general public that she has disowner ier daughter-Kusum Lata, th Relinquishment Deed, husband of her daughter-Bijendra Kumar and her two grandchildres Pragun Kumar and Raghav with mmediate effect. My client ha severed all her relationship and ties with the said persons. Kusum Lata along with her husband and children are hereby notified tha they are not entitled to make an claim regarding ownership rights of any other rights over the movable ar immovable properties standing in the PUNEET CHUGH name of my client Smt. Rajwanti Dev and her husband Mr Ashok Kumar Mahesh Thakur Advocate

PUBLIC NOTICE Be it know to all that my client Mrs. Shashi Malik, R/o A-210 Prashant Vihar New

21.03.2000, executed by Poonam W/o Rajeev Kumar Agarwal in favour of Sunii **RFN SUNIL** Kumar & Anil Kumar both son late Jagdish JUNG MAHAT braveheart we pledge that we shall always be parsad. That if somebody found the said nissing document regarding the said property, can contact me or my clients

within 07 days from the date of the publication of the said notice in the newspaper Sandeep Tokas (Advocate) Ch. No.236, Saket Court, New Delhi-17 Place: New Delhi | Dated: 10.05.2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

Delhi-110085, had sold his entire property

bearing no A-211, Prashant Vihar New Delhi-110085, to Mr Deepak Kumar, R/o

E-4 2nd Floor Parvana Vihar Apartment

Sec-9 Rohini Delhi-110085, Mob No.

9810160963. That there is a relevant

document is missing regarding the said property i.e. Original Relinquishment

feed, dated: 21.03.2000 duly registered at

focuments no. 2990 in book no.1 on

I Deepak Chadha S/o Late Shri Bal Krishan Chadha have lost the original sale deed of H-4/15. Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51 which was in favour of my father late Shri Bal Krishan Chadha, duly registered at the office of the sub registrar Delhi, having document No. 5482, book No. 1, volume No. 3086, on pages 159 to 162 dated 24/12/1957. The report of the same was lodged online on 24/04/2024 vide LR No. 1669671/2024. If found contact Deepak Chadha (9810080519).

PUBLIC NOTICE This is hereby declared to general public that my client Sh. Balbir Singh Dahiva and his wife Smt Vimla Dahiya resident of F-4/12, 2nd floor, Model Town-II, New Delhi-110009, jointly decided and signed/tendered an affidavit in this regard to debar their daughter Ms. Alka Dahiya due to her misbehavior, ill-treatment since long. My clients also decided to severe all relations with her daughter. My clients are no longer iable for her misdeeds. AJEET SINGH Advocate Ch. No. 417, District Court. Dwarka Sec-10 Dwarka, New Delhi-110075

Public that my clients Shri Vijay Goel and Smt. Sheela Goel both are R/o B-3/300, First Floor, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-110063 has severed all their relationship with their son Mr. Sahil Goel and his wife Mrs. Tanya Goel due to their ill conduct and bad behavior towards them. Both of my above-named clients have disowned and debarred their son namely Mr. Sahil Goel and his wife Mrs. Tanya Goel from all their moveable and immoveable properties including business. Anybody ing with Mr. Sahil Goel and his wife Mrs. Tanya Goel will do so at his/her/their own risk and responsibilities and my clients will not be responsible for the acts.

deed or dealing done omissions and conduct of the aforesaid persons, in any

manner. DIVYA TANEJA Advocate CH.
NO. 781 WESTERN WING, TIS HAZARI

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for the information of General

PUBLIC NOTICE Public at large is informed that my clien Sh. Aslam S/o Mukhtar Ahmad, R/o C-51-52, JJ Colony, Raghubir Nagar, Tagore Garden, S.O., West Delhi, Delhi-10027 has disowned their both sons namely Sh. Aatif @ Mangu, S/o Sh. Aslam and Sh. Asif @ Kacchua, S/o Sh. Aslam, both residents of C-51-52, J. Colony, Raghubir Nagar, Tagore Garden, S.O., West Delhi, Delhi- 110027 from all their movable and immoveable properties due to their disrespectful behaviour and my client have severed their relations with them for all intents and purposes with immediate effect. My client and his other family members will not be liable for their acts, whatsoever

PUBLIC NOTICE UBLIC AT LARGE IS HEREBY INFORMED O BHIMAN DASS AND HIS WIFE SMT SARITA KAMRA, BOTH R/O G-1st 180, 1 FLOOR, MADANGIR, NEW DELHI HAVE SEVERED ALL THEIRS RELATIONS WITH WIFE ANJALI KAMRA AND DISOWNED MOVABLE AND IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES ANY PERSON DEALING WITH BHARA KAMRA AND HIS WIFE ANJALI KAMRA SHALL BE DOING SO AT HIS/HER/THEI AND MY CLIENTS SHALL NOT RESPONISBL

KAMRA AND HIS WIFE ANJALI KAMRA.

done by them to anybody in future.

Kunal Sharma (Advocate)

Office: A. B-5/180, Saldarjung Enclave,

New Delhi- 110029

(Y.S. Tomar Ch. No. 708, Patiala House Courts, N. Delhi

PUBLIC NOTICE Public at large is hereby

informed by way of this notice that my clients Giriraj Prasad Rawat S/o Lt. Sh. Radhey Shyam Rawat and his W/o Smt. Sunita Khandelwal R/o F-22/163. Sector-3, Rohini, Delhi-85, have severed all their social relationship from their Daughter namely Monika Khandelwal Disowned her from their Movable and Immovable property due to their hostile attitude in the family and break all relations from her, there for. Any Person deal with her Shall be at is own risk & my Client's will not be responsible for

their any acts. Sd. Vasudev Goswami, Advocate En. No.D/609/1992 Chamber: 585, Western Wing, Tis HazariCourts, Delhi-54, M: 9811662678

PUBLIC NOTICE The General Public is hereby

informed that my client Shri

Jaswinder Singh, son of late Sh.

Joginder Singh, aged about 55 years resident of House No.63A, Block (H-2, JMJ School, Paschim Viha SO. West Delhi, Delhi- 110063. severed all his relations with his son Shri. Simranjeet Singh, aged about 29 vears due to his bad habits and disobedience. My client has also disowned and debarred his son Shi Simranieet Singh from inheritin all moveable and immoveable properties. Anybody dealing with his son Shri Simranjeet Singh may do so at his/her/their own risk and responsibilities. Henceforth, my clien will not be responsible for any act, deed or dealing done by Shri Simranjeet Singh (Aadhar No. 2514 2855 7888)

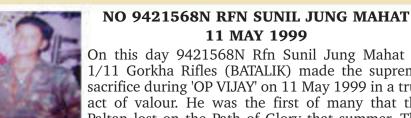
HIMALI GANDHI Advocat Lenin Gandhi & Co. Chamber No.427, Patiala House New Delhi-110001.

PUBLIC NOTICE By it known that my client SHRI RAJINDER KUMAR MODI SON

OF LATE SHRI SATYA DEO MODI. RESIDENT OF B-1/17-A, PASCHIM VIHAR, NEW DELHI-110063, has Lost his Property Documents (i.e. (i Original Mortgage Deed, Dated 25.02.2020, in favour of RBI BANK LTD., and (ii) Original 09.09.2021, in favour of Rajinder Kumar Modi, Resident of B-1/17-A Paschim Vihar, New Delhi) related to B-1/17-A, PASCHIM VIHAR, NEW DELHI-110063, Finders Pls Contac Adv. Puneet Chugh, Mobile: 09310013613, Address: Chamber No.1, Old SDM Office, Main Rohtak Road, Nangloi, New Delhi-110041.

> Advocate Chamber No.1, Old SDM Office Main Rohtak Road, Nangloi New Delhi-110041

SALUTE THE SOLDIER



11 MAY 1999 On this day 9421568N Rfn Sunil Jung Mahat of 1/11 Gorkha Rifles (BATALIK) made the supreme sacrifice during 'OP VIJAY' on 11 May 1999 in a true act of valour. He was the first of many that the Paltan lost on the Path of Glory that summer. The brave soldier will always be remembered for his raw

courage and indomitable team spirit. To this

guided by his immortal spirit and make his name proud. CO AND ALL RANKS, 1/11 GORKHA RIFLES (BRAVEST OF THE BRAVE) (BATALIK)

Modern Coach Factory, Raebareli

	e-Adve	ertised Tender Notice No 12/ET/2024-25 Da	ted: 07-05-2	024
SN	Tender No.	Short Description	Qty.	Due Date
01	03241131	Set of Steel Items Sidewall (CREW & GUARD ROOM) for LHB AC Power CAR EOG Coache	96 Set	05/06/2024
02	12241049	CENTERING DISC	16387 Nos	05/06/2024
03	13241063	Hex Head Bolt M12x100 High Tensile	15798 Nos	12/06/2024
	A 13/4211 VAC-040-0	Hex Head Bolt M12x70 High Tensile	16226 Nos	05/06/2024 s 05/06/2024 s 12/06/2024 s s s s s s s s s s s s s s s s s s s
		Hex Head Bolt M16x170 High Tensile	28200 Nos	
		Hex Head Bolt M16x65 High Tensile	9611 Nos	s 05/06/2024 s 12/06/2024 s s s s s s s s
		Hex Head Bolt M16x70 High Tensile	36791 Nos	
		Hex Head Bolt M16x90 High Tensile	26450 Nos	
		Hex Head Bolt M20x100 High Tensile	59096 Nos	
		Hex Head Bolt M20x120 High Tensile	13798 Nos	
		Hex Head Bolt M24x150 High Tensile	13602 Nos	1
		Hex Head Bolt M24x200 High Tensile	13774 Nos]
		Hex Head Bolt M12x55 High Tensile	15950 Nos	1
04	03241143	Set of Air Grills for LHB Power Car	90 Set	04/06/2024
05	11241058	Kit of Side wall of LWACCW(EOG) Coach.	98 Set	19/06/2024
06	11241048	Under Frame Complete With Bio Tank Arrangement for LWSCN (EOG) Coach.	400 Nos	04/06/2024
07	03241120	Luggage Rack Mounting for Generator	69 Set	10/06/2024

Website Address: www.ireps.gov.in & www.mcf.indianrailways.gov.in Dy. Chief Materials Manager/ Shell

PUBLIC NOTICE

Kumar Singh and Smt. Neha Singh

purchasing the Residential Flat/Dwell

Unit No.402, on 4th Floor, in Tower N

G-8, having a total super area 1425 sq. t

the "EROS SAMPOORNAM" built.

