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1  
AIR



ADITYA SRIVASTAVA

ABHYAAS PRELIMS 2023, 2022 & 2021  
ABHYAAS MAINS 2023 & 2022

हिन्दी माध्यम टॉपर

53  
AIR



मोहन लाल

अभ्यास, ऑल इंडिया टेस्ट सीरीज  
इंटरव्यू गाइडेंस, मेन्स 365

2  
AIR



ANIMESH PRADHAN

ABHYAAS, ALL INDIA GS TEST, SOCIOLOGY  
TEST, LAKSHYA, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

5  
AIR



RUHANI

ABHYAAS, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

6  
AIR



SRISHTI DABAS

ABHYAAS, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

7  
AIR



ANMOL RATHORE

INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

9  
AIR



NAUSHEEN

ALL INDIA TEST SERIES

10  
AIR



AISHWARYAM PRAJAPATI

ALL INDIA GS TEST, SOCIOLOGY TEST,  
LAKSHYA, ABHYAAS, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

11  
AIR



KUSH MOTWANI

INTERVIEW GUIDANCE,  
ALL INDIA TEST SERIES

12  
AIR



ANIKET SHANDILYA

ABHYAAS

13  
AIR



MEDHA ANAND

PT365, MAINS365, MAINS ADVANCE, ALL INDIA  
GS TEST, ABHYAAS, LAKSHYA, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

14  
AIR



SHAURYA ARORA

INTERVIEW GUIDANCE,  
ABHYAAS

15  
AIR



KUNAL RASTOGI

ALL INDIA TEST SERIES,  
INTERVIEW GUIDANCE, ABHYAAS

16  
AIR



AYAN JAIN

INTERVIEW GUIDANCE,  
ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAAS

17  
AIR



SWATI SHARMA

ABHYAAS,  
ALL INDIA TEST SERIES

18  
AIR



WARDAH KHAN

INTERVIEW GUIDANCE,  
ABHYAAS

19  
AIR



SHIVAM KUMAR

INTERVIEW GUIDANCE,  
ABHYAAS



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# GENERAL STUDIES FOUNDATION COURSE 2025 PRELIMS CUM MAINS

INNOVATIVE CLASSROOM PROGRAMME

ENGLISH MEDIUM

KAROL BAGH

GTB NAGAR

DELHI: 4 JUNE, 9 AM | 14 JUNE, 9 AM | 20 JUNE, 5 PM | 28 JUNE, 8:30 AM

AHMEDABAD 20 JUNE | BENGALURU 18 JUNE | BHOPAL 25 JUNE | CHANDIGARH 20 JUNE | HYDERABAD 24 JUNE | JAIPUR 11 JUNE | JODHPUR 11 JUNE | LUCKNOW 20 JUNE | PUNE 5 MAY

हिन्दी माध्यम

दिल्ली: 14 मई, 9 AM | 11 जून, 9 AM

भोपाल 23 जुलाई | जयपुर 11 जून | जोधपुर 11 जून | लखनऊ 18 जुलाई



Comprehensive and  
In-depth coverage  
of GS Prelims and  
Mains Syllabus



Regular practice and  
assessment through  
daily assignments,  
mini-tests & monthly  
revision tests



Structured Mentoring  
Program with Personal  
Mentors for individual  
and group guidance



Holistic Current  
Affairs Coverage  
with MCAR, PT 365  
and Mains 365



Updated Study  
Material and Smart  
Content



Access to All India  
Test Series for GS  
Prelims, GS Mains,  
CSAT and Essay



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हिन्दी माध्यम  
में 35+ चयन

136  
AIR

अर्पित कुमार  
ऑल इंडिया GS टेस्ट, निबंध टेस्ट, मेन्स 365  
अभ्यास, लक्ष्य, इंटरव्यू गाइडेंस, CSAT टेस्ट,  
एथिक्स केस स्टडीज, मासिक करंट अफेयर्स क्लब

238  
AIR

विपिन दुबे  
ऑल इंडिया GS टेस्ट,  
अभ्यास

257  
AIR

मनीषा चव्हे  
ऑल इंडिया GS टेस्ट  
अभ्यास, इंटरव्यू गाइडेंस

313  
AIR

मयंक दुबे  
ऑल इंडिया GS टेस्ट  
अभ्यास, इंटरव्यू गाइडेंस

517  
AIR

देवेश पाराशर  
ऑल इंडिया GS टेस्ट, अभ्यास,  
PT 365, दर्शनशास्त्र टेस्ट,  
निबंध टेस्ट, इंटरव्यू गाइडेंस

541  
AIR

शिवम अग्रवाल  
ऑल इंडिया GS टेस्ट  
अभ्यास, इंटरव्यू गाइडेंस

551  
AIR

मोहन मंगवा  
अभ्यास, इंटरव्यू गाइडेंस

555  
AIR

ईश्वर लाल गुर्जर  
ऑल इंडिया GS टेस्ट, अभ्यास,  
PT 365, निबंध टेस्ट, इंटरव्यू गाइडेंस

556  
AIR

शुभम रघुवंशी  
लक्ष्य, अभ्यास,  
इंटरव्यू गाइडेंस

563  
AIR

अजित सिंह खन्ना  
ऑल इंडिया GS टेस्ट

596  
AIR

के परीशित  
ऑल इंडिया GS टेस्ट,  
एथिक्स केस स्टडीज

616  
AIR

रवि गंगवार  
ऑल इंडिया GS टेस्ट,  
इंटरव्यू गाइडेंस

619  
AIR

मानु प्रताप सिंह  
ऑल इंडिया GS टेस्ट,  
लक्ष्य, इंटरव्यू गाइडेंस

633  
AIR

मैत्रेय कुमार शुक्ला  
अभ्यास, इंटरव्यू गाइडेंस

642  
AIR

शशांक चौहान  
अभ्यास, लक्ष्य, इंटरव्यू गाइडेंस  
CSAT टेस्ट सीरीज

697  
AIR

प्रीतेश सिंह राजपूत  
अभ्यास, इंटरव्यू गाइडेंस

747  
AIR

नीरज चाकड़  
ऑल इंडिया GS टेस्ट  
लक्ष्य, इंटरव्यू गाइडेंस

758  
AIR

सोफिया सिद्दीकी  
ऑल इंडिया GS टेस्ट  
अभ्यास, लक्ष्य, इंटरव्यू गाइडेंस

776  
AIR

पटेल दीप राजेशकुमार  
इंटरव्यू गाइडेंस

793  
AIR

अशोक सोनी  
ऑल इंडिया GS टेस्ट, मेन्स 365,  
अभ्यास, एथिक्स केस स्टडीज

798  
AIR

विनोद कुमार मीना  
ऑल इंडिया GS टेस्ट  
लक्ष्य, अभ्यास



MONTHLY CURRENT AFFAIRS  
REVISION CLASSES 2025  
FOR GS PRELIMS & MAINS

Detailed topic-wise up-to-date contextual  
understanding of all current issues

ENGLISH  
MEDIUM | 7 JUNE  
5 PM

हिन्दी  
माध्यम | 14 जून  
5 PM



CSAT CLASSES 2025

- » Comprehensive coverage of CSAT syllabus
- » Regular practice and assessment
- » Dedicated slot for tutorial session
- » Access to All India CSAT Test Series

ENGLISH  
MEDIUM | 7 JUNE  
5 PM

हिन्दी  
माध्यम | 13 जून  
5 PM



LAKSHYA PRELIMS & MAINS INTEGRATED  
MENTORING PROGRAM 2025

- » VisionIAS introduces the Lakshya Prelims & Mains Integrated Mentoring Programme 2025, offering unified guidance for UPSC aspirants across both stages, ensuring comprehensive support and strategic preparation for success

Starts : 11 JUNE



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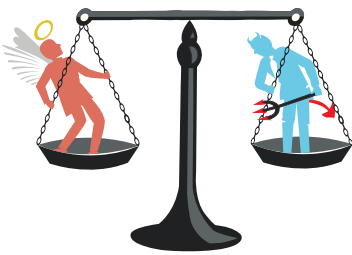


A.I.T.S  
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- » Extensive collection comprising 15000+ VisionIAS and UPSC Prelims PYQs.
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- » Access to Performance Improvement Tests.
- » Receive personalised recommendations identifying focus areas.

ENGLISH 2024 & 2025 : 2 JUNE  
हिन्दी 2024 & 2025 : 2 जून

ETHICS CASE STUDIES CLASSES



- » Focuses on conceptual clarity from basic to advance level.
- » Extensive coverage of contemporary and UPSC case studies.
- » Key emphasis on understanding case studies and precise answer writing skills.
- » Comprehensive and updated ethics material.

30 JUNE, 5 PM

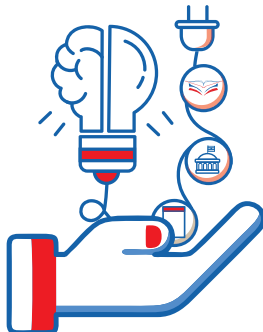


ADVANCED COURSE  
GS MAINS

- » Coverage of complex and relevant UPSC Mains topics.
- » Focus on developing conceptual and analytical understanding.
- » Includes access to Mains 365 Current Affairs Classes.
- » Access to sectional mini-tests for regular assessment.

25 JUNE, 1 PM

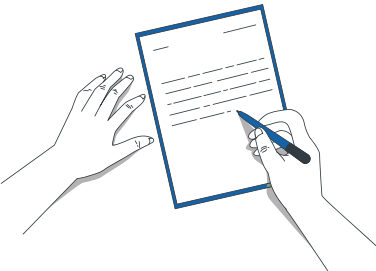
OPTIONAL SUBJECT CLASSES



- » Anthropology » Geography » Philosophy
- » Political Science & International Relations
- » Public Administration » Sociology

Starts : 2 JULY, 5 PM

OPTIONAL TEST SERIES



- » Anthropology » Physics
- » Geography » PSIR
- » Hindi Literature » Public Administration
- » Maths » Sociology
- » Philosophy

Starts : 23 JUNE

Delhi 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Apsara Arcade, Near Gate-7 Karol Bagh Metro Station, 1/8 b, Pusa Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi – 110005

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9 students secure **AIR 1**  
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<b>720</b> 720 Marks	<b>720</b> 720 Marks	<b>720</b> 720 Marks	<b>720</b> 720 Marks	<b>720</b> 720 Marks	<b>720</b> 720 Marks	<b>720</b> 720 Marks	<b>720</b> 720 Marks	<b>720</b> 720 Marks
 <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> AIR	 <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> AIR	 <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> AIR	 <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> AIR	 <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> AIR	 <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> AIR	 <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> AIR	 <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> AIR	 <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> AIR
SAM SHREYAS JOSEPH App No.: 240410631844	K SANDEEP CHOWDARY App No.: 240410223438	SHASHANK SHARMA App No.: 240410226887	ADITYA KUMAR PANDA App No.: 240410186525	RISHABH SHAH App No.: 240411165956	ISHA KOTHARI App No.: 240410220941	PRACHITA App No.: 240410135119	DARSH PAGHDAR App No.: 240410987668	KRISHNAMURTI P S App No.: 240410572378

<b>718</b> 720	<b>716</b> 720	<b>715</b> 720	<b>715</b> 720	<b>715</b> 720	<b>715</b> 720	<b>715</b> 720	<b>715</b> 720	<b>715</b> 720	<b>715</b> 720
 YASH KATARIA App. No. 240410390751	 PRATYUSH MALAV App. No. 240410146718	 KHUSHI MAGANUR App. No. 240410132014	 K VENKAT SATVIK App. No. 240410200210	 SAURABH REDDY K App. No. 240410653252	 VAJRAKANT MIRAGI App. No. 240410054114	 D N NITHIN App. No. 240410043072	 DHURUV AWASTHY App. No. 240411173028	 PRATHAM BUDHWAR App. No. 240410001078	 SOHAM SHAMKANT G App. No. 240410219849
<b>715</b> 720	<b>715</b> 720	<b>715</b> 720	<b>715</b> 720	<b>715</b> 720	<b>715</b> 720	<b>715</b> 720	<b>715</b> 720	<b>710</b> 720	<b>710</b> 720
 PATIL SARTH App. No. 240410399594	 ATISHAY JAIN App. No. 240410395948	 KRISHI JAIN App. No. 240410431792	 SAUMYA GARG App. No. 240410931386	 TANISHK YADAV App. No. 240410105975	 SANVI JAIN App. No. 240410422262	 ADITI DAS App. No. 240410081132	 DRON JAIN App. No. 240410107006	 MIRUDULA RAVIKUMAR App. No. 240410137416	 K PREM SUSANTH App. No. 240410202988
<b>710</b> 720	<b>710</b> 720	<b>710</b> 720	<b>710</b> 720	<b>710</b> 720	<b>710</b> 720	<b>710</b> 720	<b>710</b> 720	<b>710</b> 720	<b>710</b> 720
 K S MAUREEN App. No. 240410214963	 I SRIRAM NAYAK App. No. 240410665936	 RUPASHRI MUPPA App. No. 240411066424	 R RAGHURAM App. No. 240410056480	 SURYA CHARAN D App. No. 240410609484	 MOHD. ZUNAIB SAIFI App. No. 240410951575	 M SHAMUKH SUMEDH App. No. 240410219977	 P NIKHI REDDY App. No. 240410581504	 AMOGH PARGAONKAR App. No. 240410040994	 AKSHAT MISHRA App. No. 240410412977
<b>710</b> 720	<b>710</b> 720	<b>710</b> 720	<b>710</b> 720	<b>710</b> 720	<b>710</b> 720	<b>710</b> 720			
 SAI CHETHAN REDDY G App. No. 240410658312	 AKKINENI SUHAS App. No. 240410877504	 G VATSAL NILESHKUMAR App. No. 240411170402	 SOHAM MADAN App. No. 240410560129	 ASHWIN SHARM App. No. 240410946487	 PURVIKA SINGH App. No. 240410014115	 TANMAY SINGHAL App. No. 240410170082			

Due to space limitations, we are unable to include all students' information.

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**456  
PAGES**

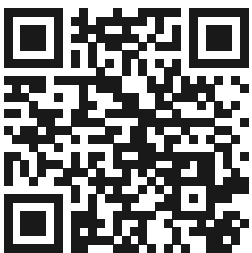


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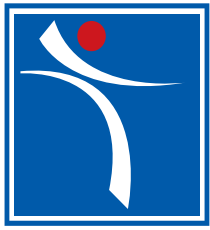
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## SRI CHAITANYA STUDENTS BREAK ALL THE RECORDS IN NEET 2024

9 STUDENTS ACHIEVE ALL INDIA RANK 1 IN OPEN CATEGORY

**1**  
AIR  
V MUKHESH CHOWDARY  
APPL. NO. 240411513902

**1**  
AIR  
P. PAVAN KUMAR REDDY  
APPL. NO. 240411179822

**1**  
AIR  
IRAM QUAZI  
APPL. NO. 240411319060\*

**1**  
AIR  
AADARSH SINGH MOYAL  
APPL. NO. 240410169585\*

**1**  
AIR  
ISHA KOTHARI  
APPL. NO. 240410220941\*

**1**  
AIR  
KALYAN. V  
APPL. NO. 224305882

**1**  
AIR  
AMINA ARIF KADIVALA  
APPL. NO. 240411082313\*

**1**  
AIR  
GATTU BHANUTEJA SAI  
APPL. NO. 240410268320

**1**  
AIR  
DARSH PAGHDAR  
APPL. NO. 240410987668\*

### 30 STUDENTS SCORED 715 AND ABOVE MARKS IN ALL INDIA ALL CATEGORIES

**716**  
720  
PRATYUSH MALAV  
APPL. NO. 240410146718\*

**715**  
720  
GVENKATA NRIPESH  
APPL. NO. 24041007107

**715**  
720  
Y RESHMA NYSHITHA  
APPL. NO. 240410199984

**715**  
720  
SURYANDEEP P  
APPL. NO. 240410384546\*

**715**  
720  
V SNEHA SWARNIMA  
APPL. NO. 240410043051

**715**  
720  
UDAY KIRAR  
APPL. NO. 240410101720\*

**715**  
720  
V SNEHA SWARNIMA  
APPL. NO. 240410043051

**715**  
720  
DRON JAIN  
APPL. NO. 240410107006\*

**715**  
720  
GORANTLA LAASYA  
APPL. NO. 240410234696

**715**  
720  
M DINESH BAJAJ  
APPL. NO. 240410568263\*

**715**  
720  
PRATHAM BUDHWAR  
APPL. NO. 240410001078\*

**715**  
720  
CH SAIPRANAV  
APPL. NO. 240410093134

**715**  
720  
SANVI JAIN  
APPL. NO. 240410422262\*

**715**  
720  
TOSHIK JAIN  
APPL. NO. 3902030417715\*

**715**  
720  
OM VATS  
APPL. NO. 240410500332

**715**  
720  
UJJWAL KUMAR  
APPL. NO. 240410577616\*

**715**  
720  
SIRIGIRI MOKSHASRI  
APPL. NO. 240410626824

**715**  
720  
R BHAVITHA  
APPL. NO. 240410281775

**715**  
720  
NEHAL H PRASANNA  
APPL. NO. 240410344686

**715**  
720  
P MEHARBABA ROHITHA  
APPL. NO. 240410355154

**715**  
720  
ANADI SETHI  
APPL. NO. 240410586988\*

22,000+

TOTAL  
QUALIFIED  
RANKS IN  
NEET 2024

9,512+

STUDENTS TO  
BECOME  
DOCTORS

#### HIGHLIGHTS

45  
RANKS  
Below  
100  
ALL INDIA RANKS

132  
STUDENTS  
700  
& ABOVE  
MARKS

852  
STUDENTS  
650  
& ABOVE  
MARKS



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BRANCHES

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BARNALA - 72077 72367, 72077 72368 | JALALABAD - 72077 79160, 72077 79162 | JALANDHAR - 72078 14477, 72078 14466 | MALSIA - 72078 99901, 72078 99902 | MOGA - 7207914036, 72079 14037 | HATHAN - 72077 70590, 72077 70591 | MANSA - 72077 70613, 72077 70614 | PATIALA - 0175-5015666  
DELHI - 99123 46070 | JANAKPUR - 73036 75887, 92053 21087 | GURUGRAM (NEW COLONY) - 72077 70454 | DELHI - 99123 46070  
JANAKPURI - 73036 75887, 92053 21087 | GURUGRAM (NEW COLONY) - 72077 70454 | KALUSARAI - 87004 16977 | PREET VIHAR - 92054 16766  
FUTURE PATHWAYS: GURUGRAM - PALAM VIHAR - 7207179184 / 85 | HISAR - 72077 55540 / 41





by

# Sri Chaitanya

## Educational Institutions



# TRANSFORMING YOUR DREAMS INTO REALITY

## NEET 2024 RESULTS

## STUDENTS WHO SCORED 700 AND ABOVE MARKS

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A portrait of Iram Quazi, a young woman with dark hair and glasses, wearing a black suit, white shirt, and red tie. She has her arms crossed. To her left is a large yellow '1' with the word 'AIR' in yellow above it. To her right is a circular badge with '720' in the top half and '720' in the bottom half. Below the portrait, the text 'IRAM QUAZI' and 'APPL. NO. 240411319060\*' is displayed in white on a black background.A portrait of a young woman, Isha Kothari, with her arms crossed, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and red tie. To her left is a large, 3D yellow number '1' with the word 'AIR' in yellow capital letters above it. To her right is a circular badge with a blue border containing the text '72nd' in large blue font and 'AIR' in smaller blue font below it. At the bottom of the image, the text 'ISHA KOTHARI' is written in bold black capital letters, followed by 'APPL. NO. 240410220941\*' in bold black capital letters.A portrait of a man, Darsh Paghdar, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and red tie. He has his arms crossed. To his left is a large yellow '1' with 'AIR' written above it. To his right is a circular badge with '720' at the top and '720' at the bottom. Below the portrait, the text 'DARSH PAGHDAR' and 'APPL. NO. 240410987668\*' is displayed.

