



POCSO CASE

Arrest warrant issued against Yediyurappa

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THIRD TERM

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Do coalition govts. slow down reforms?

Do they make too many policy concessions?

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INTO THE SUPER 8

Rutherford, bowlers help WI beat NZ

SPORT » PAGE 19

IN BRIEF

Manipur Cabinet panel to oversee rehabilitation

NEW DELHI
The Manipur government on Thursday constituted a Cabinet sub-committee to oversee the rehabilitation and relocation of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the State due to the ongoing conflict. » [Page 14](#)

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Row over new districts created in Rajasthan

JAIPUR
The BJP government's decision to appoint a Cabinet Sub-Committee to review the status of new districts carved out during the previous Congress regime in Rajasthan has led to a political slugfest. Former CM Ashok Gehlot has questioned the move. » [Page 4](#)

Kuwait offers help to repatriate bodies



Union Minister of State for External Affairs Kirti Vardhan Singh visits the injured in the Mangaf fire incident in Kuwait on Thursday. ANI

Kallol Bhattacharjee

In the aftermath of the Kuwait building fire that claimed at least 45 Indian lives on Wednesday, the Kuwaiti authorities have assured India of their “full support, including for medical care, early repatriation of mortal remains, and investigation of the incident”, Minister of State for External Affairs Kirti Vardhan Singh said on Thursday, after a meeting with Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Abdullah Ali Al-Yahya in Kuwait city.

According to the *Arab Times*, Kuwaiti First Deputy Prime Minister Sheikh Fahad Yousef Saud Al-Sabah has said the authorities have identified the bodies of 45 Indians and three Filipinos, adding that efforts are under way to identify the remaining one body.

At least 50 others were injured. DNA tests are being carried out on the bodies.

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TOLL OF KERALITES HITS 23
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NTA cancels scorecards of 1,563 NEET candidates

Centre informs SC that these candidates, who were given grace marks, will be allowed to attend a retest on June 23; if not, their original scores without grace marks will be treated as final scores

Krishnadas Rajagopal

NEW DELHI
The Supreme Court recorded the Union government's submission on Thursday that the scorecards of 1,563 candidates granted compensatory marks in the undergraduate medical entrance examination – NEET-UG 2024 – will stand cancelled. These candidates can sit for a retest, likely to be held on June 23.

The Union government informed a Vacation Bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta that these candidates will now be informed of their actual scores without the compensatory or grace marks. If they decide not to sit for the retest, their original scores without grace marks will be treated as



Fair chance: NEET aspirants protest against the irregularities in the examination at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi on Wednesday. ANI

their final scores.

The court was hearing petitions challenging the award of grace marks to the 1,563 candidates using a “normalisation formula”, on the grounds that they were not allowed the full period of 3.2 hours to write the exam at their respective centres. The compensatory marks were awarded to these candidates on

the recommendation of a committee constituted by the National Testing Agency (NTA).

‘Skewed situation’

When the decision to grant grace marks had come under a cloud, the NTA formed a subsequent committee, which held its deliberations between June 10 and June 12.

Appearing for the Union, advocate Kanu Agrawal submitted that this committee was of the opinion that the grant of compensatory marks to 1,563 students for loss of time had led to a skewed situation. Grace marks were limited only to unattempted questions. For the students who opt to take the reexamination, their actual marks in the retest will be taken as their result, and their previous marks from the May 5 test will be discarded, the court noted.

Appearing for the NTA, senior advocate Naresh Kaushik apprised the court that the retest would likely be held on June 23.

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MORE REPORTS
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Upper Yamuna River Board to resolve Delhi water crisis

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI
The Supreme Court on Thursday gave the reins to the Upper Yamuna River Board to resolve the drinking water crisis in Delhi, directing it to hold a meeting on June 14 and decide on giving Delhi water “at the earliest”.

The court pulled up the Himachal Pradesh government for making an erroneous statement in a June 6 hearing that it had surplus water up to 137 cusecs to share with Delhi.