Plot No. GH-01, situated at Sector- 0

Greater Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Naga

J.P. from Mr. Aditva Mohan who are t

registered owner of the said property t

virtue Transfer deed executed by Mrs. Alk

lain and Mr. Saniav Jain in favour of M

Aditya Mohan duly regd, vide doc n

12440, book no. 1, volume no 27490

tage no 95-132 on dated 18:04:2018

hat my said client have jointly offered I

nortgage the said property in SB

RACPC, Sector 100, Noida, U.P. 1

availing housing loan on purchasing t

said property by way of equitable Mortgage. That the original Sub-Leas

Deed duly registered as St. No. 21291

Book No.1 Vol. No. 24489 at pages 01

40 an 19/07/2017 in the office of 3

Greater Noida, executed by GNID

Lessor] and M/s Ajay Enterprises Pv

td. (Lessee) in favour of Mrs. Alka Ja

and Mr. Sanjay Jain. [Sub Lessee] an

Transfer Memorandum dated 07:03:20

ssued by GNIDA in favour of Mr. Adity

Mohan is reported as missing for whi

lost Article report has already be

adged. Therefore by way of this put

On behalf of the President of India, Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer/FP, Modern Coach Factory, Raebareli is inviting open e-tender (Tender Notice No.-M-200/ Cutting of Floor Board/2024-25/Date:-07.05.2024) based on single packet system online through Indian Railway portal www.ireps.gov.in for following work: Description of Work Works contract for the work of cutting of floor board, doorway board & gangway board for LHB type coaches as per scope of work. Approx. Value of Work (Rs) 60,91,856.20 EMD/BID Security (Rs) 1,21,800.00 Quantity of work-1718 Coach set. Work completion period- 12 Months or earlier. . E-Tender submitted through online up to 15:00 hrs. on 29.05.2024. Manual offer will not considered. • E-Tender shall be opened on 29.05.2024 after 15:00 hrs. through online on http://www.ireps.gov.in ● Detailed Tender E-Notice Notice and Terms & conditions are available at Indian Railway IREPS we ttp://www.ireps.gov.ir Dy. Chief Mech. Engr./FP

02/ET/2024-25 Tender No. Due date may be read as 16/05/2024 instead of 09/05/2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

PUBLIC NOTICE General Public is hereby informed that my client Sh. Manjit Singh S/o Late Kesar Singh and Smt. Jagjeet Kaur Wo Sh, Manjit Singh both R/o RZ-64 Hans Park, West Sagarpur, Nangal Raya New Delhi-110046, hereby severe all to elations from their son and daughter law namely Sh. Soagan Singh S/o S Manjit Singh his wife Smt. Gurpreet Kau Wo Sh. Soagan Singh and Grandso laster Mehtab Singh all R/o RZ-6A, Hans Park, West Sagarpur, Nangal Raya, Ne Delhi-110046, due to their disober nisbehaviour and hereby they asowned and debarred them from all movable and immovable properties an assets (present in future) forever A person dealing with them shall be doing s at his / her own risk and responsibility future and my client will not be responsib for any act and deeds done by them. Date: 11.05.2024 Place: New Delh Distt. Court Dwarka Reg. No. 387/8/09

Cum Brake Van LHB

Corrigendum

PUBLIC NOTICE neral public is hereby informed that I. Maya

Advocate) D/2872/2019, Office address: 202, 2nd Floor, Yogeshwar Building, M-Block, Middle-Circle nnaught Place, New Delhi- 11000, for and of Mahesh Dutt Bali, aged 75 years, R/o J4/24, Rajour Garden, New Delhi- 110027, give public notice th on namely Mr. Deepak Bali s/o Late Shri Mahesh Dutt Bali, aged 47 years, Australian Citizen, havir Australia (Phone No: 0061433069050), from all he novable and immovable properties. Henceforth, n nections with said Deepak Bali, and my clien shall not be held responsible and liable for any of the Deepak Bali. Anyone dealing with Deepak Bali shall do so at his own risk and my aforesaid client shall no e held responsible/liable for any of his dealings with MAYANK (Advocat

Enrol No. : D/2872/2019 YOGESHWAR BUILDING, M-BLOCK, CONNAUGHT PLACE, NEW DELHI- 110001

MY CLIENTS BRIJ BHUSHAN S/O SH. ISHWAR DYAL AND HIS WIFE SHASHI PRABHA BOTH R/O A-3/148 SECTOR-5 ROHINI NORTH WES' DELHI, DELHI-110085 HAVE SEVERE ALL RELATIONS AND DEBAR THEIR SON ABHINAV VERMA AND HIS WIF DIVYA VERMA FROM ALL MOVABLI IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES DUE TO THEIR HOSTILE BEHAVIOUR, M CLIENTS WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR ANY ACTS.

Office: Pocket E-19/312, 1st Floor, Sector-03 Rohini New Delhi-110085 'IMPORTANT''

MAYANK ARORA

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manner whatsoever.

otice it is hereby informed to the gene public at large that it any person/financ stitution / government authority e raving any claim, charge, interest or lie vhatsoever with respect to the sa property on the basis of lost of Sub leas leed and transfer memorandum, m proof within 15 days from the dated of thi oblication of notice, failing which a

RAHUL KUMAR GUPTA (ADVOCATE

COURT NOTICE

such claim etc. shall be deemed to be n and void, whereas title shall be deemed e clear, and Marketable without an efect or encumbrance and free to creat

> IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI (TESTAMENT INTESTATE, JURISDICTION) CITATION U/s 283, INDIAN SUCCESSION ACT, 1925 In the matter of TEST. CAS. No. 27/2024 PRAMOD JAIN & ORS.PETITIONERS

GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI & ORS.RESPONDENTS All Concerned. In the matter of estate of Late Sm Kaushalya Wanti W/o Late Sh. Ram Lal

R/o 13/4, Geeta Colony, Jheel Khuranja, Delhi-110031. Whereas (i) Mr. Pramod Jain S/o, Late Mr. M.L. Jain & also H/o. Late Mrs Usha Jain (ii) Mr. Vinay Jain S/o. Mr. Pramod Jain & also S/o. Late Mrs. Usha Jain (iii) Mr. Anshul Jain, S/o. Mr. Pramod Jain & also S/o. Late Mrs. Usha Iain all at:- R/o C-137, Preet Vihar Delhi-110092, have filed a Petition U/s 276 of the Indian Succession Act, 1925 for gran dated 14.01.2012 in respect of estate of Late Smt. Kaushalya Wanti, Deceased And whereas the aforesaid case is fixed for nearing on 17.05.2024 at 11:00 A.M before Joint Registrar (Judicial) of this Court. This Citation is issued in terms of Section 283 of the said Act to all person claiming to have any interest in the property/properties of the said deceased t

ome to this Court, file objections, if any and take part in the proceedings on the date specified above for the grant of Letters of Administration. iven under my hand and the Court, in terms of the orders dated 01.05.2024.

Assistant Registrar (O)

For REGISTRAR GENERAL

Seal

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PROGRAM—VISION IAS With an overwhelming turn around of 25000+ students, the first test of the Abyass Prelims, An All India Mock Test Series, conducted recently by VisionIAS was a huge success. Giving UPSC aspirants a common platform to test, assess and evaluate their preparation for the first step of the Prelims for the Civil Services Examination, Abhyaas Prelims was simultaneously conducted in 100 + cities across the nation.

WEBINAR—AMITY

Amity Institute of Environmental Toxicology, Safety and Management, Amity University UP, Noida Campus, organized an insightful and informative Webinar on the theme, "Planet vs Plastics", on the occasion of "World Earth Day". The aim of the webinar was to sensitize Faculty members, students and stakeholders about importance of sustainable development of Earth and create awareness about the hazards caused by plastic usage.





EVENT — SHARDA UNIVERSITY

It is important to preserve the heritage of Indian culture: Padma Bhushan Prof. Kapil Kapoor launched Bharatiya Sanskriti Vaishvik Kendra at Sharda University, Greater Noida. The objective of establishing this center is to create a global platform to collect Indian related knowledge. The centre was inaugurated by retired IAS Deepak Singhal, former Chief Secretary of the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

PROGRAM — DAAD

DAAD – German Academic Exchange Service is organising scholarship certificate handing over ceremonies throughout South Asia for the fresh batch of scholarship awardees. The handing over is done in cooperation with the Consulate Generals or Embassies of the Federal Republic of Germany. The DAAD has awarded 287 scholarships for India, followed by 9 for Bangladesh, 2 for Bhutan, 8 for Nepal and 10 for Sri Lanka.



PROGRAM— VAISHNAV UNIVERSITY

In Shri Rawatpura Sarakar Private Industrial Training Institute Raipur, total 18 students of the academic year 2022-23 from ITI and Diploma in Engineering has successfully completed Toyota Training Educational Programme (T-TEP) in General Training Category in which the students understand and enhance the practical knowledge of the mechanism of Diesel Engine and Petrol Engine under the edges of T-TEP.

U.P.RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD. OBRA-SONEBHADRA

E-Tender Notice

submission 01.06.2024 up to 14.00 Hrs., SE-II, 3x200MW

Tender No: 6000005407/O&MC-II/BMD-II/BTPS/2024-25

online e-Bids are invited for the "Work related to ID/FD/PA Fans

during proposed overhauling of unit no. 11th of 3x200MW.

BTPS, Obra". E-tender has been uploaded on 08.05.2024 or

http://etender.up.nic.in Estimated cost of work approximately Rs

4.13067 Lakhs only, Time Period: OH Period, E.M.D. 8,000.00

Tender Cost 1180.00. Last date of submission 01.06.2024 up to

Tender No: OBR6000005154/TO-03/PD-I/24-25 online e-

Bids are invited for the "Supply of AFFF (Aqueous Film

Forming Foam) 3% for BTPS, Obra". E-tender has been

uploaded on 08.05.2024 on http://etender.up.nic.in Estimated

cost of work approximately Rs. 8.00 Lac only, E.M.D. 16,000.00

Tender Cost 1180.00. Last date of submission 01.06.2024 up to

Tender No: OBR6000005270/TO-04/PD-I/24-25 online

e-Bids are invited for the "Supply of Chainshaw, lawn mower

for BTPS, Obra". E-tender has been uploaded on 08.05.2024 or

http://etender.up.nic.in Estimated cost of work approximately Rs.

1.27 Lac only, E.M.D. 2,500.00, Tender Cost 590.00. Last date of

Tender No: OBR6000005340/TO-05/PD-I/24-25 online e

Bids are invited for the "Procurement of different type of MS

Plates for BTPS, Obra". E-tender has been uploaded on

08.05.2024 on http://etender.up.nic.in Estimated cost of work

approximately Rs. 37.17 Lac only, E.M.D. 74,000.00, Tender

Cost 2360.00. Last date of submission 01.06.2024 up to 16.00

Tender No: OBR6000004093/TO-06/PD-I/24-25 online e-

Bids are invited for the "Supply of Stationary Items for BTPS,

Obra". E-tender has been uploaded on 08.05.2024 or

http://etender.up.nic.in Estimated cost of work approximately Rs

4,17,166.00 only, E.M.D. 8,500.00, Tender Cost 1180.00, Las

Tender No: N-OBR////6000005181_00 online e-Bids are

invited for the Work of "Routine/Preventive/Breakdown

maintenance of Instrument air compressor of IR and ELGI

Make, Service air compressors of KG Khosla make and all

Dryers of 5x200MW unit, BTPS, Obra". E-tender has been

cost of work approximately Rs. 19,50,040.00 only, Time Period:

02 Year, E.M.D. 23,400.00, Tender Cost 1180.00. Last date of

8. Tender No: N-OBR////6000005018_00 online e-Bids are

invited for the "Servicing, Overhauling and maintenance of

SWAS field equipment's & wet panel and different other

mechanical work during overhauling of unit no. 11 of

3x200MW, BTPS, Obra". E-tender has been uploaded on

04.05.2024 on http://etender.up.nic.in Estimated cost of work

approximately Rs. 2,05,897.00 only, E.M.D. 4,000.00, Tender

Cost 290.00. Last date of submission 03.06.2024 up to 17.00

Tender No: ET-01/E&MCC-I/WSCD/CTPS/2024-25 online

e-Bids are invited for the "Work of Computer typing, printing,

data entry, preparation of documents along with preparation

of daily DMR report and other reports in 2x660MW, CTPS,

Obra". E-tender has been uploaded on 10.05.2024 on

http://etender.up.nic.in Estimated cost of work approximately Rs.

1.44 Lakh only, Time Period: 01 Year, E.M.D. 2,000.00, Tender

Cost 590.00. Last date of submission 10.06.2024 up to 18.00

are invited for the "Work of Shifting of Coal from ATPS/BTPS

coal yard to CTPS coal yard in the CHP 'CTPS' Obra". Short

termE-tender has been uploaded on 09.05.2024 or

http://etender.up.nic.in Estimated cost of work approximately Rs.

4,64,40,000.00 only, Time Period : 06 Month, E.M.D.

4,65,000.00, Tender Cost 1180.00. Last date of submission

Total Quality of work, tender specification and other terms &

condition is as per tender document available on the e-tender

portal. Concerned superintending engineer has right to cancel

any or all e-Bids without assigning any reason. Corrigendum,

addendum, Extension if any shall be uploaded only on the above

website. Bidders are advised to visit the website regularly for

"Save Electricity in interest of Nation"

दिनांक 10.05.2024

17.05.2024 up to 16.00 Hrs., SE-V, BTPS

updated information from time to time.

