

# THE TIMES OF INDIA

**NEW GOVT TAKES SHAPE**

INCLUSIVE OF EDUCATION TIMES & DELHI TIMES (CIRCULATED ONLY IN DELHI NCR) | \*APPLICABLE ONLY ON MONTHLY PURCHASE (IN DELHI NCR)

INDIA'S LARGEST ENGLISH NEWSPAPER



# Modi Starts 3rd Term, On His Terms

## Allies Get 15% Of Berths; Upper Caste Nos. At A Low

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Narendra Modi was, on Sunday, sworn in as prime minister for the third time, equalling Jawaharlal Nehru's record of three straight terms in the top office.

With 72 members including him, Modi's latest team is bigger than the previous two, and, contrary to speculation, he had little difficulty in putting together the council of ministers despite leading a coalition govt. TDP and JD (U), in particular, chose not to haggle, as was generally expected after voters denied BJP an absolute majority.

Although portfolios have not been announced, the ease of ministry making is being seen as an indication that BJP may not have difficulty in retaining important ministries, not just home, defence, finance and external affairs, but also others crucial for ensuring continuity of policy trajectory.

The exercise was marked by the inclusion of experienced players, including four former CMs, but wasn't marked by high-wattage exclusions. The govt has seven former CMs, including Modi, and four who have been BJP chiefs. In terms of social composition, it carries forward the process of earmarking a progressively bigger share to "non-reserved" categories — SCs/STs and OBCs. The drop in stre-

### LARGER, RICHER, & A BIT YOUNGER

➤ 72 ministers (61 from BJP, 11 from allies), 31 Cabinet, 5 MoS with independent charge and 36 junior ministers

➤ 27 OBC, 10 SC, 5 ST, 4 minority, no Muslim

➤ 24 states represented. 18 ministers from North, 17 West, 15 East, 13 South, 6 Central and 3 NE

➤ Only 33 of 72 ministers from outgoing council back. 14 of outgoing ministers didn't contest, 19 lost, 6 contested & won but dropped

➤ Average assets of ministers ₹107.9cr, up from ₹14.3cr in 2019, thanks largely to TDP's Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani's ₹5,705.5cr (almost 75% of total ministers' assets)

➤ Average age is 58.8, a year younger than in 2019 (59.8)

➤ 7 women against 6 in 2019

➤ Ministers from RS: 11, LS: 58; 3 from neither House. 2019 council: 58 (11 RS, 45 LS)

➤ Kerala has 2 ministers but only 1 MP. No MP from TN but 1 minister. 3 of poll-bound Haryana's 5 BJP MPs included

ngth of the "general category contingent" appears starker. It could partly be thanks to many heavyweights losing in UP and Bihar. But the messaging from lower upper caste representation is significant in view of losses BJP suffered because of the opposition's allegation that it was out to scrap quotas.

It has not built upon the

trend of progressively increasing the share of women in the cabinet, setting off a buzz about a likely compensation in the form of early action on women's quota in legislatures. There are seven women in the council with Nirmala Sitharaman and Annapurna Devi, who got a promotion, designated cabinet ministers.

More striking, however, is the non-representation of Muslims; it is the first instance of a central govt taking office without any representative of the largest minority community on board.

Including the 30 members with cabinet rank, it is the largest council of ministers since 2014, the increase resulting from the need to accommodate 11 from among BJP allies.

J P Nadda, who will soon complete his tenure as BJP chief, made a comeback in govt, paving the way for an organisational recast. Nadda's entry also meant that Anurag Thakur, MP from Hamirpur, missed out, but is likely to get a prominent party post. Dharmendra Pradhan's inclusion in the Union cabinet for the third straight time is a confirmation that the party will look for a legislator from Odisha to be sworn in as chief minister on Monday. Pradhan had looked the obvious frontrunner for the post in Bhubaneswar.

Apart from BJP's Shivraj Chouhan and Manohar Lal, the govt boasts two other ex-CMs in H D Kumaraswamy (JDS) and Jitan Manjhi (HAM) to add to the bench strength.

➤ Continued on P 17



PM Modi at the swearing-in on Sunday. Bangladesh Premier Sheikh Hasina, Sri Lanka President Ranil Wickremesinghe and Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu were among seven foreign leaders from the immediate neighbourhood and the Indian Ocean Region to attend | P 16

### POLITICS BEHIND THE PICKS

Key Messages From Modi's First Coalition Govt

**1 BJP IS BOSS:** Short of a majority, needing allies, Modi chose to signal the new govt is still his govt, not one created by bargain-hunting allies. Not just the top cabinet jobs — home, finance, defence, foreign affairs — BJP will likely retain most heavyweight ministries.

**2 ALLIES LOOK FOR GOVT FUNDS:** One reason TDP and JDU didn't push a hard bargain was that Naidu and Nitish decided fights with BJP over ministries weren't worth it if in return they can extract more govt cash for their states, even if Bihar, Andhra don't get special category status.

**3 FEWER COALITION SHOCKS:** At least to begin with, allies going along with BJP's dominance of key jobs means the govt can function without too many disruptions and policy reversals typical of other coalition regimes.

**4 EX-CMs ADD HEFT:** Of course, PMO will call the shots. But the inclusion of six former chief ministers will bring administrative and policymaking experience to the council of ministers, especially since several of them have helmed big, complicated states.

**5 EYE ON POLLS:** Three states — Haryana, Maharashtra, Jharkhand — face polls this year. Ministers from Haryana signal BJP intends to stay with the same social engineering formula that helped it build a non-Jat coalition. That Praful Patel's comments on not taking up a ministerial post were made in the presence of BJP netas reflects NDA's keenness to keep the Maharashtra alliance intact. And picks from Jharkhand point to BJP's strategy of shoring up non-tribal groups.

**6 ABSENT MUSLIMS:** Modi's third govt will begin with not a single Muslim minister. This may change later. But as of now, a council of ministers without any Muslims may be read by some in the context of the community's near-total support for the opposition in the elections.

**7 HELLO SUPER-RICH, HELLO HINDUS:** That Mukesh Ambani and Gautam Adani were both among invitees shows Modi isn't keeping these billionaires away just because the opposition made 'crony capitalism' a big campaign theme. And the sizeable presence of Hindu civil society groups means concessions, if any, on BJP's core Hindutva agenda will be minor.

### Purandeswari in race for Speaker; hunt for BJP chief

Andhra BJP chief and MP Purandeswari is among the probables for the post of LS Speaker. Sources said BJP believes elevating her will also be well-received by Chandrababu Naidu. The spotlight is also on appointing a BJP president as J P Nadda, whose extended term was to end in June, is now a minister. Gen secy (organisation) BL Santhosh may hold fort or a working president may be appointed before the National Council takes a call. P 17

### Nadda, Kerala's Kurian among surprise entrants

J P Nadda, on the verge of completing his term as BJP chief, was seen as a surprise inclusion in the list of Cabinet ministers, as was Kerala BJP general secy George Kurian, who has been a saffron loyalist since the 70s. Two berths to Kerala were seen aimed at consolidating the gains made by the party. Surprise omissions included five-time Lok Sabha MP Anurag Thakur, Rajiv Pratap Rudy, Ravi Shankar Prasad and Anil Baluni. P 16

### NCP turns down MoS Ind, Praful calls it 'demotion'

NCP turned down BJP's offer to accommodate Praful Patel as a minister of state with independent charge, and said it was assured of "remedial measures" after "some days". Patel said since he had already served as a Cabinet minister in the Union govt, BJP's offer would be a "demotion". BJP's Devendra Fadnis and Vinod Tawde called on Patel soon after. NCP has two MPs and is likely to get two more in the next few months. P 16

### Kharge attends swearing-in, rest of oppn boycotts

Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge was at the ceremony, with the rest of the opposition boycotting it in protest at what he said was "Modi's moral defeat". Sources said the opposition felt the PM had indulged in "hate speech and lies" during the poll campaign, and had besmirched the dignity of his office. "It was decided that Kharge should attend as he occupies a constitutional post as leader of opposition in RS," a Congress neta said. P 16

### In attendance: Ambani, Adani to SRK, Rajini

More than 8,000 people packed the Rashtrapati Bhavan forecourt on Sunday, including film industry biggies — Shah Rukh Khan, Rajinikanth, Anil Kapoor and Akshay Kumar — and industry biggies Mukesh Ambani and Gautam Adani. Adani was accompanied by his wife and brother while Ambani came with son Anant. Kangana Ranaut, newly elected MP from Mandi, and actor Raveena Tandon were also present. P 16

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Many face an uncertain future after Shaheen Bagh fire | 4

**42.5°** MAXIMUM  
**27.4°** MINIMUM

FORECAST: Partly clear sky. Maximum and minimum temperatures will be around 44°C and 28°C

SUNSET 7.19PM (MON)  
SUNRISE 5.23AM (TUE)

MOONSET 10.53PM (MON)  
MOONRISE 9.40AM (TUE)

**180**

AQI IN DELHI ON SUNDAY (MODERATE CATEGORY)

Over 900 cluster buses to retire in 10 days | 8



MCD seeks funds from govt to upgrade healthcare services | 8

## Narela hottest at 45.7°C, brace for heatwave again

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Delhi saw heatwave conditions in isolated places on Sunday after a gap of three days.

Heatwave conditions are likely to sear Delhi from June 10-13 and the maximum temperature is predicted to rise to 45 degrees Celsius. A few outer Delhi stations may record even higher temperatures.

India Meteorological Department has issued a yellow alert from June 10-13.

IMD's data shows that the maximum temperature was recorded at 42.5 degrees, three degrees above normal, at Safdarjung, which is the city's base station. It was 1.1 degrees higher than Saturday's maximum.

No heatwave conditions were recorded at Safdarjung on Sunday, but Narela, Najafgarh, Pitampura and Sports Complex in CWG village near Akshardham reeled under a heatwave.

The maximum temperature reported at Palam was 43.5, Lodhi Road 43, Ridge 43.7, Ayanagar 43.9, Najafgarh 45.5,

Narela 45.7, Pitampura 44.8, Pusa 44.1, Sports Complex 44.8, and Raj Ghat 42.4.

The minimum temperature was 27.4 degrees Celsius. The relative humidity oscillated between 16% and 61%. The heat index was 41.5 degrees Celsius.

"The day temperature is likely to rise to 44 and 45 degrees Celsius on Monday and Tuesday, respectively, leading to heatwave conditions at some places. Due to dry and warm winds from Rajasthan and clear skies, the mercury is predicted to remain higher than normal temperatures over the next few days," a Met official said.

Parts of Delhi were under a grip for 12 consecutive heatwave days till June 6. However, very light rain, cloudy skies and a change in wind direction to easterly caused a dip in temperature and brought respite.

The IMD calls a heatwave day when the maximum is 4.5 degrees and more above normal temperature and the maximum is at least 40 degrees Celsius. A heatwave is also considered if maximum temperature touches 45 degrees Celsius.

**61%**

MAX RELATIVE HUMIDITY RECORDED IN THE CITY ON SUNDAY

## Atishi seeks time from LG for emergency meeting on water

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Water minister Atishi on Sunday sought time from LG V K Saxena for an emergency meeting over the crisis plaguing the capital. She also wrote to Haryana CM Nayab Singh Saini, requesting him to ensure 1,050 cusecs of water was released from Munak Canal for Delhi.

In response, Raj Niwas stated in a post on X: "LG will meet Atishi at 11am tomorrow (Monday). In the interim, he has asked officials to ascertain the actual position of water released by Himachal Pradesh and Haryana, measures to check wastage and leakage of water in Delhi, and the status of desilting of Wazirabad reservoir, as directed by SC." LG also "directed officers concerned to take up the matter with Upper Yamuna River Board to ascertain the facts with respect to the re-

lease of water to Delhi".

In her communication to Haryana CM, Atishi said Delhi was supposed to receive around 1,050 cusec water at Munak, but the supply had been reduced. "With the water from Munak Canal reduced to 840 cusecs, Delhi will be unable to produce adequate water from our seven WTPs," she said, adding that the capital was stating at a major crisis in the next 1-2 days.

According to the agreement at the 53rd meeting of Upper Yamuna River Board, 1,050 cusecs (568 MGD) was allocated to Delhi at Munak, she said. "Considering the transmission loss, the allocation of 1,050 cusecs at Munak corresponds to about 1,013 cusecs (548 MGD). This is measured by Delhi at Bawana contact point, where the water enters the capital and flow meters have been installed by Del-



Atishi

hi. These flow meters were checked by representatives of Upper Yamuna River Board last week itself," she said.

On average, the water received at Bawana contact point, even in the summers, was between 980 and 1030 cusecs, she said, adding there had been a drastic reduction in this.

Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva, however, said Atishi was giving out incomplete data. "Atishi, while writing the letter, cleverly concealed the data of water drawn directly from Yamuna by DJB to show a shortage," he claimed. He said DJB data made it clear that Haryana was consistently supplying the full amount of water to Delhi.

"If Delhi govt feels that lower amount of water is being received, it should first prove that the daily data issued by DJB is wrong," he said.

## 14-Year High! 32 Days Of 40°C+ Since May 1

Streak Not Broken Since May 14, A New Record

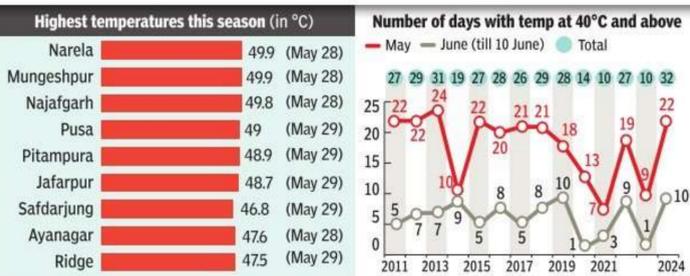
Photo: Piyal Bhattacharjee

### MAX TO STAY ABOVE 40 DEGREES THIS WEEK

- The maximum temperature has remained above 40 degrees Celsius since May 14, making it the longest streak of blistering heat
- From May 1 to June 10, this year recorded the highest number of days when maximum temperature was above 40 degrees Celsius at 32 days in at least 14 years
- The maximum temperature is likely to stay above 40 degrees Celsius for the next seven days



- **WHY** Scanty rainfall received from March this year
- Dry and warm westerly winds from Rajasthan and south Haryana
- Clear skies causing surface to heat up faster



Priyangi Agarwal @timesgroup.com

**New Delhi:** The Delhi heat has turned weather records to ash. From May 1 to June 10, the city has seen 32 days when the temperature has been above 40 degrees Celsius. This is the highest number of days in 14 years.

From May 14 to June 10, the city has continuously seen temperatures above 40 degrees Celsius for 28 days. This too is the highest number of days in 14 years.

This was clear from IMD data, gathered by TOI.

As a comparison, 2023 and 2022 saw 10 and 27 days, respectively, when the maximum temperature crossed 40 degrees Celsius during the same period.

The IMD's data available in the public domain from 2011 onwards. It shows that before 2024, no year saw the maximum temperature crossing 40 degrees Celsius consecutively for 28 days.

Even the number of such

days in this streak will increase as mercury is predicted to stay above 40 degrees Celsius for the next seven days.

Delhi has seen intense heat this summer. Between May 1 and June 10 this year, some stations, such as Narela, Najafgarh, Pitampura, Mungeshpur and Jafarpur, recorded the mercury consistently above 45.

Most weather records were broken on May 28 and 29 as many stations saw peak temperatures. The highest maximum temperature at Safdarjung was 46.8 degrees Celsius on May 29.

However, Narela and Mungeshpur recorded a maximum of 49.9 degrees Celsius each on May 28, which is the highest ever recorded in Delhi. Pitampura and Pusa saw 49.8 and 49, respectively.

IMD's data shows that this current spell of intense heat is more severe than 2013 when mercury crossed 40 degrees Celsius for 31 days.

Experts said scanty rainfall this summer led to a high

temperature. However, only 0.4 mm rainfall was logged on May 11 and May this year ended with a rain deficit of 99%.

In June so far, Safdarjung has received 1.2mm rainfall and is staring at a rain deficit of 85%.

"In the absence of significant rain activity, Delhi has seen clear skies, which cause the surface heating up faster. On most days, westerly dry and warm winds have prevailed in the city. These winds, from Rajasthan and south Haryana that are also recording high mercury, cause the temperature to rise," a Met official said.

"In the past years, rain would bring down the temperature to below 40 degrees Celsius and would provide respite to Delhiites from a spell of blistering heat. For instance, last year, the city logged excess rain — March (206%), April (23%), May (262%) and June (37%). Since no intense rain is expected in the next seven days, the mercury is expected to stay on a higher side," the Met official said.

## 2 minutes of fame over, Mungeshpur goes back to grappling with water, power woes

Anuja Jaiswal @timesgroup.com

**New Delhi:** For a couple of days, the nondescript village of Mungeshpur in northwest Delhi was the hottest news across the nation, so to say. On May 29, India Meteorological Department's automatic weather monitoring station in the village recorded the mercury touching an astonishing 52.9 degrees Celsius, the highest ever in India. Television camera crews and hyperactive media people, braving the heat, rushed to the hamlet to report through mirage-filled images and in breathless tones the making of a national record.

As the news of the unprecedented temperature hit the headlines across the world, everybody was talking about the village. Many turned to Google to find out where exactly it was located. For those who still don't know, Mungeshpur is on the north-western fringe of Delhi bordering Haryana.

A couple of days later, IMD sheepishly admitted that the record reading was a mistake, the result of a malfunctioning sensor. Burnt by the jeers rather than the sun, the Met department stopped reporting the temperature from that station.

But even as the enthusiasm about Mungeshpur cooled dramatically, the villagers recalled the torrid days. Ram Vilas, the 52-year-old proprietor of Vijay Sweets and Caterers, a roadside shop in the village, grumbled that the intense heat had caused his sweets to become dry and flaky. The scorching temperatures took a toll on his business, leaving his delectable treats in a less-than-appetising state. "The unrelenting heat wave had not only affected the quality of my products, but threatened the very viability of my small-scale enterprise," he groaned.

The truth is that though Mungeshpur did not scale the unprecedented highs recorded by the weather station, it still was much hotter than other parts of the capital. The station in adjoining Narela recorded temperatures above 49 degrees, so Mungeshpur must have been as hot. Not

surprising, because a soaring mercury level is the village's annual calling card.

Villager Purnan Singh Rana, who teaches at Delhi Public School on Mathura Road in a cooler part of the city, explained, "Mungeshpur has always been warmer than other parts of Delhi primarily because we are in an area that get buffeted first by the hot winds that blow from Rajasthan." He also attributed the high thermometer readings to the rapid industrialisation taking place across the border in Haryana's Ferozepur and the loss of green farmlands there.

Rajpal, 57, who has run his bicycle repair shop for 36 years at Mungeshpur, pointed out, "The temperature measuring instrument might have proved wrong, but it was precisely the installation of the weather station that allowed everyone to observe how the conditions in the area had changed for the worse from the previous years."

### SHOP OWNER SAYS

With everyone focused on the extreme heat, we hope they will now also realise that the villagers have problems with electricity outages and water shortage during heatwaves

On Saturday, TOI found the narrow streets of the village deserted, bereft of the media crews that had thronged Mungeshpur a few days ago. The villagers shrugged off the dubious fame, having many other things to worry about. "Saari duniya ko ab pata hai Mungeshpur ke barey mein kyonki IMD ab yahan temperature monitor kar rahi hai (the world has heard of Mungeshpur because IMD began monitoring the temperature here)," smiled Rana.

The fame may be welcome, but not the heat. Farmer Vijay Singh, 47, suffered a significant loss when his jowar (sorghum) crop, which he had sown on three bighas of land, was destroyed by the unrelenting heat. Despite his efforts to water his crop regularly, the sun proved just too much.

Singh reminisced about the time when the area was primarily agricultural and the heat was not as oppressive as it is now. "There were farmlands here. But industries — units to manufacture plywood, nuts and bolts and many other things — came up. Now this village has reached a literal boiling point and anyone can feel it," he said.

Dara Singh, a 55-year-old confectionary shop owner, still sought to take a positive from Mungeshpur's erroneous identification as India's hottest spot: the heat has evaporated the obscurity of the unheralded village, he observed. "With everyone focused on the

extreme heat, we hope they will now also realise that the villagers have problems with electricity outages and water shortage during heatwaves," said Singh. "For 15 days, we suffered on both counts. We had to rely on water tankers for water supply and the intense heat caused the transformer to malfunction frustratingly often during the heat spell."

The sweet seller also took the rare chance to report to the media about the village's lack of development. The roads in the village are in poor condition and it is difficult for two cars to pass by on them, he said. The nearest college for girls and boys was 15-20km away. "There was no hospital in the locality, and in case of an emergency, the villagers have to travel 12-15km for medical care. Now that the world knows about Mungeshpur, it would be cool, its residents hope, if they learnt about its backwardness too."



Photos: Jatin Kumar

## Trafficked at 15 and HIV+ soon after, woman wages grim battle for aid despite court order

Ridhima Gupta @timesgroup.com

**New Delhi:** After being trafficked for sex when she was 15 years old, Ashi (name changed) hoped that govt compensation would help her get back on her feet. The teenager, who is now combating HIV, and the financial burden due to her illness has left the family struggling. After a lengthy legal battle, the court awarded her an Rs 1.75 lakh last year to add to the Rs 1.75 lakh she had received, but Delhi govt hasn't disbursed that extra sum. The young woman is now demanding an enhanced sum so she can continue her studies and also be treated for HIV.

Ashi is demanding compensation under the Delhi Victim Compensation Scheme for "rehabilitation of victims of human trafficking/

kidnapping, gang rape and physical abuse of minor". According to the NALSAR policy, the family should have got around Rs 7.5 lakh as interim compensation but has only received a fraction of it.

In Dec 2017, the young girl from northeast Delhi quarrelled with her parents and left home in a huff and stayed with a friend. "Once my anger subsided, I was returning back home when I met someone I was acquainted with and told him about my situation," said Ashi, now 22 years old. "He convinced me that I should accompany him to Jaipur to work with his sister, who he said was an embroiderer."

Ashi, recalling "my worst decision", left for Jaipur with the man. "There, I met the supposed sister of the person, who asked me both to conceal my

### SURVIVOR SAYS

When I woke up, I realised the woman had discovered I had used her phone to call my mother and she assaulted me

true identity and to cut off contact with my parents." This made the teenager suspicious and she managed to surreptitiously call her mother and tell her she was in Jaipur.

"I was given food, soon after which I felt dizzy and lost consciousness," she continued. All she remembers of that drugged day is that there were three people, all adults, in the room with her. "When I woke up, I realised the woman had discovered

I had used her phone to call my mother and she assaulted me." Apparently, Ashi's mother had called back the woman.

Ashi's parents contacted the cops in Delhi and registered an FIR. Police were able to trace the trafficker and the woman who had taken her in. Realising they were in a bind, they abandoned the girl in a bus.

Ashi was reunited with her parents but her troubles were far from over. "Soon after she returned home, her health began deteriorating," her mother said. "In a few months, we were told she had HIV." The mother, an employee at a clothes factory, earns just Rs 6,000 a month. "I have three children. Ashi's treatment put so much pressure on her that we had to pull her out of school," she said.

Ashi, who has studied up to Class X, wistfully said, "I wish I were able to sit for my Class XII board exams. Maybe that isn't my fate." Each hospital visit underscores the urgent need for financial and emotional assistance. After receiving Rs 1.75 lakh in seven years, the family was granted an additional Rs 1 lakh by a court last year, but Ashi is yet to receive it. Litigation is on in Delhi High Court for a higher compensation.

Shaheen Malik, founder, Brave Souls Foundation, which is helping Ashi in her legal battle, said, "The treatment of the victim is not only tedious but also unaffordable for someone from her financial background. She wants to continue studying but is unable to do so. The state should take responsibility for her complete rehabilitation."

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** The number of prosecutions for defective number plates saw a staggering 286% rise compared to last year.

Police identified Mayur Vihar as the area with the most prosecutions, followed by Nand Nagri and Khajuri Khas.

The data shows that 16,859 violators were booked for defective number plates, a significant rise from 4,363 in 2023. The data is from Jan 1 to May 31 for both the years.

A senior traffic officer stated that in the current year, Delhi Traffic Police intensified their crackdown on vehicles with defective number plates. This surge in prosecution is part of a broader effort to enhance road safety and enforce compliance.

"The initiative has led to a significant increase in the

number of penalties imposed on vehicle owners. Defective number plates, which include those that are illegible, improperly formatted, or do not conform to the prescribed standards, have been identified as a major issue contributing to traffic violations and security concerns," the officer added.

Delhi Traffic Police deployed additional personnel and resources to monitor and apprehend violators. Special drives and checkpoints have been established across the city with focus on high-traffic areas and entry and exit points. The traffic police have also done a thorough analysis of the top ten traffic circles with the highest number of challans issued for defective number plates in 2024.

"This investigation has pinpointed the specific regions

where violations are most prevalent. By identifying these areas, focused enforcement strategies can be employed to enhance compliance," the officer said.

The top 10 circles are Mayur Vihar (926), Nand Nagri (917), Khajuri Khas (845), Samaypur Badli (826), Civil Lines (804), Bhajanpura (798), Ashok Vihar (736), Gandhi Nagar (699), Sadar Bazar (579), and Narela (565).

Police said that, in addition to on-ground enforcement, there has been a concerted effort to raise awareness about the importance of proper number plates.

Campaigns through social media and collaboration with automobile associations have been launched to educate vehicle owners on the legal requirements and the penalties for non-compliance.

## Traffic action for defective plates up 286%, Mayur Vihar a hotspot



# Malhotra Delhi's Only Rep In Central Council Of Ministers

Says Will Strive To Make Lives Of People In Capital, Rest Of India Better

Abhinav.Rajput  
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Harsh Malhotra, sworn in as a minister of state in National Democratic Alliance's council of ministers led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, can be described as a "dark horse" who secured the ministerial berth from Delhi quota.

Considered close to RSS, Malhotra contested from BJP stronghold of East Delhi parliamentary constituency, replacing former cricketer and MP Gautam Gambhir. While the names of three-time MP Manoj Tiwari and Bansuri Swaraj, daughter of BJP stalwart late Sushma Swaraj, were making the rounds, it was Malhotra who attended the event at 7 Lok Kalyan Marg for potential members of Modi-led gov't third term in the afternoon. He secured 52.3% of the votes, defeating INDIA bloc's candidate, AAP Kondli MLA Kuldeep Kumar, by a margin of 93,663 votes.

Currently serving as general secretary of BJP's Delhi state unit and in charge of training department, Malhotra has been actively involved in the party's training camps and sessions conducted by Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini, a Mumbai-based organisation engaged in political training.

Malhotra's political journey began in 1984 when he joined BJP's youth wing. He has held various positions within the party, including Yuva Morcha Mandal president; secretary, district Yuva Morcha; and district general se-



Harsh Malhotra (right) with BJP's Delhi chief Virendra Sachdeva

### MALHOTRA SAYS

**I have always believed in the party's principle that any work we do, we should think whether it will benefit the last man standing in the queue or not**

cretary (organisation). In 2007, he became district president of BJP and currently serves as an executive member of the party's Delhi unit.

In 2012, Malhotra contested and won MCD elections from Welcome Colony with a substantial margin. He was appointed as Chairman of education committee of East Delhi Municipal Corporation, a position he held for three years.

"I would like to thank PM Narendra Modi for giving a

mayoral term, I focused on waste management and initiated projects, such as converting construction and building waste into wealth and generating electricity from municipal garbage," he said.

"My efforts have been directed towards creating a better Delhi for its citizens. I now have to work for making the life of people in the national capital as well as in India better," he said.

Born on April 24, 1964, in Delhi, Malhotra is the eldest of three sons of Raj and Vijay Kishan Malhotra, both of whom were educators. He graduated with a degree in Botany and also holds a law degree from Delhi University. In 1986, Malhotra ventured into printing business.

As president of Delhi Printers Association, the largest association of printers in Delhi with over 6,000 members, Malhotra has been advocating for the welfare of the printing community.

He has also served as joint secretary of All India Federation of Master Printers (AIFMP), the apex body of printers in India. During the relocation of industries in Delhi in 1996, Malhotra played a crucial role in ensuring the smooth relocation of printers to Bawana Industrial area.

Malhotra's commitment to social causes extends to his involvement with "Dadhichi Deh Daan Samiti," an organisation he co-founded 24 years ago to promote organ and body donation. In Dec 2017, he was nominated as president of the samiti.

## Flyer held at IGI with ₹25L red sandalwood

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A Vietnamese passenger has been nabbed at Indira Gandhi International (IGI) airport with prohibited red sandalwood weighing 12kg, worth Rs 25 lakh. The forest department has confirmed that the two logs recovered from the passenger's baggage were red sandalwood.

On Saturday at 9pm, CISF surveillance and intelligence staff of Terminal-3 noticed suspicious activities of a foreign national at the check-in area based on be-

haviour detection. The Vietnamese passenger was bound to travel from Delhi to Hanoi around 12.05 pm.

"On suspicion, he was diverted to a random checking point for a thorough checking of his check-in baggage. On checking his baggage through the X-BIS machine, some doubtful images of two pieces of logs were noticed," said a CISF official.

"After clearing the check-in process and immigration formalities, the passenger was intercepted by CISF surveillance and intelligence staff and was bro-

ught to the departure Customs office. On thorough checking of his check-in baggage, in the presence of customs officials, two pieces of logs were detected which were concealed inside his check-in baggage," said an official.

Customs officials carried out an examination of the logs and raised doubts about their authenticity. "Forest officials were then contacted by CISF to verify the authenticity of the said logs. Later, forest officials confirmed the logs to be red sandalwood," said an official.

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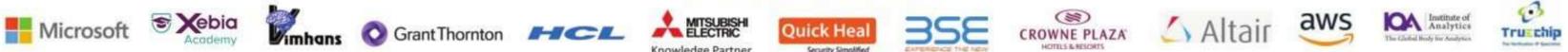
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**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**HALDIA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
City Centre, P.O. Debhog, Haldia  
Dist. Purba Medinipur, PIN-721657  
Toll Free No. 1800-345-3224  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
No. 03/HDA/EC/2024-25  
Online (E-Tender) tender in a two bid system is hereby invited for "RECONSTRUCTION OF CURVED NEAR 137 FLATS ON THE ROAD FROM MANJUSHREE TOWARDS BALAR MORE ROAD UNDER HALDIA MUNICIPALITY". Estimated Cost of work: Rs. 7,16,029/- (Including GST and Labour Welfare Cess). Document downloading date: 11.06.2024 to 19.06.2024 up to 3:30 p.m. Starting date of bid submission: 13.06.2024 at 10.00 a.m. Last date of online bid submission: 19.06.2024 up to 4:00 p.m. Information in details is available in the office and in the website of HDA: [www.hda.gov.in](http://www.hda.gov.in) E-Tender can be submitted through: <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> Sd/- Chief Executive Officer, HDA. ICA-T8219(2)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**TENDER NOTICE**  
Online PERCENTAGE rate tender is invited vide NIT No. 01 of 2024-2025 of SE/NHC for the work of Construction of Guide bank at Voishbitta side of newly constructed R.R.C bridge across river Barrang at 2nd km of Voishbitta Solidih road under Uttar Dinajpur Highway Division in the district of Uttar Dinajpur. Project ID PD 23 24 173 95000 Rs. 2,56,59,409.00. (Tender ID: 2024\_SH\_689920\_1). Last date of bid submission of NIT are 05.07.2024 up to 3:00 P.M. Intending bidders are requested to visit the website: <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> and this office notice board. Sd/- (ARUP KUMAR ROY) Superintending Engineer, Northern Highway Circle, P.W. (Roads) Directorate. ICA-T8261(4)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**Calcutta National Medical College**  
32, Gorachand Road, Kolkata - 14  
**Re-tender for Medical Equipment**  
For the department of General Surgery  
Principal of Calcutta National Medical College invites e-tenders to supply the Medical Equipment for the Department of General Surgery. For details visit, <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> or <https://www.wbhealth.gov.in> on 10.06.2024. Sd/- Principal CNMC ICA-T8232(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**Calcutta National Medical College**  
32, Gorachand Road, Kolkata - 14  
**Re-tender for Medical Books**  
Principal of Calcutta National Medical College invites e-tenders to supply the Medical Books for the Department of Central Library. For details visit, <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> or <https://www.wbhealth.gov.in> on 10.06.2024. Sd/- Principal CNMC ICA-T8233(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**  
Niet No.: HFV/SCGMCH/01/e-Tender/24-25 (1st call) (Supply of Motor Cab (standard) (Non-Air conditioned) on hire basis for Account Officer and DDO at office of the Principal of Sarat Chandra Chattopadhyay Government Medical College & Hospital, Uluberia. Details are available in the [www.wbtdender.gov.in](http://www.wbtdender.gov.in) ICA-T8243(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**Calcutta National Medical College**  
32, Gorachand Road, Kolkata - 14  
**Re-tender for Medical Journals**  
Principal of Calcutta National Medical College invites e-tenders to supply the Medical Journals for the Department of Central Library. For details visit, <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> or <https://www.wbhealth.gov.in> on 10.06.2024. Sd/- Principal, CNMC ICA-T8234(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**DIRECTORATE OF EMPLOYEE'S STATE INSURANCE (ESI) SCHEME, W.B.**  
NEWEST BUILDING, WING-B 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR, G.B. BLOCK, SECTOR-III, SALT LAKE, KOLKATA-700097  
**e-Tender (3rd Call) Notice**  
E-Tender is invited for "Selection of Agency to provide concersancy service at HDU, ICU, ITU, ER & ICU unit of different ESI Hospitals and ICU with Cath Lab unit at ESI Hospital Maniktilka". Detailed information will be available in the Govt. website: <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> and <https://esibwb.gov.in> Sd/- Director ESI(MB) Scheme, W.B. ICA-T8230(2)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**TENDER NOTICE**  
Principal, NRS Medical College invites Tender (NIT No. 1 to 10/2024-25) from reputed manufacturer/ direct importer/distributors for supply & installation of equipments/ Instruments/ Food/ Firewall/ rent for panel or electronic item. Details in websites - [wbtdenders.gov.in](http://wbtdenders.gov.in) & [www.nrsmc.edu.in](http://www.nrsmc.edu.in) Sd/- Principal, NRSMC. ICA-T8244(2)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**HALDIA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
City Centre, P.O. Debhog, Haldia  
Dist. Purba Medinipur, PIN-721657  
Toll Free No. 1800-345-3224  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
No. 04/HDA/EC/2024-25  
Online (E-Tender) tender in a two bid system is hereby invited for "CONSTRUCTION OF MUKTA MANCH AT JAYNAGAR HIGH SCHOOL UNDER SUTAHATA PANCHAYET SAMITY". Estimated Cost of work: Rs. 4,54,086/- (Including GST and Labour Welfare Cess). Document downloading date: 11.06.2024 to 25.06.2024 up to 3:30 p.m. Starting date of bid submission: 18.06.2024 at 10.00 a.m. Last date of online bid submission: 25.06.2024 up to 4:00 p.m. Information in details is available in the office and in the website of HDA: [www.hda.gov.in](http://www.hda.gov.in) E-Tender can be submitted through: <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> Sd/- Chief Executive Officer, HDA. ICA-T8220(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
Executive Engineer, Kalingahai-Kapaleswari-Baghali Project Division invites following tenders from outside Bonafide contractors for works at Sabang. NIT No. WB/WI/EE/KBP/DJ-e-NIT-02/2024-25 for 03 Nos. Civil work at Sabang of value Rs. 8.39 lakh upto Rs. 17.48 Lakh under KKB Project Division. Tender forms and other details can be obtained from the Departmental website <http://wbwd.gov.in/index.php/applications/tenders> or <http://wbtdenders.gov.in> (Direct Site). Last dates of bid submission is on 24.06.2024 up to 17.30 hrs. Sd/- Executive Engineer, K.K.B. Project Division, Irrigation and Waterways Directorate, Temathani, Paschim Medinipur. ICA-T8236(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**TENDER NOTICE**  
Tender is invited by The Executive Engineer, New Town Kolkata W/S Divn-II, P.H.E. Dte. on behalf of Governor of West Bengal vide Ref. No. PHE/NTKD-11/e-08 O F 2024-2025, ID : 2024\_PHE0\_690134\_9 for SI. No. 1 to 9 (i) Last date submission: 22.07.2024 Upto 11.00 p.m. (ii) Date of Opening: 25.07.2024 After 11.00 p.m. (iii) Intending bidders are requested to visit the website: <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> Sd/- For Executive Engineer, New Town Kolkata W/S Divn-II, P.H.E. Dte. ICA-T8251(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**e-TENDER NOTICE**  
No-WBIW/EE/SDP/RR/eNIT-01/2024-25  
e-Tender is hereby invited by the Executive Engineer/SDP/RR from the eligible bonafide contractors for 3NOS. of works for Establishment of Gauge for measuring discharge at selected locations of the following rivers: 1. Leesh, Gheesh, Juranti, Nandikhola and Teesta (North Bengal), 2. Karroo and Sindhri (Bagmundi, Purulia) 3. Kangsabati, Old Kasal, New Kosa (Kapsatri) under River Research Institute, Mohanpur, Nadia during the year 2023-24. Last date and time of bid submission is 25.06.2024 till 17.30 hrs. IST. Details of tender notice may be seen at <http://wbtdenders.gov.in> or <https://wbwd.gov.in> Sd/- Executive Engineer, Sunderban Delta Project, River Research Institute, Irrigation & Waterways Directorate. ICA-T8216(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**W.B. MINORITIES DEVELOPMENT & FINANCE CORPORATION**  
**NOTICE INVITING E-QUOTATION**  
NIEQ No. - Internal Audit & Allied Works-1 of 2023-24\*  
WBMDFC invites e-quotations for Conducting of Internal Audit & Allied Works of WBMDFC for the Financial Year 2023-24. The last date of submission of bids is 18.06.2024 upto 5.00 pm. Corrigendum/ addendum, if any, will be uploaded only in the Corporation's website. For further details please visit our website: [www.wbmdfc.org](http://www.wbmdfc.org) and <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> Contact No. 9477008757. Sd/- Managing Director, WBMDFC. ICA-T8242(2)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**Notice Inviting Tender**  
Selection of a Consulting Firm for Providing Consultancy Services to Department of Tourism, Govt. of West Bengal. Tender ID : 2024\_WBTD\_690118\_1. Last Date of Submission of Bid: 27.06.2024. The details are available in [www.wbtdender.gov.in](http://www.wbtdender.gov.in) & [www.wbtourism.gov.in](http://www.wbtourism.gov.in) Sd/- Additional Director & E.O Joint Secretary, Department of Tourism, Govt. of W.B. ICA-T8237(3)/2024

**WBEIDC**  
Webel Bhavan, Sector-V, Salt Lake, Kolkata 700 091.  
**Notice Inviting e-Tender No. EC / 07 / STP II / Waterproofing/2024-25/003, dt. 14.05.2024**  
For "Waterproofing work on the 5th floor roof of STP II building".  
Date of Submission: 07 Days from Publication.  
Estimate: Rs. 6.46 Lakhs (Approx).  
Interested parties may go through website <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> and <https://www.wbeidc.in>  
For details or contact 033-2339 2270 / 033-2339 2255 ICA-T8228(2)/2024

**WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION COMPANY LIMITED**  
(A Government of West Bengal Enterprise)  
Registered Office: Vidyal Bhavan, Block-DJ, Sector-II, Bidhanagar, Kolkata-700 091  
CIN: U40101WB2007SGC113474 + web: [www.wbsetcl.in](http://www.wbsetcl.in)  
NIT No.: GM(HR&A)/TENDER/TPAS/2024/66 Date: 10.06.2024  
**General Manager (HR&A)-TP&AS** invites e-Tender from reputed Agencies fulfilling Qualifying Requirements to be engaged to provide Catering Services at Staff Training Centre, Siliguri for a period of two (02) years. Bid documents can be downloaded from 10.06.2024, 11:00 A.M., and bids shall be submitted up to 03:00 P.M., 01.07.2024. Visit the following websites- <https://wbtdenders.gov.in>, [www.wbsetcl.in](http://www.wbsetcl.in) in details. ICA-T8240(2)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**Recruitment Notice**  
The D. N. De Homoeopathic Medical College & Hospital, 12, G. K. Road, Kolkata-700046 inviting applications for recruitment of JRF (laboratory technician) on contract basis for 3 years for a research project through test/walk-in-interview on 25.06.2024. All interested candidates are requested to visit [www.dndeoofficial.org](http://www.dndeoofficial.org) and [www.wbhealth.gov.in](http://www.wbhealth.gov.in) and institutional notice board for further details.  
Sd/-  
Principal In-charge & Administrator  
D.N.De Homoeopathic Medical College & Hospital  
ICA-N240(2)/2024

**WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION COMPANY LIMITED**  
(A Government of West Bengal Enterprise)  
Registered Office: Vidyal Bhavan, Block-DJ, Sector-II, Bidhanagar, Kolkata-700 091  
CIN: U40101WB2007SGC113474 + web: [www.wbsetcl.in](http://www.wbsetcl.in)  
**E-TENDER FOR THE FOLLOWING WORKS ARE INVITED:-**  
NIT No.: GM(HR&A)/TENDER/TPAS/2024/68 Date: 10.06.2024  
E-Tender is invited from eligible and qualified bidders for comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract of various IT Articles available at different departments in Corporate Office, WBSETCL.  
NIT No.: GM(HR&A)/TENDER/TPAS/2024/68 Date: 10.06.2024  
E-Tender is invited from large, resourceful and suitable Agencies for providing 15 nos. unskilled manpower (Casual Labour) on job contract basis for the Company's Corporate Office, Kolkata. ICA-T8222(3)/2024  
Bid documents can be downloaded from 10.06.2024 and bids shall be submitted up to 03:00 P.M., 01.07.2024. Visit the following websites- <https://wbtdenders.gov.in>, [www.wbsetcl.in](http://www.wbsetcl.in) in details.