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**Guessing game begins over new BJP CM in Odisha**

**BHUBANESWAR**  
A day after the BJP secured a decisive victory in Odisha, potential names for the new Chief Minister have begun doing the rounds. The BJP won 78 seats in the 147-member Legislative Assembly. » [Page 9](#)

**BJP's Delhi unit sets its eyes on Assembly poll**

**NEW DELHI**  
Buoyed by the party's win in all Lok Sabha seats of the Capital, Delhi BJP chief on Wednesday said they will work to win the 2025 Assembly poll. » [Page 2](#)

**THE HINDU CSDS-LOKNITI Post-poll Survey 2024**

Beginning today, *The Hindu* is publishing a series of articles by CSDS-Lokniti, explaining the 2024 Lok Sabha election results based on their post-poll survey.

PAGES » 7 & 8

## INDIA decides to keep doors open for Naidu, Nitish



**Upbeat camp:** Rahul Gandhi, Sharan Pawar, Sanjay Raut, Akhilesh Yadav and other leaders of the INDIA bloc at Mallikarjun Kharge's residence in New Delhi on Wednesday. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

**Sobhana K. Nair**  
NEW DELHI

Calling the June 4 results a mandate against the Narendra Modi government, the INDIA bloc, at the end of a two-hour meeting at Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge's residence here on Wednesday, said it would take "appropriate steps" at the "appropriate time" to realise the people's desire not to be ruled by the BJP government.

At the meeting, 33 leaders from 21 parties said that while doors should be kept open for the TDP, led by N. Chandrababu Naidu, and their erstwhile ally the Janata Dal(U) of Nitish Kumar, the bloc will be patient for the right opportunity. It was agreed that the allies should remain vigilant whenever the

BJP government moves a confidence motion in Parliament, which could possibly offer them an opening. Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav, according to sources, opined that the bloc has been successful in demolishing "Brand Modi".

Mr. Yadav also advised the allies to remain flexible and accommodative to keep the bloc united. Trinamool Congress's national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee was the only one to claim that a few elected BJP MPs are in touch with his party.

There were a few feeble comments on necessity for a convener, but this conversation did not dominate the discourse.

CONTINUED ON  
» [PAGE 9](#)

## NDA elects Modi as its leader; talks with allies to begin soon

Rajnath Singh, Amit Shah, Nadda to meet partners on the contours of the new coalition government; NDA parliamentary party meeting to be held on June 7; swearing-in likely over the weekend; TDP chief reportedly demands Central aid for A.P.

**Nistula Hebbar**  
NEW DELHI

The process of forming a new government led by Narendra Modi was set in motion on Wednesday, with the parties of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) unanimously passing a resolution electing him their leader at a meeting at the Prime Minister's official residence.

In all, 21 NDA leaders signed the resolution, which appreciated Mr. Modi's efforts in nation-building, welfare of the poor, and development, adding that they were all partners in that effort.

"After a very long gap, of almost six decades, the people of India have chosen a powerful leader with an absolute majority for the third consecutive time," the resolution read.

"We NDA leaders unanimously choose Narendra Modi as our leader," it said.

The meeting was attended by BJP president J.P. Nadda, BJP leaders Amit Shah and Rajnath Singh, and the BJP's allies, including Janata Dal(U) chief Nitish Kumar, Telugu Desam Party (TDP) supremo N. Chandrababu Naidu, Shiv



**Show of strength:** Narendra Modi with NDA allies at his residence in New Delhi on Wednesday. ANI

Sena chief Eknath Shinde, Janata Dal(S) leader H.D. Kumaraswamy, Janasena Party chief Pawan Kalyan, Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) chief Chirag Paswan, and Nationalist Congress Party (Ajit Pawar faction) leader Praful Patel.

President Droupadi Murmu dissolved the 17th Lok Sabha on Wednesday after the recommendation of the Union Cabinet.

Earlier in the day, the Prime Minister tendered his resignation, along with his Council of Ministers, to the President.

She accepted the resignation and requested that Mr. Modi and his Council of Ministers continue until

the new government assumes office.

The path for government formation is being prepared, with a meeting of the NDA parliamentary party scheduled for June 7 to allow the alliance's MPs to endorse the resolution, after which Mr. Modi will stake claim to form the government before the President.

**Mediation time**  
With the BJP falling 32 seats short of a full majority on its own in the Lok Sabha, the distribution of Ministries and the shape of the new coalition government will require some mediation. According to

sources, Mr. Singh, Mr. Shah and Mr. Nadda will hold meetings with alliance partners to hammer out the details.

Mr. Modi's swearing-in will likely take place over the weekend.

"The Prime Minister Modi has a preference for June 9, but that is also the day that Chandrababu Naidu wanted his own oath-taking ceremony [as CM of Andhra Pradesh], so either of them could move the date," said a source.

Mr. Naidu met BJP leader Piyush Goyal for half an hour after the NDA meeting, with sources saying that Mr. Naidu's "asks" revolved around Central aid

for Andhra Pradesh which, he said, was in dire straits financially.

"The alliance is strong. All are on board. We are still working out a formula for Ministerial berths, etc," said a senior BJP leader involved in the negotiations.

Mr. Naidu spoke to journalists after the meetings, reiterating that he was "firmly" with the NDA. "Where is the doubt?" he said, when asked about the INDIA bloc's repeated assertions that he was an unreliable ally in the NDA.

JD(U) leader Rajeev Ranjan Singh also released a statement stating that his party stood with the NDA "like a rock".

  
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LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE PRINCIPAL SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE AT WARANGAL

S.O.P.No.2 of 2024

Between :  
Bachu Venugopal Rao and others  
... Petitioners  
AND  
The Company Secretary  
IFGL Refractories Limited,  
Kolkata and others  
... Respondents

NOTICE

To  
To whom so ever it may concern  
The petitioners herein filed the above petition against the respondents declaring them as the legal heirs of the deceased Bachu Venkateshwarlu @ Bachu Venkateshwarlu Arlu and issue succession certificate Hence, you are required to appear before the Hon'ble Court either in person or through counsel on 27-06-2024 at 10-30 a.m. failing which the matter will be heard and decided in your absence.  
// BY ORDER OF THE COURT //  
Sd/- Y. NAGENDER  
Advocate  
H.No.9-2-52, Girmajipet, Warangal, TELANGANA, Cell :91824 99414

IN THE COURT OF THE SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE :: PENUKONDA

Succession O.P. No : 1/2023

Between:-  
Malathi Batnagar and others  
...Petitioners/Petitioners  
AND : Indian Overseas Bank, Bhattinda & others  
...Respondents/Respondents

To,  
R-1: Indian Overseas Bank, Kikar Bazaar Branch, Battinda Town, Punjab State, PIN : 151 001, Rep. by its Branch Manager.  
R-2: UNIT TRUST OF INDIAMUTUAL FUND/UCB23/03228, 1st Floor, Near Vandana Hospital, Ganesh Basti Bus Stop, Gomanara Road, Bhattinda-151 001.  
R-4: Muthoot Finance Ltd., Bank Bazaar, Main Bazaar Road, Raman Mandi, Battinda Town, Punjab State, PIN : 151 301, Rep. by its Branch Manager.  
R-6 : State Bank of India, Bhatti Road, Opp to Care Hospital, Battinda Town, Punjab State, PIN : 151 001, Rep. by its Branch Manager.  
R-8: SHRI, PARASARAM HOLDINGS PVT LTD-B-7, Nimri Shopping Center Gupta Chambers, Bharat NagarDelhi-110052.  
R-9 : Finance IOB, Kikar Bazaar Branch, Battinda Town, Punjab State, PIN : 151 001, Rep. by its Branch Manager.  
Please take notice that the above Succession OP 01/2023 filed by the petitioners stands posted to 06-05-2024 for your appearance. Hence, you are hereby informed you to appear before the court either in person or through an advocate at 10-30 AM on 20-06-2024, failing which the matter will be decided in your absence.  
// By order of the Court // Praneeth GN,  
Advocate for petitioners, Bangalore.  
Date : 06-06-2024 Place : Penukonda.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Our Client is shortly intending to purchase the property at Ground Floor with One Servant room on the terrace of the Residential Plot no. 9 (admeasuring 405.50 Sq. Mtrs.), in Block B-7 (also known as B-7/9), Salfardarj Endave, New Delhi-110029 ("Said Property") from its existing owners.  
If any person or member of the general public claims to have any right, title, objection interest and/or any encumbrance of any nature whatsoever in respect of the Said Property, either directly and/or indirectly, in any part or entirely, through any instrument or right including but not limited to any agreement to sell, sale deed, gift, lease, sub-lease, transfer deed, inheritance, agreements, memorandums of understanding, exchange, mortgage, hypothecation, charge, lien, trust, security, possession, easement, attachment, acquisition or otherwise; IS HEREBY REQUIRED AND CALLED UPON to make their claim or objection known to the undersigned in writing at the office address herein below along with the relevant documents that establish the basis for the claim/objection in respect of the Said Property within 15 (fifteen) days from the date of this publication. Should the undersigned receive no claim or objection, it shall be presumed that there is/are no claims and such claim/s whatsoever against the Said Property and any claim or right or interest, etc. shall be considered to be non-existent and/or waived and/or abandoned AND our client will be entitled to proceed with the transaction of purchasing the Said Property.  
Schedule  
Description of the Said Property  
Ground Floor comprising of both the Front Portion of Ground Floor, together with the lawn (comprising of One Bed room, One Drawing Dining, One Kitchen, One car parking) AND also the Rear Portion of Ground Floor together with the rear courtyard comprising of Three Bed rooms with attached bath, Family Lounge, One car Parking and one Servant room on the terrace of Residential Plot no. 9 (admeasuring 405.50 Sq. Mtrs.), in Block B-7 (also known as B-7/9), Salfardarj Endave, New Delhi-110029 along with 25% proportionate interest in the plot of land of B-7/9, Salfardarj Endave, New Delhi-110029.  
Suri and Company, Law Firm  
Flat No's 10&12, Golf Apartments,  
Sujan Singh Park, New Delhi - 110003  
Place: Delhi Dated 06.06. 2024

## Despite drawing a blank, AAP calls poll results a 'win'

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

In spite of defeats in all four Lok Sabha seats it contested in Delhi, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) lauded its electoral performance, saying the results must be judged against the circumstances in which the party fought the election.

"They [BJP] threatened our volunteers, tried to buy our MLAs, and hatched many conspiracies, but AAP did not bow down and was firm in its fight," said party's national general secretary (organisation) Sandeep Pathak, adding that AAP stayed united even though the BJP "put [Chief Minister] Arvind Kejriwal in jail".

Mr. Pathak said the party had put "its heart and soul" into ensuring a good electoral performance for the Opposition's INDIA bloc in a bid to safeguard the country and show that India "won't tolerate dictatorship".

"We have been saying from the beginning of the election that in this contest, it is not AAP which is important, but the entire country," he said.

Adding that Mr. Kejriwal's extensive campaigning while on interim bail contributed greatly to the INDIA bloc's performance,

Didn't bow down to BJP's pressure tactics, ensured good results for INDIA bloc, says AAP leader

he said, "We followed the coalition *dharma* with full honesty. Moreover, AAP was successful in its aim of ensuring that the BJP did not get a majority in the Lok Sabha."

### 'Fixed pattern'

Mr. Pathak said that Delhi has a "fixed pattern" of voting, wherein it votes for the BJP during the general election and for AAP during the Assembly election.

"Delhi stuck to its guns this time too, but the margin of the BJP's victory, which used to be in lakhs, reduced considerably this time. It was clear that the public is ready for a change," he said.

While the Opposition failed to wrest even one of Delhi's seven Lok Sabha seats from the BJP, AAP saw an increase in vote share from 18.2% in the 2019 general election to 24.14% this time. Mr. Pathak added that leaving aside the defeat in Delhi, three AAP candidates won the poll in Punjab, while two or three other seats in the State "saw a close fight".

# After Lok Sabha election success, BJP sets eye on Assembly poll next year

AAP's loss in LS poll prelude to its ouster from power, says Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva; vows to expose ruling party's 'corruption'; 2025 poll will be a 'game changer' for the party, he says

Satvika Mahajan  
NEW DELHI

Buoyed by his party's victory in all seven parliamentary seats of Delhi for the third consecutive time, Delhi BJP chief Virendra Sachdeva on Wednesday said their next target will be to oust the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) from power in the Assembly election next year.

"This victory for the BJP is just an interval. We will once again focus on our work and oust the corrupt Arvind Kejriwal government from power in the Capital," he told reporters at a press conference held to introduce the newly elected Lok Sabha members from Delhi.

In the election results declared on Tuesday, the BJP won the seven Lok Sabha seats in the city against the combined strength of the AAP and Congress, which fought in a 4-3 seat-sharing arrangement.

Despite bagging all Delhi seats in the 2014 and 2019 general elections, the BJP's performance has re-

Newly elected BJP Lok Sabha members during a party programme in Delhi. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

mained dismal in the Assembly polls as it has failed to reach double digits in the 70-member House since 2015. AAP formed its government with a thumping majority in the 2015 and 2020 Assembly polls, bagging 67 and 62 seats respectively.

### 'People disappointed'

However, Mr. Sachdeva said the city's people are now "fed up" with the AAP

government. "People have seen the development works carried out by the BJP's Central government in the past 10 years and I'm sure they will consider this before voting in the Assembly poll," he said.

He also claimed that the Assembly election will turn out to be a "game changer" for the BJP and that the party will "expose" the Delhi government's "corruption" with facts.

"Delhi has been plundered by AAP and, as a result, the CM, along with other senior party leaders, is sitting in jail today," he said, referring to the corruption cases lodged against AAP leaders.

He said Delhi residents have been troubled by the lack of drinking water, traffic, and bad roads, and that all of these issues will have an impact on the outcome of the Assembly poll.

## Massive fire breaks out at hospital, no one injured

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

A short circuit in an air conditioner led to a major fire incident at a two-storey private hospital in south-east Delhi's Lajpat Nagar on Wednesday.

According to the police, no one was injured in the incident, as those inside the hospital were rushed out immediately.

A Delhi Fire Services official said they pressed 20 fire tenders into service to put out the fire at Eye7 Chaudhary Eye Centre on Ring Road after receiving information about the incident at 11.30 a.m.

It took almost an hour and a half to douse the flames. All furniture and machines kept in the medical facility were gutted in the blaze.

## 'AAP national party, its need for office space can't be overlooked'

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

The High Court on Wednesday ordered the Centre to take a decision on allocating land to AAP for the construction of its offices, saying it is a national party and its need for office space in the national capital "cannot be overlooked".

The court said the Centre has to give a detailed order "as to why even one housing unit from the General Pool Residential Accommodation (GPRA) cannot be allotted to the petitioner (AAP) when all other political parties have been allotted similar accommodation from the GPRA".

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs had earlier told the court that it

was facing an acute shortage of the GPRA on account of the redevelopment of seven GPRA colonies, which is currently under way, and that there is a long waiting list of eligible officers who are awaiting the allotment of these accommodations.

The Ministry said the grant of housing a unit from the general pool to AAP for office use is "not feasible".

The court remarked that "there has always been pressure on the pool of houses available for allotment to the officers". "The fact that there is a huge pressure cannot be the only reason for the respondent (Centre) to deny the petitioner its right to be allotted an accommodation from the GPRA for setting up its party office," it said.

# Nearly 10 lakh households availing of free power scheme may see soaring summer bills

Aroon Deep  
NEW DELHI

Around 10 lakh households that avail of the Delhi government's electricity subsidy may see their tariffs soar due to the use of air conditioners, air coolers, and fans during the ongoing heatwave, according to data accessed by *The Hindu*.

Delhi, which saw maximum temperatures touch the 45-degree Celsius mark several times over the past few days, recorded a record-breaking peak power demand of 8,302 MW a week ago. Last year's peak power demand was 7,438 MW.

The Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission's tariff policy allows house-

holds with fewer than 200 units of electricity consumption a month to avoid paying any bill under the voluntary subsidy scheme. Above the 200-unit limit, a rate of ₹4.50 per unit is charged till 400 units, beyond which each unit is charged ₹6.50. Moreover, consumers who breach the 400-unit mark are charged ₹800 extra as they stop receiving subsidies under the Delhi government's 2021 tariff scheme.

*The Hindu* reviewed data shared by an industry

source, which show that among 50-60 lakh households that consumed less than 800 units of electricity over a two-year period, fewer than 5% breached the subsidy cut-off of 400 units over the past two winters. However, last summer, a quarter of all households consuming less than 800 units of electricity lost their subsidy during summer and paid an additional ₹800.

The additional load was due to "the cooling load [in summers]," the source said.

"The number of subsidy recipients generally increases during the winter (November to February) and decreases during the summer (May to August)," the source added.

CM YK



Evening rain brings relief for Delhiites

Press Trust of India  
NEW DELHI

Delhi's weather experienced a sudden change on Wednesday evening as rain lashed several parts, providing relief to residents from the heat. The weather department has forecast thunderstorms with light to moderate rain and gusty winds with speeds of 30 to 40 kmph over and adjoining areas during the next two hours.

The maximum temperature was recorded at 44 degrees Celsius, four notches above normal, according to the India Meteorological Department. Relative humidity oscillated between 22 and 33%. Other stations recorded the following temperatures: Najafgarh 46.4; Narela 46.3; Aya Nagar 45; Ridge 44.3 and Palam 44.4 degrees Celsius.

☀️ Timings		
DELHI		
THURSDAY, JUN. 06		
☀️ RISE	05:24	SET 19:18
🌙 RISE	04:46	SET 19:26
FRIDAY, JUN. 07		
☀️ RISE	05:24	SET 19:18
🌙 RISE	05:40	SET 20:29
SATURDAY, JUN. 08		
☀️ RISE	05:23	SET 19:18
🌙 RISE	06:38	SET 21:25

Delhi Weather	max	min
Delhi City	44	31
Safdarjang	44	31
Palam	44	33

**Delhi Palam Today**  
44°C Heat wave to prevail. The weather will be very hot and uneasy during the day. Chances of duststorm and thundershower.

**Delhi Palam Tomorrow**  
45°C Heat wave to continue. Morning will be uneasy. The day will be very hot and uneasy. Spell of dust storm and thundershower is likely.

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# Fadnavis offers to resign as Maharashtra Deputy CM; Opposition calls it ‘drama’

‘I take responsibility for the results,’ says the Deputy CM after the BJP’s Lok Sabha tally comes down from 23 in 2019 to nine; Assembly election in the State will be held in less than six months

Abhinav Deshpande  
MUMBAI

After the BJP-led *Mahayuti* secured only 17 of the 48 Lok Sabha seats in Maharashtra, BJP leader Devendra Fadnavis offered to resign as Deputy Chief Minister.

“I take responsibility for the results in Maharashtra, as I was leading the party. I request my top bosses to relieve me from governmental responsibilities, and let me work for the party for the upcoming Assembly election,” he said after a meeting with top leaders to analyse the poll results. The Assembly election is scheduled less than six months from now.

Mr. Fadnavis’s resignation offer came after the BJP’s Lok Sabha tally dropped from 23 in 2019 to nine in Maharashtra.

In these elections, *Mahayuti*’s performance was eclipsed by the Opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) coalition, which includes the Congress, the Shiv Sena (UBT), and the Nationalist Congress Party (Sharad Pawar). The MVA won 30 seats, reflecting significant gains for the alliance. The Congress won 13 seats compared to one in 2019.

The Opposition Congress said Mr. Fadnavis’s offer was a “drama”, and it was Prime Minister Narendra Modi who should quit.



Maharashtra Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis at a press conference at the BJP headquarters in Mumbai on Wednesday. EMMANUAL YOGINI

Mr. Fadnavis, after attending the meeting with State leaders, said, “The entire responsibility for this result is mine. I agree that I was lacking somewhere in all this and am going to make all efforts to overcome this shortcoming.” He added that he would meet the senior BJP leaders soon and do whatever they ask him to.

However, Chief Minister Eknath Shinde said the electoral defeat is a collective responsibility and all three parties had worked together. “If you look at the vote share, *Mahayuti* received more than two lakh votes in Mumbai. The false narrative that the Constitution will change hurt us. The Opposition was shouting ‘*Modi hatao*’. The voters of India kept them away from power and Mo-

diji has a development agenda that could not be countered,” he said.

“We have worked together in the past and we will keep on working in the future. Failures must not discourage us,” said Mr. Shinde, who ousted Mr. Thackeray from the Shiv Sena, with the support of most of the party MLAs and MPs in 2022.

The Chief Minister said the reason for the defeat would be reviewed. Earlier, Mr. Fadnavis said coordination issues exist with Mr. Shinde and Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar of the NCP.

Congress leader Vishal Patil, the grandson of former CM Vasantdada Patil, who won as an Independent candidate from Sangli, will likely extend his support to the MVA.

## Sulking Ajit Pawar skips NDA meeting

Shoumojit Banerjee  
PUNE

Cracks have begun to appear within the ruling Eknath Shinde-led *Mahayuti* coalition in Maharashtra, after Deputy CM and Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader Ajit Pawar skipped a key National Democratic Alliance (NDA) meeting in Delhi on Wednesday.

According to sources, a sulking Mr. Ajit, upset over the debacle of his party in the Lok Sabha election, gave the NDA meeting a miss. His NCP faction managed to win only the Raigad seat out of the four it had contested.

Mr. Ajit’s biggest loss was in Baramati, where his wife Sunetra Pawar was trounced by his cousin and incumbent MP Supriya Sule, who won by a margin of more than 1.5 lakh votes.

Following the defeat, re-criminations have begun in earnest, with NCP MLC Amol Mitakri on Wednesday accusing the BJP and Chief Minister Eknath Shinde’s Shiv Sena of not campaigning wholeheartedly for Ms. Pawar, dubbing her loss “a betrayal”.



The goal should be the restoration of ‘Amma reign’ in 2026: Sasikala. FILE PHOTO

## ‘MGR, Amma followers must unite’

The Hindu Bureau  
CHENNAI

The former interim general secretary of the AIADMK, V.K. Sasikala, on Wednesday urged party workers to come together. Her plea followed a call given by J.C.D. Prabhakar, a key aide of the party’s former coordinator O. Panneerselvam and former Vilvakkam MLA, for unity among followers of AIADMK icons M.G. Ramachandran and Jayalalithaa.

Ms. Sasikala said the party had “never experienced” such successive electoral setbacks. “The time has come to decide whether the organisation should continue to suffer defeats or get back to winning ways.” She recalled that before she went to prison in 2017, she made every effort to safeguard the AIADMK and its government. Later, the party lost power, and did not remain united. “Crores of workers who are reposing their faith in the party, and the people of the State are important,” Ms. Sasikala said, adding that the goal should be the restoration of the “Amma reign” in 2026.

# Delhi court rejects Kejriwal’s plea for bail on medical grounds

Ishita Mishra  
NEW DELHI

A court here on Wednesday rejected the interim bail application of Delhi Chief Minister and AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal, arrested in a money laundering case related to excise policy. Mr. Kejriwal had sought bail for seven days citing health reasons.

Special Judge (PC Act) Kaveri Baweja of the Rouse Avenue Courts rejected the plea after hearing arguments from the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the applicant.

“It is a well-settled proposition that every ailment would not entitle an accused to be released on bail and the power to grant interim bail on the ground of illness should be exercised in a sparing and cautious manner,” the court said.

**‘Relief given earlier’**  
The judge said Mr. Kejriwal, who claimed to be suffering from diabetes, had been given relief on earlier occasions. However, diabetes or even type-2 diabetes could not be said to be so serious an ailment so as to entitle him to the relief claimed, the court said.

“Further, the extensive campaigning tours and related meetings/events undertaken by Mr. Kejriwal indicate that he does not appear to be suffering from any serious or ‘life-threatening’ ailment so as to entitle him to the beneficial provision as contained in proviso to Section 45 of the PMLA,” the court said.

The judge noted that the



Every ailment would not entitle an accused to be released on bail, says the court. FILE PHOTO

plea was made on the ground of diagnosis of an illness from which he could be suffering i.e. diabetic ketoacidosis of which high ketone levels was stated to be an indicator. For this, a series of tests were stated to have been prescribed.

The court added that these tests could be conducted while he was in custody.

The judge said the medical board of AIIMS, constituted on the previous order, had been asked to review the same.

Mr. Kejriwal, earlier this month, had filed two separate bail applications in the court – an interim bail on medical grounds and a regular bail. The hearing on regular bail plea is scheduled for June 7. The AAP leader remained in jail from March 21 to May 10 when the Supreme Court gave him interim bail to campaign for the general elections. The apex court has not yet pronounced the final verdict on the plea of Mr. Kejriwal in which he has challenged his arrest and remand by the ED.

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INBRIEF



Sukhu govt. to build tunnel under Jakhu Hill in Shimla

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu said Wednesday his government will build an 890-metre-long double-lane tunnel under the Jakhu Hill in Shimla to ease traffic congestion. Presiding over a meeting of the public works department in Shimla, Mr. Sukhu said the tunnel would be constructed from Nav-Bahar to the circular road near the Indira Gandhi Medical College with an outlay of ₹295 crore. ₹100 crore has already been released and the tender process will begin by June end. A parking facility for an additional 3,000 vehicles will also be developed, he added.

Cocaine worth ₹130 cr. seized off Gujarat’s Kutch coast

Thirteen unclaimed packets of cocaine, valued at ₹130 crore in the international market, were recovered from a creek area near Gandhidham town in Gujarat’s Kutch district in the early hours of Wednesday, police said. A preliminary probe suggested the smugglers had hidden the contraband at the sea shore to avoid getting caught, Kutch-East Division Superintendent of Police Sagar Bagmar said, adding this is the second major drug recovery from the same creek area in eight months. In September last year, the Kutch police recovered 80 unclaimed packets of cocaine valued at ₹800 crore in the international market.

Sena (UBT) likely to move court over loss after recount

Snehal Mutha  
MUMBAI

The Shiv Sena (UBT) is mulling over moving court after its Mumbai North West Lok Sabha candidate Amol Kirtikar lost by a wafer-thin margin of 48 votes to his opponent, Ravindra Waikar of the ruling Shiv Sena.

Mr. Kirtikar was initially declared the winner on Tuesday by a margin of 600 votes over Mr. Waikar, the sitting MLA from Jogeshwari, but the latter won the seat after a recount.

“The counting process had issues. First the EVM votes were counted and then postal ballots,” Sena (UBT) leader Uddhav Thackeray said. The Sena (UBT) is also likely approach the President over the ‘unfairness’ of Election Commission’s functioning.

According to election officials, Mr. Waikar’s polling agents raised objections after Mr. Kirtikar’s victory, leading to a recount of 9,51,582 EVM votes. Mr. Kirtikar still led by one vote after the recount. However, after counting 3,049 postal ballots, Mr. Waikar emerged with a lead of 48 votes and secured victory with a final tally of



Party to challenge Amol Kirtikar’s loss by 48 votes in Mumbai North West seat.

4,52,644 votes compared to his opponent’s 452,596.

Shiv Sena (UBT) polling agents then alleged technical errors in three voting machines and claimed a discrepancy between their count and that of the Election Commission, but officials of the polling body dismissed these claims.

‘Seat stolen’

“Kirtikar’s seat was not won but stolen by the ruling party candidate,” Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut said on Wednesday.

“After the election, anyone who is aggrieved over the results can file a petition with the court within 45 days as all the EVMs in the country are stored in the strongroom,” Maharashtra Chief Electoral Officer S. Chokkalingam told *The Hindu*.

Amid silence on the LS results, reshuffle likely in BJP’s Rajasthan unit

Of the 25 Lok Sabha seats in Rajasthan, BJP candidates posted victories in 14 while eight were bagged by the Congress; State Cong. chief challenges CM to accept responsibility for defeat

Mohammed Iqbal  
JAIPUR

Senior Bharatiya Janata Party leaders in Rajasthan have refrained from commenting on the defeat of party candidates in as many as 11 seats amid indications that the central leadership is likely to soon carry out a reshuffle in the State unit. Following his victory from Chittorgarh, State president C.P. Joshi is likely to get new responsibility in New Delhi.

Of the 25 Lok Sabha seats in Rajasthan, BJP has won 14, Congress 8 while three seats went to others.

Both Mr. Joshi and Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma have congratulated Prime Minister Narendra Modi for National Democratic Alliance’s victory and have expressed hope that the nation would achieve new heights under his leadership.

However, Mr. Joshi and Mr. Sharma have not commented on the defeat of



Former Lok Sabha Speaker and Bharatiya Janata Party candidate, Om Birla, receives his certificate after he won from Kota. ANI

the BJP candidates, mostly in seats in the north and east parts of the State. The prominent losers include sitting MPs Sukhbir Singh Jaunapuria, Sumedhanand Saraswati and Kailash Choudhary.

If Mr. Joshi is sent to the Centre, the BJP will have to find a suitable replacement to head the State unit. The post of general secretary (organisation) has also been lying vacant since the 2023 Assembly election, af-

ter the incumbent office-bearer, Chandrashekhar, was sent to Telangana.

Mr. Chandrashekhar is largely credited for BJP’s victory in the Assembly election. As the BJP reportedly faced a difficulty in selecting suitable candidates for the Lok Sabha election, speculations are rife about his return to ensure the party’s organisational strength.

The Gujjars are unhappy with the BJP after the

defeat of its lone community leader, Mr. Jaunapuria from Tonk-Sawai Madhopur. Harish Chandra Meena (Congress) defeated Mr. Jaunapuria by a margin of 64,949 votes. However, two other Gujjar candidates - Prahlad Gunjal (Kota) and Damodar Gujjar (Rajsamand) - fielded by the Congress were defeated.

Veteran BJP leader and Agriculture Minister Kirodi Lal Meena has also created a predicament for the State government by hinting that he would keep his word and resign from the Cabinet after the BJP’s defeat in some of the seats for which he was given responsibility. Four of the seats in eastern Rajasthan where Mr. Meena campaigned extensively have gone to Congress.

Meanwhile, Rajasthan Pradesh Congress Committee president Govind Singh Dotasra has asked Mr. Sharma if he was also willing to take some responsibility for his party’s defeat.

How consolidation of dominant castes influenced poll results in Karnataka

Sharath S. Srivatsa  
BENGALURU

The Lok Sabha election results in Karnataka have thrown up two things in particular – the Vokkaliga-Lingayat consolidation in favour of the NDA in south Karnataka, and a total rout of BJP by the Congress, fuelled by a perceived consolidation of the oppressed classes, in five seats of Kalyana Karnataka.

In probably a first in nearly three decades, the Vokkaligas and Lingayats, the dominant land-owning communities in south and north Karnataka, respectively, have together supported the NDA that won 12 of the 14 constituencies in south Karnataka where the BJP’s ally Janata Dal (S) remains strong.

Though Lingayats and Vokkaligas had rallied behind BJP and Janata Dal (S), respectively, by the end of 2018 during the first tenure of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, largely seen as an AHINDA face, they were in politically opposite camps.



JD(S) leader H.D. Kumaraswamy and BJP State chief Vijayendra campaigning for Tumakuru BJP candidate V. Somanna. FILE PHOTO

Observers believe that the two dominant communities have come together for the first time since 1996, when the united Janata Dal returned with an impressive 16 seats and propelled H.D. Deve Gowda to the post of the Prime Minister.

JD(S) says that Lingayats came in support of its (Vokkaliga) candidates in Mandya and Hassan while the Vokkaligas stood behind the BJP (Lingayat) candidates in Tumakuru and Shivamogga, besides Mysuru, where the scion of erstwhile Mysore royal family has been elected. Of the four constituencies that saw a face-off between Vokkaliga candidates, the NDA won three.

In Kalyana Karnataka, the total dominance of the

Congress has been attributed to further consolidation of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Muslim votes in favour of the party over statements by BJP leaders on “changing the Constitution”.

The absence of Janata Dal (S), which would get a fraction of these votes, in the electoral fray led the electors from these segments to the Congress. This election has also seen an increase in the voting percentage among Muslims.

Support of Naiks

The Naik community, which is dominant in Raichur, Ballari, and neighbouring constituencies, is believed to have continued backing the Congress.

The Lingayats in Kalyana Karnataka voting in favour of Congress, the party believes, increased marginally though a sizeable chunk continued to support the BJP.

BJP MLA defends his ‘wishes’ to Congress leader for poll victory

The Hindu Bureau  
GUWAHATI

A BJP MLA has defended his congratulatory message to Congress leader Gaurav Gogoi after he won the Jorhat Lok Sabha constituency. Mr. Gogoi defeated incumbent Topon Kumar Gogoi of the BJP by 1,44,393 votes.

Mrinal Saikia, a former member of the extremist United Liberation Front of Asom, who represents the Khumtai Assembly constituency, extended “special congratulations” to Mr. Gaurav for his “amazing” win. “The outcome proved that money, big publicity, overdoses of leaders and arrogant speeches do not always help win elections,” he wrote on X.

Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma did not take kindly to the post. “I think Mr. Saikia will not be with the BJP for too long,” he

Gaurav Gogoi won the Jorhat seat defeating Topon Gogoi of the BJP by 1,44,393 votes

had said on Tuesday.

Mr. Saikia responded by posting a photograph of Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Lal Krishna Advani, and Murli Manohar Joshi. “... I learned today from HCM @himantabiswa sir that to congratulate someone from the Opposition is a crime nowadays.”

Mr. Saikia also said the BJP could lose the 2026 Assembly elections if it does not introspect now and stop its leader-centric politics.

