

THE REAL WINNERS ON COUNTING DAY

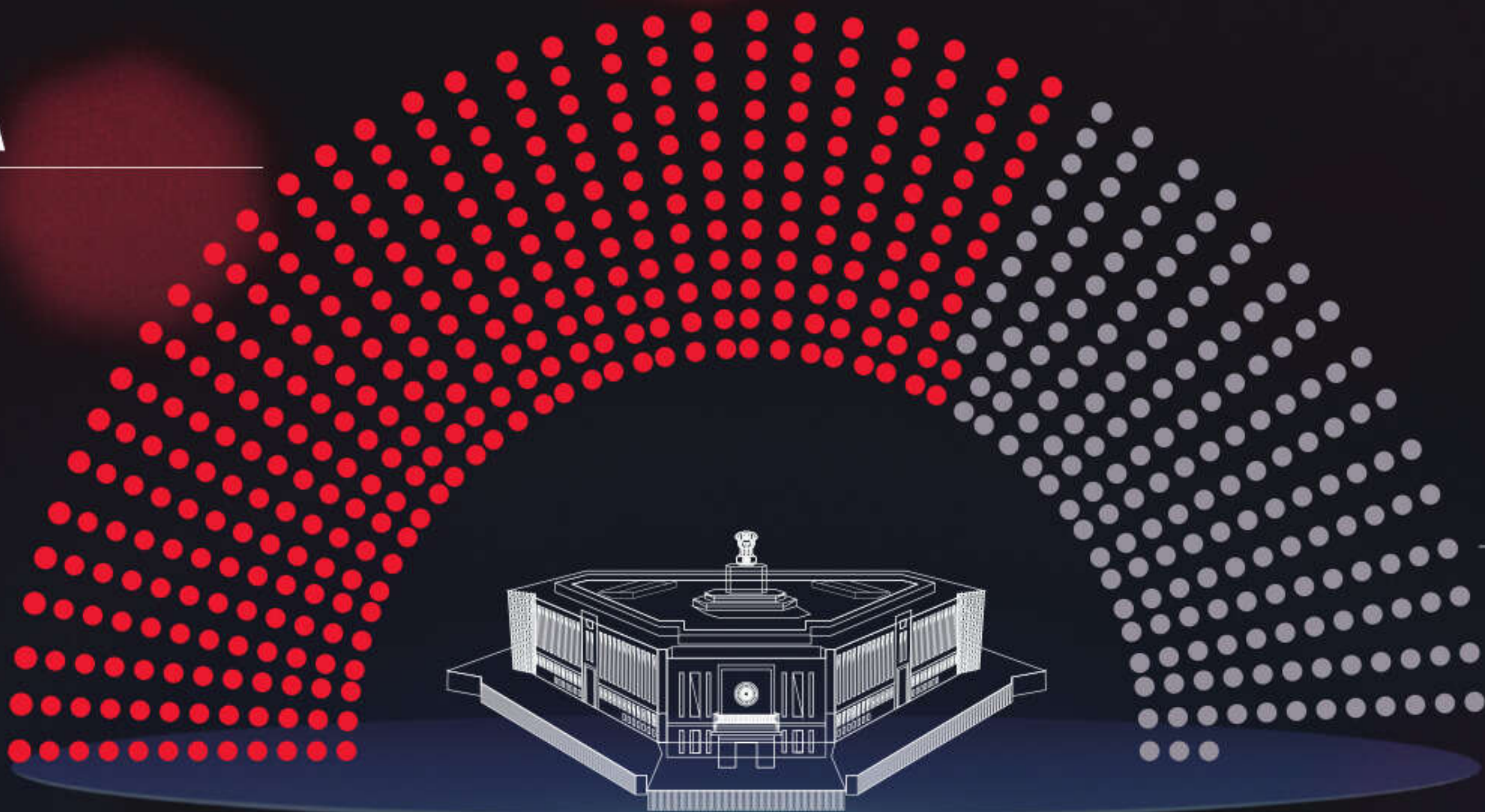
CONCURRENT VIEWS



DOMINATES
AAJ TAK

NEWS18 INDIA

2.08
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Source : DataBeings Dashboard, 4th June, 2024 12:30 P.M.



RUNAWAY NO. 1

CNN NEWS18

5.5 LAKH

INDIA TODAY

2.8 LAKH

TIMES NOW

1.0 LAKH

REPUBLIC WORLD

0.73 LAKH

Source : DataBeings Dashboard, 4th June, 2024 1:00 P.M.

ELECTION =





WILL HOLD FORMAL STATE VISIT WITH MACRON BIDEN IN FRANCE FOR D-DAY SPEECH

US PRESIDENT Joe Biden landed in France on Wednesday to commemorate the 80th anniversary of D-Day. He will also hold a formal state visit with President Emmanuel Macron. He will also meet Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in Normandy to discuss the war with Russia. **REUTERS**

BEING PART OF GOVT NOT A CONDITION TO RECONCILE: HAMAS OFFICIAL

Hamas signals post-war ambition in talks with Palestinian rival Fatah

China to host next Hamas, Fatah talks mid-June

REUTERS
RAMALLAH, JUNE 5

DEEP DIVISIONS will limit progress at reconciliation talks between Palestinian factions Hamas and Fatah this month, conversations with five sources in the groups indicate, but the meetings highlight that the Islamist group is likely to retain influence after Israel's war in Gaza.

The talks between Hamas and the Fatah party of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas will be held in China in mid-June, according to officials from both sides. They follow two recent rounds of reconciliation talks, one in China and one in Russia.

The next meeting will be held amid attempts by international mediators to reach a ceasefire deal for Gaza.

Hamas, which ruled Gaza before the war, recognises it cannot be part of any internationally recognised new government of the Palestinian territories when fighting in the enclave eventually ends, said the source.

Nonetheless, it wants Fatah to agree to a new technocratic administration for the West Bank and Gaza as part of a wider political deal, the source and senior Hamas official Basim Naim said. "Whether Hamas is in the government or outside it, that is not a prime demand of the movement and it doesn't see it a condition for any reconciliation," he said.

BRIEFLY

LEBANON

Gunman fires shots at US embassy: Army

Beirut: A gunman fired shots at the U.S. embassy in Lebanon on Wednesday and was wounded in an exchange of fire with troops, the Lebanese army said. The army said the attacker, a Syrian national, was detained and taken to hospital for treatment and soldiers were searching through the area for other gunmen. The U.S. embassy said small arms fire was reported near its entrance in the morning but that the facility and staff were safe. U.S. ambassador Lisa Johnson is travelling outside Lebanon. **REUTERS**

INDONESIA

To start working from new capital in July: Jokowi

Jakarta: Indonesia's President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo said on Wednesday he plans to start working from the new capital city next month amid concerns over the future of the project following resignations of senior executives overseeing the development. Jokowi said progress of a number of infrastructure development under the first phase of the \$32 billion capital city, called Nusantara, on Borneo island, has reached around 80%. "God willing, in July I will start working from the new capital city," Jokowi said in an Instagram post.

CHILE

Largest camera for astronomy to be installed

Santiago: With a resolution above 3.2 gigapixels, a nearly three-ton weight and the ambitious task of carrying out an unprecedented decade-long exploration, the largest digital camera ever built for optical astronomy is ready to be installed under the clear skies of northern Chile. **REUTERS**



Tanks near the Gaza border in Israel on Wednesday. *Reuters*

Covert Israeli op targets lawmakers, American public for support on war

THE NEW YORK TIMES
TEL AVIV, JUNE 5

ISRAEL ORGANIZED and paid for an influence campaign last year targeting U.S. lawmakers and the American public with pro-Israel messaging, as it aimed to foster support for its actions in the war with Gaza, according to officials involved in the effort and documents related to the operation.

The covert campaign was commissioned by Israel's Ministry of Diaspora Affairs, a government body that connects Jews around

the world with the State of Israel, four Israeli officials said. The ministry allocated about \$2 million to the operation and hired Stoic, a political marketing firm in Tel Aviv, to carry it out, according to the officials and the documents.

The campaign began in October and remains active on the platform X. The accounts focused on US lawmakers, particularly ones who are Black and Democrats, such as Representative Hakeem Jeffries from New York, and Senator Raphael Warnock of Georgia, with posts urging them to continue

funding Israel's military.

ChatGPT, the artificial intelligence-powered chatbot, was used to generate many of the posts. The campaign also created three fake English-language news sites featuring pro-Israel articles.

The Israeli government's connection to the influence operation, was verified with four current and former members of the Ministry of Diaspora Affairs and documents about the campaign.

The secretive campaign signals the lengths Israel was willing to go to sway American opinion on the war in Gaza.

Israel restarts central Gaza strikes amid ceasefire talks

NIDAL AL-MUGHRABI
CAIRO, JUNE 5

ISRAEL ANNOUNCED a new military campaign against Hamas in central Gaza on Wednesday and Palestinian medics said airstrikes there had killed dozens of people ahead of talks between US and Qatari mediators to try to finalise a ceasefire deal.

The armed wings of Hamas and Islamic Jihad said they had fought gun battles with Israeli forces in areas throughout the enclave. At least 44 Palestinians have been killed in Israeli military strikes in central Gaza Strip areas since Tuesday, health officials in the enclave said.

The Israeli military said jets were hitting Hamas militant targets in central Gaza while ground forces were operating "in a focused manner with guidance from intelligence" in the area of Al-Bureij - one of Gaza's longest-established refugee settlements.

"The forces of the 98th Division began a precise campaign in the areas of East Bureij and East Deir al-Balah, above and below ground at the same time," an Israeli military statement said. Residents said Israeli forces had sent tanks into Bureij and planes and tanks pounded the nearby settlements of Al-Maghazi and Al-Nuseirat as well as Deir Al-Balah city, where tanks have not invaded. **REUTERS**



SUNITA WILLIAMS MAKES 3RD SPACE TRIP

NASA astronauts Butch Wilmore and Sunita Williams as they leave to the launch pad at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida, Wednesday. Williams and Wilmore are the first members aboard Boeing's Starliner spacecraft. This is Williams's third flight to space. *AP*

German far-right politician attacked in second stabbing incident in a week

Berlin: A local candidate for Germany's right-wing Alternative for Germany (AfD) party has been injured in a knife attack, the party and police said on Wednesday, the second such incident in the city of Mannheim days after a police officer was killed.

AfD member Heinrich Koch

was attacked with a cutter knife after confronting the suspect who was tearing down election posters near a town square, the party said. Police said the 25-year-old suspect was detained and, showing clear signs of mental illness, was taken to a psychiatric hospital.

It comes days after the attack

at an anti-Islam demonstration in which a policeman was killed.

The party has sought to portray the attacks as part of a targeted campaign by left-wing extremists. However, police said there was no concrete evidence that the suspect knew that he was attacking an AfD politician.

FIRST DEBATE A MONTH BEFORE JULY 4 GENERAL ELECTION

In heated debate, Sunak, Starmer go head-to-head on economy, immigration

PM stresses on 'stable' continuity, Labour argues for change

ASSOCIATED PRESS
LONDON, JUNE 5

BRITISH PRIME Minister Rishi Sunak and opposition Labour Party leader Keir Starmer sparred Tuesday over tax, the cost of living and the country's creaking health system in an inconclusive televised debate ahead of a July 4 election expected to make one of them the country's next leader.

Sunak tried to boost his center-right party's dismal outlook by urging voters to back the stability of continued Conservative government.

Starmer hoped to cement his status as favorite by arguing that Britain desperately needs change. Both acknowledged the country's many problems, from fraying public services to a broken immigration system. But neither could say outright, when asked, where the money would come from to fix them.

Sunak stressed his stewardship of the economy, which has seen inflation fall to just over 2% from a peak of more than 11% in late 2022. He said should stick with him because his "clear plan" for the economy was working.

Starmer said the election was a choice between more "chaos and division" with the



PM Rishi Sunak, host Julie Etchingham and Labour leader Keir Starmer in Manchester on Tuesday. *Reuters*

Conservatives and "turning the page and rebuilding with Labour." Polls currently give center-left Labour a double-digit lead. To win, Starmer must persuade voters who previously backed the Tories that Labour can be trusted with the U.K.'s economy, borders and security.

Speaking in front of a live audience on a sleek, futuristic set at the studios of broadcaster ITV in Salford, northwest England, both Starmer and Sunak appeared nervous. Voters may have got the impression their choice is between two cautious and rather dull managers.

US SAYS CHINA HELPS RUSSIA IN WAR

Kremlin says US blackmailing China with sanctions over exports to Russia

REUTERS
ST PETERSBURG, JUNE 5

THE KREMLIN on Wednesday described comments by U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen that Washington would not tolerate China increasing its exports of "dual-use" goods to Russia, and would respond with sanctions, as "blackmail".

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said that Washington's tone was completely unacceptable and that Moscow stood in solidarity with Beijing. "We are well aware that our Chinese comrades do not accept such language, do not accept such messages and such threats, such blackmail," Peskov told reporters. The United States says that by providing dual-use goods - which have both civilian and military applications - China is powering Russia's war effort in Ukraine.

"China is the top supplier of machine tools, microelectronics, nitrocellulose, which is critical to making munitions and rocket propellants, and other dual-use items that Moscow is using to ramp up its defence industrial base," Secretary of State Antony Blinken said during a visit to Beijing in April.

"I have been extremely clear at the highest levels of the Chinese government that this is something we will not tolerate, and that we intend to sanction this activity," Yellen said. Peskov said China's economic power in the world was such that "even the United States can hardly afford to speak in such a tone. Perhaps not everyone in America's leadership has understood this at the moment, but over time they will understand it."

"We know for sure that the Chinese do not like this, and we are in solidarity and consider such a tone, such threats inappropriate," he said.

Russia and China have sharply boosted bilateral trade since the start of the Ukraine war as Russia's commerce with the West has been decimated by waves of sanctions. Two-way trade hit \$240.1 billion in 2023, up 26% from a year earlier.



Vladimir Putin with Xi Jinping in Beijing, in May this year. *Reuters file*

NEW DOOR FOR TORIES' REVIVAL

TRAILING BADLY in the opinion polls for over 18 months, TV debates open a new door for Sunak and Conservatives to revive a stalling campaign. Though he struggled to defend the Tories' 14-yr track record, one opinion poll of viewers Tuesday declared Sunak a narrow victor, which may have steadied some nerves inside his anxious party.

Milei's economy poverty deepens misery for poor in Argentina



A church that helps the poor in Buenos Aires. *Reuters*

Buenos Aires: Homelessness is on the rise across major Argentine cities as the new libertarian government's tough medicine reforms squeeze pensions, state salaries and push up rental prices, forcing more people into poverty.

The latest survey by local authorities showed the official number of Argentines sleeping rough on the streets of Buenos Aires reached 4,009 in April, up from 3,511 a year prior.

These numbers are being replicated in other urban centers like Cordoba and Rosario, as President Javier Milei rebalances the state purse at a steep cost to the economy and the most vulnerable. Rocio Coman, who receives a state pension, has been homeless for several years. She described the situation as a "disaster".

She was among a mix of homeless and now working-class people seeking help from "Amigos en Camino", a charity in Buenos Aires that patrols the streets distributing aid to those struggling to stay afloat.

So far, the government response to the homelessness crisis has faced criticism. **REUTERS**

RIISING TEMPERATURES BROUGHT BY CLIMATE CHANGE DISRUPT FOOD CHAINS FOR BEES, FLOWERING OF PLANTS

Climate change: Nepal's honey gatherers say fewer hives threaten tradition

NAVESH CHITRAKAR & YUBARAJ SHARMA
TAAP, JUNE 5

AITA PRASAD Gurung dangled off a cliff in Nepal, carefully manipulating a long pole with a blade at its end to cut away chunks of honeycomb after Himalayan bees fled the fumes from a fire set to drive them from their homes.

The 40-year-old wore a white hat with a net swathing his face to protect against stings as he hung 50 m off the precipice on a hand-made ladder, braided from bamboo strands, to reach the bee colonies. "It is fraught with danger of falling," said Aita, whose

community has traditionally harvested honey from hives perched hundreds of feet off the ground. "One must extract honey and stay safe at the same time."

Now the generations-old craft is increasingly under threat as some experts say rising temperatures brought by climate change disrupt the growth of bees, the availability of their food and even pollination of plants.

"There were about 35 hives last year," said another member of the community, Chitra Bahadur Gurung, 49, adding, "We barely have 15 now."

For generations, the Gurung community in Taap and other villages in the nearby districts of



Tek Prasad Gurung, 64, takes a bite from freshly-harvested honeycomb during honey hunting near Taap. *Reuters*

Lamjung and Kaski, have scoured the steep cliffs for honey.

The honeycomb extract, also known as 'mad honey', for some intoxicating qualities that can cause hallucinations, sells for 2,000 Nepali rupees (\$1.5) a litre, but the villagers rule out overharvesting as a reason for falling collections. With less honey available to collect every year, income from the pursuit has declined over the past decade, said 41-year-old Hem Raj Gurung. "We harvested about 600 kg of honey 10 years back, which fell to about 180 kg last year and is just about 100 kg this year," he said.

Some experts blame climate change, driven by a global rise in temperatures, as a major factor in

the decline, but other contributors are deforestation, diversion of water from streams and rivers for hydroelectric dams and pesticides.

Temperatures in the Himalayas range higher than an average global increase of 1.2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, UN data and independent research show. Global studies show that a temperature rise of even one degree affects the growth of bees, the availability of their food and cross pollination of plants.

Research showed climate change was disrupting the food chains for bees and the flowering of plants, affecting populations of both across the world, added Bhadwal, the head of earth sci-

ence and climate change at the institute. Climate change was affecting the Himalayan cliff bees in different ways, said Surendra Raj Joshi, a specialist in resilient livelihood at the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development in Kathmandu.

"Too much or too little rain, intense or erratic rain, and long dry spells or high fluctuations in temperature, put stress on honeybees to maintain colony strength and honey stocks," he said. Lifecycle changes in plants also cause early or late flowering and fluctuations in secretion of nectar and honeydew, he said, adding, "The most visible indicator of the change is the erratic weather." **REUTERS**



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WILL GO TO PRESIDENT TOMORROW
to stake claim to form govt at the Centre

NO CLARITY ON SWEARING-IN DATE,
Modi may attend TDP's Andhra ceremony

NDA elects Modi, to stake claim



Prime Minister Narendra Modi along with TDP chief N Chandrababu Naidu, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde during the meeting of NDA leaders at his residence in New Delhi on Wednesday. *ANI*

Rajnath, Shah, Nadda tasked by Modi to hold talks with partners

LIZ MATHEW & MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL
NEW DELHI, JUNE 5

A DAY after the BJP lost majority and the NDA secured 293 seats in the new Lok Sabha, the alliance Wednesday elected Narendra Modi as its leader and decided to stake claim to form the government.

Besides Biden, Russian President Vladimir Putin, French President Emmanuel Macron, British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, Israel PM Benjamin Netanyahu, Italian PM Giorgia Meloni, Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and Egypt President Abdel Fattah El Sisi were among the world leaders who congratulated Prime Minister Modi for the victory of the BJP-led NDA in the Lok Sabha elections.

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Ally TDP likely to demand special status for Andhra, Cabinet berths

SREENIVAS JANYALA
HYDERABAD, JUNE 5

A SPECIAL Category Status for Andhra Pradesh, Cabinet berths including for his son in the new government, and funds for Amaravati capital city he had originally planned, are the key demands that Telugu Desam Party will make as talks commence over the formation of a BJP-led coalition government at the Centre.

Led by N Chandrababu Naidu, TDP put up a stellar performance in Andhra Pradesh, winning 16 of the 17 Lok Sabha seats it contested and bagging 135 seats of the total 175 in the Assembly polls. With BJP falling short of the half-way mark at the Centre, the TDP, which had a pre-poll alliance with the saffron party, is the second-largest constituent of the NDA, giving it a



- Naveen era ends, all eyes on BJP's CM pick
- The three ministries JDU will have its eyes on
- Special Category Question

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strong bargaining hand. A day after he spearheaded the landslide win, Naidu on

Wednesday dismissed rumours of a possible switch to the INDIA bloc and affirmed that he is still a part of the NDA. "I am going to New Delhi to attend the NDA meeting. I will let you know if there are any other developments," he said before taking a flight to the national capital from Andhra.

He attended the NDA meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the evening.

Sources said the TDP chief is likely to seek Special Category Status (SCS) for Andhra, an issue over which he had walked out of the NDA in 2018. The SCS will ensure the state gets most of the Central funds in the form of grants (which do not carry any interest) and industrial incentives including tax exemptions, duty waivers, and GST concessions.

The TDP chief is also likely to seek additional funds from the

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Pradhanmanthre



Message from INDIA bloc: Mandate a reply to the BJP, will keep watch on Modi Govt



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi with SP chief Akhilesh Yadav after the INDIA bloc meeting in Delhi, Wednesday. *Anil Sharma*

We will take appropriate steps at the appropriate time: Kharge after meet

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 5

BOLSTERED BY the gains in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, top leaders of the Opposition INDIA bloc met Wednesday and indicated a restraint rather than a proactive push to explore government formation. While the Congress was not in a mood to scout for numbers now, some of the parties, including the Shiv Sena and Trinamool Congress, leaned on the side of exploring options.

Almost all the leaders who attended the meeting at Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge's residence felt the people's mandate was against the BJP, the fact — many of them underscored — nevertheless is that the BJP has emerged as the single largest party and the NDA, a pre-poll coalition, has crossed the halfway mark. The majority view, at the end of the meeting, was that the INDIA bloc should

wait and watch for now.

Calling the mandate a reply to the BJP government, the coalition resolved to "continue to fight against the fascist rule of the BJP led by (Narendra) Modi".

"We will take appropriate steps at the appropriate time to realise the people's desire not to be ruled by the BJP's government. This is our decision," Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said, reading out a joint statement of the alliance.

The first draft of the statement was vague on the Opposition's willingness to explore options, now or later. At the instance of several leaders, the draft was revised and the line that it will take "appropriate steps at the appropriate time" to realise the people's desire not to be ruled by the BJP's government was added.

The choice of words in the INDIA bloc statement on the verdict was interesting as it said the "people's mandate has given a

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Seat that gave Himanta heartburn, and Gogoi many reasons to smile

SUKRITA BARUAH
GUWAHATI, JUNE 5

JORHAT MAY be just one of 14 Lok Sabha seats in Assam, but Congress leader Gaurav Gogoi's commanding victory there — in a contest where the BJP ran its most aggressive campaign and where Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma led from the front — will sting the state leadership the most.

More so since it has prompted rare dissent from within — soon after Gogoi's victory, a BJP MLA said publicly that "arrogance" had cost his party the seat.

In a social media post Tuesday evening, BJP's Khumtai MLA Mrinal Saikia called Gogoi's win "amazing" and "significant" and wrote: "The outcome proved that money, big public-



Congress candidate Gaurav Gogoi along with his supporters in Jorhat on Tuesday. *ANI*

ity, overdoses of leaders and arrogant speeches does not always help to win elections."

This invited Sarma's ire, and he suggested that Saikia would

soon leave the BJP for the Congress.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Saikia, a BJP veteran who

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Nine of 13 being probed by Central agencies jumped party, lost polls

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY
NEW DELHI, JUNE 5

FROM YAMINI JADHAV of the Shiv Sena Shinde faction in Maharashtra to BJP's Tapas Roy in West Bengal, from Pradeep Yadav of the Congress in Jharkhand to BJP's Jyothi Mirdha in Rajasthan, nine of the 13 turncoat candidates or their family members being probed by investigative agencies, lost in the Lok Sabha elections whose results were declared Tuesday.

Of these nine who lost, as many as seven belonged to the BJP or its allies.

There were more than 150 turncoats — politicians who

shifted from one political party to another — in the fray in the elections that concluded on Saturday. Of these, 13 candidates or their family members are facing probes either by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), the Income Tax Department or the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

Of the 13, eight had switched sides to the BJP — seven from Congress and one from Trinamool Congress; two had switched sides to the Shiv Sena Shinde faction from the Shiv Sena, one switched to TDP from YSRCP; and two to Congress from the Jharkhand Vikas Party and PEP, respectively.

Of the eight under agency scanner who joined the BJP, six

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EXPRESS NETWORK

UTTARKASHI: FIVE TREKKERS FROM KARNATAKA DEAD, FOUR MISSING
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How 44 are NEET toppers because of a wrong answer, wrong textbook

DEEKSHA TERI
NEW DELHI, JUNE 5

OF THE 67 candidates who got a perfect score (720/720) in the 2024 NEET-UG results announced by the NTA Tuesday, as many as 44 made it to the top because, ironically, they got an answer to a basic physics question wrong — and received "grace marks" for that.

Reason: their wrong answer

was based on an incorrect reference in their old Class 12 NCERT science textbook.

Since 2019, there haven't been more than three toppers in any year of NEET UG, which is the single gateway for admission to all MBBS programmes in the country. In 2019 and 2020, there was one topper each. There were three toppers in 2021, one in 2022, and two last year.

However, this year, a multiple-choice Physics question on

atoms opened the floodgates for high scores.

The question was based on two statements. The first said: "Atoms are electrically neutral as they contain equal numbers of positive and negative charges." The second statement said: "Atoms of each element are stable and emit their characteristic spectrum."

Candidates were asked to choose the "most appropriate

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On Adhir upset, Pathan says 'felt same tension' before 2007 India-Pak final

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

DEVENDRA PANDEY
MUMBAI, JUNE 5

AT BAHARAMPUR in West Bengal, Yusuf Pathan was facing pressure of a different kind when he got a call from a friend who wanted to check on him. On his political debut, Pathan was taking on five-time MP and Congress veteran Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, and the votes were being counted.

"I had felt the same tension

before the 2007 India-Pakistan World T20 final in South Africa. That helped and I knew that I could handle it," Pathan, the cricketer turned TMC politician, told *The Indian Express* while driving to Kolkata to meet his party chief Mamata Banerjee.

The two similar days in the 41-year-old's storied life both ended in famous wins.

In 2007, M S Dhoni's young team, in which the all-rounder played a key role, went on to win the inaugural World T20 title against all expectations. Seventeen years later, on Tuesday, Pathan once again proved to be a giant killer, polling

5,24,516 votes to defeat the Congress party's most vocal MP Chowdhury by 85,022 votes.

A day after the triumph, the Baroda resident, who was labelled during the 2024 Lok Sabha election campaign by his rivals as an "outsider", appeared to be settling in the new role as a people's representative. "Nervousness on a big day is not new. But as time passes, things start getting normal. It is like when I walk out to bat on debut... the more you stay at the crease, the more things get normal. As counting went along, things started easing. I was confident that people would vote for me, the rallies I did, the love I got



Former cricketer and TMC candidate Yusuf Pathan after winning the elections from Baharampur on Tuesday. *PTI*

was amazing," Pathan said.

'Pathan in Parliament' could now possibly be the title of the latest chapter of the endearing fairytale about the son of a muezzin who worked and stayed at Baroda's famous Jama Masjid. To raise the family that had two budding cricketers — Yusuf and his younger brother Irfan — Pathan Sr also sold 'ittar' outside the masjid, worked at a chemical factory and, at times, even drove an auto-rickshaw. Irfan, too, played for the country and the two brothers together have three World titles. Yusuf was also part of the 2011 World Cup winning team.

After playing 57 ODIs and 22 T20Is, Pathan retired in 2022. An animal lover — he keeps birds, rabbits and horses at this farm house — he seemed to be at peace. But four months ago, he got an unexpected call from the TMC. Baharampur's 52-per cent Muslim voters and the role that Pathan played in Kolkata Knight Riders' two IPL titles were said to be the reasons for the approach. The brothers then held a long discussion among themselves even as the family "was reluctant". But then, trusting his instincts, Pathan decided to take the plunge.

"One day, suddenly, I don't know why, I said 'Let's do it, we

didn't go asking for this. This opportunity has come to us, so let us take it'. Through this, we can help people and in case we have to go to Bengal, what is the problem," Pathan recalled.

He isn't the only former cricketer to have won on a TMC ticket from Bengal this time. Kirti Azad, the 1983 World Cup winner, too caused a major upset. He won the Bardhaman-Durgapur seat by 1.38 lakh votes, pushing former West Bengal BJP president Dilip Ghosh to second spot.

Now Azad, a four-time MP after his earlier wins from Darbhanga in Bihar, has some

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FULL REPORTS ON
WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

Rajnath, Shah, Nadda to hold talks with partners

to continue until the new government assumes office.

The newly-elected NDA MPs will also hold a meeting Friday.

It's not clear yet when the new government will be sworn in. While there were reports that the swearing-in might take place Saturday, sources in the security establishment indicated that no event has been planned yet for June 8-9.

June 9 is also the day ministers of the TDP government in Andhra Pradesh will be administered the oath of office in Amaravati and Modi may attend the ceremony.

Sources said details of government formation at the Centre will be discussed between leaders of the NDA parties, especially TDP leader N Chandrababu Naidu and Bihar Chief Minister and JD(U) leader Nitish Kumar, ahead of staking claim.