पत्रांक : 20 / ज0 स0 का0 / निविदा

Hrs., SE-III, 2x200MW, Obra

Hrs., SE, E&MCC-I, CTPS

submission 01.06.2024 up to 17.00 Hrs., SE-II, 2x200MW

date of submission 01.06.2024 up to 16.00 Hrs., SE, MMC-II

submission 01.06.2024 up to 16.00 Hrs., SE, MMC-II

1. Tender No: 6000005397/O&MC-II/BMD-II/BTPS/2024-25 EXTRA-ORDINARY APPELLATE online e-Bids are invited for the "Repairing work of duct of Mill **JURISDICTION** Boiler and Fan Section for proposed overhauling of unit no.

14.00 Hrs., SE-II, 3x200MW

16.00 Hrs., SE, MMC-II

Hrs., SE, MMC-II

SPECIAL LEAVE PETITION (CIVIL) NO. 19976 OF 2019 11th of 3x200MW, BTPS, Obra". E-tender has been uploaded WITH PRAYER FOR INTERIM RELIEF on 08.05.2024 on http://etender. up.nic.in Estimated cost of work WITH approximately Rs. 7.54462 Lakhs only, Time Period: OH Period, E.M.D. 10,000.00, Tender Cost 1180.00. Last date of

...RESPONDENT(S)

NEW INDIA ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED ...PETITIONER

NOTICE

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF

INDIA

(S)/APPELLANT(S) **VERSUS** NARAYAN SINGH AND OTHERS

1.NARAYAN SINGH S/O SRI DEEWAN SINGH, VILLAGE PANIYA MEHTA, DISTRICT-

NAINITAL, UTTARAKHAND PID: 76622/2024 FOR R[1] IN SLP(C) NO.19976/2019 (SEC X) 2. REWTI DEVI W/O NARAYAN SINGH, VILLAGE PANIYA

MEHTA,, DISTRICT-NAINITAL, **UTTARAKHAND** PID: 76623/2024 FOR R[2] IN **SLP(C) NO.19976/2019 (SEC X)** 3 MOHD. USMAN S/O ALTAF

HUSSAIN, RESIDENT OF C/O HARI OM VERMA MOHALLA KISROL/NAGPHANI, DISTRICT-MORADABAD, UTTAR **PRADESH** PID: 76624/2024 FOR R[3] IN

SLP(C) NO.19976/2019 (SEC X) 4 JAGDISH S/O LAL KARAN, R/O GADARPUR, DISTRICT UDHAM SINGH NAGAR UTTARAKHAND. PID: 76625/2024 FOR R[4] IN SLP(C) NO.19976/2019 (SEC X)

WHERE As the Petition for Special Leave to Appeal with prayer for interim relief above mentioned (copy enclosed) filed in the registry by MR. VIRESH B. SAHARYA, Advocate on behalf of the Petitioner(s) above named was listed for hearing before this Court on 28th August, 2019, when the Court was pleased to pass the following order:-

"Issue notice." AND WHEREAS, the matter above-mentioned along with application for SUBSTITUTED SERVICE was listed before Ld. Registrar's Court on 22nd March, **2024**, When the following order was passed:-

"Ld. Counsel for petitioner has filed application for substituted service in respect of all the respondents. The same is

Registry to proceed further, as per rules. List again on 16.5.2024."

NOW, THEREFORE, TAKE NOTICE that the above petition with prayer for interim relief will be posted for hearing before this Court in due course and you may enter appearance before this Court either in person or through an advocate on record of this Court duly appointed by you in that behalf within 30 days from the date of service of notice. You may thereafter show cause to the Court on the day that may subsequently be specified as to why Special Leave Petition and interim relief as prayed be not granted and the resultant appeal be not allowed. Take Further Notice that the prayer for interim relief after notice will also be listed before the Court in due

course. You may file your affidavit in opposition to the petition as provided under Rule 14(1) of Order XXI, S.C.R.2013 within 30 days from the date of receipt of notice or not later than 2 weeks before the date appointed for hearing, whichever be earlier, but shall do so only by setting out the grounds in opposition to the questions of law or grounds set out in the SLPs and may produce such pleadings and documents filed before the Court/Tribunal against whose order the SLP is filed and shall also set out the grounds for not granting interim order or for vacating interim

order if already granted. TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if you fail to enter appearance as aforesaid, no further notice shall be given to you even after the grant of special leave for hearing of the resultant appeal and the matter above mentioned shall be disposed of in your absence.

Dated:02nd April,2024

ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

CORPORATE BRIEFS

EDUCATION

EVENT — **ASIAN BUSINESS SCHOOL**

Asian Business School, Noida hosted its flagship event: The Young Asian Entrepreneur of the year 2024. Students displayed innovation & ambition, with Keshav Somani was the winner, securing a Rs 5 lakh seed fund. The event was judged by Ms. Aishwarya Biswas, founding Director- Auli Active Ayurveda. The event highlighted the potential of young minds in shaping the future of entrepreneurship.



DME college affiliated to GGSIPU hosted its 2nd Inter college sports meet, Samagrah'24 recently. The event was conducted at various venues including DME campus, Noida stadium & East Vinod Nagar Complex. The event was kick start by Prof. (Dr). Ravi Kant Swami, director, DME sharing the inspiration and journey of Samagrah.



ANNUAL DAY—SGGSCC

Sri Guru Gobind Singh College of Commerce, DU, organized its 40th Annual Day recently. Principal of the college, Prof. Jatinder Bir Singh, in his address, congratulated the students for their achievements. He recounted how in its brief history of 40 years, the college has made a significant mark in the educational landscape of India. SGGSCC has been awarded A++ by NAAC and has been ranked among top 50 colleges of the country by NIRF.



PROGRAM— JAMIA HAMDARD

Hamdard Institute of International Studies at Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi has launched a flagship undergraduate programme dedicated to study and research within knowledge domain of international studies, global politics, and world affairs for the academic year of 2024-25, following the ongoing growth of its M.A. programme in International Studies. The world has now increasingly become more dynamic and interlinked, with multiple crisis occurring. From the resurgence of wars in Ukraine and Palestine, to the global threats of pandemics and climate change, it has become more necessary than ever to comprehend the political, social, economic, and technological imperatives that drive these processes.

उत्तर पश्चिम रेलवे

ई - निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

पत्र सं- WB-74-W-O/Works/NIT/X दिनांक:- 09/05/2024 मंडल रेल प्रबन्धक, इंजीनियरिंग, उत्तर पश्चिम रेलवे, जोधपर द्वार भारत के राष्ट्रपति के लिये एवं उनकी ओर से ई-निविदा के माध्यम से प्रचलित नियमों वे मन्तर्गत निर्धारित प्रपत्रो में निविदा निम्न कार्यो के लिए क्रमानुसार आमंत्रित की जाती है । **ई-निविदा** सूचना सं. 2024-25: 57. कार्य का नाम र स्थान: Provision of dewatering i waterlogging prone LHS in the section of ADEN/DNA (for two year). अनुमानित लागत: ₹ 2,43,51,840.40. बयाने की राशि ₹ 2,71,800/-. निविदा सूचना संख्या 57 of 2024-25 निविदा प्रस्तृत करने की तिथी 28/05/2024 को 15.00 **बजे** तक है। वेबसाईट का विवरण जहाँ पर ई-निविदा देखी व भरी जा मकती है - www.ireps.gov.in

सं 🚻 📓 🖸 /NWRailways 💹 NWRailways_ पर वर्रेलो वर्रे

CCTV SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM AT MALIGAON

Tender Notice No.: 02 of 2024 25. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: E-Tender No. N-2024-25-02-Dy.CSTE-NW. Name of work: Provision of CCTV Surveillance system at Nambari officer colony and N.F. Railway Headquarter Complex, (Including AMC of CCTV system). Tender Value: ₹1,04,51,860.85, Bid Security ₹2,02,300/-. Date & time of closing of Tender: 15.00 hrs on 29-05-2024 and opening of tender 15.30 hrs. on 29-05-2024. For details please visit www.ireps.

Sr. Signal & Telecom Engineer/ Network, Maligaon NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY Serving Customers With A Smile

उत्तर पश्चिम रेलवे

ई - निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

पत्र सं- NWROGSU(Gen/02/2023/-O/o CPM/JU/NWR दिनांक: 09/05/2024 मंडल रेल प्रबन्धक, गति भाक्ति, उत्तर पश्चिम रेलवे जोधपुर द्वारा भारत के राष्ट्रपति के लिये एवं उनकी ओर से ई-निविदा के माध्यम से प्रचलित नियमों के अन्तर्गत निर्धारित प्रपत्रो में निविदा निम्न कार्यों के लिए क्रमानुसार आमंत्रित की जाती है। **ई-निविदा** सूचना सं. 2024-25: 03. कार्य का नाम व स्थान: Development of coaching maintenance facility at Jaisalmer अनुमानित लागत: ₹ 24,90,59,633.08. बयाने uploaded on 07.05.2024 on http://etender.up.nic.in Estimated की राशि: ₹ 13,95,300/-. निविदा सूचना संख्या GSU-03 of 2024-25 निविदा प्रस्तुत करने की तिथी 31/05/2024 को 15.00 बजे तक है। वेबसाईट का विवरण जहाँ पर ई-निविदा देखी व भरी जा सकती है - www.ireps.gov.in

हाँ 👪 🖼 🖸 /NWRailways 🖾 NWRailways_ पर फॉर्स करें

🔘 NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY

OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE Opened E-tender based on Single Packet system (Tender notice No. M/C&W/01/2024-25 dt. 08.05.2024) are invited by Divisional Rai Manager/Mech./C&W/Varanasi/N.E. Railway for and on behalf of President of India for following work: Description of works: Outsourcing work of surface defect detection by Eddy Current array (ECA) Technique for testing of wheel sets of LHB coaches by qualified professionals during D3 schedule for a period of one (01) year at Coaching Depot BSBS, CPR and MAU of VARANASI Division., Approx. Value **(₹):** ₹ 44,44,834.56 (Rs. forty four lacs forty four thousand eight hundred thirty four and fifty six paise only.), Bid 10. Tender No: 03/SE-V/BTPS/CHD-I/2024-25 online e-Bids Security Money: 88,900.00 (Rs. Eighty eight thousand nine hundred only). Cost of Tender Paper: Nil, (Authority SGCC, Works, April 2022 issued by Railway Board vide letter no. 2022/CE-I/CT/GCC-2022/Policy New Delhi, dated 27.04.2022), **Period:-** 12 months from the date of issuance of LOA. Warranty Period:- The Eddy current testing report shall have a warranty of 06 months from date of testing, **Date** and time of closing of E-Tender: 06.06.2024 at 14:30 Hrs., Date and time of opening of E-Tender: 06.06.2024 at 15:00 Hrs. **Note:** Tenderers may submit their offers online up to 06.06.2024 at 14:30 Hrs. Pl. go to the website www.

> and upload the tender Sr. DME/C&W/BSB CPRO/Mech-14 Varanasi "DO NOT TRAVEL WITH INFLAMMABLE ARTICLE IN TRAIN"

> ireps.gov.in to see the complete details

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY No. JHS/Comm/e-Auction/24/14 Date: 08.05.2024

E-Auction Notice

On Behalf of the President of India, The Divisional Railway Manager, (Commercial)

Category	Catalogue No.	Asset Details
Parcel	JHS- Leasing- 16	01. SLR 01 Comp.= F-I unit in Train No. 22547. 02. SLR 02 Comp.= F-I & F-II unit in Train no. 12198. 03. SLR 03 Comp.= F-I, F-II & R-I unit in Train no. 22164. 04. SLR 03 Comp.= F-I, F-II & R-I unit in Train no. 11109. 05. SLR 01 Comp.= F-I unit in Train no. 12049. 06. SLR 01 Comp.= F-I unit in Train no. 12049. 07. SLR 02 Comp.= F-I & R-I unit in Train no. 12279. 08. SLR 01 Comp.= F-I unit in Train no. 12279. 09. SLR 01 Comp.= F-I unit in Train no. 22194. 10. SLR 01 Comp.= F-I unit in Train no. 22198. 11. SLR 01 Comp.= F-I unit in Train no. 12320.