Apart from Mr. Saikia, four-time MP Rajen Gohain and the Assam Christian Forum and other church-based organisations were also critical of Mr. Sarma.

In a stunning upset, Odisha CM ousted by former daily wage

The Hindu Bureau  
BHUBANESWAR

The results of the Odisha Assembly election, particularly from the electoral battleground of Kantabanji in Odisha, were watched with bated breath.

The counting process, which extended over 28 rounds and lasted late into the evening, delivered a shocking outcome. The seemingly invincible Naveen Patnaik, who had never faced defeat in his entire political career, experienced his first loss. The victor was Laxman Bag, a man who, just fifteen years ago, was working as a daily wage labourer.

Mr. Bag, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidate, garnered 90,878 votes, while Mr. Patnaik received 74,532 votes in the Kantabanji Assembly segment, resulting in a victory margin of 16,344.

Considering the strong influence of the outgoing Odisha CM, this defeat and its margin were unimaginable. According to confidantes, Mr. Bag’s win was not a stroke of luck; his consistent efforts to support people in need within the Kantabanji constituency played a crucial role in his decisive victory.

**Struggle for survival**  
Born into a poor farming family, Mr. Bag was one of six siblings struggling to make ends meet. In addition to working on his family’s farm, he started earning money by assisting a truck driver for a meagre wage. Eventually, he became a daily wage labourer to support himself.

Although Mr. Bag is rumoured to have connections for sending workers to other States, he has never admitted to it. Over time, he managed to improve his situation by purchasing trucks. In 2023-24, he filed an IT return on the income of ₹4.89 lakh.



BJP candidate Laxman Bag was once a daily wage labourer. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

His first foray into politics was in the 2014 Assembly election, where he finished third. In the 2019 Assembly election, he narrowly lost by just 128 votes.

Long before Mr. Patnaik announced his candidature, the BJP nominee had already laid the groundwork and visited nearly every village, which worked to his advantage. In his affidavit, Mr. Bag declared 12 pending criminal cases.

More than an upset

The victory of the 48-year-old BJP candidate was more than just an election upset. It delivered a powerful statement on the ineffectiveness of the employment generation programmes implemented by the Biju Janata Dal government.

The CM’s nomination from Kantabanji had triggered huge debate on labour migration. Though Mr. Patnaik held two public meetings during his campaign, he apparently failed to convince people about his plans to address their suffering.

Kantabanji is infamously known as a labour market where brick kiln operators hire workers at relatively low wages. The region has previously made headlines for unfortunate reasons such as starvation deaths and child trafficking.

‘Odia asmita’ played a big role in turning the tide in favour of BJP

NEWS ANALYSIS

Satyasundar Barik  
BHUBANESWAR

Local Bharatiya Janata Party leaders believe it was the issue of ‘Odia asmita (pride)’ that stoked the anti-incumbency sentiments across Odisha.

People could ‘see through’ the ambition of V. K. Pandian, a Tamil Nadu-born former IAS officer and close aide of outgoing Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, to rule the State from behind the scenes, said BJP leaders.

Manmohan Samal, president of the BJP’s Odisha unit, was the first to attack the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) over the “Pandian issue” and state that ‘Odia asmita’ would be the party’s main poll plank.

The former 2000-batch IAS officer, known to be a backroom operator diligently performing all bureaucratic works in the Chief Minister’s Office after being posted as Mr. Patnaik’s private secretary in 2011, is said to have gradually exerted his influence both in official functioning and party affairs. Subsequently, he enjoyed unhindered access to the Chief Minister’s residence.

Photographs of the former bureaucrat standing behind Mr. Patnaik in informal attire, overseeing his morning exercise and sharing the dining table with him and other dignitaries, reinforced the public perception that no one enjoyed more power than him and nothing moved in Odisha without his approval.



Celebration time: BJP supporters celebrate the party’s victory in Odisha Assembly and Lok Sabha elections in Bhubaneswar. ANI

In 2019, a new initiative, ‘5T’ (teamwork, technology, transparency, transformation and time limit), a benchmark deciding the performance of government officials and project execution, was launched in the State. Mr. Pandian headed the initiative, accruing supreme administrative power to review projects across all departments.

The turning point came

in 2023 when he started flying to every district to hold grievance redressal sessions.

The Opposition started to question a mid-level bureaucrat’s overarching power and extravagant spending on addressing ‘staged’ events.

The public spectacle of him occupying the stage alone while people’s representatives were being reduced to the role of ‘volun-

teers’ did not go down well among people.

Senior BJD leaders, including Cabinet Ministers, were seen clearing traffic so that Mr. Pandian’s vehicle could move to the venue. As BJD leaders competed among themselves to prove their loyalty to the former bureaucrat, people considered it an exhibition of arrogant power. Mr. Pandian would reportedly use helicopters to travel even a small distance of 30 km.

In the run-up to elections, BJD had issued a list of 40 star campaigners. However, during the campaign trail, only Mr. Patnaik and Mr. Pandian were seen canvassing.

A senior BJP leader said the former bureaucrat’s campaign proved to be a blessing in disguise. The more he campaigned, the more votes BJD started losing, he claimed.

The hectic campaign saw Mr. Pandian touring more districts than Mr. Patnaik. On the stage, the speech time allotted to Mr. Pandian was higher than that of Mr. Patnaik, who enjoyed unparalleled popularity in Odisha during his 24 years of rule and was now starting to be viewed as ordinary politician.

More interviews

Moreover, the number of interviews Mr. Pandian gave to media outlets during the campaign vastly outnumbered that of the Chief Minister. It triggered a discussion about the deteriorating health of Mr. Patnaik. In one of the meetings, Prime Minister Narendra Modi raised the health issue, which appeared to have worked in the BJP’s favour.



## Haryana saw through BJP's divisive tactics, voted for Cong.: Hooda



Former Haryana CM and Congress leader Bhupinder Singh Hooda in Rohtak on Wednesday. ANI

**Ashok Kumar**  
GURUGRAM

Former Haryana Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda has attributed the impressive show by the Congress in the just-concluded Lok Sabha polls in Haryana to people voting against the Bharatiya Janata Party's "non-performance" and "divisive politics".

In reply to a query, Mr. Hooda told *The Hindu* over phone that the present BJP government had failed on all fronts with high rate of unemployment, deteriorating law and order situation, and inflation. "From being a leading State in per capita income and investment during the Congress rule, the BJP has made Haryana number one in unemployment. More than two lakh vacancies in government departments are lying vacant."

"It was also a victory for the brotherhood since the people had seen through the divisive tactics of the BJP, which practised the politics of caste and religion," he added.

Congress candidates bagged five seats in Haryana with a vote share of 43.67%, an increase of around 15% compared with the previous Lok Sabha election. In 2019, the party had drawn a blank.

Pointing to the party's increased vote share, Mr. Hooda said the people of the State had made up their mind to bring the Congress to power again in

the Assembly polls due later this year. Though the Congress had contested the Lok Sabha polls in the State in alliance with the Aam Aadmi Party, Mr. Hooda said there was no decision yet on any alliance for the Assembly polls.

### 'Expected more'

The two-time CM said that he expected a clean sweep for his party, but denied that it had lost the remaining five seats because of infighting. "I have not received any such complaints so far," he said.

On the performance of the Indian National Lok Dal and the Jannayak Janta Party, Mr. Hooda said there was a direct contest between the Congress and the BJP, but some of these parties were just "vote-cutters" competing with NDTA (None Of The Above), a ballot option to allow voters to indicate their disapproval of all the candidates in fray.

### 'Weak opponent'

On the party's former State president Kimsari Selja's victory from Surati with the second highest margin of over 2.68 lakh, Mr. Hooda said she was pitted against a "weak" candidate and any party candidate could have registered an easy win. Ms. Selja, who polled 733,823 votes, defeated BJP's Ashok Tanwar, who had quit the Aam Aadmi Party to join the BJP a few months before the announcement of the polls.

## Immediate task is to set the house in order, says Naidu

The NDA allies have the onerous responsibility of fulfilling people's aspirations and dealing with the mess left behind by the YSR Congress Party government, says the TDP national president

**The Hindu Bureau**  
VIJAYAWADA

TDP national president N. Chandrababu Naidu says he is overwhelmed by the historic mandate given by people to the TDP-BJP-Janaseena Party alliance, but is, at the same time, conscious of the tough job the new government has to grapple with in the coming days.

"The victory was made possible by the true spirit with which Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, BJP State president Daggubati Purandeswari and Janaseena Party president K. Pawan



Kalyan worked in the run-up to the elections. We are elated with the triumph, but have to now deal with the mess left behind by the incumbent YSR Congress Party (YSRCP)," Mr. Naidu said while addressing the

Even the Alipiri bomb blast could not shake me. What we have gone through since 2019 was unbearable. Today, I am grateful to the people for giving us a mandate that is unparalleled

**N. CHANDRABABU NAIDU**  
TDP national president

media here on Wednesday.

Mr. Naidu said the immediate task was to set the house in order. "The economy is teetering on the brink of collapse with huge sums going into debt servicing, natural resources

have been plundered, and so many bad things happened in the last five years," he observed.

"The YSRCP rule was so atrocious that even the fundamental rights to life and liberty were stifled. It was because of the burning rage borne out of it, people flew in from as far as the U.S. to cast their votes".

"I have been through the thick and thin in politics. Even the Alipiri bomb blast could not shake me. What we have gone through since 2019 was unbearable... Today, I am grateful to the people for giving us a mandate that's unparalleled," he said.

## Telangana will maintain good ties with A.P'

**M. Rajeev**  
HYDERABAD

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has asserted that his government will maintain friendly relations with neighbouring Andhra Pradesh in resolving the long pending bifurcation related issues.

He said Hyderabad as the common capital had been resolved through the AP Reorganisation Act 2014 recently and efforts will be made to resolve the remaining issues in the

coming days. "Resolving the State issues and solving the people's problems is my priority," he said.

Replying to a question on the Congress performance in Telangana, he said though satisfactory, the results did not meet ex-

pectations. "We will have to work more and make governance further people-centric," he said. To another query, he said being the TPCC president and the Chief Minister, he would take the responsibility for the party's victory or loss.

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**U.P. POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LTD.**  
E-Tender Notice  
Online e-Bids are invited for "Construction of 02 Nos. 132kV Outdoor GIS Bay at 400kV Substation Agra South" against Tender Specification No. ESD-8/209 E-tender uploaded on 05.06.2024 on <https://etender.up.nic.in>. EMD for the tender is Rs. 10.53 Lacs and tender Fee of Rs. 2,950.00 will be deposited through RTGS/NEFT. Last date for submission of tender is 04.07.2024 at 12:00 Hrs. and opening of part-I is 05.07.2024 at 16:00 Hrs. Total Quantity, tender specification and other terms and conditions is as per tender document available on the e-tender portal. Undersigned reserve the right to cancel the 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 updated information from time to time. Superintending Engineer, Electy. 765/400kV SDC, 11<sup>th</sup> floor, Shakti Bhawan Extn. Lucknow.

**NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY**  
Open Tender Notice  
No.: NER-BSBOSnT-OT-09-2024  
"Open Tenders" through Online (E-Tendering) are invited by Divisional Railway Manager (Signal & Telecomm)/Varanasi N. E. Railway for and behalf of the President of India for the following works:  
**SN: 1, Tender Notice No. and Description of Work: NER-BSBOSnT-OT-09-2024., Name of work: Signalling works in connection with Engineering works related to LHSW etc in the section of SrBSTE/II/Varanasi., Details: Approx. Value: Rs. 11422383.06, Earnest Money: Rs. 207100.00/-, Cost of Tender Form: Rs. 00.00/-, Completion period: 12 Months, Tender Closing date & Time: 01.07.2024 up to 15.00 Hrs. 1. Tender Online will be submitted up to 15 Hrs on date 01.07.2024., 2. For full details and submission of bid kindly visit the Official website of Indian railways i.e. [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in).**  
Divl. Rly. Manager (S&T) CPRO/Signal-12 Varanasi  
**Do Not Smoke Bidi/Cigarette in train**

**EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
NOTICE INVITING OPEN TENDER  
(Danapur Division/Electrical (TRD) Branch)  
TENDER Notice No.01/TRD/DNR/07/24-25  
The Divisional Railway Manager, E.C. Railway Danapur invites sealed open tender on behalf of the President of India for the following works:  
**Tender No.: TRD/DNR/OT/01/24-25**  
**1. Name of work with its location:** Annual maintenance contract of transmission with axle drive, traction motor with alternator, lifting & swivelling platform with DG sets & control system including complete electrical circuits (excluding engine) for4/8 wheeler tower wagon of TRD, DNR division for two years. **2. Approx cost of the work (NIT value):** Rs. 63,77,879.60/- **3. Earnest money to be deposited:** Rs. 1,27,600.00/- **4. Tender Document cost:** Rs. 3000/- **5. Date & time for selling, submission and opening of tender:** The tender have to be submitted online on [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) upto 12.00 hrs. on the date of opening i.e. 01.07.2024 and will be opened on the same day at 12.30 hrs. **6. Website particulars, notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc.:** Detailed tender notice, eligibility criteria & tender documents can be seen from the CRIS website: <http://www.ireps.gov.in> & full details of notice can be seen on notice board of Sr. DEE/TRD(E.C. Railway)/Danapur All corrigendum will be uploaded on website if required. **For Divl. Railway Manager, E.C. Rly. Danapur.**  
PR/00414/DNR/ETRD/24-25/44

**अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान भोपाल**  
**ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES BHOPAL**  
(An Autonomous Institute under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare Government of India)  
संकेत नगर, भोपाल (म.प्र.)-462020, [www.aiimsbhopal.edu.in](http://www.aiimsbhopal.edu.in)  
No: ADM-2(3)/AIIMS/Bhopal/Rectt. Cell/DR/2024/4853 Date: 05/06/2024  
**ROLLING ADVERTISEMENT FOR RECRUITMENT TO GROUP-A NON-FACULTY POSTS ON DIRECT RECRUITMENT BASIS AT AIIMS, BHOPAL**  
AIIMS Bhopal is a premier Institute of National Importance (INI) established by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojna (PMSSY) with the aim of correcting regional imbalances in quality tertiary level healthcare in the country and attaining self-sufficiency in graduate and post graduate medical education and training.  
2. The Executive Director & CEO, AIIMS Bhopal invites applications in the prescribed format by email at [recruitment.2022@aiimsbhopal.edu.in](mailto:recruitment.2022@aiimsbhopal.edu.in) for the following Group-A Non-faculty posts on Direct Recruitment basis:-  

S. No.	Name of Post	Pay Level	Age	No. of posts (reservation)
1	Registrar	Level-12	Up to 50 years	01 (UR)
2	Deputy Medical Superintendent	Level-11	Between-21 and 40 years	01 (UR)
3	Blood Transfusion Officer	Level-11	Between-21 and 40 years	01 (UR)
4	Medical Officer (Ayush-Siddha)	Level-10	Between 21 and 35 years	01 (OBC)

  
3. For details of essential eligibility criteria, application process, application format, last date for submission of applications through email & post etc., and other terms and conditions please visit Institute's website- [www.aiimsbhopal.edu.in](http://www.aiimsbhopal.edu.in). Candidates fulfilling the eligibility criteria may submit their applications in the prescribed format, as available on the website, along with self-attested copies of certificates by 05/07/2024.  
Sd/-  
Dy. Director (Admin.), AIIMS, Bhopal

**National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation**  
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NBCC Tower, 15 NBCC tower, 5th Floor, Hall No. 1, Bnikaji Cama Place, New Delhi - 110066  
Website: [www.nstfcd.tribal.nic.in](http://www.nstfcd.tribal.nic.in)

**CORRIGENDUM**  
**Extension of Tender Submission Date**  
Tender Reference No: NSTFDC/Impact/Proj/36/2024  
This notification is in continuation to the Notice Inviting sealed bids from eligible bidders for **Impact Assessment / Evaluation Study of NSTFDC schemes** published in e-procurement portal (<https://eprocure.gov.in/ePublish/app>) on 18th May 2024.  
Last date for Bid submission has been extended upto **20th June, 2024.**  

S. No.	Activity	Existing Date	Revised Date
1.	Technical Bid Opening	13th June, 2024	27th June, 2024
2.	Invitation for presentation for those who qualify Technical Bid	20th June, 2024	4th July, 2024
3.	Financial Bid Evaluation	26th June, 2024	11th July, 2024
4.	Allotment of Contract	2nd July 2024	19th July 2024

  
All other tender conditions remain unchanged. Further details are available at <https://eprocure.gov.in/ePublish/app>  
Sd/  
(Bismita Das)  
Chief Manager (Proj. & CSR), NSTFDC  
011-2618 0980

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**ENTERPRISE CONNECT**  
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**AIIMS-Raipur to Hold Second Convocation this year, Hon'ble President invited to be the Chief Guest**  
  