According to sources, Modi has assigned Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP chief J P Nadda to conduct the talks with partner leaders for finalising details of government formation.

Although Naidu did not clarify to the BJP leadership whether

the TDP — it now has 16 MPs — will be part of the government at the Centre or will extend outside support, a source in the TDP said the party may join the government after negotiations.

Sources said Naidu will wait to see what the BJP is offering to his party before taking a final decision on joining the government. Nitish Kumar's JD (U) is expecting key Cabinet berths in the new government. LJP (R) leader Chirag Paswan, sources said, is expected to be a minister in the Cabinet.

The TDP is keen on getting the post of Speaker in the Lok Sabha, but the BJP has not made any commitment on it.

After the meeting at Modi's official residence at 7, Lok Kalyan Marg, Naidu went to the residence of BJP leader Piyush Goyal for "tea and talks" for 30 minutes.

The new NDA is expected to have a convener and will hold frequent coordination meetings.

In its first meeting, which was attended among others by Naidu and Nitish Kumar, the NDA passed a resolution underscoring its commitment to serve the poor, women, youth, farmers — the four "castes" that Modi

had announced as his focus ahead of the elections — and the deprived sections of society.

"The meeting was cordial. The Prime Minister made a brief speech in which he said all of us should work as one unit for the development of the country. He said the NDA will be stronger and work hard," said one of the leaders who attended the meeting.

While the leaders congratulated him on his leadership and his initiatives for the eradication of poverty and the strides India has made under him, Modi said the results Tuesday was a historic mandate as it was the first time in 60 years that a government was returning for a third consecutive term.

In his brief address, he criticised the Opposition for attacking the institutions. He is learnt to have said they can attack him but no one should attack institutions.

"NDA partners said that Modi has a clear vision for Viksit Bharat and all of them are partners in this goal. They also lauded the PM's role in enhancing India's pride in the international community," a source said.

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, LJP-R's Paswan, JD(S) leader HD Kumaraswamy, Jitan Ram Manjhi (HAM), Pawan Kalyan (Jana Sena Party), Anupriya Patel (Apna Dal-S), Jayant Chaudhary (RLD), Pramod Boro (UPPL), Atup Bora (AGP), Indra Hang Subba (SKM), Sudesh Mahta (AJSU), Rajiv Ranjan Singh and Sanjay Jha (JD-U), Praful Patel and Sunil Tatkare (NCP) also attended the meeting.

Rajnath Singh, Shah and Nadda were also at the meeting.

The resolution said the NDA government will continue working to lift people's living standards for the country's all-round development while conserving its heritage.

"We are all proud that the NDA fought the 2024 Lok Sabha polls unitedly under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and won. We all NDA leaders unanimously elect Narendra Modi as our leader," it said.

The resolution also said that people have seen the country being developed in every sector in the last 10 years due to the pro-people policies of the NDA government under Modi.

Meanwhile, a security meet-

ing was called Wednesday afternoon to discuss preparations for the swearing-in ceremony at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

As of now, sources said, there is no event on June 8-9. Around 10,000 cards are being printed and some 8,500 guests are expected once the ceremony date is firmed up.

A message was conveyed Wednesday morning to the senior officials of Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs, SPG, Delhi Police, Intelligence Bureau and Rashtrapati Bhavan.

"The meeting, which lasted for around two-and-half hours, started around 3.30 pm. It was chaired by the Secretary (Security) in the Cabinet Secretariat who enquired about the planning for the security arrangements and also about the Head of States who may be coming from abroad," a source said.

"All security units have made their arrangements. It has been decided that they will allow entry to only those with a special parking entry pass from the Rashtrapati Bhavan. Others can drop their guests and move out," the source said.

•Seat that gave Himanta heartburn, and Gogoi reasons to smile

has been part of the party for nearly three decades, said he has no plans to leave the party. He also elaborated on his comments from the previous day, saying a "personalised campaign" in Jorhat had hurt the BJP. "It was a fight between the CM and Gaurav Gogoi," he said. "It is not dissent; it is my opinion... Our party's campaign in Jorhat was not good. I would call it over-campaigning and it resulted in a sympathy wave for Gogoi. If you abuse a person from day to night, it doesn't work."

A day after his win, Gogoi said, "I feel as if the Chief Minister made it a prestige issue for him because in his campaign, he would never mention the name of the local candidate. In fact, in many of his big rallies, the candidate wasn't even seen with him. The candidate would be in some remote corner addressing some remote rally and it was the Chief Minister who himself took charge of major rallies and major cycle yatras and padayatras."

"I don't know why he felt the need to take this approach but clearly, he could not read the pulse of the people of Jorhat. In hindsight, I can say that the more that the Chief Minister campaigned in Jorhat, the more it benefited my campaign. The more the Chief Minister and his Cabinet colleagues would come and spread their vicious propaganda, the more it benefited. So in the end, the Chief Minister became a surprise star campaigner for me."

There are multiple reasons that made the Upper Assam seat the biggest prestige battle in the state. It was new territory for Gogoi, who has over the years emerged as a prominent Parliamentarian from the Northeast

and was the Deputy Leader of the Congress in the last Lok Sabha. The Kaliabor seat, which he represented for past 10 years, and which had been represented by his father Tarun Gogoi and uncle Dip Gogoi for the preceding two decades, was redrawn and renamed to Kaziranga in last year's delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly constituencies. There had been uncertainty over which seat he would contest from, until Jorhat was settled upon.

It was a two-way contest between him and another Gogoi, Tapan, the incumbent BJP MP from the seat and a former MLA from Sonari, one of the Assembly segments there. However, while Gaurav Gogoi was the face of his own campaign, which was largely carried out through multiple small-scale meetings in different parts of the constituency, the face of the BJP campaign was Chief Minister Sarma.

Sarma made it a point to begin his campaign trail from the river island Majuli, which is a part of Jorhat constituency. He held multiple massive roadshows and rallies in different parts of the seat, and several of his MLAs and ministers camped in Jorhat for long periods of time during the campaign.

In a widely circulated video, Sarma could be heard saying during the campaign that the Congress would suffer its biggest margin of loss in this seat. There is also a personal rivalry between Sarma and Gogoi: the former was a key Tarun Gogoi confidante, but they had a falling out after Tarun initiated his son into politics and started promoting him in the Congress. This, many say, paved the way for Sarma's switch to the BJP.

Despite the aggressive campaign by

the BJP in the seat, the Congress won by a margin of 1.4 lakh votes. While the Election Commission is yet to provide an Assembly segment-wise distribution of votes, Congress leaders said their calculations show the party led in all 10 Assembly segments except Majuli.

"It is a defeat of the Assam government and the Chief Minister. The whole Cabinet was there, MLAs were there. They poached Congress office-bearers there. They took the working president, general secretary," said Assam Congress spokesperson Mehdi Alam Bora.

In a post online Wednesday, Congress's Jairam Ramesh wrote, "Not only is the PM outgoing, but with my young colleague Gaurav Gogoi's impressive 1 lakh+ lead in Jorhat, the countdown for the exit of the Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma has also begun."

The loss in Jorhat also hurts the BJP for other reasons. Party leaders in Assam, led by Sarma, have often said the Congress has been reduced to receiving votes only from Muslims in the state. But the Jorhat seat is the Ahom heartland, where the Ahom community make up the largest chunk of voters, followed by the tea garden communities, and caste Assamese and Mising tribal voters.

Assam BJP chief Bhabesh Kalita, while talking about the outcome, said Jorhat was the exception, and that apart from Jorhat, "the Congress has only taken leads in minority-dominated areas." "We lost in nine segments there... We will have discussions and introspect on what went wrong in the seat, where we gained, where we lost... In time, we will consider the disciplinary measures against Saikia," he said.

•TDP's likely demands

Centre to restart the development of Amaravati as the state capital, a project which was stalled after Jagan Mohan Reddy's YSR Congress (YSRCP) stormed to power in 2019. Several buildings and apartment complexes built during Naidu's regime between 2014 and 2019 lie vacant today while civic infrastructure decays.

Naidu, who will take oath as Andhra CM on June 9, intends to start developing the capital city. Tatikonda MLA Tenali Sravan Kumar has said he will come out with a vision document for Amaravati within 100 days of coming to power.

Another demand that Naidu is likely to put forward is funds for the completion of the long-pending Polavaram project, a promise TDP leaders said he has made during campaigning in the run-up to the elections. TDP insiders say he is also likely to seek key portfolios in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Cabinet and even demand the Speaker's post. He is also looking to elevate his son and TDP general secretary Nara Lokesh, who secured his maiden victory from Managlagiri in the Assembly election, to the national stage.

Naidu, who claimed the Jagan government indulged in large scale corruption in Andhra, is also likely to urge the NDA to allow Central agencies to investigate the "scams" and Jagan.

•Message from INDIA bloc: Mandate a reply to the BJP, will keep watch on Modi Govt

befitting reply to the BJP and their politics of hate, corruption and deprivation".

"The constituents of the INDIA bloc thank the people of India for the overwhelming support received by our allies. The people's mandate has given a befitting reply to the BJP and their politics of hate, corruption and deprivation. This is a mandate in defence of the Constitution of India, against price rise, unemployment and crony capitalism and also to save democracy," it said.

In his opening remarks at the meeting, Kharge, on the other hand, said the mandate was "decisively" against Modi and the "substance and style" of his politics. "It is a huge political loss for him personally apart from being a clear moral defeat as well," he said.

Talking to *The Indian Express* after the meeting, one leader said, "The assessment was that the

popular mandate was against Modi and his policies... and in favour of the issues that we had raised. So it is our responsibility to fulfill the people's aspirations. But technically we don't have the numbers so let's wait for an appropriate opportunity and appropriate time. On the floor of Parliament... when issues will come for discussion... a confidence vote is taken up. Let's see the attitude of the BJP's allies, where they stand and how they will act."

With the BJP-led NDA set to stake claim for the government Friday, the Opposition meeting drew a wide range of leaders, including Congress's Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi, and veterans such as NCP's Sharad Pawar.

But there were two notable absentees, too — TMC chief Mamata Banerjee and Shiv Sena (UBT)'s Uddhav Thackeray. Both sent their representatives instead.

•Nine of 13 being probed by agencies jumped party, lost

lost the polls; of the two who joined Sena's Shinde faction, one lost; and one each from the Jharkhand Vikas Party and PEP who had joined the Congress also lost.

Among the prominent turncoats who lost are Jyoti Mirdha from Nagaur in Rajasthan; Kripashankar Singh from Jaunpur in UP; Roy from Kolkata Uttar; Kothapalli Geeta from Araku in Andhra Pradesh; Preneet Kaur from Patiala; and Geeta Koda from Singhbhum in Jharkhand.

From the Shiv Sena Shinde faction, Yamini Jadhav lost the polls from Mumbai South, while from Congress Pradeep Yadav lost from Godda in Jharkhand.

Former Congress leader Jyoti Mirdha had joined the BJP in September 2023, about six months before the Lok Sabha polls. Months earlier, the Enforcement Directorate had initiated a probe against Indiabulls based on a complaint by the Shipra Group. Indiabulls is run by Mirdha's in-laws — Indiabulls promoter Sameer Gehlaut is the brother of her husband Narendra Gehlaut.

Former Mumbai Congress chief Kripashankar Singh was facing a probe in a case of disproportionate assets by the Maharashtra Anti Corruption Bureau in 2012. The ED initiated a probe based on the ACB case. In February 2018, Singh was discharged by a court because of lack of sanction. In 2019, he resigned from Congress and joined the BJP in 2021.

The Enforcement Directorate raided the residence of TMC chief whip in West Bengal Assembly in January this year in connection with a case of money laundering concerning alleged irregularities in civic body recruitments. Early March, Tapas Roy joined the BJP and was fielded from Kolkata Uttar by the BJP. However, he lost

to TMC's Sudeep Bandyopadhyay. In the 2019 polls, Geeta Koda, wife of former Jharkhand CM Madhu Koda, was the only Congress candidate who won from the state. As her husband stands convicted in one of the many cases registered against him by the CBI and ED and probes in others continue, she joined the BJP in February this year and was fielded from her stronghold Singhbhum. She, however, lost to the JMM candidate.

In Andhra Pradesh, former YSRC MP Kothapalli Geetha and her husband P Ramakoteswara Rao were booked and chargesheeted by CBI in 2015 for allegedly duping the Punjab National Bank by defaulting on a Rs 42-crore loan they got by misrepresenting facts.

In July 2019, Geetha joined the BJP. But in September 2022, she was convicted by the trial court and sentenced to five years in jail along with her husband. They were both arrested by the CBI. The couple soon got relief with the Telangana HC not only granting them bail but also suspending the sentence. However, since the conviction continued to stand, Geetha could not contest.

On March 12, Telangana HC cleared the way by staying the conviction as well. On March 28, BJP announced her candidature from Araku. She, however, lost the polls to YSRC's Gumma Rani.

Former Congress leader and Punjab CM Captain Amarinder Singh's wife Preneet Kaur was fielded by the BJP from Patiala. Their son Raninder Singh came under the ED scanner in 2020 in connection with a case of forex violations. In November 2021, Amarinder quit the Congress. The next year he joined the BJP. Kaur stood third behind Congress's Dharamvir Gandhi and AAP's

Balbir Singh.

In Maharashtra, Shiv Sena's Yamini Jadhav had walked out of the party to join the Eknath Shinde faction in June 2022, toppling the Uddhav Thackeray government. She along with her husband Yashwant Jadhav were then facing ED investigations in multiple cases. Yamini was fielded from Mumbai South by the NDA in these polls but lost to Shiv Sena UBT's Arvind Sawant.

Shiv Sena veteran Ravindra Waikar had stuck with Uddhav Thackeray during the political upheaval in June 2022. However, the new Eknath Shinde-led NDA government soon opened a probe against him by Mumbai police's economic offences wing which was followed by an ED probe. This March, Waikar walked into the Shinde camp saying he had to make a choice between going to jail and switching parties. He was fielded from Mumbai North West and barely scraped through, winning by just 48 votes.

Congress's Pradeep Yadav, who contested from Jharkhand, had no such luck. Raided by ED last year, he lost to BJP's Nishikant Dubey. He had moved to Congress from JVP. Congress candidate from Punjab's Sangrur Sukhpal Singh Khaira, who had joined the party from Punjab Ekta Party, was also facing ED probe but lost.

There were others like Waikar who won despite being under the shadow of agencies and changing sides. Prominent among them was Naveen Jindal, who switched from Congress to the BJP months ahead of polls, winning from Kurukshetra.

Chargesheeted in the coal blocks allocation case, Jindal had been raided by ED in a fresh case months ahead of him joining the BJP.

•Biden, Putin, Sunak call Modi; Ranil & Hasina invited

Meanwhile, officials in Delhi, Colombo and Dhaka confirmed that Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe and Bangladesh Prime Minister Hasina are among the leaders who have been invited for the swearing-in ceremony.

On the re-election, Putin and Sunak also called up Modi to convey their wishes. In the phone call, Kremlin said, President Putin "warmheartedly congratulated Narendra Modi on the success of the BJP in the general parliamentary elections that finished a few days ago. This reflects the support of the political course pursued by the Indian leadership, recognition of the results achieved in the country's socioeconomic development, and its strengthening international authority."

Sunak, who faces elections on July 4, in a post on X said, "Today I spoke to @narendramodi to congratulate him on his election victory. The UK and India share the closest of friendships, and together that friendship will continue to thrive."

Chinese ambassador to India Xu Feihong took to X and posted:

"Congratulations to Prime Minister Modi @narendramodi, BJP and BJP-led NDA on the victory in the #Loksabhaelection. 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." Congratulating Modi, a Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson said on X that Beijing was looking forward to a "healthy and stable China-India relationship".

French President Macron said, "India has concluded the world's largest elections! Congratulations @NarendraModi, my dear friend. Together we will continue strengthening the strategic partnership that unites India and France."

Leaders from Mauritius, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Maldives were among the first ones to wish Modi Tuesday itself even before the final results were out, while Italian PM Meloni posted on X late night — being the first G7 country — congratulating Modi. "...We will continue to work

together to strengthen the friendship that unites Italy and India and consolidate cooperation on the various issues that bind us," she said. Modi is expected to travel to Italy for the G-7 leaders' summit on June 13-15.

Congratulating Modi, Ukraine President Zelenskyy said, "Everyone in the world recognizes 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," he said, reiterating the expectation that Delhi will send a representation to the peace meet in Switzerland on June 15-16.

South Korea, Japan, UAE, Iran, Seychelles, Malaysia, Austria, EU, Argentina, Cambodia, Sweden, Greece, Denmark, Norway, Latvia, the Netherlands and Lithuania were among others who also congratulated Modi. From Africa, presidents of Nigeria, Kenya, Comoros and leaders of Jamaica, Barbados, Guyana from the Caribbean islands sent congratulatory messages to Modi.

that three MPs of the BJP are in touch with him.

While the TDP has won 16 seats, the JD(U) has 12. The INDIA bloc has managed to secure 232 seats. Congress's allies in Rajasthan — the Rashtriya Loktantrik Party and the Bharat Adivasi Party — won one seat each. The Opposition alliance is short of 38 seats from the halfway mark of 272.

Although Mamata skipped the meeting, the TMC's presence was reassuring to many of the parties. The TMC had fought the elections in the state alone against the BJP and Congress-Left combine while remaining part of the larger alliance. Thackeray was represented by senior leader Sanjay Raut and Arvind Sawant.

The Opposition meeting was also attended by senior Congress leaders K C Venugopal and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, and others such as Tamil Nadu CM and

DMK chief M K Stalin, SP's Akhilesh Yadav and RJD's Tejashwi Yadav. CPM's Sitaram Yechury, CPI's D Raja, Jharkhand Chief Minister and JMM leader Champai Soren, and AAP's Sanjay Singh and Raghav Chadha, also attended the meeting.

The other leaders present included CPI(ML)'s Dipankar Bhattacharya, National Conference's Omar Abdullah, Muslim League's Sayyid Sadiq Ali Shihab Thangal and P K Kunhalikutty, KC(M)'s Jose K Mani, VCK's Thol Thirumavalavan, RSP's N K Premachandran, MMK's M H Jawahirullah, Forward Bloc's G Devarajan and KMDK's E R Eswaran.

Before the meeting, asked if the Opposition is looking at getting the numbers to stake claim for the government, Tejashwi said, "We have come for the meeting today. Have patience, wait and watch what happens."

•Felt same tension: Pathan

advice for Pathan. "You have to work hard as you did on a cricket field. When you are a cricketer, people will flock to see you at stadiums or even when you are in the team bus but here, you have to go meet people, understand their problems and solve them. Yusuf is a giant killer and there will be a lot of expectations from him. If he comes up to me, I can guide him and let him know that if you work selflessly then nobody can beat you," Azad said.

Pathan, too, has a plan in place and some learnings. "I never thought I would become an MP. Destiny took me to Bengal. I was born in Gujarat and now God has sent me here to do some work. *Yeh duniya alag hai, galyaan alag hai* (This world is

different, these streets are different), but my motto is clear, to work for the public," he said.

The campaign did take Pathan to streets he hadn't ventured. He talks about bike rides in the interiors of his rural constituency, and recalls one interaction that he will never forget. "A woman ran towards me and handed me Rs 1,000 that was tied in a knot of her saree. Initially, I didn't understand why she was giving me the money. She said she got Rs 1,000 every month from the Mamata government as part of a scheme. This time, she wanted to give it to me for my campaign. She requested, '*Idhar accha kaam karna*' (Do good work here). I had tears in my eyes," he said.

Lewd Chinese poems, threats: Police action against JNU prof for sexual harassment

ARNABJIT SUR
NEW DELHI, JUNE 5

SENDING “LEWD messages” written in Chinese, calling her for “personal meetings” to his chamber: A professor at JNU’s Centre of Chinese and South East Asian Studies was accused of sexual harassment by a student in her twenties last month. A week ago, the Delhi Police initiated action against the professor. The accused has been “bound down” (required to appear before the investigating officer or court on a given date). The student alleged that the professor used to harass her classmates about her whereabouts, “forcing” her to leave the campus.

A senior officer said, “We launched a probe into the matter after the victim filed a complaint at Vasant Kunj (North) police station and a case was subsequently lodged. Documentary evidence such as WhatsApp messages in Chinese sent by the professor to the student were analysed and statements of other students of her class were taken, apart from her statement recorded under 164 CrPC before a magistrate. Based on sufficient evidence, we have now bound down the professor and a chargesheet will be subsequently filed.”

According to the woman’s complaint filed on April 30, the professor had allegedly harassed her through “constant messages

The student also alleged the professor used to harass her classmates about her whereabouts

and calls, including lewd poems, and requests for personal meetings.” She alleged that when she refused his advances, he threatened to fail her in his paper. The professor also harassed her female classmates to know about her whereabouts, said police.

The case, however, was lodged only on the woman’s complaint.

The Indian Express reached out to the professor for comment but received no response.

When contacted for comment, proctor Sudhir Kumar Arya said his office does not deal with sexual harassment matters.

The JNU Students’ Union, in a statement last month, had claimed the woman filed a sexual harassment complaint with the varsity’s Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) on April 10 against the accused teacher. It said her statement recorded under 164 CrPC before a magistrate. Based on sufficient evidence, we have now bound down the professor and a chargesheet will be subsequently filed.”

Sources in the varsity said the ICC issued a restraining order against the professor who is currently not allowed to take classes.

Eye hospital in Lajpat Nagar gutted in fire, no casualties

PRAGYNESH
NEW DELHI, JUNE 5

A FIRE broke out at an ophthalmology hospital in Lajpat Nagar following a short circuit in an air conditioner on Wednesday, police said. While one building was gutted in the fire, the flames had started to engulf a second building of the hospital before they were extinguished.

Around 15 patients were present at the hospital for OPD consultation and four for surgery along with the staff members when the fire broke out, said Rajesh Deo, DCP (South east). They were evacuated without any loss to life, he added.

The Eye7 Chaudhary Eye Centre is located in Block P of Lajpat Nagar IV, right on the Ring Road.

This is the second major fire in a private hospital in Delhi in the last nine days. A fire at Baby Care New Born Hospital, a neonatology centre in Vivek Vihar, killed seven newborns on May 26.

The owner of the Vivek Vihar hospital, Dr Naveen Khichi, and the doctor on duty, Dr Aakash, were subsequently arrested by the police.

“Around 11.30 am, our control room received a call regarding a massive fire in this (Lajpat Nagar) hospital. We rushed immediately,” said Deputy Chief Fire Officer S K Dua who was leading the Delhi Fire Service (DFS) operation.

Mohit Singh, branch manager at the adjacent Canara Bank, said he saw smoke billowing out of the hospital. “We came out running. Everything was burning. There was smoke everywhere. Nothing was visible,” he added.

The DFS pressed 20 fire tenders into action. “When we arrived, we saw that the fire had already spread to the roof of the adjacent building and the parking area behind the hospital,” DFS officer Dua said. “It took us almost an hour to douse the flames and bring the fire under control,” he added.

Divided by a narrow path, the hospital functions out of two buildings along the Ring Road. The portion of the hospital that was gutted is a single-storey structure built over a basement and a stilt parking lot.

The building was completely gutted in the fire with only the skeleton of the structure standing once the DFS called off its operation. There were burnt desks, melted chairs, blackened walls and iron rods almost falling off the ceiling.

The hospital is situated in a congested locality, with several private hospitals, a bakery and other business establishments



Eye7 Chaudhary Eye Centre is located in Block P of Lajpat Nagar IV, right on the Ring Road. PTI

running from buildings in the lane.

A large crowd had also gathered at the site with neighbours spending several anxious hours worried that the fire could engulf the densely populated locality.

DFS director Atul Garg said the hospital didn’t need a fire safety NOC (no-objection certificate) as the building was within the 9-meter-height criteria. “It’s built from the basement to the ground floor only,” he added.

Following the Vivek Vihar fire, Delhi Health Minister Saurabh Bharadwaj had said fire safety measures such as water sprinklers and automatic smoke alarms would be made compulsory for all hospitals, irrespective of the number of floors they have.

According to records with the DFS, both the buildings of the hospital were rented premises with permission of only 10 beds.

Divisional officer, DFS, Manoj Kumar Sharma told The Indian Express: “We are probing whether the hospital had taken basic fire safety measures and installed extinguishers and smoke alarms.”

Neither the owner of the hospital, Dr Sanjay Chowdhary, nor anyone from the administration was present on the spot when the fire fighters were seen extinguishing the flames.

Only a driver of the hospital, wearing a shirt with the hospital’s logo on it, could be seen sitting amid a crowd at a distance. “Fortunately, I was not here when the fire broke out in the building,” he said.

He further said there are around 150 people – the staff and the patients – inside the building at any given time. “Everyone was lucky this time. All are safe”.

FINAL RESULT DISAPPOINTING, SAY LEADERS

Why more votes than BJP in 18 assembly segments was not enough for AAP-Cong

JATIN ANAND & MALLICA JOSHI
NEW DELHI, JUNE 5

ONLY ONE of three MLAs fielded by the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in the Lok Sabha elections was able to get more votes than the BJP from his home turf, even as the latter swept most Assembly segments represented by the party’s ministers – both current and past.

While the alliance partners managed to get more votes than the BJP in 18 assembly segments this year, compared to nine segments where the combined vote share of AAP and Congress was more than that of BJP in 2019, leaders in both parties called the results “disappointing”.

On the three seats that the Congress candidates contested from, the assembly segments that the alliance retained were the same as the ones where the vote share of the two parties was higher than that of BJP in 2019 (see box).

In segments such as Ballimaran, Okhla, Matia Mahal, Chandni Chowk, Seelampur, Mustafabad and Babarpur, traditional Congress strongholds before the AAP stormed into power in 2015, the BJP could muster only almost half the votes polled in favour of alliance candidates. This was not the case in either slums or unauthorised colonies, several of which went in BJP’s favour.

Improvement was seen in constituencies where AAP fielded candidates, with the party gaining votes in Jangpura, Delhi Cantonment, New Delhi, RK Puram, Ambedkar Nagar, Sangam Vihar, Tughlakabad, Rajouri Garden, and Tilak Nagar.

According to detailed 2024 voting statistics compiled by the Election Commission of India (ECI), with a little over 53,700 votes and a margin of slightly above 5,100, AAP’s Tughlakabad MLA Sahi Ram, who contested from the South Delhi Lok Sabha seat, was the sole incumbent legislator to secure the assembly seg-



Improvement was seen in constituencies where AAP fielded candidates, unlike the Congress. Archive

Assembly seats where AAP-Cong did better

SEATS WHERE THEY DID BETTER THAN BJP IN '24*

Chandni Chowk	
Matia Mahal	77%
Chandni Chowk	60%
Ballimaran	64%

Northeast Delhi

Seelampur	69%
Babarpur	55%
Mustafabad	56%
Seemapuri	51%

East Delhi

Okhla	68%
Jangpura	50%

New Delhi

Delhi Cantt	50%
New Delhi	51%
RK Puram	49%

Northwest Delhi

Sultanpuri	52%
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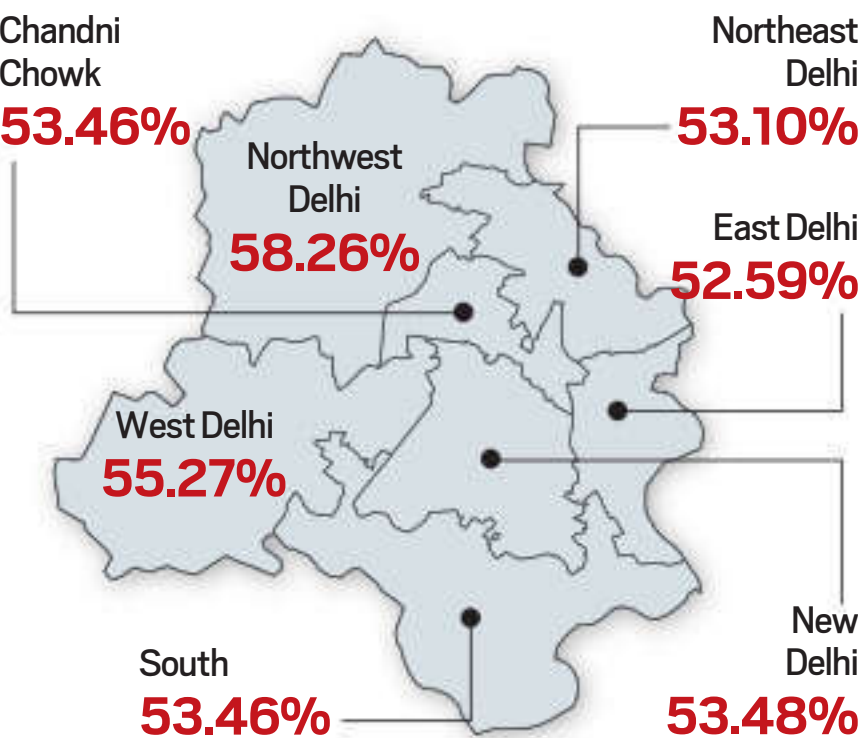
West Delhi

Rajouri Garden	50%
Tilak Nagar	50%

South Delhi

Ambedkar Nagar	49%
Tughlakabad	51%
Sangam Vihar	49.5%

BJP’S OVERALL VOTE SHARE IN ALL 7 CONSTITUENCIES THIS ELECTION



ASSEMBLY SEATS WHERE COMBINED VOTE SHARE OF AAP & CONG WAS MORE THAN BJP IN 2019*

Chandni Chowk	74%	East Delhi	64%
Matia Mahal	74%	Okhla	64%
Chandni Chowk	59%	New Delhi	None
Ballimaran	62%	None	

North East Delhi

Seelampur	65%	Northwest Delhi	Sultanpuri (51%)
Babarpur	54%	West Delhi	None
Mustafabad	52%	South Delhi	None
Seemapuri	48%	None	

*vote share

ment he represents.