Meanwhile, Delhi Police began patrolling the Munak canal area along the Haryana border on Thursday to keep a check on the “water tanker mafia” even as Delhi Water Minister Atishi met CM Arvind Kejriwal and was told to resolve the crisis “as soon as possible”.

FULL COVERAGE
» [PAGE 4](#)



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Court grants a month to vacate mosque premises

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court has granted one month's time to the caretaker of a mosque and madrasa at Sarai Kale Khan to vacate its premises, after which it will be demolished by the authorities.

A Vacation Bench of Justice Amit Sharma made it clear that no further extension of time shall be granted for vacating the Faizyab Masjid and the madrasa on its premises at Bhehlolpur Khadar in Sarai Kale Khan near the ISBT bus depot.

Deen Mohammad, the caretaker and authorised representative of the mosque, submitted that he will comply with the order.

The court was hearing a plea that sought to declare illegal the actions of Delhi Police and the Delhi Development Authority, which had threatened to demolish the mosque on June 13.

The plea also sought that the authorities grant an appropriate time for the petitioner to avail of legal remedies.

Gig workers brave extreme heat with no help from employers

No health-related assistance from delivery platforms despite several incidents of fainting on the job, heatstroke, employees say; doctors report rising number of patients with heat-induced conditions; companies not even offering surge fee: workers

Alisha Dutta
NEW DELHI

Pawan Kumar, a gig worker, has been running on a chock-a-block schedule since the onset of the harsh summer. The 25-year-old fixes air conditioners for an online platform, which gives him at least 10 assignments a day.

Battling the heatwave, he rides his rented bike to various locations across the city, climbs stairs with his heavy equipment bag, sometimes without even being offered a glass of water by his clients.

Mr. Kumar said he has been forced to work under the severe heatwave conditions without any health-related support from the company.

“Recently, I was on my third assignment of the day when I fainted. Minutes later, I found myself lying on the floor of the house, with my client sprinkling water



Unforgiving work: Contractual employees are forced to spend hours driving in the hot sun. FILE PHOTO

on my face,” said Mr. Kumar, adding that he completed his task despite being barely able to stand. Later, he was taken to a local hospital for treatment.

“Every day, at least one of my colleagues has been fainting. The company management did nothing when we raised the concern. They neither ensured our medical check-up nor gave us health supple-

ments,” said Mr. Kumar, adding that they were denied higher surge charges too despite working in such difficult conditions.

A similar scenario panned out recently when Rohit Garg, a food delivery partner, collapsed and had to be taken to the emergency ward of Safdarjung Hospital for treatment. The 24-year-old gig worker's body temperature had risen

sharply. Speaking to *The Hindu*, a doctor said he suffered a heatstroke due to prolonged exposure to high temperature.

Another senior doctor said their hospital has seen a surge in the number of patients suffering from severe diarrhoea, sunburn, and heatstroke. “Most of these patients have been working outdoors for long hours without any access to cool-

ing devices or healthcare supplements to control their body temperatures,” he added.

Pankaj Bisht, another food delivery partner, told *The Hindu* that while his platform boasts of reducing carbon footprint with the help of delivery workers who use bicycles, most workers are not getting any assistance to battle the heat. “Instead of assisting us, members of the management are requesting people on social media to not order during the afternoon hours,” he said.

Anil Kumar, who works with a grocery delivery platform, said with the onset of summer, there is a surge in small orders that yield less pay but demand the same amount of physical exertion.

“Online delivery platforms should pay us a higher amount for deliveries in the afternoon during the summer,” he added.



A firefighter trying to douse the flames in Chandni Chowk. PTI

Several shops gutted in massive fire in Chandni Chowk; no casualties

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Several shops were gutted in a massive blaze that broke out in a building in Chandni Chowk on Thursday, destroying property and goods worth crores of rupees, said officials of the Delhi Fire Services (DFS). No casualties were reported so far, officials added.

A call regarding the fire at Marwadi Katra on Nai Sadak was received at 5 p.m., said DFS director Atul Garg. Initially, 14 fire tenders were rushed to the site but later 26 more vehicles were pressed into service to douse the flames, he said.