Raipur: All India Institute of Medical Sciences is holding its Second convocation this year. Executive Director Lt. Gen Ashok Jindal (Retd.) has invited President Smt. Droupadi Murmu to be the Chief Guest for this occasion. Around 500 students will be awarded degrees during the event in July this year. Lt Gen Jindal and Ms. Usha Jindal met President Smt. Droupadi Murmu on Tuesday at Rashtrapati Bhawan and invited her to the convocation. 'It is a great privilege for the AIIMS-R to hold its second convocation this year. The Hon'ble President, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, has been invited to be the Chief Guest in the ceremony. According to Prof. Alok Chand Agrawal, Dean (Academics), second convocation has been proposed this year. 'Around 203 MBBS students from the 2017 and 2018 batches, 116 BSc (Nursing) students (2018 and 2019 batches), 143 MD/MS/MDS, and 14 DM/MCh degrees will be awarded during the ceremony. There are a total 509 degrees and diplomas proposed to be distributed in the ceremony, he said. Different committees have been formed to finalize the preparations.  
**HUDCO posts 24% growth in Net Profit YoY, 10.40% growth in Revenue from Operations YoY**  
Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited (HUDCO) Board of Directors in its Board meeting held on 24.05.2024 at New Delhi approved the Audited Financial Results for Fiscal Year 2023-24. Shri Sanjay Kulshrestha, Chairman & Managing Director of HUDCO, while expressing his satisfaction at the exceptional Financial Results said, "HUDCO, being a Government Company under aegis of MoHUA with lowest levels of NPA and Debt-Equity and comfortable CRAR is envisaged to play a vital role in creating assets for the nation and supplement efforts of Government of India for creation of sustainable and resilient Infrastructure, in line with Viksit Bharat 2047. With recently conferred 'Navratna' status, HUDCO is amongst top 20 Navratna Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) in the country to have been accredited with this status. HUDCO is focused towards diversification of its resource base, establishing footprints in international markets through its maiden JPY denominated ECB offering and optimizing overall cost to add competitive strength to its overall lending operation.  
**POWERGRID acquires 'Khavda IV-E2 Power Transmission Limited' under TBCB**  
Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID) - a Maharatna CPSU under Ministry of Power has recently acquired a Project Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) viz. Khavda IV-E2 Power Transmission Limited on 30th May 2024 for the "Transmission System Project for Evacuation of Power from Potential Renewable Energy Zone in Khavda Area of Gujarat under Phase-IV (7GW) Part E2" after competing with various private sector players and emerging as successful bidder in Tariff Based Competitive Bidding (TBCB) process.  
Khavda IV-E2 Power Transmission Limited shall implement augmentation works at existing substation namely Khavda Pooling Station -2 in the state of Gujarat. The augmentation work shall include intra-include supply and installation of 4x1500 MVA 765/400 kV ICTs along with corresponding 765kV and 400kV line bays. The Project is an Inter State Transmission System Project and is to be commissioned in 21 months. The said existing substation is also being implemented by another wholly owned subsidiary of POWERGRID namely POWERGRID KPS2 Transmission System Limited. Both the Projects shall enable integration of an additional 6 GW (cumulative 9 GW) generation capacity in Khavda RE Park. POWERGRID, through its various Projects SPVs which have been acquired through tariff bidding route, is implementing various Transmission System Projects being constructed on build, own, operate and transfer (BOOT) basis. These Projects will augment the Indian transmission infrastructure to evacuate Green Energy to the National Grid thereby reducing dependency on fossil fuels, in line with Government of India's vision of achieving 500 GW renewable energy target by year 2030. As on 30th April 2024, POWERGRID has commissioned and is operating 278 Sub-stations and more than 1,77,790 km transmission lines and 527,446 MVA of transformation capacity.  
**BHEL signs Technology Transfer Agreement with BARC for 50 kW alkaline electrolyser systems for Hydrogen production**  
Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has entered into a Technology Transfer Agreement (TTA) with Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) for 50 kW alkaline electrolyser systems for Hydrogen production. The well proven technology offered by BARC is indigenously developed and has high local material content. The agreement was signed in presence of Mr. Jai Prakash Srivastava, Director (Engineering, Research & Development), BHEL by Mr. K. Ravishanker, Executive Director (Corporate Technology Management and Corp R&D), BHEL and Dr. S. Adhikari, Associate Director (Knowledge Management Group), BARC. BHEL, through this collaboration with BARC, intends to scale up Indigenous Alkaline Electrolyser Technology and commercialise it for application in sectors such as refineries, fertiliser, steel, transportation, etc. This will be a step further in BHEL's contribution to the 'National Green Hydrogen Mission' and 'Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan'.  
**GAIL (India) Limited launches 'Waah Kya Energy Hai' Campaign to Promote Clean and Sustainable Fuel Choices**  
GAIL (India) Limited has launched yet another series 'Waah Kya Energy Hai' to highlight the accessibility and benefits of embracing new, clean and environmentally friendly fuel options - Compressed Natural Gas and Piped Natural Gas offered by GAIL and its group companies. Representing one more venture by GAIL in Business-to-Consumer (B2C) digital communication, the campaign is strategically geared towards engaging retail Natural Gas consumers across India. 'Waah Kya Energy Hai', which comprises four short films in a mini-series format, tells the stories of a close-knit middle-class Indian family and how they navigate their challenges through a smarter choice of fuel usage, switching to D-PNG (Domestic Pipe Natural Gas), C-PNG (Commercial Pipe Natural Gas), CNG and Part E2" after competing with various private sector players and emerging as successful bidder in Tariff Based Competitive Bidding (TBCB) process.  
viewers to not only enjoy these short films but also encourage them to think about a shift to clean fuel. These 4-5 minutes content capsules will be promoted digitally through digital and social media including GAIL's YouTube channel, banners and influencer engagements across platforms. Well-known actors Srikanth Verma, Divya Jagdale, Luv Vispute and Ahmed Khan play key roles in the four episodic short films, adding a relatable and compelling touch to the message of sustainability and progress. Launching the campaign, Shri Sandeep Kumar Gupta, Chairman and Managing Director, GAIL said "Wah Kya Energy Hai is strategically crafted with GAIL's key objectives in mind. The campaign also endeavors to highlight the advantages of using natural gas over other fuel choices in view of the effects on both health and the environment. Through these concerted efforts, GAIL's campaign endeavors to catalyze a widespread shift towards cleaner and more sustainable fuel alternatives".  
**UP Metro Catalyst of Environment Conservation**  
Since its inception, UPMRC Metro has consistently championed environmental sustainability and the promotion of greenery. UP Metro is the 1st organization in the state to participate in the Energy Exchange program which has led to saving of electricity worth Rs 3.5 crore in the last 1.5 years. Electricity is procured for Lucknow Metro's Operation & Maintenance through Indian Energy Exchange (IEX) under 'open access model'. The rates are decided by the exchange for 24 hours divided into 15-15 mins blocks. Accordingly, UPMRC procures electricity for the time blocks for which the desired rates are being offered. And, for the remaining time blocks, the supply is managed through the Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (UPPCL) on the standard rates. This unwavering dedication has translated into remarkable achievements, including the creation of a sprawling 1.1 lakh square meters of green belt. Leading this green revolution, Lucknow Metro boasts 65,000 square meters of lush greenery, followed by Kanpur Metro with 35,000 square meters, and Agra Metro contributing approximately 1,200 square meters. Key locations such as Polytechnic Chauraha, Metro Depot, Metro Officer's Colony KD Singh Stadium and the medians along the entire metro corridor now enjoy enhanced urban landscapes thanks to these green covers. Another milestone of UP Metro's environmental strategy is its impressive rainwater conservation efforts. Moreover, UPMRC's commitment to harnessing renewable energy is evident in its extensive solar installations. Lucknow and Kanpur Metro together boasts a total solar capacity of 4.412 MW. While in Lucknow, the Transport Nagar Metro Depot alone houses a 2.28 MW solar plant, five metro stations collectively host another 1 MW. Additional installations include 10 kW plants each at RSS buildings in Transport Nagar and Munshipulia, and a 12 KW plant at the Administrative Building in Gomatnagar. Over the past five years, these solar plants have generated an impressive 60 lakh units of energy. Another 1MW solar plant is installed at Kanpur Metro Depot. Up Metro's environmental initiatives is a testament to its visionary approach to urban development. By integrating green belts, efficient water management systems, and renewable energy sources, UP Metro is not only enhancing the quality of urban life but also setting a benchmark for sustainable practices. This Environment Day, let us celebrate and draw inspiration from UP Metro's exemplary efforts in fostering a greener, more sustainable future.

## Final decision on ferocious dogs ban not till June 14: HC

**Mohamed Imranullah S.**  
CHENNAI

The Madras High Court on Wednesday restrained the Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying from taking a final decision on the ongoing process of collecting objec-

tions and comments from a cross-section of people on classifying certain breeds of dogs as "ferocious and dangerous to human life" and consequently banning their import and breeding. It said no decision should be taken until June 14.

**OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE**  
**DEATH**  
**OM SHANTI**  
  
With profound sorrow we regret to inform the demise of **Smt. Rajalakshmi Sunkavally** (w/o late V K P Sunkavally) on Wednesday 5th June 2024  
The last rites will be performed at 1:30 pm on 6th June 2024 at 113, 86th street, 19th avenue, Ashok Nagar , Chennai followed by cremation at the Besant Nagar Crematorium at 3pm.  
Deeply mourned by  
**Vijaya kumar Sunkavally & Family (Chennai)**  
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CSDS-LOKNITI POST-POLL SURVEY

Personal financial conditions played key role in voting choice

People who felt their economic situation had worsened were more likely to have voted for Opposition, while those who felt the situation remained unchanged divided their votes almost equally between the ruling regime and the challenging party

Sanjeer Alam

In democracies, economic currents often sway voters. With India's economic rise, the state of national economy has come to occupy centre stage of political and public debates. Economic issues such as growth, unemployment, inflation, rural distress, and so on figured prominently in political debates in the run-up to the Lok Sabha election. While the ruling party or alliance flaunted the impressive GDP numbers and new economic initiatives aimed at benefiting people, the Opposition bloc's campaign remained focused on unemployment, price rise, and other forms of economic distress. Tapping in-to the downside of the economy, the Congress carefully crafted a package called the Nyay (justice), to be able to reach out to vulnerable sections.

For ordinary voters, complex macro-economic numbers may not mean much, but they have a fair sense of what they have gone through economically. Given this, it is people's assessment of personal or household's financial conditions rather than their perception about the performance of national economy that is expected to play an important role in shaping voting choice. The idea of "pocketbook" voting holds that those who feel economically secure or have experienced improvement in their financial well-being are more likely to vote for the candidates of the ruling regime. Conversely, individuals facing economic hardship, job loss, or financial instability may seek to punish the incumbent.

Rural-urban divide

So, in this election, how did people feel about their personal/household economic/financial conditions? Did it influence their voting preference? If so, to what extent? The CSDS-Lokniti post-poll survey helps us answer these questions.

As per the survey findings, only four in 10 respondents felt that their personal/household financial conditions improved



Wage woes: A delivery worker with gas cylinders drives next to an election campaign in Visakhapatnam on April 6. V. RAJU

Table 1: Perceived changes in personal or household financial conditions

Those who said their financial conditions ...	2024	2019
Improved	43	41
Remained same	35	47
Worsened	18	14

Notes: "Improved" includes "better" and "much better", and "Worsened" includes "worse" and "much worse". Rest had no opinion.  
Question asked: As compared to five years ago, how is the economic condition of your household today ~ would you say it has become much better, better, remained same, become worse, or much worse?

over the past five years. This means that the economic condition of households of a great majority of people either remained unchanged or worsened. Interestingly, this number is about as great as it was in 2019. A closer look at the data indicates that a significant number of respondents actually experienced their economic conditions worsen. Compared with 2019, this number increased a bit. What this implies is that *achchhe din* (good days) could not expand its reach during the past five years (Table 1).

Who are those people whose economic fortunes improved or worsened? Economic processes are likely to affect sub-groups of voters differentially as their sources of livelihood and income differ markedly. An interesting pattern can be observed in rural and urban settings, the two spatially polarised contexts in terms of sources of livelihood and income. Data show that more rural voters than their urban counterparts felt that their economic conditions had improved. At the other end of the scale representing economic distress, the percentage of urban voters exceeded, though marginally, that of rural voters. The data also show that the

processes of economic development have impacted different economic classes differentially. While half of the rich respondents said their economic conditions had improved, the corresponding figure for the poor was as low as 37%. A larger fraction of the poor than others saw their economic fortunes decline (Table 2).

The way people perceived their economic conditions appear to have played an important role in shaping their political preferences.

Data reveal that those whose economic conditions remained unchanged divided their votes almost equally between the ruling regime and the challenging party/alliance. However, those who experienced their economic conditions worsen had a clear preference for the Opposition camp. More than half of them would have voted for the Congress and its allies. Conversely, most of those whose economic conditions had improved said they voted for the BJP-led NDA (Table 3).

A negative outlook

That key economic issues, such as personal economic well-being, mattered in the election is confirmed when we take a look at other indicators as well.

Table 2: Change in economic conditions of households by locality and economic class

Those who said economic conditions of their household			
	Improved	Remained same	Worsened
Location			
Rural	45	34	17
Urban	38	37	20
Economic class			
Poor	37	38	19
Lower	42	36	18
Middle	47	33	17
Upper	49	33	16

Notes: "Improved" includes "better" and "much better", and "Worsened" includes "worse" and "much worse". Rest had no opinion.  
Question asked: As compared to five years ago, how is the economic condition of your household today ~ would you say it has become much better, better, remained same, become worse, or much worse?

Table 3: Perceived changes in household economic conditions and vote choice

Those who said their household financial conditions....	Party voted for in the 2024 Lok Sabha election			
	Congress	Congress allies	BJP	BJP allies
Improved	15	9	48	9
Remained same	26	12	33	4
Worsened	29	24	17	4

Note: All figures are in per cent

Table 4: Perception about the government's working and voting intention

Those who said development has been ...	Intention to vote				
	Congress	Congress allies	BJP	BJP allies	Others
Only for rich	30	21	16	6	26
For all people	12	5	58	7	18

Note: All figures in per cent. Rest gave no response. Source: CSDS-Lokniti pre-poll survey (2024).  
Question asked: People have different opinions about the development that has taken place in the country in the past five years. Some believe it has only been for the rich, others say it has been for all people, and some others say that there has been no development at all.

In the pre-poll survey held a couple of months ago, three in 10 respondents were of the view that the BJP-led NDA government worked for the benefits of the rich. About 15% of the respondents had held that there was no development at all during the past five years. Unsurprisingly, those who held a negative view of the ruling regime had expressed their intention to vote for the Congress and its allies (Table 4).

In sum, over the past five years, economic condi-

tions of many people did not improve. A fairly large fraction of people actually saw their economic conditions worsen.

Since this is only a preliminary bivariate result, it is difficult to say how much of a role personal economic conditions play in shaping final electoral outcomes. But it is quite clear that people's assessment of their own economic conditions made a large difference in the voting choice.

Sanjeer Alam is

Associate Professor at CSDS

Modi factor seems to have stagnated over a decade

Sandeep Shastri

Ever since the rise of Narendra Modi on the national scene in 2014, his leadership has attracted voters to the BJP on a considerable scale. The electoral strategy of the BJP (and the NDA) in the 2024 polls was to make Mr. Modi's leadership the face of their campaign. However, the Opposition alliance consciously did not declare a Prime Ministerial face. The CSDS-Lokniti data indicate the possible impact of the leadership factor in shaping the electoral outcome.

Fading popularity

Mr. Modi remained in the lead as voters's choice to become Prime Minister. A little over four in 10 respondents (41%) stated that their preferred Prime Ministerial choice was Narendra Modi. Rahul Gandhi was mentioned by a little over one-fourth (27%) of the respondents as their preferred choice (See Table 1).

It may be important to record that the question on preferred Prime Ministerial choice has been asked during earlier elections also. This time, there was a six-percentage point decline in the mention of Narendra Modi as the Prime Ministerial choice compared with 2019. The gap between Narendra Modi and Rahul Gandhi as the preferred Prime Ministerial choice has fallen by eight percentage points. (Table 2).

Was there any impact of the Prime Ministerial preference in the decision on voting? Six in 10 respondents (60%) reported that it had an impact on the voting decision. Three-fourths of the respondents who reported voting for the BJP mentioned that it had an impact, with as high as four in 10 saying that it had a great impact. The impact of the leadership factor in determining voter preference was much less among those who voted for the Congress and its allies. (Table 3).

The post-poll surveys have been tapping the response to whether there would have been any change in voting preference if Narendra Modi was not the Prime Ministerial candidate. When this question was asked in 2014, a little over one-fourth (27%) of those who voted for the BJP said that

Table 1: Preference for Narendra Modi as Prime Minister

Prime Ministerial choice	2024 post-poll (%)	Question asked: Who do you want to see as the Prime Minister after this Lok Sabha election?
Narendra Modi	41	
Rahul Gandhi	27	
Mamata Banerjee	4	
Yogi Adityanath	4	
Priyanka Gandhi	2	
Arvind Kejriwal	2	
Other names	8	
Did not respond	12	

Table 2: Rahul versus Modi: Has anything changed since 2014

Prime Ministerial choice	2024 post-poll	2019 post-poll	2014 post-poll
Narendra Modi	41	47	36
Rahul Gandhi	27	23	14

Note: Rest gave other names or did not respond.

Table 3: Assessing the impact of Prime Ministerial preference on voting

	Assessing the impact of Prime Ministerial preference on voting			
	A great extent	Somewhat	Not much	Not at all
Overall	26	34	19	10
Among Congress voters	23	31	22	14
Among voters of Congress allies	19	36	23	13
Among BJP voters	38	34	16	5
Among voters of BJP allies	25	38	20	8
Among BSP voters	15	31	27	19
Among Left voters	17	23	28	25
Among voters of others parties	19	36	18	13

Note: Rest did not respond.  
Question asked: To what extent your decision about which party or candidate to vote for depends on who you want to see as India's Prime Minister ~ to a great extent, somewhat, not much, or not at all?

Table 4: Modi effect: Assessing the impact of Narendra Modi as Prime Ministerial candidate of the BJP/NDA

	Would have voted for the same party	Would have voted for a different party	Not sure about voting choice
Overall	50	24	4
Among BJP voters	56	25	3
Among voters of BJP allies	58	27	3

Note: Rest did not respond.  
Question asked: If Narendra Modi was not the BJP's Prime Ministerial candidate, would you have still voted for the same party as you have done, or your decision would have changed?

they would have changed the way they voted. In 2019, two-thirds (32%) took this stand. This time, one-fourth (25%) said that they would have changed the way they voted if Mr. Modi was not the Prime Ministerial candidate. Clearly, the

initial ability of the Modi factor to make voters move to the BJP seems to have stagnated over the decade.