The segment went to BJP in 2019.

To be sure, each Parliamentary constituency has 10 Assembly segments.

On the other hand, AAP’s Malviya Nagar MLA Somnath Bharti, who contested from the New Delhi seat, and Kondli legislator Kuldeep Kumar, who fought from East Delhi, failed to retain their own segments by margins of 3,923 and 1,566, respectively. BJP won both segments in 2019, too.

In the New Delhi Constituency, the AAP secured Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal’s own New Delhi Assembly segment by a razor-thin margin of a little more than 2,200. The segment was won by the BJP last time.

A senior AAP leader said that while on paper there may be some positives for the party, the final result was disappointing.

“Elections and alliances are not arithmetic. The truth is that we had hoped to get a much better result. The gains are mostly in segments where the BJP’s margins were narrower the last time. When we look at the behaviour of voters in neighbouring states such as Uttar Pradesh and Haryana, it is clear that we were not able to convince the voter in Delhi,” the leader said.

Another leader said that the results indicate that the floating voter, which votes for Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Lok Sabha and AAP in assembly polls – seen as a centre-of-right voter – was not swayed by the alliance.

A senior Congress leader, however, said that the lack of co-ordination between the workers of the two alliance partners was the reason behind the 7-0 rout.

“In many seats, it was clear that the AAP workers were either outsiders or were not motivated. Why this was the case only the AAP can answer, but it had the effect that the BJP was hoping for,” the leader said.

‘Campaigning hints he is not suffering from life-threatening ailment’: Court denies bail to CM



Arvind Kejriwal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 5

EXTENSIVE ELECTION campaigning by Arvind Kejriwal indicates he is not suffering from any serious or life-threatening ailment, a Delhi court said Wednesday as it rejected the Delhi chief minister’s interim bail on medical grounds.

The court also observed that type-2 diabetes, which the CM is suffering from, is not “a serious disease” that would entitle him to interim bail.

“Diabetes or even type-2 diabetes cannot be said to be so serious an ailment so as to entitle him to the relief claimed. Further, the extensive campaigning tours and related meetings/events undertaken by Arvind Kejriwal as highlighted during the course of arguments also indicate that he does not appear to be suffering from any serious or ‘life threatening ailment...,” Special Judge Kaveri Baweja noted in her order.

Noting that Kejriwal was seeking bail for diagnosis of an “anticipated ailment”, the judge further said that all such tests could be conducted in custody. The court also revived the AIIMS medical board, which it had earlier constituted to examine Kejriwal, asking it to conduct the required medical tests within three days.

The interim bail plea highlighted fluctuating sugar levels and increased ketone levels. Senior Advocate N Hariharan, representing the CM, had earlier told a court that the increased ketone levels could be indicative of diabetic ketoacidosis, a complication which could be fatal. The advocate also said tests such as PET scan, LFT, KFT, CBC and the Holter test had to be conducted and these could cumulatively take as long as a week.

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Recruitment of manpower on regular basis:

VC No.	Post	No. of vacancies
159/24	Group General Manager (Civil)	4
160/24	Group General Manager (IT)	1
161/24	Group General Manager (Mechanical)	2
162/24	Group General Manager (ES&T)	1
163/24	Assistant Manager (S&T)	10
164/24	Assistant Manager (Electrical)	5
165/24	Group General Manager (Finance)	1
166/24	Deputy General Manager (HR)	4

For details regarding Position, pay scale, qualification, experience, age, date & venue, selection process etc., candidates may see the detailed advertisement posted on RITES website www.rites.com under Career Section.

APPOINTMENT ON AD HOC CONTRACT BASIS
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A walk-in-interview will be held for the following posts at Army Hospital (R&R), Delhi Cantt-110010 on Date and Time as mentioned against each post:

Sl. no	Name of post	Nos. of posts	Qualifications	Proposed Remuneration / month	Date and Time of Interview
1	Dietician	1	Essential: M.Sc. (Home Science Food and Nutrition) OR M.Sc. (Clinical Nutrition and Dietetics) OR M.Sc. (Food Science & Nutrition) OR M.Sc. (Food and Nutrition Dietetics) from a recognized University/ Institution	Rs. 38,500/-	21 st June, 2024 10:00 AM
2	Speech and Language Pathologist	1	Essential: Bachelor's degree in Audiology and Speech Language pathology from any recognized university in India approved by Rehabilitation Council of India.	Rs. 38,500/-	21 st June, 2024 10:00 AM

Note:
1. Interview will be held at Asoka Hall, 2nd floor, Main Building, AH (R&R)
2. Applicants must bring their original educational certificates.
3. For any query, please contact 8208039490.

Commandant
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Walk-in Interview

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Sl. No.	Name of Post	No. of Post	Qualification & Experience	Period of Engagement	Remuneration (Fixed)
01	GDMO on Ad-Hoc basis	05	Qualified MBBS with one year compulsory Internship (preference will be given to candidates with experience)	01 Year + 01 Year Extension	₹1,23,000/- per month

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Interested Candidates can send their CV, certificate and other documents within **Five days** of publication of advertisement to the following email:-
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— JOURNALISM OF COURAGE —

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The dealing of my properties or other assets shall be undertaken by me in person.

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Name / Address Contact No. of the Branch	Name and Address of the Borrower (s)/Guarantor (s) / Mortgagor (s)	Outstanding in Rs.	Details of Property	Reserve Price (Rs.) / EMD/Bid Multiplier Amt./A/c No./ IFSC Code
Bihar Sharif II Branch Mob. 8294161374	Borrower - Smt. Ranju Devi W/o Subodh Prasad, R/o Vill Diripar, P.O.+ Mauza- Barara, P.S.- Noorsarai, Dist- Nalanda, Bihar- 803118, Sri Suresh Prasad (Guarantor) S/o Late Ramji Prasad R/o Vill- Diripar, P.O.+ Mauza- Barhara, P.S. - Noorsarai, Dist-Nalanda, Bihar- 803118	Rs. 10,60,652.04 as on 05.04.2024 + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	EMT of Residential property (Floor-G.F), Khata No- 320, Plot No- 1942, Thana No- 73, Mauza- Barara, Anchal+ PS- Noorsarai, Nalanda Bihar in the name of Smt. Ranju Devi W/o Sri Subodh Prasad Total Extent of Area- 6.00 Decimal Boundary : North - Niz, South - Kachha Rasta, East - P.C.C Rasta, West - Vijendra Gope & Dayanand Gope	Rs. 12,62,700/- Rs. 1,26,270/- Rs. 10,000/- A/c - 209272434 IFSC Code - CNRB0007566
Bargaon Branch Mob. 8210998528	Borrower - Mrs. Vina Devi, C/o Ramesh Prasad Verma, Address - Silao, Ambedkar Nagar, PO + PS -Silao, Dist. - Nalanda, Bihar- 803117 Co-Borrower - Mr. Vikash Kumar, C/o Ramesh Prasad Verma, Address - Silao, Ambekarnagar, PO + PS- Silao, Dist. - Nalanda, Bihar- 803117	Rs. 11,01,046.46 as on 22.04.2024 + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	Land with Under construction Building situated at Mauza - Silao, Khata No. - 28, Plot No. - 2730, Thana No. - 420, Silao, Nalanda, Bihar- 803117 having area of 871 Sq. Ft Boundary - North - Uma Prakash, South- Kapil Choudhary, East- Janardan Prasad, West- Pannalal Property Holder - Smt. Vina Devi W/o Ramesh Prasad Verma, Silao Ambedkar Nagar, PO + PS - Silao, Nalanda, Bihar- 803117	Rs. ,10,04,000/- Rs. 1,00,400/- Rs. 10,000/- A/c - 209272434 IFSC Code - CNRB0003681
Dibhiya Branch Mob. 8809088505	Sri Birendra Kumar Singh S/o Raghu Vansh Singh, R/o Vill Siwan, Post Dhanej, Dist.- Rohtas, Kargahar, Bihar- 821007 Mortgagor : (i) Sri Birendra Kumar Singh S/o Raghu Vansh Singh (ii) Ajay Kumar Singh S/o Raghu Vansh Singh, (iii) Rahul Kumar Singh S/o Raghu Vansh Singh, (iv). Raghu Vansh Singh Son of Late Ram Janam Singh All Are Residing At Vill Siwan, Post Dhanej, Dist. - Rohtas, Kargahar, Bihar- 821007	Rs. 10,89,738.71 as on 06.05.2024 + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	Property 1 - Residential Land & Building situated at Mauza - Siwan, Thana No. - 78, Khata No. - 371, Khasra No. - 1369, Thana - Kargahar, Dist- Rohtas, Bihar - 821107. Extent of Area- 2.5 Decimal, Boundary : (Actual) North - Mishi Singh, South - 3' Wide Gali & Dharmendra, East - Niz, West - 13' Wide Kachcha Rasta Property 2 - Residential Land situated at Mauza -Siwan, Thana No. - 78, Khata No. - 371, Khasra No. - 2194, Thana - Kargahar, Dist- Rohtas, Bihar- 821107. Extent of Area- 43 Decimal, Boundary: (Actual), North - Khobhari Sah, South - 21 feet Wide Kachcha Road, East - Bishwanath Singh, West - 31 feet Wide Kachcha Rasta, Property Holder for both property - 1. Birendra Kumar Singh S/o Raghu Vansh Singh, 2. Ajay Kumar Singh S/o Raghu Vansh Singh, 3. Rahul Kumar Singh S/o Raghu Vansh Singh and 4. Raghu Vansh Singh S/o Late Ram Janam Singh	Property 1 - Rs. 9,92,000/- Rs. 99,200/- Property 2 - Rs. 24,25,000/- Rs. 2,42,500/- Rs. 10,000/- A/c - 209272434 IFSC Code - CNRB0001737
Masaurhi Branch (4192) Mob : 8210998417	(1) Ravi Kumar S/o Surendra Kumar Sangatpar, Masaurhi, Distt- Patna (Bihar) -804452, (2) Sunita Devi W/o Surendra Kumar Singh, Sangatpar, Masaurhi, Distt- Patna(Bihar)- 804452, (3) Surendra Kumar Singh S/o Suchit Singh, Near Sanskrit School, Sangatpar, Masaurhi, Distt- Patna (Bihar) - 804452.	Rs. 12,98,959.70 As on 17.02.2024 + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	Property 1 - All that part and parcel of the property in the name of Mrs Sunita Devi W/o Surendra Kumar Singh consisting, Khata No.-18, Survey Plot No.-213, Thana No- 202, Mauza- Bhagwanpur, Thana- Masaurhi, Distt- Patna, Area-5.5 Decimal, Boundary - North - Rasta, South - Kripanand Singh, East - Kripanand Singh, West - Rasta Property 2 - All that part and parcel of the property in the name of Mrs Sunita Devi W/o Surendra Kumar Singh consisting, Khata No.-18, Survey Plot No.-213, Thana No.-202, Mauza- Bhagwanpur, Thana- Masaurhi, Distt- Patna, Area-2.5 Decimal Boundary : North - Kripanand Singh, South- Devendra Singh, East - Devendra Singh, West - Kripanand Singh & Rasta, Total Area- 5.5+2.5=8 Decimal	Rs. 5,00,000/- Rs. 50,000/- 10,000/- A/c - 209272434 IFSC Code - CNRB0004192
Patna Hanuman Nagar Branch (2820) Mob : 8210998435	(1) M/s BSP Health Care, Proprietor - Mr. Bablu Kumar, 101-A, Sumitra Shri Apartment, Near Ishwar Dayal Hospital, Hanuman Nagar, Patna, Bihar- 800020, (2) Mr. Bablu Kumar, Flat No- 202, Sumitra Shri Apartment, Near Ishwar Dayal Hospital,	Rs. 43,43,941.48 As on 31.01.2024 + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	All that part and parcel of the property in the name of Smt. Priyanka Bharti, situated at Mauza - Sona Gopalpur, Survey Thana - Phulwarisharif, Present Thana - Gopalpur, Thana No. - 124, Tauzi No. - 761, Khata No. - 545, Survey Khesra Plot No. - 889 (Part), Sub Registry Office - Phulwarisharif, Sadar Registry office, District - Patna, Area - 12.333 Dhur equivalent of 1.9270 Decimals	Rs. 16,73,000/- Rs. 1,68,000/- 10,000/- A/c - 209272434 IFSC Code - CNRB0002820
Hanuman Nagar, Patna, Bihar - 800020, (3) Mrs. Priyanka Bharti, 1st Floor, Rajeshwar Market, Road No. - 14, East Ashok Nagar, Patna, Bihar- 800020.				
Motihari 2 Branch East Champaran, Bihar Mob. 8102915953	Borrower- Raj Kumar Singh @ Raju Singh, S/o- Kamal Singh, Ward No-09, Karsahiya Dhaka, Motihari, Dist.- East Champaran-845418 Guarantor- Smt. Abha Devi, W/o- Raj Kumar Singh, Ward No- 09, Karsahiya Dhaka, Motihari, Dist.- East Champaran-845418	Rs. 19,50,663.93 as on 02.05.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	All That Part and Parcel of the property consisting in the name of Sri Raj Kumar Singh @ Raju Singh, S/o- Kamal Singh, Khata No-3, Plot No.- 284, Area- 1.45 Decimal, Boundary : North - Rasta 8 ft wide, South - Prasad Goswami & Ramswarup Rai, East - Sanjay Kumar @ Mantu & Satish Prasad, West - Sunil Kumar Singh Hal Baidar. Location - Mauza- Pataura, Karsahiya, P.O+P.S- Dhaka, Dist.- East Champaran	Rs. 7,10,573/- Rs. 71,057/- 10,000/- A/c - 209272434 IFSC Code - CNRB0017484
Raxaul Branch Raxaul Bihar Mob. <				

6 VERDICT 2024



Outgoing Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik submits his resignation to Governor Raghubar Das at Raj Bhavan in Bhubaneswar. *ANI*

Naveen era ends, all eyes now on who BJP will pick as new CM

SUJIT BISOI
BHUBANESWAR, JUNE 5

WITH ODISHA'S longest serving chief minister Naveen Patnaik tendering his resignation on Wednesday, a day after his party's stunning defeat in the Assembly polls, speculation is rife on who the BJP will pick to succeed him.

Newly elected MLAs started pouring into Bhubaneswar, where a meeting will be held soon to make the pick. But first, the BJP parliamentary board will appoint observers. "The parliamentary board will take a call on this. An Odia CM, who believes in Odisha's language and culture, will be sworn in on June 10," BJP's state unit president Manmohan Samal told reporters.

Odia asmita, or pride, was one of the key planks BJP ran its campaign around, frequently targeting Patnaik's aide V K Pandian for being an "outsider" from Tamil Nadu.

While PM Narendra Modi, in a rally at Berhampur on May 6, had said the new CM will be decided on June 6, and will take



SPOON OF LUCK

SOON AFTER the Union cabinet met for the last time on Wednesday, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Minister Giriraj Singh organised a farewell party in his ministry. The party was attended, among others, by ministers of state (Rural Development) Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti and Faggan Singh Kulaste, and MoS (Panchayati Raj) Kapil Moreshwar Patil. While Singh and Kulaste have got elected to the Lok Sabha in the latest election, Patil and Jyoti have lost. During the conversation at the get-together, Patil learnt to have said that 'besides the hard work, a spoon of luck is also required to win elections'.

PARKING FACILITY

DISCUSSIONS ARE going on between the Ministry of Defence and other stakeholders, including Delhi Police, to avail of the parking facility of a newly-opened shopping mall in Chandni Chowk for guests attending the Independence Day event at Red Fort this year. Until last year, around 800 cars were usually parked in a park next to Red Fort. This year, the plan is to let the guests park their vehicles at the mall and then ferry them to Red Fort in golf carts, it is learnt.

How food inflation played part in NDA's LS poll reverses

HARISH DAMODARAN
NEW DELHI, JUNE 5

IF THERE'S one economic variable that could be held the most responsible for the losses suffered by the Narendra Modi-led National Democratic Alliance in the Lok Sabha election, it is food inflation.

Annual inflation based on the Consumer Food Price Index (CPFI) averaged a mere 0.03% in the 12 months from May 2018 leading to the 2019 Lok Sabha polls. But in the 12-month run up (May 2023-April 2024) to this year's elections, retail food inflation has averaged 7.88%.

All the three basic foods — *roti* (cereals), *dal* (pulses), and *sabzi* (vegetables) — have registered double-digit inflation in the last 12 months, which would have definitely weighed on the ordinary voter's mind and wallet.

During this period, the average annual CPFI increase in cereals was 10.39%, in pulses 16.07%, and for vegetables 18.33%.

In contrast, the May 2018-April 2019 period had seen retail average just 1.98% for *roti*, minus 7.24% for *dal*, and minus 4.80% for *sabzi*.

The Modi government's entire first term (Modi 1.0) was, in fact, marked by benign inflation. Overall consumer price index (CPI) inflation averaged 4.39% and CPFI inflation was even lower at 3.38%. CPFI inflation ruled above CPI inflation in only 21 out of the 60 months from May 2014 to April 2019.

It has been the opposite in the Modi government's second term (Modi 2.0) from May 2019 to April 2024 (see *Charts*). General CPI inflation has averaged 5.69%, more than the Reserve Bank of India's medium-term target of 4%. The average re-

BJP lost 92 of 303 seats it got in 2019, won 32 new this time

HARIKISHAN SHARMA
NEW DELHI, JUNE 5

OF THE 303 seats the BJP won in 2019, it retained 208 this time, lost 92, and gave three to its allies — Janata Dal (United), Janata Dal (Secular), and Rashtriya Lok Dal — who won a seat each. It won 32 new seats in 2024 pushing its tally to 240.

An analysis of the 92 seats it lost shows telling patterns:

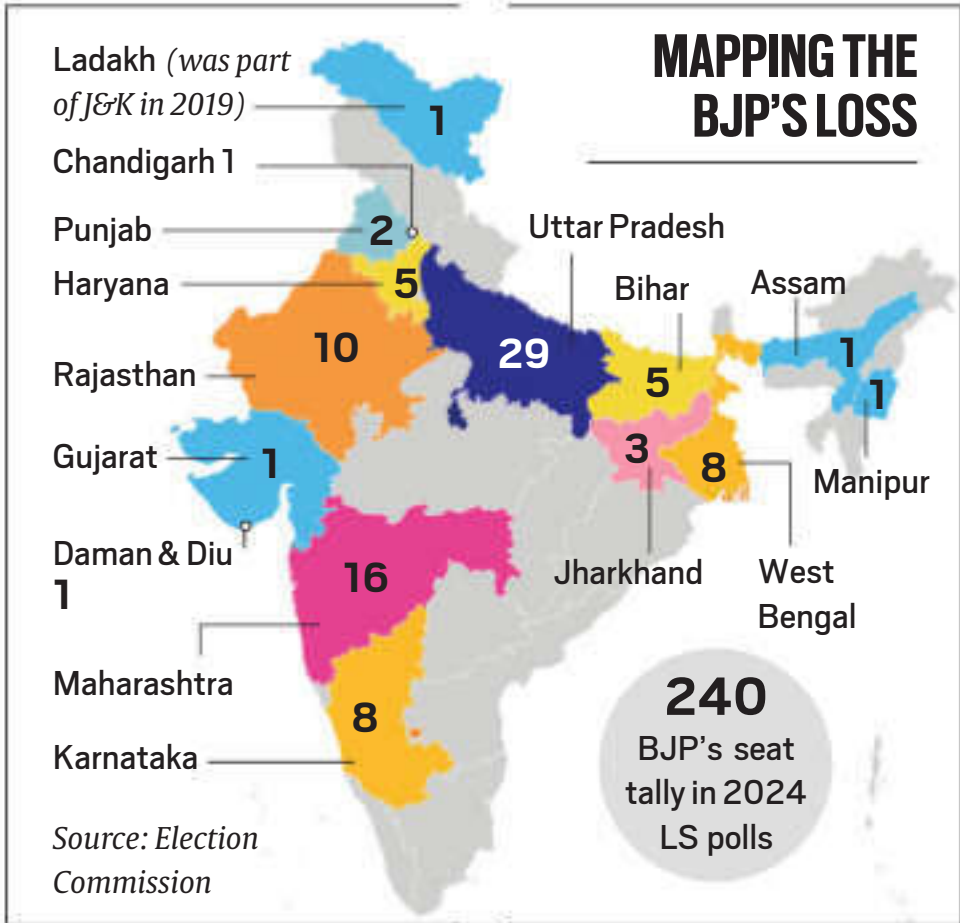
■ 29 were constituencies reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

■ The party suffered its biggest loss in Uttar Pradesh, which accounted for 29 of these 92 seats.

■ The other states where the saffron party faced major setbacks were Maharashtra and Rajasthan, where the party lost 16 and 10 seats respectively.

■ Besides, the party also faced defeat in 8 constituencies each in Karnataka and West Bengal.

■ BJP tally was halved in Haryana where the party lost 5 seats. It lost 5 seats in Bihar, 3 in Jharkhand, 2 in Punjab and one each in Assam, Chandigarh, Daman & Diu, Gujarat, Ladakh (it was part of Jammu & Kashmir in 2019), and Manipur. In all, the BJP lost 92 seats across 15 states and



Union Territories.

The spread of BJP's loss was even in General Category seats as well as reserve categories. Of the 92 seats the BJP lost, 63 were in General, 18 reserved for SCs and 11 for STs.

These seats were mostly in rural areas but included urban seats like Mumbai North Central and Mumbai North East, where Congress and its allies defeated the BJP.

Of the 92 seats, 11 constituencies— Aurangabad,

Dumka, Lohardaga, Gulbarga, Raichur, Gadchiroli-Chimur, Barmer, Karauli-Dholpur, Banda, Chandauli, and Fatehpur—were in the Aspirational Districts, the poorest districts of the country.

In the Aspirational Districts too, the Congress and the SP hit the BJP the most, by winning 6 and 3 seats of the 11 seats lost by the BJP in these districts.

Of the 92 seats, the Congress wrested a maximum 42 seats from the BJP, which included 9 in Maharashtra, 8 in Rajasthan



MODI MEETS MURMU

Prime Minister Narendra Modi hands his resignation to President Droupadi Murmu as the 17th Lok Sabha came to an end, at Rashtrapati Bhavan on Wednesday. *PTI*

In Rajasthan, Congress's 26-year-old Dalit face makes a comeback: From Assembly loss to MP

HAMZA KHAN
JAIPUR, JUNE 5

BAREILY SIX months ago, she had contested her first Assembly election as a Congress candidate and grabbed eyeballs not only for her spirited campaign but also for being among the youngest faces in the fray at just 25.

But when the Assembly poll results came last December, Sanjna Jatav had lost from Alwar's Kathumar seat to the BJP's Ramesh Khinchi by just 409 votes. Both Sanjna and her opponent had polled over 79,000 votes. "It was my first Assembly



Sanjna Jatav with party's Rajasthan chief Govind Singh Dotasra. *Express*

election. I had no experience, yet people gave me lots of love. What's missing was just luck, nothing else," she had earlier told *The Indian Express*.

Her luck was perhaps waiting to smile on her on a bigger stage. In the current Lok Sabha polls, Sanjna, now 26, has won from the Bharatpur constituency on the Congress ticket with a margin of 51,983 votes, polling over 5.79 lakh votes.

The Assembly poll loss helped sharpen Sanjna's political acumen. Following the December outcome, she had said that she would need to change a few things about her campaign for the Lok Sabha polls, especially the strategy as well as management and strengthening of party workers. Everything seemed to have fallen in place for her.

The Lok Sabha poll win is perhaps the most important milestone in Sanjna's political journey, who started out as a zila parishad member. She belongs to the Dalit community.

The last time the Congress had held the Bharatpur parliamentary seat was in 2009.

This time, Sanjna, having garnered 51.29% votes, defeated BJP's Ramswaroop Koli.

On the ground, what worked in her favour, as per Sanjna herself, was that wherever she went, the people saw her as their "daughter" or "bahu".

FULL REPORT
www.indianexpress.com



Bihar CM Nitish Kumar with RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav on a flight to Delhi, Wednesday. *PTI*

3rd biggest in NDA now, JD(U) eyes 3 ministries at Centre

SANTOSH SINGH
PATNA, JUNE 5

SECOND ONLY to the Telugu Desam Party in its heft in the NDA, Nitish Kumar's JD(U) plans to leverage the 12 seats it has won to negotiate plum portfolios in the cabinet, including the coveted Railways ministry, it is learnt.

Nitish was present in a meeting of NDA allies in the national capital on Wednesday, hours after sharing a flight with RJD's Tejashwi Yadav. "It's just a coincidence that the two leaders were travelling to Delhi by the same flight," JD(U) spokesperson and MLC Neeraj Kumar told *The Indian Express*. "We're strongly with the NDA and looking forward to a government under Narendra Modi for the third straight term."

This support, sources say, will come at a price. Unlike 2019, when the JD(U) won 16 seats but was offered a single ministerial berth, since the BJP was in majority on its own, the 12 seats it managed this time are far more valuable, party leaders say.

The party, sources said, has its eyes on Railways, Rural Development and Jal Shakti ministries. Other choices could be Transport and Agriculture. "Nitish has held railways, agriculture and transport portfolios in the NDA government. We want our MPs to take up departments that can help develop the

state. Jal Shakti is crucial in the context of Bihar facing a water crisis alongside challenges of a receding water table and flooding. We could also give a push to interlinking of river projects," said a JD(U) leader.

The Rural Development ministry, the leader reasoned, could help boost rural infrastructure and economy. "And getting Railways would of course be a matter of pride for Bihar," he said.

That's not all — party leaders say they would want Nitish at the helm when the NDA fights the assembly polls in Bihar next year. They also dismissed speculation that the state could see a change of guard in the near future.

Among the frontrunners for the potential ministerial berths are over half a dozen Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha JD(U) MPs. The party, sources said, will have to find a balance between accommodating an "upper caste, an OBC Kushwaha and an EBC leader".

Those in contention include former JD(U) national president and Munger MP Lalan Singh, an "upper caste heavyweight"; Jhanjharpur MP Rampreet Mandal, an EBC leader; and Valmiki Nagar MP Sunil Kumar, from the Kushwaha community. Sitamarhi MP Devesh Chandra Thakur and Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Kumar Jha could also be in the running, but Lalan Singh could have an edge because of his longstanding relationship with Nitish, sources said.

From 'waiting for call' to taking centre stage: Naidu turns the tables

NIKHILA HENRY
NEW DELHI, JUNE 5

TDP CHIEF N Chandrababu Naidu, who stopped the Jagan Mohan Reddy-led YSRCP's juggernaut in Andhra Pradesh Tuesday, had come to Delhi ahead of the Lok Sabha elections were announced. He wanted meet PM Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah about a possible electoral alliance.

"He waited to even get a call. That was the kind of treatment he got the last time he was here," said a close aide of Naidu.

But on June 4, the tables turned and Naidu's significance in the NDA soared as the majority mark eluded the BJP. On Wednesday, when he reached Delhi, the BJP top brass was more than willing to meet him.

The former CM, who was jailed in the alleged Andhra Pradesh Skill Development Corporation scam and apparently written off from state politics, became an imperative part of the combine formula for NDA's third term after winning 16 of the 25 Lok Sabha seats in the state.

"You all need the (political) spice," Naidu responded to a barrage of questions from media persons as party workers and his admirers gathered to greet him at the Delhi residence of former TDP MP Galla Jayadev.

But there was silence on one question: What does he want from the BJP in exchange for his support to the NDA?

Naidu was an NDA ally from 1999 onwards but he drifted away from the coalition. Before the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, his party stitched an alliance with the Congress, and Naidu was handed a drubbing in his home state.

He joined hands with the NDA only after Janasena chief Pawan Kalyan managed to bring the BJP



DMK chief and Tamil Nadu CM M K Stalin greets TDP chief N Chandrababu Naidu at the Delhi airport. *PTI*

and TDP together following Naidu's release from jail on bail.

In Delhi on Wednesday, Naidu was surrounded by his former advisors, some of his MLAs and at least an MP. "It's a rather busy day for us. Everything is finally falling in place," said K Rammohan Rao, a former special advisor to the TDP chief.

Earlier, Pattabhiram Kommareddy, TDP national spokesperson said Naidu's focus will be on Andhra Pradesh and not Centre. "We don't want anything from the BJP except for support for development of the state," he said.