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**PWD TENDER NOTICE**  
EE/Bankura Division, Social Sector, P.W.Dte. invites e-tender for the work (i) "Renovation of District Industries Centre, Bankura." Circulated vide this office memo no-520/147/BNK dt.07.06.2024. Tender ref. No. WBPWDS/EEBNK/NIT-01/24-25, Tender ID: (i) 2024\_WBPWD\_690130\_1. Bid Submission closing date (online): 21/06/2024 upto 2.00 p.m. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of N.I.T. and Tender documents may be downloaded from: <http://wbtdenders.gov.in> & Departmental website: [www.pwd.gov.in](http://www.pwd.gov.in) Sd/- Executive Engineer, Bankura Division, Social Sector, P.W.Dte. ICA-T8252(2)/2024

# IIT Delhi breaks new ground with undergrad courses in Abu Dhabi

**THE TIMES NEWS NETWORK**  
New Delhi: Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, recently launched its first tranche of undergraduate (UG) programmes at its Abu Dhabi campus, marking a milestone in the institute's journey towards leadership in global education.

The two UG programmes — B.Tech in computer science and engineering and B.Tech in energy engineering — have a batch of 30 students each. Within each discipline, up to 10 seats can be taken by students who qualify in the JEE Advanced examination, while 20 seats will be allocated through the merit list of the Combined Admission Entrance Test (CAET), a new exam being launched by IIT Delhi specifically for the UAE.

CAET, conducted by the JEE office in IIT Delhi, is planned for June 23, 2024, in multiple centres in the UAE. The test is meant for candidates who are residents of the UAE, including UAE nationals and expatriates, as well as international students. The portal is open for registration till June 10, 2024.

Students who qualify JEE Advanced 2024 can use their rank to apply for admission to IIT Delhi-Abu Dhabi through a separate portal that is accessible from the website after the declaration of JEE Advanced results. The seat allocation for IIT Delhi-Abu Dhabi will take place through this portal for students coming through both routes, JEE Advanced and CAET.

All JEE Advanced-qualified candidates will need to pay the same fees as the Delhi campus, with the rest waived. Students will be entitled to a monthly stipend of AED 2,000. All JEE Advanced-qualified students will be entitled to double occupancy hostel accommodation, with accommodation charges waived and food provided at subsidised rates. All JEE Advanced qualified students will receive an annual allowance of AED 4,000 to support their travel expenses. Medical insurance and other welfare issues will be adequately taken care of.

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**CUSTOMER SERVICE EXECUTIVES** (Under Graduates / Graduates)

Date: 11th June '24 | Timings: 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Venue: Hotel Ramada Dehradun, Mahender Vihar, Chakrata Road, Dehradun-248001 Uttarakhand. Contact: 7669020101

**tender & notices**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**HINDUSTAN LATEX FAMILY PLANNING PROMOTION TRUST**

HLFPPT invites proposals for the empanelment of Agencies to provide single roof solution for Travel Tickets (Air Tickets & Train Tickets etc.), Hotel & Cab Services on PAN India basis.

The details of eligibility criteria and empanelment procedure may be downloaded from HLFPPT website "https://www.hlfppt.org" under RFP/Tenders" Section. The interested vendor with sufficient infrastructure to provide the above services on PAN India basis may submit their proposal by 17th June 2024 supplemented with all relevant documents for further processing as per bid procedures. Presently empanelled vendors will also have to apply afresh to be considered for further empanelment.

Applications must be received at the address specified below not later than date specified. HLFPPT will not be responsible for the late receipt due to postal delay or any other reason, whatsoever.

Procurement & Commercial Division  
HINDUSTAN LATEX FAMILY PLANNING PROMOTION TRUST(HLFPPT)  
B-14 A, 2nd Floor, Sector-62, Gautam Budh Nagar, Noida - 201307 (UP)

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**I Pankaj Kumar S/o Shri Rohitash Singh R/o B3/802, Cleo County, Sector-121, Noida-201301** have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Pankaj Kumar Rajput.

**I Rajendra Das s/o Shri Siba Charan Das R/O H-335, G.F. 2, Sec-12, Pratap Vihar, GZB, UP** have changed my name to Rajendra Kumar Das for all future purposes.

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Noida Sector-104	Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P.-201301	1500-2000
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Noida Sector-12	Gautam Budh Nagar, UP-201301	1500-2000
Noida Sector-93	Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P.-201304	1500-2000
Noida Sector-126	Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P.-201303	1500-2000
Jahangirpur	Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P.-201141	1200-1500
Vasant Kunj	New Delhi, Delhi-110070	1500-2000

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Last date for submission is on 24.06.2024 (date) up to 12.00 o'clock Noon. Further, communications, corrigendum, amendments, if any, will be hosted in Bank's website only.

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**Elderly man duped:** A 78-year-old Faridabad resident was allegedly cheated of Rs 12 lakh by cyber fraudsters posing as private bank representatives. An FIR was registered at the NIT Cyber Crime police station on Saturday. **TNN**

## NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY

**Open E-Tender Notice No. IZLN/Elect/OT/09/2024Dt.07.06.2024**

Open E-Tender Notice are invited by Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (G) (N.E. Railway/Izatnagar For & on behalf of the President of India for the following work:

**S.No.01-Description of work:** Provision of IOT devices/Intelligent Field Devices (IFDs) for monitoring & control (Indian Railways Native IOT based Yield Analysis Telemetry, Recording and Control -IR-NIVANTRAC) of electrical general assets like water pumps, Platform (30/70%) lighting, lifts, Escalators, Street lighting & Substations under IZLN Division NER. **Approximate tender value in Rs: ₹ 3,96,60,123.16. Earnest Money in Rs: ₹ 3,48,400.00. Cost of tender Paper in Rs: Nil. Date & time of closing E-tender: 02-07-2024 at 11.00 hours. Completion time from the date of issue of letter of acceptance: Six months.**

Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and such manual offer received shall be ignored. The tender can be viewed at web site <http://www.ireps.gov.in>

The tenderers/bidders must have Class-III Digital signature certificate & must have registered on IREPS portal. Only registered tenderer/bidders can participate in e-tendering. All relevant papers must be uploaded at the time of participating in e-tendering. **Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer CP/RO/EL-60 (G)Izatnagar**

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## CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

### E-TENDER NOTICE

**Tender Notice No: PCMM/CLW/HWH/E-Procurement/24/34 Dated: 06/06/2024.**

PCMM/CLW/HWH on behalf of the President of India invites electronic bids from established reliable manufacturer for supply of the following. The following E-Tender is/are for supply of materials for manufacture of Electric Locomotive. The Prospective/likely suppliers are requested to look up the website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) for detailed instructions.

These are E-Tenders only electronic offer bids shall be accepted. **Sl. No.; Tender No.;**

**Description of Stores; Quantity; Due On; Tender Cost** are as follows: **[167]; 232350992C; Sub-D, portable Hand crimping tool, HD-20. Configuration: operator releasable and adjustable, Die set type: Fixed in tool, Crimping Range: 0.03 to 0.56 sq mm, No of Crimping position -3, two movable grip a locking mechanism. Preferable Make/Brand: JAINSON, TAPARIA, HINFORCE, DUROFIX, Aeroboom, Lobster or Equivalent (Make must be MAKE IN INDIA POLICY compliant); As per tender/documents: 01/07/2024; ₹ 0.00. [168]; 31241199; Complete Control Cubicle SB-2 along with all Equipments and Cabling (Excluding Control Electronics) for WAG-9HC Loco As per SPEC NO. CLW/ES/3/0195J; As per tender/documents: 01/07/2024; ₹ 0.00. [169]; 25235107A; 1. Mounting Flange Blower Traction Motor Vent Welding Jig Co-Co (Drg. No. V0 1876-128), 2. Body Side Floor Secondary Members for Electrical Equipment Arrangement (Sheet 1, 2 & 3) (Drg. No. V0 1875-097), 3. Mounting Flange Blower Machine Room Vent Welding Jig Co-Co (Drg. No. V0 1876-127); As per tender/documents: 26/06/2024; ₹ 0.00. [170]; 25245081; Procurement of Synergic Pulse Welding Plant, water cooled torch, Capacity 450A, Qty: 06 nos. as per specification no. MT/2321 dated 17/04/2024, HSN Code 8515100, under M&P Programme 2023-24; As per tender/documents: 03/07/2024; ₹ 0.00. [171]; 14242594; CAB Heater / Ventilation Assy To CLW Spec. No. CLW/ES/3/0109G; As per tender/documents: 15/07/2024; ₹ 0.00. [172]; 31242725; Aluminium Cable Cleat For Traction Motor as per CLW Spec. No. CLW/ES/3/0039F; As per tender/documents: 10/07/2024; ₹ 0.00. [173]; 30232571A; Sand Silica. As per Spec: SF/SPEC/HIGH SILICA SAND Rev.0.8 dt. 16/01/24; As per tender/documents: 27/06/2024; ₹ 0.00. [174]; 23235047B; Self-adjusting crimping pliers for end sleeves/females of capacity: 0.8-10 sq mm, HSN CODE: 82055990, Preferable Make/brand: JAINSON / DOWELL/ PRECIRIMP / TAPARIA or Equivalent (Make must be Make in India policy compliant); As per tender/documents: 02/07/2024; ₹ 0.00.**

**[PRI-457] PCMM/CLW/HOWRAH**

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**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**

### TENDER NOTICE

**e-NIT No. 01/Q/2024-25/EE/RG/SS/PWD**

**Tender Id: 2024\_WBPWD\_689811\_1**

e-Quotation are hereby invited by the undersigned for engagement of security personnel vide quotation number mentioned above. Online bid submission closing date and time is 29.06.2024 up to 6.55 pm. For detail information and quotation documents please visit: <http://wb.tenders.gov.in> Corrigendum if any will be published on website only. Sd/- Executive Engineer, Raiganj Division, Social Sector, PWD, Kamajora, Raiganj, Uttar Dinajpur, 733130.

**ICA-T8272(3)/2024**

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**

### NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

Executive Engineer, P.W.Dte., Kolkata North Health Division, online E-tender are follow/ follows. **NIT No. ID & Last Dt. WBPWD/EE/I/KH/NIT-07/24-25-2024\_WBPWD\_690031\_1, 27.06.2024 at 03.00 P.M.** Detail information will be obtained from the website: <http://etender.wb.nic.in> Sd/- Executive Engineer, P.W.Dte., Kolkata North Health Division.

**ICA-T8272(3)/2024**

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**

### PWD TENDER NOTICE

EE, PWD, Cob. Divn. invites online e-tender (e-NIT 01) Tender Id: 2024\_WBPWD\_690202\_1. Bid submission start date: 14.06.2024, Bid submission closing date: 21.06.2024. Downloaded from: <http://wb.tenders.gov.in> Sd/- EE, PWD, COB. DIVN.

**ICA-T8272(3)/2024**

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**

### Notice Inviting e-Tender

Subject-1:- E-Tender Notice for Selection of Agency for supply of Coasters and Coaster Boxes as souvenirs for the period of 2 years vide Tender Id: 2024\_WBTD\_690179\_1. Subject-2:- E-Tender Notice for Selection of Agency for supply of Packaging Materials as souvenirs for the period of 2 years vide Tender Id: 2024\_WBTD\_690220\_1. Last Date of Submission of Bid: 20-06-2024 at 03 PM. The details are available in [www.wbtenders.gov.in](http://www.wbtenders.gov.in) & [www.wbtourism.gov.in](http://www.wbtourism.gov.in) Sd/-

Additional Director & E.O. Joint Secretary, Department of Tourism ICA-T8272(3)/2024

# 2 Rickshaw-Pullers Hit By Audi, 1 Dead

## Accident At Gate Of Ramjas College, Driver Held

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** A 45-year-old rickshaw puller died, and another was injured on Sunday after an Audi car, driven by a high court lawyer, hit them at the gate of Ramjas College in north Delhi. The 56-year-old car driver has been arrested, police said.

Police are probing and checking CCTV footage to ascertain if victims were dragged for 10 meters, a senior police officer said.

The deceased Govind Sarkar lived in Mukundpur and his 45-year-old friend Ashok, also a rickshaw puller, was injured and is being treated, said Manoj Meena, DCP (north).

The alleged perpetrator Virendra Mehta, a resident of Mukherjee Nagar and a high court lawyer, was taken for medical evaluation, the DCP said. "Alcohol was not detected in his breath by the hospital; however, a blood sample has been taken for FSL examination," he added.

After receiving a PCR call at Maurice Nagar police station at 1.16 pm about the mishap, a police team rushed to the main gate of Ramjas College, where a white Audi Q3 was found in an accidental condition.

Police said it was ascertained that the Audi driver had lost control of the vehicle and collided with two men who were taking a rest on a bench. "The vehicle, which was travelling at high speed, didn't give them a chance to escape. Both were mowed down by the Audi," the DCP said, adding that both sustained injuries all over their bodies.



Police said the driver lost control of the Audi

Hearing the loud noise, people rushed to help, and cops were alerted. The injured were taken to Hindu Rao Hospital. Critically wounded Govind was referred to LNJP Hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries during treatment, the DCP said.

During interrogation, Mehta told cops that he was trying to press the brake but instead pressed the accelerator, which led to the incident. His testimony is being verified, and appropriate legal measures are being initiated against him, the DCP said.

The image of the vehicle reveals damage to its front section. Additionally, several pillars near the college entrance appear to have been shattered or destroyed, police added

# MCD seeks ₹221-crore grant from Delhi govt for health infra upgrade

Vibha.Sharma@timesgroup.com

**New Delhi:** Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) has requested Delhi govt for a grant-in-aid of Rs 221 crore for the current financial year.

The primary goal is to improve and upgrade healthcare services offered by the corporation. A substantial amount of funds will be directed towards enhancing the infrastructure in major hospitals, such as Hindu Rao, Rajan Babu and Swami Dayanand Hospital, among others.

An MCD official said: "We have demanded funds for projects or schemes pertaining to the hospital administration department and that includes both improvement or upgrade of centres as well as procurement of various essential equipment or reagents. The funds will be allocated for engineering and medical facilities."

The planned works include improving and developing roads at Swami Dayanand Hospital, developing sewer lines in various areas of Rajan Babu Hospital, installing new pipelines for drinking water at Mata Gujri Hospital, providing new wiring and fixtures at Hindu Rao Hospital, and implementing a firefighting system at Veer Savarkar Aarogya Sansthan Hospital.

## FUNDS WANTED FOR KEY PROJECTS

- Improvement and development of roads at Swami Dayanand Hospital
- Development of sewer lines in various places at Rajan Babu Hospital
- Laying new pipelines for drinking water at Mata Gujri Hospital
- New wiring and fixtures in Hindu Rao Hospital

- Firefighting system at Veer Savarkar Aarogya Sansthan Hospital

**In 2023-24, MCD received approximately ₹ 118 crore as grant-in aid**

**Of this, ₹ 55 crore was approved for strengthening buildings, and the rest for procuring medical equipment**



ator rooms, electric panel rooms is required there too."

"Construction of a new boundary wall and painting of existing and new boundary walls of Veer Savarkar Aarogya Sansthan (VSAS) Hospital is also planned from this year's budget," an official said.

In 2023-24, MCD received approximately Rs 118 crore, from Delhi government.

Of this amount, approximately Rs 55 crore was approved for strengthening buildings, and the rest (approximately Rs 63.7 crore) was for procuring medical equipment. The civic body undertook a 659 infrastructure works, which are at various stages and targeted to be completed by March 2025, officials said.

Procurement of a dialysis machine, ventilators, monitors, and defibrillators for various departments at Hindu Rao, an ultrasound machine for the radiology department of Swami Dayanand Hospital, and a fetomaternal monitor unit at Kasturba Hospital are among the medical equipment already procured or soon to be procured, said the civic body.

Of the 659 infrastructure works taken up, over 150 projects have been completed. "Prominent civil works already completed included the revamp of OPD, OT block of Kasturba Hospital, repair of the old children's ward, and augmentation of treated water supply in Kasturba, CCTV surveillance in Hindu Rao, improvement of electrical installation and allied works at OPD," officials said.

TOI sought Delhi govt's response on the grant request but did not get any.

# Cops at your doorstep: An app to make elders' life easy

## SHARE DETAILS WITH COPS ON SAFETY

SOLUTION UNDER ONE APP FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

### ABOUT THE APP

The application has been designed by the senior citizen cell staff of Shahdara district

It is tailored to ensure their safety and security, serving 5,599 senior citizens living in the district

### FEATURES

- Personalised questionnaire for senior citizens in the app allows them to share details with the police about their personal safety, lighting in their areas, the environment of the area, domestic help verification, CCTV installation, and other concerns
- Visitation tracking of staff
- Feedback submission
- Emergency contacts like police, fire services, ambulance, beat staff, and SHO
- Access to cyber safety and health improvement videos



Abhay@timesgroup.com

### New Delhi:

Senior citizens in Shahdara now have a new tool that enables them to have the cops at their disposal. Whether it is a non-functional streetlight on their lane, domestic help verification or a health problem, the elderly can seek the help of police through a mobile app. The app also ensures that the beat officers don't miss out on their visits to the elderly in their jurisdiction. In addition, police can also send broadcast flashes to senior citizens via the app.

According to police, the mobile application has been designed with features to enhance the safety and security of senior citizens. "The app has been designed by the staff of the senior citizen cell of Shahdara police. It features a personalised questionnaire designed to address key safety concerns," an officer said.

These concerns include personal safety, lighting, en-

vironment and the verification of domestic help. Additionally, the app checks for the installation of CCTV and offers protection against cyber threats while also assessing health issues.

Surendra Choudhary, DCP (Shahdara), said the responses provided by the senior citizens were carefully analysed and a weekly monitoring carried out to identify and address shortcomings. "If there are any lacks, we take the necessary action to improve the situation, thereby enhancing the sense of security among the senior citizens in the district," Choudhary said.

Police said the beat staff visit the houses of senior citizens to take stock of the security measures. The police personnel have now informed the elders about the app and how it can be used for their safety and security.

The app also serves as a tool for senior officers to monitor staff activities, such as

tracking the frequency of personnel visits to seniors, to ensure that the latest geo-tagged photographs of seniors are uploaded, and to confirm that domestic workers have been thoroughly vetted.

Furthermore, the app provides senior citizens with features like access to educational content on cyber safety and health improvement, submission of feedback on their experience and maintenance of a repository of essential emergency contacts such as police, fire services, ambulance, beat staff and the SHO.

And then police can use the app to send broadcast messages to all senior citizens, facilitating quick and efficient communication of important information.

The district police have developed another application for the upcoming election that will help the cops and Central Armed Police Forces streamline their operations during polling periods.

# 70-year-old man stabbed in 'revenge', accused held

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** A 42-year-old man has been arrested for allegedly stabbing a 70-year-old at his Shastri Nagar residence in north Delhi. The suspect claimed to have acted in revenge over an alleged ill-treatment of his female friend, a maid at the victim's home, over minor issues, police said.

Police received information about the stabbing incident on May 28 from a hospital on New Rohtak Road. The injured, Kanti Prakash Garg, was not in a position to give a statement to cops on the day of the incident due to injuries, a senior police officer said.

Garg later told police that an unknown man came to his house with a muffled face, stabbed him in the abdomen without any argument, and ran away without attempting robbery or theft, said Manoj Meena, DCP (north).

Multiple teams were formed after registering a case under Section 307 (attempted murder) of the Indian Penal Code. During the analysis of CCTV's footage, it was found that the suspect had removed his helmet at Karnal Road, and his photo was extracted, the DCP said.

"We were able to zero in on him, and raids were conducted at his possible hideouts, but he was found absconding. Based on secret information, he was arrested from Shastri Nagar on June 6," said DCP Meena, adding that a resident was identified as Amit, a suspect of Roshanara Road, Malkanganj.

During questioning, Amit admitted to his friendship with a woman who works as a domestic help for Garg. He claimed the elderly frequently mistreated her over minor shortcomings and faults. "Motivated by a desire for revenge, the accused attacked him with a sharp knife, then fled the scene on a friend's scooter," the officer added.

# 997 buses may go off roads soon, but city has no Plan B

Abhinav.Rajput@timesgroup.com

**New Delhi:** In the next 10 days, 997 cluster buses that connect Outer Delhi areas to various parts of the city may be taken off the road as they have completed 10 years of life but there is no alternative transportation arrangement in place.

This situation has prompted transport minister Kailash Gahlot to express concern that the sudden phasing out of these buses without a plan will compel people to switch to private transport, thereby adding to the congestion and pollution. Additionally, workers' unions are on strike due to fears of job loss.

According to a communication from the transport department, the 997 buses operate on 109 routes. "These could be phased out if the concession agreements are not extended beyond June 19.

Several routes would be affected, including Jahangirpuri to Dichaon Kalan, JLN Stadium to Daulatpur, Lado Sarai to Najafgarh, New Delhi Railway Station to Goyla Dairy, Mori Gate to Uttam Nagar, Samashpur Khalsa to ISBT Kashmiri Gate, Nehru Place to Najafgarh, and Pandwala Kalan to Tilak Nagar terminal, a senior official said.

The concessionaire has requested an extension, citing that these buses were inducted late due to the delayed allotment of depots.

The transport department, on the other hand, is reluctant to consider the request in view of the lack of "quality".

In an internal communication accessed by TOI, minister Kailash Gahlot said that "it is not appropriate for the depart-

## 4.1 MILLION BUS PASSENGERS DAILY

- 7,500 buses in city's public fleet, including DTC and cluster scheme buses
- Of these, 1,650 are electric
- According to Statistical Handbook 2023, an average of 4.1 million passengers commute daily in public buses in the capital
- In 2018, govt told SC that the required number of buses in city was 11,000



Since then the population has only gone up  
Connectivity to outer Delhi areas a major issue

ment to suddenly recommend phasing out of almost 1,000 buses without any alternative arrangement in place."

He warned that a shortage of buses, exacerbated by hot weather, will push people towards private transport.

Gahlot stressed that allowing these 997 buses to go off the road without any alternative arrangement should not be permitted.

He also pointed out that since financial approval for the electrification of many depots is yet to be issued, and it takes at least 12 months to complete the electrification of a depot, many depots will remain unutilised.

There is a provision for an extension of two years without the discretion to do it with the department. Transport commissioner Prashant Goyal said that there has been no final decision on it.

DTC Karmachari Ekta Union president Lalit said there has been a protest at depots such as in Rajhat, Dilsad Garden depots, Seemapuri, Kair and Dichaon Kalan due to it.

"The workers will lose their jobs if buses go so they are protesting," he said.

Faculty at the Asian Institute of Transport Development, Anil Chhikara, said: "If there is no alternate arrangement, then these buses can be given an extension, but there should be periodic inspection to see their condition to ensure that they are in usable condition," said the former deputy commissioner. He said that similar situations had occurred while he was in office and buses were given extensions to meet passenger demand.

The city's public fleet, which includes DTC and cluster vehicles, has about 7,500 buses.

Of these, 1,650 are electric buses, and the remaining are DTC and cluster CNG buses.

According to the Statistical Handbook, 2023, an average of 4.1 million passengers commute daily on buses in the capital annually.

In 2018, govt told the top court that the required number of buses in the city is 11,000. Since then, the population had only gone up. Connectivity to outer Delhi areas was a major issue in this year's poll, especially for connectivity to colleges and different parts of the city.

# Don't send demand notices in the name of possession offers, Rera directs builders

Aditya.Dev@timesgroup.com

**Noida:** Developers can issue possession letters only after getting occupancy certificates (OC) from authorities concerned, the real estate regulatory authority (Rera) has said.

The order has elicited objections from both home buyers and realtors. While buyers said they would have to bear the brunt for any tussle between the builder and authorities concerned over dues, developers pointed out Rera's order would delay the handover of flats that were mired in legal tussle.

"Possession letters should be sent out within two months of a developer getting the OC/CC. A copy of this certificate should also be given to the allottees," a senior Rera official said.

"After a project has been issued an OC/CC, possession letters can be sent to allottees as an email or through post at their residential addresses. They can also be informed through text. The promoter concerned should display all such information at the project site and head office," the official added.

Occupancy or completion certificates are issued to developers after a project is ready with all its amenities.

According to realtors, linking OCs with possession letters would hit homebuyers. "Rera is now going back on its earlier order that was in favour of homebuyers.

Currently, a developer can allow possession after obtaining four NOCs for the strength of the buildings, fire safety, lift and electricity supply. Earlier, a builder had to wait for seven days for the authorities to respond. If they didn't, the developer could go ahead and issue the possession letters," said Dinesh Gupta, the Credai secretary in western UP.

**बिहार सरकार**

**कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय**

**भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन प्रमंडल बक्सर**

**शुद्धि-पत्र**

इस कार्यालय के झापांक- 406, दिनांक- 15.03.2024, एवं सूचना जन संपर्क विभाग द्वारा प्रकाशित ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या-26/2023-024 पीओआर/संख्या-020066 (भवन) 2023-024, दिनांक-16.03.2024, पीओआर/संख्या-000413 (भवन) 2024-025, दिनांक-03.05.2024, एवं पीओआर/संख्या-000980 (भवन) 2024-025, दिनांक-29.05.2024, जो पंचायत सरकार भवनों के निर्माण कार्य से संबंधित है जिसका प्रकाशन दैनिक समाचार पत्रों में हुआ है को अपरिहार्य कारणपश्चात् निम्नांकित रूप से संशोधित करते हुए अवधि विस्तारित किया जा रहा है :-

क्रमांक	विवरण	पूर्व निर्धारित तिथि एवं समय	संशोधित तिथि एवं समय
1	परिमाण विपत्र (अपलॉड/डाउनलोड) करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक-15.04.2024 से 18.06.2024 को 15:00 बजे तक।	दिनांक-15.04.2024 से 27.06.2024 को 15:00 बजे तक।
2	निविदा खोलने (तकनीकी बीड) की तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक-21.06.2024 को 3.30 बजे अपराह्न तक।	दिनांक-29.06.2024 को 3.30 बजे अपराह्न तक।
3	वित्तीय बीड खोलने (तकनीकी बीड) की तिथि एवं समय	विनागीय निविदा समीति द्वारा तकनीकी बीड मूल्यांकन के पश्चात्।	विनागीय निविदा समीति द्वारा तकनीकी बीड मूल्यांकन के पश्चात्।
4	श्री बीड मीटिंग की तिथि, समय एवं स्थान	1. दिनांक-03.06.2024 को 3.00 बजे अपराह्न में कार्यपालक अभियंता, भवन प्रमंडल बक्सर के कार्यालय, एवं 2. दिनांक-06.06.2024 को अधीक्षण अभियंता, भवन अंचल आरा का कार्यालय।	1. दिनांक-13.06.2024 को 3.00 बजे अपराह्न में कार्यपालक अभियंता, भवन प्रमंडल बक्सर के कार्यालय, एवं 2. दिनांक-15.06.2024 को अधीक्षण अभियंता, भवन अंचल आरा का कार्यालय।

**क्र० सं० - 06** बक्सर जिलालागत बक्सर प्रखण्ड में सोनगिर्जा, करहसी, एवं कमपुर पंचायत में (तीन अदद) पंचायत सरकार भवनों का निर्माण कार्य (विद्युतिकरण कार्य सहित) को क्र० सं० - 11 समझा जाये।

**शेष शर्तें यथावत रहने।**

कार्यपालक अभियंता  
भवन प्रमंडल, बक्सर

PR. No. 001231(BCD) 2024-25

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**HON'BLE JUSTICE S. P. TALUKDAR**

**ONE MAN COMMITTEE**

**5 Council House Street, Kolkata - 700 001**

**PUBLIC NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES RELATING TO PAILAN / VIBGYOR / TOWER INFOTECH / WARIS/ GBC INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION/ TEACHERS WELFARE CREDIT AND HOLDING/ ANNEX INFRASTRUCTURE INDIA GROUP OF COMPANIES**

"The Justice S. P. Talukdar One Man Committee, High Court, Calcutta is going to hold public auction (e-auction) of some properties of Pailan Group, Vibgyor Group, Tower Infotech Group, Waris Group, GBC Industrial Corporation Group, Teachers Welfare Credit and Holding Group, and Annex Infrastructure India Limited Group of companies on **July 8, 202**

और सभी न्यूज़ पेपर मैगजीन प्राप्त करने के लिए सर्वप्रथम इस टेलीग्राम ग्रुप को ज्वाइन करें नीचे दिए लकि पर क्लिक करके ज्वाइन टेलीग्राम

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**BJP URGES J'KHAND CM TO RELOCATE SOREN AMID CLAIMS OF PRISON ATROCITIES**

**WILL ENSURE DEFEAT OF POLITICIANS WHO TROUBLE MARATHAS, SAYS MANOJ JARANGE**

## Close shave for 100s at Mum airport

IndiGo Plane Hits Runway Even As AI Aircraft Was Taking Off; DGCA Orders Probe

Manju.V@timesgroup.com

**Mumbai:** In a close call at Mumbai airport on Saturday, an IndiGo aircraft descended on the runway, touching down even as an Air India flight was taking off, breaching the safety margin. The Air India plane lifted off a split second before the IndiGo jet touched down about 2,100 feet behind, said sources.

At the busy Mumbai airport, which operates with one runway, the norm is that the aircraft taking off should lift off and cross the end of the strip before the aircraft landing can cross the beginning and proceed to touch down.

The incident, captured by plane spotters, showed the two aircraft, one behind the other, on the runway. On Sunday, the footage went viral on social media, prompting DGCA to initiate an investigation. From the angle the footage was recorded, the aircraft appeared dangerously close.

The investigation will primarily look into the sequence of events that led to the breach of separation, the safety margin, between the two A320Neo aircraft, one operated by AI as AI-657 from Mumbai to Thiruvananthapuram and the other, an IndiGo flight 6E5053 from Indore to Mumbai.

The runway meet-up of both these flights occurred around 6.20am. The air traffic controller concerned has been derostered from duty to allow for the investigation.

"The AI aircraft was cleared by the air traffic control (ATC) to enter the runway and subsequently cleared for take-off. The AI aircraft continued with the take-off movement in accordance with laid down procedures," said AI in a statement.

The IndiGo flight from Indore was given landing clearance by ATC, a spokesman for the airline said. "The pilot in command continued the approach and landing and followed ATC instructions," IndiGo said.

### 'AIR INDIA PLANE WAS AT LESS THAN DESIRED SPEED'

#### A BUSY, BUSY AIRPORT

Mumbai Metropolitan Region is the only urban agglomeration in the world's top 10 most populated urban areas to be served by only one airport that functions out of a single runway (Juhu airport does not handle any airline flights)

#### 1,000 flights a day

Though Mumbai airport (CSMIA\*) has a set of cross runways, only one is in use at a time, mainly runway 09-27, which handles over 1,000 flights in 24 hours on certain days

**46** aircraft movements (arrival or departure) per hour is peak-hour declared capacity of the main runway

**44** aircraft movements per hour during non-peak period

**55** flights per hour: During certain peak hours, air traffic control (ATC) ends up handling close to 55 flight movements in 60 minutes

\*Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport

#### OPERATING EFFICIENCY

Aircraft take off and land in a tight choreographic sequence that ensures that each plane occupies the least possible time on the active runway. When the aircraft taking off has exited the runway end, the aircraft landing crosses the beginning of the runway to touch down

"Air traffic controllers are under significant pressure when there is high density traffic at airports Air Traffic Controllers Guild"

\*\*Union representing air traffic controllers



Though both airlines said their commanders merely followed ATC instructions, pilots and controllers TOI spoke to highlighted the role played by pilots and the system that forces them to operate in a constrained space in heavy traffic.

"The domino was triggered by the AI aircraft," said air safety expert capt Amit Singh, based on data gathered from Flightradar24. Given the heavy air traffic on the lone runway, aircraft land or take off in a tight, choreographic sequence. The series of events

that led to the incident occurred in the 90 seconds after an Iraqi Airways flight took off and the AI aircraft entered the runway for take-off. "The AI aircraft was slow to take-off after it received the line-up clearance, assuming they received immediate take-off clearance," he said. They should have informed ATC, who would have cancelled their take-off clearance.

According to the Mumbai airport Aeronautical Information Publication (AIP), "when an aircraft is issued with a take-off clearance af-

ter lining up on the runway it shall commence take-off immediately. If the controller observes a delay in aircraft commencing take-off, the take-off clearance will be cancelled and the aircraft shall be instructed to vacate the runway immediately at the nearest taxiway."

The AI aircraft had not lifted off when the IndiGo aircraft crossed the beginning of the runway (runway threshold with piano key markings is further down the line). AIP also provides rules for landings. "Aircraft shall not land on an occupied runway even

if landing clearance is received," says the AIP, listing a commander's responsibility. "Pilot should not hesitate to ask ATC about traffic on the runway. If pilots perceive at any point that it is not safe to continue approach, they must initiate go-around," it adds.

Capt Singh said: "The question is the degree of responsibility on each of them, the controller and the two pilots and most importantly, the runway infrastructure constraints at the Mumbai airport which puts the controllers and pilots in such situations," he added.

## 5 accused of '93 blast convict's killing in jail sent to cop custody

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Kolhapur:** A Kolhapur court on Saturday awarded eight-day police custody to five men accused of murdering a 1993 Bombay serial blast convict inside the Kalamba Central Jail on June 2.

Munna, alias Adil Khan alias Manojkumar Bhavarlal Gupta, who was convicted for helping Tiger Memon — the 1993 serial blast's key accused — collect a shipment of arms and ammunition brought for the blasts, was killed by five Kalamba jail inmates.

#### KOLHAPUR CASE

The five were identified as Saurabh Sidh, Bablu alias Sandip Shankar Chavan, Pratik alias Pilya Patil, Raturaj alias Deja Inamdar, and Dipak Netaji Khot. They battered Munna with a concrete and iron cover of a manhole.

The prison department began an internal inquiry and has decided to step up security, especially for four other convicts of the 1993 Bombay serial blast case.

A senior officer said while witness statements have already been recorded, the real motive of the murder will be known once the five accused are interrogated. After the murder, all five accused were lodged in the and cell separately.

Munna, the victim, was a habitual absconder and a criminal who had escorted Tiger Memon in a four-wheeler from Mumbai to Raigad from the Shekhadi landing of a huge cache of arms, ammunition, hand grenades and RDX before the March 12, 1993, blasts.