Auction Start: 22.05.2024 at 10:30 hrs., Auction End: 22.05.2024 at 13:40 hrs. Note: Prospective bidders are requested to visit e-Auction Leasing module on IREPS website (www.ireps.gov.in). The Lot-wise details are available therein under the above nentioned Catalogue Number.

@ CPRONCR 🙆 @northcentralrailway 📑 North central railways 💮 www.ncz.indianrailways.gov.in

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one person Namely Mohd Rehan S/O Lt Mohd Usman R/o Jhuggi behind B-21 Dujana House Matia Mahal, Jama Masjid, Delhi. has been missing/kidnapped from his house since 10.04.2024. In this regard, a case DD No. 40A on 17.04.2024 has been registered at P.S. Jama Masjid, Delhi. The description of the missing person is as



Age:26 years, Height:5'3", Complexion:Shallow,Face:Long. Built: Medium, Wearing: Green colour T-Shirt, Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out him but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the missing then please inform P.S. Jama Masjid, Delhi followingTelNo./e-mail:cic@cbi.gov.inandWebsitehttp://cbi.nic.i n, providing clue about the person

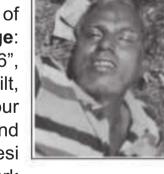
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 Fax No. 011-24368639

DP/4927/CD/2024

Sd/-S.H.O. Jama Masjid, Delhi Tel .011 -23261625

SEARCHAEOROIRISS INCIMIDAAHPED

General public is hereby informed that one unidentified dead body of male Namely: Unknown, Age: 50-55 Height: 5'6", years, Complexion: Dark, Medium Built, **|Face**: Long, **Wearing**: multi colour t-shirt and track suit, who was found dead infront of Begampur Desi Sharab ka Theka, Pocket 11 Park



Sector 22 Rohini, Delhi. In this regard a case **DD No. |29A dated 06.05.2024** has been registered at **PS:** Aman Vihar, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about the above deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone number

Sd/- S.H.O. Aman Vihar, Rohini, Delhi Ph.9870127024 DP/5563/RD/2024

NORTHERN RAILWAY

INVITATION OF TENDERS THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT SYSTEM

Tender Notice No. 12/2024-2025 Date: 10.05.2024 Principal Chief Materials Manager, Northern Railway, New Delhi-110001, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders through e-procurement system for supply of the following items:-

S. N.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Qty.	Closing Date
01	09243068	ANTI TRACKING FINISHING VARNISH	4811 KGS	31.05.24
)2	07230459	SUPPORTING DEVICE COMPLETE FOR CBC OF LHB COACHES	292 NOS	03.06.24
)3	19240810	SET OF LABYRINTH RING, BEARING CAP AND CLAMP PLATE	818 SET	04.06.24
)4	19240706	BULL GEAR (72 TEETH) FOR WAP-7 LOCO	34 NOS	05.06.24
05	09243043	HIGH PERFORMANCE ANTI CORROSIVE EPOXY COATING	18692 KGS	07.06.24
06	12241701	ALUMINIUM CONDUCTOR WELDING CABLE	34749 MTR	10.06.24
07	09243010	ENAMEL SYNTHETIC, EXTERIOR, FINISHING OXFORD BLUE	25315 LTR	11.06.24
08	12240029	EARTHING CABLE COMPLETE 70 SQ MM	11006 NOS	11.06.24
9	19240563	OIL COOLING RADIATOR FOR CONVERTER/TRANSFORMER OF 3-PHASE LOCOMOTIVES	42 NOS	12.06.24
10	07240118	FOOT REST MULTISTAGE ARRANGEMENT FOR LHB TYPE AC CHAIR CAR	29267 NOS	28.06.24
11	07230086	TWO PIECE GLASS SHUTTER	4696 NOS	15.07.24

19243517 ROLLER BEARING RB5020

CENTRE AXLE

AXLE BOX COMPLETE ASSEMBLY FOR

NOTE -1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for details.

LADDER

No Manual offer will be entertained.

07240059

19242711

DP/4902/RD/2024 (Court Matter) SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

22.07.24

05.08.24

724 NOS

61 NOS

6379 NOS 23.07.24

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED General Public is hereby informed that one girl Namely: Shivangi Pandey (Deaf and Dumb), D/o: Ramnath Pandey, R/o: Village



DP/5351/N/2024

Bahgecha, Police Station Alohal, District Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Age: 14 Years, Height: 5', Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Round, Wearing: Yellow Colour Top, White Colour Lower and Barefoot, has been missing/ kidnapped since 05.07.2019 from Shelter Home, Rose Udaan, Kamla Nagar, Balak Trust in the area of Police Station Roop Nagar, Delhi. In this regard FIR No. Shivangi Pandey 95/2019, Dated: 05.07.2019, U/s 363 IPC has been registered at P.S.: Roop Nagar, Delhi.

missing/kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing/kidnapped girl. Please inform to the following. Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 P.S.: Roop Nagar, Delhi Website: http://cbi.nic.in

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the

E-Mail ID: cic@cbi.gov.in Fax: 011-24368639

Ph.: 011-23844632, 23849120, 8750870129

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

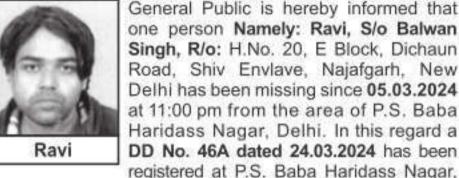


General Public is hereby informed that one girl Namely: Vartika, D/o. Ranjeet Kumar, R/o.- H.No. 20, Ambedkar Colony, Satbari Ansal Gate, New Delhi, Permanent Address: Village Baba Gao, Bhuvanpur Kalan, P.O. Rasenta, P.S. Maharajganj, Raebarelli, U.P., has been missing/kidnapped since 15.04.2024 at 12.00 am from Maidan Garhi Vilalge from the area of P.S. Maidan Garhi, Delhi. In this regard a case vide FIR No. 240/2024 dated 23.04.2024 has been registered at P.S. Maidan Garhi, Delhi, The

description of the missing girl are as under: Age: 15 years, Sex: Female, Height: 5', Complexion: Fair, Face: Round, Built: Strong, Wearing: Pink colour kurti, blue colour plazzo and slipper in her feet. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing girl but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this missing female kindly inform to the following. Website: http://cbi.nic.in

E-mail Id - cic@cbi.gov.in Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 Fax No. 011-24368639 DP/5466/SD/2024

SHO P.S. Maidan Garhi, Delhi Mob.No. 8750870825



G2

one person Namely: Ravi, S/o Balwan Singh, R/o: H.No. 20, E Block, Dichaun Road, Shiv Envlave, Najafgarh, New Delhi has been missing since 05.03.2024 at 11:00 pm from the area of P.S. Baba Haridass Nagar, Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 46A dated 24.03.2024 has been registered at P.S. Baba Haridass Nagar, Delhi. The description of the missing person is as under:- Age:

31 years, Sex: Male, Height: 5'8", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Long, Built: Medium, Wearing: Black colour jacket, black colour lower and white-black colour slipper in his feet. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing person but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this missing person kindly inform to the following. Website: http//cbi.nic.in

E-Mail ID - cic@cbi.gov.in Fax No. 011-24368639 P.S. Baba Haridass Nagar, Ph. Nos.: 011-24368638, 24368641 Ph.: 011-25315302, 8750871028 DP/5451/DW/2024

Appeal for Identification



DP/5542/ED/2024

General Public is hereby informed that a male dead body Name: Pt. Ashok Ghosh, S/o Rakesh, R/o: H.No. 38, Block-15, Trilokpuri, Age: About 55-57 years, Height: 5'3", Complexion: Shallow, Wearing: Grey Color Baniyan He was admitted in GTB Hospital Vide MLC No. B-1842/31/ 24 Date 29.04.2024 where he was

dead during treatment on 29.04.2024. In this regard DD No. 52A and 82A, Dt. 29.04.2024 has been lodged in PS Kalyanpuri, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace

out information about the relatives of this person but no clue has come to light so far.

Any, person having any information or clue about the relatives of person may kindly inform to the following.

P.S., Kalyanpuri, Delhi Ph.: 011-2277 2287, 8750871830

Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation

Additional City Engineer Department (1st Extension Notice)

Tender Notice No.:- NMMC/ACE/ 01 /2023-24 Name of work- Work For Collection & Transportation Of Municipal Solid Waste And Related Allied Works In Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation

Estimated Cost :- :- B2 Type Tender

All the tenderer shall take note of that, details tender of above work is available at website https://mahatenders.gov.in

Tender submission would be online only through website https://mahatenders.gov.in in the following

Time Schedule for E-Tender

Date of submission	Dt.31/05/2024, 13.00 hrs.
	Dt.04/06/2024, 16.00 hrs.
	(If possible)
27	sign/-

(Shirish Aradwad) **Additional City Engineer**

NMMC PR Adv no./05/2024 Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. P.C.

Where as complaint has been made before me that accused Vinay S/o Sh. Surjeet Singh, R/o- H. No. K-2/5, Budh Vihar, Phase-I, **Delhi** has committed (or suspected to have committed) the offence in case registered vide FIR No. 26197/20 U/s 379/411/34 IPC P.S. North Rohini, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused Vinay can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Vinay has absconded (or is concealing myself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Vinay of case FIR No. 26197/20 U/s 379/411/34 IPC P.S. North Rohini, Delhi is required to appear before this court (or before me) to answer the complaint on or before the day of 27.06.2024 By Order,

> Metropolitan Magistrate (N-W) Room No.107, 1st Floor Rohini Court, Delhi

Sh. Ebbani Aggarwal

20 REVIEWS CINEMA & MUSIC

Angels and Demons

MURDER IN MAHIM

**1

Director: Rajesh Acharya Cast: Ashutosh Rana, Vijay Raaz, Shivani Raghuvanshi, Shivaji Satam, Divya Jagdale, Bharat Ganeshpure, Sanjeev Satya Vijay, Rajesh Khattar, Nishant Khanduja, Ashutosh Gaikwad, Smita Tambe, Sonal Jha, Sonia Balani



SHUBHRA GUPTA

FOR A jaded viewer who has almost always been invited to look at a splitlevel Mumbai, residing in either fancy high-rise towers, or its slummy, scummy underbelly, Murder In Mahim comes as a relatively fresh look at working-class stiffs, and their connection with killings that arise out of unhappy circumstances, rather than by chance.

Based on terrific Bombay chronicler Jerry Pinto's novel of the same name, the eight-part series strays somewhat from the original by some additions and subtractions and deviations but stays largely faithful to the heart of the story which focuses on regular people (and their families) to be found in modest dwellings, crowded police thanas, general wards in hospitals, beach shacks, through a sharp look at the LGBTQi community.

A young sex worker is found brutally murdered, his innards pulled inside out, in a public toilet at Mahim station. Police inspector Shivajirao Jende (Raaz) takes along newbie cop Firdaus Rabbani (Raghuvanshi) to learn on the job while they go sleuthing. As the two muddle along on the trail of bodies which pile up, a couple more cops (Ganeshpure, Satya Vijay) keep cropping up for reasons best known to themselves.

There are red herrings aplenty. Could the killer be Sunil, the son of former journalist Peter Fernandes (Rana) who has had a fall-out with Jende? And also, could Sunil be gay? What are those two other policemen doing: are they trying to help or hinder the investigation? What connection does a dead man's sister (Balani) have with the murders?