Naidu held a thin file as he headed for the NDA meeting. "I will speak after the meeting," he said. In the meeting, Naidu was seated next to PM Narendra Modi.

Meanwhile, DMK president and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin met Naidu at the Delhi airport and exchanged pleasantries. In a post on X, Stalin said: "...I conveyed my best wishes to him and expressed hope that we will collaborate to strengthen the ties between the brotherly states of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. I am confident that he will play a crucial role in the Union Government, advocating for the southern states and protecting our rights."

Maya: Will now field minorities ‘soch samajh kar’

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 5

A DAY after the BSP put up its poorest performance in LS election, party chief Mayawati Wednesday said Muslims did not understand her party despite the fact that she gave adequate representation to the community. She said the BSP would give opportunities to them in future after much thought to avoid such setbacks.

Calling Muslims an “important part” of BSP, Mayawati said in a statement, “Now in this situation, the party will give opportunities to them in future elections *kafi soch samajh kar* (after much thought) so that the party does not suffer a similar setback in future.” The BSP had fielded the highest number of Muslim candidates in the country at 35 in a bid to broaden her support base with a combination of Dalits and Muslim votes.

‘We are dominant force, Tejashwi’s jobs pitch will help us in state polls’

HAVING ENDED without a seat in 2019, the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) recovered to four constituencies in Bihar this time, with the INDIA bloc’s tally in the state growing to nine. RJD Rajya Sabha MP and national spokesperson MANOJ KUMAR JHA speaks to SANTOSH SINGH on the poll results, RJD’s prospects and the INDIA bloc’s future. Excerpts:

What do you make of the results?

The results are very encouraging. We have demonstrated that people back you when they see a fighting spirit. It was a difficult election with everything stacked against us — institutions that broke parties and allowed the theft of people’s mandates; agencies that left no stone unturned to harass, defame, and jail leaders; a mainstream media that has been timid... I can go on.

But what kept us in belief in the Constitution, as well as being among the people at all times...

Do you believe that better coordination among INDIA partners as well as retaining JD(U) leader Nitish Kumar could have helped the INDIA bloc get a majority?

The INDIA bloc has put up a spirited fight. It has been a pleasure working with all the partners. We would have liked everyone to focus on the elections and leave the rest of the issues for later.

On Wednesday, all of us met to discuss future course of the collective. But given the diverse contexts from which all of us come, sometimes it is difficult to micro-manage some moving parts. Fortunately, in India, there are a large number of people and parties that hold the letter and spirit of the Constitution sacrosanct.

How do you see Bihar’s results?

On the whole, the INDIA bloc did quite well. We could have definitely done better. The RJD is undoubtedly a politically dominant force, but the arithmetic of elections is dependent on so many small things that only a booth-by-booth analysis will tell us what we need to be more attentive to in the coming months.

7 Union, 2 state ministers from BJP lost in UP, winners saw their margin shrink

MAULSHREE SETH
LUCKNOW, JUNE 5

AS THE BJP, which had electorally dominated Uttar Pradesh for the last 10 years, shrunk in this Lok Sabha election, as many as seven Union ministers and two ministers in the Uttar Pradesh government lost. Also, the party lost in more than half of the 17 Scheduled Caste reserved seats in the state.

Ten Union ministers from the BJP were in the fray from UP, and seven of them lost. They included Smriti Irani from Amethi (lost by 1.67 lakh votes), Mahendra Nath Pandey from Chandauli (21,565 votes), Sanjeev Balyan from Muzaffarnagar (24,672 votes), Ajay Mishra Teni from Lakhipur Kheri (34,329 votes), Sadhvi Niranjani Jyoti from Fatehpur



BJP candidate Smriti Irani lost from Amethi. File

(33,199 votes), Kaushal Kishore from Mohanlalganj SC reserved seat (70,292 votes), and Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma from Jalaun SC reserved seat (53,898 votes).

The two ministers in the UP government who lost were Dinesh Pratap Singh (against Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in

Rae Bareilly by over 3.90 lakh votes), and Jai Veer Singh against SP leader Dimple Yadav in Mainpuri by over 2.21 lakh votes.

The four Union ministers who won saw their victory margin vis-a-vis 2019 depleted. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, whose campaign focused on “abki baar

5 lakh paar” margin, saw his winning votes reduced from 3.47 lakh to 1.3 lakh in Lucknow.

Union minister Pankaj Chaudhary, who won from Maharajganj for the seventh time, saw his margin reduced from 3.40 lakh in 2019 to mere 35,000 votes in this election.

SP Singh Baghel was the third Union minister from the BJP who won. He won from Agra SC reserved seat by a margin of 2.71 lakh votes. The two UP ministers who won were Jitin Prasada from Pilibhit and Anoop Balmiki from Hathras.

Meanwhile, the BJP won in only eight of the 17 SC reserved seats — down from its 2019 tally of 15.

Besides losing in Jalaun, where sitting MP and Union minister Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma was defeated by SP’s

Narayan Dhar Ahirwar, the party also lost in Mohanlalganj where SP’s RK Chaudhary defeated Union Minister and two-term sitting MP Kaushal Kishore by over 70,000 votes.

Another significant SC reserved seat lost by the BJP was Barabanki, where Congress’ Tanuj Punia defeated Rajrani Rawat by a margin of over 2.15 lakh. Tanuj’s father, PL Punia, had won from the seat earlier.

The three other SC reserved seats snatched away from the BJP included Machhlishahr (Priya Sarof of SP defeated BJP’s Bhola-nath by 35,850 votes), Kaushambi (Pushpendra Saroj of SP defeated BJP’s Vinod Kumar Sonkar by over 1 lakh votes); and Robertsganj (Chhotelal of SP won defeated BJP ally Rinki Singh of Apna Dal (S) by 1.29 lakh votes). In 2019, Robertsganj was won by Apna Dal (S).

Muslim to Christian vote, divisions in Cong, to Left: What Kerala results show

SHAJU K PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, JUNE 5

THE CONGRESS-led UDF has won 18 out of 20 seats in Kerala, while one seat each went to the BJP and the CPI(M). Here are the takeaways from Kerala result:

Kerala always prefers Cong for Lok Sabha

Kerala has always shown a voting pattern in Lok Sabha polls that is different from Assembly polls. Barring a few exceptions, the state has always preferred the Congress at the Lok Sabha to the Left. The 2024 Lok Sabha elections were fought at a time when the Left had lost its ground elsewhere in the country, exposing CPI(M)’s inability to stem the BJP juggernaut, which helped the Congress project itself as an alternative at the national level.

Anti-incumbency against state govt

Along with a vote of protest against the Modi government at the Centre, a major factor that worked in UDF’s favour was the anti-incumbency being faced by the Pinarayi Vijayan-led Left government. On ground, even though there was strong resentment against the CPI(M), the party had avoided any debate over a mandate for its regime. At



Congress leader Shashi Tharoor celebrates after his victory in Lok Sabha polls. File

the same time, the UDF, particularly the Congress, fielded all sitting MPs. Result shows they remained insulated from individual anti-incumbency.

CPM wooed Muslims

The CPI(M) had projected the Left as the only alliance that could fight the BJP at the national level. Right from the outset, the party made the CAA as its main poll plank, and alleged the Congress was silent on it. However, the Congress and its ally, the IUML, went on to win by big margins in all the seats in north Kerala where Muslims are a considerable force. Elsewhere in Kerala,

the CPI(M)’s single-point agenda may have distanced Hindu and Christian votes from the Left.

Christian votes with Congress

The huge victory of Congress in central Kerala, held after the exit of several leading Christian faces from the party shows the community’s loyalty to the Congress remains intact. In central Kerala seats of Ernakulam, Idukki, Kottayam and Pathanamthitta, both CPI(M) and Congress fielded Christian candidates, but the UDF won all seats, voiding the BJP’s Christian outreach programmes and anti-Muslim campaign.

Trouble within LDF

The BJP won Thrissur and put up a strong fight in Thiruvananthapuram, both seats contested by the CPI, which is the CPI(M)’s junior ally in the LDF. In both seats, it is believed, the LDF candidates did not get all the Left votes. The victory of Suresh Gopi in Thrissur is likely to reopen the controversy over the allegation that CPI(M) leader E P Jayarajan had held discussions with the Kerala BJP in-charge Prakash Javadekar on helping Gopi’s victory, in exchange for Centre settling probes by its agencies against CPI(M) leaders, as well as the SNC Lavalin case that is pending in the Supreme Court.

Congress-IUML bond

In the run-up to the elections,

the CPI(M) had sent feelers to the IUML, the Congress’s main ally in Kerala. Over the last few years, the CPI(M) had managed to get closer to an influential cleric body, SAMASTHA, which is closely associated with the IUML. As a result, in Ponnani, the CPI(M) fielded its candidate with the backing of a section of SAMASTHA clerics. With the Congress recording a resounding victory in Kerala, the IUML can check the pro-Left elements within SAMASTHA. Besides, the impression that the BJP won Thrissur with tacit Left backing will also dent the CPI(M)’s image among Muslims, another factor that would help the Congress cement its ties with the IUML.

BJP opens account

The most important takeaway of the LS elections in Kerala is the victory of BJP candidate Gopi from Thrissur. The BJP poll campaign focused on “Modi’s guarantee” and development. This victory will boost BJP’s confidence in Kerala, and go a long way in the party’s future electoral plans.

The party has also increased its vote share in many other constituencies, like Thiruvananthapuram, Attingal and Alappuzha. But it failed to make a bigger gain from the public resentment against the LDF government, which went in favour of the UDF.

BJP won in land of secularism, has to be examined, says Pinarayi

Thiruvananthapuram: A day after the LS elections results came out, Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan Wednesday said the verdict will be examined and required corrections will be made in the functioning of the Left government.

The CPI(M)-led LDF won only one of the 20 seats in Kerala and could not improve its 2019 tally.

In an official communication, Vijayan said the LDF did not get the expected victory: “Drawbacks will be rectified. Efforts to counter the wicked campaign against the government and to clear people’s misconceptions will be strengthened.”

“That BJP has won in a land of democracy and secularism (and it) has to be examined critically. All people believing in secularism and democracy should be ready for such a review,” he said. ENS

After DMK alliance sweeps TN, BJP sees gain in ADMK’s loss

ARUN JANARDHANAN
CHENNAI, JUNE 5

THE DMK-led Secular Progressive Alliance’s clean sweep in Tamil Nadu has left principal Opposition party AIADMK grappling with questions about its future, given that it has faced a poll debacle for the second straight parliamentary election, and has provided the BJP with a silver lining despite troubles of its own.

Unlike last time, when the AIADMK won one seat, it failed to win any of the 39 LS seats, and was relegated to the third place in 12 critical seats, with the BJP-led NDA coming second behind the DMK. BJP finished second in nine of these seats. These seats are Chennai Central, Chennai South, Coimbatore, Kanyakumari, Madurai, Nilgiris, Tirunelveli, Tiruvallur, Vellore, Dharmapuri, Ramanathapuram, and Theni, which was the sole seat the AIADMK won in 2019.

For the AIADMK, more worrying will be Kanyakumari and the UT of Puducherry where it finished fourth behind Tamil nationalist leader Seeman’s Naam Tamilar Katchi (NTK). Adding to its woes, AIADMK candidates in seven seats lost their deposits.

While AIADMK chief Edappadi K Palaniswami said the election was a lesson in how to face the 2026 Assembly polls, a former AIADMK minister said Palaniswami should read signs of danger: “There is a huge setback in southern Tamil Nadu. Seeman’s NTK and the BJP ate into our votes. The results show revamping the party is crucial now.”

Another leader from central TN alleged EPS seemed more fo-



Tamil Nadu CM and DMK chief MK Stalin in Chennai during counting of votes. File

cused on keeping his hold over the party than ensuring its well-being. According to him, “the delayed decision to sever ties with the NDA just 6 months before the polls” weakened the party.

“There was significant last-minute sabotage from the party in favour of BJP, especially in high-profile seats such as Coimbatore and Ramanathapuram,” said an AIADMK leader from Salem.

Meanwhile, for BJP, an aggressive campaign led by PM Narendra Modi and state BJP chief K Annamalai, who lost from Coimbatore, failed to translate into electoral success. The BJP’s vote share stagnated at 11.24%, far below its target of 25%. For the party, the AIADMK’s troubles that have disrupted the traditional dynamics of bipolar contests form the silver lining from this election, with Annamalai labelling it a victory.

“In several seats, including Chennai city constituencies and Madurai, BJP has pushed AIADMK to third position. That is our victory. If AIADMK vote share has come down to 20% in 2024, that is their problem. Our growth is to our advantage,” Annamalai said.

Far fewer contested, but Muslim MP tally almost same this time

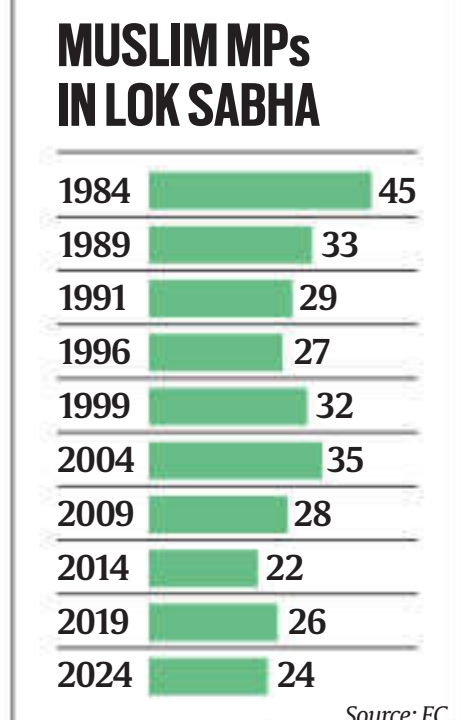
ZEESHAN SHAIKH
MUMBAI, JUNE 5

DESPITE A notable decline in the overall count of Muslim candidates nominated by major political parties in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, dropping from 115 in 2019 to 78, the anticipated tally of Muslim MPs in the Lok Sabha is poised to reach 24. In the previous LS, there were 26 Muslim MPs.

While five Muslims secured seats on the Congress ticket in 2019, the number rose to seven this time around.

However, Muslim representation in the Lower House remains at 4.41% of its 543 total members, significantly below the community’s 14% share in India’s population, as per the 2011 Census.

If the Congress’s seven Muslim MPs are the highest for any party, it is followed by the TMC at five, the Samajwadi Party SP at four, the IUML at three, the NC at two, the AIMIM at one, and two Independents. This means that of the 24 Muslim MPs, 21 are from the INDIA bloc parties.



The majority of Muslim MPs hail from West Bengal, at five.

The Congress Muslim leaders who won include Tariq Anwar from Katihar, Shafi Parambil from Vadakara, Imran Masood from Saharanpur, Muhammed Hamdullah from Lakshadweep, Rakibul Hussain from Dhubri, Mohammed Jawed from Kishanganj, and Isha Khan Choudhary from Maldaha Dakshin. FULL REPORT

www.indianexpress.com

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Appointment of Vice-Chancellor of Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Madhya Pradesh (A Central University)

Indira Gandhi National Tribal University is a leading Central University. The Vice-Chancellor, being the academic as well as administrative head, is expected to be:

- A person possessing the highest level of competence, integrity, morals and institutional commitment.
- A distinguished academician, with a minimum of 10 years’ experience as Professor in a University or 10 years’ experience in reputed research and/or academic administrative organization with proof of having demonstrated academic leadership.
- Preferably not more than 65 years of age as on the closing date of receipt of applications of this advertisement.

Salary and Service Conditions

- The post carries a pay of Rs. 2,10,000/- (Fixed) per month with Special Allowance of Rs. 11,250/- and other usual allowances.
- The terms and conditions of the services will be those as set forth in the Act, Statutes and Ordinances of the University.

Procedure for appointment

- Appointment will be made from panel of names recommended by a committee constituted under the provisions of Indira Gandhi National Tribal University Act, 2007.
- The advertisement is available on the websites <https://www.education.gov.in> and <https://www.igntu.ac.in>
- Candidates are required to “APPLY ONLINE ONLY” on the Ministry of Education SAMARTH portal as per the link given below:
<https://vcrec.samarth.ac.in/index.php/>

The above link will be active from, 06.06.2024, 10:00 Hours to, 05.07.2024, 17:00 Hours.

CBC-21201/11/0002/2425

Uttarkashi: 5 trekkers from Karnataka die, 4 missing; bad weather hits rescue

AVANEESH MISHRA
DEHRADUN, JUNE 5

FIVE TREKKERS from Karnataka have died, 11 rescued and four others are missing after a 22-member team on an expedition to Sahastratal in Uttarkashi was hit by bad weather.

According to information shared by the Uttarakhand government, two more trekkers were found to be safe in a nearby base camp and are returning on foot. As the rescue teams race against time to save the remaining four members, adverse weather conditions are impeding helicopter rescue efforts in the upper Himalayan region.

The deceased have been



A rescued trekker undergoes medical checkup

identified as Sindhu Vakekalam (45), Asha Sudhakar (71), Sujatha Mungurwadi (51), Vinayak Mungurwadi (54), and Chitra Praneeth (48), all from Bengaluru.

District Magistrate Dr Meharban Singh Bisht has instructed the rescue teams to expedite their efforts. The teams

are advancing towards the incident site from two directions.

The IAF has also initiated a search and rescue operation and deployed two Chetak helicopters.

SDRF Commandant Manikant Mishra said: “Returning from Sahastratal, the team encountered bad weather. They continued the trek during which two of them died. The remaining members eventually reached the two trekkers who had stayed behind and spent the night there. During the night, two more trekkers died due to extreme cold, leaving 16 trekkers. The next morning, eight of them managed to return to the base camp.”

WITH INPUTS FROM AKRAMMI IN KARNATAKA

Fire damages Gulmarg’s century-old Shiv temple

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 5

A MASSIVE fire broke out at the iconic Shiv temple, also known as Maharani temple, early Wednesday in Gulmarg town of Jammu and Kashmir causing the roof to completely burn down. The cause of the fire is yet to be ascertained, said the officials.

The fire tenders could not reach the spot in time due to which the fire engulfed the roof completely even as the structure also suffered some damages, said the officials.

Former J&K CM Omar Abdullah meanwhile urged the administration to restore the

temple. On X, he said, “Very sorry to hear about the fire in Gulmarg that seriously damaged the famous Shiv Mandir. I hope the administration quickly establishes the cause of the fire & reconstructs this place of great religious (and tourist) significance as soon as possible.”

According to locals, the fire gained momentum due to strong winds and the location of the temple. The temple sits atop a hillock in Gulmarg. The temple was built in 1915 for the Maharani of Jammu and Kashmir and Maharaja Hari Singh’s wife Mohini Bai.

It has also been the site of filming of Bollywood movies in the early 1980s.

WESTERN RAILWAY - AHMEDABAD DIVISION

SIGNALING WORK

DRM/S and T acting for and behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders against Tender No DRM-SnT-ADI-Sig 16 (Re-invite) of 2023-24 closing date 24-06-2024, 15:00 Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Tender No. DRM-SnT-ADI-Sig 16 (Re-invite) of 2023-24 (1) Name of Work: Part supply of signalling material, installation, testing & commissioning in connection with reliability improvement by replacing overaged S&T gears of Ahmedabad Division (Re-invite) (2) Estimated Cost of Work: ₹ 2,59,31,769.68/- (Rs. Two Crore Fifty Nine Lakh Thirty One Thousands Seven Hundred Sixty Nine Rupees and Sixty Eight Paise only) (3) Earnest Money Deposit: ₹ 2,79,700/- (Rs. Two Lakh Seventy Nine Thousands Seven Hundred only) (4) Date & Time of closing of tender and opening of tender: Not later than 15:00 hrs. of 24-06-2024 and Opening on 24-06-2024 at 15:30 hrs. (5) Website of E-Tendering: www.ireps.gov.in ADI-059

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BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

RINGING IN THE NEW

New governments in Odisha, AP must keep promises, especially on creating job opportunities, that swept them into power

THE DEFEAT OF five-time chief minister Naveen Patnaik of the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) and the YSRCP's YS Jagan Mohan Reddy in the assembly polls held alongside the general election frames anti-incumbency at work in Odisha and Andhra Pradesh respectively. From 23 seats out of 175 in 2019, the TDP — whose fortunes seemed to be at their lowest ebb a few months ago, following Chandrababu Naidu's arrest last year in the alleged Skill Development Corporation scam — rose to win 135, while the ruling YSRCP, which had swept the previous assembly polls with 151 seats, was able to retain only 11. Even as it registered losses in its bastions like UP, the BJP's inroads into Odisha point to its spread into new territories and clever leveraging of fatigue with the BJD — it secured 78 seats against BJD's 51.

In both states the Opposition banked on anti-incumbency sentiments, including discontent over the perceived lack of employment opportunities, and a welfare model that was seen to prioritise short-term gains over long-term development policies. In Andhra Pradesh, the appeal of Jagan Reddy's "Navaratnalu" promise — nine welfare programmes aimed at farmers, women and the poor — evidently dimmed before the TDP's "Super Six" guarantees of welfare plus jobs. The TDP-JSP-BJP combine also tapped into disgruntlement over the controversial Land Titling Act and the widespread impression that a majority of the state's funds were being spent on doles. Perceived vindictiveness towards political rivals also hurt the YSRCP's prospects, especially after JSP's Pawan Kalyan, in September last year, declared his support for Naidu in a made-for-camera moment outside Rajahmundry jail, where the latter was incarcerated. In neighbouring Odisha, in the 2019 Assembly elections, the BJD had won by a comfortable majority of 112 of its 147 assembly seats against the BJP's 23. Ahead of this year's assembly elections, speculation about Patnaik's failing health, Odisha's low indices on parameters such as education and employment became flashpoints that were successfully exploited by its former ally-turned-adversary. The state's unemployment rate remains higher than the national average. Welfare schemes aimed at women and farmers that had powered Patnaik's popularity through a large part of his 24-year tenure seemed to have run out of steam, opening up fertile ground for the BJP leadership to invoke Odia asmita (Odia pride) and attack Patnaik on the rise of his aide and private secretary V K Pandian as the de facto administrator who came in from outside. The Ratna Bhandar issue — the missing key to the treasury of Lord Jagannath — was raked up, too, as an example of the BJD's alleged disrespect to Odia culture.

Cultural identities, however, are tricky terrains. As the BJP begins a new innings in the state, it will also need to remember that voters in the age group of 18-29 account for 23 per cent of Odisha's electorate — they require jobs that will keep them in the state instead of looking for opportunities outside. In Andhra Pradesh, too, youth make up about 25 per cent of the state's population. The jobs and development plank on which the winning alliance campaigned — helped by PM Modi's appeal — must now become the template for the new government's policies.

RULES OF THE GAME

In a bitterly fought election, amid spectres and scares, what remained inviolate was the electoral process's credibility

AT THE END of an election, the focus is on reading the mandate and analysing the performance of the major political players. Elections, however, are not just about victory and defeat. They are equally, if not more importantly, tests of the process, and its checks and balances, the system's ability to ensure fair play. For India's poll monitor, the Election Commission (EC), that task is both delicate and difficult: Making adherence to due procedures non-negotiable in a diverse and intensely competitive field, where passions often run high. On Tuesday, when it declared the results of the General Elections, held over a gruelling six weeks amid heat wave conditions in several parts of the country, the EC could justifiably claim to have lived up to its own high standards. "Parinaam mein hi pramaan hai (the result is the proof)", said the CEC.

Ahead of this election, and also during it, concerns about its free-ness and fair-ness, taken for granted so far, were raised by political players, and they found an echo among sections of voters. The backdrop to the 18th Lok Sabha elections featured an executive which showed little compunction in weaponising central investigative agencies against political opponents. In January, Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on corruption charges. About two months later, his Delhi counterpart, Arvind Kejriwal, was taken into ED custody — it required a Supreme Court verdict to let the AAP supremo campaign. This created fears about the playing field being rigged. A big question long before the winners and losers were decided was, therefore, about the integrity of the process itself. In this setting, the EC stepped up to its role, even as it invited criticism and controversy. Among other steps, it issued notices to the presidents of the BJP and Congress on alleged breaches of the model code of conduct by their star campaigners, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi. Polling in parts of West Bengal was marred by violence, but the law enforcement agencies ensured that disturbances were contained before they took a serious turn.

No losing candidate — not Uddhav Shiv Sena's Amol Gajanan Kirtikar who lost to Shiv Sena-Shinde's Ravindra D Waikar in Mumbai North West by a mere 48 votes, nor CPM candidate V Joy defeated by Congress's Adoor Prakash in Attingal, Kerala, by less than 700 votes — is reported to have questioned the fairness of the result. It's yet another testament to the resilience and credibility of the country's election process and machinery.

YOU DON'T NEED TO KNOW

An AI chatbot now allows people to seek advice from their older selves. It is an unnecessary enterprise

IF I ONLY knew then, what I know now..." It is a lament the young do not understand, for they do not know that they do not know. But as time passes — sometimes in days, sometimes in years — many people have wanted to go back and counsel, scold and guide themselves to better decisions. Some may wish to go back only a day, and caution their past selves against that fifth drink, or the late-night binge eating. For others, regrets can span years and even a lifetime. It may be that, after slaving away at a job for decades, someone may want to go back and quit, when time and opportunity allowed them to. Now, AI is trying to allow people to talk to younger versions of themselves.

According to a report in The Guardian, researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) have built an AI-powered chatbot that simulates a user's older self and dishes out advice. The profile picture is aged — wrinkles, grey hair and perhaps a bit of wisdom in the eyes — to make the faux time travel feel more authentic. It gives career advice, tells people to cherish their parents, and shares any number of other pearls of wisdom. If the advice sounds a little corny, users have only themselves to blame — the chatbot is based on their behaviour and inputs. Unfortunately, though, it's unlikely to alter the course of lives.

The problem with the "I wish I'd known then what I know now" aspiration is, as Terry Pratchett pointed out, "when you got older you found out that you wasn't you then. You then was a twerp." It takes a life filled with regrets and what-ifs to gain the wisdom to give advice. Ignoring the advice of elders is what being young is often about. A chatbot won't change that. If kids were so keen on perspective, they would just listen to their parents.



ASHUTOSH VARSHNEY

EVERY ELECTION VERDICT is part statistics, part interpretation. The game of numbers is cut in stone; the realm of interpretation is anything but. The following question is worth posing. Just what do the 2024 national election results signify?

There are three serious interpretive candidates (and possibly some more, if imagination can be deployed further). The first is that the results are a massive disapproval of the prime minister's hubris, especially though not only epitomised by his public statement that he was not biologically produced, but was chosen and sent by "parmatma" (God) to accomplish a divinely ordained mission. This statement in May followed his consecration of the Ram temple in January, where priests played a wholly subsidiary role and India's Prime Minister, occupying the highest office of a non-theocratic state, placed himself at the centre of a religious ceremony.

But even a serious electoral reversal — losing over 60 seats — appears not to have had an immediate effect. In an inversion of meanings, the first post-election Narendra Modi appearance at the BJP headquarters was presented as an "aitihasik vijay utsav" (historic victory celebration). That is called an exercise in suspension of disbelief.

In an intellectually astute formulation, Yogendra Yadav has of late been arguing that given the call for "chaar sau paar" (beyond 400 seats) and its 303 seats in the last Lok Sabha, 300 seats or so for the BJP in 2024 could be called some kind of draw, but less than the majority figure (272) should be viewed as a "moral defeat" and less than 250 a "political defeat". BJP has 240. How can that be a victory?

The second interpretation is that the results are a check on Hindu nationalism. After the first round of voting, Modi's campaign, in its anti-Muslim rhetoric, acquired the kind of Hindu nationalist stridency not seen since 2002.

Consider, now, why the verdict can be read as a disapproval of Hindu nationalism. The BJP lost Faizabad, the parliamentary seat that houses the Ayodhya temple. Equally notably, the BJP has been trounced in Uttar Pradesh, the party's greatest ideological heartland outside Gujarat since 2014. Compared to 2019, the BJP's vote in UP fell by as much as eight percentage points.

Elections expressed a yearning for defence of constitutional values and citizen dignity

The BJP lost Faizabad, the parliamentary seat that houses the Ayodhya temple. Equally notably, the BJP has been trounced in Uttar Pradesh, the party's greatest ideological heartland outside Gujarat since 2014. Compared to 2019, the BJP's vote in UP fell by as much as eight percentage points. The BJP also lost the parliamentary seat of Barmer (Rajasthan), where Modi, while campaigning, used for India's Muslims some truly vile words, such as 'ghuspaithiye' (infiltrators) and 'zyada bachche paida karne wale log' (the community that breeds more children).



ASHUTOSH

REVOLUTIONS HAVE MANY shades. But their essential feature is disruption. From the French Revolution to the October Revolution, old establishments were led to their destruction with a delinking from the past for the construction of the future. The 2011 movement led by Anna Hazare and Arvind Kejriwal was nothing less than a revolution. So, when it transformed into a political party, the Aam Aadmi Party earned the confidence of the people, with the party forming governments in two states in a short span, defeating a century-old political party.