He also helped in the transportation of the arms back to Mumbai (then Bombay). He completed his original 14-year sentence and was out of prison since 2007 when Supreme Court enhanced his sentence to a life term.

## Sand smugglers kill 2 policemen in UP and Bihar

### MINING MAFIA'S MAYHEM

**Feb 18, 2023** | Farm activist Gurbachan Singh who was objecting to sand mining mowed down by a tractor in Punjab's Mohali

**Nov 1** | A constable mowed down by a speeding tractor in Bihar's Aurangabad district

**Nov 14** | SI Prabhakar Ranjan killed at Chanwar village in Bihar's Jamui district

**April 25** | A village administrative officer, Lourdu Francis, hacked to death inside his office in Thoothukudi district, Tamil Nadu



**Nov 26** | Prasann Singh, a patwari, crushed to death by a tractor-trolley in MP's Shahdol district

**June 16** | A constable of Nelogi police station run over by a tractor in Karnataka's Kalaburagi district

**May 6, 2024** | ASI Mahendra Bagri crushed to death by a tractor-trolley in Shahdol, MP

**July 19** | DSP Surender Singh Bishnoi mowed down in Haryana's Nuh district

**June 6** | A 25-year-old tractor driver, Avinash Kumar, found buried in a sand mound in Bihar's Begusarai following a dispute over sand mining

**Faiz Siddiqui & Premendra Mishra**

**Kanpur/Aurangabad:** The sand mining mafia continued its deadly run in UP and Bihar, resulting in the deaths of a constable each in the two states, both run over by tractors within hours of each other over the weekend.

In UP, constable Rohit Kumar Pancholi, 24, was killed while attempting to stop a tractor-trolley involved in illegal sand mining in Nagla Chandan area Saturday night. Pancholi, posted at Nawabganj police station in Farrukhabad district, was critically wounded and died of his wounds at a private hospital Sunday morning. A native of Bijnor district, he had joined UP police in 2012.

According to SP Vikas Kumar, two suspects were arrested Sunday night following a police raid that resulted in a shootout. "Pradeep Yadav and Bhupendra Yadav, both residents of Farrukhabad district, were named among five accused in the complaint by the constable's family. Both were shot in the leg during the encounter and

later admitted to Mohammadabad Community Health Centre," Kumar said.

In Bihar, constable Deepak Kumar, 29, was run over by a tractor in Aurangabad during a routine check for illegal sand miners around 4am Sunday. Kumar, a native of Bhojpur district, was declared dead on arrival at the govt hospital in Daudnagar. Aurangabad SP Swapna G Meshram said driver Ramta Singh and tractor owner Dharmendra Yadav were arrested later in the day.

On June 6, the body of 25-year-old tractor driver Avinash Kumar was found buried in a sand mound in Bihar's Begusarai. On Nov 14 last year, sub-inspector Prabhakar Ranjan was similarly crushed to death by the sand mafia in Jamui.

These deaths are not isolated — at least 11 people have been killed across the country since 2023 for exposing or acting against illegal mining operations. Thirty-nine people, including police and activists, were killed between 2019 and 2022, according to a Down to Earth report.

## WORLD ACCREDITATION DAY-2024

National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration (NABL) and National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB), the constituent boards of Quality Council of India (QCI) are celebrating World Accreditation Day (WAD) 2024 with the following theme:

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**Couple killed in Bihar, neighbour held:** A retired govt employee and his wife were hacked to death in their sleep allegedly by a neighbour at their house over a suspected land dispute in Bihar's Bankadistrict in the intervening night of Saturday and Sunday, reports **Faryal Rumi**. Police has arrested the neighbour.

**GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE  
KATHUA**

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)**

**E-Tender Notice**

**E- Tender Notice No: 02 OF GMCK 2024 Dated: 25-05-2024**

Short Term E-Tenders are invited for and on behalf of Governor of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory through Principal, Govt. Medical College Kathua for supply of Drugs/ Medicines as per the Annexure "A" to this tender notice from manufacturers / firms / companies / authorized dealers for Govt. Medical College & Associated Hospital Kathua on urgent basis. The tender document can be downloaded from the website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) and [www.gmckathua.in](http://www.gmckathua.in) w.e.f. 08-06-2024.

The tender details and schedules as per following:-

Item Description	Tender fee	EMD
Supply of Drugs/ Medicines	Rs. 2000.00	Rs. 1,00,000.00
Date & Time of release of bid	07.06.2024 (1:00 p.m.)	
Last date for entertaining any clarification/ representation	14.06.2024 (4:00 p.m.)	
Online bid submission start date	08.06.2024 (9:00 a.m.)	
Last date for submission of online bids	28.06.2024 (4:00 p.m.)	
Opening of Technical bids	01.07.2024 (01:00 p.m.)	

Any query to clear can be done through email id on [kathuagmc1@gmail.com](mailto:kathuagmc1@gmail.com).

The competent authority reserves the right to accept or reject the tenders received or cancel the whole tendering process without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-  
Principal  
Govt. Medical College, Kathua

No. :-GMCK/Estt-III/2024-25/ 131-136  
Dated: 25-05-2024  
DIP No:DIPLJ-1163/24/08.06.2024

**Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION  
RAJBAGH SRINAGAR.**

**Lal Mandi, Near L.D. Hospital Srinagar- 190008.**

☎ 0194-2310283 ✉ [exenrajbaghsgr@gmail.com](mailto:exenrajbaghsgr@gmail.com)

(for Road work/bridges/Buildings)

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

**TWO COVER SYSTEM**

(Above Rs. 2.50 crores)

E-NIT No.08 of R&B/Div/Raj/ of 2024-25 issued under endorsement No.2062-72 Dated: 07.06.2024.

For and on behalf of the President of India, e-tenders are invited on %age basis (as the case may be) from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (Rs. in Lacs)	Bid Security Declaration	T.O.C	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Construction of Vice Chancellors Secretariat at Cluster University Srinagar.	1263.19	11000/-	25,26,380/-	730 Days	AAY

Project Authority: Vice Chancellor, Cluster University Srinagar.  
Major Head of Accounts: M.H.Capex Budget-2023-24  
Position of AAA: According to Vice Chancellor, Cluster University Srinagar vide No. 453 CUS(P&S) of 2022  
Dated: 24.12.2022 Under Endorsement No.CUS/P&S/2022/6427-36 Dated: 24.12.2022.  
Position of T/S: According to Chief Engineer Central Kmr. Vide Order No. CE/R&B/JKT/S/03of 2024-25 Dt. 15.05.2024.

1. The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) as per below schedule:

1.1 Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document (as mentioned above) in shape of Treasury Challan Receipt (under M.H-0059) in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Rajbagh, Srinagar.

Date of Issue of Tender Notice	07.06.2024
2. Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 08.06.2024 from 10:00 AM
3. Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	12.06.2024 at 11:00 A.M in the Office of the Chief Engineer, PW(R&B) Central Kashmir
4. Bid submission Start Date	14.06.2024 From 10:00 A.M
5. Bid Submission End Date	22.06.2024 upto 4.00 P.M
7. Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	24.06.2024 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of the Chief Engineer, PW(R&B) Central Kashmir.
8. Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

1.2 (The Date of Treasury Challan, must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date).

1.3 At the time of tendering all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to i.e. Chief Accounts Officer, PW(R&B) Central Kashmir. The Date of Earnest money must be between the date of start of bid and bid submission end date). The successful bidder will have to provide Performance security @ 5% of Allotted cost in shape of CDR/FDR/BG before the contract award. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of performance security @ 5% of the Allotted cost which will be released after successful completion of the DLP.

13. Defect Liability Period: The DLP shall be 24 Months and shall be calculated from date of certified completion of work.

14. All key construction material (i.e. cement, steel, bitumen, pipes etc) shall have to be arranged by the contractor strictly as per specifications with the approval of Engineer-in-charge.

15. Qualification criteria for the work and other terms and conditions are contained in the bidding document available on website

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer,  
R&B Division Rajbagh, Srinagar

No.2062-72  
Dated:07.06.2024  
DIP No:DIPLJ-1019/24/08.06.2024

**Urban Development & Housing Department**

1st Floor, Vikas Bhawan, Patna - 800 015  
Phone: (0612) 2215580, Fax: (0612) 2217059,  
Email: [urbansec-bih@nic.in](mailto:urbansec-bih@nic.in), [tcpobihar@gmail.com](mailto:tcpobihar@gmail.com)

**Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) for Engagement of Agency for Setting up of Project Management Unit (PMU) at State level for Planned Urbanization in Bihar. (through e-tendering)**

- Principal Secretary UD&HD, Government of Bihar, invites Proposals from eligible consultancy firms for "Engagement of Agency for Setting up of Project Management Unit (PMU) at State level for Planned Urbanization in Bihar.
- Interested Agency/Firm/Company may download the complete Request Proposal (RFP) Document, from website: <https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in/> or <https://state.bihar.gov.in/urban>

S.N.	PARTICULARS	DETAILS
1	Website for submission of proposal	<a href="https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in/www.urban.bih.nic.in">https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in/www.urban.bih.nic.in</a>
2	Mode of Submission	Online submission through eproc2 portal ( <a href="https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in/">https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in/</a> ) and at the same time submission of Hard copies at UD & HD office
3	Last date and time for Submission of Technical & Financial proposal on	29/06/2024 by 4:00 PM <a href="https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in/">https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in/</a>
4	Last date and time for Submission of Hard Copies (along with Technical Bid with payment proof and original copy of affidavit/Black listing form ) for RFP document, EMD and affidavits will submit in hard copy (Only Technical proposal to be submitted No financial Proposal)	01/07/2024 by 4:00 PM Address: Officer on Special Duty Urban Development & Housing Department, Vikas Bhawan, New Secretariat, Patna - 800001, Bihar, INDIA. (Tel: 0612- 2215580, Fax: 2217059>Email: <a href="mailto:urbansec-bih@nic.in">urbansec-bih@nic.in</a> , <a href="mailto:tcpobihar@gmail.com">tcpobihar@gmail.com</a> )
5	Date and time of opening of Technical Bids	01/07/2024, 5:00 PM
6	Date and time of opening of Financial Proposal	Will be intimated later to successful bidders
7	Pre-proposal Queries/Suggestions and request for VC link shall be submitted by prospective bidders	11/06/2024 by 12.30 PM
8	Date of Pre-Bid meeting (through VC)	13/06/2024 at 11:30 AM
9	Method of Selection	Least-Cost Selection (LCS)

- Agency/Firm/Company may download the complete tender documents from website: <https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in/> or <https://www.urban.bih.nic.in>
- For participating in e-RF@process, the applicant shall have to get them registered to get user ID Password and digital Signature. This will enable them to access the website- [www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in) and participate in e-tender. Those who are not registered in e-tendering systems, they may contact "e- procurement HELPDASK, Mjunction Services Limited, RJ Complex, 2nd Floor, Canara Bank Campus, Khajpura, Ashiana Road, P.S.- Shastri Naga, Patna-800014" (Toll Free Number: 18005726571, Email: [eproc2support@bihar.gov.in](mailto:eproc2support@bihar.gov.in)) for registration
- The proposals must be accompanied with a non-refundable Tender Documentation fee of Rs. 2500/- (Rupees Two thousand five hundred Only) and Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) online (by Internet Payment Gateway (IPG) or Challan) or through (BG) of Rs. 15,00,000/- (Fifteen Lakh) in favor of "Director BUDA" payable at Patna. "Director BUDA" Patna, Bank Details for BG: A/C No. 1512011000002864, IFSC- IOBA0001512.
- The evaluation shall be done on the basis of uploaded documents only <https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in>.

For further details please visit : [www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar](http://www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar)  
Officer on Special Duty  
Urban Development & Housing Department  
Govt. of Bihar

PR- 001380 ( Urban ) 2024-25  
नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।

## After 14-day search, 2 bodies found in Assam rat-hole mine

After a grueling 14-day search operation, bodies of the remaining two illegal coal miners who were trapped inside a rat-hole mine in Patkai Hills of Tinsukia district in Assam were recovered on Saturday, reports **Rajib Dutta**. The deceased were identified as John Nongrum, 39, and Phiniellin Umbah, 24, both residents of Ri Bhoi district in Meghalaya. Their bodies were retrieved from the mountain of rubble with the help of excavators by the NDRF, SDRF, and local rescue workers.

**MAAHI MILK PRODUCER COMPANY LIMITED, RAJKOT**  
CIN U01403GJ2012PT007646

**Maahi EXTENSION OF RFQ**

It is to notify that, the RFQ No: MMPC/2024-25/01/Manpower Engagement Service under 3rd Party Payroll has been extended till 20th June 2024.

For more details visit <https://www.maahimilk.com/Business-Inquiry/Tenders>

The Chief Executive  
Maahi Milk Producer Company Limited

**Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PHE MECHANICAL RURAL DIVISION,  
SRINAGAR, KASHMIR.**

Corrigendum

For E-NIT No. PHE/MRD/TS/ 10 of 06/2024 published vide No: 2024\_PHE\_249348\_1 due to typographical error in tender, kindly read as:-  
For Item at Sr. No.10: May read "150mm dia, Flanged (Class-C) G.I pipe" instead of "150mm dia, Flanged (Class-C) G.I/MS Coated pipe"  
All the other specifications, terms and conditions shall remain same as laid down in the said E-nit.

No: PHE/MRD/800-11  
Dated: 08-06-2024  
DIP No: DIPP/1080/24/08.06.2024

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer,  
PHE Mechanical Rural Division, Srinagar.

**Government of Tamil Nadu  
Information Technology & Digital Services Department  
Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency (TNeGA)**

**E-TENDER NOTICE**

Online tenders are invited by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency (TNeGA), towards Request for Expression of Interest for the Selection of System Integrator to Design, Develop, Implement and Maintain a Social Protection Delivery System and MIS platform for Differently Abled Persons in Tamil Nadu.

The tender document (REOI) can be downloaded at free of cost from <https://tntenders.gov.in/> and <https://tnega.tn.gov.in/> from 10.06.2024, 15:00 hrs.

Chief Executive Officer,  
Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency.

DIPR/1814/Tender/2024

**Jammu Kashmir Power Corporation Limited  
(A Government of Jammu & Kashmir undertaking)  
SLDC Building Gladini Grid Complex, Jammu  
(e-mail : [cejkpcl@gmail.com](mailto:cejkpcl@gmail.com))  
Tender ID :- 2024\_PDD\_249453\_1  
e-NIT No. CE/JKPL/JICA-01 of 2024-25 Dt. 07-06-2024**

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of U.T. of Jammu & Kashmir, Managing Director, JKPCIL, J&K, invites e-bids in the shape of Technical Bid & Financial Bid, from interested eligible Chartered Accountant Firms.

S.no	Name of work	Tender fee	EMD	e-bid submission start date	e-bid submission end date
1	Hiring of Chartered Accountant for Providing Accounting, & Tax related services for JKPCIL for FY 2021-22, 2022-2023 & 2023-24.	Rs. 500/-	Rs. 10,000/-	11-06-2024	27-06-2024

Interested bidders may log on [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) for other relevant information.

Sd/-  
Chief Engineer (Trading),  
JKPCIL, Jammu.

DIP No:DIPLJ-461-P/24/08/06/2024

**Bihar State Electronics Development Corporation Ltd.**  
(A Government of Bihar Undertaking)

Beltron Bhawan, Shastri Nagar, Patna-800 023, Telephone No.  
0612-2281242 Tele Fax No. 0612-2281857  
CIN-U31900BR1978SG001317  
E-mail Id:- [rajan.prasad@semt.gov.in](mailto:rajan.prasad@semt.gov.in)

Ref. No: 2863/2024

**e-Tender Notice**

e-Tender are invited from Companies, registered under Companies Act 1956, by Bihar State Electronics Development Corporation Ltd. for "Selection of Systems Integrator For Education Loan ERP Solution For Bihar State Education Finance, Govt. of Bihar".

The details of the tender document will be available on the website: <https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in>, from 06.06.2024. The last date of online submission of the tender is 26.06.2024 up to 05:00 PM.

For further details please visit : [www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar](http://www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar)  
PR- 001373 (B & C) 2024-25

Managing Director

नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार

**CHENNAI METRO RAIL LIMITED**  
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of Tamil Nadu)  
(ISO 9001:2015 AND ISO 14001:2015 CERTIFIED)  
METROS, Anna Salai, Nandanam, Chennai - 600 035

NIT No: CMRL/PHASE-II/SYS/CP14-C5-AES-03-ESC/2024

E-procurement Tender - Funded by - Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

**International Competitive Bidding**

**e-TENDER NO: NIT No: CMRL/PHASE-II/SYS/CP14-C5-AES-03-ESC/2024**

CMRL invites e-tender through e-procurement portal from reputed, experienced, financially sound, eligible applicants, who fulfill the qualification criteria as mentioned in the tender through International Competitive Bidding (ICB) as detailed below:

Sub: - CMRL e-procurement - Tender No: CP14-C5-AES03-ESC (Lumpsum tender) (Under JICA Loan Agreement ID-P 272) "Design, Manufacture, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Heavy Duty Escalators for CMRL Phase II - Corridor 5 (From Madhavaram Depot Metro to Koyambedu Metro stations)" - Tender Documents can be downloaded from E-procurement website.

For further details, please visit e-procurement website: <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>  
[www.chennaiemrail.org](http://www.chennaiemrail.org)

Director (System & Operations)

DIPR/1762/Tender/2024

**Office of The Chief Engineer (Capital Zone) P.W.D Bhopal (M.P.)**

**Tender Notice**

NIT No. 09/ G. I/ M/IS/ Bpl. Z./ 2019 (Year 2024) Bhopal, Pate 05-06-2024

Online Tender for mentioned below are being invited. The Tender has been uploaded on the e-Procurement system of Public Works Department on the Portal <https://mptenders.gov.in> Tender details are as below:-

S. No.	Tender No.	District	Nature of work	Name of work	Call No.	Cost of Project (PAC) (Rs. in Lakh)	Remarks
1	2024 PWD/RB/334959_1	Narmada puram	Plan	Construction of Ratwada to Sail road, Length 3.00 Km., Bldh to Pi pal th one road, Length 0.50 Km., Bldh to Mohanpur road, Length 2.70 Km., Constn. from inside village Naharkola Khurd to Shivpur Harda road Length 2.00 Km., Bkhdh to State Highway 15 road, Length 2.00 Km., Thua to Meaugan road, Length 4.50 Km., Constn. & development work of Culvert from Dharamkundi Hathnapur road to Aawalghat in village hathnapur Janpad Panchayat Seoni Matva Length 1.20 Km., Total Length 15.90 Km.	2nd Call	1774.35	EMD/All Document are to be submitted online only.
2	2024 PWD/RB/334960_1	Harda	Plan	Construction of harda khandwa Ring road length 7.50 km	1st Call	1577.92	EMD/All Document are to be submitted online only.
						<b>Total</b>	<b>3352.27</b>

The document can only be purchased online from the above website after making online payment. The last date & time for purchase of Document on line is Dated 22-06-24 up to (17:30.) Detailed NIT and other details can be viewed on the above mentioned portal. Amendments to NIT, if any, would be published on website only, and not in newspaper.

Sd/-  
Chief Engineer (Capital Zone)  
P.W.D. Bhopal Madhya Pradesh

G-11411/24

# India, Pak may hold Indus talks this month

**Sachin Parashar**  
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: India may host a Pakistan delegation this month for a meeting of the Permanent Indus Commission (PIC) that looks to resolve bilateral issues through dialogue under the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT).

Pakistan was a notable omission, along with Myanmar, in the Modi 3.0 inauguration guest list that included most other immediate neighbours but the World Bank-

backed Indus talks remain ring-fenced from the turbulent nature of ties which have been bereft of any substantive diplomatic engagement in the past eight years.

The two countries are currently in touch to finalise the dates for the proposed visit in the third week of this month. Under the 1960 IWT, the two sides are required to meet at least once every year, alternately in India and Pakistan. India refuses to engage Pakistan otherwise because of the latter's support

to cross-border terrorism. If the visit happens, the delegation may also travel to J&K for talks related to IWT, which provides a framework for irrigation and hydropower development, allocating the western rivers (Indus, Jhelum, Chenab) to Pakistan and the eastern rivers (Ravi, Beas, Sutlej) to India. As the World Bank says, the Treaty also allows each country certain uses of the rivers allocated to the other.

There was a renewed interest in IWT talks last year

after India gave a notice to Pakistan for a modification of the Treaty because of the latter's "intransigence and unilateral actions" on the issue of Kishenganga and Ratle hydroelectric projects in J&K. India was upset that despite the World Bank asking both countries to find a mutually agreeable way, instead of seeking separate processes, to address Pakistan's objections to the projects, Islamabad had unilaterally sought a parallel process to address the issue.

## 2 bags with woman's body parts found on train

Indore: Two bags containing dismembered body parts of a woman were found tucked under a seat in a general compartment of a passenger train while it was being cleaned in a yard near Indore station late Saturday night, reports **Karishma Kotwal**.

Forensic experts suspect the woman was killed at least two to three days earlier. Police say whoever hacked the body knew how to cut it up and stop blood flow at the same time. The victim was yet to be identified but is believed to be from somewhere along the 149km route of the Nagda-Mhow passenger train.

"The head and upper part of the body were found in a trolley bag. Her thighs were kept in two separate polythene sacks. The body was highly decomposed and looked at least three days old. The woman was seen wearing a bindi and her hair was braided," said GRP police station in-charge Sanjay Shukla. A cleaner, Rinku, was revolted by the stench and alerted police, Shukla added.

Shukla said that five teams have been formed to solve the mystery. They are checking CCTV footage at Indore, Nagda and Ujjain stations, and all other halts of the train where the bags may have been carried into the coach. Officials are also checking missing persons' reports and have alerted nearby districts and states.

Forensic expert Dr BL Mandloi said based on the level of decomposition, it seemed the body was "at least two days old", adding the autopsy would help determine the weapon used in the murder.

**TAMIL NADU POWER GENERATION CORPORATION LIMITED**

E-tender through e-procurement platform at <https://tntenders.gov.in/ntpc/app> as per the instructions in the tender specification Coal (SHIP) - 157 Dated 02.06.2024 for time chartering of One Self-Trimming Panamax/Kamsarmax gearless vessel for coastal movement of coal by TNPCOL.

SI No	Specification No.	Description of Work / Materials	Date & time for submission of e-tender
1	157	TIME CHARTERING OF ONE SELF-TRIMMING PANAMAX / KAMSARMAX GEARLESS BULK CARRIER VESSEL WITH THE LADY'S FROM 5th to 20th JULY 2024 FOR A PERIOD OF 4 MONTHS (-2 MONTHS CHOITION -15 DAYS CHOITION	19.06.2024 Upto 14.30 Hours

Submission of E-Tender: THROUGH THIS HYPERLINK <https://tntenders.gov.in/ntpc/app>  
Date & Time of commencement of download of Tender Specification: 17:00 Hrs. on 11.06.2024.  
Date & Time of closing of download of Tender Specification: 14:30 Hrs on 19.06.2024.  
Soft copy of Tender Specification: The tender specification can be downloaded from TANGEDCO website [www.tangedco.gov.in](http://www.tangedco.gov.in), from Tamil Nadu Government Web site [www.tenders.tn.gov.in](http://www.tenders.tn.gov.in) and from National Informatics Centre website <https://tntenders.gov.in/ntpc/app> free of cost. Tender will be opened: Through the NIC portal <https://tntenders.gov.in/ntpc/app>

DIPR/1785/Tender/2024

CHIEF ENGINEER/MECHCOAL, TNPCOL/CHENNAI-2

**एनटीपीसी NTPC Limited**  
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

**KERANDARI COAL MINING PROJECT (KDCMP), DISTRICT HAZARIBAGH**

**INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FROM INDIAN FIRMS/COMPANIES FOR EVALUATION OF COAL BY ROAD TO NEARBY SIDING/ DESTINATION FOR KDCMP**

Date: 10.06.2024

NTPC invites "Expression of Interest" (EOI) from all reputed Indian firms/companies who have experience of transportation of coal by road, construction of road/bridge/culverts and liasioning work for getting clearances and leasing/acquisition of land. The details received in EOI shall be used to set the qualification criteria for bidders for the forthcoming tender of evaluation of coal by road to nearby siding/ destination for KDCMP.

Interested agencies may visit [www.ntpc.tenders.gov.in](http://www.ntpc.tenders.gov.in) and download documents and submit their experience details as per prescribed format at following emails:

- Amit Kumar, AGM- Coal Dispatch, KDCMP.  
Email ID [akgupta78@ntpc.co.in](mailto:akgupta78@ntpc.co.in) | Mob. No. 9650992389
- Pankaj Kumar Agarwal, Sr. Mgr.- Coal Dispatch, KDCMP.  
Email ID [pankaj02@ntpc.co.in](mailto:pankaj02@ntpc.co.in) | Mob. No. 9650992724

**Start of downloading EOI documents: Date-10.06.2024 at 11:00 hrs.**  
**Deadline for submission of EOI: Date-01.07.2024 at 17:00 hrs.**  
**Pre-bid meeting on date-20.06.2024 at 11 AM at NTPC Coal Mining HQ, Ranchi**

**Registered Office:** NTPC Bhawan, SCOPE Complex, 7, Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003, Corporate Identification Number: L40101DL1975G0007966

**Leading the Power Sector**

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON**

**See Section 82 Cr. P.C.**

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person(s) **Raj Kumar Chawla S/o: Lt. Ved Prakash Chawla R/o: T-313/17 Baljeet Nagar Patel Nagar, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 046/2013, U/s 420/120B IPC, P.S.: Patel Nagar, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused person(s) **Raj Kumar Chawla**, cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person(s) **Raj Kumar Chawla**, has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person(s) **Raj Kumar Chawla**, of **FIR No. 046/2013, U/s 420/120B IPC, P.S.: Patel Nagar, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **10.07.2024**.

By Order  
**Ms. Upasana Satija**  
LD ACCMM, Room No. 145,  
West District, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi.

DIP/7133/CD/2024  
(Court Matter)

**RASHTRIYA RAKSHA UNIVERSITY**  
An Institution of National Importance  
Pioneering National Security and Police Education in India  
Lavad - Dehgam, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, INDIA • 382305, Phone No. - 079-68126800

Date: 10/06/2024

**Notice for Cancellation of Recruitment**

**Non Teaching Post Advt. No. REG/01/2022/HR Dated: 22/12/2022**

Rashtriya Raksha University had invited applications for Non-Teaching positions from eligible candidates vide Advertisement No. REG/01/2022/HR, December 12, 2022. The aforementioned recruitment exercise for the post of Section Officer, Level-8, vide Advertisements No.REG/01/2022/HR, stands cancelled.

Registrar

INF/127/2024-25

**National Dairy Development Board**

PB No. 40, Anand 388001, Gujarat  
Tel : 02692-260148 / 260149 / 260160, Fax : 02692-260159  
Website : <http://www.nddb.coop> E-mail : [purchase@nddb.coop](mailto:purchase@nddb.coop)

**INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) / LOCAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (LCB)**  
Bids are invited on behalf of Service Recipients / NDBB from eligible bidders for the works listed below :

Sr. No.	Description of Works/ Bid Reference	Est'd. Cost (₹) incl GST /Duration	Event Start / Close Date	Bid Submission / Opening Date & Time
<b>A Civil, Structural, Water Supply, Sanitary &amp; Other Misc. works including Internal Electrification works for:</b>				
I	2 LLP HI-Tech Dairy Plant at Namakkal Dairy, Tamilnadu NDBB/HO/Purchase/9/24-25/ET/9 (CIVIL-NAMAKKAL)	2600 Lakh / 12 Months	11.06.24 / 02.07.24	02.07.24 15:00 hrs / 02.07.24 15:30 hrs.
II	Utilities & Ancillary Infrastructures of Vaccine Manufacturing Plant of IIL at Phase-III, Karkapatta, Siddipet, Telangana NDBB/HO/Purchase/10/24-25/ET/10 (CIVIL-KARKAPATLA)	3176 Lakh / 12 Months	13.06.24 / 04.07.24	04.07.24 15:00 hrs / 04.07.24 15:30 hrs.
III	Renovation: Quarters in MS Bldg & Office Bldg at NDBB Mumbai NDBB/HO/Purchase/11/24-25/ET/11 (CIVIL-MUMBAI)	186 Lakh / 11 Months	12.06.24 / 03.07.24	03.07.24 15:00 hrs / 03.07.24 15:30 hrs.
<b>B Design, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of the following:</b>				
I	2 LLP LMP at HI-Tech Dairy Plant Namakkal, TN NDBB/HO/Purchase/12/24-25/ET/12 (LMP-NAMAKKAL)	2870 Lakh / 10 Months	12.06.24 / 03.07.24	03.07.24 15:00 hrs / 03.07.24 15:30 hrs.
II	Milk Processing & Value Added Products' Plant, Mohali, Punjab NDBB/HO/Purchase/13/24-25/ET/13 (LMP-MOHALI)	8000 Lakh / 16 Months	15.06.24 / 08.07.24	08.07.24 15:00 hrs / 08.07.24 15:30 hrs.
III</				

# Monsoon reaches Mum two days in advance

Richa.Pinto@timesgroup.com

**Mumbai:** The southwest monsoon hit Mumbai on Sunday (June 9), two days before its expected arrival date, according to IMD. Previously, in the years 2021 and 2018, the onset of monsoon was declared on June 9.

BMC has claimed that it has completed all the pre-monsoon works, including the required desilting of drains and winding up of road repairs, which would be restarted after monsoon. However, residents looked sceptical. "In Bandra, several road works are incomplete and the locality in a mess," said a local resident.

The declaration about monsoon onset came after the city and other parts of MMR such as Thane and Kalyan saw significant rain activity in the intervening night of June 8 and 9. Rain recorded in the 24 hours ending 8.30am on Sunday by IMD's Colaba observatory was 8.8mm while the Santacruz observatory recorded 19.8mm of rain.

IMD officials said that the monsoon onset was declared as the criteria set by the weather office had been fulfilled. "For declaring onset,



A gradual increase in rainfall activity is expected over parts of Maharashtra during the next 2-3 days, IMD said

at least 3-4 locations should record over 2.5mm rains and the westerly winds should be strong. Due to gradual strengthening of westerly winds in association with south west monsoon, a gradual increase in rainfall activity is expected over parts of Maharashtra during next 2-3 days. We are expecting rain activity to continue till June 14 after which we would monitor the situation," said Sunil Kamble, the chief scientist of IMD Mumbai.

Meanwhile, owing to the rain activity a part of the road in Palghar district of Maharashtra caved-in, affecting traffic movement on the busy Mumbai-Ahmedabad highway for more than four hours on Sunday morning.

(With PTI inputs)

# Rail jobs scam: HC orders medical test of Lalu aide

**New Delhi:** Delhi high court has ordered the setting up of a medical board to evaluate the condition of RJD chief Lalu Prasad's close aide Amit Katyal, who sought interim bail on medical grounds in a money laundering case linked to the alleged land-for-jobs scam in the Indian Railways.

HC said while the report from the jail did not indicate any "underlying medical condition," the accused recently had a bariatric surgery. It, therefore, asked the AIIMS director to constitute a team of doctors from minimum three different specialties to ascertain the nature of ailments Katyal is suffering from. The court added that after the evaluation of medical records and examination of the accused, the medical board shall furnish a report on or before June 14. **TNN**

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# Bones found in canal belong to B'desh MP?

**Kolkata:** In what may prove to be a breakthrough in the probe into the murder of Bangladeshi MP Anwarul Azim Anar in a posh Kolkata flat on May 13, West Bengal CID reportedly recovered his body parts from Bagiola canal in South 24 Parganas district's Bhangan area on Sunday morning, report Dwaipayan Ghosh & Mayukh Sengupta.

"We have recovered some bones. We have sent these for forensic analysis," said CID IG Akhilesh Kumar Chaturvedi.

Mohammad Siam Hossain, in CID custody after his arrest in Nepal for disposing of Anar's body parts, his SIM card, and murder weapons, led officials to the spot, around 300 metres deep into the canal from the main motorable road, said a CID source. "Jirangacha BPHC medical officer and CFSL experts were present during the recovery of the body parts from the south-eastern bank of Bagiola canal at Krishnamati village," said DIG Indra Chakraborty.

CID said Anar's daughter has been summoned to provide samples for DNA profiling to match with the recovered body parts.

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**Administrative Officer (R&R)**

# NIA arrests man in Assam jail for murder of 4 in Manipur in Jan

**Guwahati:** National Investigation Agency (NIA) has arrested a militant, who is currently in an Assam jail in connection with a case, for his alleged involvement in the killing of four civilians in Manipur's Bishnupur district on Jan 18, reports Mukut Das. It is the first arrest in the case in Manipur, which has been embroiled in ethnic strife since last year.

According to NIA's statement, Lunminsei Kipgen, alias Langinmang, alias Mang, alias Levi, a resident of Manipur, was formally arrested by the investigating agency from the central jail on Saturday under relevant sections of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, and the Arms Act.

On Jan 18, armed men had murdered four civilians near the water treatment plant at Ningthoukhong Kha Khunou, Bishnupur.

The four deceased were identified as Oinam Bamonjao Singh (63), Thiyam Somen Singh (50), Ningthoujam Nabadip Meetei (39) and Oinam Manitomba Singh (32).

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The last date of application is 20th June, 2024.

The hospital is likely to commence operations by August 2024.

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THE TIMES OF INDIA

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# GR WTH & GOVERNANCE

A CONSUMER CONNECT INITIATIVE



## EXPECTATIONS FROM THE NEW GOVERNMENT

As the newly formed Government settles in Delhi, people of the country already have a lot of expectations from them. We talk to a few people to find out what they are...

A new Government under the leadership of Narendra Modi has been formed at the Centre. People have a lot of expectations from the newly elected Government and hopes are high. On their part the newly elected Indian government in the past has always had a comprehensive agenda aimed at fostering economic growth, enhancing social welfare, and promoting good governance. But this time around people can expect a lot more. There are some key areas and initiatives that people expect the Government to focus on.

Says Amit Agarwal, "There could be continued investment in large-scale infrastructure projects to boost economic growth and job creation. This may include projects in sectors like transport, energy, and digital infrastructure. Also, there could be further simplification of regulations and processes to make it easier to start and run businesses in India, fostering entrepreneurship and attracting foreign investments."

Digital is a primary focus area in this day and age. There could be measures to enhance

digital infrastructure and services to ensure that more citizens can access government services online. "Government initiatives can be expanded to cover more services and users," says Madhuri Singh. There needs to be continued development of smart cities with advanced



urban planning, technology integration, and sustainable practices to improve the quality of urban life. "They need to make an effort to develop the most underdeveloped districts by improving health, education, and economic indicators through targeted interventions. There should be measures to improve healthcare, education and employment opportunities for women and children, aiming for gender equality and better childhood development," says Mohit Maheshwari.

There should be right policies to increase agricultural productivity and farmers' incomes through better access to markets, technology and financial services. The need of the hour is to enhance rural infrastructure including roads, water supply, and sanitation to improve living standards in rural areas, say many.

Ensure greater transparency and accountability in government functioning, is what many people agree upon. Promoting renewable energy sources such as solar and wind to reduce dependence on fossil fuels and combat climate change is something India should strive for. "Apart from the Government, we all should chip in to preserve natural resources and bio-diversity through conservation projects and sustainable practices," says Ranjita Puri.

In the Education sector, the need is to focus on transforming the education system with an aim on holistic development, critical thinking, and vocational training. Work has to be done towards expanding vocational training and skill development programmes to equip the workforce with the

skills needed for the modern economy. Overall, people expect the Government to focus on sustainable and inclusive growth, leveraging technology for better governance, and targeted efforts to improve the quality of life for all citizens.

— *respedit.jaipur*  
@timesgroup.com

### SOME NOTABLE SCHEMES OF THE MODI GOVERNMENT FROM 2014 ONWARDS

**PRADHAN MANTRI JAN DHAN YOJANA (PMJDY)**  
This financial inclusion program aimed to provide affordable access to financial services like banking, credit, insurance, and pensions. It has been instrumental in opening millions of bank accounts for the unbanked population.

**SWACHH BHARAT ABHIYAN**  
This nationwide cleanliness campaign aimed to eliminate open defecation and improve solid waste management. It included building millions of toilets in rural areas and promoting hygiene and sanitation practices.

**PRADHAN MANTRI UJJWALA YOJANA (PMUY)**  
This scheme aimed to provide free LPG connections to women from below poverty line (BPL) households to reduce their reliance on unhealthy cooking fuels like firewood and kerosene.

**PRADHAN MANTRI AWAS YOJANA (PMAY)**  
This scheme aims to provide affordable housing to urban and rural poor by 2022. It offers financial assistance for constructing and upgrading homes.

**ATAL PENSION YOJANA (APY)**  
This pension scheme targets the unorganized sector to provide a guaranteed minimum monthly pension after retirement. It encourages workers to save for their retirement.

**DIGITAL INDIA**  
This initiative aimed to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. It includes projects like DigiLocker, BharatNet, and e-governance services to enhance digital infrastructure and digital literacy.

**PRADHAN MANTRI FASAL BIMA YOJANA (PMFBY)**  
This crop insurance scheme aims to reduce the financial burden on farmers due to crop failure or damage. It provides insurance coverage and financial support to farmers facing crop loss due to natural calamities.

**MAKE IN INDIA**  
This initiative aims to transform India into a global manufacturing hub by encouraging both multinational and domestic companies to manufacture their products in India. It focuses on 25 sectors, including automobiles, textiles, and electronics.

**SKILL INDIA MISSION**  
This mission aims to train over 400 million people in different skills by 2022. It includes various programs like Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) to provide industry-relevant skill training.

**AYUSHMAN BHARAT (PRADHAN MANTRI JAN AROGYA YOJANA - PMJAY)**  
This health insurance scheme aims to provide free health coverage at secondary and tertiary care levels to over 100 million poor and vulnerable families.