There are times when you zone out, and those are places when the writing borders on the explanatory and/or banal. The series is set in the period before the Supreme Court decision to decriminalise homosexuality, so we find a group of protestors outside the cop station going through the motions. There are stretched-out portions, along with some eye-roll sections (especially one between a secretive woman who wants publicity and Fernandes): also, the antagonism between Raaz, who settles himself into Jende's role, and Rana's retired journalist feels contrived, even if it is nice to see these two solid actors face-off, before joining forces.

The most impactful part of the sewritten by Mustafa Neemuchwala and Udai Singh Pawar, and directed by Rajesh Acharya, is the portrayal of men, who like other men, and, who have to resort to drastic measures to manage crucial intimacy. Rajesh Khattar, playing an ageing roué, comes off exaggerated but alive to the challenges of finding lasting love. As his character says, with feeling, sometimes it is not about the sex alone, it is about touch and warmth, and even for that, if you have to resort to smelly restrooms, how alienating and cruel can it be?

That's when you are confronted by the stink that no deodorant can guite take away: that of prejudice, dislike and homophobia. When the show wafts those over your way, you wrinkle your nose, but before you can completely stop inhaling, you've taken them in. Can you shift your stance against men, and women, who choose their own sex to love, and to hold? Yes, says the series. But before that, there will be blood.

SRIKANTH **

Director: Tushar Hiranandani Cast: Rajkummar Rao, Jyotika, Sharad Kelkar, Alaya F, Jameel Khan, Srinivas Beesetty, Anusha Nuthula

Touch of the Light



SHUBHRA GUPTA

SRIKANTH TELLS the story of the real-life Srikanth Bolla, the visually impaired selfmade billionaire, and his extraordinary journey from a dirt-poor Andhra village to the national stage as one of India's leading industrialists.

claimer of creative liberties, the plot hews as close as it can to real life in a feature film: the delight of the father (Beesetty) turning into dismay when he holds his sightless newborn in his arms, his mother (Nuthul) begging for his life, the bullying in the local school, his brilliance shining through, getting into MIT when IIT refuses him entrance, his return to India, and his embarking upon the untrodden path that takes him into the kind of unbelievable sunshine that most people, leave alone those with dis-

There's no doubt that Tushar Hiranandani has chosen a worthy subject. Despite the increase in advocacy and rising

Power Play

KINGDOM OF THE PLANET OF

Cast: Owen Teague, Peter Macon, Freya

I HAVE lived long enough to satisfy both na-

agree. However, nothing is long enough to

satisfy a ticking box office, even if we are

more than half a century down from the first

series of this franchise, and the fifth one now

in the rebooted exercise — not counting the

TV and the animation versions — with an-

other sequel written into the ending of

long way from when Charlton Heston wore

the monkey suit, it is all a bit too familiar

ground now. From one film to the other, we

can bet that either apes will have the upper

hand, or the humans, with only snatches of

We are "many generations later" from

when Caesar, the leader of the apes played to

great effect and pathos by Andy Serkis, led

his followers into an oasis of existence. So

Granted the technical finesse, which is a

Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes.

detente in between.

The Caesar of the Planet of the Apes would

ture and glory," said the Great Ceasar.

Allan, Kevin Durand, William H Macy

THE APES

Director: Wes Ball

SHALINI LANGER

ity in the centre of the frame continues to be an act of bravery, especially now when theatrical releases are dying by the dozens. With Rajkummar Rao playing the part of Srikanth Bolla, it's a given that you will get both skill and utmost sincerity. Touching upon the high points of a difficult life in a 2.5-hour feature leans towards broad brushstrokes, though, and this takes away complexity, the story-telling ends up being

Is Srikanth's portrayal life-like? This is

bit of sparkle to the film. You wish she was given a bigger role: who is this girl? Sharad Kelkar is reliable as always, as the faithful friend who never turns his back on Srikanth, even when the latter becomes too full of himself and starts throwing his weight around.

Dispensing with this aspect — that disabled people need to be 'noble' and 'good' — is the strength of this film: Rao does a solid job of being disgruntled and too smart for his own good, telling us that people with deep challenges are, after all, also human. They can also behave badly. More focus on this side of Srikanth, whose endeavours in real life have had a lasting impact on visually impaired students wanting to opt for the sciences, would have lent the film a welcome interiority.

And then are the message-y parts, heavy on dialogue, laden with life lessons, which come thick and fast. While Srikanth's climactic speech telling us what we must and must not do when faced with people with disabilities is effective, it is also a lazy device, which makes the movie more tell,

the background music is so blaringly loud, especially when the film kicks into gear, that it drowns even the dialogue. Why, why can't filmmakers trust us to feel those feelings ourselves?

Still, despite its limitations, I will take Srikanth. Because it chooses to tell the story of someone who refused to be labelled a bechara — no standing on the road and begging for alms or making candles — and celebrates an individual who managed to lift himself from a hole in the ground, where he was going be buried alive, to someone who created a job for himself and countless people like him. Because it talks of barabari, not bechargi: yes it comes off as a dialogue, but it is also effective.

When Srikanth says knowingly, 'Hamaare chakkar mein mat padna, bech ke kha jayenge', you are startled, and then you laugh out loud. You know instantly that this is a guy who has learned that self-pity is self-defeating, that he is grateful to have been supported to be able to reach a point where he can make the best of his innate abilities, that he is a winner. And everyone loves a winner, right?

Like the previous Planet of the Apes films and their incipient messages, be it about the cost of war and racial conflict, or dangers of lab experiments tinkering with genes, this one too has one: how heroes first become divinity and then myth, their stories modulated according to the one doing the telling.

This is how Proximius, who has an imprisoned, resigned human (Macy) regaling him with Roman history, has imagined himself as the new Caesar. And has got himself a captive audience, who repeats after him every morning as he stands on a podium: "What a wonderful day!"

Proximus rules by power of strength as well as the power of his words, convincing his people that it is "their time", and "my turn" to lead them to it.

It is tempting to draw parallels here to our present, and, perhaps, the filmmakers (director is behind *The Maze Runner*) intend so. While they execute the battles, this implies with much flourish, with actors as both humans and apes putting up decent performances, we have seen the ending too many times before.

Plus the film is unceasingly grim, with no moments of levity to make us pine for what is at stake.

Neither is a cavernous vault holding humanity's secrets and the key to its re-emergence at the top of the pyramid, from the primitive, speechless form it has receded into, the most attractive of the battlegrounds.

And surely, while this might be the Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes, it could have had more humans.



BY **ALAKA SAHANI**



MAY DECEMBER PRIME VIDEO

Loosely inspired by the Mary Kay Letourneau scandal, the film follows the story of an actor who travels to meet and study the life of Gracie, a woman infamous for the 23-yearlong relationship with her husband Joe, which began when he was 13 years old and she was 36. Directed by Todd Haynes, and based on a story by Samy Burch and Alex Mechanikin, the movie features Natalie Portman and Julianne Moore in lead roles.



BODKIN NETFLIX

This dark comedy thriller features Will Forte, Siobhán Cullen, and Robyn Cara as Gilbert, and a motley crew of podcasters investigating the nefarious goings-on swirling beneath the seemingly idyllic veneer of the titular small town in Ireland, where several mysterious disappearances occurred 25 years ago. They soon realise that Bodkin might be small, but it holds some big secrets.



8 A.M. METRO

ZEE5

Written and directed by Raj Rachakonda, 8 A.M. Metro follows the story of two strangers who serendipitously meet on a metro ride and forge an unexpected bond. They ultimately discover themselves and each other along the way. The film, a slice-of-life tale, celebrates the beauty of human connections.



THE MARSH KING'S

DAUGHTER LIONSGATE PLAY

Stockholm syndrome gets real with The Marsh King's Daughter when Helena's kidnapper aka her father escapes prison, Starring Daisy Ridley, Ben Mendelsohn, Garrett Hedlund, Caren Pistorius and Gil Birmingham, this Neil Burger-directed mystery drama follows Helena as she fights to protect her daughter from the dangers of her forlorn past.

Even as it comes with the usual disabilities, can only dream about.

awareness, putting a person with disabil-

pretty basic.

crucial to us believing. On that score, Rao scores, though I did get distracted by his eyebrow wiggle in the film's second half, which also becomes drier. He is one of the few actors capable of fully inhabiting his role, and even more importantly, shedding all vanity in the process: when his Srikanth Bolla repeats his mantra, Sri Can, and smiles, you smile back.

As Srikanth's rock, the teacher who stood by him when all hope appears lost, Jyotika is convincing. Alaya F pops up as the young woman fascinated by this man who doesn't let anything come in the way of what he wants to do, and instantly adds a

than, well, show. Plus, my biggest bugbear,

much so that the new leader who will emerge from this film's journey of finding

himself, Noa, has not heard or been told about Caesar.

As societies tend to do, the apes, too, have split up into groups while humans are almost non-existent. Noa's clan is a peace-loving, elder-respecting tribe that rears eagles. The most adventurous thing an adulting Noah has ever encountered is climbing to the 'Top Nest' to steal an eagle's egg. They each must have one to pass a "bonding day" ritual, with the egg eventually hatching into their very own eagle.

There is something to be said about this exercise of stealing eggs from an eagle's nest, but as Noa and his friends establish very clearly: they "always leave one" for the poor bird.

The same day as Noa is to clear the bonding day ritual, his clan is attacked by another ape group — wearing rusted marks and carrying taser-like shafts, a species much bigger and far too menacing than Noa's.

The inevitable happens, Noa sees his father brutally killed and his clan "stolen". So now he must go looking for them, and along the way, find a wise orangutan called Raka and a scared human called Mae.

Raka tells him what Caesar truly stood for, and not what the attacking clan's leader, who also spouts his name, stands for. One of those lessons is that Caesar led with "decency, morality, strength, compassion". Another is that the same should also be extended to humans.

Come Rain, Come Shine

THE BOY AND THE HERON

Director: Hayao Miyazaki **Voices:** Luca Padovan, Christian Bale, Robert Pattinson, Florence Pugh, William Dafoe, Gemma Chan, Dave Bautista, Karen Fukuhara, Mark Hamill

SHALINI LANGER

HOW DO You Live? That is the Japanese title of this return-from-retirement film by acclaimed Japanese animator, filmmaker and manga artist Hayao Miyazaki.

And how does a boy do so, carrying the grief of losing his mother, and the guilt of not having been able to save her (which he relives every night), even as he watches his father settle into his new life and new wife? All against the backdrop of World War II and its mounting shadows over the people of Japan.

The most autobiographical of Miyazaki's films, *The Boy and the Heron* gives Mahito (Padovan) — like similar stories about grieving children — a world of vivid fantasy that merges seamlessly into his grim reality. A magical interlude that will help Mahito – and, consequently, the others around him – move on.

While *The Boy and the Heron* got this year's Best Animated Feature at the Oscars, it isn't the best of Miyazaki and the story tends to plod through the last 30 minutes of its pretty long length of 120-plus minutes. There are just too many characters, in the real world and the one Mahito has tumbled into, that Miyazaki has juggling. The birds, especially,

don't have it easy, being either menacing, vi-

such a misnomer, as there is really little 'and' cious or man-eaters. about the boy, that is Mahito, and the heron Which is why the film's English title is (Pattinson). Once Mahito and his father

Shoichi (Bale) have moved from Tokyo to the countryside after his mother's death in a fire at her factory, it is clear from the start that the heron does not have good intentions.

It mocks Mahito, it pecks at both his grief and his guilt, and it leads him to the forbidden tower on the house grounds that has a not-so-nice family legend attached to it. So, of course, Mahito finds himself there, and the rest of his journey follows. Of the people he meets there, who all have

some link or the other to his real world, the most impressive is Kiriko (Pugh), a daredevil sailor who hunts so that the 'dead' who can't hunt have something to feed on.

As Mahito finds himself saved by her, and others such as Himi (Fukuhara), and goes on to set free others like his great granduncle (Hamill), who is the master of that forbidden tower – and we keep rushing down corridors "whose stones are angry" — Mahito himself at one point comments: "I have come through this passage before."