The AAP is no ordinary phenomenon. But this election has proved again that it is still not considered a national player. It is intriguing that the AAP, despite having an overwhelming presence in the assembly elections in Delhi, has failed to win a single seat in parliamentary elections in the national capital three times in a row. It drew blanks in 2014, 2019 and 2024. The BJP has swept all seven seats in Delhi since 2014.

In this election, the AAP was hopeful that it would be able to win at least two seats, given its alliance with Congress. Yet, the combined share of votes is about 43 per cent, much less than the BJP's 54 per cent. In 2019, the AAP and Congress contested separately and surprisingly, the former was third in terms of vote share. Congress did better in 2019. Curiously, just six months later, in the assembly elections, the AAP im-

AAP's MISSING VISION

Losses in Lok Sabha election show voters expect more from the young party

AAP contested 22 seats in total this year. Other than Delhi and Punjab, it put up candidates in Assam, Haryana and Gujarat. It improved its national vote share from 0.44 per cent to 1.11 per cent this year. But despite the arrest of Arvind Kejriwal on the eve of the election and his release on bail to campaign for the party, the AAP failed to move the voter. These are not encouraging signs.

proved its vote share three times over and won 54 per cent of the votes and 62 seats out of 70 in Delhi.

In 2014, too, the AAP was no match to Modi's juggernaut in the Lok Sabha elections. This was when the AAP was considered a national alternative. It contested more than 400 Lok Sabha seats but lost all but four in Punjab. At its peak, it could get only 33 per cent of the votes to BJP's 52 per cent and failed to win a single seat. But six months after the parliamentary elections, it won 67 assembly seats out of 70.

The Punjab story is slightly different. In 2014, the AAP won four seats; in 2019, it was reduced to one seat and in these elections, it won three against Congress's seven. It had a good start in Punjab with four seats and 24 per cent of the votes but its performance in 2019 and 2024 has been anything but good. In 2019, its vote share nosedived to 7.46 per cent. In 2024, it increased to 26 per cent, with the AAP winning three seats. But this pales in comparison to its performance in the 2022 assembly election when it won 92 seats and 42 per cent votes. This is after the AAP stunned many by forming the government in Punjab. Congress was almost decimated but surprisingly, it had done better than the AAP in 2019 when it won 8 seats and in 2024 when it managed seven seats.

Here emerges a pattern. The AAP contested 22 seats in total this year. Other than

a job; the idea that if a job is available, one won't need free ration, one can buy the food one needs, and also live a life of dignity. These thoughts can, I think, be aggregated into the so-called "idea of India".

Hindu nationalists have always resented this term, calling it a Nehruvian imposition. An authentic idea of India, in their view, requires civilisational anchorage, which they define as Hindu-centric. To their minds, "Islamic invasions" since the 711 conquest of Sind by Mohammed bin Qasim make it more than *ek hazaar saal ki ghulam*i (a thousand years of slavery). A culturally authentic idea of India must give primacy to overcoming this *ghulam*i; everything else follows. The term "infiltrators" comes from this version of history.

But this argument is fundamentally flawed. The so-called idea of India is not a Nehruvian imposition. It is enshrined in India's Constitution. The Constitution is, most of all, Babasaheb Ambedkar's creation. It was doubtless based on deliberations in the Constituent Assembly, but he was the prime mover. The Constitution has all the ideas bubbling disparately in our election conversations: Justice, equality, rights, attack on various kinds of inequalities, and that mighty human motivation once consciousness dawns — dignity.

Doubtless, my arguments above have a Dalit, OBC and Muslim inflection. Moreover, their roots are in my UP conversations. But that is no disqualifier. After all, Modi's overall electoral reverses are disproportionately driven by his defeat in UP. And there is every reason to believe that Dalits, OBCs (including lower OBCs) and Muslims brought about the BJP's downfall in UP.

In short, at least in UP, and perhaps elsewhere, we are witnessing a re-birth of the idea of India, heavily suppressed for the last several years. What is even clearer is that if the BJP had returned to power with a majority of its own, the constitutionally enshrined idea of India would have been subjected to a vigorous assault, leading to its decimation.

The writer is Sol Goldman Professor of International Studies and the Social Sciences at Brown University, where he also directs the Saxena Center for Contemporary South Asia at the Watson Institute



JUNE 6, 1984, FORTY YEARS AGO

GUNS IN TEMPLE

TERRORISTS INSIDE THE Golden Temple complex for the first time used medium machine guns and mortars against the security forces. Two persons, a security personnel and a labourer, were killed in the firing. It was not known whether there was any casualty inside the Golden Temple. (Resistance from the extremists inside the Temple seemed to be crumbling, reports PTI.)

RADIO PAKISTAN

THE GOVERNMENT CENSORSHIP of the Punjab press has turned villagers of the state

towards Radio Pakistan. With the widespread reliance on it, the censorship policy seems to have backfired. A group of youths sitting under a tree in Diba village said they had the latest news. To prove this, they came out with a series of wild stories.

GULF WAR

IRAQI WARPLANES BOMBED the western Iranian border town of Baneh, killing or wounding more than 600 people, and Iran vowed to bomb 11 Iraqi cities and towns in retaliation, the official Iranian news agency IRNA reported. Without directly commenting on the Iranian report on the attack on

Baneh, Iraq threatened to bomb 5 Iranian cities if the Iranians carried out their threats, according to a report in Baghdad.

MISSIONS ATTACKED

MILITANT SIKHS FAILED in their attempt to intrude into the Indian High Commission building in London but they forced their way into the ground floor and wounded three India-based security guards. All this happened in the presence of a lone police constable who, dazed over the unexpected incident asked his headquarters for help. A contingent of police rushed to the scene only after the damage had been done.

THE IDEAS PAGE

Modi, beyond numbers

Opposition must realise that PM Modi's vision and appeal go beyond one election result and BJP MPs shouldn't rely only on his popularity



RAKESH SINHA

THE 2024 Lok Sabha elections verdict carries multiple messages. On the face of it, the BJP's seats have decreased, which has made a coalition government at the Centre essential once more. In a parliamentary democracy, numbers are, understandably, the primary yardstick used to judge the success of political parties. Political thinkers and commentators both inside and outside the country who constantly criticised the RSS-BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi on ideological grounds are announcing the decline of PM Modi and the BJP. They seem to believe and hope, joyfully, that the result marks the return of the old style of politics.

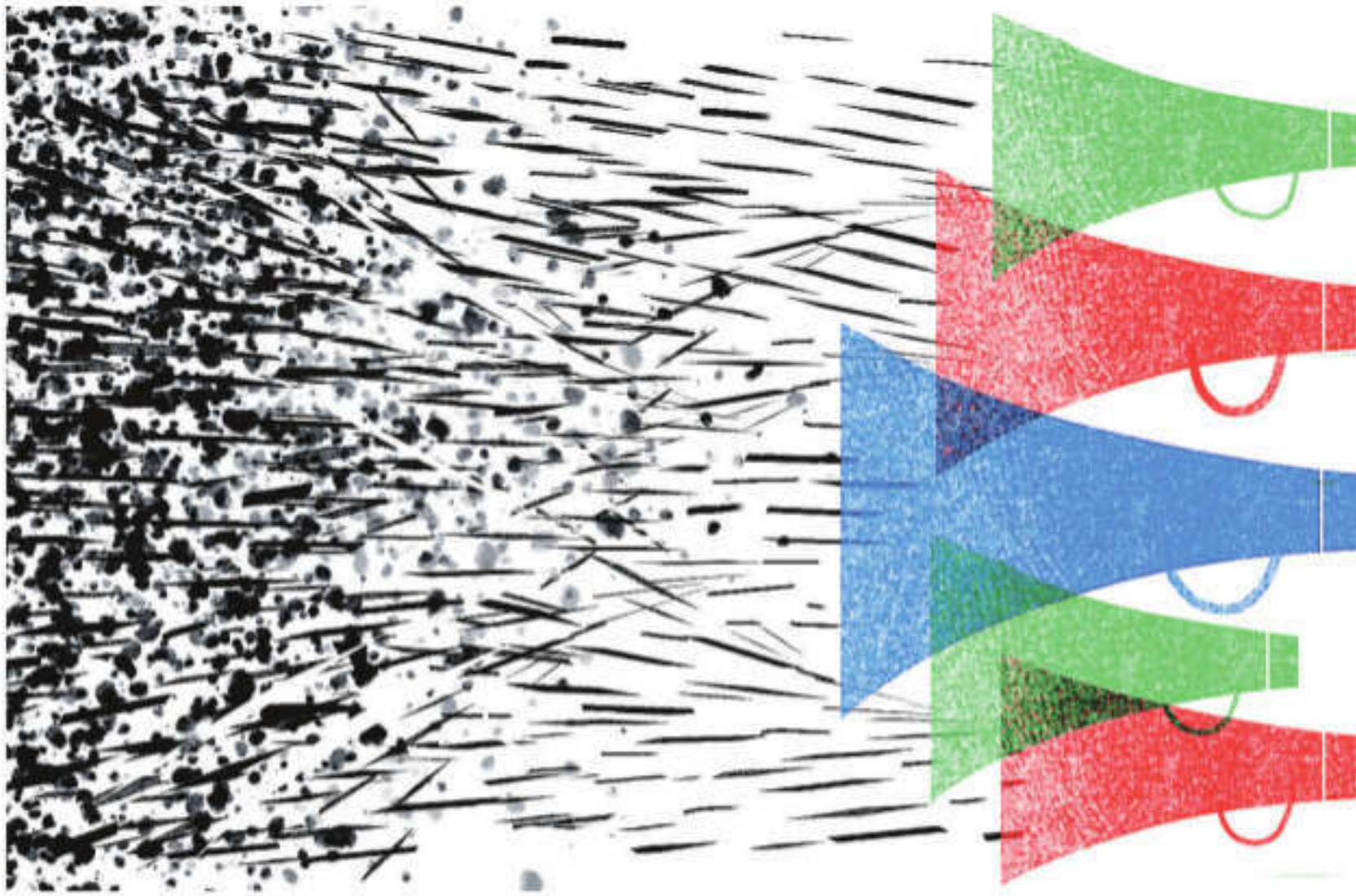
Elections hinge on many factors — social, regional, local — and above all, the personalities of candidates. Therefore, the BJP never undermined the importance of coalition politics. Even with a comfortable majority, it nurtured the National Democratic Alliance (NDA). The 2024 mandate is for Modi to govern the country for a third consecutive term. He remains the undisputed and most acceptable leader both in his party and the NDA. The voters have asked for political and ideological continuity.

While the BJP's vote share has remained unchanged since 2019 at 37.37 per cent, it could not reach the magic number of 272 seats. But this election tells another political tale. The BJP made a leap forward in states where it had been a symbolic force. In three states — Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Telangana — its vote share has increased substantially since the 2014 elections. In Kerala, it jumped to 16.8 per cent and the party opened its account in the Lok Sabha. Similarly, its vote share increased in Tamil Nadu from 3.66 per cent to 10.7 per cent. In Telangana, its share went up from 19.45 per cent in 2019 to 35 per cent. This growth is a result of a sustained effort to expand the party's base. The BJP government in Delhi is no longer dependent on North India alone.

In the east, the party uprooted the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) in Odisha and formed the government, increasing its vote share by 19 per cent in the process. In West Bengal, the party's share has increased from 17 per cent in 2014 to 38.73 per cent in 2024. The party leadership has used ideology, and political and cultural issues to cultivate support. This kind of success for an ideological party should be more cause for concern for Nehruvians than the ephemeral joys of a reduction in the BJP's seats. The 2024 election could be just a pause for the BJP, not a setback.

Modi is a politician who thinks long-term. Therefore, the evaluation of his actions should not be solely on the numbers in successive elections. Neither Nehru nor Modi can be considered purely political actors.

The most remarkable aspect of the Modi government has been the initiation of a theoretical understanding of the role and nature of the Indian state. This gives him a unique place in modern India. Since the colonial era, a particular understanding of what makes a nation-state has been ingrained in students. The study of history has been largely about the Gandhian strand of



C R Sasikumar

the freedom movement. All this has overlooked our civilisational richness and the intellectual contributions of our ancestors. Moreover, advocacy of such issues was contemptuously described as a "cultural right" preoccupation. This is a hangover from the colonial tradition. The dearth of saffron intellectuals to secure an academic foundation meant Marxists and Nehruvians had a monopoly in defining the idea of India.

The RSS did find common ground with Congress leaders like S Radhakrishnan, Sampurnanda, K M Munshi and often studied their speeches and writings. The Bharatiya Jana Sangh (BJS) and BJP occasionally shared power with other parties in states and the Centre since 1967. However, the philosophical understanding of nationalism, secularism and culture remained broadly unchanged. It is here that Modi makes a difference.

He has used India's cultural past and philosophy not only to redefine the idea of India but also to influence the Western mind. His progressive contextualisation of our cultural past has ensured a connect with the people that is beyond politics. He has addressed something that has remained suppressed in India's subconscious. The common person on the street doesn't hesitate to debate such issues now. Modi has underpinned the role of Hindu spirituality in moulding India's world view.

The natural corollary of all this is the mobilisation of a new intelligentsia and the production of pro-Hindutva works. This makes Modi more than a politician — he is more of a harbinger of a new era. How can one ignore his reverence of the forgotten tribal leader Birsu Munda, the sacrifices of Guru Gobind Singh's teenage sons, Zorawar Singh and Fateh Singh in the defence of religion and culture, and his appeal to Babasaheb Ambedkar's legacy. Modi's first step on the world stage after coming to power in 2014 was popularising yoga. He has done all this in the face of a fierce opposition that has criticised him for ruining the liberal-secular tradition and upturning the existing intellectual hegemony.

The 2024 elections, however, provide the party a few lessons. MPs cannot use the leadership's popularity and credibility and

The natural corollary of all this is the mobilisation of a new intelligentsia and the production of pro-Hindutva works. This makes Modi more than a politician — he is more of a harbinger of a new era. How can one ignore his reverence of the forgotten tribal leader Birsu Munda, the sacrifices of Guru Gobind Singh's teenage sons, Zorawar Singh and Fateh Singh in the defence of religion and culture, and his appeal to Babasaheb Ambedkar's legacy. Modi's first step on the world stage after coming to power in 2014 was popularising yoga. He has done all this in the face of a fierce opposition.

their welfare programmes to escape their moral responsibilities to their constituencies. Modi's popularity in almost every constituency in the country has supported many of them. But they should not take it for granted. I remember in the first meeting of the BJP's MPs after the 2019 elections, the PM directed his party colleagues to not forget the people and suggested programmes to connect with the people — yoga camps, sports events or even utilising welfare measures as an outreach method. The failure to heed these words is at the root of their failures. Perhaps the party's focus on its welfare programmes, which helped expand the BJP's social base, prevented it from recognising the credibility deficit of some of its MPs and candidates.

It is also important to redefine welfare. While farmers and the marginalised got support from the government, the party's intellectuals remained unconcerned about the propaganda of the opposition parties and their intellectual allies, centred on reservation, the Constitution, and majoritarianism. The polemical campaign of BJP's adversaries derives strength from their seven-decade-old political legacy. The BJP cadre has not been trained to contest them more vociferously and intellectually. They find themselves at a disadvantage in countering the old Nehruvian narrative of being an upper-caste Hindu hegemonic force.

The BJP's next challenge is to use civilisational narratives to incorporate minorities within its version of social inclusion. The party's long political innings can naturally counter its image of an anti-minority party. Modi's firm stand against appeasement has been now internalised by even his political adversaries.

It should also be realised that forces countering Hindutva are weak but not dead. They solicit support from abroad and use Hindutva's success to deny the legitimate image of India and the nationalist forces. That's why many non-state actors in Europe and America wanted the BJP to be defeated. Their hopes have been dashed by the 2024 mandate.

The writer is a BJP Rajya Sabha MP

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"The politics of Mexico are bracing and troubling. It is welcome to see a party embrace poverty reduction and state empowerment...What happens when a charismatic leader leaves office? Ms Sheinbaum's presidential term will provide an answer."

— THE GUARDIAN

At arm's length, for corporate health

In a result-oriented world, proxy advisors try to maintain objectivity



J N GUPTA

PROXY ADVISORS ATTRACT attention when their recommendations lead to rejection of resolutions like in the case of Nestle's royalty payout, or when there is a divergence of views such as in the demerger of the ITC Hotels. However, it is rare when proxy advisors (PAs) are not divided and when investors have approved the proposal, but there are still a few who are protesting, as in the case of ICICI Securities delisting and the Tata Motors DVR proposal.

A recent article on Jamie Dimon, the CEO of JP Morgan Chase, flagging concerns over the "undue influence of proxy advisors" gave the impression that PAs are all powerful. While that may be true in other countries, it does not seem to be the case in India.

Of the 1,841 resolutions on which Stakeholders Empowerment Services (SES) recommended an "against" vote in 2023-24, only 55 resolutions were actually rejected. Institutional investors in India tend to do their own analysis, supplemented of course by PAs. Proxy advisors' only function as a support system for investors to make their own informed decisions. This, in fact, is the right approach.

Most of the time, PAs tend to criticise and find faults. Who likes a critic? When one goes to a doctor who finds something wrong, what does one do? Take corrective action. So why not treat PAs as doctors for good governance?

The problem starts with the interpretation of laws by proxy advisors which many-a-time differ from the company's interpretation. PAs create their own benchmarks, leading to, what could be termed as "regulatory compliance" vs "governance" situation. They believe that governance is the higher form of compliance, in spirit and beyond letter.

The role of PAs is not to second guess the decisions/actions of the management so long as they are fair and the governance parameters are adhered to. PAs neither have the expertise, vision nor the information that the board has to determine what's best for the company. Nor are they expected to possess the skills to out-think the boards of the thousands of companies that they track. Therefore, the drafting of notices for meetings becomes important. The board should ensure that the proposals are supported with specific and detailed rationale, and provide requisite disclosures for informed decision making. Most negative recommendations are the result of lack of proper disclosures and rationale. But, the most controversial issues are related to valuation.

A proxy advisor is not an expert in valuation. However, they have a fiduciary responsibility to raise concerns in case the valuation is unfair. While valuers claim that valuation is an art, not an exact science, when two valuers working independently

arrive at almost the same value/ratio, one wonders whether to believe the phrase, "valuation is an art". How can two pieces of art be the same? Unless one is a fake or a copy.

Therefore, SES hardly puts any reliance on the valuer's report, and works on independent valuation if possible. In case a deal is between two listed entities, the undisturbed share price of the entity for a reasonable period preceding the transaction announcement date is considered. The market price is the fairest estimation of value.

Mostly, companies have problems with PAs. However, two recent cases, that of Tata Motors and ICICI Securities, are noteworthy. In these cases, the issues were raised by a few investors although a majority of institutions backed the proposals. In both cases, their opposition emanated from their expectations which were not backed by sound arguments.

In the case of ICICI Securities, the argument was that the valuation was based on the current price which was lower than the listing price and why the National Company Law Tribunal scheme route was adopted, although the market Regulator SEBI had permitted this. The NCLT scheme route was chosen in a transparent manner, but questions were raised. Is it possible to satisfy everyone? No. The ICICI proposal satisfied all PAs and most institutional investors. In fact the management chose the NCLT scheme route, which is a two-step process involving greater scrutiny, first from shareholders and then from the NCLT. There is no law which says that if someone's expectations are not met, the proposal is unfair. Even PAs, after giving their opinion, cannot say that if their recommendations are not followed, they will cry foul. Law and logic both cannot support unreasonable arguments and expectations. Any legally available route, as long as it does not intend to benefit any select individual, can be chosen. In the case of ICICI, no individual has unfairly benefitted.

The case of Tata Motors was unique, where an individual approached all and sundry to convince them that Tata Motors DVR's shareholders were treated unfairly. The exchange ratio should have been one equity share for one DVR share, notwithstanding the market price difference, which has been prevailing for a decade. A new concept of economic valuation was invented to claim Tata Sons was increasing their value at the cost of other shareholders. Although, factually, Tata Sons' equity was coming down. The law cannot control a flight of imagination; it also cannot take the same flight. It has to remain grounded. So is the case with companies and investors. PAs are no exception.

In its existence, which spans more than a decade, the PA industry, after struggling in the initial few years, has come of age. The challenge now is not to boast about its success but rather maintain its independence, be free from conflict and continue without worrying about the outcomes. After all, proxy advisors are not beneficiaries of the outcome.

The writer is managing director, Stakeholders Empowerment Services. SES has released reports on Nestle, ITC, Tata Motors and ICICI securities



VAASANTHI

A Dravidian wall

Behind BJP's loss in Tamil Nadu is its failure to understand Tamil ethos

NARENDRA MODI HAS successfully led the nation for a decade. He has made himself the most important face in the minds of a large section of the people and the media. People believed that in his third election too, he would be back with a majority, surpassing the previous numbers of 2014 and 2019. The "400 par" mantra was chanted over and over. Perhaps it started to ring true to his followers and the media as the PM crisscrossed the nation, addressing rallies everyday, declaring himself to be no ordinary biologically-born mortal. After all, who was there in the Opposition that was comparable to his calibre? Which party was as wealthy, as well structured, and as well advertised? The accounts of the major Opposition party were frozen and a couple of Opposition state chief ministers were arrested. The post-poll exit polls gave the NDA a comfortable majority. Some even predicted it would touch the 400 mark. Among the moderates and the Opposition, it created an air of despondency, concerns over the continuance of authoritarianism and the spread of communalism.

But the results have been breathtaking. The BJP is the largest party still, but it has won just 240 seats, falling quite short of the 272 mark. The Opposition INDIA block has

got 235, with Congress alone touching 99. It has been an impressive performance against the odds. Modi will still become Prime Minister with the help of his alliance partners N Chandrababu Naidu of the Telugu Desam Party, now the chief minister of Andhra Pradesh, and Nitish Kumar of the JDU from Bihar. But it would appear that the one-party dominance is over. Both Naidu and Kumar are smart politicians and will no doubt demand their pound of flesh.

How did this come about? It was very clearly the determination of the Opposition INDIA alliance, in particular that of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi who — once disqualified as an MP for a speech and then reinstated after the Supreme Court's intervention — faced an uphill task. But his two Bharat Jodo Yatras that took him across the country endeared him to the masses and forged a connection.

In this journey, the role played by M K Stalin, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, is immense. Stalin has always shown his unflinching faith in Rahul Gandhi. In fact, during the last election in 2019, he even proposed Gandhi's name as the prime ministerial candidate. This time too, Stalin showed great maturity by sticking with the Opposition agenda of saving democracy,

secularism and the Constitution — the main themes of the Congress manifesto.

Stalin proved to be a great ally to the INDIA bloc by enthusing them to stand together to halt the BJP juggernaut. His public election campaigns attracted incredible crowds where he spoke like a national leader, emphasising on inclusive politics with his slogan "Narpathum namathe, naadum namathe (All the 40 is ours, the nation too ours)". Stalin graciously accommodated his alliance partners in distributing seats. The DMK contested just 21 seats. It gave 10 seats to the Congress and the rest to the Left and Dalit parties.

And it was a clean sweep. Its principal opponent, the AIADMK — that came out of the BJP alliance thanks to K Annamalai, the BJP state president who made derogatory remarks against their mentor C N Annadurai and also Jayalalithaa — stood alone, joined by DMKD, the actor Vijayakanth's party. But since they had no agenda except attacking the DMK, they drew a blank in this election. However, they have a substantial vote base and cannot be written off. The BJP, which projected itself as the future ruler of Tamil Nadu, drew a blank. Its state party president Annamalai lost by more than a lakh votes in Coimbatore. But

it must be said that the BJP increased its vote share from three per cent to 10 per cent. That is something to be watched out for by the Dravidian parties who have been a dominant force in Tamil Nadu since 1967.

In 2022, stressing the importance of co-operative federalism, Rahul Gandhi made an emphatic statement in Parliament, directed at the BJP benches: "You will never ever be able to rule over Tamil Nadu in your entire life!" Modi did his best to win the hearts of the Tamils but failed because of his incomprehension of the Tamil ethos. He miscalculated the reach of his Hindutva agenda, imagining it would persuade voters in Tamil Nadu. The Tamils are believers culturally, but historically secular. There is an interesting myth connected to the deity Sri Ranganatha of Srirangam temple that says that there was a Muslim woman who was a devotee of the Lord. She was the deity's favourite and there is a shrine in the temple devoted to her. A daily ritual is followed when the deity goes to the shrine to meet his "Thulukka Nachiyar" (Muslim lady). The *prasadam* offered to her is roti and sabzi.

Vaasanthi is a Tamil writer and journalist

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PERCEPTION, VERDICT

THIS REFERS TO the report, 'India gives NDA third term, Modi a message' (IE, June 5). The reactions to the outcome of the Lok Sabha Elections 2024 are a classic case of expectations vs reality. The expectations from the NDA, specifically the BJP and PM Modi, were sky high; those from the opposition abysmally low. Hence, the election was essentially thought to be a one sided match. It proved to be otherwise and therein lies the tale. The response to the results from this perspective, is essentially about unmet expectations. The reality is that the majority still clearly want the NDA to form the government with Modi as prime minister. One hopes the Opposition will do justice to the mandate it has received.

Bhavna Swarup Sharma, via email

FOR DEMOCRACY

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'The challenge for INDIA' (IE, June 5). The BJP-led NDA has won the election, but with a slender majority. The ruling party has failed to get even a simple majority on its own, receiving shocks in UP and Maharashtra, humbling it. The BJP's all-out attempts to bulldoze the Opposition into submission largely came a cropper as the Congress-spearheaded bloc put up a spirited fight. The "my way or the highway" style of governance was clearly not acceptable. A vibrant Opposition and a central government cut to size could

augur well for the future of federalism and democracy in India.

SS Paul, Nadia

NITISH'S AMBITION

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Vote for Government — and Opposition' (IE, June 5). The current dilemma of granting any alliance a chance at forming the government or opposition is far more paramount than we expected. The government can topple any time based on our time tested war horse — Nitish Kumar. His prolonged dream of securing the prime minister's throne may be within reach. This will be fulfilled in the INDIA bloc's incline. This is what's making the post result politics more engaging now.

Janvi Rawat, Ludhiana

BJP HALTED

THIS REFERS TO the report, 'India gives third term to NDA, a message to Modi' (IE, June 5). There is only one message from the 2024 general elections: The mirror has cracked. The BJP is the single largest party, but it has lost its majority and confronts the prospect of forming a government in coalition with its alliance partners. There is dissatisfaction on the ground and PM Modi's charm is no longer enough. The BJP used its power to project total control. It centralised political power, stifled dissent, jailed Opposition politicians. Finally, the BJP's path to hegemony has been halted.