Sandeep Shastri is  
Director-Academics, NITTE  
Education Trust, and the National  
Coordinator of the Lokniti Network

News

As congratulations pour in, Modi invites Sri Lankan President to swearing-in

Suhasini Haidar

NEW DELHI

U.S. President Joseph Biden, Russian President Vladimir Putin, and British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak joined leaders of more than 50 countries in congratulating Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) that won the highest number of seats in the Lok Sabha election.

During a telephone call, Mr. Modi also invited Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe to his swearing-in due to be held this weekend, which he has accepted, the Sri Lankan Presidential Media Division said in a statement.

All eyes are now on which other leaders the government would invite to the ceremony as Mr. Modi did in 2014 and 2019, when he invited SAARC leaders and BIMSTEC leaders, res-

pectively. As a member of both groupings, Sri Lanka's leaders were invited on both occasions.

Officials did not rule out invitations to other regional countries, including the Gulf countries such as the UAE and Saudi Arabia, and Central Asian countries. They explained that much will depend on their ability to fly to India at a short notice.

Among countries whose leaders extended their greetings on Wednesday were Israel, Singapore, France, Italy, Germany, the Netherlands, Denmark, Norway, Spain, the Czech Republic, and Ukraine. Leaders of regional countries such as Iran, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Seychelles, and the UAE also joined in, while the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) conveyed its wishes at a briefing.



Global stage: Narendra Modi flashes the victory sign as he arrives at the BJP headquarters in New Delhi on June 4. World leaders have congratulated him on securing another term in office. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

"Congratulations to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the National Democratic Alliance on their victory, and the nearly 650 million voters in this historic election," Mr. Biden said, adding that the India-U.S. relationship had "unli-

imited potential". The U.S. government also congratulated journalists, civil society workers, and others for the contributions to democracy.

"We commend Indian voters, poll workers, civil society, and journalists for

their commitment and vital contributions to India's democratic processes and institutions," State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller said.

Mr. Putin was the first international leader to speak to Mr. Modi on the

telephone. "The Russian President warmly congratulated Narendra Modi on the success of the Bharatiya Janata Party in the recently concluded general parliamentary elections," the Kremlin said in a statement on Wednesday.

Mr. Sunak said he spoke to Mr. Modi and congratulated him on his victory. "The U.K. and India share the closest of friendships, and together that friendship will continue to thrive," Mr. Sunak said in a post on X.

In a message echoing the MFA, Chinese Ambassador Xu Feihong wrote, "Look forward to making joint efforts with the Indian side for a sound and stable China-India relationship, which is in line with the interests and expectations of both countries, the region and the world."

UAE President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Na-

hyan greeted Mr. Modi and expressed interest in advancing "deeply rooted strategic partnership".

Mr. Modi is expected to travel to Italy for the G-7 outreach on June 13 and 14, where he will meet Mr. Biden, and other G7 leaders, as well as to Kazakhstan on July 3-4 for the SCO summit, where the Presidents of Russia, China, and Central Asian countries, and the Prime Minister of Pakistan are expected to be present.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, who has been urging Mr. Modi to travel to Switzerland next week for a Peace Summit, said, "Everyone in the world recognises the significance and weight of India's role in global affairs... In this regard, we also look forward to seeing India attend the Peace Summit."

India has not yet confirmed its level of participa-

tion at the conference, where Russia has not been invited, and Mr. Modi sidestepped Mr. Zelenskyy's invitation, only saying in response that "India will continue to support peace, security and prosperity for everyone in the region".

On Wednesday, as the NDA constituents met, Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu issued statements greeting Mr. Modi on securing enough support for the third consecutive term. Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, who is on a visit to China, has yet to convey his greetings.

"I look forward to working together to advance our shared interests in pursuit of shared prosperity and stability for our two countries," Mr. Muizzu said.

(With inputs from Meera Srinivasan in Colombo)



CM  
YK







INBRIEF



Brakes India, Advics to form JV for advanced braking products

TSF Group firm Brakes India Ltd., in association with Japan-based Advics, has decided to form a joint venture firm in South India at an investment of more than ₹500 crore to design, develop and manufacture advanced braking products for the Indian light vehicle market. The project will be funded by both firms having a shareholding in the ratio of 51:49 respectively. To begin with, the products will be supplied through the parent companies, Brakes India said in a statement.

Heritage Foods' shares surge 20% as Naidu set to lead A.P.

Heritage Foods shares surged 20% on Wednesday to a 52-week high of ₹546.95 on the BSE. The development came in the backdrop of the dairy firm founder and TDP chief N. Chandrababu Naidu being all set to become Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister for the fourth time. Besides winning the Assembly polls with a big majority, the TDP has emerged as the second-largest constituent of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) led by the BJP's Narendra Modi.

ixigo parent Le Travenues fixes IPO price band at ₹88-93

Le Travenues Technology, the parent company of travel aggregator ixigo, has announced to open its initial public offer (IPO) on Monday at a price band of ₹88-93 per share. The IPO will close on Wednesday. Bids can be made for a minimum of 161 equity shares and in multiples of 161 shares thereafter. The total offer size comprises fresh issue of equity shares of ₹1 each aggregating up to ₹120 crore and an offer for sale aggregating up to 6,66,77,674 shares by the selling shareholders.

TI and TICMPL sign pact to raise ₹310 crore

The Hindu Bureau  
CHENNAI

Tube Investments of India and TI Clean Mobility Pvt. Ltd. (TICMPL) have signed securities subscription agreement with Luxembourg Specialist Investment Fund FCP-RAIF (M&G) and existing investors of TICMPL to raise about ₹310 crore in equity and compulsorily convertible preference shares.

With this proposed investment, the overall fund raise by TICMPL would aggregate to ₹2,840 crore against its ₹3,000 crore target. The fund raise will help scale TICMPL and its subsidiaries' operations, the Murugappa group firm said in a statement.

'People aspect most important part of AI-Vistara merger'

Jagriti Chandra  
NEW DELHI

The most important aspect of the merger of Vistara with Air India is the 'people aspect' and the former is engaging with employees to provide 'direction and certainty' about their role in the integrated entity, said CEO Vinod Kannan.

He underlined that the merger of Air India and Vistara was not aimed at cost cutting, but growth. The airline was forced to cancel 1,000 flights in April due to various factors including hectic rosters for pilots, as well as resent-

Will not invest in planes if bilateral rights expanded for West Asian rivals: Air India

Jagriti Chandra  
NEW DELHI

Air India will "not invest" in buying new aircraft, including widebodies, if the Government grants more seats under bilateral agreements to hubs in West Asia impeding "non-stop" international travel for Indians, said its CEO and MD Campbell Wilson.

"If the rug is pulled from under us, if we can't fill the aircraft, we will not take them," he said at the CAPA India Aviation Summit 2024. He made these comments while indirectly referring to rights granted for hubs like Dubai. He said 90% of passenger traffic to



Campbell Wilson

these hubs fed flights to destinations beyond like the U.S. and Europe.

Mr. Wilson said Indian airlines had placed orders for 1,000 aircraft in 2023 and there was an appetite for more and "we are committing to that on the basis of an economic return" on almost \$100 billion in priv-

ate sector investment. But if this return could not be realised, "we have clarity that we will not invest".

Retrofit programme

Air India will retrofit 100 planes by mid-2025 and deploy them on the busiest international routes like New York and London, Mr. Wilson said. "Our key international markets will be exclusively served by the new product," he added.

The airline has also bought 25,000 seats as part of its \$400 million retrofit programme and though this was decided in 2022, it will take until mid-2025 for the retrofits to be visible on the planes.

'Farmland conversions have triggered newer businesses in India'

Mini Tejaswi  
BENGALURU

Buhler, a Swiss firm that offers technology solutions to grain, food and animal feed processing industries, said rapid conversion of farmlands in India for other purposes may expose the company to newer market opportunities in the country.

Buhler India MD Prashant Gokhale said the firm was seeing several market dynamics play out simultaneously even as rapid conversion of farmlands for other purposes were taking place. "Urbanisation and reduction of arable



Prashant Gokhale

land could potentially increase the focus on food processing technologies to ensure the efficient use of agricultural produce in the country," he observed.

Also, the reduction in farmlands might encourage diversification of agriculture towards high-value crops, Mr. Gokhale added.

Coalition crutches could cramp reform chase: Moody's, Fitch

Upsides to India's growth prospects would be modest if reforms face hiccups, while structural weaknesses pose a long-term risk, they say

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

With the BJP losing an outright majority in the Lok Sabha, global rating agencies on Wednesday said navigating far-reaching reforms may prove more difficult during a coalition-dependent likely third term for Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Upsides to India's growth prospects would be modest if reforms face hiccups, while structural weaknesses like youth unemployment and ebbing foreign investment flows pose a long-term risk, they said.

'Tough to push reforms'

While "broad policy continuity" is expected in areas such as the thrust on public capex to spur the economy and gradual fiscal consolidation, a BJP-led government that needs "to rely more heavily on its coalition partners" could find it tougher to push contentious reforms, particularly around land and labour, recently flagged as the party's priorities, said Fitch Ratings Director Jeremy Zook.

"We expect India's strong medium-term growth outlook to remain intact, underpinned by the government capex drive and improved corporate

Coalition karma

Navigating far-reaching reforms may prove more difficult under a BJP-led coalition govt., say global rating agencies



- The Centre may find it hard to push contentious reforms, particularly around land, labour
- High levels of youth unemployment, weakness in productivity mask structural weakness risking long-term growth
- Fiscal and debt metrics remain weaker than peers', including Indonesia and Thailand

and bank balance sheets. But upsides to medium-term growth prospects are likely to be more modest if reforms prove more challenging to advance."

In a comment on India's sovereign rating, titled "Incumbent victory suggests policy continuity while fiscal metrics to remain weak", Moody's Ratings said the NDA's "relatively slim margin of victory as well as the BJP's loss of its outright majority in Parliament" may delay more far-reaching economic and fiscal reforms that could impede fiscal consolidation.

Noting India's fiscal outcomes would remain weaker than its peers, Moody's senior vice president Christian de Guzman said India is projected to grow faster than all other G20 economies through fiscal year 2025-26, but the near-term economic momentum masks structural weaknesses that pose risks

to long-term potential growth. The weaknesses include "high levels of youth unemployment across sectors" to weak productivity growth in the farm sector that accounts for 40% of all employment, and the decline in inward foreign direct investment (FDI) flows in each of the past three years.

"The erosion in inward FDI is despite a favourable economic and geopolitical backdrop for India amid broader U.S.-China strategic tensions, suggesting continued constraints from the investment climate."

While India may be able to meet fiscal deficit target of 4.5% of GDP in 2025-26, fiscal consolidation since the pandemic has not outperformed other Asia-Pacific emerging markets while fiscal and debt metrics remain weaker than peers, including Indonesia, Philippines and Thailand, Moody's said.

Sensex recovers 3.2% on 'bargain buying'

The Hindu Bureau  
MUMBAI

The S&P BSE Sensex bounced back with a gain of 2,303 points, or 3.20%, to 74,382.24 on Wednesday in the wake of bargain hunting by investors a day after a 5.7% fall on account of the BJP falling short of a majority on its own.

'Return to sanity'

"Value buying was witnessed as the market had fallen so much a day before," said Ambareesh Baliga, an independent analyst. "Several people waited to buy and Tuesday's was a very good fall to provide entry into the

market," Mr. Baliga added.

Banking, metal and auto stocks led gains. Sensex stocks which advanced the most included IndusInd Bank, which rose 7.75%, Tata Steel (6.55%), M&M (6.49%), Bajaj Finance (5.1%), Kotak Bank (4.89%) and Axis Bank (4.6%).

The NSE Nifty-50 index, led by Adani Ports, surged 735.85 points, or 3.36%, to 22,620.35.

"Some sanity has come back to the market after two days of excess volatility," said Arun Kejriwal, founder Kejrival Research and Investment Services. "There was some bargain buying which helped in the recovery," he added.

PMI signals services growth receded to a 5-month low in May

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

Activity in India's services sectors slumped to a five-month low in May, with competition, price pressures and a severe heat wave denting growth in new orders and output, as per HSBC India Services Business Activity Index that fell to 60.2 from 60.8 in April. A reading of over 50 on the survey-based index indicates an expansion in activity levels.

However, fresh orders from international markets surged at the sharpest pace in nearly 10 years, while

surveyed firms indicated greater confidence in the outlook for business prospects, lifting their measured optimism to an eight-month high. Survey participants noted strong growth of demand from Asia, Africa, Europe, West Asia and the U.S.

Hiring activity among the 400 firms surveyed increased by the greatest extent since August 2022, as they picked up more junior and mid-level workers in May. Firms reported a rise in input costs through May, especially on labour and materials such as meat, vegetables and packaging.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	WEDNESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	74,382	3.20
US Dollar	83.44	0.08
Gold	72,820	-0.10
Brent oil	78.10	1.86

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter.....	3115.35	174.10
Adani Ports.....	1354.60	105.65
Apollo Hosp.....	5934.65	88.95
Asian Paints.....	2961.75	104.10
Axis Bank.....	1184.50	53.25
Bajaj Auto.....	9602.25	355.50
Bajaj Finserv.....	1517.70	40.40
Bajaj Finance.....	6836.65	327.10
Bharti Airtel.....	1344.35	44.65
BPCL.....	581.10	0.90
Britannia Ind.....	5486.65	161.55
Cipla.....	1496.95	34.40
Coal India.....	460.55	18.65
Divis Lab.....	4502.70	178.55
Dr Reddys Lab.....	5824.15	106.45
Eicher Motors.....	4579.00	83.60
Grasim Ind.....	2304.85	48.45
HCL Tech.....	1343.70	40.15
HDFC Bank.....	1551.80	68.65
HDFC Life.....	551.95	17.50
Hero MotoCorp.....	5658.50	347.80
Hindalco.....	695.25	46.20
Hind Unilever.....	2602.75	106.45
ICI Bank.....	1108.65	37.20
IndusInd Bank.....	1500.95	109.45
Infosys.....	1430.10	36.45
ITC.....	430.30	15.10
JSW Steel.....	878.40	36.55
Kotak Bank.....	1718.10	80.15
L&T.....	3400.00	5.80
LTIMindtree Ltd.....	4688.85	58.20
M&M.....	2740.95	168.05
Maruti Suzuki.....	12502.60	326.55
NestleIndia.....	2509.85	82.10
NTPC.....	341.00	9.75
ONGC.....	247.50	11.20
PowerGrid Corp.....	298.80	2.85
Reliance Ind.....	2841.50	46.95
SBI Life.....	1390.10	51.25
State Bank.....	789.75	14.55
Shriram Finance Ltd.....	2387.45	126.75
Sun Pharma.....	1487.30	57.45
TataConsumerProduct.....	1142.40	55.40
Tata Motors.....	929.95	26.05
Tata Steel.....	169.20	10.25
TCS.....	3746.45	31.45
Tech Mahindra.....	1266.90	27.60
Titan.....	3317.65	78.70
UltraTech Cement.....	10038.10	119.80
Wipro.....	451.50	13.35

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on June 05

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	83.17	83.49
Euro	90.38	90.73
British Pound	106.21	106.62
Japanese Yen (100)	53.30	53.50
Chinese Yuan	11.48	11.52
Swiss Franc	93.19	93.56
Singapore Dollar	61.69	61.93
Canadian Dollar	60.79	61.02
Malaysian Ringgit	17.70	17.78
Australian Dollar	55.24	55.45

Source:Indrain Bank

THE HINDU GROUP

14<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024

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T20 WORLD CUP

SPECIAL ISSUE

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M ND-NDE



**STOCKHOLM**  
26-year-old Swedish rapper shot dead in 'gang conflict', say police



Masked 26-year-old rapper C. Gambino — whose real name is Karar Ramadan — has been killed in a gang shooting in Gothenburg, the Swedish police said on Wednesday. The killing “is linked to a gang conflict”, a police spokesperson said, adding that the rapper “was known to police”. AFP

**TOKYO**  
Palau President confirms ‘major’ cyberattack, points finger at China



Palau’s President Surangel Whipps on Wednesday said the tiny country, one of Taiwan’s few diplomatic allies, had suffered a major cyberattack, pointing a finger at China. The documents were taken in March and later appeared on the dark web. Ransomware group DragonForce claimed responsibility for the hack. AFP

**MANILA**  
Police officers in the Philippines arrested for kidnapping 4 tourists



Four police officers assigned in the Philippine capital region have been arrested for kidnapping for ransom that victimised four foreign — three Chinese and a Malaysian — tourists, officials said on Wednesday. The captives were later freed after payment of a 2.5-million-peso (\$43,100) ransom. AP

**MOSCOW**  
Russian cosmonaut becomes the first to spend 1,000 days in space



A 59-year-old Russian cosmonaut has become the first person to spend 1,000 days in space, Russian space agency Roscosmos said on Wednesday. Oleg Kononenko achieved the milestone on Tuesday, having made five journeys to the International Space Station dating back to 2008. AP

# Biden rolls out asylum restrictions to help ‘gain control’ of the border

The order will go into effect when the number of border encounters between ports of entry hits 2,500 per day; migrants who arrive at the border but do not express fear of returning to their home countries will be subject to immediate removal

Associated Press  
WASHINGTON

President Joe Biden on Tuesday unveiled plans to enact immediate significant restrictions on migrants seeking asylum on the U.S.-Mexico border as the White House tries to neutralise immigration as a political liability ahead of the November elections. The long-anticipated presidential proclamation would bar migrants from being granted asylum when U.S. officials deem that the southern border is overwhelmed. The Democratic President had contemplated unilateral action



Stuck midway: Migrants seeking asylum in the U.S. being watched by the Texas National Guard, on the bank of the Rio Grande. AFP

for months after the collapse of a bipartisan border security deal in Congress that most Republican lawmakers rejected at the behest of former President

Donald Trump, the presumptive GOP presidential nominee. Mr. Biden said he preferred more lasting action via legislation but “Repu-

blicans have left me no choice”. Instead, he said he was acting on his own to “gain control of the border” while also insisting that “I believe immigration has always been the life-blood of America”. Mr. Trump, on the other hand, used his social media account to assail Mr. Biden again over immigration, saying the Democrat had “totally surrendered our Southern Border” and his order was “all for show” ahead of their June 27 presidential debate. The order will go into effect when the number of border encounters between ports of entry hits 2,500 per day, according

to senior administration officials. Once this order is in effect, migrants who arrive at the border but do not express fear of returning to their home countries will be subject to immediate removal from the United States, within a matter of days or even hours. Those migrants could face punishments that could include a five-year bar from re-entering the U.S. or even criminal prosecution. Meanwhile, anyone who expresses that fear or an intention to seek asylum will be screened by a U.S. asylum officer but at a higher standard than currently used.