So have we, so have we.

coach, Dravid

can re-apply

its men's team head coach soon.

month in two batches, Shah informed.

ing its meeting which will happen once the

T20 World Cup gets over in the West Indies.

The rule has drawn heavy debate during this

season of IPL especially since it reduced the

all-rounders' role to a minimum. Players like

Shivam Dube headed to the World Cup, did-

n't get a chance to bowl for Chennai Super

Kings (CSK), as he was used as an Impact

The rule as per Shah, was used as a 'test'

during this season of IPL and it wasn't a per-

manent rule. The BCCI is ready to take a call

for next season after consulting all stakehold-

ers going ahead. "Impact player was used as

a test (in this IPL), it was done so that two

Indian players could get a chance. It's not per-

manent, we will have a discussion with the

Indian team captain, players, franchises,

coaches and then take a call on it. The meet-

ing can happen once the World Cup is over."

Shah explained. The Indian board is also go-

ing to discuss the matter of retention of play-

Meanwhile, Indian team coach Dravid,

Head of NCA-VVS Laxman, chairman of se-

lection committee Ajit Agarkar and the

Indian board's general manager of cricket op-

erations, Abey Kuruvilla have recommended

few changes in domestic cricket which the

relook at the timing of Ranji Trophy games

played in winters that saw many games end-

ing without any results due to fog. "We have

received suggestions for domestic cricket and

we will be implementing them. Like the

weather in parts of North Zone needs to be

Rahul Dravid's tenure is till the

applications soon for the post of

head coach and if Dravid wants to re-

apply, he can do it. Thereafter we will

invite applications for support staff

in consultation with the Cricket

tenure will be of three years."

Advisory Committee. The coach's

World Cup, we will be inviting

The board is definitely considering a

board is scheduled to implement.

considered," Shah added.

ers whenever they meet IPL owners next.

DEVENDRA PANDEY

MUMBAI, MAY 10

ply if he wants to.

Shah added.

Impact player rule

player by his IPL franchise.

KKR vs MI, 7.30 pm, Live on Jio Cinema and Star Sports Network

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

Fulham vs Man City 5 pm, Live on Star Sports Network

CSK... tsk, tsk BCCI to invite applications for

Chennai Super Kings' playoff hopes suffer a setback after losing to Gujarat Titans



Sai Sudharsan (103) and Shubman Gill (104) recorded a 210-run opening stand to help GT beat CSK. Nirmal Harindran

SYNOPSIS

Defending champions Chennai Super Kings play-offs hopes take a big hit as they go down to Gujarat Titans by 35 runs.

VENKATA KRISHNA B MARCH 31

Luck runs out

At a venue where they pulled off a major heist to become champions last year, Chennai Super Kings' hopes of defending their title suffered a huge blow. The defeat means they will now have to win both their remaining matches and depend on other results to go their way. That they have less than a 48-hour turnaround before they face Rajasthan Royals at home on Sunday afternoon, means the road ahead is all the more challenging. In all likelihood, given how short on confidence and thin on bowling, the fixture against Rajasthan could well be Dhoni's last home fixture.

For a team, whose starting XI has never looked settled owing to fitness, form and unavailability, Chennai's mix and match continued at Ahmedabad as well with Rachin Ravindra making a comeback to the top. But as has been the case, this was yet another move that didn't work as Rachin was run-out off the last ball of the first over and a ball later, Ajinkya Rahane too departed. Chasing 232 for a win, those twin blows strangled Chennai straight-away. And when Ruturaj Gaikwad fell for zero, at

10/3, Chennai's chase was all but killed. However, through Daryl Mitchell and Moeen Ali, Chennai would attempt to make a comeback. As they showed in their partnership of 109 off 57 deliveries for the fourth wicket, had Chennai's top-order given the necessary start, the target wasn't as steep. On a flat deck with dew by their side, with wickets in hand, they could have

been in with a chance. But, with the required rate climbing right through the chase, Mitchell and Moeen had no choice but to keep going for high-risk shots.

From there on it was always about a couple of deliveries as in Rashid Khan and Noor Ahmed, Gujarat had the bowlers to tie down two next three incoming batsmen. And as Mohit Sharma came in and removed Mitchell off his second delivery, Gujarat inched closer and off his second over, he got rid of Moeen as Chennai's fate was all but sealed.

Style meets substance

In an IPL season where openers have buried opposition attacks with sheer muscle power, Shubman Gill and B Sai Sudharsan showed there is an alternate universe where timing could be as brutal too. This was an evening where they showed, going forward, there is still space in T20s for batsmen of their ilk, who are classical in their own ways.

From the time they walked in after being asked to bat first, they appeared liberated. Perhaps that they are barely alive in the tournament helped the duo to play more freely. But whatever it was, they put up a grand exhibition, matching each other shot for shot. And it was Sudharsan who first started it, getting down on his knee in the third over and cover-driving Shardul Thakur for a six. And just before the powerplay ended, Gill stood tall and lofted a good length delivery over mid-on for a six. Those two shots summed up their batting on the night as a whole.

Four out of the five boundaries that Sudharsan scored came in the mid-wicket and mid-on region. But four of his seven sixes came behind square, as he arched back to upper cut one and brought the pull on three other occasions. Against spinners, he went over mid-wicket twice. Simple, clear game plan as he outscored Gill. In a season where few good things have gone their way for Gujarat, Sudharsan is top of it, crossing 500 runs en route becoming the fastest Indian to 1000 IPL runs.

STANDINGS

KKR	11	8	3	0	16	1.453
RR	11	8	3	0	16	0.476
SRH	12	7	5	0	14	0.406
CSK	11	6	6	0	12	0.491
DC	12	6	6	0	12	-0.316
LSG	12	6	6	0	12	-0.769
RCB	12	5	7	0	10	-0.217
GT	12	5	7	0	10	-1.063
MI	12	4	8	0	8	-0.212
PK	12	4	8	0	8	-0.423

M W L T Pts NRR

At the other end, Gill was more intent on proving a point or two. Having failed to make India's World Cup 15 cut, the fluency that has been missing in Gill's batting this IPL, was to the forefront. Those slices of either foot were back as he found three boundaries in his favoured mid-wicket region and two on the square of off-side. Those four sixes in the arc between longoff and long-on showed how he struck to his characteristics.

Only one six that he scored off Daryl Mitchell fell in the improvisation category as he quickly caught up with Sudharsan before bringing up his century in 50 deliveries. The left-hander too would get to the landmark in the same over.

In a seven-over period (9th to 15th) they scored a whopping 111 runs, which left Chennai shell shocked. Ruturaj Gaikwad's continued hesitation to trust the spinners helped a little as Chennai ran out of answers. Eventually, in the last four overs, Chennai would pull things back, conceding only 35 runs and picking three wickets as Gujarat, who looked set to cross 250 ended up with 231/3.

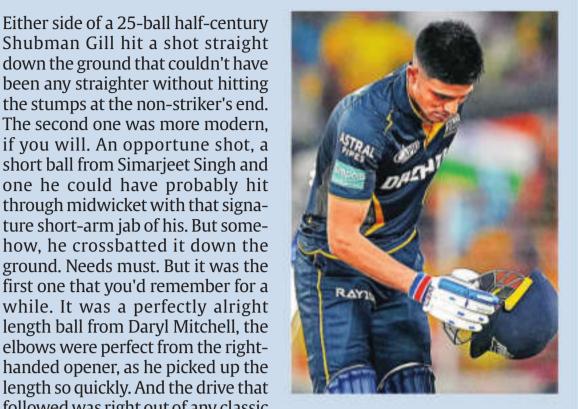
BRIEF SCORES: Gujarat Titans 231/3 in 20 overs (Shubman Gill 104, B Sai Sudharsan 103) bt Chennai Super Kings 196 for 8 in 20 overs (Daryl Mitchell 63, Moeen Ali 56; Mohit Sharma 3/31) by 35 runs

EMOTIONAL ROLLERCOASTER

Hot heads, calm minds and everything in between at the game

Sensationally straight by Shubman

Shubman Gill hit a shot straight down the ground that couldn't have been any straighter without hitting the stumps at the non-striker's end. The second one was more modern, if you will. An opportune shot, a short ball from Simarjeet Singh and one he could have probably hit through midwicket with that signature short-arm jab of his. But somehow, he crossbatted it down the ground. Needs must. But it was the first one that you'd remember for a while. It was a perfectly alright length ball from Daryl Mitchell, the elbows were perfect from the righthanded opener, as he picked up the length so quickly. And the drive that followed was right out of any classic cricket playbook. It was the kind of shot that lived up to the cliche that the most technically gifted of cricketers, batting out of the textbook, do still have a place in this format. "A thing of beauty, you can see it time and time again. The balance was brilliant, effortless ease," said Nick



Shubman Gill hit a beautiful shot straight down the ground en route to his quick-fire century. PTI

Knight on air, adding any young batter would do well to learn just by watching that on loop.

King misses out, Prince gets there

For lovers of symmetry, both GT's openers were beautifully placed at 96 off 48 balls at the start of the 17th over. The first one to get to the three-figure mark between Shubman Gill and Sai Sudharsan would be scoring the 100th hundred in the history of the Indian Premier League. On Thursday night, Virat Kohli came within a couple of strikes of getting to that landmark. Of what the King missed out on, the heir apparent got there. It was a classic Shubman innings at his favourite venue in Ahmedabad, but it was a much more vocal celebration than what we have gotten used to from him. He jumped in the air and yelled out an expletive. Shortly after, Sai would get to the landmark too, scoring the 101st century in the league with a six over fine leg. A stunning

opening partnership.

Mohit bowls the good old knuckle ball

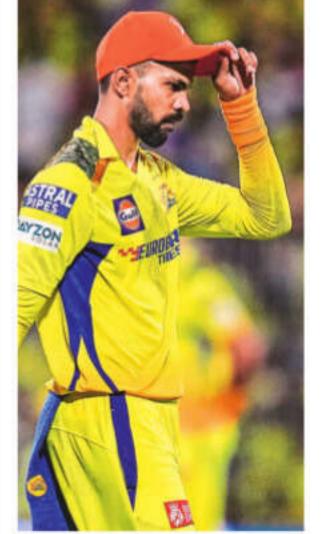
This is a season where seamers have mostly used the off-cutters and split



liveries. But **Mohit Sharma** still backs his back of the hand slower ball and knuckle ball to vary his speed. And both

from harder to execute, are also difficult for the batsmen to connect it, even if they are able to pick it off the hand. When Mohit came on, there was a message to Daryl Mitchell to watch out for the slower ones, but all it took was just two deliveries for Mohit to strike. He brought out the knuckle ball and banged it into the pitch, which took whatever pace it had, as Mitchell ended up early into the shot and could only find the fielder at long-off.

Rutu's 'main job'



Ruturaj Gaikwad's run at the toss has defied probability. It's a 50-50 chance when the toin goes up but the odds must have felt much heavier for the CSK captain who had won just ONE out of the 11 tosses this season. It led to CSK head coach Stephen Fleming joking that he needs a helping hand perhaps. "There has been a lot of talk about it. We are actually looking for someone to go out with him, we are really close to that point," Fleming – usually stoic – said with a hearty laugh. "Some of them (lost tosses) have been pretty crucial. Even his wife has had something to say about it. So, there is a lot of focus, and that will be one of his first main jobs."

It dominated pre-match discussions too. At the pitch report, Chris Morris and Nick Knight ran a little routine on how he could win the toss. And in Ahmedabad, walking out by himself and without any additional help as Fleming quipped, Gaikwad finally got his second toss win. The CSK-heavy crowd roared and Gaikwad had a relieved look on his face.

SWEEP SPOT

JAY SHAH

BCCI SECRETARY

How Kohli is embracing slog-sweep to shrug aside the strike rate debate

RAHUL PANDEY NEW DELHI, MAY 10

LESS THAN a couple weeks after he went rogue and lashed his critics for delving into his strike rate, Virat Kohli on Thursday faced the camera to make the point that he was working "to keep the strike rate up." This, after having breezed to 92 off just 47 deliveries.