Vandana Chopra, Chandigarh

Classifieds

PERSONAL

ISM T Juribai W/o Mansukh R/o Ambedkar Nagar, W/o No.-25, Bhind, Bhind, Madhya Pradesh - 477001, have changed my name to Bhuri Bai 0070906667-1

I Roopa Sharma W/o Gagan Deep Sharma R/o F.F. 1/31 Rajbagh Colony Sahibabad Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh - 201005 changed my name to Roopa Sabharwal for future purposes. 0070906640-1

I Rajoo S/o Shrinivas R/o Ward No-31, Subhash Nagar, BHind, Madhya Pradesh-477001, have changed my name to Rajkumar 0070906683-1

I Punam Khurana W/o Davinder Singh Khurana R/o B-B-136, Mansarovar Garden New Delhi have changed my name to Poonam Khurana. 0040732411-1

I Prabjot Kaur D/o Amarjit Singh R/O-168, Street-No.5, Block-BE, Hari Nagar, Delhi-110064 have changed my name to Prabhjot Kaur for all-purposes. 0040732411-6

I Jagdish Prasad Gupta Son of Shri Kanwar Prasad Gupta, Residing at shop flat no- 70-A, Pandav Nagar, Shakar Pur Baramad- Delhi have changed my name to Jagdish Gupta for all purpose. 0040732384-7

I HITHERTO KNOWN AS PANKAJ KUMAR S/O O P SHARMA R/O F-7 A, MUKHRAM GARDEN, TILAK NAGAR, WEST DELHI, TILAK NAGAR, DELHI- 110018. CHANGED MY NAME TO PANKAJ SHARMA. 0040732284-1

I HITHERTO KNOWN AS INDU SETH W/O RAJESH ARORA R/O HOUSE NO 102, NEAR DEVINDER VIHAR, SECTOR-56, GURGAON, HARYANA, 122011. CHANGED MY NAME TO INDU ARORA. 0040732274-1

I HITHERTO KNOWN AS FARRAH BAIG W/O IMAD SIDDIQUI R/O A T S GREENS, FLAT 1923, SECTOR 93A, NOIDA, GAUTAM BUDDHA NAGAR, UTTAR PRADESH- 201304. CHANGED MY NAME TO FARRAH SIDDIQUI. 0040732273-1

I Gopal Krishan Gandhi S/O, Fateh Chand R/o Near Punjabi Dhamshala, #265/5, Arya Bazar, Hisar, Haryana-125001 have changed my name to Gopal Krishan for all future purposes. 0040732292-1

I Deepika D/O, Hari Parkash R/o WZ-32, 80 Yards, Tilak Nagar New Delhi -110018 have changed my name to Deepika Sarwan. 0040732338-1

I AnkIt Chopra S/o Basant Chopra R/o 22, Sector 31, Friends Colony, Panipat, Panipat, Haryana - 132103, have changed my name to Kartik Chopra 0070906669-1

I,Reena Tomer,W/o Rajat Tomer,R/o-Plot.no.N.17,Palam Vihar Ext. Block-N,Gali.no.4A, Cartarpuri Alias Daulatpur, Nasirabad(63),Gurgaon,Harya na-122017,have changed my name from Reena Tomer to Rina Tomer,for all,future purpose. 0040732309-9

I,PREETI SHARMA W/O JITENDER SINGH R/O G-1773, JAHANGIR PURI, DELHI- 110033,have changed my name to PREETI. 0040732384-4

It is for general information that I,SHUCHI MACKER,D/o Shri.RAKESH MACKER,R/o E-56, Beta-I, Greater-Noida, Distt:Gautam Buddha Nagar-201310(UP),declare that my name is wrongly-written as Suchi Makkar,D/o Shri. Rakesh Makkar in driving licence. My actual name is SHUCHI MACKER D/o Shri.RAKESH MACKER. 0040732275-1

I,JAFAR S/O-MOHD USMAN R/O-B-13/26, GALLI.NO-6, KABIR-NAGAR,SHAHDARA,, DELHI- 110094,have changed my name to MOHD ZAFAR USMAN 0040732417-1

It is for general information that I,PULKIT VIRMANI S/O RAKESH VIRMANI R/O E-152, SHASTRI NAGAR, DELHI-110052, declare that my name has been wrongly written as PULKIT VIRMENI in my Secondary School Certificate of Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation and Degree of Bachelor of Technology (Mechanical and Automation Engineering). The actual name of mine is PULKIT VIRMANI, which may be amended accordingly. 0070906668-1

It is for general information that I,Dheeraj Kumar S/o kartar Singh, R/o RZC-48, NIHAL VIHAR, NANGLOI, NEW DELHI -41, declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as kartar in my Educational Document. The actual name of my father is kartar Singh, which may be amended accordingly. 0070906627-1

I, Aakanksha D/o Vijay, R/O-383/1-A Street-No.17, East-Azad Nagar Delhi-110051,have changed my name to Aakanksha Verma Permanently. 0040732282-1

I,VAJINDER SINGH MAKKAR,S/O-LATE.SARDAR WAZIR SINGH,R/O-M-47B,THIRD FLOOR,MALVIYA NAGAR,NEW DELHI-110017,have changed my name from to VAJINDER SINGH to VAJINDER SINGH MAKKAR,for all,future purpose,both names are same person. 0040732417-6

I,USHA DEVI W/O BISHNU DEV SINGH,residing at,Z-65,COMMERCIAL ENCLAVE, MOHAN-GARDEN,DELHI-110059,have changed my name to USHA RANI all,future purposes. 0040732309-4

I,SURABHI KHURANA,W/O ISHAN GUPTA,R/O-HOUSE NO.63,2ND FLOOR,GUJRAINWALA TOWN,PAND-2 DR. MUKHERJEE NAGAR DELHI-110009,HAVE CHANGE MY NAME TO SURABHI GUPTA,FOR FUTURE. 0040732390-1

I,SACHIN KANOJIA,S/O-NARESH KUMAR,R/O-2080,MUKIMPURA,SABJI MANDI, MALKA-GANJ,, S.O.,NORTH DELHI,DELHI-110007,declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as SACHIN in my 10th,12th-class educational documents, graduation degree,SC Certificate.No.289/SC/2001 and Driving-License No.DL-0120050037425(P).The actual name of mine is SACHIN KANOJIA,which may be amended accordingly. 0040732309-10

I,Renu Sharma,w/o Pravesh Kumar Prasher resident-216,Chertsey Lane Staines Middlesex TW183NF UK,have changed my name to Renu Prasher,for all purpose. 0040732381-7

I,Rajendra Kumar,S/O Brij Lal,Hno-130,Block-E,Dakshin Puri Dr Ambedkar-Nagar Sec-5,New Delhi-110062,changed my name to Rajendra Kumar Barjaty 0040732384-3

I,ROHAN PODDAR,S/O MANOJ KUMAR,R/O-144-B,GALI.NO-2,AMRIT VIHAR,BURARI DELHI-110084 have changed my name to ROHAN NARAYAN,for all,future purposes. 0040732417-4

I,ROHAN PODDAR, S/O MANOJ KUMAR, R/O-144-B,GALI.NO-2, AMRIT-VIHAR, BURARI DELHI-110084, have changed my name to ROHAN NARAYAN,for all,future purposes. 0040732381-6

I,Rupesh Kumar S/o Shankar Lal R/o F-68 3rd-Floor Prashant Vihar Delhi-110085,have changed my name to Rupesh Garg 0040732381-6

I,Priti Kanchan,W/o Navin Kumar Burnwal,R/o A-404,Metro Vihar,Delhi-Metro Mukundpur Depot,Arihant Marg,Mohel-Town-II,North-West Delhi,Delhi-110009, have changed the name of my minor daughter Nisitha Prajna aged 13 years and she shall hereafter be known as Nisitha Prama. 0040732381-9

I,PRITYANKA W/O AVINASH SINGH GILL R/O WZ-7A,FIRST-FLOOR, GALINO.29,SANTGARH,TILAK-NAGAR,DELHI-110018.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO PRIYANKA SINGH. 0040732381-3

I,PONAREPLA,spouse of No.4373010K,Rank-HAV,Name INTIMEREN,R/o Village-Chuchuyimpang,P-S-No1,Police Station,District-Mockokchung, Nagaland,inform that in my husband service records my name(PONAREBLA) wrongly written instead of correct name PONAREPLA. Pls amendment according,for all future purpose. 0040732309-8

I,PONAREPLA,spouse of No.4373010K,Rank-HAV,Name INTIMEREN,R/o Village-Chuchuyimpang,P-S-No1,Police Station,District-Mockokchung, Nagaland,inform that in my husband service records my name (PONAREBLA) wrongly written instead of correct name PONAREPLA. Pls amendment according,for all future purpose. 0040732309-7

I,NEHA RANI W/O AMIT JAIN R/O HNO.47,POCKET-E-19,SECTOR-3,ROHINI,DELHI-110085.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO NEHA JAIN FOR ALL PURPOSES. 0040732417-2

I,MONIKA RAJORA,W/O YOGESH,R/O-3/15 GALI NO.3,NIRANKARI COLONY DELHI-110009,have changed my name from MONIKA RAJORA, to MONIKA,for all purposes. 0040732390-3

I,MONICA CHUGH W/O MADAN LAL CHUGH R/O 198/9,RAMESH MARKET GARHI,EAST OF KAILASH,DELHI-110065.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO MONIKA CHUGH. 0040732381-2

I Vijay Kumar S/O Late Sh-B D Tuteja R/O H.No.296-27, Pocket-A2, Near MZK, Rohini, Rajapur Kalan Sector-8, Rohini, Delhi-110085 is also known as Vijay Kumar Tuteja and Vijay Tuteja. Both names are of one and the same person. 0040732264-1

I,MANINDER JEET KAUR,W/O-GURPAL SINGH SALUJA,R/O-5218 GALLI.NO.5,BEHIND KHALSA COLLEGE KRISHAN-NAGAR,KAROL-BAGH NEW DELHI-110005,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO MANINDER JEET KAUR SALUJA,for all,future purposes. 0040732411-2

I,LALITA KALA BHARTI D/O BISHNU DEV SINGH,residing at,Z-65-C,COMMERCIAL ENCLAVE,MOHAN GARDEN,DELHI-110059,have changed my name to LALITA SINGH,all future purposes 0040732309-5

I,Komalpreet Kharbanda alias Komal Kharbanda, W/o Gurpreet Singh Kharbanda,R/O-33A, North Avenue-Road West Punjabi-Bagh,Delhi-26,have changed my name to Komalpreet Kaur Kharbanda. 0040732309-2

I,Jagdish Prasad Gupta,Son of,Shri Kanwar Prasad Gupta,Residing at,shop.flat.no-70-A, Pandav-Nagar,Shakar Pur Baramad-Delhi,have changed my name to Jagdish Gupta,for all purpose. 0040732411-3

I,Devender Kumar S/o Harikishan Lal Sharma R/o F-9,Vijay Vihar,Phase-II,Rohini,Delhi-110085,have changed my name Devender Kumar to Devender Kumar for all purposes. 0040732381-7

I,Balwant Singh S/o,Chander Singh R/O-15-D/1, Railway Colony,East Punjabi-Bagh,New Delhi-110026, have changed my -minor son's name Klam Singh Rawat to Kalam Singh Rawat. Aged-14-years. 0040732411-4

I,POONAM CHAUDHARY W/O SANJAY CHAUDHARY R/O HNO-6,PVC ROAD,RAMAYAN PANNA TIKRI KALAN,DELHI-110041.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO POONAM. 0070906641-1

I,Ramesh Rai, S/O Aniruddh Rai, R/O UFG-2, Plot No.130,131, Girdhar Enclave, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201005 have changed my name from Ramesh Rai to Ramesh Kumar Rai. Henceforth I would be known by the name of Ramesh Kumar Rai for all future purposes. 0040732345-1

I, Radha Devi, Mother of Raju Ranjan Kumar resident of Flat No. 171B, UU Block Pitampura, New Delhi-110034 have changed my Name from Radha Devi to Sudama Devi vide Affidavit dated 05/06/2024 at New Delhi. 0040732285-1

I, Mohammad Mohsin S/o Mohammad Islamuddin Qadri R/o 3616, 4th Floor Katra Deena Baig Hamdard Dawa Khana, Delhi-110006, have changed my name from Mohd. Mohsin to Mohammad Mohsin, for all purposes. 0040732279-1

I, Lokesh Holkar S/o Shri Ram Pal Holkar, WB-19, Gali No.3, Shakarpur, East Delhi, 110092 have changed my name Lokesh Holkar to Lokesh Kumar Holkar for all future purposes. 0040732280-1

I, Kumari Jaya W/o Nitesh Kumar R/o G-1804, park Avenue, West-4, Gaur City-1, Gr Noida Sec-6, B Nagar, Up-201301 Have Changed My Name To Jaya Kumar For All Future Purposes 0070906679-1

I, JOGINDER SINGH, S/O:TEJA SINGH,AD-1137/7, KHALSA-GALI,JAI SINGH CHOWK,GILWALI GATE,AMRITSAR,I,Amritsar-143001, Punjab, changed my name to SWINDER SINGH. 0040732384-5

I,Harinder Singh S/o Mehtab Singh Mehta R/O,N-63, SF, Kirti-Nagar, Delhi-110015,have changed my name to Harinder Singh Mehta for all-purposes. 0040732411-5

I, Fating Harshal Padmakar S/o Padmakar Fating R/o Pine-10023, Mahagun Mywood, Sec-16G, G.Noida have changed my name to Harshal Fating. 0070906682-1

I, Bhanu Upadhyay S/O Brij Nandan Upadhyay, R/O B 44, Sookhana Apartment, Vasundhara Enclave, Delhi-110096, have changed my name to Ankur Upadhyay. 0070906643-1

I, Ayush Singhal R/o 803, GH7, Orchid Gardens, Suncity, Sec-54, Gurgaon, Haryana- 122003 have changed my minor son's name from Atharva Singhal to Atharv Singhal. 0040732376-1

I, Awadesh Kumar Singh S/o Late Bahoran Singh R/o H. No. F-1, Plot No.-867, Niti Khand-1, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201014, hereby declare that in my Class X Certificate, spelling of my father's name is mentioned as BAHURAN SINGH, but correct spelling of my father's name is BAHORAN SINGH. 0040732342-2

I, ALKA W/O NAVEEN CHAUHAN R/O H. NO. 22, 1ST FLOOR, NEW LAYAL PUR EXTENSION, KRISHNA NAGAR, DELHI-110051, have changed my name to ALKA NAVEEN for all purposes 0040732295-1

I, Avadhesh Kumar S/o Late Bahoran Singh R/o H. No. F-1, Plot No.-867, Niti Khand-1, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201014, hereby changed my name from Avadhesh Kumar to Awadesh Kumar Singh. 0040732342-1

I, Alimuddin S/o Aminuddin Saifi R/o 45/46A, Gali No.5, Near Firdos Masjid, J-Extension, Laxmi Nagar Delhi-110092 have changed my name to Alimuddin Saifi. 0040732390-2

I, Shailla Bakshi Gulati W/o Manish Gulati R/o-H-11, First-Floor, Spaze Privy, Sector-72, Fazilpur, Gurgaon,Haryana-122101,have changed my name to Shailla Bakshi Permanently. 0040732282-2

I, Saroj Devi W/o T.L Sancheti R/o 25, Sainik Vihar, Pitam Pura, Delhi-110034 Hereby Declare That Saroj Devi And Saroj Devi Sancheti is One And Same Person. 0070906676-1

I, Prerna Jain W/o Kamal Dhingra R/o 4678/21, Ansari Road, Darya Ganj, Delhi-110002 have changed my to Prerna Dhingra. 0070906680-1

I, Sandhya Bhenwal, W/O Sandeep Kumar Bhenwal, R/O-Plot no.-75, Flat no. GF-2, Sec-6, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201010, have changed my name from Sandhya Bhenwal to Sanjay Wati. Henceforth I would be known by the name of Sanjay Wati for all future purposes. 0040732283-1

I, Ria Sharma D/o Anuj Sharma R/O H.No-910, HIG Duplex Sector-9, Vasundhara Ghaziabad U.P.-201012 have changed my name to Riya Sharma for all future purposes. 0070906681-1

I, Ramesh Rai, S/O Aniruddh Rai, R/O UFG-2, Plot No.130,131, Girdhar Enclave, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201005 have changed my name from Ramesh Rai to Ramesh Kumar Rai. Henceforth I would be known by the name of Ramesh Kumar Rai for all future purposes. 0070906641-1

I, Rahisha W/o Mohd Naim, R/o Kh. No.5, Plot No.18, Gali No.5, Sangam Vihar, Wazirabad, Delhi-110084, declare that I, Rahisha also known as Rahisa & Raisa and all the names belongs to me. In future I will use my name as RAHISHA for all purpose. 0040732345-1

I, Radha Devi, Mother of Raju Ranjan Kumar resident of Flat No. 171B, UU Block Pitampura, New Delhi-110034 have changed my Name from Radha Devi to Sudama Devi vide Affidavit dated 05/06/2024 at New Delhi. 0040732285-1

I, Mohammad Mohsin S/o Mohammad Islamuddin Qadri R/o 3616, 4th Floor Katra Deena Baig Hamdard Dawa Khana, Delhi-110006, have changed my name from Mohd. Mohsin to Mohammad Mohsin, for all purposes. 0070906686-1

I Anu Dania, Owner 347 MIE Ph1, lost my original registry document no 2120 dated 17/60/92 vide FIR No 227604/2024 finder pl contact 9312212042. 0040732272-1

I,parveen Kumar malhotra director komansu electronics pvt.Ltd.Tronica city Loni,Ghaziabad,have lost my original-property documents of plot.no.E-88,sector-A5&6,tronica city-Loni, Ghaziabad,up,if anybody found kindly contact.no.9873938376. 0040732411-9

I, Vaibhav Tapdiya, S/O Parmanand Tapdiya, A-130, First Floor, Niti Bagh, New Delhi, Have Lost My Original Property Document Regarding 102-C, First Floor, Time Tower, Sector-28, M.G Road. Gurugram, Haryana, builder buyer's agreement dated 13.011.2009 executed by M/S Essel Housing Projects Pvt Ltd And M/S Dhootdevelopers Pvt Ltdin Favour Of M/S Agrasen Properties Pvt Ltd And Possession Letter Issued By M/S Essel Housing Projects Pvt Ltd And M/S Dhoot Developers Pvt Ltd In Favour Of M/S haldia techno infrastructure pvt ltd 0070906686-1

I, Vaibhav Tapdiya, S/O Parmanand Tapdiya, A-130, First Floor, Niti Bagh, New Delhi, Have Lost My Original Property Document Regarding 102-E, First Floor, Time Tower, Sector-28, M.G Road. Gurugram, Haryana, builder buyer's agreement dated 13.011.2009 executed by M/S Essel Housing Projects Pvt Ltd And M/S Dhootdevelopers Pvt Ltdin Favour Of M/S Agrasen Properties Pvt Ltd And Possession Letter Issued By M/S Essel Housing Projects Pvt Ltd And M/S Dhoot Developers Pvt Ltd In Favour Of M/S haldia techno infrastructure pvt ltd 0070906686-1

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I, ALKA W/O NAVEEN CHAUHAN R/O H. NO. 22, 1ST FLOOR, NEW LAYAL PUR EXTENSION, KRISHNA NAGAR, DELHI-110051, have changed my name to ALKA NAVEEN for all purposes 0040732295-1

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I, Alimuddin S/o Aminuddin Saifi R/o 45/46A, Gali No.5, Near Firdos Masjid, J-Extension, Laxmi Nagar Delhi-110092 have changed my name to Alimuddin Saifi. 0040732390-2

LOST & FOUND

We,Dharamveer Singh & Nidhi Singh R/O 6H/44, Sector-5, Rajender Nagar Sahibabad, Ghaziabad (UP) lost our original allotment letter, office site possession letter and original lease transfer deed (Registration no. 3033, Jilad no.11897 dated-27.04.2016) property bearing no.3/174, Sector-2 Rajender nagar, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad UP-201005 issued by GDA. Finder Contact-9811119581 0070906678-1

I, Vaibhav Tapdiya, S/O Parmanand Tapdiya, A-130, First Floor, Niti Bagh, New Delhi, Have Lost My Original Property Document Regarding GF002, Time Tower, Sector-28, M.G Road. Gurugram, Haryana, builder buyer's agreement dated 13.011.2009 executed by M/S Essel Housing Projects Pvt Ltd And M/S Dhootdevelopers Pvt Ltdin Favour Of M/S Agrasen Properties Pvt Ltd And Possession Letter Issued By M/S Essel Housing Projects Pvt Ltd And M/S Dhoot Developers Pvt Ltd In Favour Of M/S Haldia techno infrastructure Pvt Ltd 0070906689-1

I, Vaibhav Tapdiya, S/O Parmanand Tapdiya, A-130, First Floor, Niti Bagh, New Delhi, Have Lost My Original Property Document Regarding 102-D, First Floor, Time Tower, Sector-28, M.G Road. Gurugram, Haryana, builder buyer's agreement dated 13.011.2009 executed by M/S Essel Housing Projects Pvt Ltd And M/S Dhootdevelopers Pvt Ltdin Favour Of M/S Agrasen Properties Pvt Ltd And Possession Letter Issued By M/S Essel Housing Projects Pvt Ltd And M/S Dhoot Developers Pvt Ltd In Favour Of M/S haldia techno infrastructure pvt ltd 0070906686-1

I, Vaibhav Tapdiya, S/O Parmanand Tapdiya, A-130, First Floor, Niti Bagh, New Delhi, Have Lost My Original Property Document Regarding 102-C, First Floor, Time Tower, Sector-28, M.G Road. Gurugram, Haryana, builder buyer's agreement dated 13.011.2009 executed by M/S Essel Housing Projects Pvt Ltd And M/S Dhootdevelopers Pvt Ltdin Favour Of M/S Agrasen Properties Pvt Ltd And Possession Letter Issued By M/S Essel Housing Projects Pvt Ltd And M/S Dhoot Developers Pvt Ltd In Favour Of M/S haldia techno infrastructure pvt ltd 0070906686-1

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LOST & FOUND

I, Sujata Saxena D/o Late Kishore Mohan & W/o Anil Kumar Saxena R/O E-701, Vijaya Apartments, Ahinsa Khand-2, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201014, have lost original Allotment Letter dated 26/01/2007, Possession Letter & Registered Sale-Deed dated 01/04/2008 in Book No. 1, Volume No. 1914 on Page no. 599 to 634, Serial No. 1870 in the Office of Sub-Registrar-II, Noida, U.P. in favour of Original Allottee Mr. Manish Makkar S/o Late Sh. Ramesh Chander Makkar. If found, please contact at my mobile no. 9968275550.

LOST & FOUND

Notice is hereby given that the general public at large informing on behalf of my Client Ms. Vibha Gupta, that a status quo ordered dated 03.05.2023 isoperating with regards the Property Bearing No. 1, Tansen Marg, New Delhi-110001 in the Civil Suit bearing No. 268 of 2023 " Vibha Gupta v. Kanchan Gupta & Ors." Before the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi. In term of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi. In term of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi Order dated 03.05.2023, No person or Party to the Proceedings or otherwise, directly or indirectly shall sell, buy, convey, transfer, create any mortgage or charge or alienate or deal in any manner the Scheduled Property 1, Tansen Marg, New Delhi-110001. In the event any third Party due to the operation of the Stay order of the Hon'ble High Court. In the event any person trespasses, conveys, creates any charge,mortgage, sells or acquires or change nature of the schedules Property then he/ she shall be prosecuted for contempt of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi as well as criminal prosecution.

Saurabh Balwani (Advocate on Record) Supreme Court of India Enrl. No. D/3106/2010 Mob. No. 99561991868

LOST & FOUND

Notice is hereby given that the general public at large informing on behalf of my Client Ms. Vibha Gupta, that a status quo ordered dated 03.05.2023 isoperating with regards the Property Bearing No. 1, Tansen Marg, New Delhi-110001 in the Civil Suit bearing No. 268 of 2023 " Vibha Gupta v. Kanchan Gupta & Ors." Before the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi. In term of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi Order dated 03.05.2023, No person or Party to the Proceedings or otherwise, directly or indirectly shall sell, buy, convey, transfer, create any mortgage or charge or alienate or deal in any manner the Scheduled Property 1, Tansen Marg, New Delhi-110001. In the event any third Party due to the operation of the Stay order of the Hon'ble High Court. In the event any person trespasses, conveys, creates any charge,mortgage, sells or acquires or change nature of the schedules Property then he/ she shall be prosecuted for contempt of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi as well as criminal prosecution.

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Saurabh Balwani (Advocate on Record) Supreme Court of India Enrl. No. D/3106/2010 Mob. No. 99561991868

LOST & FOUND

Notice is hereby given that the general public at large informing on behalf of my Client Ms. Vibha Gupta, that a status quo ordered dated 03.05.2023 isoperating with regards the Property Bearing No. 1, Tansen Marg, New Delhi-110001 in the Civil Suit bearing No. 268 of 2023 " Vibha Gupta v. Kanchan Gupta & Ors." Before the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi. In term of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi Order dated 03.05.2023, No person or Party to the Proceedings or otherwise, directly or indirectly shall sell, buy, convey, transfer, create any mortgage or charge or alienate or deal in any manner the Scheduled Property 1, Tansen Marg, New Delhi-110001. In the event any third Party due to the operation of the Stay order of the Hon'ble High Court. In the event any person trespasses, conveys, creates any charge,mortgage, sells or acquires or change nature of the schedules Property then he/ she shall be prosecuted for contempt of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi as well as criminal prosecution.

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Saurabh Balwani (Advocate on Record) Supreme Court of India Enrl

AN ANALYSIS OF ECI & PER CAPITA NSDP DATA FROM STATES

BJP's vote share shrinks in most states with low growth rates in per capita income

SUKALP SHARMA & AGGAM WALIA
NEW DELHI, JUNE 5

THE BHARATIYA Janata Party's (BJP's) vote share in the 2024 general election contracted in most of the states and union territories (UTs) that had relatively low rates of growth in per capita income since the previous Lok Sabha polls in 2019, shows an analysis of Election Commission of India (ECI) data and per capita net state domestic product (NSDP) data from states. NSDP per capita is taken as the per capita income of a state and is counted among states' key economic indicators.

Of the 12 states and UTs where per capita NSDP grew by a compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of up to 2 per cent, and where the BJP contested in the recently-concluded Lok Sabha elections, the party's vote share shrunk in nine. These nine states and UTs include Bihar, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Haryana, Delhi, Uttarakhand, Goa, Manipur, and Chandigarh. Kerala, Sikkim, and Andaman and Nicobar Islands were the outliers to the trend.

For the purpose of this analysis, the CAGR of per capita NSDP was divided in three segments: low (up to 2 per cent), medium (2.1-4.0 per cent), and high (over 4 per cent). Among all states and UTs, the overall range of per

STATES WITH PER CAPITA NSDP CAGR OF UP TO 2%

STATE/UT	Change in BJP vote share vs 2019 (percentage points)	NSDP per capita CAGR over FY19
Haryana	-12.1	1.8%
Jharkhand*	-7	1.7%
Uttarakhand	-4.9	1.2%
Bihar*	-3.6	1.8%
Chandigarh*	-3.4	1.8%
Delhi	-2.5	1.2%
Maharashtra**	-1.6	-0.5%
Goa*	-1.1	2%
Sikkim*	0.4	1.9%
Kerala*	3.7	2%
A&N**	5	1.9%

(* NSDP data available till FY23; ** NSDP data available till FY22; All others: NSDP data till FY24) (*Including Ladakh)
Data sources: Election Commission of India, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation

STATES WITH PER CAPITA NSDP CAGR OF 2.1-4.0%

STATE/UT	Change in BJP vote share vs 2019 (percentage points)	NSDP per capita CAGR over FY19
Telangana	15.4	3.9%
Punjab	8.9	2.4%
Mizoram**	1	2.9%
Madhya Pradesh	0.8	2.4%
West Bengal	-1.9	3.1%
Uttar Pradesh	-8.6	3.7%
Himachal Pradesh	-13.3	3.4%
J&K	-22.3	2.9%

States in grey shade saw a contraction in BJP's vote share

STATES WITH PER CAPITA NSDP CAGR OF OVER 4%

STATE/UT	Change in BJP vote share vs 2019 (percentage points)	NSDP per capita CAGR over FY19
Andhra Pradesh	10.3	4.5%
Tamil Nadu	7.6	4.9%
Odisha	6.4	4.8%
Chhattisgarh	1.3	4.1%
Assam	1	6.1%
Gujarat*	-1.2	4.2%
Karnataka	-5.6	4.5%
Rajasthan	-9.9	4.1%
Arunachal Pradesh*	-10	4.2%

capita NSDP CAGR ranged up to 6.1 per cent. CAGR was considered over absolute growth as per capita NSDP data for some states was not updated for 2023-24 (FY24) and was available either till FY23 or FY22. The base year for the comparison was taken as FY19. A few UTs that do not maintain per capita NSDP data were not considered.

While the data does suggest a correlation between per capita state income and the BJP's vote

share among most of the low-growth states, the trend is not as stark when it comes to states and UTs in the middle- and high-growth segments.

It is worth noting that like most economic indicators, per capita incomes and their growth rates vary across states and are contingent upon a number of factors and conditions. Also, election outcomes depend on a host of factors — many of which are not directly

linked to the economy — and their various permutations and combinations.

Among the nine states with a per capita NSDP growth rate of over 4 per cent, the BJP registered an expansion in vote share from 2019 levels in five — Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, and Tamil Nadu. Four states — Gujarat, Rajasthan, Karnataka, and Arunachal Pradesh, saw a contraction in the BJP's vote share despite a rel-

atively high rate of growth in their per capita incomes.

Similarly, the BJP's vote share expanded in five of the nine states and UTs with per capita NSDP growth rate of 2.1 per cent to 4 per cent. These five states included Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Telangana, Tripura, and Mizoram. The four where the BJP saw a decline in vote share were Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, and Jammu & Kashmir.

'Slim majority for BJP poses challenges to reforms agenda'

New Delhi: The BJP losing its outright majority may delay more far-reaching elements of economic and fiscal reforms, global rating agencies said. Fitch Ratings and Moody's Ratings in separate notes spoke about the implication of BJP losing its majority for the first time since 2014, winning 240 seats in the 543-seat Lok Sabha.

"It appears the BJP-led NDA is likely to form the next government, returning PM Narendra Modi for a third term, but with a weakened majority that could pose challenges for the more ambitious elements of the government's reform agenda," Fitch said.

Moody's said it expects policy continuity, especially with regards to budgetary emphasis on infrastructure spending and boosting domestic manufacturing, to support robust economic growth.PTI

Tight election to promote reform: CEA

REUTERS
SINGAPORE, JUNE 5

INDIA'S CLOSER-than-expected election should increase the prospect of productive reforms, Chief Economic Adviser V Anantha Nageswaran said on Wednesday, while the fundamental drivers of growth remain largely independent of government policy.

Voters returned Prime Minister Narendra Modi for a third term but with a reduced margin that has left BJP needing coalition partners to govern. Stock markets tumbled on Tuesday on investor concerns that economic reforms may be postponed but recovered some losses on Wednesday.

Nageswaran said many tricky reforms were in state government hands and he viewed them



File

as more likely to progress.