# Western Europeans question reliability of United States: survey

Agence France-Presse  
WASHINGTON

Only a tiny number of people in Britain, France and Germany put great faith in the United States to guarantee their security over the coming decade, a survey said on Wednesday, ahead of an election in which Donald Trump has thrown doubt on alliances. The Eurasia Group’s Institute for Global Affairs, in its survey of the three western European nations, still found that more people than not expected the United States to be at least “somewhat” reliable. But only 6% said that the United States would be a “very reliable” guarantor of European security over the next decade, compared with 24% of Americans who believed their country was very reliable. Mark Hannah, a senior

fellow at the institute, said it was the first time the question was asked in the annual survey, but that the low number was striking after two years of President Joe Biden staunchly backing Ukraine against Russian invasion. Reason for doubts “The fact that the United States has contributed to the extent it has, and yet only 6% of Western European respondents thought the United States was very reliable, is remarkable and shows this lack of certainty or confidence in American guarantees,” he said. Mr. Hannah, who formerly worked in Democratic Party politics, said the most likely reason for the doubts was Mr. Trump, who has described both NATO and assistance to Ukraine as wasteful and unfair to the United States.

# Spiritual journey



Pilgrim’s progress: The faithful pray around the Kaaba, Islam’s holiest shrine, at the Grand Mosque in Mecca on Tuesday as pilgrims arrive ahead of the annual Haj pilgrimage. AFP

# China accuses U.S. of interfering after Tiananmen remarks

Agence France-Presse  
BEIJING

China lashed out at the United States on Wednesday after Washington’s top diplomat Antony Blinken vowed never to forget the crackdown in Tiananmen Square 35 years ago. “The move of the U.S. seriously interferes with China’s internal affairs,” Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning said. “China is strongly dissatisfied and firmly opposes it,” she added. She called upon the United States to “stop provoking ideological confrontation, and stop interfering in China’s internal affairs under the pretext of human rights”. Chinese troops and tanks forcibly dispersed peaceful protests in Beijing’s Tiananmen Square on June 4, 1989, quelling huge,



Mao Ning

weeks-long demonstrations demanding greater political freedoms. The exact toll is unknown but hundreds died, with some estimates putting the figure at more than 1,000 people. China’s leaders have since sought to erase any public mention of the crackdown. On Tuesday, Mr. Blinken — who has visited Beijing twice since last year — called the events at Tiananmen Square a “massacre”.

# After losing majority in election, South Africa’s ANC talking to all parties keen to be part of government

Reuters  
JOHANNESBURG

The African National Congress has been talking to all political parties that are keen to contribute to a new government, the party’s spokesperson said on Wednesday, after it lost its majority in last week’s election. The ANC, which is still the largest party but can no longer govern alone, said it was determined to unite the broadest range of sectors in society as it addressed what it described

as the urgent need to move out of the current stalemate. “We have been meeting with all parties that are keen to contribute ideas on how we can collectively move our country forward to form a government that ensures national unity and stability, continues the transformation of South Africa, and safeguards our constitutional democracy,” said Mahlengi Bhengu-Motsiri in a statement at the start of a news briefing. The ANC has run South Africa since Nelson Mande-



African National Congress spokesperson Mahlengi Bhengu-Motsiri speaks to the media in Johannesburg on Wednesday. REUTERS

la led it to power in the 1994 elections that marked the end of apartheid, but voters punished it this time over persistent poverty

and joblessness, rampant crime, corruption and frequent power cuts. Voters, politicians and financial markets have

been on tenterhooks for clues as to which party or parties will form the next national government. Ms. Bhengu-Motsiri said the ANC had held meetings with the free-market Democratic Alliance (DA), the Marxist Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF), the socially conservative Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) and two smaller parties. She added that it had approached uMkhonto we Sizwe (MK), a party led by former President Jacob Zuma, but had been rebuffed.

# Resolution against Iran

VIENNA  
The U.N. nuclear watchdog’s 35-nation Board of Governors passed a resolution on Wednesday calling on Iran to step up its cooperation with the watchdog, diplomats said on Wednesday. AFP

**MISSING**  
Emmanuel, age 31, S/o Rapheal, Therath House, Cherthala South P/W 22, Arthunkal PO, Alappuzha District has been missed from 04.05.2023. If any information is received about him, please inform to the nearest Police Station or below mentioned phone numbers.  
**Description** Height : 162 cm, Complexion : White, Body Shape : Medium  
**SHO Arthunkal Police Station : 9497980267**  
**DySP, Cherthala : 9497990042**  
**District Police Chief, Alappuzha : 9497996982**  
**233/F2/2024/I&PRD**

**भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, अंतरिक्ष विभाग / DEPARTMENT OF SPACE**  
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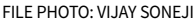
Needed a good pitch but the NY surface didn't live up to it: Malan



Expected a challenging pitch, had the experience to adjust: Rathour



## It's my dream to win the T20 World Cup for India: Kuldeep



## Pakistan's Imad Wasim to miss the match against USA



# Pacers rip through Ireland line-up on a minefield as India begins with a bang

# Paolini makes her Grand Slam semifinal debut after win over Rybakina

CMYK







INBRIEF



Cummins joins MLC's San Francisco Unicorns

Australian Test and one-day captain Pat Cummins has signed a four-year deal with Major League Cricket (MLC)'s San Francisco Unicorns, the team announced on Tuesday. The 31-year-old pacer joins a franchise which also includes New Zealand's Matt Henry and Pakistan's Haris Rauf. MLC's second season will begin in July.



Injured Turkey defender Kabak to miss Euro

Turkey defender Ozan Kabak will miss the Euro after tearing a cruciate ligament in his right knee in a friendly against Italy. Kabak was injured after challenging Italy's Mateo Retegui for the ball shortly before half time in the friendly.

LIVE TELECAST

**Badminton:** Indonesia Open, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & JioCinema, 7.30 a.m.  
**Shooting:** World Cup: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & JioCinema, 1.30 p.m.  
**Roland Garros:** Sony Sports Ten 2, 5 & LIV, 3.30 p.m.  
**Football:** WC Qualifier, India vs Kuwait, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & JioCinema, 7 p.m.  
**T20 World Cup:** Star Sports 1, SS Select 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 9 p.m. & 12.30 a.m. (Friday)  
**Hockey:** Pro League: Sports 18-1 & JioCinema, 10 p.m.



Intense: Carlsen got the better of Praggnanandhaa in their eighth round clash. NORWAYCHESS

Carlsen beats Pragg in Armageddon

The Norwegian still in the lead; Caruana, Firouzja prevail; Wenjun ahead in women's event after a win over Cramling; Vaishali beats Muzychuk

NORWAY CHESS

Sports Bureau

Magnus Carlsen defeated R. Praggnanandhaa in Armageddon to retain his sole lead in the Norway Chess tournament at Stavanger on Tuesday. After their classical game was drawn in the eighth round, the local hero won the Armageddon game with white in 67 moves.

The day's other contests in the open section were also decided by Armageddon with Fabiano Caruana of the USA and Alireza Firouzja of France prevailing over Ding Liren of China

and Hikaru Nakamura of the USA, respectively.

With just two rounds remaining, Carlsen is on 14.5 points, one point ahead of Nakamura.

Praggnanandhaa is on 12, followed by Firouzja (11), Caruana (9) and Ding (4.5).

In the women's event, World champion Ju Wenjun of China snatched the sole lead from Ukrain'a Anna Muzychuk by scoring a crucial win in the classical game against Pia Cramling of Sweden.

Thanks to the three points she got for the victory, she took her tally to 14.5.

Muzychuk, who lost to R. Vaishali, who defeated Muzychuk, is placed se-

cond with 13. The Indian is on 11.5 points.

China's Lei Tingjie, who defeated Koneru Humpy, also has 11.5 points.

**Humpy on eight points** Humpy is on eight and Cramling on 5.5.

The tournament resumes on Thursday after a day's rest.

**The results (eighth round):** **Open:** Magnus Carlsen (Nor) 14.5 bt R. Praggnanandhaa 12; Ding Liren (Chn) 4.5 lost to Fabiano Caruana (USA) 9; Alireza Firouzja (Fra) 11 bt Hikaru Nakamura (USA) 13.5.

**Women:** R. Vaishali 11.5 bt Anna Muzychuk (Ukr) 13; Ju Wenjun (Chn) 14.5 bt Pia Cramling (Swe) 5.5.

Lei Tingjie (Chn) 11.5 bt Koneru Humpy 8.

Sofia holds top seed Divya; Jose Gabriel takes sole lead

WORLD JUNIOR CHESS

Sports Bureau

Sofia Hryzlova of Switzerland held top seed Divya Deshmukh to a draw in the fourth round of the World junior girls' championship at Gandhinagar on Wednesday. Narmin Abdinova, with four points, is in the sole lead.

In the boys' event, Jose Gabriel Cardoso of Colombia took the lead, with four points, after beating Hun-

gary's Gleb Dudin.

**Important results (fourth round):** **Open:** Gleb Dudin (Hun) 3 lost to Jose Gabriel Cardoso (Col) 4; Mayank Chakraborty 3.5 drew with Kazybek Nogerbek (Kaz) 3.5; Aruj Shrivatri 3 drew with Siddharth Jagadeesh (Sgp) 3; Arsen Davtyan (Arm) 3 drew with Jan Subelj (Slo) 3; Avinash Ramesh 3 drew with Luka Budisavljevic (Srb) 3; Marius Fromm (Ger) 3 drew with Aleksandr Domalchuk-Jonasson (Isl) 3; Harshit Pawar 3 drew with Daniel Quizon (Phi) 3; A.R. Ilamparthi 3.5 bt Simon Rybka (Svk) 2.5; Vuppala Praneeth 3 drew with Ayush Sharma 3;

Aleksey Grebnev (FIDE) 3 bt Santiago Lopez (Col) 2.5. **Girls:** Divya Deshmukh 3.5 drew with Sofia Hryzlova (Sui) 3.5; Ayan Allahverdiyeva (Aze) 3.5 drew with Mariam Mkrtchyan (Arm) 3.5; Narmin Abdinova (Aze) 4 bt Liya Kurmangaliyeva (Kaz) 3; Xeniya Balabayeva (Kaz) 3.5 drew with V. Ridhiya 3.5. Beloslava Krasteva (Bul) 3.5 bt Oshini Gunawardhana (SL) 2.5; Bhagyashree Patil 2.5 lost to Kseniya Norman (FIDE) 3.5; Milena Gasparyan (Arm) 3 drew with Sachi Jain 3.5; Kashthruai Bhai 3.5 bt Ayaulym Kaldarova (Kaz) 2.5; Martyna Wikar (Pol) 3 bt Yashvi Jain 2.5; Dhanashree Khairmode 2 lost to Rakshit Ravi 3.

India's fastest junior quartermiler Sai Sangeetha provisionally suspended

ATHLETICS

Stan Rayan KOCHI

Sai Sangeetha Dodla, the country's fastest junior quartermiler this year, has been provisionally suspended for testing positive for a prohibited substance.

The Telangana athlete, who clocked a personal best 55.13s while winning the under-20 Federation Cup in Lucknow in March, figures in the National Anti-Doping Agency's list (dated May 31, 2024) of athletes who are now under a provisional suspension.

The NADA list does not mention the date of the test but specifies that she tested

positive for Stanazolol metabolites.

Sangeetha was part of the Indian team that won the women's 4x400m relay gold at the under-20 Asian Championships in Dubai in April, a gold that could be in danger now.

She had also won the under-20 title in the 400m National Open in Thiruvananthapuram in March in 55.30s but surprisingly could not come anywhere close to that time at the under-20 Asians a month later, clocking 57.26s while finishing seventh in the individual quartermile.

The NADA's new list of athletes under provisional suspension also includes Tamil Nadu's Jeyavindhiya Jegadish, who finished

sixth in the 400m hurdles at the under-20 Asians, and the substance involved is Drostanolone metabolite and Bihar's Durga Singh, the girls 1500m champion at KIYG this year.

Four-year ban for Neha

Meanwhile 20-year-old Kerala sprinter V. Neha, who figured under the NADA's April 2024 list of athletes provisionally suspended, has now been banned for four years (starting from December 6, 2023) as per the list of sanctioned athletes by the Anti-Doping Disciplinary Panel / Anti-Doping Appeals Panel.

The 20-year-old won silver in the 100 and 200m at Junior Nationals in Coimbatore late last year.

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Sumit Nagal in second round in Germany Challenger

TENNIS

Sports Bureau

Sumit Nagal beat Nikoloz Basilashvili 6-2, 1-6, 6-3 in the first round of the €120,950 Challenger tennis in Heilbronn, Germany. **Other results: €120,950 Challenger, Prostějov, Czech Republic: Doubles: Pre-quarterfinals:** Andrew Paulson & Patrik Rikl (Cze) bt Jeevan Nedunchezhiyn & Vijay Sundar Prashanth 7-6(4), 6-4. **\$25,000 ITF men, Cordoba, Spain: First round:** Andrea Guerrieri (Ita) bt Bharath Kumaran 6-0, 6-1. **Doubles: Pre-quarterfinals:** Mario Fernandez (Esp) & Karol Malirz (Pol) bt Crlós Perez (Esp) & Bharath Kumaran 6-4, 6-4; Siddhant Bantia & Tennyson Whiting (USA) bt Jaime Caldes & Samuel Arjona (Esp) 6-1, 6-2; Luis Paez & Roger Ferra (Esp) bt Manvir Randhawa & Ayush Sharma 6-2, 6-2. **\$60,000 ITF women, Sumter, USA: Doubles: Pre-quarterfinals:** Jessica Failla (USA) & Hong Wong (Hkg) bt Sayaka Ishii (Jpn) & Sahaja Yamalapalli 6-3, 6-3. **\$25,000 ITF women, Daegu, Korea: First round:** Vaidehi Chaudhari bt Haruka Kaji (Jpn) 6-1, 6-3. **Doubles: Pre-quarterfinals:** Shrivalli Bhamidipaty & Vaidehi Chaudhari bt Jang Soo Ha & Kim Ye Eun (Kor) 7-5, 6-1. **\$15,000 ITF women, Madrid: First round:** Kennedy Gibbs (USA) bt Madhurima Sawant 6-2, 6-2. **\$15,000 ITF women, San Diego: First round:** Maya Iyengar (USA) bt Teja Tirunelveli 6-2, 6-4. **\$15,000 ITF women, Monastir: First round:** Zeel Desai bt Sara Dols (Esp) 6-0, 6-7(5), 6-1. **Doubles: Pre-quarterfinals:** Patricija Paukstyte (Ltu) & Alica Rusova (Svk) bt Diva Bhatia & Zeel Desai 6-2, 6-1.

Turkey holds Italy goalless

Associated Press  
MILAN

Italy stuttered to a 0-0 draw at home to Turkey in the first of two warmup matches before it begins the defence of its European Championship title next week. Turkey plays its first Euro 2024 match against Georgia on June 18 before facing Portugal and the Czech Republic. Without Cristiano Ronaldo, Portugal eased to a 4-2 win over Finland. Austria was in firm control from the start as it beat Serbia 2-1. Austria faces France, Poland and the Netherlands in Group D, while Serbia is in Group C with England, Slovenia and Denmark.

Maradona’s heirs win appeal to stop Golden Ball auction

Gilles Moreu a lawyer for the heirs, will now lodge a legal action to have a court look at the merits of the case

FOOTBALL

Associated Press  
VERSAILLES

Diego Maradona’s heirs won an appeal ruling to stop the auction of a trophy the football legend was awarded after the 1986 World Cup when a French court ordered it placed in judicial possession on Wednesday. The appeal court in Versailles overturned a judicial decision last month that allowed the trophy’s auction to go ahead as planned despite the opposition from Maradona’s heirs. The tribunal argued there was a genuine dispute as to the ownership of the World Cup Golden Ball that Maradona received for being the best player of the 1986 tournament. Pending a decision on the merits of the case, it ordered its sequestration to avoid any



Prized possession: Maradona receives the “golden ball 86” in Paris, France on November 13, 1986. ETTY IMAGES

risk of further disappearance of the trophy, which resurfaced after being missing for decades. Gilles Moreu, a lawyer for the heirs, told he will now lodge a legal action to have a court look at the merits of the case and decide who owns the trophy. “We are satisfied with

this decision, which complies with our requests and reassures my clients,” he said. French judicial officials last month opened an investigation after they received a complaint related to the resale of allegedly stolen goods. The Golden Ball disap-

peared in uncertain circumstances. Maradona’s heirs say the trophy was stolen and claimed the current owner wasn’t entitled to sell it. The auction house Aguttes said the trophy reappeared in 2016 among other lots that were acquired from a private collection at auc-

tion in Paris. The current owner and Aguttes claimed that when he bought the trophy years ago he was not aware it had been stolen.

**The rumours** Maradona received the award in 1986 at a ceremony in Paris. It subsequently disappeared, giving rise to rumours. One is that Maradona stored it in a safe in a Naples bank that was robbed by local gangsters in 1989 when he played in the Italian league. Maradona’s heirs believe it was stolen from the bank. Maradona, who died in 2020 at age 60, captained Argentina in its 3-2 win over West Germany in the 1986 final in Mexico City. Aguttes decided last week to postpone the sale that was planned on Thursday, citing a “litigious climate” and “uncertainties (which) do not allow connoisseurs to approach this acquisition calmly.”