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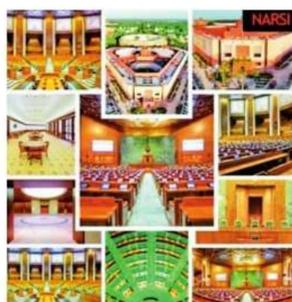
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# 30 in Cabinet 3.0: Meet The Men & Women Who Will Serve India

## CABINET MINISTERS

### AMIT SHAH | 59

EXPERIENCE: 2 LOK SABHA TERMS

BJP Gandhinagar ₹65.7cr HS

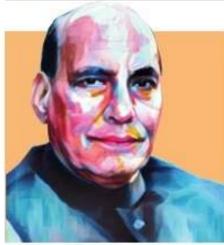


He will be the BJP-led coalition's second-most powerful minister, after Modi. Just as he was in the previous govt, when BJP governed with a full majority, and his portfolios were home and cooperatives. He is Modi's closest confidant, and will be a key player in ally management. He comes into the Cabinet with a massive 7.4 lakh victory margin in Gandhinagar, his biggest win in a political career that began as a booth-level party worker in Gandhinagar 30 years ago. He was elected MLA several times in Gujarat and held ministerial posts in Modi's state govt. As home minister, he helmed key policies such as abrogation of Article 370 for J&K. And as party president (2014-2020), he oversaw key BJP elections wins. That part of his job will become even more important as BJP, short of a single party majority nationally, and facing tough elections later this year, will need to change perceptions.

### RAJNATH SINGH | 72

EXPERIENCE: 4 LOK SABHA TERMS

BJP Lucknow ₹7.4cr Post Graduate



Among BJP's top 3 — Modi and Shah being the other two — he is widely acknowledged as his party's amiable moderate, who is respected across party lines. A soft-spoken politician who worked his way up, he's back in the Lok Sabha after a hat-trick from Lucknow. A former RSS activist, whose CV includes a stint as a lecturer in physics, he was a protégé of Vajpayee. His first election win was in 1977, to the UP assembly. This was followed by two stints as a Rajya Sabha member, 1994-1999 and 2003-2008. In between, he was UP's chief minister, from 2000 to 2002. In the Vajpayee Cabinet, he was surface transport minister in 1999-2000 and agriculture minister in 2003-2004. In 2005, he was BJP's national president. He followed it with another term as party chief that began in January 2013, and was replaced by Amit Shah in 2014. In the outgoing Cabinet, he was defence minister.

### NITIN GADKARI | 67

EXPERIENCE: 3 LOK SABHA TERMS

BJP Nagpur ₹28cr MCom



He was BJP president from 2009 to 2013, and his win from Maharashtra's Nagpur seat this time marks a hat-trick. He has been the longest-serving road transport and highways minister in India, overseeing a key infrastructure ministry. In 2014, he was also shipping minister and had earlier been given responsibilities for water and MSMEs. Before moving to the Centre, he was a prominent BJP face in Maharashtra, where he earned his reputation as a doer when, as PWD minister, he was credited with major successes in building roads, highways and flyovers across the state. He's known as much for his good equations with the RSS brass as for championing entrepreneurship and innovation.

### S JAISHANKAR | 69

EXPERIENCE: 2 RAJYA SABHA TERMS

BJP RS Gujarat ₹20.1cr Doctorate

His induction in Modi's second govt was a big surprise, a rare case of a non-politician getting a plum Cabinet post. As foreign minister in the outgoing govt, he's known in world capitals as an effective articulator of Modi's worldview.

He's been credited with shaping India's diplomatic responses to big challenges like China's LAC adventurism, cross-border terrorism from Pakistan and instability at the border with Myanmar. He was also a key player in the four-nation Indo-Pacific strategy, through the Quad group. He was aggressive in his counters to western critics, who

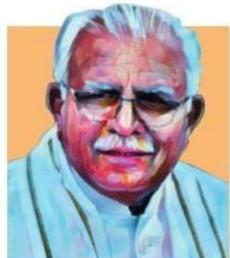
took issue with India's decision to buy Russian oil after Putin invaded Ukraine. His calling out of what he saw as western 'hypocrisy' — his point being that the West was buying petro products refined from Russian crude — earned him brownie points with the domestic rightwing audience, who also found his two books, *The India Way* and *Why Bharat Matters*, right up their alley.

### MANOHAR LAL KHATTAR | 70

EXPERIENCE: 1 LOK SABHA TERM

BJP Karnal ₹2.5cr Graduate

His appointment as Haryana CM 10 years ago had surprised many, with even party insiders unaware that he would be picked ahead of several state heavyweights. He sprang another surprise by surviving nine years in the job in a state long associated with political intrigue and intra-party battles. This, when BJP didn't have a majority of its own. Renamed as CM just before LS polls, his appointment as a cabinet minister had looked certain from the day he was given the ticket for Karnal. He's known Modi for a long time, since the latter had the job as party in-charge of the Haryana unit. He won't be a non-player in Haryana. But as Cabinet minister, he won't have the freedom of action he had as CM.



latter had the job as party in-charge of the Haryana unit. He won't be a non-player in Haryana. But as Cabinet minister, he won't have the freedom of action he had as CM.

### JYOTIRADITYA SCINDIA | 53

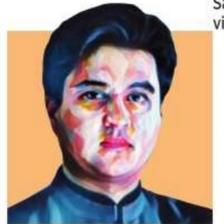
EXPERIENCE: 5 LOK SABHA TERMS

BJP Guna ₹424.7cr Post Graduate

The Maharaja is flying again. Jyotiraditya Scindia, a minister in the outgoing Modi Cabinet with the hefty portfolio of civil aviation, is back as minister. But a crucial change is that this time he will be a minister as member of the Lok

Sabha after registering a big victory from Guna in Madhya Pradesh. Scindia, a graduate of Harvard and Stanford, a confidant of Rahul Gandhi in Congress, joined BJP after he led a band of Congress MLAs in pulling the rug from under the Kamal Nath govt's feet in Bhopal during the Covid pandemic. He was nominated to RS immediately, but waited

for over a year to become a minister. As MP from Guna in 2004-14, he was minister in the Manmohan Singh govt and played a key role in the opposition benches under the first BJP govt. He moved on from Congress after his shock defeat in the 2019 polls.



### NIRMALA SITHARAMAN | 64

EXPERIENCE: 3 RAJYA SABHA TERMS

BJP RS Karnataka ₹2.5cr Post Graduate

She was India's first full-time woman defence minister. She followed it up with becoming the first woman to be finance minister. These two heavyweight jobs ensured her status as a senior member of Modi's second govt. Her appointment as FM was met with some scepticism. But she retained Modi's confidence till elections. She was tasked with implementing Modi's approach to post-Covid economic policy, which was centred around relative fiscal conservatism. That India didn't face the kind of inflationary pressure that many other major economies did burnished her credentials. India's robust growth figures in recent times meant that she ended her tenure in the outgoing govt with GDP growing at 8.2%. As FM, she also had to preside over fractious GST council meetings with states. A JNU-alumna, she had worked in a consulting firm. She was MoS in Modi's first term. She was also the party's second woman spokesperson after Sushma Swaraj.

### JP NADDA | 63

EXPERIENCE: 3 RAJYA SABHA TERMS

BJP RS Gujarat ₹9.4cr Graduate

He has segued into an influential position at the Centre just before his extended tenure as BJP chief was to get over. His appointment as a party chief had also come as a surprise to many, but not so to some insiders who were familiar with his knack for landing key jobs. His profile in Delhi started growing when he was nominated for the Rajya Sabha a decade ago and was made party general secretary. A former ABVP functionary, he headed BYJM, BJP's youth wing, and served



as health and environment minister in his home state of Himachal Pradesh. Known to have a good equation with Modi, who he had known as party's Himachal in-charge, he was health minister in Modi's first govt.

### HD KUMARASWAMY | 65

EXPERIENCE: 3 LOK SABHA TERMS

JDS Mandya ₹217cr Graduate



His first entry into the Union Cabinet is preceded by a political career full of drama and controversies. Son of Gowda family patriarch HD Deve Gowda, he has been Karnataka CM twice, once with BJP support and once with Congress backing, and failed both times to complete his term. Post-JD(S)'s disastrous assembly election performance, he was written off as a politician. But this firm believer in 'divine force' proved everyone wrong when JD(S) won two of the three seats given to it by BJP in LS elections. That performance, and BJP's need to shore up its Karnataka political base, got him into the Cabinet. Serious sexual harassment charges against his nephew Prajwal Revanna obviously haven't affected him politically.

### ASHWINI VAISHNAW | 53

EXPERIENCE: 2 RAJYA SABHA TERMS

BJP RS Odisha ₹144.1cr Post Graduate

This civil servant-turned-corporate executive grabbed headlines when in a cabinet reshuffle in Modi's second term, he was assigned not one but three high-profile ministries: communications, railways, and electronics and IT. His political goodwill in his home state, Odisha, ensured he had the support of both BJP and BJD when contesting as a Rajya Sabha candidate. One of the few ministers thought to have a "hotline with the PMO", this Wharton MBA was Vajpayee's private secretary. His job in the outgoing govt was to lead modernisation projects in the railways. Bande Bharat trains were the showpiece of this effort. His biggest challenge came after the terrible rail tragedy in Balasore, Odisha. He was



credited with a quick response to the tragedy. His tough task in communications was reviving moribund state telcos, BSNL and MTNL, and his solution was a big financial aid package for both. India's better performance as a mobile phone manufacturer and exporter also came under his watch.

### PIYUSH GOYAL | 59

EXPERIENCE: 3 LOK SABHA TERMS

BJP Mumbai North ₹111cr CA

The chartered accountant's ease with numbers is well known. His election to the Lok Sabha has added another dimension to the hyper-active minister who straddled diverse portfolios — from commerce and industry to food and consumer affairs and textiles. He was leader of the Rajya Sabha, BJP treasurer until not so long ago and had two short stints as officiating finance minister. Goyal, who handled power, coal and renewable energy during Modi's first term, was known to set stiff targets and try out new ideas while juggling responsibilities, be it negotiating FTAs, or getting on a call with investors like Elon Musk or



monitoring import and procurement of crucial food products since he was also part of the ministerial panel dealing with price rise. He comes from a family of RSS oldtimers — his mother was an MLA and his father was BJP treasurer.

### SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN | 65

EXPERIENCE: 6 LOK SABHA TERMS

BJP Vidisha ₹9cr Post Graduate

Credited with turning around MP both politically, by turning Congress into a weak rival, and economically, by overseeing strong agricultural growth, he wasn't happy when the party brass replaced him as MP CM after BJP's win late last year. He had told TOI then that 'sometimes when you are waiting for raj tilak (coronation) you get exiled'. He moves to the Centre for the first time, after a big win in Vidisha, and with a solid reputation as a good administrator and policy implementer. His long experience as CM should help him quickly get on with the new job as Cabinet minister, and his new remit should at least partially address his personal disappointment.



### DHARMENDRA PRADHAN | 54

EXPERIENCE: 2 LOK SABHA TERMS

BJP Sambalpur ₹6.9cr Post Graduate



Elected to the Lok Sabha for the second time from Sambalpur, Odisha, he played a key role in BJP's election standout performance in the state. He had held big portfolios like petroleum & natural gas and education in the two previous Modi govts. His importance grew in Modi's govts - appointed as MoS in 2014, he was promoted to cabinet rank in 2017. Known as the "Ujjwala Man", he is credited with the initial success of the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, through which over eight million LPG connections were provided to women below the poverty line. Later, he was tasked with implementing the National Education Policy 2020, a key Modi initiative. His remit included skill development, another crucial job, given the skills shortage in India's young workforce. During his tenure, the number of Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) increased by over 40%, and student enrolment rose by over 28% until 2019.

### BHUPENDER YADAV | 55

EXPERIENCE: 1 LOK SABHA TERM

BJP Alwar ₹2.3cr Graduate

Although a senior minister in the outgoing Modi govt, his first Lok Sabha win came in this election, from Alwar in Rajasthan. He held big portfolios, labour and environment, in Modi's second govt. Known for his organisational skills,



he had two full terms as a Rajya Sabha MP. In the party, his jobs included national secretary, in 2010, and national general secretary, in 2014. He was frequently appointed as election manager across states — Rajasthan (2013), and Jharkhand (2014), Bihar (2020) and MP (2023). Of his ministerial remits, environment was the bigger challenge as he represented India in three UN climate conferences, where his core job was to defend India's stand that developing countries can't be expected to carry the same responsibilities as rich countries.

### RAJIV RANJAN (AKA LALAN SINGH) | 70

EXPERIENCE: 4 LOK SABHA TERMS

JDU Munger ₹13.8cr Graduate

The senior JD(U) leader has been one of the closest confidants of CM Nitish Kumar for many years. Known to be a good strategist,



he was instrumental in stitching up JD(U)-RJD alliance in 2022. Singh recently won Munger Lok Sabha seat for the third time. His previous victories from Munger seat came in 2009, 2019 and 2024, but when he lost in 2014, Nitish nominated him to Bihar Legislative Council under the Governor's quota and made him minister for road construction in the then Jitan Ram Manjhi cabinet in June 2014. He has led JD(U) both at national and state levels, and belongs to the influential Bhumihar community.

**RAM MOHAN NAIDU | 36**

EXPERIENCE: 3 LOK SABHA TERMS

TDP Srikakulam ₹23.3cr PG



The 36-year-old, who studied engineering and did an MBA, is the youngest member of the Cabinet. The three-time Srikakulam MP entered politics in 2012 following the demise of his father, TDP leader Kinjarapu Yerran Naidu, who had served as Union minister. Initially drawn to a corporate career in Singapore, fate led him back to his roots in 2012. In 2014, he became the second youngest MP in the 16th Lok Sabha. Despite YSRCP's landslide victory in the 2019 election, Ram Mohan was one of the three TDP MPs elected from Andhra. As national general secretary of TDP, he is a loyalist of Andhra CM-designate Nara Chandrababu Naidu (NCBN). During critical junctures, such as NCBN's arrest in 2023, he played a pivotal role alongside TDP national secretary Nara Lokesh in Delhi.

**KIREN RIJJU | 53**

EXPERIENCE: 4 LOK SABHA TERMS

BJP Arunachal W ₹4.9cr Graduate



A four-time MP from Arunachal West, he's a BJP veteran and a Northeast politician who played a key role in building the party's political base in the region. In the first Modi govt, he was appointed minister of state for home. His promotion as a Cabinet minister came midway in Modi's second term. The high-profile law and justice ministry was his between 2021 and 2023. But following heated, and sometimes public, spats between GOI and Supreme Court, he was removed as law minister and put in charge of earth sciences. He was later given additional charge of food processing industries. During the poll campaign, he sparred with Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma over CAA and relocation of persecuted Buddhist Chakmas and Hindu Hajongs, who had migrated to India six decades ago.

**MANSUKH MANDAVIYA | 51**

EXPERIENCE: 1 LS, 2 RS TERMS

BJP Porbandar ₹8.0cr Doctorate



He came in via a Cabinet reshuffle in Modi's second term. Though his public profile was mainly as health minister, his portfolios included such crucial ones as chemicals and fertilizers as well as ports, shipping and waterways. A Rajya Sabha member from Gujarat until early this year, he was fielded by BJP from the state's Porbandar LS seat this time. His victory margin was 3.8 lakh votes. He started his political career with ABVP and was elected to the Gujarat assembly from the Palitana seat in 2002, becoming the youngest MLA in the state. He belongs to the Leuva Patidar subsect of the Patel community, which has a sizable presence in Saurashtra region of Gujarat, and is influential, both politically and socially.

**MINISTERS OF STATE**

**INDEPENDENT CHARGE**

**RAO INDERJIT SINGH | 74**

EXPERIENCE: 6 LOK SABHA TERMS

BJP Gurgaon ₹121.5cr Graduate

This is his third central stint. MoS (planning) in Modi 2.0, Singh is returning to Parliament as an MP from Gurgaon for the sixth time. The DU law grad, who cut his teeth in state politics with Congress, is former CM Rao Birender Singh's son and the most influential politician in the Ahirwal region of south Haryana. He didn't hold back on his disagreements with the state leadership of BJP when Manohar Lal Khattar was CM, but has been fully aligned with the PM.



**JITENDRA SINGH | 67**

EXPERIENCE: 3 LOK SABHA TERMS

BJP Udhampur ₹8.6cr PG

Three wins from Udhampur and a minister each time, the soft-spoken diabetologist from Jammu is getting a leg up - from MoS to the Modi Cabinet. He has previously been a minister in the PMO, and was minister for science and technology during the successful Chandrayaan mission. He has also served as MoS personnel, overseeing initiatives like Mission Karmayogi to enhance govt-citizen interaction.



**ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL | 70**

EXPERIENCE: 4 LOK SABHA TERMS

BJP Bikaner ₹3.8cr PG

The former Rajasthan administrative services officer (promoted to IAS) and BJP's Dalit face in Rajasthan, the genial politician - conspicuous for his vibrant turbans and riding a cycle to Parliament - won a tight race to become MP for the fourth straight term from Bikaner. He is known to have won the PM's confidence for his ability to reach out to opposition parties to ensure passage of bills. In Modi's first two terms as PM, Meghwal served as MoS corporate affairs, parliamentary affairs, tourism, culture and law.



**JAYANT CHAUDHARY | 45**

EXPERIENCE: 1 RAJYA SABHA TERM

RLD RS (UP) ₹52.4cr PG

The young Jat neta who has been struggling for a toehold makes it to the Modi Cabinet as a crucial NDA ally in UP, where the tide turned against BJP in the LS polls. RLD won both seats it contested, Baghat and Binor, paving the way for Jayant's elevation. Son of RLD founder Ajit Singh and grandson of Chaudhary Charan Singh, Jayant was born in the US and graduated from London School of Economics. He contested the UP assembly poll in 2022 as a Samajwadi ally but moved to the BJP camp.



**PRATAPRAO JADHAV | 63**

EXPERIENCE: 4 LOK SABHA TERMS

SHS BULDHANA ₹16.4cr HS

The four-time MP from Buldhana in Vidarbha who chose Eknath Shinde's side when Shiv Sena split moves straight to the Cabinet after being part of several parliamentary committees and heading standing committees. Sena's Shinde group is now a crucial NDA ally from Maharashtra, another state where BJP performed poorly in the LS polls. Having been an MLA three times, Jadhav understands grassroots politics in the region.



**PRALHAD JOSHI | 61**

EXPERIENCE: 5 LOK SABHA TERMS

BJP Dharwad ₹21.1cr Graduate

A second Cabinet term consolidates the status of the man who, while serving as parliamentary affairs minister, made India's billion-tonne coal production dream come true and fired up the commercial mining auction process by fixing gaps in the system and addressing practical issues like improving supply. With BJP having a comfortable majority in the last LS, the soft-spoken fifth-term MP from Dharwad in Karnataka, a quintessential organisational man, did not have to use his man-management skills. But as coal minister, he succeeded in carrying along stakeholders, especially state govt, for speedy expansion of mining operations. His stewardship saw formulation of the policy on opening up exploration and production of critical minerals for private participation and launch of critical mineral block auction.



**GIRIRAJ SINGH | 71**

EXPERIENCE: 3 LOK SABHA TERMS

BJP Begusarai ₹14.3cr Graduate

One of the most rhetorically aggressive ministers in Modi's first two govts, his inclusion in the third cabinet was a certainty. He has been a vocal supporter of Modi from the time the latter moved to national politics. A three-time MP, he served as the minister for rural development and panchayati raj in Modi's second term as PM. Before his shift to national politics, he was cooperative minister and animal husbandry minister for eight years in the Bihar govt headed by Nitish Kumar.



**COUNCILS BIG & SMALL**

Council of ministers on the day of swearing-in of govts since 2004. Council size changed during the term of govts

● Cabinet ● MOS(I) ● MOS

**NDA-3 | June 9, 2024**



**NDA-2 | June 1, 2019**



**NDA-1 | May 27, 2014**



**UPA-2 | May 22, 2009**



**UPA-1 | May 22, 2004**



Maximum size of council allowed is 81 (15% of total 543 MPs)

**HARDEEP SINGH PURI | 72**

EXPERIENCE: 2 LOK SABHA TERMS

BJP RS (UP) ₹26.1cr PG



A career diplomat-turned-politician, Hardeep Singh Puri has been a minister since Sep 2017 when he joined the Modi Cabinet as MoS (independent charge) for housing and urban affairs. On being promoted as a cabinet minister in the last govt, he got charge of petroleum and natural gas as well. Re-elected as a RS member from UP, Puri has adopted Sonbhadra district in the state. His representation in the Modi Cabinet is from UP. Though the 72-year-old popular Sikh face had tried his electoral luck from Amritsar in 2019, he could not win. Prior to his political stint, Puri as a diplomat for 39 years served in senior positions in external affairs and defence ministries. A 1974 batch Indian Foreign Service officer and resident of Delhi, he had served as permanent representative of India to the UN and was also chairman of the UN Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee.

**CR PAATIL | 69**

EXPERIENCE: 4 LOK SABHA TERMS

BJP Navsari ₹39.5cr ITI



A police constable-turned-journalist-turned-politician, he became Gujarat BJP's first 'non-Gujarati' president in 2020. Under him, the saffron party has notched up spectacular electoral wins, right from local bodies to Lok Sabha. The four-time MP, known to be close to both PM Modi and Amit Shah, won Navsari seat in South Gujarat by 7.7 lakh votes, the highest victory margin in the state and one of the top five victory margins across the country. Recently, some BJP leaders, upset over the rise in Congress turncoats joining the party and getting preference over dedicated party functionaries, did question Paatil's strategy. However, a robust performance ensured his inclusion. It also gives representation to South Gujarat region, where BJP won all parliamentary seats.

**SARBANANDA SONOWAL | 62**

EXPERIENCE: 3 LOK SABHA TERMS

BJP Dibrugarh ₹4.8cr Graduate



His background as an influential tribal ensures his political viability - the reason why the former Rajya Sabha member won comfortably from Dibrugarh. This is his third term in the Cabinet. The former AGP leader also has the distinction of serving as BJP's first chief minister of Assam. Though he was replaced in 2021, he was dignified in acquiescing to the turn of events. Few remember that it was on his petition that the Supreme Court passed the verdict for identification and deportation of infiltrators from Assam. Before moving to the state, he served as a minister of sports and youth affairs in the first term of Modi.

**CHIRAG PASWAN | 42**

EXPERIENCE: 3 LOK SABHA TERMS

LJP-RV Hajipur ₹2.7cr HS



This election saw him proving his mettle as a Dalit leader in his independent right. The sudden death of his father and founder of Lok Janshakti Party Ram Vilas Paswan in 2020 had sparked a crisis. He lost control of his party and its five MPs to his estranged uncle, who managed to persuade BJP to accept his claim to be the true inheritor of Paswan's legacy. But Chirag, showing strength and sound judgement that few had associated with him until then, managed to convince BJP that he was Paswan's legatee.

**GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT | 56**

EXPERIENCE: 3 LOK SABHA TERMS

BJP Jodhpur ₹90.3cr PG



This three-time Jodhpur MP was a shoo-in for a Cabinet berth in Modi's third govt. He started his political career as a student union president in Jodhpur in 1993. After two decades of working as an RSS man in Rajasthan's border areas, he was asked to contest the Jodhpur LS seat in Dec 2013. Many in the state, including Vasundhara Raje, had opposed his candidacy. But he clearly had the backing of the party brass and was appointed MoS agriculture in 2017. He's had his share of controversies.

**ANNAPURNA DEVI | 55**

EXPERIENCE: 2 LOK SABHA TERMS

BJP Koderma ₹12.8cr PG



Few switches have paid off as beautifully as hers. A prominent RJD face in Jharkhand, her career graph progressed rapidly after she crossed over to BJP in 2019. Her maiden victory from Koderma constituency, which is home to Jhumri Tilaiya, was followed by an MoS slot at the Centre. The victory this time came against a powerful rival and the disadvantage of incumbency, compounded by the surge in expectations triggered by her ministerial perch at the Centre. She defied widespread predictions of defeat to post a convincing victory. A full-scale Cabinet rank is confirmation that she has fit in well in BJP's calculations for Jharkhand which goes to polls later that year. She was thrust into politics after the sudden death of her husband Ramesh Yadav, an RJD legislator, in 1998.

**JUAL ORAM | 63**

EXPERIENCE: 6 LOK SABHA TERMS

BJP Sundargarh ₹8.6cr HS



His stature in BJP owes much to both the importance of tribal vote and his impressive win record. He was re-elected to Lok Sabha for the sixth time, winning Odisha's Sundargarh seat by more than 1.3 lakh votes. That record extends to assembly elections, except in 2009, when former CM Hemananda Biswal defeated him in Sundargarh LS seat. Oram has won every election he's contested since 1998. In 2014, he was BJP's sole MP from the state. One of five siblings in a poor tribal family, his early experiences with poverty shaped his politics. But his first job was as an assistant foreman at BHEL. His political innings started in 1990. Just nine years later, Vajpayee appointed him as India's first Union minister for tribal affairs. In the outgoing Lok Sabha, he chaired the parliamentary committee on defence.

**G KISHAN REDDY | 63**

EXPERIENCE: 2 LOK SABHA TERMS

BJP Secunderabad ₹19.2cr



He was tourism minister in Modi's second govt, and is a prominent BJP figure in Telangana. Affectionately known as Kishan Anna, he was the party's first state chief after the creation of Telangana, and had seen BJP grow from virtually nothing to a major force in LS elections in the state. His CV includes stints as Yuva Morcha national chief, chief of the BJP unit in undivided Andhra, and the party's legislative leader. He had undertaken a 22-day Telangana "Poru Yatra" - a 3,500-kilometre (2,200 mi) journey through 986 villages and 88 assembly constituencies - before the state was born. The second-time MP from Secunderabad is a veteran of state politics, having served three terms in the assembly.

**JITAN RAM MANJHI | 78**

EXPERIENCE: 1 LOK SABHA TERMS

HAMS Gaya ₹0.3cr Graduate

He's the only Cabinet minister who's also the sole MP of his party, Hindustan Awam Morcha. He made headlines both when he was picked by Nitish Kumar to be Bihar CM and when he lost that job. Politically, though, he emerged stronger thanks to mobilisation of Musahars, the most marginalised of Bihar's Dalit groups. Both BJP and RJD had wooed him prior to LS elections and his siding with the former positively impacted NDA's Bihar performance. Musahars see him as their voice, discounting charges of nepotism against him. He is known for his outspokenness and for his frank and unabashed transactional politics.

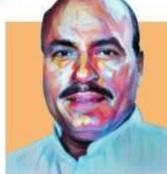


**VIRENDRA KUMAR | 70**

EXPERIENCE: 8 LOK SABHA TERMS

BJP Tikamgarh ₹2.9cr Doctorate

He was Cabinet minister for social justice and empowerment in the last govt, and this LS win was his eighth. He was pro-tem Speaker in the Lok Sabha from June 17, 2019 to June 19, 2019. A Dalit leader from the Bundelkhand region in MP, he was appointed MoS for minority affairs and women and child development in September 2017. Later, during the Cabinet expansion of July 2021, Kumar was elevated to Cabinet rank. His political career began with ABVP, from where graduated to BJP's youth wing.



**JUNIOR MINISTERS**

	Age	Party	Seat
Jitin Prasad	50	BJP	Pilibhit
Shripad Yesso Naik	71	BJP	North Goa
Ramdas Athavale	64	RPI (A)	Rajya Sabha
Anupriya Patel	43	AD(S)	Mirzapur
Ravneet Singh Bittu	48	BJP	Lost
Pankaj Chaudhury	59	BJP	Maharajganj
Ajay Tamta	51	BJP	Almora
Raksha Khadse	36	BJP	Raver
L Murugan	46	BJP	Lost
Satish Dubey	49	BJP	Rajya Sabha
Ram Nath Thakur	74	JD (U)	Rajya Sabha
Chandrasekhar Pemmasani	48	TDP	Guntur
Suresh Gopi	65	BJP	Thrissur
Bandi Sanjay Kumar	52	BJP	Karimnagar
Harsh Malhotra	60	BJP	East Delhi
Krishan Pal Gurjar	67	BJP	Faridabad
Murlidhar Mohol	49	BJP	Pune
Nityanand Rai	58	BJP	Ujjain
Savitri Thakur	45	BJP	Dhar
Kamlesh Paswan	47	BJP	Basgaon
BL Verma	62	BJP	Rajya Sabha
Sanjay Sethi	65	BJP	Ranchi
V Somanna	72	BJP	Tumkur
S P Singh Baghel	63	BJP	Agra
Shobha Karandlaje	57	BJP	B'lore North
Kirtivardhan Singh	58	BJP	Gonda
Shantanu Thakur	42	BJP	Bangaon
Bhagirath Choudhary	69	BJP	Ajmer
Durgadas Uikey	60	BJP	Betul
Sukanta Majumdar	44	BJP	Balurghat
Tokhan Sahu	54	BJP	Bilaspur
Raj Bhushan Choudhary	46	BJP	Muzaffarpur
B Srinivasa Varma	56	BJP	Narsapuram
Nimuben Bambhaniya	57	BJP	Bhavnagar
George Kurian	63	BJP	NA
Pabitra Margherita	49	BJP	Rajya Sabha



Akshay Kumar, Gautam Adani &amp; wife Priti, Shah Rukh Khan, and Ajay Piramal



Mukesh Ambani and son Anant



Rajinikanth and wife Latha



Raveena Tandon

Photos: Piyal Bhattacharjee

# BJP Train Rolls On, With Berths For Allies

## What Led To Surprise Entries And Exits

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** The latest exercise of ministry-making, like all its previous editions, had its share of surprise inclusions, the most important one being Dharmendra Pradhan, and exclusions, though on closer examination, some of those did not look to be as puzzling as they initially seemed.

Take the case of Jagat Prakash Nadda. Though he was sure to be suitably accommodated after the end of his extended tenure as BJP chief later this month, few had sensed his return to the cabinet on Sunday. The "surprise", however, did help dissipate the "mystery" about the exclusion of outgoing I&B minister Anurag Singh Thakur who scored his fifth consecutive victory from Hamirpur, the logic being that the tiny state of Himachal Pradesh, with four Lok Sabha seats, cannot be assigned two important cabinet berths.

Ditto for JD(U)'s Sanjay Jha. Easily the most trusted of Bihar CM Nitish Kumar's lieutenants at this time, he, along with his friends in BJP, was instrumental in the rapprochement with BJP — an endeavour for which he was once publicly heckled. He was seen as a shoo-in. But the surprise factor wears thin in the light of the "one cabinet, one MoS" cap BJP insisted on in the case of TDP and JD(U). This helped Rajiv Ranjan Singh 'Lalan', who is senior in JD(U) and who ties with Nitish remain strong despite their rollercoaster pattern.

Ravishankar Prasad's failure to return to the cabinet also engaged the attention of many. In his case,

there were no ready answers available. Although he was dropped midway through the last term, he would be consistently fielded by the party as spokesperson on important issues and during high-intensity skirmishes. He was also given a ticket in defiance of intense lobbying. The compulsion to take along the allies, whose support will be crucial in next year's state polls, can be the only possible explanation for the omission.

Rajiv Pratap Rudy, who was also dropped midway through the last tenure, has failed to make a return despite succeeding yet against against the formidable Lalu Prasad clan in Saran — something which became a topic of discussion because, after the defeat of power minister R K Singh, as well as a few others in the neighbouring region of UP, there were not too many strong claimants from the Rajput community.

George Kurian, only the second person after Raveet Singh Bittu to have been brought in despite not being a member of either of the two Houses, looks like a wild card entry. But when seen along with the success of, and reward for, Suresh Gopi, the party's maiden winner in Kerala, the choice may not look that intriguing. Gopi's success was facilitated by significant support from the Christian community and the party could be hoping to expand the opening with Kurian.

Bittu's inclusion and the retention of Hardeep Singh Puri also appears to be an extension of the PM's reachout to Sikhs and his decision not to abandon the bridge building effort despite rebuffs.

## Besides Modi, 6 ex-CMs in cabinet

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Seven ex-CMs are part of the Modi cabinet, another rare combination set to come handy for the govt since they are seen as a value addition for governance with vast administrative experience under their belt.

Six ex-CMs — Rajnath Singh (UP), Shivraj Singh Chouhan (MP), Manohar Lal (Haryana), Sarbananda Sonowal (Assam), Jitan Ram Manjhi (Bihar) and H D Kumaraswamy (Karnataka) — have been inducted as cabinet ministers in the govt headed by Modi, who was Gujarat CM thrice before taking over as PM in 2014.

Seated next to the PM was Rajnath, CM of UP for a brief stint of two years from 2000-2002. He was Union home minister from 2014-2019 and defence minister from 2019 onwards. It is speculated that he will continue with his existing portfolio.

Popularly known as 'Ma-

ma', Chouhan was MP CM four times before he was replaced by Mohan Yadav after the state polls recently.

The first BJP CM in Haryana, Manohar Lal resigned in March in the final months of his second tenure, paving the way for party colleague Nayab Singh Saini to take over. He won the Lok Sabha polls from Karnal and his inclusion was expected.

The first BJP CM of Assam, Sonowal made way for Himanta Biswa Sarma in 2021 although the party had won the state polls under his leadership. Kumaraswamy, whose father H D Deve Gowda is an ex-PM, won from Mandya. His party's alliance with BJP is seen as a crucial factor in NDA doing better in Vokkaliga-dominated constituencies in south Karnataka.

Manjhi, president of Hindustan Awam Morcha, was Bihar's CM between 2014-2015 as a leader of JD(U) when Nitish Kumar quit the chair for national ambitions.

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for the grand unveiling of Modi Govt 3.0.

All eyes were on the look out for surprises as four rows of ministers, seven of them women, followed Modi in taking the oath of office administered by President Draupadi Murmu in a two-and-a-half hour ceremony.

After Modi, Shivraj Singh Chouhan received the loudest cheer. Loud cheering for young Rammohan Rao (TDP), seasoned veteran Jitan Ram Manjhi (HAM), and BJP seniors Amit Shah and Nitin Gadkari were heard when their names were called.

Besides Modi, 30 Cabinet ministers and five ministers of state with independent

charge were sworn-in as were the members of his council of ministers. Typically, the young and old were busy clicking selfies and photos on their phone cameras, while some You-Tubers could be heard doing live commentary for their shoots from the spot. Several local Hindi dialects, Telugu etc created a medley of di-



Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu (3rd from left) was among the seven foreign leaders from India's immediate neighbourhood and the Indian Ocean Region who attended Modi's oath-taking. Also seen in the photo are Nepal PM Pushpa Kamal Dahal Prachanda, Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina, Vice-President Dhankhar, President Murmu, PM Modi, Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe, Seychelles Vice-President Ahmed Afif, Mauritius PM Pravind Kumar Jugnauth and Bhutanese PM Tshering Tobgay

## No Muslim MP in NDA, no minister from community

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**New Delhi:** This is perhaps the first time that no Muslim MP has taken oath as minister at a new ministry's swearing-in. Interestingly, the outgoing council of ministers did not have a Muslim minister after Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi was not re-elected to Rajya Sabha.

The composition of the council of ministers sworn in after every general election had at least one Muslim MP in it. In 2014, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi took oath for the first time, Najma Heptulla was sworn in and was made minority affairs minister.

Chief ministers of Arunachal Pradesh Pema Khandu, Manipur N Biren Singh and Meghalaya Conrad K Sangma at the event

ter. In 2019, Naqvi was sworn in and he too became minority affairs minister.

One of the reasons for no Muslim representation in this council of ministers is that no Muslim candidate from NDA allies got elected to the 18th Lok Sabha. Of the 24 Muslim MPs elected to the lower House, 21 are from the INDIA bloc and the remaining are Asaduddin Owaisi of AIMIM and two Independents — Abdul Rashid Sheikh or 'Engineer Rashid' and Mohamad Haneefa from J&K.

The council of ministers of 2004 and 2009 had four and five Muslim MPs respectively. Even in 1999, the Atal Bihari Vajpayee govt had two Muslims in the council of ministers — Shahnawaz Hussain and Omar Abdullah. In 1998, the Vajpayee-led ministry had Naqvi as minister of state.

## Can't accept 'demotion', will wait for new offer, says NCP

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**Mumbai:** The NDA leadership on Sunday rejected Maharashtra deputy CM Ajit Pawar's demand to induct NCP Rajya Sabha member Praful Patel as a cabinet minister.

After a meeting with J P Nadda, Amit Shah and Rajnath Singh late on Saturday, NCP was informed there's only one minister of state (MoS) post on offer for smaller parties, barring N Chandrababu Naidu's TDP and Nitish Kumar's JD(U).

While Ajit Pawar and Patel accepted NDA's contention, they decided "to wait till remedial measures are taken as early as possible".

In view of his seniority, NCP was expecting that Patel would be granted a plum portfolio with cabinet rank. Patel said: "We were informed that NCP will get MoS with independent charge. I was earlier a cabinet minister in the Union government, so this would be a demotion for me. I had reservations on accepting the MoS post. We informed the BJP leadership and they told us to wait for a few days and they would take reme-



Praful Patel was earlier a cabinet minister in the Manmohan Singh-led Union government

dial measures."

Pawar, who attended Modi's swearing-in ceremony in Delhi along with state NCP president Sunil Tatkare, said, "Patel is a senior leader and has already held the post of MoS earlier. We have made it clear that either NCP gets a cabinet berth or we wait (till it becomes available). But we shall continue to support the NDA, there's no question of us leaving the alliance."

Pawar said that during his meeting with Nadda, Singh and Shah in the presence of Patel and state NCP president Sunil Tatkare, he pointed out that currently NCP has two MPs — one each in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha — but in the months to come, its strength will increase to four, with the possibility of two additional RS members. "Under such cir-

cumstances, I argued NCP's case for a cabinet berth. I also explained to the BJP leadership that Patel is a senior cabinet member... Under such circumstances, if NCP is given MoS post, it would be a great injustice... not appropriate. When the BJP leadership told us that NCP will have to wait for a cabinet rank, we agreed accordingly," he added.

In the Lok Sabha polls, NCP managed to win just one seat — Tatkare wrestling the Raigad seat — of the four it contested from.

Following whispers that NCP was unhappy, deputy CM Devendra Fadnis on Sunday rushed to Tatkare's residence where Patel and Pawar were already present. "Certain situations are to be accepted in coalition politics. The BJP leadership has taken certain decisions on the constitution of the cabinet for the partners. At his juncture, it will not be possible for us to change the formula for one ally. I am sure the NCP has understood the situation. It is not the end game, soon the cabinet will be expanded and issues raised by NCP will be answered to their satisfaction," he said.