Senior DFS official Sanjay Tomar said the the cluster of shops lining up the narrow lane made their work difficult. “We have surrounded the area from all four sides to stop the fire from spreading. The area has several old structures that have been turned into shops, which contain combustible material like sarees and other clothes,” he said.

Adding that the lanes were “too narrow” for fire tenders to pass through, Mr. Tomar said the DFS was using water bowsters and hydraulic platforms to put out the blaze. “Our first priority is to ensure that nobody gets hurt,” he said.

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बिहार राज्य पुल निर्माण निगम लिमिटेड/ केन्द्रीय / राज्य सरकार / एम.ई.एस. / सी.पी.डब्ल्यू.डी. / सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के समुचित श्रेणी में निबंधित संवेदकों से **SBD** आधारित ई-निविदा प्रक्रिया के माध्यम से दो बीड प्रणाली (तकनीकी एवं वित्तीय) अन्तर्गत निम्नलिखित ROBS सह पहुँच पथ निर्माण हेतु **प्रतिशत दर (Percentage Rate)** आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं। यदि संवेदक बिहार राज्य पुल निर्माण निगम लिमिटेड में पूर्व से निबंधित नहीं है, तब एकरारनामा के पूर्व निगम में निबंधित कराना अनिवार्य होगा।

क्र.	जिला	कार्य का विवरण	प्राक्कलित राशि (लाख रु० में)	परिमाण विवरण का मूल्य (Online Payment) (रु० में) (आवश्यकतापूर्वक)	अग्रचन की राशि (लाख रु० में)	Bid Processing Fee (Online Payment) (रु० में) (आवश्यकतापूर्वक)	कार्य की अवधि (माह में)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	सखीसराय	सखीसराय जिला-नलान्दा किडन-बेगीपुर सेवले स्टेशनों के बीच लिफ्ट लेवल क्रॉसिंग संख्या-55 के बदले आरओ ब्रीज (Road over Bridge) के निर्माण कार्य।	5539.78	10,000.00	65.40	5,900.00	24 माह

Sl. No.	Activity	Duration
1.	Download date of bid documents	From – 01.07.2024 (10:00 Hrs.) to 16.07.2024 (15:00 Hrs.) (www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in)
2.	Pre-bid Meeting	06.07.2024 at 15:00 Hrs. (Meeting Hall of BRPNML 7, Sardar Patel Marg, Patna – 800015)
3.	Last Date/Time for submission/ uploading of offer/Bid	18.07.2024 upto 15:00 Hrs. (www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in)
4.	Date & time for opening of Technical Bid	20.07.2024 at 15:30 Hrs. (www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in)
5.	Date, time and place of opening of Financial Bid	To be informed later to technically qualified bidder. (www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in)

विशेष जानकारी हेतु अधोहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय में कार्य अवधि में सम्पर्क किया जा सकता है अथवा वेबसाइट www.brpnml.bihar.gov.in / www.prdbihar.gov.in / www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है।
सम्पर्क पदाधिकारी का नाम:-
1. वरीय परियोजना अभियंता, मो.नं.-9153962629 वरीय परियोजना अभियंता
2. परियोजना अभियंता, मो.नं.-9153962620 बिहार राज्य पुल निर्माण निगम लिमिटेड
PR. No. 001664 (B&C) 2024-25 कार्य प्रमंडल नालन्दा (बिहारसरीक)
विस्तृत जानकारी www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar से प्राप्त की जा सकती है।
नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।



- **B.A.** Hindi, English, Mathematics, Economics, History
- **M.A.** Hindi, English, Mathematics, Economics, History, Public Administration

Yediyurappa may be arrested as POCSO court issues warrant

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The First Fast Track Court (POCSO court) has issued an arrest warrant against former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa in a case registered against him on March 14 under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012.

The octogenarian is accused of sexually assaulting a 17-year-old girl who had approached him with her mother seeking his help on February 2. On March 14, the Sadashivanagar police in Bengaluru booked Mr. Yediyurappa under POCSO Act after the mother filed a complaint, accusing him of sexually assaulting her minor daughter.