Aneesha & Vishal win mixed air rifle gold

SHOOTING

Sports Bureau

Aneesha and Vishal won the mixed air rifle gold for Jammu and Kashmir with a 16-10 victory over Ismita and Ashmit Chatterjee of West Bengal in the 22nd Kumar Surendra Singh shooting championship in Bhopal on Wednesday. **The results: 10m air rifle:**

**Mixed team:** 1. J&K (Aneesha, Vishal) 16 (628.7); 2. West Bengal (Ismita, Ashmit Chatterjee) 10 (628.9); 3. Uttar Pradesh (Anisha, Khyati) 17 (628.0); 4. Karnataka (Anushka, Darius) 15 (627.4). **Juniors:** 1. Gujarat (Maitri, Keval) 16 (630.7); 2. MP (Gautami, Satyarth) 12 (630.0); 3. Karnataka (Sanika, Darius) 16 (626.7); 4. Punjab (Saneeta, Parikshit) 10 (627.2). **Youth:** 1. WB (Abhinav, Sandrata) 16 (629.4); 2. MP (Gautmi, Satyarth) 4 (630.3); 3. Karnataka (Naraen Pranav, Sanika) 16 (625.8); 4. UP (Khyati, Ansh) 14 (627.5).

‘Real’ly happy to be joining my dream club: Mbappe

Associated Press  
PARIS

Kylian Mbappe spoke on Tuesday of his delight at finally joining Real Madrid and felt his time at Paris Saint-Germain came to a sad end. “Finally, it’s official, I will be a Real Madrid player for the next five years. It’s an immense pleasure, a dream coming true, a lot of emotions,” Mbappe said at a pre-match press conference ahead of Euro 2024. “I’m very, very happy (and) relieved, very proud to be joining a club where I’ve always dreamed of being.”

**Full of tension** Mbappé’s seven years at PSG ended with a final season full of tension. After his decision to leave, Mbappe chose to not extend his contract, he was left out of a pre-season tour in July as the club insisted he would be sold and would not leave for free. He and was later dropped from the squad for PSG’s opening league game of the 23/24 season. “I was told that, I was



Mbappe. AFP

made to understand it, things were very clear. I was aggressively spoken to. I was convinced I would not play (that season),” added Mbappe, who hailed coach Luis Enrique’s and PSG’s soccer advisor Luis Campos’ interventions on his behalf. “Without them, I would never have played.” Mbappe did not receive a farewell ceremony for his final home game. “I wasn’t unhappy at PSG, that would be to spit in the soup (to be ungrateful),” Mbappe noted. “(But) some things and some people made me unhappy.”

We are identifying areas for improvement: skipper Navneet

HOCKEY

Press Trust of India  
LONDON

Six straight losses in FIH Pro League have completely exposed the Indian women’s hockey team’s weaknesses and vice-captain Navneet Kaur says the players are looking to learn from these setbacks in the last two outings to finish their campaign on a positive note. India is scheduled to face Germany and Great Britain in its last two games of the FIH Pro League 2023-24 on Saturday and Sunday respectively. “We have faced tough challenges but each match has been a valuable learning experience for us. Despite the setbacks, our team has shown resilience and improvement, especially in our closely contested matches against Belgium and Great Britain,” Navneet was quoted as saying in a Hockey India press release. “As we prepare to face Germany and Great Britain again in our remaining two matches, we are focused on analysing our previous performances and identifying areas for improvement. Our goal is to convert our hard work into positive results. “We believe in our abilities and are determined to give our best performance on the field,” she added. So far in the European leg, India suffered a 0-5 defeat against Argentina in their first match, followed by losses to Belgium (0-2 and 1-2). In their rematch against Argentina, India went down 0-3. The team also faced de-



Introspection: Skipper Navneet says the losses were a steep learning curve and is determined to end the campaign on a positive note. AP

feats against Germany (1-3) and Great Britain (2-3). “The journey so far has been challenging, but it has also brought us closer as a team. We are committed to working together, supporting each other, and pushing our limits to achieve our goals. “The spirit and dedication within the team are strong, and we are motivated to finish the tournament on a high note,” asserted Navneet. Overall, the Indian team

has accumulated eight points from the 14 games they have played. Talking about the strategy for the remaining two matches and on the way forward for the Indian team, Navneet said, “Our focus now is on making the necessary adjustments and strategies to ensure we come out stronger in our remaining matches. Most of all, we are working on our weaknesses, building on our strengths, and staying united as a team.”

NEW DELHI ROUND-UP

**All-round Aryan stars in Wonder Club’s big win** Aryan Chouhan top-scored with 46 runs and picked up four wickets as Wonder Club beat Sehwaq Academy by six wickets in the 4th Harcourt Butler tournament. **The scores:** Sehwaq Academy 102 in 27 overs (Yashvardan 32, Aryan Chouhan 4/46, Arush 3/6) lost to Wonder Club 206/4 in 18 overs (Aryan Chouhan 46, Atharv Singh 30).

**Mohit’s 185 powers VJSA to massive win** Mohit’s 87-ball 185 helped Vidya Jain Sports Academy beat Brisbane Heat Club by 252 runs in the 3rd Vijay Saini tournament. **The score:** VJSA 328/6 in 35 overs (Mohit 185, Umang Pandey 55, Sunny 3/65) bt BHC 76 in 12 overs.

**Vedic and Shauryaan’s fifties set up Turf Sultans’ triumph** Half-centuries from Vedic Gupta and Shauryaan Kohli helped Turf Sultans beat Modern Warriors by 93 runs in the final to lift the Turf Junior Cricket League Under-12 title. **The scores:** Turf Sultans 178/2 in 20 overs (Shauryaan Kohli 56, Vedic Gupta 55) bt Modern Warriors 85 in 17 overs (Vihaan 3/13, Sarthak Gupta 2/17).

Panghal banking on both skills and luck to win in Paris

BOXING

Press Trust of India  
NEW DELHI



The target: Panghal, who has won almost all major titles except at the Olympics, wants to set the record straight this year. PTI

male boxer to achieve the feat. His stellar run had propelled him to the world number one spot in his weight class and made him a strong medal prospect. However, his journey took a dramatic turn. Not only did Panghal’s Olympic dreams lay shattered following a pre-quarterfinal

exit, he lost his spot in the national team on the basis of BFI’s evaluation system, which was drafted by then High Performance Director Bernard Dunne. The repeated snubs severely dented his confidence and made him question his abilities. “Jo humare foreign coaches unka muh dekh

kar toh nahi lag raha tha mere samay aayega par kismat mei hota hai toh sabko milta hai (Looking at our coaches’ faces, I did not feel that my time would come. But you get what is written in your destiny).” Panghal said.

**Challenging phase** His coach Anil Dhankar played an important role in motivating him during the challenging phase. “How would you feel fine when you want to play and you aren’t being allowed to do so,” he said. But his time did come. After Deepak Bhoria failed to secure a quota in 51kg after two attempts, Panghal was selected for the final qualifying event. It was his first and only chance to qualify for the Olympics, and he did that

with aplomb. In Paris, he will be eager to exorcise the ghosts of a disappointing Tokyo Games. “Feeling quite good,” Panghal said half-heartedly when asked how was the feeling. After a tough few years the reticent southpaw, who has won medals in the all big-ticket events barring the Olympics, has become a staunch believer in “kismet”. “There was no pressure of going into the qualifiers. I was a little scared in the beginning because it was a big tournament.” Having rarely competed in international events in the last three years, Panghal had to work on a lot of aspects, given that he got to know about his selection barely a month before the event.

THE HINDU GROUP

THE HINDU POWERPLAY T20 TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Before the start of this World Cup, who was the most recent bowler to take a hat-trick in the T20 World Cup?

2. Sri Lanka holds the record for scoring the 'highest team total' and conceding the 'lowest team total' in T20 World Cups. Which teams are on the receiving end of these records?

3. At the start of this edition, which batter has the highest score in a T20 World Cup?

Answer to 4th June Quiz:  
1. Scotland  
2. Shoaib Malik  
3. Mitchell Santner



# Nayana – a story of resurgence and obsession for Olympic glory

Her success at the Taiwan Open in adverse conditions has brightened her prospects in the qualification race; the long jumper is determined to clinch the yellow metal in the Paris Games and etch her name in history



K.R. DEEPAK

Pranav Rajiv  
CHENNAI

Almost all competitive athletes are inherently driven by a sense of delusion, a form of self-deception that drives them to leap for the unreachable.

India's long jumper Nayana James is no different. Written loudly on her *Instagram* bio is 'ParisOlympicsChampion2024', a title she had given herself right at the beginning of 2022.

Nayana's manifestation – a form of wilful delusion – must have felt far-fetched to even her biggest well-wishers considering she was closer to quitting the sport than qualifying for the Olympics, let alone standing atop the podium back then.

Recently, the Kerala-born long jumper took a big step in her Olympic dream, as she beat Asian No. 1 Sumire Hata of Japan to win the gold at the Taiwan Open in adverse, rainy conditions.

Incidentally, Hata is the only Asian so far to go past the Paris Games automatic qualification mark of 6.86m in women's long jump.

Nayana's triumph in Taiwan, which came courtesy a 6.43m jump – her best mark outside India – will boost the 28-year-old's prospect in the Olympics qualification rankings race.

In a career plagued by illness-induced breaks, sponsorship struggles and wavering faith in her ability, Nayana has managed to script a story of resurgence, powered by an endless reservoir of faith and support from her inner circle.

## Smooth progression

Nayana's athletics initiation, though, was a natural and smooth progression considering her mother was a state-level athlete, while her father was a volleyball player.

"Ever since my childhood, I've been encouraged to do sports by my family. They've been supportive. I started winning medals at a very young age. I went to the first State meet when I was in fourth standard. My father accompanied me then. That is a strong memory I have.

Much like most of the athletes from Kerala, Nayana too worked her way through the hyper-competitive school athletics setting of the southern state, taking part in multiple events like hurdles, triple jump and 400m before zoning in on long jump.

"These types of competitions have motivated me a lot. I grew up during times when the media focused on juniors a lot. I used to get a lot of attention, which has motivated me and helped me progress," says Nayana.

After breaking through at the national level in 2017, Nayana started pushing herself beyond the 6.50 mark. A silver at the 2017 Asian Championship and a clutch of medals in the domestic circuit followed as Nayana announced herself on the big stage.

But just when she was about to push

on to the next step, fate struck in the form of dengue.

Nayana's husband Kevin Peter Oscar, a professional cricketer with State Bank of India, recalls the ordeal they had to go through following that.

## Long break

"It was the second time she was infected with dengue. Her platelet count dropped dangerously low. Even walking was difficult for her. We got her treated and then took a long break before starting again.

"But after that, every two months or so she would be down with some sort of illness. It got to the point that she could barely run one lap around the ground."

Kevin and Nayana, who got married in 2016, tried to shake things up as they experimented with different diets and training routines, without much success.

"Despite all these, she kept going for meets and managed a few medals. But to go there and see athletes with lesser potential than her win was a big hit mentally and emotionally for her. She was so close to giving up on the sport," added Kevin.

And just when things looked the bleakest came the COVID-19 pandemic, which ground the entire world to a halt. But for Nayana, it was a blessing in disguise.

Under the strict lockdown restrictions in Kerala, Nayana was forced to abandon almost all of her physical training regimen, which allowed her body to recuperate and immunity to revive. A blood test soon revealed that her platelet count had returned to normal levels.

"She resumed training with the Asian Games as the primary target. But then she couldn't participate due to some issues. That was when I felt completely down. We had no sponsorship, we were losing money and we were not gaining any results," says Kevin.

"To my surprise, Nayana got this shot of confidence in herself which was very refreshing. She was adamant that she couldn't quit without getting to the next level."

With a renewed sense of willpower in her armoury, all Nayana needed was a spark, which came in the form of Pinto Mathew, a former national 110m hurdles champion and a young, aspiring athletics coach based in Thiruvananthapuram.

Pinto had known Nayana from her childhood. He was a friend of Nayana's brother and had vouched

for her potential even when she was just 14 and was starting her career.

Their paths crossed again in 2017-2018 when Nayana made her first surge to the top of Indian athletics. Her primary competitor at the national level back then was Neena Varakil – the 2018 Asian Games silver medallist – who happened to be Pinto's wife and ward.

## One final push

And then came 2023, when Pinto decided to take Nayana under his wing, to help her give one final push to reach her best.

"She has a problem with her posture, genetically. Her right side and right leg, are comparatively weak, meaning there is a tilt. Most of her former coaches tried to correct that and have wasted a lot of time on it. Rather than fixing her posture, I tried to get the best out of her current ability with the right technique and minimise the damage her tilt could cause," said Pinto.

Pinto pointed out that his training methods reflected on Nayana's performance within just 20 days.

The Kozhikode-born athlete kept the momentum on, registering a 6.52 jump at the National Games to clinch the silver.

Though a level-one certified coach, Pinto works outside any central scheme, which piles on the financial pressure of training and competing on both the coach and the student. But it was a trade-off Nayana was willing to make.

"I often prioritise the relationship we have with our coach. I should have that bond with my coach where I can share everything about the improvement and other changes I go through. It's also about our trust in that person," says Nayana.

Since the turn of the year, Nayana has gone from strength to

strength, winning the Indian Open jumps competition with a new personal best (6.67m) and then adding a gold at the Federation Cup.

## Pleasant surprise

Her spike in performance has come to the pleasant surprise of Kevin, who is often taken aback by Nayana's nonchalant confidence.

"The biggest difference in her performance right now is her visualisation. Her confidence in it is so strong that she predicts what she will do in an event. Before going to the Indian Open she told me she would do her PB and I was shocked. She did exactly that and when she came back, she acted as if it wasn't a big deal," says Kevin.

"Sometimes I feel she is a little bit crazy. Look at her *Instagram* profile for example. Even after all these years, I truly can't understand her thought process regarding sports. When I ask her about the Olympics, she is not talking about qualification, but about winning a medal. She wants to get to the Games not by ranking, but by beating the qualification mark."

For all its individualistic ethos, the long jump, much like any other athletic event, is driven by the external element of competition. With Asian Games silver-medallist Ancy Sojan and the up-and-coming Shaili Singh, the Indian women's long jump scene is going through one of its most competitive phases.

But for Nayana, the outside noise isn't a motivation nor a hindrance.

"I am not trying to be dependent on anyone. Neither I'm trying to defeat anyone. I'm performing for my mental satisfaction and my happiness. This is not to take revenge on anyone. All these athletes are younger than me. I just want to work to my full potential. I don't want to connect my journey with anyone else," says Nayana.

## Go-to activity

Despite all her composure, Nayana isn't immune to the stress associated with her occupation. The 28-year-old has a go-to activity, to put her mind at ease, that has made her husband's life a tad easier at home.

"I like household chores, but just the cleaning part. I rely on deep cleaning my home when I feel stressed to calm my mind," says Nayana with a cheeky smile.

Much like her Olympic aspiration, Nayana has set herself an end goal long and far from norm-driven expectations.

"I want to be a 'history woman'. I wanted my name to be recorded in history as one of the top athletes in India's history."

Nayana's conviction isn't one that exists in isolation. "We don't intend to just qualify for the Olympics and go on a tour and click pictures and come back. We want to make an impact there in Paris," announces Pinto with unbridled optimism.

## THE GIST

▼  
Nayana was encouraged by her family, right from childhood, to become a sportsperson

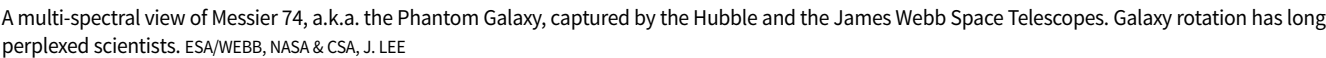
▼  
Much like most of the athletes from Kerala, she too had to work her way through the hyper-competitive school athletics setting

▼  
Since the turn of the year, Nayana has gone from strength to strength, winning the Indian Open jumps competition and clinching the gold at the Federation Cup

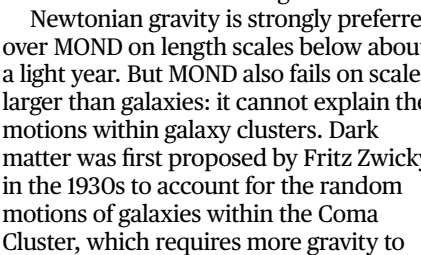


**Indranil Banik**  
**Harry Desmond**

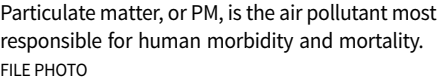
One of us, Harry Desmond, recently published a study investigating the results in greater depth. Perhaps MOND would fit the Cassini data if we tweaked how we calculate galaxy masses from their brightness? That would affect how much



**More bad news for MOND**  
That's not the only bad news for MOND. Another test is provided by wide binary stars - two stars that orbit a shared centre several thousand AU apart. MOND predicted that such stars should orbit around each other 20% faster than expected with Newton's laws. But one of us, Indranil Banik, recently led a very detailed study that rules out this prediction. The chance of MOND being



*(Indranil Banik is a postdoctoral research fellow in astrophysics, University of St. Andrews. Harry Desmond is senior research fellow of cosmology, University of Portsmouth. This article is republished from The Conversation.)*



# Global project 'paints' evidence of air pollution in India

The Air of the Anthropocene project has been exhibited at gallery shows in Los Angeles, Belfast, and Birmingham.

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# The weird shapes of space

Visual: In 1829-1830, Russian mathematician Nikolai Lobachevsky worked out hyperbolic geometry. Name the Hungarian mathematician (above) who achieved the same feat in 1932. FERENC MÁRKOS (CC BY-SA 3.0)