Piyal Bhattacharjee



JD(U) chief Nitish Kumar and TDP supremo N Chandrababu Naidu at Rashtrapati Bhavan on Sunday

## Symphony at Rashtrapati Bhavan in a medley of languages

**New Delhi:** Celebrities, industrialists, political leaders, friends, supporters, foreign dignitaries, and even transgenders, labourers and sanitation workers were among a crowd of 10,000 that applauded and cheered as Prime Minister Narendra Modi took oath for a third consecutive term in office on Sunday. Just as the sun went down on a warm summer evening, the forecourt of the Rashtrapati Bhavan with its dome, arches and pillars lit up in the national colours of saffron, white and green provided the ideal backdrop



Rashtrapati Bhavan wears a festive mood on Sunday

charge were sworn-in as were the members of his council of ministers. Typically, the young and old were busy clicking selfies and photos on their phone cameras, while some You-Tubers could be heard doing live commentary for their shoots from the spot. Several local Hindi dialects, Telugu etc created a medley of di-

verse languages interestingly at a time a coalition govt was being sworn in. This BJP-led Modi govt has several ministers from the south, including from Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka and even Kerala, where BJP has won its first Lok Sabha seat.

The chatter in the benches was obviously about who will get which portfolio after the swearing-in. Among those who attended Modi's third swearing-in were seven top leaders from India's neighbourhood and the Indian Ocean region including Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu.

The front row of VIPs also included film stars Shah Rukh Khan, Anil Kapoor and Rajinikanth, Akshay Kumar, Raveena Tandon and Anupam Kher among others. Industrialists Mukesh Ambani, Gautam Adani and their families were also in the audience.

Chief Justice DY Chandrachud was present with his wife as were former Presidents Ram Nath Kovind and Pratibha Patil.

Also unmissable were the several religious leaders attending the ceremony. Congress president and leader of opposition in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge was there but most other opposition leaders skipped the ceremony.

## SURROUND SOUND

### Will work for Global South: PM

**A**fter his swearing-in, Prime Minister Narendra Modi met the visiting foreign leaders in Rashtrapati Bhavan. Thanking them for gracing the occasion, Modi reaffirmed India's commitment to its 'Neighbourhood First' policy and 'SAGAR Vision'.

"Prime Minister emphasized that in his third term, India will continue to work for peace, progress and prosperity of the region in close partnership with the countries, even as it pursues its goal of Viksit Bharat by 2047. In this context, he called for deeper people-to-people ties and connectivity in the region. He further added that India would continue to amplify the voice of the Global South in the international arena," said a government press release.

"The participation of leaders from India's neighbourhood and the Indian Ocean Region on the momentous occasion underlines India's deep-rooted bonds of friendship and cooperation with the region," it added.

### Kharge attends, rest boycott

**C**ongress chief Mallikarjun Kharge attended the ceremony, with the rest of the opposition boycotting the event in protest of what they termed as "moral defeat of Modi". It is learned that opposition party representatives including Sonia Gandhi got the invite for the mega event, and a discussion was held among them. Sources said the opposition in union felt that the PM had indulged in "hate speech and lies" during the election campaign and had besmirched the dignity of the high office of the PM. Most of them felt "he had lost the moral right to occupy the PM's office", and were of the view that they keep away from the oath to convey their disagreement with the PM's conduct.

"The opposition believes the govt lacks legitimacy and PM Modi has suffered a moral defeat. It was decided that Kharge should attend the event, as he occupies a constitutional post of leader of opposition in Rajya Sabha. Else, the INDIA bloc has boycotted the event," a Congress functionary said. Others, like TMC chief Mamata Banerjee, had announced in advance that her party would not be attending the event.



Modi pays tribute at the National War Memorial, ahead of his swearing-in ceremony, in New Delhi on Sunday

### No God, only Constitution for 5

**W**hile all ministers took the oath of office in the name of God and the Constitution, there were five who invoked only the Constitution. In all, 72 were sworn in to be part of the new NDA govt, of which 18 took oath in English. All ministers from BJP, including PM Narendra Modi, took their oath in the name of God and the Constitution. Among those who took oath in the name of only the Constitution were cabinet ministers Jitan Ram Manjhi of HAM (Secular) and Rajiv Ranjan Singh 'Lalan' of JD (U); and ministers of state Anupriya Patel of Apna Pal, Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani of TDP and Ramdas Athavale of Republican Party of India.

Many ministers from the south, east and North-East took their oath in English, including cabinet ministers Sarbananda Sonowal, Nirmala Sitharaman, S Jaishankar, H D Kumaraswamy and Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu.

Halfway into the swearing-in, Modi was seen passing on a message to the ministers waiting for their turn, and then they were seen ready before their names were announced for the oath. Prior to that, ministers were leaving their seats only after the announcement of their names.

### In a 1st, transgenders attend event

**S**onam Chisti, who has been voicing the concerns of her community through the UP transgender Kalyan Board, was one of the transgender community members who were among the guests who participated in the ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhavan. Overwhelmed, Chisti cited the invitation for transgender political activists and supporters as a message of inclusion. This was the first time a TG community delegation was invited to be a part of a swearing-in. There were around 25 members from the community at the ceremony. Chisti, who is associated with the UP BJP unit said she along with other community members from different states had come to the ceremony to give blessings to the new govt. "We have full confidence in our PM," she said.

People from the transgender community as well as sanitation workers and labourers, who were involved in the construction of the new Parliament building, were also invited to attend the event. Before the ceremony, BJP MP and former social justice and empowerment minister Virendra Kumar felicitated the community members at his residence.

### Busy foreign policy calendar

**M**odi 3.0 is expected to play a crucial role in global diplomacy. The first assignment for India's foreign policy will come with the Brics foreign ministers' meeting scheduled to take place on June 10-11, in Nizhny Novgorod, Russia. The next big assignment for India will come with the G7 Summit 2024 in Italy, scheduled from June 13 to 15. Modi will himself participate in the event.

The global peace summit in Switzerland, which aims to chart a path to the resolution of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, will also be a challenge. This is slated for June 15 & 16. However, India has not confirmed its presence at the event.

Besides, US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan will be coming to India for an official visit. Recently, during a telephone conversation, US President Joe Biden congratulated Modi on his third consecutive win in the general elections. The two leaders also discussed about Sullivan's upcoming visit. Sullivan's visit aims to engage the new government on shared US-India priorities, including the trusted, strategic technology partnership.

# Most seniors in ministry, new face likely for BJP chief

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: As most senior party functionaries have made it to the council of ministers, all eyes are now on who will be the next BJP president as the incumbent chief J P Nadda has been inducted into the Cabinet.

Besides Nadda, several senior faces, including Bhupendra Yadav, Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Dharmendra Pradhan, have been sworn in as Cabinet ministers, paving the way for a new face to lead BJP.

Some former ministers who did not figure in PM Narendra Modi's new council of ministers are also expected to be drafted in for roles in the party. Nadda replaced Amit Shah as the party president in Jan 2020, while the other ministers who have led the party in the past include Nitin Gadkari and Rajnath Singh.

Nadda's extended term as BJP chief is scheduled to end this month. Although the party constitution allows him to hold two positions, there is a possibility that the party brass will appoint a working president who is likely to continue as the fully fledged head following the internal poll process.

For the new president, a woman, an OBC and a prominent face from south India may be the likely considerations.



## Annamalai-Tamilisai rift widens in TN BJP

The rift between K Annamalai and Tamilisai Soundararajan, current and former Tamil Nadu BJP chiefs, respectively, widened Sunday with their supporters indulging in social-media mudslinging in the wake of the party's poll debacle in the state, reports Yash Injiyan. Both Annamalai and Tamilisai lost as LS candidates.

State general secretary of BJP OBC Morcha Tiruchi Suriyaa Siva hit back at Soundararajan for her comments earlier that "anti-social elements" were inducted into the party. "It was during the presidency of L Murugan, who was appointed on your recommendation, people with criminal backgrounds were inducted... I can produce a list of such names," Siva said. This led to volleys from both sides. Those criticising Annamalai blamed him for BJP's loss. Annamalai's supporters defended him saying there was a rise in BJP's vote share. They also slammed Tamilisai for discussing party affairs in public.

# 2 berths for Kerala signal BJP goals

A Bid To Woo Both Hindus & Christians

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Thiruvananthapuram: If winning the first-ever Lok Sabha seat from Kerala was one of BJP's high points, the allocation of two ministerial berths for the state — for Thrissur's MP and actor-politician Suresh Gopi and George Kurian, the party's Roman Catholic face — signals BJP's strategic goals.

With both a Hindu and a strong Christian face in the cabinet from Kerala, BJP aims to solidify its presence in the state before the next assembly polls.

Kurian, a close aide of Narendra Modi and loyal BJP soldier since 1980s, is a surprise entry in Modi 3.0 govt. BJP, seeking to capitalise on CPM's alleged appeasement of Muslim voters, hopes to secure support from Christian church through Kurian, a former vice-chairman of National Minorities Commission.

BJP has already gained from its outreach programme to Christians in the state by securing a majority in 11 assembly constituencies in Lok Sabha election. To further expand its base, it needs support from both Christians and Hindus.



President Murmu administers oath to BJP MP Suresh Gopi

## Sukanta & Shantanu Bengal's 2 faces in Team Modi; state unit to get new chief

Two BJP MPs from Bengal took oath as ministers in PM Narendra Modi's team, including Shantanu Thakur and Sukanta Majumdar, the state party chief. The earlier Modi-led govt had three junior ministers from the state, among them Bongaon MP Thakur. Majumdar's appointment will leave vacant for now the post of the state BJP chief. "We have provisions in the party constitution (to fill the slot). The position of state president will follow the same principle," said Majumdar, the MP from Balurghat. Majumdar had taken over as state BJP chief in 2021, replacing Dilip Ghosh. It may take nearly two months to pick the new state president, BJP sources said.

Thakur and Majumdar had been invited to Modi's residence Sunday morning for tea and were informed about their inclusions then, said the sources. **TNN**

A new Sainik School allotted to Nair Service Society (NSS) recently is seen as a step to attract the community organisations. While NSS brass maintained a neutral stand in Lok Sabha polls, several of its taluk unions showed support for BJP, especially in Thiruvananthapuram, Pathanamthitta, Alappuzha and Thrissur. BJP believes it can win five to eight seats in state assembly by winning over Christians.

# KR Naidu youngest cabinet minister at 36; 33 first timers in team

YOU READ IT HERE

## BJP will keep plum portfolios, asks allies to pare down hopes

TDP, JD(U) May Get 1 Cabinet Post, 1 MoS Slot Each

Continued From P1

Among prominent allies, NCP opted out of the cabinet, at least for the time being, with its representative, former cabinet minister Praful Patel, publicly saying the offer of MoS was not acceptable to him because it would have meant a demotion.

Overall, there were 33 first-time ministers, with seven of them from alliance partners, including TDP's K Rammoohan Naidu and Chandra Shekhar Pemmasani, JD(U)'s Lallan Singh and Ram Nath Thakur, RLD's Jayant Chaudhary, LJP's Chirag Paswan and Kumaraswamy from JD(S). Naidu is the youngest cabinet minister at 36 years.

The prime minister sought to strike a regional balance, while ensuring that states such as Maharashtra and Haryana, where elections are due, get adequate representation. Despite electoral setbacks in Uttar Pradesh, the state retains its primacy in terms of representation with 11 ministers, followed by Bihar (eight), Maharashtra and Gujarat (six each).

The party think tank has also opted to go with those who have won their Lok Sabha seats, ignoring the claims of several candidates who lost the election, with Ravneet Singh 'Bittu' and L Murugan being exceptions. Murugan is the only member from Modi's team from the previous term who has found a berth despite losing the election.

Rajnath Singh (Lucknow), Gajendra Singh Shekhawat (Jodhpur), Jitendra Singh (Udhampur) and Kirti Vardhan Singh (Gonda) are the four ministers from Thakur community, which had a far bigger representation from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar in first two terms of Modi govt.

## TOI LINE OF NO CONTROL SANDHEEP ADHWARYU

PM MODI EQUALS PM NEHRU'S RECORD



## Amaravati works restart on Naidu nudge

Vijayawada: Andhra Pradesh authorities have swung into action on new capital Amaravati, restarting and speeding up projects after sensing the priorities of the incoming TDP-led NDA govt, reports Srikanth Aluri.

Chief secretary Neerab Kumar made a surprise visit to Amaravati on Sunday and said CM-designate N Chandrababu Naidu had given instructions to fast-track the projects. Amaravati had been a signature initiative of Naidu in his previous term till he was unseated by YSRC in 2018.

He said works would start after the swearing-in ceremony expected later this week.

# Andhra BJP chief among probable LS Speaker picks

Umamaheswara.Rao @timesgroup.com

Visakhapatnam: Andhra Pradesh BJP president and Rajahmundry MP Dagubati Purandeswari is among the probables for the post of Speaker in the 18th Lok Sabha.

According to sources within BJP, the former Union minister and daughter of TDP founder NT Rama Rao may have been excluded from Prime Minister Narendra Modi's new Cabinet — sworn in Sunday — specifically to appoint her as LS Speaker.

If Purandeswari is elected LS Speaker, she will be the



Purandeswari played a key role in BJP's alliance with TDP and Jana Sena. BJP believes elevating her to the Speaker's post will also be received well by TDP chief N Chandrababu Naidu. Naidu's wife and Purandeswari are sisters.

second Andhra Pradesh MP to hold the coveted position in Parliament. The first was former Amalapuram MP Ganti Mohana Chandra Balayogi, who died in a helicopter crash in 2002.

Sources said BJP believes that elevating Purandeswari to LS Speaker will also be received well by Telugu Desam Party president and Andhra Pradesh chief minister-designate N Chandrababu Naidu. Notably, Naidu's wife and Purandeswari are sisters.

As a three-time MP and current Andhra BJP chief, Purandeswari played a pivotal role in BJP's alliance with TDP and Jana Sena in Andhra Pradesh in the 2024 election. This alliance yielded impressive results, with the NDA winning 164 out of 175 assembly seats in the state. Moreover, the alliance boasts 21 MPs in Andhra Pradesh — 16 from TDP, three from BJP, and two from Jana Sena. TDP emerged as the second-largest party in the NDA alliance, after BJP.

Prior to being elected MP from Rajahmundry in the just concluded polls, Purandeswari served as MP for Bapatla and Visakhapatnam in 2004 and 2009, respectively. She emerged as the right choice for the position of Andhra Pradesh BJP chief when the party was struggling to establish a foothold in Andhra Pradesh.

She led the party to tremendous success, with eight MLAs (out of the 10 contested seats) and three MPs (out of the six contested LS seats) in the recently held election.

An eloquent speaker, Purandeswari enjoys a positive image among different sections of society and political parties in Andhra Pradesh.

# Pradhan & Oram inductions throw open Odisha CM race

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Bhubaneswar: The field of contenders for the Odisha chief ministership narrowed down Sunday to Brajarajnaraj MLA Suresh Pujari and three potential alternatives after the duo thought to have the strongest CVs — Dharmendra Pradhan and Jugal Oram — were inducted into PM Modi's new Cabinet.

The emergence of a new frontrunner in Pujari coincided with BJP moving the swearing-in from Monday to June 12, apparently to ensure a consensus on who should lead its first govt in the state. The reason officially cited by BJP for delaying the event was the PM's official engagements.

Pujari faces competition from BJP's state president Manmohan Samal despite the latter losing the assembly election in Chandabali. Two-time MLA Mukesh Mahaling and four-time legislator Rabi Naik are also in the race. Samal is from northern Odisha while the other two are from western Odisha, considered BJP's stronghold.

Pujari represented Bargarh in LS from 2019 until this election. A lawyer by training, the 64-year-old was BJP's state president from 2006 to 2009 and is credited with significantly enhancing the party's reach in the region during that period.



Dharmendra Pradhan, thought to have the strongest CV to become Odisha CM, was inducted into Modi Cabinet Sunday

Samal, 65, an OBC face, is seen as a contender because BJP unseated BJD under his stewardship. His supporters draw a parallel with Uttarakhanda, where Pushkar Singh Dhami was given the CM's job despite losing his assembly contest.

Mahaling, 51, an SC representative with moorings in RSS, voluntarily retired as a scientist of the state pollution control board in 2019 to contest the assembly poll. He secured a second term from Loisingha, also in western Odisha. If Mahaling gets the post, he will make history by being the first SC to become CM of a state where over 17% of the population is from that community.

If Kuchinda's tribal MLA Naik, 55, makes the cut, he will be a surprise pick. Besides four terms as a legislator, he has been president of BJP's state ST Morcha.

# HC rejects terror convict's plea for 2 sentences to run together

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Noting that terrorism must be dealt with sternly, Delhi HC has rejected the plea of a terror convict seeking merging of two sentences in two different cases.

The petitioner pleaded that since he had voluntarily pleaded guilty in both cases, HC should allow his seven-year sentence in a UAPA case for conspiring to establish an IS base in India run "concurrently" with the sentence imposed upon him in another case, wherein he conspired to carry out an attack in Haridwar during the Ardh Kumbh Mela and raised funds for the same. The petitioner said he was a young, poor and illiterate man who had a genuine desire to reform himself, obtain an education and become a productive member of society.

Dismissing the petition, Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma emphasised that the offence committed by petitioner Mohsin Ibrahim Sayeed

was grave and had impacted national security and communal harmony. "Terrorism not only threatens the national security of the country but also the very fabric of society by targeting innocent civilians and institutions indiscriminately, with an aim to instil fear among the common and innocent citizens of a country," the court noted in a recent order. "They also result in loss of innocent lives, destruction of property and destabilisation of regions. These impacts are often long-lasting. Thus, the gravity of such crimes lies in their potential to cause widespread harm, both physically and psychologically, and their challenge to fundamental values of peace, tolerance and coexistence in a nation," it stated.

"Since a lenient view has already been taken by trial courts at the stage of sentencing, no further leniency can be granted to the petitioner by allowing concurrent running of sentences..." it concluded.

Snail mucin, hydrafacial or a trip to Korea — Chennaiites go the distance for the elusive 'glass skin'

# Beauty biz bares its Seoul

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If you can't go to Korea to get authentic skincare products for the much sought-after glass skin, they now come to your doorstep. And if the products don't cut it, skin junkies in the city go all the way to Seoul for a peel, to get it right from the horse's mouth — or rather the snail's. That's how obsessed Chennaiites are about getting dewy, glowing, 'glassy' skin just like Jennie from the K-pop band BlackPink.

When Anisha Pathima from Chennai visited Seoul, South Korea, for a holiday, she decided to try a glass facial. "I'd heard a lot about it but had no clue what I was going in for when I booked a session," she says. "People visit Seoul from across the world for skin treatments and cosmetic surgeries and all the salons there are booked out. The one-hour facial cost us ₹15,000 each but at the end of it my skin did have a mirror effect, which lasted for more than two weeks."

The steps involved in the facial were more or less what's done in India, says Anisha, together with a fractional erbium glass laser and LED treatment, but it was the products that made all the difference. "I also bought products from the Myeong-dong cosmetics

market in Seoul. They turned out to be amazing, it's not just a hype. The salon was also ready to provide us with fillers or skin correction surgeries on the spot."

The idea of achieving the smooth skin of K-drama stars and K-pop idols has long been a goal for Gen Z. The difference now is that it's accessible to everyone and achievable to an extent, thanks to influencers sharing their care routines, city salons offering K-treatments, and exclusive stores with Korean skincare products popping up in the city.

Shanti Prince, who is based in Seoul and has been in the beauty business for years, recently launched in Chennai's Panayur, KLove a home store which exclusively sells cosmetic products imported from Korea. "Some of our most popular products are sun creams, moisturisers, retinol and snail mucin. We have even started an academy for training in Korean beauty care."

But what is this glass skin? Is it real or fake? Can Indians get it? These are some of the most searched Google queries on the subject in the recent past.

A "flawless, smooth and intensely hydrated complexion that resembles glass in its clarity and luminosity, characterised by a poreless, dewy and almost translucent appearance" is how celebrity cosmetic dermatologist Dr Chytra V Anand describes it. "And it is achievable with a meticulous skincare routine focused on hydration, exfoliation and protection, and regular medical grade treatments. It requires tailoring the routine to suit the unique characteristics of Indian skin, which can be more prone to pigmentation and sensitivity. Consistency in using the right products and medical grade treatments are key."

A common misconception is that glass skin means fair skin, says Megna Maaran, a beauty influencer from Chennai. "The aim is natural radiance without makeup." And this is why Indians prefer to follow South Asian beauty influencers for Korean skin care rather than Koreans. "The results depend on the levels of dedication you are ready to put in. For me, it took a lot of research, experimenting with different products and techniques till I found out what worked for



**OLDEST KOREAN SKIN HACK:** Let rice water (leftover water in cooked rice) sit for 24 hours and use it as a face pack. Wash off after 15-20 minutes

**SLIME SO FINE:** Mucin is a secretion snails leave behind when they crawl on a surface. It is said to contain collagen, elastin and antioxidants, all of which work miracles on the skin. But some might be allergic to it, so test all such products before using

The aim is natural radiance without makeup, says beauty influencer Megna

sunscreen religiously.

Whether glass skin aspirants achieve the results or not, Korean skincare will only benefit in the long term as it means taking steps to a healthy lifestyle, says Olivia Anugraha, make-up artist. "Also, no harsh chemicals are used. Some of the major ingredients in their products include licorice roots, aloe vera and fermented rice water. The products are mild and more suited to Indian skin. They are expensive, but people are willing to spend on them."

Shanti, who has lived in South Korea for 25 years, says skin care is part of life for Koreans. "Even an 80-year-old looks after their skin. They are updated on international trends and their formulations are perfect, especially sunscreens." At the same time the genetics, weather and food habits of Koreans are different as they have a lot of seafood and seaweed, and one should never aspire for a 100% result, she cautions. "You won't get results overnight, but in a year, you will."

- IN-CHEMICAL DERMATOLOGICAL PROCEDURES THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE GLASS SKIN EFFECT**
- LED Light Therapy** | Exfoliate the skin to remove dead cells, improve texture, and promote cell turnover
- Microneedling** | Stimulates collagen production and improves skin texture, reducing the appearance of fine lines and scars
- Hydrafacial** | A multi-step treatment that cleanses, exfoliates, extracts impurities and hydrates the skin with serums
- Injectables**—hydrators, microtox, polynucleotides. They help stimulate hydration of the skin, boost collagen and enable fibroblast activity



**HOWARD UNIVERSITY REVOKES DIDDY'S HONORARY DEGREE AMID ABUSE ALLEGATIONS: 'HE'S NO LONGER WORTHY TO HOLD OUR HIGHEST HONOUR'**

**ED SHEERAN REVEALS HE HAS BEEN LIVING WITHOUT A PHONE SINCE 2015, COMMUNICATES VIA EMAIL THAT HE CHECKS ONLY ONCE A WEEK**



## Hamas: 3 hostages died in Israel's rescue raid

**Tel Aviv's Euphoria To Be Short-Lived? Medics Say The Op Claimed 274 Palestinian Lives, Worst 24-Hr Toll In Months**

Hamas' armed al-Qassam Brigades said in a video posted on its Telegram channel on Sunday that three hostages were killed, including a US citizen, in an Israeli military operation on Saturday in which four hostages were freed. The group did not release the names of those said to be killed, but the video showed what appeared to be three unidentifiable corpses using censor bars over their faces. A Hamas assertion on Saturday that some hostages had died had been rejected as "a blatant lie" by the Israeli military.



Thousands of pro-Palestinian protesters in Washington converged around the White House on Saturday, urging Prez Biden to stop all military aid to Israel and calling for an immediate ceasefire in war in the Gaza Strip

In its update on Sunday, the Gaza health ministry said 274 Palestinians were killed and 688 were injured when Israeli special force commandos stormed into the densely populated Al-Nuseirat camp on Saturday to rescue the four hostages held since Oct by Hamas.

Palestinians remained in shock over Saturday's death toll, the worst over a 24-hour period of the Gaza war for months and including many women and children, Palestinian medics said. Sixty-four of the dead were children and 57 were women, the Hamas-run Gaza govt media office said.

Seeking to explain the civilian toll and damage from the raid, Israeli military spokesman Peter Lerner told US network ABC that forces "came under fire from a 360-degree threat. RPGs, AK-47s, explosive devices on the way, mortar rounds. It was and is a war zone."

The audacious rescue of four living hostages has raised morale in Israel and offered at least a momentary victory for the country's embattled PM Be-

### No White House word on whether Biden will meet Bibi in US

The White House declined to say on Sunday whether Prez Biden will meet Benjamin Netanyahu when the Israeli PM visits Washington next month to address the US Congress. "He's coming to address the Congress. The prez talks to him all the time," national security adviser Jake Sullivan said. Netanyahu is scheduled to address a joint session of Congress on July 24. There have been tensions between the two men over how Israel is conducting the war. REUTERS

jamin Netanyahu. But the euphoria was already giving way to a harsher reality. The heavy civilian toll punctures Israel's claims that the operation was a resounding success, at least internationally. And the operation failed to resolve any of the deep dilemmas and

### Father of hostage died on eve of son's Gaza rescue: Family

The father of an Israeli hostage held in war-torn Gaza for eight months died just one day before his son was rescued in a special forces raid, relatives said Sunday. Ever since the Oct 7 attack, Yossi Jan had desperately waited for news on his son Almog Meir Jan, 22, who was among those abducted from the Nova music festival. "My brother died of grief and didn't see his son return," Yossi Jan's sister said. His funeral was held on Sunday, attended by Almog. AFP

challenges vexing the Israeli govt, according to analysts. Israel's foreign minister rejected accusations "of war crimes" in the operation. "We will continue to act with determination and strength, in accordance with our right to self-defence," Israel Katz said. AGENCIES

### Gantz, member of Israel war cabinet, resigns over lack of postwar plans

Jerusalem: Benny Gantz, a centrist member of Israel's three-man war cabinet, announced his resignation on Sunday. The move does not immediately pose a threat to PM Benjamin Netanyahu, who still has the parliamentary majority of 64 seats in the 120-seat Knesset. But the Israeli PM now becomes more heavily reliant on his far-right allies.

"Netanyahu is preventing us from advancing toward true victory. That is why we are leaving the emergency govt today, with a heavy heart but with full confidence," Gantz said at a televised news conference. He also said that the govt needs to put the return of the hostages taken by Hamas "above political survival".

Netanyahu appealed to Gantz to reconsider. "Benny, this is not the time to abandon the battle — this is the time to join forces," PM said in a post on X.

Gantz, the popular former military chief joined Netanyahu's govt shortly after the Hamas attack in a show of unity. His presence also boosted Israel's credibility with its international partners. Gantz has good working relations with US officials. Gantz had previously said he would leave the govt by June 8 if Netanyahu did not formulate a new plan for postwar Gaza.

He scrapped a planned news conference Saturday after four Israeli hostages were rescued from Gaza in Israel's largest such operation since the eight-month war began. AGENCIES

## Big Gains For Far-Right In EU Vote

**In Germany, Hard-Right AfD Jumps To 2nd Place & Olaf Scholz's SPD Sees Its Worst Show; In France, Le Pen's Party Trounces Macron's: Exit Polls**

Brussels: The far-right was seen scoring big gains in Germany and France in EU elections, opinion polls showed, joining the Netherlands in offering the first signs that an expected rightwards shift in the European Parliament is under way.

In France, Marine Le Pen's far-right National Rally party won around 32% of the votes, a 10 point increase on the last EU election in 2019 and some 17 points ahead of Prez Emmanuel Macron's party, according to the first exit polls.

More mainstream conservatives were also forecast to do well across Europe, with early estimates for both groups in line with an expected broader shift in the European Parliament which covers a bloc of 450 million citizens. All this means the new European Parliament is likely to be cooler on policies to address climate change while eager to support measures to limit immigration to the EU. The parliament could also be more fragmented, which would make adopting any measure trickier and slower as the EU confronts challenges including a hostile Russia and increased industrial rivalry from China and the US.

Early exit polls showed that parties grouped in the centre-right European People's Party (EPP) were projected to remain in the largest bloc across five countries, including Germany and Greece. That would put the EPP's candidate to head the European Commission, incumbent Ursula von der Leyen or German Chancellor Olaf Scholz's Soci-

### 4-DAY OF VOTING ENDS, 720 SEATS AT STAKE

EU elections are held every 5 years across the 27-member bloc. This year marks the 10th parliamentary election since the first polls in 1979, and the first after Brexit. The elections started Thursday in the Netherlands and finished on Sunday, when 21 countries held their election



#### HOW DOES THE ELECTION WORK

- ▶ Voting is done by direct universal suffrage in a single ballot
- ▶ 373m people eligible to select 720 members of the parliament
- ▶ Seats are allocated by population size: Germany has the most (96), followed by France (81), Italy (76), and Spain (61)
- ▶ It's the second largest democratic electorate in the world — after India, reports Al Jazeera

#### VOTING ISSUES

- ▶ Defence & security are the key issues in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine
- ▶ Economy, jobs, poverty and social exclusion, public health, climate change and the future of Europe

#### CENTRE-RIGHT EPP MAY REMAIN KEY BLOC

Main bloc — centre-right European People's Party — is likely to remain at the helm, granting Ursula von der Leyen another tenure as European Commission prez. But its "super-grand coalition", which includes several liberal parties, will likely lose seats. Gains made by hard-right parties will force her to cut a deal with some right-wing nationalists, such as Italian PM Giorgia Meloni's Brothers of Italy, to secure a parliamentary majority

A sharp rightward turn in the EU parliament could result in even tougher immigration rules for the bloc and a watering down of climate policies

al Democrats (SPD) crashed to their worst-ever result in European Parliament elections, falling to third place. According to projections, it received around 14% of the vote, below the 15.8% they managed in 2019.

Meanwhile, in Austria, the far-right Freedom Party is the likely winner. It is the first ti-

me the group has topped a nationwide ballot in the Alpine country. In the Netherlands, exit polls showed nationalist Geert Wilders' anti-immigration party was set to win seven of the 29 Dutch seats in the EU assembly, just one short of the combined seats of a Socialist Democrat-Greens alliance. AGENCIES

## Clooney protested Biden slamming ICC warrants, a case that his wife worked on

Washington: George Clooney contacted a top White House official in May to complain after Prez Biden criticised the International Criminal Court's move to seek a warrant against top Israeli officials over Gaza war, a case the actor's wife had worked on, two people familiar with the situation said.



Amal and George Clooney

Amal Clooney, a prominent human rights lawyer, served on an advisory panel that helped conduct the court's investigation, which resulted in warrant requests for Israel's PM and defence minister and

three senior Hamas leaders, accusing them of illegal conduct that has led to thousands of civilian deaths.

George Clooney lodged his protest with Steve Ricchetti, a counsellor to Biden who played a pivotal role in his fundraising efforts four years ago. It

had no effect on US policy, a senior official said. Nonetheless, Clooney's decision to contact the White House (in the form of a text message) underscores the problems that Israel's actions have caused for Biden as he tries to reconcile his support for a stalwart ally. Clooney is scheduled to appear at a June 15 fundraiser for Biden in Los Angeles. A spokesperson for the actor declined to comment about Clooney's interaction with Ricchetti but said his client "has every intention of attending the fundraiser". NYT

challenges vexing the Israeli govt, according to analysts. Israel's foreign minister rejected accusations "of war crimes" in the operation. "We will continue to act with determination and strength, in accordance with our right to self-defence," Israel Katz said. AGENCIES

### Iran OKs 6 prez hopefuls, blocks Ahmadinejad

Dubai: Iran's Guardian Council on Sunday approved the country's hard-line parliament speaker and five others to run in the country's June 28 presidential election following a helicopter crash that killed President Ebrahim Raisi and seven others. The council again barred former President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, a firebrand populist known for the crack-down that followed his disputed 2009 re-election, from running.

The council's decision represents the starting gun for a shortened, two-week campaign to replace Raisi. The Guardian Council also continued its streak of not accepting a woman or anyone calling for radical change to the country's governance. AP

## Ukraine: Struck Russia's most advanced fighter jet at base 600km from front line

Kyiv: Ukraine on Sunday said its forces hit an ultra-modern Russian warplane stationed on an air base nearly 600 km from the front lines, after its Western allies allowed Kyiv to use their weapons for limited strikes inside Russia.



If confirmed, it would mark Ukraine's first known successful strike on a Su-57 fighter plane. It comes after Western allies allowed Kyiv to use their weapons for limited strikes inside Russia

Kyiv's main military intelligence service shared satellite photos it said showed the aftermath of the attack. If confirmed, it would mark Ukraine's first known successful strike on a Su-57 fighter plane, a twin-engine stealth fighter lauded as Moscow's most advanced military aircraft.

In one photo, black soot marks and small craters can be seen dotting a concrete strip around the parked aircraft. According to the Main

Intelligence Directorate of Ukraine's ministry of defence, the strike took place on Saturday at the Akhtubinsk base in southern Russia, some 589km from the front line.

It wasn't immediately clear what weapons were used, but the airfield's distance from Ukraine suggests that it was likely hit by drones. The strike comes after the US and Germany recently authorised Ukraine to hit some targets on Russian soil with the long-range weapons they are supplying to Kyiv.

The Ukrainian agency said that the plane, which is capable of carrying stealth missiles across hundreds of kilometres, was among "a countable few" of its type in Moscow's arsenal. According to reports by Russian agencies, Moscow's armed forces obtained "over 10" new Su-57s last year, while 76 are set to be produced by 2028. Moscow did not comment on the reports. AP

### US says Russia offensive against Kharkiv 'stalled'

Paris: US Prez Joe Biden's national security adviser said on Sunday that Russia's advance on Ukraine's Kharkiv "has stalled", after Washington partially lifted restrictions on using US-donated weapons to strike inside Russia. "The momentum of that operation in Kharkiv has stalled out," Jake Sullivan told the CBS broadcaster. "Kharkiv is still under threat but Russians have not been able to make material progress on the ground in recent days in that area." Washington has given the green light for Ukraine to use US weapons to defend Kharkiv region. "From the president's perspective, this was common sense. It didn't make sense not to allow the Ukrainians to hit Russian guns and emplacements that were firing at Ukrainians," he said. AFP

### Missing British TV doctor found dead in Greece

Athens/Symi: British TV presenter Michael Mosley, 67, has been found dead in a rocky area of Symi, days after he disappeared during a walk on the Greek island, local officials and police said. The healthy living advocate, who was had been a prominent face on British TV for two decades, was found on Sunday morning, ending a four-day search that included aircraft, drones and sniffer dogs. Symi mayor Lefteris Papakaloudoukas said the discovery was made after he and others, including journalists from state TV channel ERT, filmed the area from a vessel. "We analysed the recorded evidence and it was obvious that it was, unfortunately, Mosley. He was found 10m away from the sea, 10-15m from his destination, the beach of Agia Marina..." the mayor said, adding it was unclear what had happened. REUTERS



### SUPPORT TRUMPS HEAT



Former US Prez Donald Trump's campaign is hiring extra medics, loading up on fans and water bottles and allowing supporters to carry umbrellas to an outdoor rally Sunday in Las Vegas, where temperatures are expected to exceed 37.8°C. Trump is

returning to Nevada for his second rally since he was found guilty in a hush-money scandal. The unprecedented conviction of an ex-prez has juiced fundraising and galvanised Trump supporters, but it remains to be seen whether it will sway swing voters. AP

## Biden visits WWI cemetery in France in rebuke to Trump

Belleau (France): US Prez Joe Biden travelled to a WWI cemetery in France Sunday in a visit seen as a jab at his predecessor Donald Trump who in 2018 skipped the visit, reportedly calling American war dead "losers".



Biden, an 81-year-old Democrat, is set to face Trump, a 77-year-old Republican, later this year in a presidential election. On the last day of his five-day tour, Biden visited the Aisne-Marne American Cemetery and Memorial near the village of Belleau in northern France. The cemetery contains the graves of 2,289 war dead, most of whom fought in the vicinity and in the Marne Valley in 1918. Then-president Trump cancelled his visit to the site in 2018, officially due to poor weather that made helicopter travel risky. But the Atlantic magazine, citing sources, said Trump refused to visit the cemetery because he did not think it was important and because he was also concerned about his hair.

"Why should I go to that cemetery? It's filled with losers," the magazine quoted Trump as telling his staff members. In a separate conversation, Trump called the marines who perished at Belleau Wood "suckers", the Atlantic reported. Trump has denied making those remarks.

Biden has repeatedly nee-dled Trump over the report. "He said they're 'losers' and 'suckers'," Biden said at a recent fundraiser. "Who in the hell does he think he is? This guy does not deserve to be president." AFP

### Roadside blast kills 7 soldiers in NW Pakistan

Islamabad: A bomb blast targeting a military truck killed seven soldiers on Sunday in northwestern Pakistan along the border with Afghanistan, the army said. The incident took place in the Lakki Marwat district which is on the edge of a lawless tribal region divided on both sides of the border.

The improvised explosive device exploded near the military vehicle, killing seven soldiers including an officer, the army said in a statement. "The perpetrators of this heinous act will be brought to justice," it said. There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

The tribal region has long been a safe haven for Islamist militants who operate on both sides of the border. Militant group called Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan has been waging a war against the state to try to overthrow the govt. REUTERS

### AROUND THE WORLD



UN DOS TRES... PRIDE: Ricky Martin performs during LA Pride

### UK foreign secy falls victim to hoax call from Ukraine ex-prez

British foreign secretary David Cameron exchanged messages and held a video call with someone purporting to be former Ukrainian prez Petro Poroshenko, but the interactions were later determined to be a hoax, the foreign office said on Friday. "Whilst the video call clearly appeared to be with Mr Poroshenko, following the conversation the foreign secretary became suspicious," it said. The statement gave no details of what was discussed, other than to say that the caller asked Cameron for others' contact details. The foreign office said Cameron was making the hoax public "in case the video of the foreign secretary is manipulated and misused". Britain, which holds elections on July 4, did not say who it believed was responsible for the hoax. Cameron is not the first UK foreign minister to be caught

out by a hoax. In 2018 then-foreign secretary Boris Johnson discussed international relations and rude poetry with a hoax caller who pretended to be the Armenian PM. In 2022, Britain blamed Russia for hoax calls to two ministers and an attempted call to a third.