"In some cases the responsibility is disproportionately on state governments, sub-national governments," he said, addressing an investor conference hosted by Nomura in Singapore.

"I would even say that the

I would even say that the election outcome increases the probability of some of these factor market reforms happening, rather than lowering it, because it creates avenues for dialogue and consensus building"

— V ANANTHA NAGESWARAN
CHIEF ECONOMIC ADVISER

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The factor market refers to land, energy, labour and other in-

puts in economic production.

Nageswaran was appointed to his role in 2022 and is one of the government's key advisers on economic policy. He also authors India's economic survey, a document that indicates the government's policy direction and serves as a precursor to the Budget.

He said the next government will deliver "policy continuity with some change," without detailing any possible changes.

"The supply side infrastructure improvements that have happened — they are for real and they will continue," he said.

Future growth also draws on the health of the banking system and corporate sector, he said. "Both are going to be important drivers, not so much government policy, and those have not been affected by the election outcome."

AUGUST ONWARDS

AI Express to operate 28 weekly flights from Hindon

ENSE ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JUNE 5

AIR INDIA Express on Wednesday announced that it will start flights from Ghaziabad's Hindon Airport, which will make it the only carrier to operate from two airports in the National Capital Region (NCR). The airline, which is a subsidiary of Air India, will operate a total of 28 direct flights between Hindon and Bengaluru, Goa, and Kolkata from August 1, the carrier said in a release.

"Besides operating over 280 flights a week from Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGI) in New Delhi, AIIX (Air India Express) will be operating from Hindon Airport, ensuring enhanced connectivity to/from other cities in western UP, Uttarakhand and Haryana," the airline said, emphasising Hindon's "strategic location" within the NCR. The catchment area that the airline hopes will benefit from operations at Hindon includes central and eastern Delhi, parts of western Uttar Pradesh, parts of Haryana, and even parts of Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh.

Air India Express will operate two daily return flights from Bengaluru and a daily return flight

each from Kolkata and Goa to the Hindon airport. "Our network expansion is focussed on enhancing connectivity across the rapidly growing domestic and short-haul international market, particularly the new and underserved routes. The maturity and size of major metropolitan areas in India can support secondary airports, spreading the benefits of air connectivity and further stimulating growth..." The new services will complement our operations from the primary airport serving Delhi NCR, providing convenient options," said Air India Express Managing Director Alok Singh.

In addition to providing non-stop connectivity to destinations such as Bengaluru, Goa, and Kolkata, Air India Express plans to connect Hindon Airport through one-stop itineraries to other key stations on its network, including Bhubaneswar, Chennai, Kozhikode, Kannur, Kochi, Hyderabad, Imphal, Bagdogra, Mangalore, Mumbai, Pune, and Thiruvananthapuram, the airline said. Interestingly, the announcement comes just months ahead of the inauguration of the upcoming Noida International Airport (NIA) at Jewar in western Uttar Pradesh.

FULL REPORT ON
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AS N CHANDRABABU NAIDU SEEKS TO RESTORE 'BRAND AP'

India's tech manufacturing map may get a makeover with TDP as key NDA player

SOUMYARENDRA BARIK & RAVI DUTTA MISHRA
NEW DELHI, JUNE 5

HE IS known to be a man invested in technology, and is widely credited for turning Hyderabad into a technology hub. Even in his party's largely welfare-oriented manifesto, there were mentions of encouraging artificial intelligence in a largely agrarian state. And in 2024, N Chandrababu Naidu and his Telugu Desam Party (TDP) could have one more tryst with technology — with the coastal state of Andhra Pradesh potentially emerging as a new manufacturing destination.

With the TDP's support crucial for the BJP-led NDA to stake claim at forming the next central government — after the latter failed to secure a majority on its own in the Lok Sabha elections — Naidu's party is believed to be staking a claim for one of its elected MPs to potentially lead the IT Ministry, among others. If that were to come true, BJP leaders expect that a number of centrally subsidised manufacturing projects could land in Andhra Pradesh — significantly changing the country's tech production map.

Naidu often recalls the time when he secured a meeting with Microsoft founder Bill Gates in the 1990s (when he was CM of undivided Andhra Pradesh). As per him, the meeting was only scheduled to last for 10 minutes, but ended up going on for 45 minutes. During that interaction, he claims to have convinced the company to set up a development centre in Hyderabad. Gates listened and the software giant opened a centre in the city in 1998, setting the stage for Hyderabad emerging as a key IT sector hub in India.

Today, Hyderabad is home to some of the biggest names in technology, including the likes of Google, IBM, Amazon, Hewlett-Packard, and Texas Instruments, among others. Focus on tech has been a defining theme of Naidu's and TDP leadership. In 2019, during his previous stint as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, he signed a memorandum of understanding with the Adani Group to build data centre parks in and around Visakhapatnam over the next 20 years.

One common concern that some state leaders expressed during the previous BJP-majority government is that a number of new projects, particularly in the electronics sector, went to the state of Gujarat. A senior BJP



Telugu Desam Party (TDP) President N Chandrababu Naidu addresses a press conference in Amravati on Wednesday. PTI

leader said that with a TDP MP at the helm, Andhra Pradesh could potentially attract investments in the tech manufacturing sector, especially those that would be set up through central government subsidy, like semiconductor assembly plants, laptop and mobile manufacturing facilities. The IT Ministry is the leading department that hands out subsidies for various electronics manufacturing schemes — semiconductors, smartphones, laptops, and servers, among others.

"The TDP would certainly push projects to land up in Andhra Pradesh, which will potentially change the tech manufacturing map of India, which so far has largely been concentrated in Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Karnataka," a second leader said. Apple supplier Foxlink, which makes cables for iPhone chargers, already has a base in the state, potentially allowing for more such suppliers to set up shop in Andhra Pradesh.

With Hyderabad no longer the official joint capital of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, Naidu's party — expected to be a key player in the new government's cabinet — could capitalise the opportunity to develop the capital city of Amravati, along with pulling a number of manufacturing projects along the Visakhapatnam Chennai Industrial Corridor. "This, in turn, would give the party leverage in the state over its local rival YSRCP as well," a BJP leader said.

Naidu's newfound king-maker status could help resolve the financial constraints that have hit the construction of his dream capital of Andhra

Pradesh, Amravati for the designs of which he had roped in British architects Foster and Partners and Baahubali director Rajamouli. However, the project has far from taken off, especially after the World Bank, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank dropped plans to lend funding for the capital project due to political uncertainty in the state.

Amravati has been central to Naidu's politics and a subject of stiff tension between TDP and opposition Jagan Mohan Reddy's YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) who had stopped awarding contracts in Amravati citing irregularities during his tenure. While Reddy wants Visakhapatnam to be the administrative capital of AP, Naidu has vowed to back Amravati.

The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) last year observed that land acquired by successive state governments had been lying idle after spending Rs 2,244.94 crore and that the purpose of Land Pooling Scheme (LPS) was not achieved.

TDP's manifesto for the Andhra Pradesh Assembly election offers a glimpse into the direction that the ministry and the manufacturing industry could possibly take.

The manifesto, while lamenting that Andhra Pradesh had the highest number of unemployed undergraduate numbers, had promised the establishment of special employment zones across the state's north, south and central regions. There was a promise of also incentivising those medium and small enterprises which generate a large number of jobs.

FULL REPORT ON
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BRIEFLY

India's services sector growth softens: PMI

New Delhi: India's services sector growth eased to a five-month low in May amid fierce competition, price pressures and a severe heatwave, even as new orders from international markets expanded. The seasonally adjusted HSBC India Services Business Activity Index fell to 60.2 in May from 60.8 a month earlier, its lowest mark since last December.PTI

CBIC starts e-disbursal of duty drawback

New Delhi: The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) said it has started electronic disbursal of duty drawback amounts directly to exporters' bank accounts using the PFMS platform. PTI

Airlines' loss to widen in FY25: CAPA India

Bengaluru: Indian airlines are expected to post a bigger industry-wide loss in fiscal 2025 as higher costs outweigh rising demand and costlier tickets, aviation consultancy CAPA India said. REUTERS



Slight dip in number of women in LS, well under proposed 33% quota

ARJUN SENGUPTA
NEW DELHI, JUNE 5

INDIA HAS elected 74 women MPs to Lok Sabha this year, four fewer than in 2019 and 52 more than in India's first elections in 1952. These 74 women make just 13.63% of the elected strength of the Lower House, much less than the 33% that will be reserved for women after the next delimitation exercise.

Slow change

Over the years, Lok Sabha's gender composition has shown a general trend towards increasing women's representation. But progress has been slow and not linear. In 1952, women made up just 4.41% of the strength of the Lower House. This number increased to more than 6% in the election held a decade later, but again dipped to below 4% in 1971 (ironically, with Indira Gandhi, India's first and only woman Prime Minister, at the helm).

Since then, there has been a slow, but steady rise in women's representation (with a few exceptions), which crossed the 10% mark in 2009, and peaked in 2019 at 14.36%. India still lags behind several countries — 46% of MPs in South Africa, 35% in the UK, and 29% in the US, are women.

Party-wise share

In 2024, women Lok Sabha MPs come from 14 parties. The BJP leads this list with 31 women MPs, followed by the Congress (13), TMC (11), SP (5), DMK (3), and Chirag Paswan-led LJP (2) and JD (U), both with two. Seven parties have one woman MP each. Among the 3 parties with double-digit women MPs in the Lok Sabha, the TMC boasts the highest proportion (37.93%), followed by Congress (13.13%) and BJP (12.92%).

New faces, younger

Of the 74 women MPs elected, 43 are first time MPs, and one (Misa Bharti of the RJD)

is a first time Lok Sabha MP. This is higher than the overall percentage of newcomers in the House (59% vs 52%).

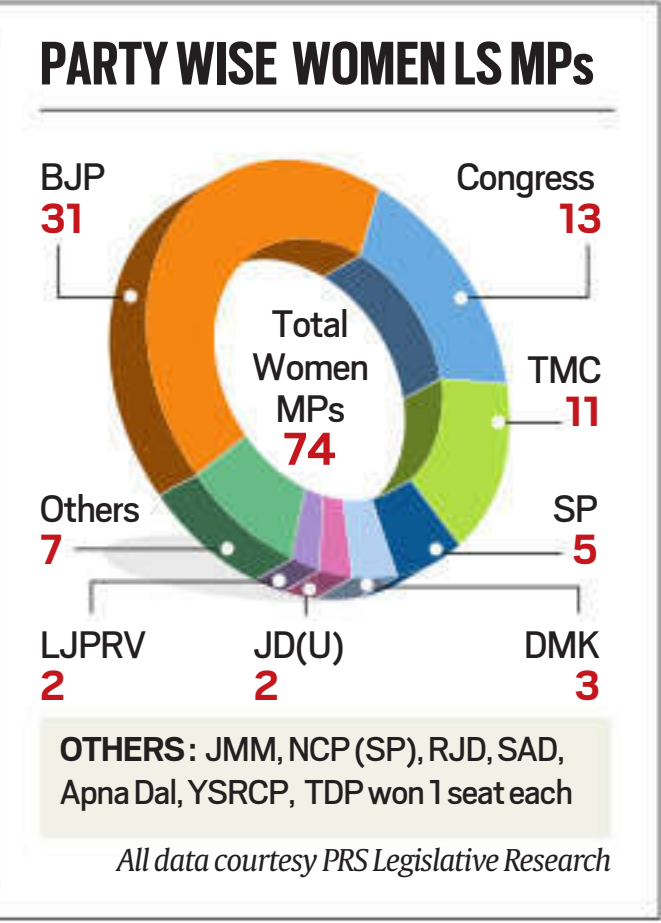
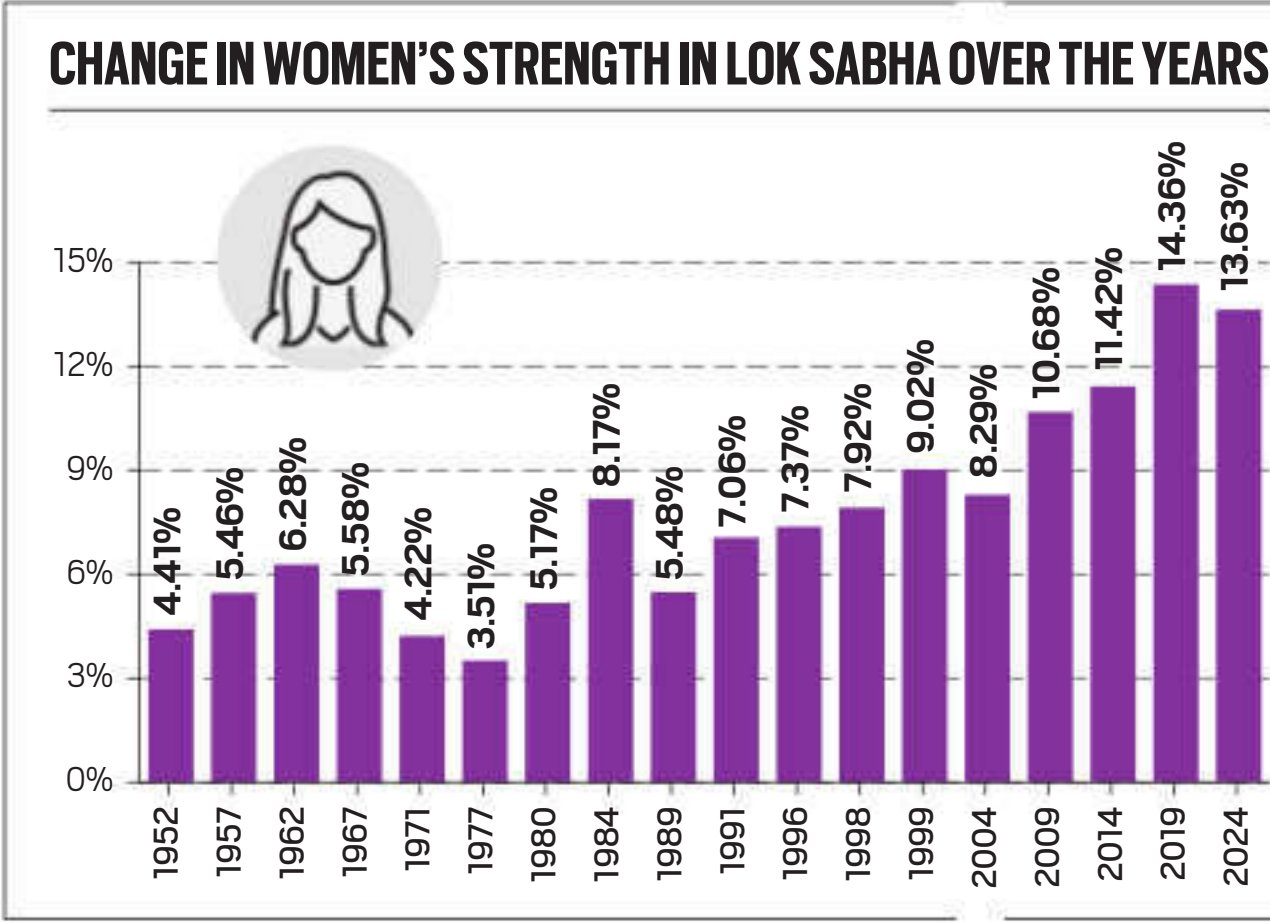
Women MPs have only 0.76 Lok Sabha terms of experience (one term is generally 5 years long).

Women MPs, with an average age of 50 years, are also younger. The overall age of the House is 56. They are as educated as their male counterparts, with 78% completing undergraduation.

Candidates' composition

Out of the total 8,360 candidates, who stood in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, just around 10% were women. This number too has increased over time — it stood at 3% in 1957. This is the first time that women candidates' proportion touched 10%. Roughly 16% of BJP's candidates were women, as opposed to 13% of Congress candidates — both higher than the overall average.

TELLING NUMBERS



EXPLAINED LAW

AMRITPAL, ENGINEER RASHID WIN FROM JAIL: WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?



Both Engineer Rashid (left) and Amritpal Singh are currently in prison on serious charges being probed by the NIA. *Express Archive*



APURVA VISHWANATH
NEW DELHI, JUNE 5

RESULTS OF the Lok Sabha polls have thrown up two unusual winners — Waris Punjab De chief Amritpal Singh from Punjab's Khadoor Sahib, and Engineer Rashid from Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla — both of whom are currently in jail on serious charges that are being probed by the National Investigation Agency.

Serious charges

Amritpal Singh has been in jail in Dibrugarh, Assam, under the National Security Act (NSA) since March 2023. The NSA is a preventive detention law, which allows the government to detain individuals for up to 12 months without pressing formal charges.

Rashid is currently in Delhi's Tihar jail facing charges under the stringent Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) in an alleged terror-funding case. A former MLA, he contested in the election on an Awami Ittehad Party ticket.

Taking oath

The duo's election victory means that they now have a constitutional mandate as parliamentarians. Taking oath is the first step in fulfilling this mandate.

Although this is not explicitly spelt out in the Constitution, there have been past instances where jailed lawmakers are granted temporary parole to take oath.

In March, Aam Aadmi Party leader

Sanjay Singh, who was then imprisoned in Tihar on money laundering charges, was granted permission by a court to take oath as Rajya Sabha MP for a second term. A trial court directed the jail superintendent to ensure that he is taken to Parliament with adequate security, and brought back to the jail.

In 2021, after he won from Sibsagar, Assam, Akhil Gogoi was temporarily allowed by an NIA court to leave prison to take oath as a member of the Assam Legislative Assembly.

The most famous election victory from prison, however, came in 1977, when trade unionist George Fernandes was elected from Bihar's Muzaffarpur seat while in jail during the Emergency. He was released from prison before the oath ceremony, and went on to serve as a minister in Morarji Desai's Janata government.

Duties as a lawmaker

Being allowed to take oath is not the same as being released on bail. It is akin to a special parole for a day. The jailed lawmaker has to write to the Speaker that she will not be able to attend regular proceedings. Article 101(4) of the Constitution states that if an MP is absent for over 60 days from all the meetings without permission, her seat would be declared vacant.

For attending a Parliament session or to cast a vote in the House, the lawmaker will have to move court for permission.

However, only a conviction, and a sentence of two or more years, will lead to disqualification from Parliament.

SREENIVAS JANYALA
HYDERABAD, JUNE 5

TELOGU DESAM PARTY (TDP) president N Chandrababu Naidu has emerged as a key player in national politics after his party won 16 seats in the Lok Sabha election.

Naidu's support is critical for the BJP, which has only 240 seats. In return, Naidu is likely to extract several promises and assurances, the most important of which will be Special Category Status for Andhra Pradesh.

What is Special Category Status (SCS)?

In 1969, the Fifth Finance Commission introduced the mechanism of SCS to assist certain states in their development if they faced historical economic or geographical disadvantages. Factors such as difficult terrain, low population density and/or a sizeable tribal population, location along borders, economic and infrastructural backwardness, etc. were typically considered to accord SCS.

The system was scrapped on the recommendation of the 14th Finance Commission, which suggested that the resource gap of states should be filled by increasing the devolution of tax to 42% from the existing 32%.

SCS was accorded to 11 states, including the entire Northeast, and J&K, Himachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand. Besides AP, SCS has been demanded by Bihar, whose Chief Minister Nitish Kumar is another key NDA ally, and Odisha, where the BJP will now form the government.

Why does AP want SCS?

When the undivided state was bifurcated through the AP Reorganisation Act, 2014, the UPA government had promised to grant SCS to AP to compensate for the loss of revenues, and of Hyderabad, where much of the development was concentrated.

After the NDA government took charge, both Naidu who was CM from 2014 to 2019, and Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy (2019-24), repeatedly appealed for SCS to overcome the "distressing" financial situation of the state.

According to presentations made by the AP government to NITI Aayog, the 14th Finance Commission estimated that the post-devolution revenue deficit for AP for the period 2015-20 would be Rs 22,113 crore, but in fact, this figure was Rs 66,362 crore. The state's debt had reached Rs 2,58,928 crore by 2018-19, and is more than Rs 3.5 lakh crore now.

AP argues that the undivided state was bifurcated in an unjust and inequitable manner — the successor state inherited nearly 59% of the population, debt, and liabilities of the original state, but only 47% of its revenues. For example, of the Rs 57,000 crore of software exports from AP for the year 2013-14, Hyderabad

THE DEMANDS...

THE BIHAR GOVERNMENT has been raising the demand for Special Category Status (SCS) since 2008. Before the 2009 election, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said that he would support any alliance that agreed to give Bihar special status.

IN FEBRUARY this year, Bihar Energy Minister Bijendra Prasad Yadav said in the Assembly that the Prime Minister should give Bihar SCS. "We have achieved a lot from our limited resources... If we get a boost from the Centre, we will be able to pull more people out of poverty," he had said. Earlier on January 24, the birth anniversary of socialist icon Bihar Karpoori Thakur, the CM himself had iterated the demand for SCS.

THE ODISHA GOVERNMENT first demanded SCS in 1979. The state continued to push for it in the 1990s, and the 10th (1990) and 11th Assemblies (1995) passed unanimous resolutions asking the Government of India for SCS. After coming to power in 2000, Naveen Patnaik used the issue to accuse the AP government at the Centre of neglecting Odisha. The state's demand was based mainly on the presence of hilly and tribal areas, and vulnerability to natural disasters such as floods and cyclones.

THE CENTRE REJECTED the demand in May 2013 — when Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission Montek

city — with Telangana after the bifurcation — alone accounted for Rs 56,500 crore.

Today's AP is essentially an agrarian state, with low economic buoyancy, leading to huge revenue disabilities. This is evident from that fact that the per capita revenue of Telangana for 2015-16 was Rs 14,411, while it was only Rs 8,397 for AP.

According to the AP government, the UPA had assured it of SCS for a five-year period as a precondition to bifurcation, and that the residuary state would be adequately compensated through development interventions, investments, and direct financial assistance.

What would getting SCS mean for AP?
SCS would mean higher grants-in-aid to



Naidu, Nitish on Wednesday. *ANI*

Singh Ahluwalia said the state did not qualify for SCS — and again in January 2016, when NITI Aayog vice-president Arvind Panagariya said the demand for SCS could not be considered in view of the recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission, which made no distinction between general and SCS states in distribution of shareable taxes.

...AND RESPONSE

TWO FINANCE MINISTERS, the late Arun Jaitley in 2015, and Nirmala Sitharaman in February 2023, have ruled out granting SCS to Andhra Pradesh or Odisha. The Centre has said the provision of SCS no longer exists, and the mechanism for devolution of taxes proposed by the 14th Finance Commission is in place. The Centre is offering Rs 1,050 crore per annum as Special Development Assistance to seven backward districts in AP.

SUJIT BISOIYI & SANTOSH SINGH

the state government from the Centre. Annual per capita grants to Special Category States is Rs 5,573 crore, whereas AP receives Rs 3,428 crore. SCS states enjoy special industrial incentives such as Income-tax exemptions, custom duty waivers, reduced excise duty, corporate tax exemption for a certain period, concessions and exemptions relating to GST, and lower state and central taxes. In SCS states, the Centre funds central schemes up to 90%, compared to 70% in non-SCS states.

The AP government has argued that special incentives are vital for rapid industrialisation, and would lead to improved employment opportunities for the youth and overall development of the state. SCS would encourage a range of investments in the state, it has argued.

What have Naidu and Jagan done to press the demand?

Naidu has been vocal and emotional about SCS, and it vexed him through his 2014-19 tenure as CM. The TDP was part of the first Modi government when it took power in 2014, and Naidu was frustrated by his failure to persuade the Centre of his case.

In March 2018, expressing anguish over the Centre's refusal to listen to his pleas, Naidu asked his two ministers at the Centre — P Ashok Gajapati Raju (Civil Aviation) and Y Satyanarayana Chowdary (MoS, Science & Technology and Earth Sciences) — to resign. He then quit the NDA and launched an anti-BJP campaign for the Assembly election of May 2019.

When Naidu mentioned in the Legislative Assembly that he had gone to Delhi 29 times to meet NDA ministers to seek SCS, Jagan and his YSRCP MLAs had laughed and poked fun at him. During the election campaign, Jagan attacked Naidu and TDP for their failure to get SCS for AP. However, after winning a landslide and becoming the CM in 2019, Jagan faced similar attacks and insults himself.

In February 2024, during the last Assembly session before the elections, Jagan expressed frustration over the issue, saying that he wished that no party gets an absolute majority in Lok Sabha, so that the state can bargain for SCS. Naidu now has that opportunity.

How feasible is it for the Centre to yield to this demand?

The BJP has very few options in its negotiations with Naidu. The Congress has already sent him feelers — senior leader Jairam Ramesh has said that SCS for AP was part of the party's manifesto in the state, and the INDIA bloc would accept the demand if it comes to power at the Centre.

Giving Naidu what he wants to the exclusion of other states — notably Bihar and Odisha — will be difficult for the BJP. Also, the 14th Finance Commission had stated that SCS was a burden on the Centre's resources — this has been used by the NDA to reject Naidu's pleas.

As a compromise, the NDA could make a promise similar to the one the UPA made: to give SCS for a specific period — say, five years. The UPA had hoped it would assuage the people's anger and create some breathing space.

Naidu's earlier push for SCS had failed, and he had suffered a crushing defeat in the state as well. This time is different — the BJP is dependent on him, and he has just won a landslide in the state. From his position of strength, he could settle for a compromise with favourable terms — perhaps several Central projects in AP, a halt to the privatisation of the Vizag steel plant, increased assistance to backward districts, setting up of SEZs where the Centre would be able to waive taxes, etc.

BJP's allies: why they may stick with the party, and why they may leave

AAKASH JOSHI
NEW DELHI, JUNE 5

SINCE THE 2014 general election, the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) has been more symbol than substance. The BJP has not been bothered by the loss of several allies, including old partners Shiromani Akali Dal (2020) and the undivided Shiv Sena (2019). But given that the new government will be NDA 3.0 rather than Modi 3.0, non-BJP members of the alliance who have done well in the election will likely leverage the fact that BJP needs its allies perhaps more than they need it.

The question is: What do these parties gain by staying on with the NDA?

Telugu Desam Party

The TDP first joined the NDA in 1996, when the young Chandrababu Naidu was

known as a pioneer in IT governance. The party suffered greatly after it left the NDA in 2018. It was reduced to just 2 seats in the Telangana Assembly in 2018, and to 23 in the Andhra Pradesh Assembly in 2019.

It rejoined the NDA in February this year and has gained massively, winning 135 of 175 seats in the Assembly and 16 seats in Lok Sabha. Naidu is kingmaker again.

Establishing himself firmly in AP will be Naidu's first priority. He has renewed the demand for Special Category Status; will ask for key portfolios that allow him to bestow contracts and favours in his state, including and especially for the construction and operationalisation of Amaravati, the new capital he envisioned during his previous stint as CM.

Politically, the TDP could rein in some of the BJP's more controversial plans. Delimitation, the promotion of Hindi, the "North-South divide" — all these issues will

need to be placed on the back burner if the BJP is to keep its most important ally happy. But the TDP needs the BJP too — Naidu's campaign in the state invoked PM Narendra Modi and the alliance during the campaign. Going against that mandate may well have a political cost.

Janata Dal (United)

Nitish Kumar had been a stalwart of the NDA government under Atal Bihari Vajpayee, and served in his Cabinet. In the run-up to the 2014 election, however, things began to sour.

Nitish hotly contested the elevation of Narendra Modi to PM candidate for his lack of secular credentials, and left the NDA in 2013. His image as "sushasan babu", coupled with the importance of Bihar, led many to project him as a possible Opposition PM candidate. This perception was only

strengthened after the 2015 Bihar Assembly election in which the Mahagathbandhan trounced the BJP.

But Nitish broke away from the alliance in 2017. He then returned to the Mahagathbandhan in 2022, only to leave again to join the NDA in 2024. The perception was that Nitish had lost all credibility.

But with wins in 12 Lok Sabha seats, he is back on top. He has reportedly demanded at least three ministries, including Railways. In the past, the JD(U) acted as a force that led to the softening of hard Hindutva — the NDA under Vajpayee put issues like the Ram Temple, Uniform Civil Code and abrogation of Article 370 on the back burner.

To move away from its core now will require a major adjustment from the BJP. And Nitish Kumar, clearly, is an ally who is easy to tempt away.

EXPLAINED POLITICS

LJP (Ram Vilas)

Ram Vilas Paswan, founder of the LJP, was known for almost prophetically switching alliances before elections and ending up on the winning side. It now seems that his son Chirag Paswan can carry on that legacy. With 5 Lok Sabha seats, Chirag can claim to be a significant voice representing Bihar's Dalit population. As of now, he has professed continuing loyalty to the NDA but will demand Cabinet positions and other accommodations, something denied to him recently.