"I am certainly not a guy who wants to sit around saying this is the way I play and not improve on things I need to," Kohli stated in one of his typical longish post-match chats. Taking more risks was put on the agenda, especially against the spinners. It's been a particular weakness of his. In T20s, Kohli's strike rate drops when he's facing spinners (124.99) as opposed to the pacers (139.88). His discomforts against the turning ball had come at large over the past year and his defence of it had been a recurring feature of last month's live broadcast outburst. Last night though, he accepted the flaw and opened up on a solution—a particular shot he has shied away from for much of his career.

"I brought out the slog-sweep to the spinners. I just mentally put myself in that situation, never practised it at all. I know I can hit it (slog-sweep) because I have hit it in the past," he said.

It is not like Kohli didn't possess the sweep, but just that it was as not instinctive

as some of his other strokes. He would rather flick, glide or drive the balls that some of his colleagues, especially from the red-soilgroomed regions, would sweep. Even against spinners on raging turners, he would deploy the sweep as the last option. Take for instance his Test highest of 254 not out versus South Africa in 2019. The innings of 33 fours and a brace of six featured just two slog-sweeps (or sweep of any variety).

But in T20s, with the thrust to find more boundaries, he has discovered the utility of the slog-sweep. "I need to take a bit more risks. That's allowing me to hit that shot off the back foot as well. I have tried to expose that side of the field as well, which for me has been a massive factor in this IPL," Kohli conceded.

Against Punjab, Kohli deployed a couple of slog-sweeps in the latter half of his innings during his takedown of the spinners. Liam Livingstone was at the receiving end on both occasions. The first one - off a fullish delivery on the middle and leg stump - wasn't timed to perfection but was muscled fiercely enough to get it over the infield for four. On the second go, the execution was far better and made him look a natural. Livingstone offered a bit of extra air on the ball and dished it outside the off stump. Kohli's eyes lit up as he got down on one knee and took a big stride forward to crunch it for a flat six over the midwicket region.



Against Punjab Kings, Virat Kohli deployed the slog-sweep in the latter half of his innings, with Liam Livingstone at the receiving end. PTI

epaper.indianexpress.com

It wasn't the only occasion during this season when he'd turned to the particular stroke. During his much-discussed ton against the Rajasthan Royals - for strike rate reasons - one Yuzvendra Chahal had been at the receiving end of it. Picking the ball from

the fifth stump and going down on one knee, Kohli had put his forward reach to test as he dispatched another flat six - this time over wide long-on. That he was able to tonk it clean off a good length delivery made it all the more special.

I brought out the slog-sweep to the spinners. I just mentally put myself in that situation, never practised it at all. I know I can hit it (slog-sweep) because I have hit it in the past."

VIRAT KOHLI

His strikes against Gujarat's Noor Ahmad though, on the day of his fiery monologue, must've felt extra sweet. For one, it came against a left-arm spinner of some nuance. The 19-year-old Afghan wrist-spinner has come across as a mirror-image of Rashid Khan. Kohli's record against his kind has been even substandard. His strike rate combating left-arm spinners in T20 reads a measly 119.32. A vulnerability that was out in the open earlier in the season.

Facing Lucknow's debutant M Siddarth, Kohli had looked a pale shadow of himself as he rushed down the track and lost his shape. The back leg hung in the air as he made contact with the ball and his eyes weren't underneath - as they generally are before he looped the ball to backward point. The only positive to come out of the attempt was the intent to face his demons head-on off the very first ball.

It was what he had attempted to do against Punjab's Harpreet Brar as well, in the

reverse fixture between the two teams. Infact, it was against Brar, who has troubled him before, that Kohli first ventured out for slog-sweeping - twice - only to miss on both occasions.

Against Noor, a couple of weeks ago, the

plan finally came to fruition. Carving runs either side of the square, Kohli looked persistent in his application of the stroke - clubbing a four and two sixes off the Afghan. The last of those came across as a welcome change. Clearing his front leg, Kohli latched onto a quicker-fuller delivery lined up on the stumps. A delivery we've usually seen him negotiate for a couple off a flick. A clear instance of taking the risk Kohli had alluded to the other night.

In contemporary T20 cricket, where even 262 has been proven to be chaseable, adopting the attacking stroke might be the need of the hour for someone as textbook as Kohli Former SRH and Punjab head coach would zero in on the importance of it on Star Sports, "We talk about the sweep slog, how he's brought that back out against spin, and hasn't that been a really effective weapon for him in those middle overs. And when the opposition tries to bring spin in the powerplay, he brings that out and puts them under immediate pressure and that puts them under another area of scoring from the back foot.'

It is what India would expect of him in the upcoming T20 World Cup too.

Leverkusen rally late in draw to reach Europa League final



Leverkusen coach Alonso (right) celebrates after the match. REUTERS

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEVERKUSEN (GERMANY), MAY 10

BAYER LEVERKUSEN had a double reason to celebrate in stoppage time on Thursday. Not only did it reach the Europa League final and keep its treble bid on course but substitute Josip Stanišic's late goal preserved its remarkable unbeaten record as Leverkusen rescued a 2-2 draw against Roma.

Both had seemed at risk during the semifinal second leg after two Leandro Paredes penalties had made it 2-0 on the night and 2-2 on aggregate. But an own goal by Roma defender Gianluca Mancini eight minutes from time and Stanišic's equalizer saw Leverkusen stretch its unbeaten streak to 49 matches. Leverkusen advanced 4-2 on aggregate and will face another Italian team on May 22 in Dublin after Atalanta beat Marseille 3-0 to advance 4-1 on aggregate. "It's pure goosebumps!" Granit Xhaka told German television RTL. "You dream of an atmosphere like this. You dream of games like this. As a kid, you want to be in these games and then when you equalize just before the end and get to the final, it's incredible." The fact that its unbeaten record was preserved about 30 seconds away from coming to an end was another improbable finale in an impressive season for Xabi Alonso's team, which has already won the Bundesliga title and also reached the German Cup final.

Leverkusen's equalizer was its 17th goal of the season in the 90th minute or later across all competitions and the third time it has come back from 2-0 down in the second half of Europa League knockout matches.

Roma, after losing the first leg last week, knew it faced a difficult task and star forward Paulo Dybala was only fit for a place on the bench after sustaining an injury against Juventus over the weekend.

Leverkusen had several chances to all but kill off the tie and went close in the 29th minute. A free kick was rolled across the outside of the area to Piero Hincapié, whose shot came off the left post, bounced off the back of Roma goalkeeper Mile Svilar and went across the face of goal before being cleared by Evan Ndicka. Instead it was Roma that took the lead two minutes from halftime with a Paredes penalty after Leverkusen defender Jonathan Tah was adjudged to have pulled down visiting forward Sardar Azmoun — who is on loan from Leverkusen. Svilar had pulled off an extraordinary double save moments earlier and the Roma goalkeeper continued his heroics after the break. Roma was awarded another penalty in the 66th minute as a corner glanced off Bryan Cristante's head and Leverkusen winger Adam Hlo ek inadvertently brushed the ball with his fingertips. Paredes kept his cool to drill the penalty into the bottom left corner and send the visiting fans into raptures. Just as it appeared as if the match was heading for extra time, Leverkusen got the goal it needed to progress as Alex Grimaldo's corner from the right rebounded off Mancini at the far post and dropped over the line.

Near-perfect start for Neeraj

Misses out on 1st place by 2 centimetres during season opener at Doha Diamond League

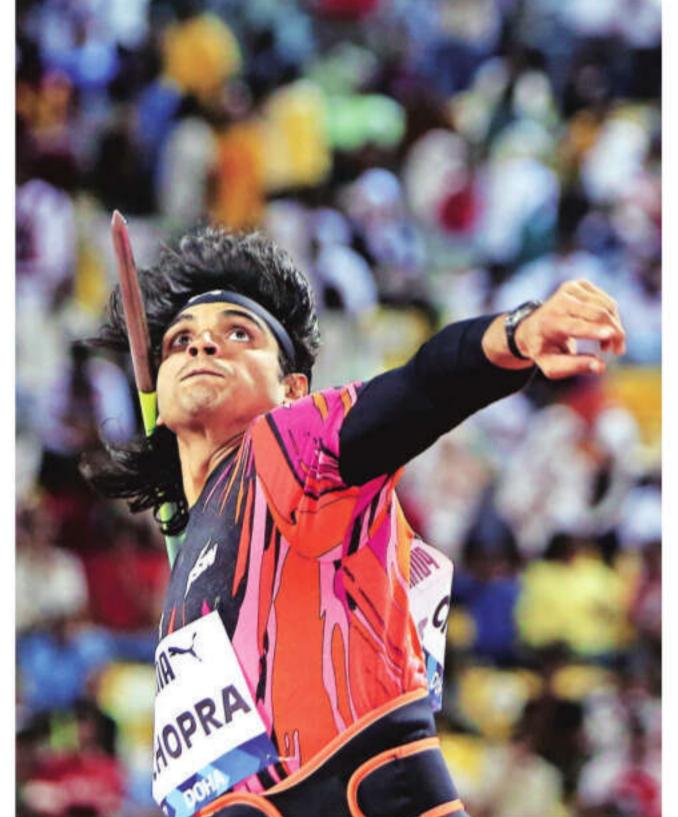
VINAYAKK MOHANARANGAN MAY 10

TWO CENTIMETERS. In the end, that is all that separated Neeraj Chopra and the first place at the Doha Diamond League on Friday night. But once again at an event when he didn't start as well as he would have hoped for, Neeraj showed that he could come up with a big throw till the very end. The Olympic and world champion threw 88.36metres with his sixth and final attempt, behind only the 88.38m that was thrown earlier by Jakub Vadlejch.

Neeraj, usually, is known for his fast starts. His incredible Tokyo gold was clinched with an 87.58m throw that came off his 2nd attempt. His current personal best of 89.94m at the Stockholm Diamond League meet in 2022 was his first attempt. At the Budapest World Championships in 2023, his historic gold medal-winning throw of 88.17m was with the second attempt. When asked in 2022 during a media interaction whether he saw a pattern in going big early, Neeraj had said, "I never want to think that pehle maar do, last mein relaxed chod do (Go big early and then be relaxed towards the end)."

Indeed so, as we now have seen a few times where Neeraj has shown he can fight back too, and that he doesn't always have to set the pace. At the Oregon World Championships in 2022, where he clinched silver, he had to push his body to the limit with his fourth throw to climb up to second place from fourth. In Hangzhou at the Asian Games, the Indian sporting community got a pleasant surprise when Kishore Kumar Jena took the lead. But again, Neeraj dug deep and, at the end of a long and tiring season, managed to come up with his best throw of the year. That was off the fourth attempt too.

Neeraj's night in Doha got off to a lukewarm start. A foul for the first attempt, was followed by 84.93m. He improved his mark with a third throw of 86.24m, but in his follow-through, it was just a small roar. It wasn't the now-familiar 'arms-up' reaction as he released the javelin, so he had a fair idea that it wasn't close to his best. Incidentally, the only time we actually saw Neeraj do that



Neeraj Chopra, of India, makes an attempt in the men's javelin throw during the Diamond League athletics meet at the Qatar Sports Club stadium in Doha.

AP

Pos	Athlete	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	Rd 5	Rd 6	
1.	J Vadlejch	85.87	86.93	88.38	84.04	X	X	
2.	N Chopra	X	84.93	86.24	86.18	82.28	88.36	
3.	A Peters	80.38	85.75	Х	82.89	85.08	86.62	

thing where he almost wills the javelin on to the further possible distance, it was for 86.18m. Not even Neeraj always gets it right.

In events since Tokyo, the one thing that Neeraj has invariably done is keep adding entries to his all-time top 10 throws. All of his top 10 entries as of now have come after the Tokyo Olympics but Doha was proving difficult.