### S Korea restarts loudspeaker broadcasts on North border

South Korea on Sunday resumed anti-North Korean propaganda loudspeaker broadcasts in border areas in retaliation for the North sending over 1,000 balloons filled with trash and manure over the last couple of weeks. The move is certain to anger Pyongyang and could trigger retaliatory military steps as tensions between the war-divided rivals rise. Hours after the South resumed loudspeaker broadcasts, the powerful sister of North Korea's Kim Jong-un warned that the South created a "prelude to a very dangerous situation." She said South Korea would witness an unspecified "new response" from the North if it continues with the broadcasts and fails to stop civilian activists from flying anti-North Korean propaganda leaflets across the border.

## #BookTok to blame? English-language books are filling Europe's stores

Amsterdam: When Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jennifer Egan was in the Netherlands a few years ago promoting her most recent novel, "The Candy House", she noticed something unexpected. Most of the people who asked her to sign books at author events were not presenting her with copies in Dutch. "The majority of the books I was selling were in English." Her impression was right. In the Netherlands, according to her Dutch publisher, De Arbeiderspers, 65% of sales for "The Candy House" were in English. As English fluency has in-

creased in Europe, more readers have started buying American and British books in the original language, forgoing the translated versions that are published locally. This is especially true in Scandinavian countries, the Netherlands and, increasingly, Germany, which is one of the largest book markets in the world. Publishers in those countries, as well as agents in the US and Britain, worry this could undercut the market for translated books. The English-language books selling abroad are generally cheap paperbacks, printed by

American and British publishers as export editions. Those versions are much less expensive than hardcovers available in the US, for example, and much less expensive than the same books in translation, which have to observe minimum pricing in countries like Germany. English sales have accelerated in recent years, in part because books now go viral on social media, especially TikTok. Booksellers in the Netherlands said many young people prefer to buy books in English with original covers, even if Dutch is their first language, because



those are the books they see and want to post about on BookTok. Christian Schumacher-Gebler, CEO of the Bonnier Publishing Group in Germany, said this could hit authors in many ways. They would miss out on royalties from translated editions, which are higher than the payment they receive from inexpensive export copies. In an effort to combat the English-language appeal of TikTok, some Dutch publishers have started to release translated books under their English titles, with covers that are similar, or the same, as the original designs. "We are in the middle of a transition," said Simon Dikker Hupkes, a commissioning editor at a Dutch publisher. Bookstores have adapted to the trend too, buying more English-language versions of popular books. In fact, some booksellers said they were pleased that people were buying books, regardless of the language. Jan Peter Prenger, chief buyer at Libris, a large group of independent bookstores in the Netherlands, said for the first time since the 1960s, 15-year-olds are back in bookstores in droves. "That's gold," he said. NYT

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# New govt to decide on Army's integrated battle group plan

7 Already Set Up, More In The Offing

Rajat.Pandit  
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New Delhi: Apart from the impending move to create unified tri-Service theatre commands, the new govt will also take a call on the long-pending restructuring of some Army formations into self-contained integrated battle groups (IBGs) that can mobilise fast and hit hard, sources said.

The 12-lakh strong Army has already carved out two IBGs under the 9 'Pivot' Corps (headquarters in Yel) on western front with Pakistan under Phase-1 of the 'pilot project'. Five IBGs, in turn, have been created in 17 'Mountain Strike' Corps (Panagarh) in eastern one with China in Phase-2.

"These integrated all-arms IBGs have been successfully war-gamed and validated in multiple exercises. Army HQ had earlier submitted the report on Phase-1 of 'IBG-



Army remains all-gung-ho about the role of integrated battle groups, which it believes will ensure a greater and swifter offensive punch

isation' to defence ministry. But MoD has also asked for Phase-2 report before official GSL (government sanction letter) can be issued," a source told TOI.

Army remains all-gung-ho about the role of IBGs, which it believes will ensure a greater and swifter offensive punch. But it remains to be seen how exactly the IBG model dovetails into the three proposed theatre commands to be constituted for China, Pakistan and the Indian Ocean region.

"Theatre commands constitute a strategic-level reform

involving Army, IAF and Navy. IBG model is a tactical re-organisation within Army, which has already been delayed quite a bit. But since IBG-isation has some financial implications, a GSL is required," another source said.

As reported by TOI earlier, a composite IBG will have 5,000-6,000 soldiers and a varying mix of infantry, tanks, artillery, air defence, signals, engineers and other units permanently deployed together. As of now, these units come together only during exercises or actual combat.

In effect, much more agile

IBGs will be larger than brigades (3,000 soldiers each) but smaller than divisions (12,000 soldiers each) and will be headed by Major-Generals. Each IBG is to be configured as per the threat perception, the type of terrain involved and the operational task to be executed.

So, IBGs meant for China will revolve more around infantry, light artillery and light mechanised forces geared for mountain warfare, while those for Pakistan will be focused on main-battle tanks and heavy artillery due to the plains involved.

The original plan was to first carve out 8-10 IBGs, then wait for them to settle down, and finally create more over the years. Overall, the Army has 14 corps (40,000 to 70,000 troops in each), with four of them being 'strike' or offensive formations.

While the 17 Corps was raised with China in mind, the 1 Corps (Mathura) was also "re-oriented and equipped" for the northern borders after the military confrontation in eastern Ladakh erupted in May 2020. The two Pakistan-specific strike corps are 2 Corps (Ambala) and 21 Corps (Bhopal).

# Terrorists from Pak suspected to be behind J&K bus attack

Jammu: Sunday's ambush on a bus carrying pilgrims suggests a spread of terrorist violence to new areas, as Reasi district had remained unaffected by the recent spate of attacks in neighbouring Rajouri and Poonch, reports Sanjay Khajuria, Pir Panjal route, known for its arduous terrain, is frequently used by terrorists to infiltrate into Jammu from LoC in Poonch and Rajouri before moving towards Kashmir.

Union minister Rajnath Singh called the attack on pilgrims "extremely reprehensible". "My heart goes out to the families of those who have lost their loved ones in this heinous act against pilgrims. I pray for speedy recovery of the injured," he posted on X.

Congress' Rahul Gandhi expressed condolences to bereaved families. "This shameful incident is the true picture of the worrying security situation in J&K," he wrote on X.

# An 'affront' to nat'l security, says Cong

Condemning the gruesome terrorist outrage in J&K, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said that the chest-thumping of Modi govt has proved hollow in view of continuing terror attacks in the UT, pointing out the dastardly attack which took ten lives happened while Modi and NDA govt were taking oath of office for the third term. He termed the attack a "deliberate affront" to national security. Rahul Gandhi said the attack is "true picture of worrying security situation" in J&K, adding that the country stands united against terror.

Sources suspect the involvement of ex-Pakistani army SSG commando-turned-LeT operative Illiyas Fauji and two other terrorists from Pakistan, who have been on the run since the fatal attack on an IAF convoy in Poonch on May 4.

According to Union home ministry data, eight civilians were killed in J&K in the first five months of this year up to May 31.

The last attack in Reasi was on May 13, 2022, when terrorists used "sticky bombs" on a bus carrying pilgrims from Katra to Jammu, resulting in four deaths and injuries to 13 others. Sunday's strike is reminiscent of the July 10, 2017, assault on a bus carrying Amarnath pilgrims, in which seven were killed and 19 injured. On that occasion, the driver managed to save 52 passengers despite heavy gunfire.

# 2 held in Goa for Mum hoarding crash, sent to police custody

Mumbai: A day after former director of Ego Media Pvt Ltd, Jhanvi Marathe, and civil contractor Sagar Kumbhar, were arrested from Goa Saturday in the May 13 Ghatkopar hoarding collapse case were produced in a court on Sunday and sent to police custody till June 15.

Last week, sessions court rejected Marathe's anticipatory bail plea. Marathe and Kumbhar were arrested from a hotel in Goa. Earlier, a special probe team of crime branch had arrested Bhavesh Bhinde, director of Ego Media, and structural engineer Manoj Ramakrishna Sanghu in this case.

Police in its remand paper said Marathe was director of the company from Sept 5, 2016 to Dec 21, 2023 and was a director from approval of the hoarding to installation work.

# JEE topper questions wrong marking, improves score

Hemali Chhappia, Yogita Rao & Litha Achari | TNN

Mumbai/Indore: Ved Lahoti's self-assuredness got him a place in the record book. As a child, if he scored low in any subject, he used to take his maternal grandfather to school and question the teachers. This attitude endures.

The all-India JEE (Advanced) topper, who secured 355 marks in the 2024 exam, had initially scored 352, but after IITs released the provisional answer key, he was certain he couldn't have got two questions wrong.

He challenged the two questions and after taking the feedback into consideration, IITs acknowledged one answer to be correct and raised his score by an additional three marks.

"I was determined to break the JEE (Advanced) score record," says Lahoti.

Lahoti, who feels "nothing is impossible", says he believes in finding logical answers to everything.

"If you are determined, everything is possible. There should be a goal in life, and it should be big. After this, hard work should also be of the same level," he said.

"Have faith in your hard work. If you have worked according to the target, then

Lahoti was certain he couldn't have got two questions wrong. The IITs acknowledged one answer to be correct and raised his score by additional three marks. He wants to study computer science at IIT-B

you will definitely achieve success. To learn, it is necessary to practise as much as possible," says Lahoti, who had set his sights on JEE (A) seven years ago and wants to join IIT Bombay's computer science stream.

While Lahoti's razor-sharp focus saw him through, Mulund boy Dhruv Doshi, who bagged an all-India rank of 9 and got Mumbai a spot in the top 10 after three years, believes in taking life as it comes. He says he was unsure about preparing for JEE (A) till he took his Class X exams.

Now that he is among the top scorers, Doshi, who is the son of an anaesthesiologist and a dentist, is aiming to secure a computer science seat in IIT Bombay.

A student at Rahul International School, which offers

integrated coaching, he had secured 96.6% in his CBSE Class XII exams this year.

"I have always loved mathematics. And my target was to get a seat comfortably in IIT Bombay as it is closer home. But I was not expecting such a good rank," says Doshi, adding that the mathematics portion of the exam was simpler than other sections and even previous years. In his free time, Doshi loves to travel, and play cricket and football.

Rajkot's Dwija Patel (18) from the IIT Bombay zone, who at rank 7 is the topper among girls this year, says she developed an interest in coding after being introduced to it in Class IX. "I learnt the basics and I liked it, and mathematics has always been my favourite subject. So, engineering was an obvious choice," she says.

The daughter of a mathematics teacher, Patel learnt some of her Class XI and XII maths in her secondary school from her father. "I knew I would get a good rank but I was not expecting to be in the top 10 category," she says, adding that the paper was relatively easier. Patel, too, wants to pursue computer science from IIT Bombay. As the exam neared, she spent 8-10 hours on preparation.

# At 11,180, most candidates qualify from Madras zone

30% FROM GENERAL, 29% FROM SC

Category	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	Ved Lahoti
General	14,319	14,006	15,277	17,057	18,028	15,566	
OBC-NCL	9,499	9,212	9,341	9,150	9,349	7,651	
SC	13,835	11,021	7,998	7,744	7,869	8,758	
ST	5,087	4,096	3,064	2,764	2,818	3,094	
EWS	5,508	5,438	5,032	5,144	5,140	3,636	
TOTAL	48,248	43,773	40,712	41,862	43,204	38,705	

84% of top 100 from 3 zones			
Zone	Top 10 ranks	Top 100 ranks	Top 500 ranks
Bombay	3 (0*)	30 (22)	136 (103)
Madras	4 (6)	25 (40)	145 (174)
Delhi	2 (2)	29 (20)	122 (120)
Roorkee	1 (2)	9 (10)	48 (46)
Bhubaneswar	0 (0)	4 (5)	27 (37)
Kanpur	0 (0)	1 (2)	17 (16)
Guwahati	0 (0)	2 (1)	5 (4)

Share of women dips		All-India top 10 rankers	
Males	Females	Rank	Score
13.8%	15.5%	1 Ved Lahoti	355 out of 360 marks   IIT Delhi zone
15.4%	16%	2 Aditya	346 marks   IIT Delhi
16.5%	17.2%	3 Bhogalapati Sandesh	338 marks   IIT Madras
33,349	36,497	4 Rhythm Media	337 marks   IIT Roorkee
5,356	6,707	5 Putti Kumar	334 marks   IIT Madras
6,452	6,516	6 Rajdeep Mishra	333 marks   IIT Bombay
7,509	7,964	7 Dwija Patel	332 marks   IIT Bombay
		8 Koduru Tejeswar	331 marks   IIT Madras
		9 Dhruvin Doshi	329 marks   IIT Bombay
		10 Alladaboina	329 marks   IIT Madras

Continued from P 1

Students complained that the results website was slow and broke down twice. Topper Ved Lahoti had initially scored 352, also secured by Chirag Falor in JEE (A) 2020 who opted to pursue his education at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, instead of joining an IIT.

Apart from bagging four spots in the top 10 ranks this year, the highest number of candidates — 11,180 — have qualified from IIT Madras zone, followed by IIT Delhi (10,255) and IIT Bombay (9,480).

The board tilts northwards as one looks at the top 100 ranks. The IIT Bombay zone has 30 in the top 100 ranks, 29 from IIT Delhi, and 25 from IIT Madras. While nine candidates from IIT Roorkee zone secured ranks within the top 100, four from IIT Bhubaneswar, two from

IIT Guwahati, and one from IIT Kanpur also secured ranks within the top 100. Last year, IIT Madras monopolised the top 100 merit list with 40 candidates. IITs have a total of 17,740 seats for admission this year, up from 17,385 in 2023.

This year, around 100 top rankers bagged scores above 300, a figure last recorded in 2017 when again IIT-Madras had organised the exam, observed a coaching class teacher.

Sreedhar Babu, an IIT Bombay alumnus and mathematics teacher from a tutorial, said the mathematics paper this time was easier compared to the previous years. "Students who are strong at mathematics, which is supposed to be the heart of engineering and science, could not get the advantage over others. The paper favoured students who had good

memory and practice over those with intellectual aptitude," he said.

The minimum qualifying aggregate score for the open category went up to 109 as compared to 86 last year — up 6.5% to touch 30.3%, which is the highest in the last four years. The cutoff for the OBC-NCL list and general EWS is 98, and 54 for SC, ST and persons with disabilities, said a release from the organising chairman, JEE (A) 2024, IIT Madras.

For all categories, the qualifying marks have increased by 3% to 5.8% this year compared to last year. B Pavan Kumar from a tutorial said this was done mainly due to fewer difficult questions in the exam this year. "The number of easy questions has gone up, while the moderately difficult questions have remained more or less the same."

# Naveen nephew visits Odisha, sparks political successor buzz

Continued from P 1

Former bureaucrat V K Pandian is copping much of the blame for his BJD's electoral debacle, although his mentor has stood by him.

In what could be more than a coincidence, Naveen's nephew Arun Patnaik landed in Bhubaneswar on Saturday, sparking a buzz of BJD baton being passed within the family. Naveen had recently clarified that he hadn't anointed Pandian as his political successor, saying people of Odisha will choose who should wear that hat.

Pandian joined politics on Nov 27 last year, after taking voluntary retirement from IAS. He went on to play the lead role in BJD's campaign amid allegations that Naveen had left all crucial decisions to him. Pockets of resistance to Pandian getting precedence within BJD over those from the state played a role in the party's strength in the 147-member assembly dwindling to 51. BJP won 78 seats.

In a four-minute video, his first since June 4 poll verdict, Pandian appeared to accept responsibility for BJD's dismal show.

# Maoist carrying ₹10L reward on head arrested

Gumla: Police on Saturday arrested an outlawed CPI (Maoist) zonal commander, carrying a reward of Rs 10 lakh, from Jhalkapat hilltop area in Jharkhand's Gumla, reports K A Gupta.

Police received a tip-off that Maoist regional commander Chhotu Kherwar, alias Sujit ji, along with others, was visiting villages under Ghagra police station area to extort levy for development projects and monitor the movements of security forces, said Gumla SP Shambhu Kumar Singh.

A quick response team led by SDPO Suresh Kumar raided the area, resulting in the arrest of Shambhu Ganju, alias Ravi Ganju, alias Ravi ji, added the SP.

# KERALA BOOST FOR MARINE LIFE



Fishing boats anchored during the annual trawling ban in Kerala's Kozhikode district on Sunday. The 52-day ban in a bid to protect marine fisheries resources during the monsoon will end on July 31

# Between 1999-2000 and 2022-23, dip in cereal consumption: Study

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The share of cereals in total expenditure in rural India varies from 3% in Haryana, Kerala and Punjab to 7% in Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal, survey results have shown.

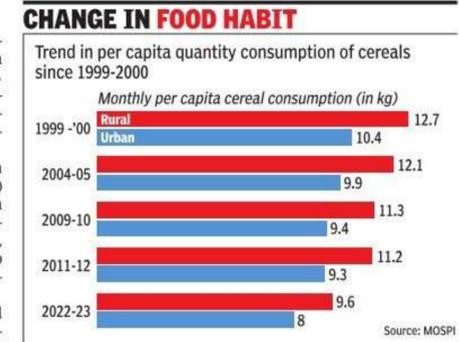
Household Consumption Expenditure survey (HCES) for 2022-23 showed that in urban India, the share varies from 3% in Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Punjab and Tamil Nadu to 6% in Bihar and Jharkhand.

There has been a gradual decline in per capita quantity consumption of cereals in rural as well as urban areas between 1999-2000 to 2022-23 as greater prosperity has prompted people to shift to proteins, processed food and other items.

For instance, monthly per capita cereal consumption was highest in West Bengal at 11.2%, followed by Bihar at 11.1%. Kerala had lowest at 6.6%.

When it comes to percentage share of rice in total consumption of cereals, Assam was at 95.9%, followed by Andhra Pradesh and Chhattisgarh at 92.2%, Telangana at 92.1% and Odisha at 90.7%.

Lowest was in Rajasthan at 3.2% and Haryana at 9.8% and Punjab at 11.6%.



"As incomes go up, cereal consumption goes down and more of proteins, milk, meat and eggs, and fruits and vegetables are consumed," said Ashok Gulati, Infosys chair professor of agriculture and economic think tank ICRIER, highlighting steady rise in incomes over the years which has helped income inequality to dip across country.

For wheat, highest consumption was Haryana at 88.6%, Punjab 87.5% and Rajasthan at 84.8%. Lowest was in Assam at 4%, followed by Telangana at 5%, Tamil Nadu at 7.2%, Chhattisgarh at 7.8% and Odisha at 8.4%. Karnataka had highest share in coarse grains at 19.4%, followed by

Gujarat at 16.7% and Maharashtra at 12.3%. Share of West Bengal was nil, followed by UP and Kerala at 0.1%, Punjab at 0.6%.

The survey results showed that the share of food in total consumption expenditure of rural households varies from 39% in Kerala to 54% in Bihar and Assam. For the urban sector, the share of food in consumption expenditure varies from 35% in Telangana to 47% in Assam and Bihar.

Information in the survey was collected from 8,723 villages and 6,115 urban blocks spread over the entire country covering 2,61,746 households (1,55,014 in rural and 1,06,732 in urban areas).

queer love stories than heteronormative ones." A family vacation to Turkey further intensified his feelings. It was June, and the street was buzzing with a Pride Parade. "Seeing the parade and a subsequent police crackdown was a reality check," recalls Manav. "I felt solidarity with the community." He says it "sparked deeper introspection" and a need to share his truth.

Back at home, Manav summoned the courage to come out to his parents and a year later, to most of his friends at school. "My parents had some questions at first," he recounts. "There were misunderstandings, too, mainly because they weren't fully informed. They also worried about how others would react. But it's been a positive transition for both of us



since then." Coming out to friends had its challenges — "I faced online bullying, with anonymous hateful comments on my Instagram stories which I learned to shrug off" — but brought unexpected rewards. "I've made new friends and moved into new social circles because of my gender identity." While concrete data on whether kids are self-identifying earlier is scarce, speaking

to schools, counsellors, and support groups reveals that teens and, in many cases, pre-teens as young as six are expressing their gender identity without being dismissed by parents or ridiculed at school.

Several social factors may be contributing to this early expression, educators believe. Positive queer portrayals in popular culture have made it safer for young students to open up about their feelings, points out Aachal Jain, pastoral care coordinator at Mumbai's Aditya Birla World Academy (ABWA). "Students often explore their identities online or through creative outlets before coming out. They can also find a wealth of resources on the subject today, which likely leads them to self-identify and come out earlier," she explains.

"It's no longer a taboo subject at home, nor in school. I know many like me who felt safe and comfortable coming out to their friends and family at 14 or 15," adds Manav, who found solace in his school environment, at Delhi's Tagore International School particularly through Breaking Barriers, a club and support group for the LGBTQ+ community.

Priyanka Randhawa, the project director at Tagore International, knows that discussing identity with family isn't always smooth sailing. "Sometimes, it's during our outreach activities that they feel comfortable opening up," she shares. She encourages students to reflect on what feels right for them personally. "When students want to dive deeper into their identities,

we connect them with LGBTQ+ support groups and counsellors to ensure their journey is genuine, not just about fitting in or being 'trendy'."

As counsellor and founder of ABWA's Rainbow Club, Jain challenges the idea that coming out as queer is about fitting in or being cool. "It comes with a lot of backlash and bullying," she explains. "Teenagers may not always have the words to define their feelings, but they know when they're different and are very aware of how the world sees them. It takes real courage to attach a label to themselves."

Jain has observed more 15 and 16-year-olds opening up during their sessions, confidently identifying as gay, demigirl, or pansexual. "We also had a student who, at 13,

revealed herself as bi and later identified as asexual when she was passing out of school. That's how fluid these identities can be," Jain explains. "The key is acceptance — recognising that whatever they're feeling is valid."

Stressing the importance of early parental support, Jain shares a recent case of a six-year-old boy whose parents reached out to her: He wanted to wear lipstick and skirts, and his parents sought advice — not to "fix" him, but to create a more gender-neutral environment at home. "They wanted to help him explore his identity without facing bullying and without negating his feelings," she explains. "Parents making these efforts marks a positive shift."

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Manav\* was a typical 14-year-old boy — moody, defiant, with hormones in overdrive and attitude on the rise, when he decided to add the declaration of — "I'm bisexual" — to the mix. Initially his parents were taken aback. "Although my parents are aware of queerness and supportive of the community, it did come as a shock. I used to be moody during those days and they knew something was up but hadn't quite predicted it was going to be this." Yet, despite their initial confusion and apprehensions, they rallied around him. "They've been supportive and more careful with their comments now."

For many queer individuals in India, the social pressure

# Gen Z teens 'coming out' younger with stronger family support

\*Names changed for privacy



## CONTRAPUNTO

Any coalition has its troubles,  
as every married man knows

—ARTHUR HAYS SULZBERGER

## Third Time Tricky

Political compulsions of coalition govt  
may test BJP, on reforms and on the fisc

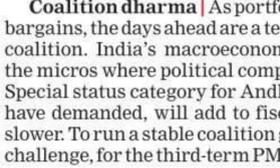
As Modi-led NDA assumes office with 72 ministers, BJP heavyweights have returned. They include, perhaps in a first, seven former CMs, bringing their considerable experience to the new govt. The coalition has a daunting task that 10 years of BJP govt struggled with – jobs, jobs and jobs. The new govt will need no reminder that NDA's, especially BJP's, performance tripped over cracks on the highway of speedy economic growth.

**Inequality a deal-breaker** | The new govt must take on board the reality that a central issue this election has been the uneven distribution of fruits of growth – variously seen in faster growth in consumption of better-off classes, pockets of rural distress, and joblessness and underemployment. Specific policies that promote low-skilled employment will be a priority.

**Welfare by itself no solution** | Filling such craters on the multi-trillion-dollar highway with a rash of welfare schemes can only paper over the fundamental problem. Handouts have been every govt's fallback option. But they have failed to kickstart the jobs engine and expand livelihood options and markets, especially for small and medium enterprises. Modi govt expanded free rations to more people and by 5 years more, earlier this year. Free food grain for 80cr of India's 142cr population is a sobering reminder of the economic precarity of 60% of India's population.

**RBI & hurting food prices** | The upcoming Budget is one reason RBI didn't cut the repo rate in the recent monetary policy. More important was that it acknowledged the stickiness of inflation, especially of food. As food prices, especially those of milk and vegetables increase, exceptional heat and low water reservoir levels will likely cause more stress on summer vegetables and fruits, RBI has noted. Its optimal 4% inflation rate is at present far below the rural food inflation rate of 8.75% recorded in May.

**Coalition dharmam** | As portfolios find their ministers after hard bargains, the days ahead are a test for Modi, who has never headed a coalition. India's macroeconomic indicators are strong, but it's the micros where political compulsions of coalition will test NDA. Special status category for Andhra and Bihar, as Naidu and Nitish have demanded, will add to fiscal burden. Reforms will likely be slower. To run a stable coalition govt will be a new experience, and a challenge, for the third-term PM.



## Safety Not First

Yet another Delhi fire underlines no lessons are  
being learnt. Regulations are up in smoke

On Saturday morning, there was yet another fire in Delhi. This time, it was at a food processing unit in Narela and left three workers dead. The seemingly endless chain of such tragedies underlines the callousness with which worker safety is treated in India. Statistics also stress that no lessons are learnt from such incidents: fires have been reported from as many as 194 factories in the capital in the first five months of this year alone.

**A pan-India problem** | Unfortunately, such incidents occur even in the more industrialised western and southern parts of the country, with a larger organised sector. In May, a boiler explosion at a chemical unit in Maharashtra's Thane district killed 8 workers.

In Tamil Nadu's Virudhunagar district, fire incidents in fireworks units killed 8 workers in May and 10 in Feb.

**Migrants worst sufferers** | More often than not, it is migrant workers who end up as victims of such horrific and completely avoidable accidents. With agriculture an unrewarding proposition, millions are migrating to cities and towns in search of jobs. But they often find themselves working long hours in inhumane and unsafe conditions, as has been reported from Narela. Factory owners flout rules and cut corners with impunity. Because regulators turn a blind eye.

**Implementing rules key** | Western Europe faced up to the underbelly of capitalism as long back as the 19th century. India is running too far behind. It must regulate the conditions under which labour works in factories and other enterprises, very strictly. And regulation does not imply merely laying down rules but their proper implementation. As things stand, greasing the palms of visiting govt officials is enough for it to be 'business as usual' at commercial establishments in urban areas.



## Both jock &amp; geek

How Netravalkar stars in the boyhood multiverse

Arnab Ray

What do young boys dream of? If you grew up in the 90s, in my time, you dream of being a good student. Wanting parental approval was burnt into our DNA, but it wasn't just that. He who studies well drives a car, is an English translation of a Bengali proverb.

As you can see, ambitions for financial well-being then were modest, capped by the possession of a personal vehicle. In any case, getting into a prestigious institute and studying an in-demand subject was the surest way to a secure future. And what could be more prestigious than getting into the best of the "phoren", a Stanford or an MIT, and in Computer Science too, for that was where we were told the future was.

But what boys truly dreamt of was cricket, of the glory of the Gods, of bowling the last over or hitting a last ball six in an India-Pakistan encounter, that too in a World Cup, winning the game, as the nation cheered in one voice, shouting out your name.

Unreal, these dreams all seemed, the best of study and the best of play, but what is a dream if not an impossible hope? Even when adrift from all reality, the heart still remained anchored to the fact that both couldn't be true together. If you went to the cricket field, the dream of being a stud in study would wane away. If you buried yourself in math books, why, of course, you would never play.

But we were wrong. It is possible. There does walk, in the realms of men, one such Titan.

He is a Computer Science graduate from Cornell. He is also a professional cricketer, not just any cricketer, no sir, but the one who won a World Cup game against Pakistan representing USA, bowling the stuff of dreams that curl up like tendrils of steam on a hot afternoon, that last over, that strike of sporting glory forever echoing in eternity.

Rise, Sir Saurabh Naresh Netravalkar. You are the personification of the impossible dream of boys. For you have straddled the multiverse of the jock and the geek.

All we, humble mortals, who have taken only one of the paths and not gotten far in either, can do is gaze in jealous admiration at the perfection that is you.

## Fortifying NDA Against Storms

A large council of ministers is meant to project BJP strength in Modi's first coalition govt. It's a message to allies & opposition. It's also prep for Maharashtra, Jharkhand & Haryana polls

R Jagannathan



The defining characteristic of the new NDA cabinet is not the induction of ministers from non-BJP allies like TDP, JDU or Shiv Sena, but the strengthened presence of battle-hardened senior politicians from BJP itself.

Yesterday's swearing-in ceremony had the usual hallmarks of a Modi political extravaganza, with PMs from neighbouring countries, CMs and powerful politicians, showbiz and business celebs in attendance. The real hint, that this time things are different from 2014 and 2019, came from the overall ministry's sheer size, with more than 70 ministers sworn in, including 30 of cabinet rank. More parties and interests had to be accommodated.

**4 political priorities** | Choice of ministers reflects Modi's major political priorities:

- To emphasise that BJP is still calling the shots despite a 20% decline in the number of members elected to Parliament

- To send a message to voters ahead of assembly elections in Maharashtra, Jharkhand and Haryana later this year, states where BJP did not do as well as expected in the Lok Sabha contest

- To underline NDA 3.0's commitment to the inclusion of Dalits and backward classes in its rainbow coalition of castes

- To decisively jettison the idea that BJP is a Hindi-heartland party, with poor traction in the south. Modi wants the north-south divide story to be buried forever.

**Strength projection** | While all the high-profile ministers from Modi's previous cabinet remain – Rajnath Singh, Amit Shah, Nitin Gadkari, S Jaishankar, Ashwini Vaishnaw, Nirmala Sitharaman, Piyush Goyal and Dharmendra Pradhan, to name just a few – PM has added more ballast by including Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Manohar Lal Khattar, both former CMs, with Chouhan being a very successful one in MP.

To this we can add the political experience of two more former CMs from smaller allies, HD Kumaraswamy of JDS and Jitan Ram Manjhi of HAM. In contrast, the two major allies, JDU and TDP, seem to have got two

ministers each, though this could be corrected later. However, it is equally possible that these parties would like their backing to Modi to be paid for in terms of economic benefits for their states rather than just ministries. Even during Vajpayee's govt, Chandrababu Naidu offered outside support and extracted economic benefits for his state.

Moving from party to cabinet is JP Nadda, whose terms as BJP president ends this month. Missing are two major ministers from Modi 2.0. Smriti Irani may be a casualty of the party's UP debacle, but Anurag Thakur may have yielded a place to Nadda, who is also from Himachal Pradesh. Both Smriti and Thakur may

BJP was seen to have lost Dalit support in some states in these LS elections. With Arjun Munda losing in Jharkhand, Jai Oram of Odisha seems to be the cabinet's replacement tribal face.

**Southern gesture** | Most states now have a minister in the cabinet, and Kerala, which elected its first BJP MP, Suresh Gopi, got two ministers, including George Kurian. This not only makes a bold statement about BJP's arrival in the deep south, but also seeks to reassure the estranged Christian community. Telangana, where BJP won 8 of the 17 seats, and Karnataka, where the Lingayat-Vokkaliga alliance worked well, also get due representation. From Tamil Nadu, there is L Murugan. The state did not give the party any seats, but it saw a strong show on vote shares.

**Message to allies, opposition** | The unstated message in this choice of ministers is that while BJP does not have a majority of its own, it does not lack high-quality political talent to serve as a counterweight to the new inductees from powerful regional allies.

This is sensible, for unlike the last cabinet, which was deferential to the PM in most meetings, this time there could be pushback from ministers sent in by the allies. Modi is fortifying his cabinet with people who can hold their own when push comes to shove.

A significant absence from the ministry was Ajit Pawar's NCP, which got only one seat in Maharashtra and was reportedly offered only an MoS position. Praful Patel, working president of NCP has gone on record to say that he could not accept an MoS position, having already served as cabinet minister in UPA.

This could also be an indirect hint to NCP that equations in Maharashtra could change again before the assembly elections. Who knows, a reach-out to Uddhav Thackeray's Shiv Sena – which can't happen without an implicit understanding or merger with Shinde Sena – may be the option BJP is working on behind the scenes!

The presence of such a high-power BJP list may also be intended to give the party a strong presence in parliamentary debates, where opposition will be more aggressive than before. The allies may not always want to speak up on issues they are uncomfortable with.

Modi 3.0, or NDA 3.0, is preparing for the storms ahead.



**Unstated message is BJP doesn't lack high-quality political talent. Modi's fortifying his cabinet with people who'll hold their own when push comes to shove**

be given larger roles in the party, though this cabinet is far from complete and will be expanded later.

**Caste arithmetic** | The Dalit contingent has at least four prominent faces apart from Manjhi. Ramdas Athavale of RPI and BJP's own Arjun Ram Meghwal and SPS Baghel will now be joined by Chirag Paswan of LJP (Ram Vilas). These inductions are important because

## Why BJP Partly Lost Its Way In Rajasthan

● Party misjudged local political relations ● It imported the 'wrong' caste leaders ● Parachuting a Brahmin debutant MLA into the CM's position proved costly ● Farmer protests took a toll

Anastasia Piliavsky & Bharat Hun



For decades, Rajasthan has been a *jhula*-state swinging hard between BJP and Congress, with opposing camps locked in searing debates on its streets and village *chabutaras*. This year, however, the state wavered.

In 2014 and 2019, BJP did not only sweep the state, it also gained a 25 percentage point vote-share advantage. This time, while it did secure most seats, it received only 12 percentage points more votes. For the first time since 1996, the national rivals have both secured seats in double digits: BJP 14 and Congress-led INDIA 11.

**Meena-Gurjar miscalculation** | It all began last year, when BJP decided to parachute a Brahmin and debutant MLA into the CM's position (the first Brahmin in 33 years to occupy the seat in Rajasthan), swiping aside both the two-time CM and royal Vasundhara Raje and the silverback MP Kirodi Lal Meena. And so, in one fell swoop, Modi alienated the powerful Meena community – losing 4 of 6 seats in Meena-dominated eastern Rajasthan – and the many Rajasthanis for whom Raje is "the Maharani". In the east, Om Birla, Modi's long-time associate and outgoing Lok Sabha speaker, scraped to a narrow victory against a BJP rebel. If in 2019 he won by 2.8L votes, this time he got only around 40K more.

BJP missed another major opportunity by drastically misjudging local political relations. In 2019, Gurjars, another powerful local community, abandoned Congress for refusing to make their neta, Sachin Pilot, the state's CM. This alone could have gifted BJP several seats, but it didn't. Sideline many Gurjar heavyweights, BJP fielded but one imported Gurjar, believing that caste identity alone would do the trick. But in Rajasthan,

as in much of India, political loyalties do not work in identitarian ways. Substantially, they track vertical, cross-caste patronal relations, which imported candidates lack. This is also how BJP lost Tonk-Sawai Madhopur, which went to a local neta fielded by Congress. This is how it lost Jhunjhunu, Churu, Sikar, Barmer and Nagaur, where BJP fielded "the wrong" import-Jats.

**Bhil blow** | BJP's misjudgment of local affairs, which cost it dearly in this election, has much to do with its centralisation. Party surveys, which give critical local feedback, and were historically conducted for BJP by



committed party workers, are increasingly passed over to professionals, often Delhi-based youths on bikes prone to faking the surveys.

A young independent Rajput, Ravindra Singh Bhati, generated much media buzz as an anti-establishment rebel, in whom young Rajputs placed their hopes. Bhati lost, but the real star of this election, whom the media overlooked, is Rajkumar Roat, a Bhil from Bhartiya Adivasi Party, who beat a BJP silverback in Banswara by almost 2.5L votes. This is more than an isolated

victory. It displaces Congress as BJP's main rival in southern Rajasthan, where from now on the battle will rage between BJP and BAP.

In northern Rajasthan, BJP's anti-farmer policies took a further chip out of their mandate. Much as in Haryana and Punjab, in Ganganagar the Jats and Jat-Sikhs who led farmer protests against corporate price control of agri products, took revenge on BJP by voting for Congress.

**Urban bastion** | BJP nonetheless held on to urban constituencies. Here, inflation and unemployment had little effect on BJP loyalties and Ram Mandir did have its desired effect. BJP also brought scores of urban middle-class women to the polls, many for the first time.

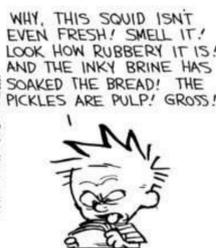
Fears of Rajput rage against BJP in response to outgoing Union minister Rupala's anti-Kshatriya comments proved unfounded. On the contrary, Rajputs rallied around BJP this year in Rajasthan. In the very Jalore-Sirohi constituency where Rajputs took public anti-BJP oaths, the Congress candidate, son of Rajasthan's three-time CM Ashok Gehlot, lost by 2L votes to BJP. Rajputs also helped carry BJP to victory in Kota, and delivered its biggest state victory in Rajsamand, a Rajput stronghold where the party won by nearly 4L votes.

BJP's Agnipath army recruitment scheme backfired. In Sikar, which sends more men to the army than any other district in India, this resulted in the surprising election of a CPM MP.

Laying bare every one of BJP's troubles – from problematic army reforms to its sidelining of local politics to farmer neglect – Rajasthan is BJP's wake-up call. It can as ill-afford to snub India's countryside, where two-thirds of the country still lives, as try to displace the complex world of local political relations with a centralised politics of identity-as-caste.

Piliavsky teaches anthropology and politics at King's College London. Hun is a social anthropologist

## Calvin &amp; Hobbes



## Sacredspace



Above all else:  
go out with a  
sense of humour.  
It is needed  
armour. Joy in  
one's heart and  
some laughter on one's lips is  
a sign that the person down deep  
has a pretty good grasp of life.

Hugh Sidey

## Let's Put The Polite Back Into The Polity

Jug Suraiya

The protagonist in a John Barth novel always puts on his best clothes when he has to perform a manual chore, particularly if it's a messy one, like topping up the engine oil in his car.