Shiv Sena (Shinde)

The Shiv Sena was for long a non-Sangh Hindutva ally of the BJP. Their alliance began in 1989 and was only substantially broken after the 2019 Maharashtra Assembly elections. The party split down the middle in 2022 — with more than a little help from

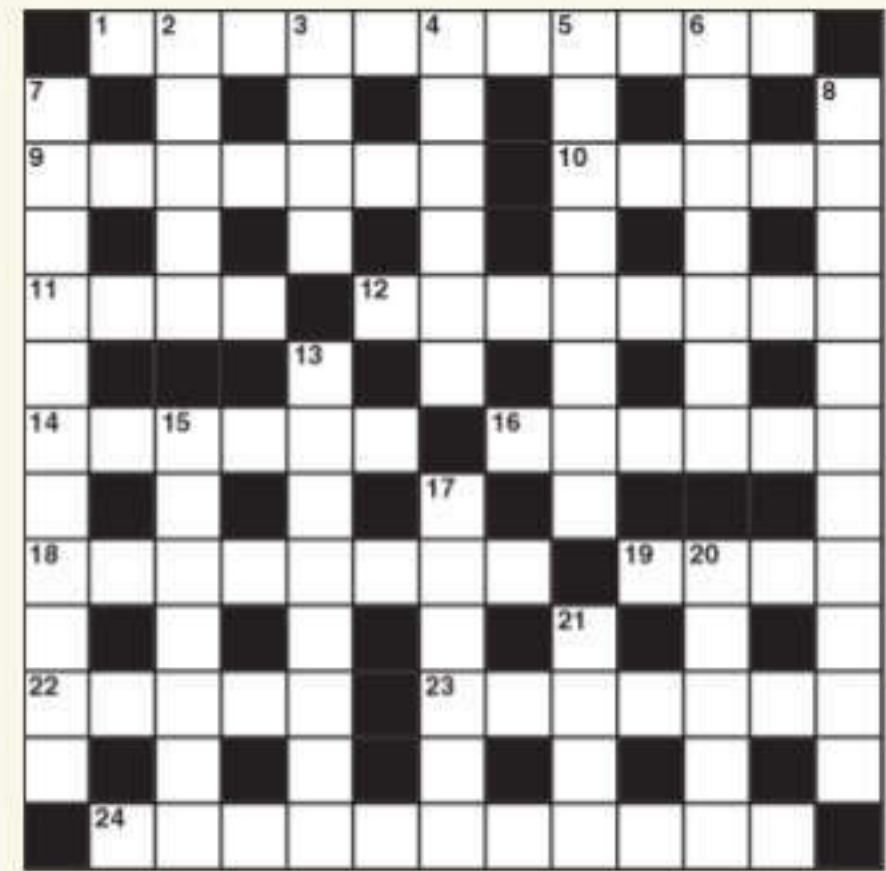
the BJP. The rebel Eknath Shinde faction was eventually awarded the party symbol and name.

It has won just 7 seats, compared to the Uddhav Thackeray faction's 9. Shiv Sena could stick with the BJP. However, given the now inevitable churn within the party, many of its leaders may want to go back with Uddhav.

RLD and JDS

In the North and the South, two erstwhile members of the Opposition chose to throw in their lot with the BJP. The Rashtriya Lok Dal in UP and Janata Dal (Secular) in Karnataka, with 2 seats each, might be regretting their decision. The former joined the NDA after its founder-patriarch Charan Singh was given the Bharat Ratna; the latter after some cajoling by the BJP. For now, it makes more sense to stick with the NDA and extract what they can.

CROSSWORD 5383



- ACROSS
- 1 Return from work at the end of the week? (4-4,3)
- 9 Set one's sights higher and improves (5,2)
- 10 Cut with a pointed whip (5)
- 11 Leave the chief cook in charge (4)
- 12 Clear and complicated dates listed (8)
- 14 Produced the rent (6)
- 16 Embrace that really fixes things (6)
- 18 An old story that bears fruit (8)
- 19 Toss a coin to find one who is so admired (4)
- 22 French friend to leave Spanish friend (5)
- 23 In steel, perhaps, but capable of being stretched (7)
- 24 Drove one mad - so maudlin (11)
- DOWN
- 2 Fuss about worship (5)
- 3 I leave Elsie instead (4)
- 4 His parents will be late (6)
- 5 It changes later, yes, towards the sunrise (8)
- 6 A company on leave (7)
- 7 Expert on current problems (11)
- 8 Unable to span the production schedule? (5-6)
- 13 Broken boot-tree found in the garden (8)
- 15 Exact point covered by the summary (7)
- 17 It's regular trade practice (6)
- 20 Country requiring careful handling (5)
- 21 Soon it may be nameless (4)

Solutions Crossword 5382 Across: 1 Piston, 4 Chaperon, 9 Leaves, 10 Artists, 12 Suds, 13 Sleet, 14 Trio, 17 Differential, 20 Oceanography, 23 Aims, 24 Geese, 25 Bang, 28 Scarcity, 29 Cinema, 30 Portrays, 31 Census Down: 1 Palisade, 2 Standoff, 3 Open, 5 Harvest mouse, 6 Pair, 7 Rotary, 8 Nestor, 11 Illegal entry, 15 Peach, 16 Padre, 18 Speakers, 19 Eyeglass, 21 Pays up, 22 Impair, 26 Scar, 27 Vice

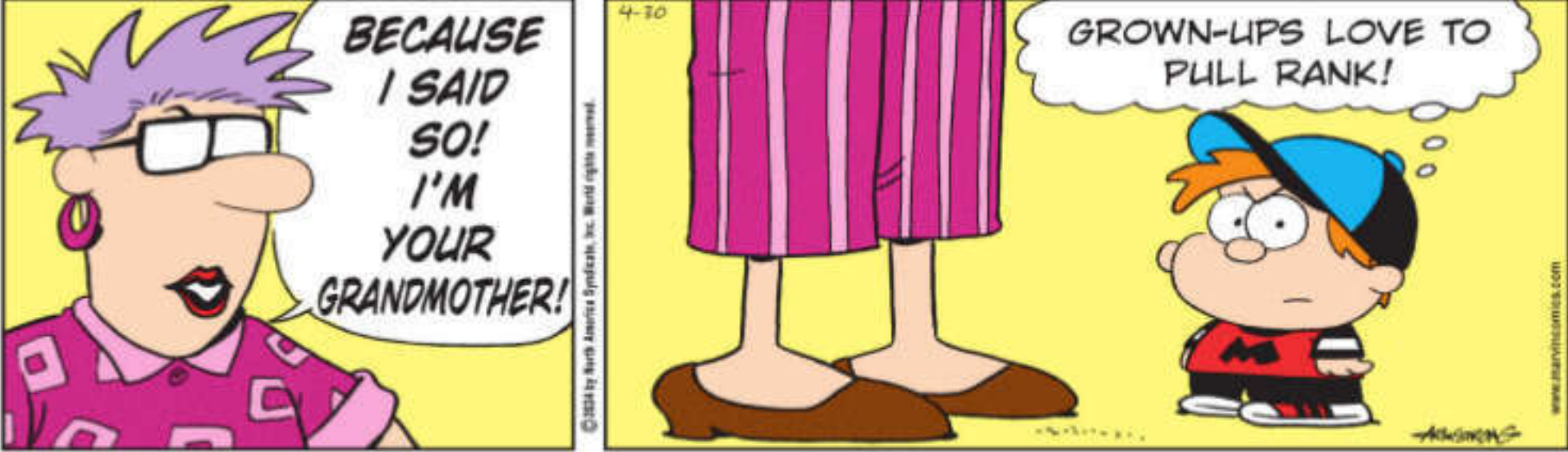
OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip. All riches have their origin in ____ is in ideas - not money.

BDAEI

FHTIS

AEMRDN

AENUDM

SOLUTION: ARIDE, SHIRT, REMAND, UNMADE Answer: All riches have their origin in mind. Wealth is in ideas - not money.

SUDOKU 5583

SOLUTION SUDOKU 5582

DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

- ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)
- LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)
- TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)
- GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
- CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
- LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)
- VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)
- SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)
- SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)
- CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)
- AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)
- PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that this Person (depicted in the photo) namely **Ram Prakash S/o Vashu Dev R/o E-57/A-337, Jhuggi Sunder Nagri, Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped from his residence since **19.05.2024 at 10:00 PM**. In this regard a FIR No./DD No. **44-A, Dated 28.05.2024** has been lodged in **PS Nand Nagri, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out this person but no clue has come to light so far.

His physical description is as under:-
Sex: Male, **Age:** 50 years, **Height:** 5' 8" ft., **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Long, **Built:** Thin, **Wearing:** Green colour T-Shirt, Chocolate colour Pant and slippers in feet.
Any person is having information or clue about this missing/ kidnapped person may kindly inform to the following:-

SHO
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax No.: 011-24368639
Tel. No.: 011-24368638/24368641

P.S. Nand Nagri, Delhi
Ph: 011-22583307, 22131093
Mob. No: 8750870733
DP/6709/NE/2024

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a male namely **Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown was found dead on 18.05.2024 at 17:35 hrs Out Side Wall Gurdwara Damdma Shahibrk, Hazrat Nizamuddin, New Delhi**. In this regard **DD No. 55 A, dated 18.05.2024** has been lodged at Police Station, Hazrat Nizamuddin, New Delhi. Photo is not clear. Identification of unidentified dead body of male is as under:
Name: Unknown, Age: 60/65 Years, Height: 5'4", Complexion: Shallow, Wearing: Dark Brown Colour Baniyan Only.
If anyone have any information or clue about this male deceased may kindly be inform undersigned.

SHO
Police Station Hazrat Nizamuddin, New Delhi
Ph.: 011-24356565, 8750870926
DP/6320/SE/2024

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 (2) (ii) CrPC

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Pradeep @Padda S/o Ajay Kumar R/o K-105, Vijay Vihar, Phase-2, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in a case vide **FIR No: 0260/20 U/s 380/ 411/ 413/ 34 IPC** registered at **PS Budh Vihar** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued stating that the said **Pradeep @Padda** could not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the accused **Pradeep @Padda** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Pradeep @Padda** is required to appear before the court to answer the said complaint on or before **19.07.2024**.

By Order
Ms. Divya Arora
MM Northwest-04, Room No-112,
1st floor, Rohini court, Delhi
DP/6582/RD/2024

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General Public is hereby informed that one female **Namely: Heena D/o: Ramesh Kumar, R/o: Gali No. 10, H-Block, Sindhi Colony, Kushak Road, Swaroop Nagar, Delhi. Sex: Female, Age: 24Years, Height: 5'1", Complexion: Wheatish, Built: Normal, Face: Round, Wearing: Blue Check Kurti and White salwar and black shoes** has been missing since **31.08.2016** from **Swaroop Nagar School, Bhatta Road, Delhi**, from the Jurisdiction of Police Station Swaroop Nagar, Delhi. In this regard **FIR No. 0366/16 Date: 01.09.2016** has been registered at **P.S.: Swaroop Nagar, Delhi**.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the Missing female but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this Missing female. Please inform to the following.

SHO
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-Mail ID: cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639
DP/6677/NW/2024

P.S.: Swaroop Nagar
North West, Delhi
Phone: 011-27811932, 7065036328
9319941243, 7065036327

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(SEE SECTION 82 Cr.P.C.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person(s) **Rajat Kuchhal R/o Harshit Garments and Footwears, Arya Samaj Mandir, Baba Bazar, Near Arya Girl's School, Sonipat-131001 (HR)** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No./Ct. Cases/ 2251/2018 U/s 138 NI Act, PS Paschim Vihar East, (Outer Distt.) Delhi** and it has been returned to a Warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused person(s) **Rajat Kuchhal** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person(s) **Rajat Kuchhal** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person(s) **Rajat Kuchhal** of **FIR No./Ct. Cases/ 2251/2018 U/s 138 NI Act, PS Paschim Vihar East, (Outer Distt.) Delhi** are required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before dated **05.07.2024 at 10:00 AM**.

By Order
Sh. Ankit Karan Singh
Metropolitan Magistrate-08 (West)
Room No. 30, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi
DP/6523/OD/2024
(Court Matter)

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. P.C.

Where as complaint has been made before me that accused **Uma W/o Daya Ram, R/o- Premises near House No. 117, Ground Floor, Prem Basti, Rewla Khanpur, Najafgarh, New Delhi 110043** has committed (or suspected to have committed) the offence in case registered vide **Ct Case No. 292/2022 U/s 135 Indian Electricity Act PS Chhawla, New Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused **Uma** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Uma** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Uma** of case **Ct Case No. 292/2022 U/s 135 Indian Electricity Act PS Chhawla, New Delhi** is required to appear before this court (or before me) to answer the complaint on or before the day of **04.07.2024**.

By Order,
Sh. Vinod Kumar Meena
Addl. Distt. & Session Judge(South-West)
Special Court(Electricity), Court No. 609,
Dwarka District Court, New Delhi
DP/6742/DW/2024 (Court Matter)

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(Section 82 Cr. Pc.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that the accused person **Amzad Ali S/o Karam Ali R/o V-441/13, Vijay park Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 48744/15, u/s 426/429/420/465 IPC at PS Bhajanpura, Delhi** and it has been returned to warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused **Amzad Ali**, cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Amzad Ali**, has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Amzad Ali** accused of **Fir No. 48744/15, u/s 426/429/420/465 IPC at PS Bhajanpura, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **06.07.2024**.

By order
Shri. Pankaj raj
Metropolitan Magistrate
karkardooma Court, Delhi
DP/6779/NE/2024

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General Public is hereby informed that one Person **Namely: Ajay, S/o Ami Lal, R/o: H. No. 64, Pocket-2, Sec.-19, Ambrahi Dwarka, New Delhi, Sex: Male, Age: 41 Years, Height: 5'8", Complexion: Fair, Face: Round, Built: Strong, Hair: Black, Wearing: not known** he has been missing from his house since **17.05.2024**. In this regard **DD No. 68A, Dated: 22.05.2024**, has been registered at **P.S.: Dwarka, New Delhi**.

Sincere efforts have been made by local Police to trace out the missing person but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing person, please inform to the following.

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
Fax: 011-24368639
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641
DP/6791/DW/2024

SHO
P.S: Dwarka, New Delhi
Ph. 8750871021, 8750871081

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 (2) (ii) CrPC

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Suvinder S/o Sudama Mehto, R/o-1/10324, Gali No. 3, West Gorakh Park, Shahdara, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in a case vide **FIR No: 306/2019 U/s- 33 D EX.ACT** registered at **PS Welcome, North East Dist, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued stating that the said **Suvinder** could not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the accused **Suvinder** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Suvinder** is required to appear before the court to answer the said complaint on or before **19.07.2024**.

By Order
Arindam Singh Cheema
MM-03, Shahdara Court No. 19,
Karkardooma Court, Delhi
DP/6704/NE/2024

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Rais @ Mulla, S/o: Ibrahim, R/o: 769 Gali No. 3, Kidwai Nagar, PS Lisadi Gate, Meerut, UP**, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 08347/23 U/s 379/411/174/34 IPC, Date: 18/03/2023 P.S.: Mayur Vihar, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Rais @ Mulla** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Rais @ Mulla**, has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Rais @ Mulla** accused of **FIR No. 08347/23 U/s 379/411/174/34 IPC, Date: 18/03/2023 P.S.: Mayur Vihar, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **09.07.2024**.

By Order
Sh. Arvind Dev
LD. MM, Court No. 26
Karkardooma Court, Delhi
DP/6667/ED/2024-
(Court Matter)

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified male (depicted in the photo) name **Unknown S/o Unknown** residence and family is **Unknown** age 45 years. He was found unconscious & seriously injured opposite Ahinsa Dham Hospital on **23.05.2024 at 11:30 PM** during the treatment at **LBS Hospital** Doctors declared him dead on **24.05.2024 at 12:24 AM**. In this regard, a **FIR No. 151/24, U/s: 279/304A IPC**, has been lodged at **P.S. Madhu Vihar, Delhi**. Dead body has been preserved for identification at **LBS Hospital**. His physical description is as under.
Sex: Male, **Age:** 45 years, **Height:** 5'5" **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Wearing :** Green T-Shirt & Blue Shirt and Blue and White Pajama. Any person having information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address of telephone number:-
Ph. No. 011-24368638, 24368641
Website: http://cbi.nic.in
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax No. 011-24368639
DP/6371/ED/2024

S.H.O
PS: Madhu Vihar, Delhi
Ph No.: 8750870624

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(See Section 82 Cr.PC)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Shyam @ Choti, S/o Pradeep R/o Old Kondli Gao, Near Durga Mandir, New Ashok Nagar, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No.119/18 u/s 307/34 IPC, P.S. Kalyanpuri, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Shyam @ Choti** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Shyam @ Choti** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Shyam @ Choti** of **FIR No.119/18 u/s 307/34 IPC, P.S. Kalyanpuri, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **05.07.2024**.

By Order,
Ms. Preeti Aggarwal
Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Court No.29
Karkardooma Court, Delhi
DP/6801/ED/2024

CUP SNIPPETS



Imad Wasim was brought back to the Pakistan set-up two months back with the T20 WC in mind. AP

Imad to miss USA match with side strain

Dallas: All-rounder Imad Wasim will miss Pakistan's T20 World Cup opener against USA on Thursday due to a persistent side strain, said captain Babar Azam. Babar said Wasim has still not completely recovered from his side strain and the left-arm spinner is under observation. "The medical staff is monitoring him and he will be available for the remaining matches in the World Cup," Babar told the media here. The seasoned T20 specialist Wasim was brought out of retirement two months back with the World Cup view. The selectors felt that his style of bowling would suit the slow nature of pitches in the Americas. "They (pitches) appear good for pace bowlers and we have a very good pace attack so the pitches seem good for us," said Babar. PTI

Vaughan tears into New York pitch

New York: Former England captain Michael Vaughan on Wednesday upbraided the pitch at the Nassau County International Cricket Stadium here that is in use for the T20 World Cup match between India and Ireland, calling it a "sub-standard surface." On a pitch that had plenty of bounce and seam, Indian bowlers, led by Hardik Pandya, Jasprit Bumrah and Arshdeep Singh, bundled out Ireland for a paltry 96. "Trying to sell the game in the states is great... love it... but for players to have to play on this sub-standard surface in New York is unacceptable... You work so hard to make it to the WC then have to play on this," Vaughan wrote on his X handle. In fact, this was the second match in a row in New York a team was bowled out for a total less than 100. On June 3, South Africa had fired out Sri Lanka for 77 en route their six-wicket victory. PTI

Ind-Pak will be battle of nerves: Afridi

New York: Shahid Afridi sees the India-Pakistan contest as an equivalent to the hugely popular 'Super Bowl' in USA and reckons whichever team handles nerves better will come out on top in the T20 World Cup contest in New York on June 9. The last time the two teams played at the T20 World Cup, it turned out to be a game for the ages with Virat Kohli pulling off a special win for India. Cricket's biggest game will take place on American shores for the first time and former Pakistan captain Afridi too will be keenly following it from the stands. "For those Americans discovering the tournament, they should know that Pakistan's game against India is like our Super Bowl," Afridi, who is the T20 World Cup ambassador, told ICC. PTI

CRICKET'S REBIRTH

Nepal joins T20 jamboree, with anthems, unrealistic fans and dreams

VENKATA KRISHNA B JUNE 5

THE LAST 16 months have been a journey to remember for a lifetime for Nepal cricket. So much so that in Nepal's pop culture, their cricket team has become hot property with a couple of leading artists from the Himalayan country, releasing albums for them. To put things in perspective, just like how 'Rally Round the West Indies' and 'Dil, Dil, Pakistan' would be blaring out of the speakers when the former champions walk on to the field, Nepal will have its own "Hami Nepali" sung by Tanka Timilsina and Anita Chalaune. At home, the Rhinos (the nickname of the team) are treated like superheroes that their coach Monty Desai has to keep reminding them every day that it isn't strictly the reality. Growing up in India, Desai has seen masses being totally consumed by cricket in the 80s and 90s. But the scenes in Nepal are a lot different. "It is just unbelievable," he says. Roddy Estwick, the bowling coach that Desai brought in to assist during the T20 World Cup, even relates to the scenes he grew up watching back in Barbados. "With me, when I see the youth filling up the stadium, standing on top of trees, buildings in the vicinity, it reminds me of what we used to see in the Caribbean back in the 80s. Just pure pas-

sion. And more importantly, cricket is the only good distraction they have, to put behind all difficulties they face in life," Estwick says. So it is not just Timilsina and Chalaune, who are trying to milk mileage out of cricket, which is right now the flavour of the town. There are other artists too, who have chipped in with their own tracks, just to associate themselves with the Nepal team. "We as a country are going through a lot. And cricket is the only solace," Suvam Koirala, a 19-year-old college student pursuing his bachelors degree in Kathmandu says. "As a country there is not much happiness. We are not a developed country, and there is little to do because of the constraints we face. All of us face hardships and even our cricketers have got this far overcoming plenty of challenges. They don't even get a good landscape to play the sport. And now, they happen to be our faces at the world level," Koirala adds. It is this emotional connection that has brought about a rebirth of cricket in Nepal. In 2014, when they made the T20 World Cup in Bangladesh, Nepal was full of promise and hope. But due to the interference of the government into the Cricket Association of Nepal's functioning, they slipped so badly from the Associates ladder that climbing back to this point has taken them 10 years. "We feel there is a definite vision now," Desai says. "The cricketing journey is uniting



At home, the Rhinos (nickname of Nepal team) are treated like superheroes so coach Monty Desai (R) has to keep reminding them that it isn't the reality. Nepal Cricket

the nation. From a six-year-old to a 60-year-old, when Nepal play in Kathmandu, everyone turns up at the ground. It seems like everything happens for a purpose because a majority of the current team picked up the



In the PSL, Azam Khan has a strike rate of 146.90 in 50 innings. AP

"Azam is an exceptional batsman in T20s. He is a clean hitter, plays spinners well, has worked on his game against pacers. But I will not rate him as a keeper. It is nothing to do with his fitness, but because he doesn't have that experience. He is still very new and raw to international level," Rashid says. Pakistan needs to give Mohammed Rizwan the big gloves if they are to progress deep in the tournament, the former captain thinks. "Pakistan's No.1 keeper should be Mohammed Rizwan. Rizwan is Pakistan's best keeper and has been a warrior for this team. He has played in the last two T20I World Cups and was exceptional," he adds.

Azam is an exceptional batsman in T20s. He is a clean hitter, plays spinners well, has worked on his game against pacers. But I will not rate him as a keeper. It is nothing to do with fitness, but because he doesn't have experience."



RASHID LATIF FORMER PAK CAPTAIN

'Rizwan will help Babar' Rashid also believes Pakistan captain Babar Azam will also benefit if Rizwan is the wicket-keeper. "Wicketkeepers run the game from behind the stumps. This is why the captains are overdependent on them. It is not only about DRS but the other facets of the game as well. Now he is fielding in the deep, which is wrong. Babar doesn't have that captaincy acumen, he needs Rizwan and if Rizwan is not Pakistan's keeper, Pakistan will struggle in the World Cup," Rashid says. However, Azam has been deemed unfit by former greats and his wicket-keeping skills have come under fire. Former Pakistan captain

Shahid Afridi had said he would never pick Azam for the national team. "I would never let Azam Khan get anywhere near the team as far as fitness is concerned," Afridi had said on Samaa TV. Afridi added: "I am worried about his keeping against spinners in West Indian conditions with this fitness because the ball stays low there and you have to keep your body low as well." Rashid feels Pakistan should keep Azam in the playing XI but not as a keeper-batter. "If Azam is not able to field then he doesn't deserve to be in the XI. You can't hide him in the field," Rashid adds. "When he played under Sarfaraz Ahmed (Quetta Gladiators), he was playing as a fielder. If you are picking Azam over Rizwan (as 'keeper), then you are making a big blunder," he adds. However, Rashid says it is not Azam's fault that he is in the Pakistan team and playing as a 'keeper. "I will not blame the player. Mohammad Harris is fit, more agile and in good form. If you wanted a third keeper, he should have been the ideal choice. I will not comment on Azam's physique, I can comment on his batting, his form, his keeping, his selection. We live in a racist society. If someone's skin colour is black, we call them kaalu. If someone is fair, we call them gora. If someone is tall he is a lambu, if someone is skinny he is a patlu. I feel bad for the kid, he is only 25. He doesn't deserve to be trolled like this."

Ireland fail Indian pace Test

Hardik Pandya takes three wickets on helpful pitch as all Indian seamers have a field day, bowling out the Irish for 96 for an 8-wicket win



Jasprit Bumrah gave away six runs and took two wickets in three overs against Ireland on Wednesday. ANI

your basics," Rohit would say. They could take their time, because on this occasion their bowling had been good enough to allow it. Bowlers' day out The expertise and variety of India's pace quartet would have shaken more pedigreed batting sides. That sleight-of-hand sorcerer, Jasprit Bumrah explodes into vision from nowhere; Mohammed Siraj distorts judge-ments, hurries batsmen with slippery pace and deviations; Arshdeep Singh has added another dimension to the attack, left-arm deception, producing different shape, angles and bends; a fit-again Hardik Pandya can be both a workhorse and a strike force, swing the ball from full lengths, and purchase awkward bounce from hard lengths with his bustling action. Gift-wrap them a surface with grass and inconsistent bounce, and they possess the powers to terrorise most batsmen. They made

the surface resemble a furnace for Ireland's batsmen. Arshdeep swung the ball both ways. He altered lengths subtly. A flustered, rather than frustrated, Paul Stirling tried to unshackle and ended up miscuing a good-length ball to Pant. Arshdeep bookedend the over with a wobble-seamed away-swing that confounded Andy Balbirnie. By this time, the sunny New York morning resembled a gloomy London morning. Dark skies, movement in the air. The ball swung magnificently, made to look more so by the static feet of the Irish batsmen. Pant, playing his first official game for India after the accident-enforced layoff, had a busy day behind the stumps. He had to gather the ball as late as possible to account for the movement after the ball had passed the batsmen. In a rare, wayward over from Arshdeep, he had to stretch his sinews repeatedly to collect the ball. In the previous over, Siraj made one delivery leap from a good length and Pant had to block

the ball a few inches above his head. The 13-run over from Arshdeep injected momentum into Ireland's flailing innings. But steamed in Bumrah and produced an over of pure evil, Lorcan Tector struggling to process the length of the ball, always half a second late in responding to the questions posed. In the next over, Pandya ended his ordeal with a nip-backer so precise that all the worries of his ineffectiveness with the ball seemed an exaggeration. Pandya was sharp, robust and exuded the intensity that makes him such an invaluable proposition across formats. Ireland's batsmen could offer little resistance, apart from blind blows at the end that took them to 96. Though the surface did assist India's seamers, and the Irish batsmen had little technical adeptness or temperamental nous to stave off a calamity, the adaptability of India's seamers was commendable. All of them were returning from the IPL, but there was no hangover.

SCORECARD

INDIA vs IRELAND

NASSAU COUNTY INTERNATIONAL Toss: India chose to bowl

IRELAND	
A Balbirnie b A Singh	5 (10b, 1x4)
P Stirling c Pant b Arshdeep	2 (6b)
L Tucker b Pandya	10 (13b, 2x4)
H Tector c Kohli b Bumrah	4 (16b)
C Campher c Pant b Pandya	12 (8b, 1x6, 1x4)
G Dockrell c Bumrah b Siraj	3 (5b)
G Delany run out	26 (14b, 2x4, 2x6)
M Adair c Dube b Pandya	3 (2b)
B McCarthy c & b Patel	0 (6b)
J Little b Bumrah	14 (13b, 2x4)
B White not out	2 (4b)
■ Extras (lb 5, nb 1, w 9)	15
■ Total (16 ov (RR: 6.00)	96
■ FoW's: 1-7 (P Stirling, 2.1 ov), 2-9 (A Balbirnie, 2.6 ov), 3-28 (L Tucker, 6.5 ov), 4-36 (H Tector, 7.6 ov), 5-44 (C Campher, 8.6 ov), 6-46 (G Dockrell, 9.4 ov), 7-49 (M Adair, 10.1 ov), 8-50 (B McCarthy, 11.2 ov), 9-77 (J Little, 14.2 ov), 10-96 (G Delany, 15.6 ov)	
■ Bowling: A Singh 4-0-35-2, M Siraj 3-0-13-1, J Bumrah 3-1-6-2, H Pandya 4-1-27-3, A Patel 1-0-3-1, R Jadeja 1-0-7-0	

INDIA	
R Sharma retired hurt	52 (37b, 4x4, 3x6)
V Kohli c White b Adair	1 (5b)
R Pant batting	36 (26b, 3x4, 2x6)
S Yadav c Dockrell b White	2 (4b)
S Dube batting	0 (2b)
■ Extras (w6)	6
■ Total (12.2 overs)	97/2
■ FoW: 1-22 (V Kohli, 2.4 ov), 1-76* (R Sharma, retired hurt), 2-91 (S Yadav, 11.4 ov)	
■ Bowling: M Adair 4-0-27-1, J Little 4-0-42-0, B McCarthy 2.2-0-18-0, N Lyon 16-7-35-0, C Campher 1-0-4-0, B White 1-0-6-1.	

I don't know what to expect from the pitch but we will prepare as if conditions are going to be like that. That will be a game where all XI of us need to contribute."

ROHIT SHARMA -ON MATCH VS PAKISTAN