With the top three decided, Neeraj had one shot left though. Vadljech was done with all his throws and 88.38m was the mark to beat. Up stepped Neeraj, doing his usual stretching routines deep on the run-

Neeraj's night in Doha got off to a lukewarm start. A foul for the first attempt, was followed by 84.93m.

way as some fans tried to catch a glimpse of him in action from the stands. As he completed his runup and let the javelin go, there wasn't a big reaction.

Cometh the hour

But what it turned out to be was yet another 88m+ throw. On the live broadcast, it appeared awfully close to Vadlejch's best mark, but the official measurement came up just two centimeters short. Neeraj has often maintained that the most important thing for him at any event is to try and find ways to come up with the best throw of the night, more than just the absolute value of the number that pops up on the screens.

As it was confirmed that Vadlejch will finish ahead of Neeraj and two-time world champion Anderson Peters, the athletes exchanged smiles. They all knew that they had been in a right proper battle till the end.

"The most important competition for me this year is the Paris Olympics," Neeraj said. "But Diamond League meetings are important too. Next time I will try to throw far and try to win. The support I am getting from the Indian people here in Qatar is always amazing, there aren't enough words for me to thank them for their support."

Vadlejch versus Neeraj have been close affairs. "It was a very close fight. Last year Neeraj beat me by some four centimetres, so this was an even closer one and I am pleased that I won," Vadlejch said.

Neeraj shared a warm moment with Peters as well, with the Grenadan registering 86.62m to signal that he is back in contention ahead of Paris. Peters, who won the 2022 Worlds gold medal ahead of Neeraj, had a tough 2023 after suffering nasty injuries in a brawl late in 2022. And incidentally, 2024 has begun with the same three men on the podium as Oregon 2022 but in the reverse order.

Kishore, meanwhile, couldn't manage to make it to the top 8 after his first three throws on Diamond League debut as his 76.31m placed him 9th.

But for Neeraj, it will be a night to take plenty of positives from. With one final push at the Suhaim bin Hamad Stadium, Neeraj came up with his career's ninth-best mark. That is a strong start as he builds up towards Paris.

Nisha wins record fifth Olympic quota



EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE MAY 10

INDIA's WOMEN wrestlers ensured record qualification quotas for the Paris Olympics after Nisha Dahiya won the country's fifth berth, beating Romania's Alexandra Anghel 8-4 in the World Qualifiers on Friday. Nisha's quota place in the 68kg weight class means all five spots earned so far by India are thanks to women wrestlers. Earlier, Antim Panghal (53kg), Vinesh Phogat (50kg), Anshu Malik (57kg) and Reetika Hooda (76kg) had won quotas for the Olympics, which begins on July 26. India have won five out of a possible six quotas in women's wrestling, the country's best-ever showing.

Nisha, a World U-23 bronze medallist and Asian Championships silver-medal winner last year, defeated Belarusian teenager Alina Shauchuk, competing as an independent athlete, on points 3-0 to secure a place in the quarterfinal. The 25-year-old then beat world number 9 from the Czech Republic, Adela Hanzlickova, 7-4 to book a place in the semifinal, where she defeated Anghel.

The Indian wrestler raced to an 8-0 lead after the first period but her Romanian opponent tried to stage a comeback, managing four points early into the second round. Nisha clung on to her lead and showed creditable defensive abilities as Anghel threw the kitchen sink at her before she eventually won the bout. On Saturday, India's male wrestlers, who are yet to qualify, will have the last chance to book Paris quotas.

India have won five out of a possible six quotas in women's wrestling, the country's bestever showing.

'Sends a strong message that women can take on powerful men'

NIHAL KOSHIE NEW DELHI, MAY 10

CALLING IT a significant victory in the fight for justice by women wrestlers, top grapplers welcomed the framing of sexual harassment charges against former Wrestling Federation of India president and BJP MP Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh.

"It is a big victory for women and sends a strong message that women can take on powerful men and they don't have to be afraid. Protesting against someone so powerful was not easy but we were determined that women wrestlers should get justice. The framing of charges is a significant development and the fight in court will continue," Vinesh Phoghat told *The Indian Express*.

Phogat, a two-time world championship medallist, and Olympic medallist Bajrang Punia and Sakshi Malik were leading the protests demanding the arrest of Brij Bhushan after six women wrestlers complained of sexual harassment. A Delhi Cour

A Delhi Court on Friday ordered the framing of charges against Singh. The Court of Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (ACMM) Priyanka Rajpoot stated that there was sufficient material to frame charges against Singh in the offences of outraging the modesty of a woman and sexual harassment (sections 354 and 354A of the IPC). For Vinod Tomar, the former WFI assistant secretary who is the second accused in the case, the Court noted that there was sufficient material to frame charges against him for criminal intimidation concerning the allegations of one victim.

"There were so many questions raised by critics when we started our protest demanding the arrest of Brij Bhushan. But we were steadfast in our quest to get justice. At the same time, we were worried that Brij Bhushan could use his powerful connections. But we had a lot of faith in our lawyer and today was a victory in court for us but the battle will continue. People in the wrestling fraternity knew



Bajrang Punia, Vinesh Phogat and Sakshi Malik during the protest last year. File

what Brij Bhushan had done over the years but most of them had turned a blind eye,"

Vinesh added.
Bajrang's wife Sangeeta Phogat, a national medalist, posted a press statement on X which read: "As complainants of the sexual harassment of women wrestlers by Brij Bhushan

Sharan Singh, MP, the then president of the

Wrestling Federation of India, the women wrestlers are today extremely happy that charges have been framed against him... and Federation secretary Vinod Tomar under section 506 IPC.

"This is a major milestone in our 18-month-long movement against the main perpetrator of sexual crimes against women wrestlers, which has been going on since January 2003 on the streets, committees, January Mantar and now in court. We have full faith in the judiciary and hope for a fair hearing and justice. We are extremely grateful to our legal team led by senior advocate Rebecca John... We also thank all those women who stood shoulder to shoulder with us."

Bajrang also took to X with the message 'Satyameva Jayate'.

"Charges have been framed against Brij Bhushan. Thanks to the honourable court. This is a big victory for the struggle of women wrestlers. The daughters of the country have had to go through such a difficult time, but this decision will give them relief. Those who trolled women wrestlers should also be ashamed."

Brij Bhushan had been found liable for prosecution for sexual harassment, molestation and stalking of women wrestlers in a Delhi Police chargesheet. Six women wrestlers had filed a complaint of sexual harassment in April last year and India's top wrestlers had protested for two months at Jantar Mantar demanding his arrest. The Delhi Court on Friday stated that for all allegations levelled against Bhushan by victim number 6, he has been discharged. The sixth victim's allegations dated back to 2012.

Last week, a Delhi court rejected Brij Bhushan's plea of seeking further investigation into the allegations of sexual harassment

On the political front, the BJP last week named Karan Bhushan Singh as its candidate from the Kaiserganj seat in Uttar Pradesh, replacing his father and sitting MP Singh. In February this year, Karan took over as president of the UP Wrestling Federation, which Brij Bhushan had been heading for the last 12 years.

[SPORTS BAR]



Former U.S. Open champ Thiem to retire

FORMER U.S. Open champion **Dominic Thiem** plans to retire at the end of the year after struggling to return to his top form following a wrist injury. "I am going to finish my career with the end of this season," Thiem said Friday in a video posted on Instagram, calling it a "very sad but also very beautiful message." The 30-year-old Austrian player won his only Grand Slam title at Flushing Meadows in 2020. His five-set victory over Alexander Zverev made Thiem the first man to overcome a two-set deficit in a U.S. Open final in 71 years. He was also runner-up at three Grand Slams: the 2018 and 2019 French Opens and the 2020 Australian Open. He reached a career-high No. 3 ranking in 2020 and stayed in the top five until he iniured his right wrist in June 2021.

Senthilkumar to head Indian challenge

REIGNING men's national champion Velavan Senthilkumar and women's semi-finalist Rathika Seelan will spearhead the Indian contingent at the 22nd Asian Team Squash Championships to be held in Dalian, China, from June 12-16. The 2023 National Games champion Abhay Singh, Rahul Baitha and Suraj Chand complete the men's line-up, while Pooja Arthi R, Sunita Patel and Janet Vidhi form the rest of the wome;'s squad, the Squash Rackets Federation of India (SRFI) announced on Friday after holding selection trials at the Indian Squash & Triathlon Academy in Chennai.

Salvi to continue as Mumbai head coach

OMKAR Salvi was on Friday retained as the head coach of the Ranji Trophy-winning Mumbai team, while Sanjay Patil was named the chairman of selectors in place of Raju Kulkarni, who will now head Mumbai Cricket Association's Cricket Improvement Committee (CIC). The MCA in an announcement for the 2024-25 season said that Patil, a former Mumbai cricketer will head the senior men's and U-23 selection committee with other members being Ravi Thaker, Jeetendra Thackrey, Kiran Powar and Vikrant Yeligati.

oinbase

Praggnanandhaa emerged as the best performing Indian. FILE

Praggnanandhaa lone third in Superbet Rapid

GRANDMASTER R Praggnanandhaa emerged as the best performing Indian yet again in the faster version of the game as he finished sole third in the rapid section of the Superbet Rapid and blitz chess tournament, a part of the Grand Chess tour here Wei Yi of China continued with his brilliant form and won the rapid section scoring over world championship challenger D Gukesh in the seventh round and Nodirbek Abdusattorov in the eighth before settling for a draw against Praggnanandhaa in the final. World number one Magnus Carlsen had to be content with the second place following a sole victory against Vincent Keymer of Germany besides two draws on the final day of rapid. The event is only half way through as there are 18 more rounds of blitz to be played before a winner is decided in the USD 175000 prize money tournament.

to be played before a winner is decided in the USD 175000 prize money tournament. For records, Wei Yi finished with 13 points in all with each win worth two points in rapid and each draw netting him one point.

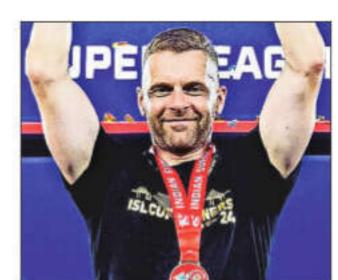
PTI

Olympic Shooting Trials set to resume

A total of 37 pistol and rifle shooters will resume their quest for a spot in the Indian squad for the Paris Olympic Games when Olympic Selection Trials (OST) 3&4 commence here on Saturday. The Indian shooters have secured 16 Paris quota places (the maximum possible) in pistol and rifle and the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) is conducting trials among the top-five in the country in each event to select the squad for the Olympics.In shooting sport, Olympic quotas are earned for the the country and individuals securing the slots are not assured of Paris berths unless they top the selection trials.

Indian golfer Pranavi Urs T-2nd in Korea

Indian golfer Pranavi Urs produced a strong finish with three birdies in the last five holes to haul herself to 3-under 69 and be tied second after the first round of the Aramco Team Series – Korea here.Playing only her second Aramco Series event, Pranavi had five birdies against two bogeys, one on each side of the Par-72 New Korea Country Club.Local star Hyo-Joo Kim had the home fans excited as the Major winner fired a round of 4-under 68 to lead the Individual competition by one shot.Vani Kapoor (77) was T-70.



Mumbai City extend coach Kratky's contract

Mumbai City FC have extended head coach Petr Kratky's contract by one year until the end of 2025-26 season after their Indian Super League Cup final victory over Mohun Bagan SG. Kratky took charge of the Mumbai City FC in December last year and he has had a successful run, winning 16 and drawing three from his overall 23 matches. The team also registered their highest ever tally of 47 points in the league phase of an ISL season under the 42-year-old former defender from Czech Republic. The club said in a release that under Kratky, Indian players in particular have had a successful run as they scored more than 62 per cent – 23 of their 37 goals. Along with this, the team enjoyed a ninegame unbeaten run until the final day of the league when they faced off against Mohun Bagan SG.

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