He does this in a conscious departure from the convention of having separate 'work clothes', rough and ready wear, often stained and grubby, that we put on when we have to, literally and metaphorically, roll up our sleeves to perform a task that involves getting ourselves a bit mucky and grimy.

His reason for doing this is that sloppy clothes lead to sloppy work. When he puts on his best shirt and suit before performing a job that involves getting his hands dirty, he makes himself mindful of what he's doing, and how he's doing it, with precision and

care, both for the work at hand and for the need to keep his clothes clean.

The words we use are said to be the clothes of our thought, of what we think and feel, or what we might call our mental wardrobe.

This wardrobe, so to speak, often reflects what we think and do. This is why different clothes are deemed suitable for different occasions. The festive finery we would sport at a celebratory event such as a wedding is very different from the sober raiment we would don to attend a memorial service, and in each case we would modulate what we say and do to suit the situation.

Such reflections on how we clothe our thoughts and deeds, how we address ourselves in public life, are not mistimed when we emerge from the

heat and dust, the sound and the fury, of the biggest battlefield of the ballot box ever witnessed on earth, a Kurukshetra of democracy involving a billion participants.

Now, as "The tumult and the shouting dies;/ The Captains and the Kings depart", it might be appropriate to take a pause to consider and distinguish between the rough and ready verbal garb of the polemics of the electoral fray, and the original meaning of the word 'politics'.

The term is derived from the Greek 'politika', affairs of the city or polis. When Greece was made up of city states, like Athens and Sparta, the citizens were 'polites', residents of the polis.

The words polite, politeness, and politic, being prudent or wise, all have

the same root. Similarly, the words civic, and civility, come from the Latin civilis, meaning citizens.

It was the obligation of citizens, inhabitants of the polis, to be care-free not only about the administration of the city, civics, but also mindful of their interactions with each other, regulated by civility and politeness.

Politics is not just about elections, and the people who fight in them. Politics, like civics, is about how we, as citizens who supposedly share rights and responsibilities, behave towards each other, tempering even our disagreements with fellowship and good humour.

If words are indeed the garments of thought, if we pay regard to what we say to and about each other, like Barth's hero, we can get the often gritty job of democracy done without soiling the attire of our civic, and civil, discourse.



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# Navigating eco in uncertain world a challenge for new FM

## Sustaining Growth, Creating Jobs Immediate Priorities

TEAM TOI

New Delhi: With the swearing-in of Narendra Modi's council of ministers over, the question uppermost on everyone's mind is who will be the next finance minister. Will Nirmala Sitharaman stay in the wood-paneled office on the first floor of North Block, which is home to the finance ministry, or will she move to another ministry on Raisina Hill.

The task before the new FM is tough against the backdrop of a challenging geopolitical landscape. Sustaining growth, ensuring price stability and creating jobs by getting the private sector to invest are immediate priorities. Then there is the mammoth task of energy transition for Asia's third largest economy that stares the new administration as climate challenges mount.

The theme of sustaining growth and getting private investment going again is expected to run through the Budget that is likely to be presented next month as well as the 100-days agenda of the new govt and Modi's third term as PM.

While India remains on course to grow at over 7%, inflation has moderated although RBI governor Shaktikanta Das has cautioned that lowering it to 4% will not be

### MANAGING RISKS & RESOURCES

- Geopolitical tensions pose substantial downside risks
- Divergence of monetary easing paths of major central banks adds to policy uncertainty
- Frequent climate shocks pose a risk to the outlook on global and domestic food prices
- Revvng up sluggish farm sector, rural demand



so easy. Weatherproofing the farm sector against heatwaves and other weather shocks is a priority to keep the supply chain steady.

The key focus is going to be investment, especially by the private sector. Following the interim Budget, Sitharaman had suggested that investment should not be measured in the traditional sectors alone but also in newer areas such as global capability centres, space and artificial intelligence. But economists and industry players still believe that there is no alternative to creating jobs in factories and manufacturing plants, especially at a time when the lack of adequate employment seems to have

emerged as a major issue in the general elections. That may require govt to offer some incentives, which Indian industry is never averse to.

Jobs and skilling are seen to be crucial, including in services such as tourism and hospitality. Govt will also need to address the issue of two-paced growth which economists and companies often talk about in the post-Covid period.

While govt has been focusing on areas such as production-linked incentives, the FM will need to ensure that the schemes see actual payouts and the private sector is not left chasing officials and the administrative ministries to get the promised funds.

Unlike the last two times, when BJP enjoyed absolute majority, this time the new FM will also have to be conscious of the political compulsions, which will include addressing demands of special category states from its two key allies as well as setting up the eighth pay commission to decide on salary revision for govt employees. Pay hikes for central govt staff are due in 2026, the year which will also see the implementation of the award of the 16th Finance Commission. Besides, there is the pending demand of assuring that the pension under NPS (new pension system) is at least half the last pay drawn. While Sitharaman had set up a committee headed by expenditure secretary T V Somanathan, the recommendations are yet to be submitted.

Some of the recommendations will also require the Centre to mobilise resources, while sticking to the fiscal glide path that it has charted for itself. That may mean govt will have to revive its asset monetisation and disinvestment drives, something that was suspended ahead of general elections, while ensuring that allies are on board.

# India Inc expects reforms agenda to continue under coalition govt

TEAM TOI

Mumbai: The country's top industrialists Mukesh Ambani, Gautam Adani, Kumar Mangalam Birla and Ashok Hinduja attended the swearing-in ceremony of PM Narendra Modi and his Cabinet at Rashtrapati Bhavan in Delhi on Sunday. Several business leaders took to X and congratulated Modi for becoming the PM for the third time.

Mahindra Group chairman Anand Mahindra wrote on X: "Hope the new term will prove to be important for the development and prosperity of India."

Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates said "You have strengthened India's position as a source of innovation for global progress in sectors like health, agriculture, women-led development, and digital transformation. Look forward to a continued partnership to enhance the lives



Industry captains who attended the swearing-in ceremony included Mukesh Ambani, Gautam Adani, Kumar M Birla & Ashok Hinduja

of people across India and the world." Industry expects Modi, under the coalition govt, to continue with his reform agenda as he looks to lift India's global standing.

Gautam Adani's wife and chairperson of Adani Foundation, Priti Adani posted on X: "Under your able leadership, the country has touched new heights of progress in the last 10 years. And we are confident that in the coming years your 'Developed India' campaign will move forward at double the speed."

JSW Group chairman Sajjan Jindal said on X: "With the new Cabinet, I'm optimistic about the conti-

nued progress and development of our nation. Together, let's build a stronger and more resilient economy."

While Modi will continue to focus on infrastructure, manufacturing and technology, contentious policy reforms could be delayed as his coalition partners are unpredictable as well as the emergence of a strong opposition, according to analysts.

Essar Capital director Prashant Ruia said he is looking forward to "continued transformation and growth under your (Modi's) leadership to realise the vision of #ViksitBharat2047". Banker Uday Kotak and

Piramal Group chairman Ajay Piramal were also present at the event. Next-generation leaders like Anant Ambani and Karan Adani too attended the ceremony.

Anil Agarwal of Vedanta said: "Bharat has crossed many milestones under your visionary leadership. We are confident that the country will continue on its remarkable growth trajectory."

PwC India chairperson Sanjeev Krishan expects govt will prioritise allocation of resources on research and development to bolster India's innovation landscape, collaborate with industry and academia to build regulatory frameworks to transform technologies and will move sustainability from a risk-protocol to a strategic opportunity. Industry body Ficci said it is looking forward to progressive policies that will foster economic and social development.

# D St's eyes on ministry allotment, US Fed's stance on rates, inflation

TEAM TOI

Mumbai: After a brief setback last week, the sensex is on track to go beyond the 77,000 milestone as the new trading week starts after the formation of the new team of ministers in PM Narendra Modi's third term.

Dalal Street investors are expected to react to who helps the most important ministries — the finance ministry, the home ministry and to some extent the foreign ministry — in new govt, market players said.

After scaling a new-all time high at 76,795 points in late trades on Friday, the sensex closed at 76,693 — less than half a percentage point off the 77K mark. On the NSE, Nifty is now eyeing

### ON TRACK TO HIT RECORD 77K



the 23,500-point mark, having closed on Friday at 23,290 points.

In addition to the allocation of various portfolios, the Street will also closely watch the incoming data for the manufacturing industry (IIP), the country's consumer and wholesale inflation numbers for May, and also what the US

Fed has to say after its rate setting committee concludes their meeting by mid-week. Trading trends of foreign funds that have already net sold about Rs 10,500 crore worth of stocks in the month so far will also be closely watched.

The high valuations of the Indian market could weigh on its ability to attract

money from foreign portfolio investors, said V K Vijayakumar of Geojit Financial Services. "FPIs regard Indian valuations to be very high and therefore capital is getting shifted to cheaper markets. The FPI pessimism regarding Chinese stocks appears to be over and there is a trend of investing in Chinese stocks listed (in Hong Kong) since their valuations have turned very attractive," Vijayakumar said in a note.

In India, a recent trend among foreign funds is that they have been selling aggressively through the exchanges but buying through the primary market route. But high valuations will attract further selling by FPIs in the secondary market, Vijayakumar said.

## MODI GOVT 3.0: THE ECONOMIC AGENDA

### Finance

- Sustain growth, manage inflation, revive farm sector, spur investment by private sector for job creation
- Revive disinvestment and asset monetisation to generate resources for capex and development schemes
- Rationalisation of GST rates, work on pending direct tax reforms, including those related to capital gains
- Decide the regulatory architecture for crypto assets along with RBI
- Ensure stock markets remain stable, address concerns on F&O in tandem with Sebi

### Communications

- Manage spam and pesky calling/messaging which also result in cyber frauds; improve quality of services for consumers, and tackle nagging call drops and patchy internet network
- Enable adequate provision of spectrum and regular auctions as 5G networks expand and industry works on new solutions such as Machine-2-Machine (M2M)

### Broadband subscriber base

Year	Subscriber Base (Millions)
Dec 31, 2019	643
Dec 31, 2020	725
Dec 31, 2021	766
Dec 31, 2022	800
Dec 31, 2023	866
Mar 31, 2024	884

Source: Trai

### Electronics & IT

- Kickstart work on the new IT Law (Digital India Act), a bill that will be drafted after public consultations and other requisite processes
- Look at giving scale to electronics manufacturing beyond smartphones by adding weight to making of laptops, servers, and telecom & IT products
- Strengthen the work on semiconductor manufacturing, and create a new incentive scheme for new players looking at Indian market

### Annual GDP Growth (In %)

Year	GDP Growth (%)
FY20	3.9
FY21	-5.9
FY22	9.7
FY23	7
FY24	8.2

Source: Mospi

### Coal Output (Million tonnes)

Year	Coal Output (Million tonnes)
2019-20	730.8
2020-21	716
2021-22	778.2
2022-23	893
2023-24	997.2

### Petroleum

- Bringing predictability & transparency in the fuel retail market, especially pricing
- Bringing back foreign investors in exploration & production
- Reforming natural gas pricing regime, ensuring viability of city gas networks

### Power

- Bringing in private players by separating carrier & content for improved service
- Enhancing transmission network to ensure grid balance
- Ramping up domestic manufacturing capacity for power plant gear

### Commerce & Industry

- Deepen exports, expand to newer markets and accelerate services exports against the backdrop of geopolitical uncertainty
- Move ahead with FTAs, one with Oman likely to be signed soon, work on others with Latin American countries
- Ensure PLI payments are maintained and spur foreign investment
- Stabilise payments and supply chains for exports and imports, decide on interest subsidy scheme

### Transport & Highways

- Get approval for new highway development programme to maintain the pace of NH construction
- Need to focus on quality and timely completion
- Reducing number of road deaths, injuries and crashes

### Railways

- Increasing capacity to carry more passengers & cargo. Bringing down long waitlist and operating more trains
- Expediting penetration of Vande Bharat, Amrit Bharat & Vande Metro trains
- Enhancing safety

### Civil Aviation

- Bringing aviation turbine fuel under GST for less hostile operating cost and affordable fares
- Improve airports to create true aviation hubs
- Hive off air navigation services from Airports Authority of India and strengthening DGCA and BCAS

## Sebi proposes stricter rules for stocks in F&O list

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Markets regulator Sebi on Sunday proposed to tighten the selection criteria for stocks that could be traded in the derivatives segment. As part of the proposed rule, it could eliminate those stocks that have low investor participation and yet are included for trading in the futures & options (F&O) segment of the bourses.

In the consultation paper, Sebi said that it was in 2018 that the rule for selection of stocks to be included for trading in the derivatives segment was revised. Since then while the trading turnover in the cash segment has jumped about 3.5 times, the number of securities traded in the derivatives segment has fallen from 207 to 182.

Average daily delivery volume in these stocks has also gone up by over three times. "The broad market parameters have shown significant growth. In turn, the criteria for entry and exit of stocks in the derivatives market should keep pace with the evolving market," it said in the paper.

Since Covid, turnover in the F&O segment has also gone up manifold, raising concerns among govt and the policymakers to tighten rules for trading in the segment, especially for retail investors. Recently the FM and the chief economic adviser had both raised such concerns on public forums.

According to a Nuvama report, about 24 stocks could be excluded from the current list of those in which derivatives trading is allowed, while 78 stocks could be added.

## In Volatile Market, Use MFs For Optimal Asset Allocation

With stocks turning volatile after the elections, financial planners believe mutual fund investors must not act in haste. They should stick to an **asset allocation approach** to managing their portfolios. There are several products available from mutual funds across equity, fixed income and gold, making it easy for an investor to allocate.

### What Does Asset Allocation Mean?

Asset allocation is a process where you decide how much of your total corpus should be allocated to different categories such as equity, fixed income, gold and cash — the most common components of an **asset allocation strategy**.

Financial planners believe this helps **minimise volatility** and **maximise returns**. This also helps divide money among asset categories that do not respond to the volatility in the market in the same way at the same time. For example, when equities go down, gold could go up or fixed income could remain stable.

Asset allocation will vary from one investor to another and will be determined based on age, lifestyle, goals, and risk appetite. A conservative investor may choose to hold 30-40% in equity funds, 50-60% in debt funds and 10% in gold funds.

## Invesco Mutual Fund

An investor education and awareness initiative

For Know Your Customer (KYC) guidelines along with the documentary requirements and procedure for change of address, phone number, bank details, etc., please visit the Education and Guidance section on [www.invescomutualfund.com](http://www.invescomutualfund.com). Investor should deal with only SEBI registered Mutual Funds, details of which can be verified under "Intermediaries/Market Infrastructure Institutions" on <https://www.sebi.gov.in/index.html>. For any grievance / complaint, please call us on 1800-209-0007 or write to us at [mfservices@invesco.com](mailto:mfservices@invesco.com). Alternatively, complaints can be registered on the SEBI SCORES Portal at <https://scores.gov.in>

Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.

### Why Is This Process Necessary?

It is difficult for any investor to predict when equity will go up or when it could correct. There could be many factors affecting it. So, when equities go down, and all your money is in it, you will be hit hard. However, if some part of it is allocated to gold and debt, it will protect your portfolio. Hence, spreading money across assets gives the best **risk-adjusted returns**. Wealth managers believe that in the long term, as high as 90% returns come from proper allocation.

### How Often Should Reviews Be Done?

Asset allocation plays an important role in the success of any financial plan. Investors should **review it at least once a quarter or in six months**. If any asset moves up or down sharply, say by over 10% of the targeted allocation, they could look at rebalancing the portfolio.

### How Can MFs Be Used To Diversify?

Asset allocation can be done using a **combination of mutual fund schemes**. Typically, a financial planner or wealth manager suggests an allocation based on the investor's **profile and risk appetite**.

For example, an aggressive investor with a ₹10 lakh portfolio could have 60% allocation to equity funds, 30% to debt funds and 10% to gold funds. Within equities, it could be split into half for a large-cap fund and the remaining to a mix of mid-cap, small-cap and thematic funds. In debt, it could go to a mix of ultra short and duration funds, while the rest could go to a gold ETF or gold saving funds. Investors could also combine hybrid funds to meet this allocation.

The allocation mix has to be **regularly monitored**. In the above example, after say six months, due to a rise in stocks, the equity allocation could rise to 65%, then it should be brought back to the original level of 60% by switching equity funds to debt and gold.

—PRASHANT MAHESH

# T20 WORLD CUP

"I HAD TO FIGHT FOR MY POSITION FOR A LONG TIME. AND THEN I WAS LUCKY ENOUGH TO HAVE CAPTAINS THAT BACKED ME, FINCH REALLY BACKED ME IN, AND IT'S THE SAME WITH CUMMINS AND MARSH AS WELL."

—Adam Zampa | AUSSIE LEG-SPINNER



## A CARNIVAL OF CRICKET IN NY

## Ruthless Aussies are too good for England

Fans Come From Far Off Places To Cheer For India, Pakistan Teams

Dwaipayan Datta  
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New York: Ayush, the trucker from Toronto, was a saviour. When the request on the app for a 20-minute cab ride on a Sunday morning in Long Island tells you the waiting time is one hour, you know there's something really big happening in the vicinity.

It's just that you happen to meet the boy from Bhatinda, who has driven for eight hours from across the border, and is ready to help the Indian journo in distress. "Come along, India ko jitana hain," he says, and we all feel obliged.

Ayush wasn't the only one who had come from far for this historic occasion - India vs Pakistan in cricket's 'new-foundland' - the United States of America.

Rizwan and Zeeshan, two businessmen from London, are in New York just to watch Pakistan play. Pakistan had a bad start to the World Cup, but that didn't matter. "It's the passion, how can we stay away from this... We have spent \$3000 dollars on this, hope the rain goes away," Rizwan told TOI.

The Sunday morning rain



**FRENEMIES:** India and Pakistan fans had a gala time witnessing the match between the arch-rivals



looked like a real threat for quite a while. While we were apprehending the worst - a wash-out on 'debut' - the locals gave us hope: "Look at the app, it's a passing shower and it will clear by 11 am."

"Rang me bhag nahin hona chahiye yaar," Navjot Singh Sidhu said in his characteristic style, walking

towards the makeshift elevator, where he was greeted by an old 'frenemy' Rameez Raja. The two openers of the 80s and 90s from two sides of the border embraced, and there was immediate banter in chaste Punjabi, as if they were back to the playing days. And when somebody asked Rameez if Nassau

County Ground reminded him of any off-shore venue, the former captain said: "Has to be Toronto".

It was in Toronto from 1996-98 that India and Pakistan played three back-to-back Sahara Cups - a bilateral ODI series - which saw Sourav Ganguly shaping up as a top limited-overs player

and Saqlain Mushtaq weaving his magic.

The two teams have stopped playing bilateral cricket over the years and one could feel the craving for India-Pakistan rivalry to be renewed. While Sidhu had said a couple of days ago that "cricket should be a unifier with India-Pakistan playing

more often on off-shore venues if needed," the fans echoed a similar sentiment. Haider, an IT professional from Maryland, who tries to watch India-Pakistan matches across the globe, said: "We just love to see the two teams playing. Imagine Virat Kohli and Babar Azam retiring without playing against each other in a Test match... It's just sad."

The Pakistan fans were thoroughly outnumbered on Sunday, but that hardly mattered. When Sachin Tendulkar, one of the guests for the match, took a walk around the Nassau County ground, one could feel how he is loved as much by Pakistan fans, as he is by Indians. "We have grown up watching him... How can he not love him," Rizwan, wearing the green of Pakistan, said.

The rains kept coming and going, the match became a stop-start affair; but those who are associated with cricket in the United States knew that the aim had been achieved. Sanjay Parthasarathy, the owner of Seattle Orcas, a team in Major League Cricket, told TOI: "The game has made a mark. If you are following the top news channels in the USA, they are all following it. Add to that the win of the USA team... Cricket is here to stay," Parthasarathy said.

We'll know in the next few years, but the signs are truly good.

**Bridgetown (Barbados):** Australia crushed England by 36 runs in Barbados on Saturday to leave the defending champions' T20 World Cup hopes in the balance. Defeat means Jos Buttler's men are still winless after their opening game against Scotland was wrecked by rain.

But Australia, who posted 201/7, are top of Group B with two wins after restricting their fierce rivals to 165/6 in their 20 overs. Australia's openers raced out of the blocks and the team posted the first score of 200-plus at the tournament even though no batsman reached 40.

Phil Salt and Buttler gave England a solid platform in their reply, reaching 54/0 after six overs before going up a gear, taking 19 off Mitchell Starc's third over. But spinner Adam Zampa bowled Salt (37) with his first ball to leave England 73/1 in the eighth over and took the prized wicket of Buttler in his next over for 42.

Will Jacks was caught by Starc in the deep off Marcus Stoinis for 10 as Australia turned the screw, conceding just 11 runs in three overs. Moeen Ali took three sixes off a Glenn Maxwell over but Jonny Bairstow went cheaply and Moeen perished for 25, caught by David Warner in the deep as England's situation became increasingly desperate.

England became bogged down against disciplined bow-



England's Phil Salt is bowled by Adam Zampa on Saturday

ing as the run rate climbed and Zampa finished with impressive figures of 2-28 off his four overs.

Earlier, Buttler chose to bowl at the Kensington Oval but quickly lost control as openers Travis Head and Warner went on the rampage. Spinner Jacks went for 22 runs in his first over, conceding three sixes as Australia's openers savaged the bowling.

Paceman Mark Wood also conceded 22 runs in his opening over as Australia raced to 55/0 in four overs, relishing a short boundary on one side of the ground. Moeen made the breakthrough England desperately needed in the fifth over, bowling Warner for 39 and paceman Jofra Archer flattened the stumps of Head (34), leaving Australia 74-2.

**BRIEF SCORES:** Australia 201/7 (D Warner 39, M Marsh 35, T Head 34; C Jordan 2-44) beat England 165/6 (J Buttler 42, P Salt 37; P Cummins 2-23, A Zampa 2-28). AGENCIES

## Akeal shines in West Indies' record win against Uganda

## Pulling out of IPL best thing for me: Zampa

**Providence (Guyana):** Left-arm spinner Akeal Hosen's career-best figures of five for 11 decimated an inept Ugandan batting line-up as the West Indies romped to a 134-run victory in a Group C match of the T20 World Cup at the Guyana National Stadium on Saturday.

Set a daunting target after the tournament co-hosts posted 173 for five batting first, the World Cup debutants looked completely out of their depth in being routed for 39 off 12 overs. The score equalled the record of the Netherlands against Sri Lanka at the 2014 tournament for the lowest innings total in the T20 World Cup.

West Indies' second win in as many matches pulls them level at the top of the table on points with Afghanistan although the Afghans remain in

### LOWEST ALL-OUT TOTALS IN T20 WORLD CUP

Score	Overs	RPO	Team	Opposition	Venue	Date
39	10.3	3.71	Netherlands	Sri Lanka	Chattogram	24.3.2014
39	12.0	3.25	Uganda	West Indies	Providence	8.6.2024
44	10.0	4.40	Netherlands	Sri Lanka	Sharjah	22.10.2021
55	14.2	3.83	West Indies	England	Dubai	23.10.2021
58	16.0	3.62	Uganda	Afghanistan	Providence	3.6.2024

—Rajesh Kumar



AKEAL HOSEIN

first position by virtue of a better net run-rate.

Now regularly entrusted with the responsibility of opening the bowling for the Caribbean team, Hosen felt the spectacular success on the night was just reward for continuous hard work and improvement.

"I needed this. In the nets and in the previous series we've played I felt the ball was coming out nicely but I just wasn't getting the rewards," he said after collecting the

"Man of the Match" award.

Just four days after an historic victory over Papua New Guinea, the Africans were made acutely aware of the yawning gap in class in the batting department, even if their bowlers still emerged from the match with considerable credit.

Opener Johnson Charles led the West Indies batting effort with a top score of 44 off 42 balls (four fours, two sixes), yet none in the celebrated power-hitting middle-order

were able to cut loose.

Captain Brian Masaba earned the two important wickets of Nicholas Pooran and opposite number Rovman Powell with his wrist-spinners, while seamers Cosmas Kyewuta and Juma Miyagi impressed with their pace and accuracy.

It was left to Andre Russell with a 17-ball unbeaten 30 (six fours) to the West Indies innings late acceleration.

"It's a very steep learning curve for us, especially in the batting department and we

have to learn from this experience and understand what we need to do to keep ourselves in the game," said Masaba in assessing the overall effort of his team.

"It's a huge challenge (this World Cup debut) but it's something we're enjoying and we understand if we are going to get better we need to be playing against opposition like this a bit more and over time we will be able to narrow the gap."

For West Indies captain

Rovman Powell, the improvement from a scrappy opening victory over PNG nearly a week earlier was particularly pleasing.

"That last game we were a little bit flat so coming into this game we just wanted to improve as a team and I think we're up to 70-80 per cent now and it's good to see guys getting performances under their belts because moving forward it's going to get tougher," he noted.

"We have been playing good cricket as a team for the last 12 months or so it's just for us to continue to improve because we understand the conditions and cricket isn't easy in the Caribbean."

**BRIEF SCORES:** West Indies 173/5 (J Charles 44, A Russell 30\*; B Masaba 2-31) beat Uganda 39 (A Hosen 5-11, A Joseph 2-6). AGENCIES

**Bridgetown (Barbados):** Australia spinner Adam Zampa said that pulling out of IPL 2024 was the "best thing" to do coming into the T20 World Cup, adding that skipping it also allowed him to spend time with family and tend to injuries.

"Yeah, obviously made that decision a little while ago to pull out of the IPL and I thought it was the best thing for me moving forward into this World Cup," Zampa told reporters.

"I was tired, I had some niggles and I'm a family man as well, so trying to put them first over work sometimes is pretty important. I actually am a bit of a slow starter and I put in a little bit of extra work. My body feels great and I just did that bit of extra work. Maybe a bit more bowl-

ing than I usually would before a tournament like this. And then the practice games and everything just feels nice at the moment," he added.

Cricket pundits have started drawing comparisons between Zampa and the legendary Shane Warne, following the former's crucial role in Australia's title-winning run at the 2021 T20 World Cup.

Zampa feels his skills had improved over the years. "I reckon I did the work when I was young, I went through some rough patches for sure, I got dropped I was in and out of the team a little bit and then I was probably in the team and not bowling that well - but in the last few years that skill is definitely better than it was eight years ago when I started." PTI

### GALLERY Sanjivani bags top spot in 10000m event

**Portland:** Asian Championships bronze medalist runner Sanjivani Jadhav won the gruelling women's 10,000m race at the Portland Track Festival High-Performance Meet, clocking a personal best time of 32:22.77 seconds here. Another Indian in the fray, Seema finished fifth clocking 32:55.91. Commonwealth and Asian Games medalist, Avinash Sable clocked 8:21.85 seconds in men's 3000m steeplechase to finish second.

**Russell takes Canadian GP pole:** George Russell edged Formula 1 points leader Max Verstappen on a tiebreaker for the pole position in the Canadian Grand Prix. Russell and Verstappen had identical laps of 1 minute 12.000 seconds at Circuit Gilles Villeneuve, with the Mercedes driver getting the top spot Sunday by setting the time first.

**Rivaan, Rehan, Atiqa finish on podium at FMSCI National:** Atiqa Mir, a promising young driver from Kashmir, secured the second runner-up spot, while Rivaan Preet-ham and Rehan Khan occupied the top two slots in the first round of the FMSCI Rotax National Championship in Bengaluru on Sunday. AGENCIES

### ACTION TODAY

**CRICKET:** ICC T20 WC, SA vs Bangladesh, 8 pm (Star Sports)  
**BASKETBALL:** NBA, 5.30 am (Jiocinema)

## Pedri brace helps Spain drub Northern Ireland

**Palma De Mallorca:** Pedri Gonzalez struck twice for Spain as they thumped Northern Ireland 5-1 in their final friendly ahead of Euro 2024 on Saturday.

### EURO FRIENDLIES

Alvaro Morata, Fabian Ruiz and Mikel Oyarzabal also netted for Luis de la Fuente's side in Mallorca, with wingers Nico Williams and Lamine Yamal oozing menace on the flanks.

Spain, in a Euros 'group of death' with Italy, Croatia and Albania, are aiming to win the competition for the fourth time. Northern Ireland surprised the hosts by taking the lead through Dan Ballard, who headed home a Caolan Boyd-Munce free-kick after just two minutes.

Isaac Price came close to a second before Spain recovered their poise and took complete control. Pedri pulled Spain level with a low drive from the edge of the box, before Alvaro



Pedri celebrates after scoring Spain's third goal on Saturday

Morata nodded La Roja ahead from Jesus Navas' cross.

Barcelona midfielder Pedri struck again after a neat move and Fabian Ruiz headed home Lamine Yamal's cross for the fourth. The second half was a calmer affair although Mikel Oyarzabal did net Spain's fifth after electric 16-year-old Barcelona winger

Yamal set him up.

Spain won the Euros in 2008 and 2012 but largely struggled since then until lifting the Nations League trophy last year.

De la Fuente's side face Croatia in their opening Group B fixture in Berlin on June 15, a day after the tournament in Germany begins. AFP

## Czech midfielder Sadilek to miss Euro due to bicycle accident

**Prague:** Czech Republic midfielder Michal Sadilek will miss the European Championship after sustaining a leg injury while riding a bicycle, the Czech team said on Sunday.

The accident took place at the team's training camp in Schlading, Austria. Coach Ivan Hasek called the injury of the Twente player a serious blow.

The 25-year-old was one of seven players who were on the Czech team that reached the quarterfinals at the previous Euros. He played 24 internationals for the Czechs, scoring a goal.

Hasek said a decision on who might replace him will be made soon. The Czechs play their final warm-up game against North Macedonia on Monday. AP

## Suarez to play in his fifth Copa

**Montevideo:** Luis Suarez, Uruguay's all-time leading scorer, will play in his fifth Copa America.

The 37-year-old Suarez, who plays for Inter Miami, was in the 26-man squad named by national coach Marcelo Bielsa on Saturday.

Suarez said on social media he was "very happy and proud" to be picked.

Uruguay face hosts United States, Bolivia and Panama in Group C. "Let's go Uruguay, let's go," Suarez wrote. He won the Copa America in 2011 and was the player of the tournament. He was picked for 2016 but injury kept him on the bench, and played in 2019 and 2021. AP

## Nagal wins Challenger title, all but seals Oly berth

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Helibronn:** Sumit Nagal virtually sealed his spot in the Paris Olympics tennis competition by winning the 120,000-euro ATP Challenger men's title in Helibronn, Germany, on Sunday.

Third seed Nagal overcame Alexander Ritschard of Switzerland 6-1, 6-7 (5), 6-3 in two hours and 41 minutes in the final of the clay-court tournament.

The 100 ranking points the Indian gained from his sixth



Sumit Nagal

Challenger crown saw him climb to a career-best ranking of 77 on the ATP Tour and confirm his direct entry in the

singles event for Paris. The singles draws will feature 64 players with the first 56 reserved for the best ranked players.

As per ITF regulations, each nation can pick six players each in the men's and women's sections with four entries allowed in singles and two in doubles.

With countries like Australia, Spain and Italy featuring more than four players in the top-100, Nagal's entry is a matter of official announcement.

## PGA Tour reports 'progress' with Saudi wealth fund leaders

**New York:** The PGA Tour reported progress without details from a face-to-face meeting between its negotiating committee and the Public Investment Fund of Saudi Arabia as it tries to work toward a deal.

"We want to get this right, and we are approaching discussions with careful consideration for our players, our fans, our partners and the game's future," the tour said in a statement released Saturday morning.

The meeting in New York on Friday evening involved the "transaction committee" of PGA Tour Enterprises and Yasir Al-Rumayyan, the governor of the Saudi Arabian sovereign wealth fund that pays for rival LIV Golf.

Rory McIlroy is on the committee and said he was encouraged by the progress. He referred to the three-hour meetings as "very productive,

very constructive, very collaborative."

"Definitely things are heading in the right direction," McIlroy said after the third round of the Memorial. He participated on a video call. "A lot of progress was made. I can't really say much more than that, but it was really positive."

PGA Tour Enterprises is the commercial group that came out of the framework agreement announced a year ago among the PGA Tour, PIF and the European tour.

PGA Tour Enterprises brought on Strategic Sports Group, which invested an initial \$1.5 billion earlier this year. Negotiations are ongoing to bring in PIF as a minority investor, and there has been more activity than previously believed.

McIlroy, who joined Tiger Woods and Adam Scott on the transaction committee,

said it has been meeting with PIF representatives every Monday, Wednesday and Friday over the last couple of weeks. The tour referred to negotiations as "accelerated" in recent months.

Friday's meeting was the first in-person discussion since players and board members met with Al-Rumayyan in the Bahamas the day after The Players Championship in March.

The tour said the committee and PIF have been meeting "multiple times weekly to work through potential deal terms and come to a shared vision on the future of professional golf." It said only that "more progress was made" in New York.

"We remain committed to these negotiations, which require working through complex considerations to best position golf for global growth," the tour said. AP

## TRAVEL ON YOUR MIND?

# BOWLERS GET UNLIKELY WIN

## South Africa wary of plucky Bangladesh

**India Defend 119 Against Pakistan In Crucial T20 World Cup Game**



**New York:** It was a comeback of dreams as India showed what they are truly capable of. The six-run win over Pakistan in New York's initiation to serious top-flight cricket was truly the spectacle that the sport was so desperately waiting for.

Down, out and virtually nailed into the coffin, the bravehearts in blue rose from the ashes as India's entry into Super-8s looks well assured. The toss went against India, a spectacular collapse led to them being dismissed for 119, and when Pakistan score read 80-4 in the 15th over, the game looked all but gone.

But that's when India's greatest white-ball matchwinner of all time showed his magic. Jasprit Bumrah pitched the ball in the right area and Mohammed Rizwan, who had battled on to 31 till then, played a poor shot to get bowled. The celebration told the story, the Indian bowlers knew they were back in the game.

Everyone chipped in after that, with Axar giving two off the 16th and Hardik Pandya removing Shadab Khan off a



**TALISMAN:** Jasprit Bumrah celebrates after getting the wicket of Pakistan skipper Babar Azam at the Nassau County Cricket Ground

short ball in the 17th, as the Pakistan wheels started coming off spectacularly.

It all boiled down to the 19th over with Pakistan needing 21 and Bumrah back in

action. The champion chose to bowl back of the length as Iftikhar Ahmed and Imad Wasim just couldn't get it going. And when Iftikhar departed off the last ball of

Bumrah's spell, a blue wave engulfed the stadium.

Eighteen off the last over was way beyond Pakistan's reach as Arshdeep, who had scored a vital few runs with the bat as well, did just enough to take India home.

Earlier, with the score reading 89-3 in the 12th over, the game looked fairly under control for India. Rishabh Pant (42 off 31 balls), in two gutsy partnerships with Axar Patel and Suryakumar Yadav,

seemed to have weathered the early storm.

But with the sun coming out and the pitch drying out just a bit, the two-paced nature of the track was slowly coming to the fore. And it was this slight advantage that the Pakistan bowlers utilized brilliantly.

Haris Rauf, who had looked ordinary till then, removed Surya, the batter failing to connect his bread-and-butter inside-out shot over

### SCOREBOARD

**India:** R Sharma c Rauf b Afridi 13, V Kohli c Usman b Naseem 4, R Pant c Babar b Amir 42, A Patel b Naseem 20, S Yadav c Amir b Rauf 7, S Dube c & b Naseem 3, H Pandya c Iftikhar b Rauf 7, R Jadeja c Imad b Amir 0, Arshdeep Singh run out 9, J Bumrah c Imad b Rauf 0, Md Siraj 7 not out; **Extras:** (lb 1, nb 1, w 5) **7; Total: In 19 overs (RR: 6.26) 119; FoW:** 1-12, 2-19, 3-58, 4-89, 5-95, 6-96, 7-96, 8-112, 9-112, 10-119; **Bowling:** Shaheen 4-0-29-1, Naseem 4-0-21-3, Amir 4-0-23-2, Iftikhar 1-0-7-0, Imad 3-0-17-0, Rauf 3-0-21-3.

**Pakistan:** Md Rizwan b Bumrah 31, B Azam c Yadav b Bumrah 13, U Khan lbw Patel 13, F Zaman c Pant b Pandya 13, I Wasim c Pant b Arshdeep 15, S Khan c Pant b Pandya 4, I Ahmed c Arshdeep b Bumrah 5, SS Afridi 0 not out, N Shah 10 not out; **Extras:** (lb 4, nb 1, w 4) **9; Total: In 20 overs (RR: 5.65) 113/7; FoW:** 1-26, 2-57, 3-73, 4-80, 5-88, 6-102, 7-102; **Bowling:** Arshdeep 4-0-31-1, Siraj 4-0-19-0, Bumrah 4-0-14-3, Pandya 4-0-24-2, Jadeja 2-0-10-0, Axar 2-0-11-1.

**Result:** India won by 6 runs.

**MoM:** Jasprit Bumrah

mid-off, the pitch playing its part. It sparked off a collapse where India lost seven for 28, a kind of a batting debacle that the Indian fans haven't witnessed in a while. But it didn't matter in the end.

**New York:** South Africa will hope for a better batting performance when they take on a plucky Bangladesh in their Group D match of the T20 World Cup here on Monday.

Both teams will have their task cut out as they will have to navigate the unpredictable surface at the Nassau County International Cricket Stadium. While South Africa may have a slight edge having played their previous two games here, Bangladesh are somewhat familiar with the conditions having faced India in their warm-up fixture at this venue.

South Africa laboured to victory against the Netherlands on Saturday and their batters didn't look comfortable in the win against Sri Lanka either while chasing 103 and 77 respectively.

The Proteas are not expected to tinker with their four-pronged pace attack comprising Anrich Nortje, Kagiso Rabada, Marco Jansen and Ottneil Baartman that has served them well in the tournament so far with Keshav Maharaj taking on the spin duties. The batters, however, will have to do better. Against the Netherlands, South Africa managed just 33 after 10 overs.



**IN FORM:** David Miller scored an unbeaten 59 vs Netherlands to help South Africa win a close World Cup match on Saturday

Had it not been for their No. 4 Tristan Stubbs and David Miller, who walked in at number six to score an unbeaten fifty, the Proteas would have been staring at a hat-trick of defeats at the hands of the Dutch at the World Cups. A win will put South Africa firmly in the driver's seat for a Super 8 spot.

History is also on South Africa's side as they haven't ever lost to Bangladesh in T20Is and have beaten the T10ers in each of the last two editions of the World Cup.

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**SPAIN REIGN: Alcaraz Outlasts Zverev To Claim Maiden French Open Title, Becomes Youngest Man To Win Grand Slam Titles On All Three Surfaces**

# CLAY KING CARLOS



Prajwal Hegde  
@timesgroup.com

Carlos Alcaraz fell on the clay, clenched his fists, and let out a triumphant shout. The French Open has a new king. The 21-year-old Spaniard claimed a 6-3, 2-6, 5-7, 6-1, 6-2 win over German Alexander Zverev in four hours and 19 minutes to become the youngest player to capture Grand Slam titles on all three surfaces the sport is played on. Court Philippe Chatrier was on its feet with the chorus of the evening, chants of 'Carlos, Carlos'.

Alcaraz, the third seed, with three major titles in his kitty, is the first person in the Open Era to win the semifinals and final at Roland Garros in five sets. He took home €2.4 million and the Coupe des Mousquetaires. The first set was all about getting a handle on the bruising conditions. Zverev, the older, more seasoned, struggled with his ball toss, the wind was gusting it up, moving the ball, shifting the goalpost almost. Alcaraz used spin cleverly, giving the ball air, cutting the pace and shaping the play with angles. He brought Zverev in and pushed him back, keeping the big German guessing. Zverev, who was looking at his box, asking his father for answers, was broken a third time in the opening set, giving Alcaraz the early advantage. The first game of second set was a see-saw sequence. Alcaraz led 40-0, then Zverev had three chances to break. The German pumped his fists and looked at his box suggesting he was in the game. The Spaniard won the game, but Zverev weighed in to level set scores. Alcaraz, in his third Grand Slam final, and Zverev in his second, were battling nerves as much as they were the wind, blowing in the northwesterly direction and making the baseline increasingly difficult to patrol. The third seed led 5-2 but Zverev broke in the ninth game when the flashy Spaniard was serving for the set. Alcaraz, who

joined the Novak Djokovic chorus on complaining about the condition of the court, asking if it was normal to play a Grand Slam final on a windswept Chatrier, even calling it a hardcourt. Meanwhile Zverev won five straight games to take a two-sets-to-one lead. Alcaraz, who had pickle juice reinforcements earlier in the match, believed to help with cramping, led 4-0 in the fourth set. Zverev pulled one back in cold, windy conditions and Alcaraz took a medical time out, the trainer arriving on court to attend to his quads. The third seed held in a tricky seventh game to take the final into the decider. The 27-year-old, on a 12-match winning streak coming into the final, started the decider confidently, but a sixth doublefault in the third game opened the door for Alcaraz, who took the lead. The Spaniard then produced the game of the final, coming back from 0-40 in an 11-minute exchange in the fourth, saving four breakpoints and finishing with a dropshot that was as gentle as it was deadly. Alcaraz then got himself the insurance break in the seventh.

**3-0** Alcaraz in Grand Slam finals. He also won the US Open in 2022 and Wimbledon in 2023

**SPANISH ROLAND-GARROS MEN'S CHAMPS, OPEN ERA**

Rafael Nadal	14 titles (2005-2008, 2010-2014, 2017-2020, 2022)
Sergi Bruguera	2 (1993, 1994)
Juan Carlos Ferrero	1 (2003)
Albert Costa	1 (2002)
Carlos Moya	1 (1998)
Andres Gimeno	1 (1972)
<b>Carlos Alcaraz</b>	<b>1 (2024)</b>

**2004** No. 3 seed Alcaraz vs. No. 4 seed Zverev marks the first men's final at Roland Garros since 2004 without at least one of Nadal, Djokovic or Federer participating

**"CARLOS, YOU'RE ALREADY A HALL OF FAMER AND YOU ALREADY ACHIEVED SO MUCH. NOT THE LAST TIME YOU'RE GOING TO WIN THIS."** - Zverev



ZVEREV WITH BJORN BORG

**3-CARLOS ALCARAZ (ESP) BEAT 4-ALEXANDER ZVEREV (GER)**  
Score: 6-3, 2-6, 5-7, 6-1, 6-2 Time: 4hr 19min

ZVEREV		ALCARAZ
8	Aces	3
6	Double Faults	6
38	Winners	52
41	Unforced Errors	56
60	Forced Errors	45
6/23	Break Point Conversions	9/16
10	Drop shots	20
139	Total Points Won	153

- YOUNGEST MEN TO WIN SLAMS ON THREE SURFACES IN THE OPEN ERA**
1. Carlos Alcaraz: 21 years, 1 month at French Open 2024
  2. Rafael Nadal: 22 years, 7 months at Aus Open 2009
  3. Mats Wilander: 23 years, 5 months at Aus Open 1988
  4. Jimmy Connors: 26 years at US Open 1978
  5. Roger Federer: 27 years, 9 months at French Open 2009
  6. Novak Djokovic: 29 years at French Open 2016
- YOUNGEST MEN TO WIN THEIR FIRST THREE GRAND SLAM FINALS**
1. Bjorn Borg - 20 years at Wimbledon 1976
  2. Carlos Alcaraz: 21 years, 1 month at French Open 2024
  3. Jimmy Connors - 22 years at US Open 1974
  4. Stefan Edberg - 22 years, 5 months at Wimbledon 1988
  5. Roger Federer - 22 years, 10 months at Wimbledon 2004

## Champion Swiatek serves up a Wimbledon warning

Prajwal.Hegde@timesgroup.com

Paris: Iga Swiatek, the queen of clay, who on Saturday claimed her fourth Roland Garros title, turned her attention to the grass court season, which is just round the corner. The world No.1 briefly considered doing her pre-season on grass in the hope that it would be easier to adapt to the surface when she got on it six months later. Tomasz Wiktorowski, the Pole's coach, who knows a thing or two about playing on grass, nipped the idea in the bud. The 23-year-old, who had her best result at the All-England Club last year, making the quarterfinals, played a tournament before The Championships.

"I feel like every year it's easier for me to adapt to grass," she said. "I need to continue the work that I've been doing. It's been easier, especially with my coach (Tomasz Wiktorowski) who worked with Radwanska. They had great results on grass and he kind of feels grass well." The Pole, who has had a physically challenging clay-court swing, is unsure if she'll play a warm-up event before Wimbledon this year. "Last year was the first time I played a tournament before Wimbledon," she said. "To play some matches before Wimbledon is good, but on the other hand, I played basically almost every match in Stuttgart, Madrid, Rome and here. We



POLE MODEL: IGA SWIATEK

need to take care of my body, as well. We'll see what the plans are." "The biggest progress on grass I can make right now is using my serves, which has been better," Swiatek said, adding, "Also I don't expect a lot. The balls are different. Overall tennis is different on grass." Swiatek's work on her serve in the pre-season has reflected glowingly in statistics in the first half of the year. In the lead-up to the French Open, she had won a whopping 83.6 percent of her service games, saving 71.4 percent of break-points. The world No.1 then upped the ante at Roland Garros, winning 85 percent of her service games.

The Pole will arrive at the All-England Club in two weeks' time armed with those statistics. "I think playing Wimbledon every year, preparing for two weeks before that, makes me progress anyway," she said of the surface. "Every year when I go there, it becomes easier to transition, easier to adapt." Swiatek has plans for the serve, which is more of a weapon on grass, than any other surface in the sport. "It will be good to use the progress I have made on my serve on grass," she said. It sounded like a warning.

**THIRD TIME'S A CHARM FOR COCO, PAOLINI LOSES 2 FINALS IN 2 DAYS**

Paris: Coco Gauff is a Grand Slam champion in singles and doubles, something she did not expect to happen so soon. The 20-year-old American won her first major doubles title on Sunday by teaming with Katerina Siniakova for the French Open trophy. They defeated Italians Jasmine Paolini and Sara Errani 7-6 (5), 6-3, giving Gauff her second major after winning the US Open singles last year. "I think it's just one of those things that when you least expect it to happen, it happens," Gauff said, reflecting on her doubles triumph. Victory finally came for Gauff in her third women's doubles final, having been the runner-up in championship matches at Roland Garros in 2022 and the U.S. Open in 2021. Paolini was also the runner-up in the singles final. "The last two weeks were very nice, very emotional," Paolini said. Siniakova owns a career Slam in women's doubles alongside partner Barbora Krejckova and has won eight majors. AP

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Opinion polls project centre-right EPP to remain European Parl's largest group, putting its candidate Ursula von der Leyen of Germany in pole position for 2nd term, P18

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**All India Ranks in Top 20**



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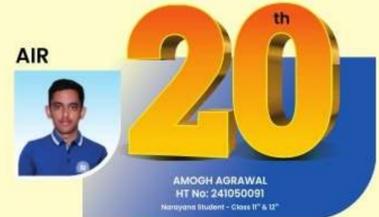
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Narayana Student - Class 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>

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HT No: 246161542

**BHOGALAPALLI SANDESH**  
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**RAJDEEP MISHRA (DLP)**  
HT No: 241016176

**MATCHA BALAADITYA**  
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**All India Open Category Ranks in Top 100**

AIR <b>27</b> ARJUN JAIN (DLP) HT No: 243000218	AIR <b>28</b> SHIKHAR JAIN (DLP) HT No: 243000219	AIR <b>31</b> RISHAN DUTTA (DLP) HT No: 243000436	AIR <b>33</b> RISHAN DUTTA (DLP) HT No: 243000437	AIR <b>40</b> ARNAV BARANWAL (DLP) HT No: 243000278	AIR <b>45</b> DHARUN SANJAY N HT No: 243000188	AIR <b>49</b> AVADH HINDOCHA (DLP) HT No: 243000213	AIR <b>51</b> R CHARRAN HT No: 243000184
AIR <b>54</b> RAJ TEJENDR HT No: 243000407	AIR <b>59</b> RISH VANDHAN MALU HT No: 243000478	AIR <b>63</b> HINDEKAR VISHV HT No: 243000438	AIR <b>66</b> SHOIBAN GOEL (DLP) HT No: 243000220	AIR <b>70</b> RISHI DUTTA VARMA DATTA HT No: 243000496	AIR <b>74</b> HIMANSHU THAKUR (DLP) HT No: 243000485	AIR <b>76</b> OPPA LAJMI NARASIMHA REDDY HT No: 243000439	AIR <b>77</b> MOHAMMAD SAAD ARI (DLP) HT No: 243000430
AIR <b>82</b> RUBAB DORNAL (DLP) HT No: 243000435	AIR <b>85</b> RISHAVAN SINGH (DLP) HT No: 243000186	AIR <b>87</b> DEVANSH SUTAR (DLP) HT No: 243000187	AIR <b>89</b> JAYESH SINGH (DLP) HT No: 243000189	AIR <b>90</b> RISHAV DORNAL HT No: 243000188	AIR <b>91</b> RANJEET SINGH (DLP) HT No: 243000189	AIR <b>94</b> RISHAVAN SINGH (DLP) HT No: 243000188	AIR <b>99</b> TANAY KHURJA (DLP) HT No: 243000189

Below **20**  
All India Open  
Category Ranks

**7**  
Ranks

Below **100**  
All India Open  
Category Ranks

**31**  
Ranks

Below **1000**  
All India Open  
Category Ranks

**179**  
Ranks

Below **100**  
All India  
Category Ranks

**127**  
Ranks

Below **1000**  
All India  
Category Ranks

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Ranks

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<b>AIR 1<sup>st</sup></b>  OBC-NCL <b>MATCHA BALAADITYA*</b> HT No: 245005057	<b>AIR 1<sup>st</sup></b>  ST <b>SUMUKH M G*</b> HT No: 242058343 (DLP)	<b>AIR 1<sup>st</sup></b>  SC <b>RAGHAV SHARMA*</b> HT No: 242053073 (DLP)	<b>AIR 1<sup>st</sup></b>  PWD <b>SREE CHARAN.CH*</b> HT No: 246162014 (DLP)	<b>AIR 1<sup>st</sup></b>  PWD <b>BIBASWAN BISWAS*</b> HT No: 245058146 (DLP)	<b>AIR 1<sup>st</sup></b>  GEN EWS PWD <b>GUNDA JOSHMITHA*</b> HT No: 246046005
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## ALL INDIA TOP 100 RANKS IN ALL CATEGORY - JEE ADV. 2024

<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> B CHARAN HT No: 24616142	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> KANCHE VISHRUTH HT No: 246124066	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> SANDESH BHOOGALAPALLI HT No: 246136003	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> DHANUSH SANJAY NIDAMANURI HT No: 246101188	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> VIVEK TEJA SAPAVATH HT No: 246100040	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b> RISHVARDHAN MAJJI HT No: 246014078	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b> ARACHANA R HT No: 246094025	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b> MOHITH JAGANNADHAM HT No: 246157381
<b>5<sup>th</sup></b> HIMANSHU THALOR HT No: 242050438	<b>6<sup>th</sup></b> RAJDEEP MISHRA HT No: 246101788	<b>6<sup>th</sup></b> ASHWARY VERMA HT No: 246104188	<b>7<sup>th</sup></b> GUNDA JOSHMITHA* HT No: 246046005	<b>7<sup>th</sup></b> SRI SURYA VARMA DATLA HT No: 246104038	<b>7<sup>th</sup></b> MUKRISHNA NIRMALKUMAR GAJRE HT No: 246101822	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	

<b>AIR 11</b> BALAADITYA M HT No: 245005057	<b>AIR 11</b> SIRAJ SHAK HT No: 246136009	<b>AIR 12</b> SUA HANESHA HT No: 246114289				<b>AIR 12</b> RAGHAV SHARMA HT No: 242053073	<b>AIR 14</b> SAYANDEEP HALDAR HT No: 244038184	<b>AIR 16</b> BISMET SAHOO HT No: 246102080			
<b>AIR 17</b> ARIYAN PRAKASH HT No: 246143226	<b>AIR 19</b> DONTHULA SAI VIVEK HT No: 246108888	<b>AIR 20</b> AMOSH AGRWAL HT No: 246105091				<b>AIR 20</b> Y. KETAN REDDY HT No: 246161578	<b>AIR 24</b> KUNCHAM SHIVA HT No: 246101222	<b>AIR 25</b> VIVEK NADELLI HT No: 246157667			
<b>AIR 27</b> BADRINATH VARMA B HT No: 246143658	<b>AIR 27</b> ARJAV JAIN HT No: 242022228	<b>AIR 28</b> SHEKHAR JHA HT No: 242022292				<b>AIR 31</b> SUSHANTH P HT No: 246182222	<b>AIR 31</b> ISHAN GUPTA HT No: 246102288	<b>AIR 33</b> SPARSH GUPTA HT No: 246102222			
<b>AIR 34</b> POURSEY RITISH BALAJI HT No: 246161267	<b>AIR 35</b> SARVAJITH KOLANU HT No: 246138229	<b>AIR 36</b> AARUSH C HT No: 246105083				<b>AIR 37</b> DEVANTH EDWAR D HT No: 246104222	<b>AIR 40</b> HARPREETH P.S. HT No: 246102085	<b>AIR 40</b> ANHAV BARANWAL HT No: 242022079	<b>AIR 42</b> DEBHARTI VIVEKANAND HT No: 246047028	<b>AIR 44</b> SHELAGH KORPAKA HT No: 246103040	<b>AIR 45</b> DHANUSH SANJAY N HT No: 246101188
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Clooney contacted a top US official in May to complain after Biden slammed ICC's move to seek a warrant against Israeli officials, a case his wife took up, P 18



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BELOW 100 ALL INDIA OPEN CATEGORY RANKS	<b>30</b>
BELOW 500 ALL INDIA OPEN CATEGORY RANKS	<b>122</b>
BELOW 1000 ALL INDIA OPEN CATEGORY RANKS	<b>203</b>
BELOW 100 ALL INDIA ALL CATEGORY RANKS	<b>146</b>
BELOW 1000 ALL INDIA ALL CATEGORY RANKS	<b>721</b>



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# SRI CHAITANYA DOMINATES

SEIZES 5 RANKS IN TOP 10 IN JEE - ADVANCED 2024 ALL INDIA OPEN CATEGORY



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Ms. Sushma Boppana, CEO & Director with JEE-Advanced 2024 All-India Toppers

ALL INDIA TOP RANKS BELOW 10 IN ALL CATEGORY

<b>1</b> RANK RAGHAV SIKHARIA HT. NO. 24202571	<b>1</b> RANK BIBASWAN BHOWAS HT. NO. 24202581	<b>3</b> RANK SATYAJADA JYOTIRADITYA HT. NO. 24202578	<b>3</b> RANK SALLURI VIVEK HT. NO. 24202572	<b>4</b> RANK VASANTA SRINIVAS HT. NO. 24202538	<b>5</b> RANK HIMANSHU THALAPUR HT. NO. 24202543	<b>7</b> RANK TEJAVATH SRI CHANDRANADHAN HT. NO. 24202577	<b>8</b> RANK PRAGALLAPATI V S SAI MURTHY HT. NO. 24202572	<b>8</b> RANK G. NIKHILKISHNA NIRMALKUMAR HT. NO. 24202572	<b>9</b> RANK M. E. VENKATA PARTHY HT. NO. 24202520	<b>10</b> RANK ADITYA ADHANA HT. NO. 24202574
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## ALL-INDIA OPEN CATEGORY BELOW 400 RANKS

<b>106</b> RANK ADITYA ADHANA HT. NO. 24202574	<b>112</b> RANK CHELLURI CHAKRADHAR HT. NO. 242025912	<b>120</b> RANK VAIDIK HT. NO. 242018022	<b>122</b> RANK POTTA NISWANTH HT. NO. 242056076	<b>124</b> RANK AYUSH GANGAL HT. NO. 247004085	<b>125</b> RANK MANOJ SOHAN GAJULA HT. NO. 241045213	<b>135</b> RANK ANVESH SUBHAM PRADHAN HT. NO. 242058091	<b>142</b> RANK M. AARYAN SRIRAM HT. NO. 242013046	<b>145</b> RANK KRISHNA AGRAWAL HT. NO. 2420293054
<b>149</b> RANK VISHARAD SRIVASTAVA HT. NO. 24107102	<b>150</b> RANK AKASH KUMAR HT. NO. 241024238	<b>152</b> RANK ARYAN GUPTA HT. NO. 242025412	<b>154</b> RANK BATCHU ADWAITH HT. NO. 242019494	<b>156</b> RANK AARUSH HT. NO. 24200104	<b>160</b> RANK ARCHIT RAHUL PATIL HT. NO. 242071012	<b>164</b> RANK ABHINAV V HT. NO. 242010518	<b>165</b> RANK MARADANA SAI SIVA LOCHAN HT. NO. 242055043	<b>167</b> RANK DORISALA SRINIVASA REDDY HT. NO. 242012373
<b>169</b> RANK KASAVAJJALA SAI SHREYAS HT. NO. 242015752	<b>172</b> RANK P NIKHIL CHANDRA HT. NO. 242008079	<b>175</b> RANK PALAGIRI SATHISH REDDY HT. NO. 242053573	<b>178</b> RANK KRISH JAIN HT. NO. 242018187	<b>180</b> RANK SOHAM DANGE HT. NO. 24112059	<b>181</b> RANK Y. SATYA SRI NEELESH HT. NO. 242019102	<b>183</b> RANK GADE VSSRK TEJAS REDDY HT. NO. 242015235	<b>185</b> RANK REDDI ANIL HT. NO. 242015815	<b>192</b> RANK MAVURU JASWITH HT. NO. 242016320
<b>204</b> RANK GUNTAKANTI SAI GOUTHAM HT. NO. 242009027	<b>206</b> RANK INAPAKURTI RAJESH HT. NO. 242022237	<b>207</b> RANK AIKLAVYA VEER SINGH RANA HT. NO. 247003189	<b>210</b> RANK GAUTHAM TATHANDA HT. NO. 241053236	<b>213</b> RANK T SAI DHEERAJ HT. NO. 242013038	<b>214</b> RANK AKARSH RAJ SAHAY HT. NO. 241064263	<b>215</b> RANK Y. TAGORE RAVINDRA SREE HT. NO. 242012718	<b>219</b> RANK SHREYAS ASTHANA HT. NO. 242094075	<b>223</b> RANK GURRAM HARI CHAITANYA HT. NO. 242014072
<b>224</b> RANK ARMAN SINGHAL HT. NO. 241051074	<b>227</b> RANK K. PRABHAKAR REDDY HT. NO. 242013055	<b>228</b> RANK RACHIT AHUJA HT. NO. 247003483	<b>233</b> RANK K. SAI HANEESH REDDY HT. NO. 242049230	<b>235</b> RANK M.MANIKANTA PRUTHVI RAJ HT. NO. 242058173	<b>238</b> RANK JULAPELLY HANIKAR RAO HT. NO. 2420156296	<b>242</b> RANK AVTANSH GARGYA HT. NO. 247004109	<b>244</b> RANK SIDDU CHANDRA TEJA HT. NO. 242023025	<b>248</b> RANK INESH AGGARWAL HT. NO. 247023178
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<b>297</b> RANK SHREYAS BALLATIGI HT. NO. 242014286	<b>297</b> RANK ADITHYA A HT. NO. 241042055	<b>304</b> RANK SHUBHRADEEP PAUL HT. NO. 242058176	<b>308</b> RANK KUNTIMADDI HARI HARA TEJA HT. NO. 242053418	<b>311</b> RANK MD.K. GHOUSE MOHIUDDIN HT. NO. 242019515	<b>318</b> RANK SRUTARSHI TRIPATHI HT. NO. 242067005	<b>326</b> RANK DHANUKONDA SRINIDHI HT. NO. 242016119	<b>333</b> RANK MURARI GANESH SAI HT. NO. 242022206	<b>334</b> RANK GUNDA GNANESH HT. NO. 242016198
<b>339</b> RANK YASH VASHIST HT. NO. 242025292	<b>353</b> RANK SIKHAKOLLI GURU SAI TEJA HT. NO. 2420595070	<b>355</b> RANK VENNELA NITHEESH KUMAR HT. NO. 242053304	<b>369</b> RANK YASHDEEP SINGH HT. NO. 242027780	<b>379</b> RANK A. PURNA PRITAM REDDY HT. NO. 24101812	<b>384</b> RANK TUSHAR HT. NO. 242043211	<b>393</b> RANK POLAMARASETTY KARUNYA HT. NO. 242016048	<b>395</b> RANK KESHAV NAVANDAR HT. NO. 242016065	<b>399</b> RANK ANNESU SATWIK HT. NO. 242009388

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# THE TIMES

INCLUSIVE OF EDUCATION TIMES & DELHI TIMES (CIRCULATED ONLY IN DELHI NCR) |

**ALCARAZ OUTLASTS ZVEREV IN 5 SETS 6-3, 2-6, 5-7, 6-1, 6-2 TO CLAIM MAIDEN FRENCH OPEN TITLE, BECOMES YOUNGEST MAN TO WIN A SLAM ON 3 SURFACES 24**

## Under terrorist fire, pilgrim bus falls into gorge in J&K, 9 dead

**Driver Was Hit & Lost Control; 33 Injured**

Sanjay Khajuria | TNN

**Jammu:** At least nine pilgrims were killed and 33 were injured when their bus plunged into a gorge following a terrorist ambush near Teryath village in Reasi district of J&K around 6pm Sunday, police reported.

"The identities of the dead and injured have not yet been confirmed, but it is believed that the pilgrims are from Uttar Pradesh," Reasi SSP Mohita Sharma said. A survivor named Santosh from UP confirmed that many of the passengers were from his state.

The bus was returning from the Shiv Khori cave shrine to Katra, a town

### SEVERAL VICTIMS LIKELY FROM UP

> 53-seater bus was going from Shiv Khori temple to Katra. Identity of victims being ascertained but cops said many pilgrims had likely come from UP

> Attack marks escalation in terrorist violence as Reasi district had been relatively peaceful compared with neighbouring Rajouri & Poonch



known for the Vaishno Devi temple. It was travelling on a link road of NH144A, winding through thick forests and mountainous terrain.

"Prima facie, it appears terrorists were waiting for the bus," SSP Sharma said. "The driver was hit by gunfire and lost control of the vehicle," the officer said, noting that bullet shells were found at the

scene. The injured have been taken to hospitals in Teryath, Reasi, and Jammu. Locals and authorities participated in the rescue operations, while a security sweep involving police, Army, and CRPF personnel was initiated to catch the attackers. The area, located 100km northwest of Jammu, has been cordoned off.

Initial reports indicate that two masked terrorists opened fire on the bus, hitting the driver.

According to 30-year-old Santosh, currently undergoing treatment in Reasi, a masked terrorist in military-style combat fatigues stood in the middle of the road and fired indiscriminately. "I could hear intermittent gunshots when the bus was rolling down the mountainside," he said.

Union minister Amit Shah condemned the attack and expressed his condolences, tweeting: "Deeply pained by the incident of the attack on pilgrims in Reasi, J&K. Spoke to the lieutenant governor and the DGP, J&K, and inquired about the incident. The culprits of this dastardly attack will not be spared and will face the wrath of the law."

► Related report, P 19

## Speeding Audi crashes into DU footpath, 1 dead

A 45-year-old rickshaw puller was killed and another injured on Sunday as an Audi car, driven by an HC lawyer, crashed at great speed into a sidewalk bench the victims were resting on, outside the main gate of Ramjas College in north Delhi. The driver was arrested and later tested negative for alcohol. P 8

## 70-yr-old stabbed at home, accused held

A 42-year-old man has been arrested for allegedly stabbing a 70-year-old at his Shastri Nagar house in north Delhi. The suspect claimed to have taken revenge over alleged ill-treatment of his friend, a maid at the victim's home. P 8

## B'deshi smuggler shot near border

BSF shot dead an alleged Bangladeshi smuggler near the border at Kalamchera outpost in Tripura's Sepahijala district during an area domination march Sunday morning. Police said a group of armed men were trying to smuggle goods and tried to encircle a BSF jawan when stopped. TNN

**Do not miss Education Times, a 12-page pullout with today's issue**

## Plea for concurrent jail terms rejected

Noting that terrorism must be dealt with sternly, Delhi HC has rejected the plea of a terror convict seeking that his seven-year sentence in a UAPA case for conspiring to establish an IS base in India run "concurrently" with the eight-year sentence imposed on him in another case. P 17

## B'desh MP murder: CID recovers bones

West Bengal CID has reportedly recovered bones of murdered Bangladeshi MP Anwarul Azim Anar from a canal in Bhangar, South 24 Parganas, Sunday. CID said Anar's daughter has been summoned from Bangladesh to provide samples for DNA profiling. P 11

## Denied loan, help kills employer's son

UP police arrested two sisters for allegedly abducting and strangling a 6-year-old boy in Dhampur village of Meerut on Sunday. One of the sisters used to work at the house of the boy's mother and was upset after the latter refused her a loan of Rs 10,000, police said. TNN

## ESCAPE IN NEW YORK: INDIA WIN A THRILLER



> Rishabh Pant hit a battling 42 as India pulled off a dramatic 6-run victory against Pakistan in their T20 World Cup match on Sunday

> Put in to bat on a tricky New York pitch, India were dismissed for 119, their lowest all-out total against Pak in T20s, but managed to restrict their rivals to 113/7

> After Pak's Naseem Shah & Haris Rauf both took 3/21 and Mohd Amir 2/23, India hit back through Bumrah's 3/14 and Pandya's 2/24

> India now boast a 7-1 record against Pak in T20 WC games. They also have an unblemished 8-0 record against Pak in ODI WCs

> The Men in Blue are well placed to qualify for the Super 8, with matches against Canada and the US left. However, Pak need to beat Ireland and Canada but could still be eliminated, thanks to their shock loss to the US

FULL COVERAGE | P 22 & 23

## 6 mths after quitting IAS, Pandian exits politics following BJD's debacle

Debabrata Mohapatra @timesgroup.com

**Bhubaneswar:** VK Pandian, who quit the IAS last November to join BJD and quickly graduated from ex-CM Naveen Patnaik's trusted aide to rumored political heir, ended his innings in politics just as swiftly on Sunday with a statement saying he was "sorry if the campaign narrative against me has had a part to play in BJD's loss".

"I have consciously decided to withdraw myself from active politics...I apologise to the Biju family and all workers of BJD. My only intent of joining politics was to assist my mentor Naveen Patnaik," said Pandian, who had declared at a rally that he would qu-

### Pujari frontrunner for Odisha CM's post

The field of contenders for the Odisha CM's post narrowed down to Brajarajnaraj MLA Suresh Pujari and three potential alternatives after the duo of Dharmendra Pradhan & Jua Oram were inducted into the Cabinet. Pujari faces competition from state chief Manmohan Samal. P 17

it politics if BJD didn't return to office with a 3/4th majority.

Tamil Nadu-born Pandian's resignation caps a week of setbacks for BJD, with Naveen missing out on a sixth consecutive term in office and the party drawing a blank in LS polls. BJP targeted him as a threat to "Odia asmita".

► Related report, P 19

## Ved Lahoti from Indore tops JEE (A), scores highest-ever marks

A Ragu Raman, Hemali Chhappia & Yogita Rao | TNN

**Chennai/Mumbai:** Ved Lahoti from Indore shattered the JEE (Advanced) records by scoring the highest-ever marks of 355 out of 360 in the 2024 exam. Dwija Patel (332 marks) from Gujarat, who ranked 7 in the country, topped among the girls.

Of the 1.8 lakh candidates who took JEE (A), 48,248 qualified. Of them, 7,964 are girls. This year, 455 more girls have qualified compared to the previous year. The JEE (A) results were declared on Sunday by IIT Madras, the organising college for this entrance exam that is the final gateway for the country's premier tech colleges.

► Related report, P 19

### TOP 7 RANKERS

- > Ved Lahoti | 355 out of 360 marks | IIT Delhi zone
- > Aditya | 346 | IIT Delhi
- > Bhogalapalli Sandesh | 338 | IIT Madras
- > Rhythm Kedia | 337 | IIT-R
- > Putti Kumar | 334 marks | IIT Madras
- > Rajdeep Mishra | 333 marks | IIT Bombay
- > Dwija Patel | 332 marks | IIT Bombay (Tops among girls)

### As a kid, he questioned teacher for low score

Ved Lahoti's self-assuredness got him a place in the record book as IITs raised his score by additional 3 marks after he challenged two questions. As a child too, if he scored low in any subject, he used to question his teachers. P 19

## Sand mafia kills 2 cops, one each in UP & Bihar

The sand mining mafia continued its deadly run in UP and Bihar, resulting in the deaths of a constable each in the two states, both fatally run over by tractors within hours of each other over the weekend. In UP's Farrukhabad, constable Rohit Kumar Pancholi, 24, was killed while attempting to stop a tractor-trolley involved in illegal sand mining Saturday night. In Bihar, constable Deepak Kumar, 29, was run over by a tractor in Aurangabad during a check for illegal sand miners. P 9

## 2 planes come dangerously close in Mumbai

In a close call at the Mumbai airport on Saturday, an IndiGo aircraft descended on the runway, touching down even as an Air India flight was taking off, breaching the safety margin, reports Manju V. The Air India plane lifted off a split second before the IndiGo aircraft touched down about 2,100 feet behind, said sources. On Sunday, a video footage went viral, prompting DGCA to initiate an investigation. P 9

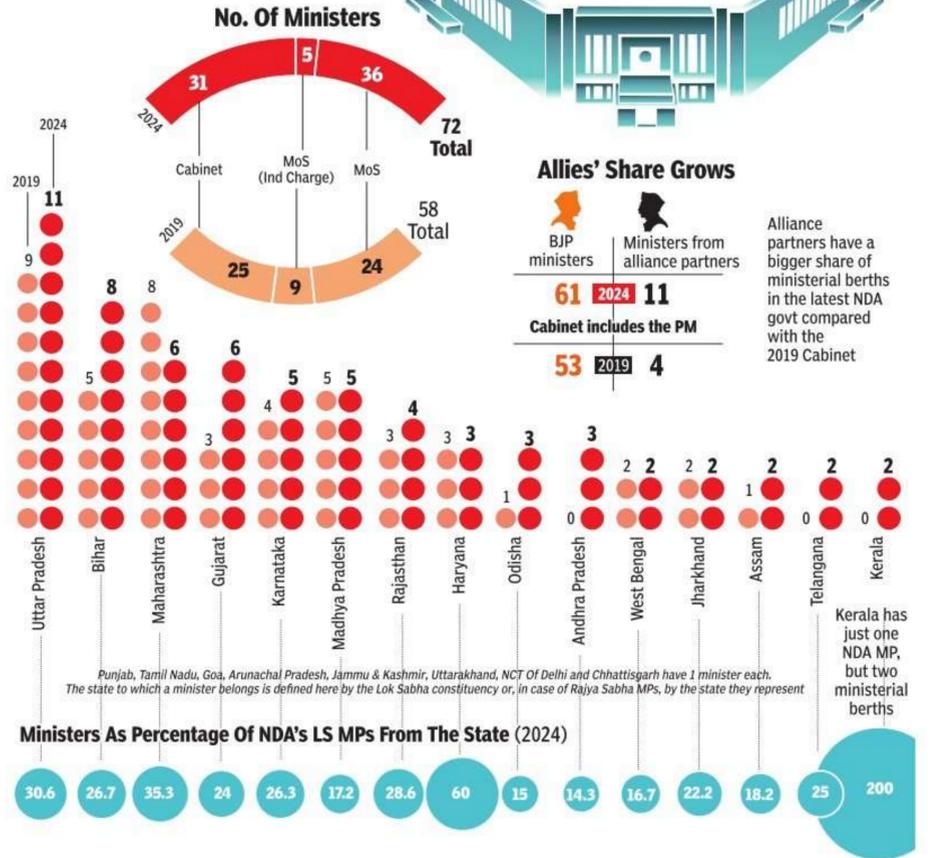
## 40°C+ temps for 32 days, longest streak in 14 yrs

Maximum temperatures at Delhi base weather station, Safdarjung, have stayed above 40 degrees Celsius since May 14, making this the longest streak of scorching heat in at least 14 years for which records are readily available. The streak is set to continue as IMD has issued a yellow alert for heatwave till June 13, with temperatures predicted to touch 45 degrees C. Safdarjung logged 42.5 degrees C on Sunday. P 3

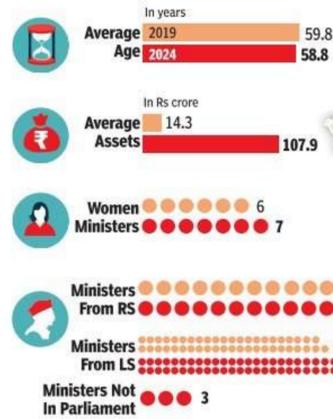
# NDA's MP Count Down In UP, But State Gets More Mantris

## Big Gains For Bihar Too

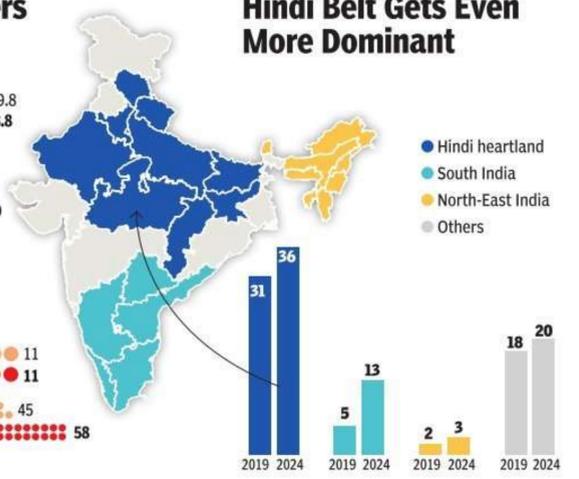
There are 11 faces from UP in PM Modi's newest council of ministers, the highest for any state. Bihar, Andhra, Gujarat each have 3 more ministers than they did last time while Maharashtra saw its tally come down



## Avg Assets Of Ministers Nearly 8x Higher



## Hindi Belt Gets Even More Dominant



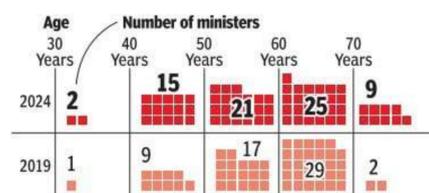
## 36-Yr-Old Andhra MP Is Youngest Minister

...And here are the oldest, richest, poorest and the most experienced MPs



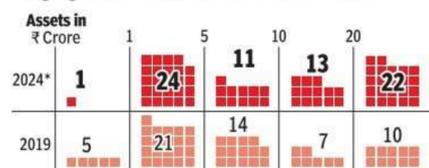
## 17 Mantris No Older Than 50...

Two members of Modi's latest council of ministers are younger than 40 years. There are nine who are older than 70



## ...Only 1 Mantri Not A Crorepati

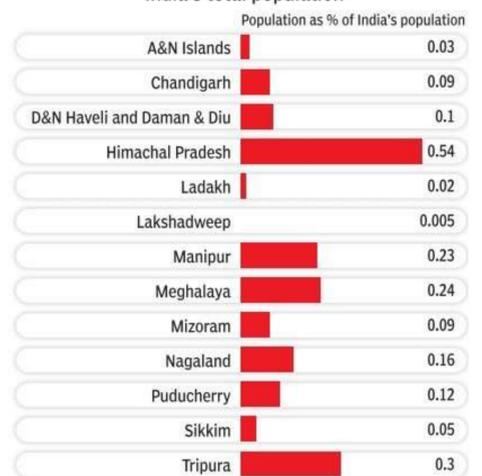
There are 22 ministers who have declared assets of over Rs 20 crore. Most ministers have wealth ranging between Rs 1 crore and Rs 5 crore



\*Asset data for George Kurian not available

## States And UTs With No Representation In Govt

13 states and UTs don't have ministers. But they represent just about 2% of India's total population



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