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID),

which is probing the case, had issued notice to the former Chief Minister to appear for questioning on June 12. Mr. Yediyurappa had responded to the notice, stating that he was in New Delhi and would appear for questioning on June 17. This prompted the CID to move an application seeking an arrest warrant. The court issued a non-bailable arrest warrant. With the arrest warrant, the CID will now move to arrest the BJP leader. CID teams have begun looking for him, sources said.

Mr. Yediyurappa, meanwhile, has filed two separate petitions in the Karnataka HC, one seeking anticipatory bail and another seeking stay of the probe and quashing of the complaint.

No nod to Veena’s Kuwait visit; Keralites’ toll hits 23

State announces ex gratia of ₹5 lakh each for those killed in fire; Health Minister, authorised by Kerala govt. to lead a delegation to Kuwait, cancels her trip as MEA denies political clearance

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Kerala government on Thursday confirmed that the number of Keralites who died in the fire that ripped through a labour camp in Kuwait had risen to 23.

The government announced an ex gratia payment of ₹5 lakh each for the families of the deceased and ₹1 lakh for the next of kin of those who suffered burns and fall injuries in the disaster.

More compensation
The government decided to expedite the process to bring back the bodies of the victims.



Huge loss: Kerala Health Minister Veena George consoles mother of Akash Sasidharan Nair, one of the victims of Kuwait fire. LEJU KAMAL

The State Cabinet announced that prominent businesspersons from Kerala M.A. Yusuff Ali and Ravi Pillai had informed Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan that they would donate ₹5 lakh and ₹2 lakh each res-

pectively to the families of the deceased in addition to the government’s aid, increasing the total compensation to ₹12 lakh. The businesspersons would channel their payments to the bereaved families via

the Department of Non-Resident Keralite’s Affairs.

State Health Minister Veena George, who was authorised by the Kerala Cabinet to lead a delegation to Kuwait, had to call off her visit as she was denied political clearance by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).

Talking to reporters at the Cochin International Airport, Ms. George said that the Centre’s decision in the face of death, tragedy and tears faced by the Malayali community was “wrong and most unfortunate.” She was accompanied by State Mission Director Jeevan Babu. They left the airport shortly thereafter.

Setback for actor Darshan as accused confesses, agrees to become approver

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

One of the key accused in the Renukaswamy murder case, in which actor Darshan and his friend Pavithra Gowda have been arrested, has reportedly confessed to the crime and is reportedly prepared to become an approver. If this comes through, it will pose a big setback for Darshan, sources said.

Deepak Kumar, presently accused No. 13, has reportedly volunteered to be an approver in the case, the sources said.

Deepak was in the shed,

the scene of the crime, when Renukaswamy was killed, and he later distributed ₹5 lakh each to the four persons who surrendered to the police, confessing to the crime in a bid to protect Darshan, the police claimed.

The actor has reportedly been denying any role in the murder. He has conceded that he went to the shed and left early, but has claimed that he was not involved in the murder. However, Deepak has allegedly told the police that Darshan along with other accused tortured the victim and kicked Renukaswamy

on the private parts, which may have caused his death.

Renukaswamy had sent an obscene photo to Pavithra Gowda on social media, which allegedly prompted Darshan to get Renukaswamy to the shed where he was allegedly tortured and killed.

The police have now separated Deepak from the other accused and are corroborating his statement with the evidence from the autopsy report which mentioned that Renukaswamy’s body had multiple injuries and bruises, indicating that he was tortured before being killed.

Timings DELHI			
FRIDAY, JUN. 14			
RISE	05:24	SET	19:21
RISE	12:24	SET	00:26
SATURDAY, JUN. 15			
RISE	05:24	SET	19:21
RISE	13:16	SET	00:52
SUNDAY, JUN. 16			
RISE	05:24	SET	19:21
RISE	14:08	SET	01:18

Delhi Weather	max	min
Delhi City	45	29
Safdarjang	45	29
Palam	46	32

Delhi Palam Today
44°C Heat wave to prevail. Morning will be slight warm. The weather will be very hot & uneasy with gusty winds. Night will be slight warm & uneasy.

Delhi Palam Tomorrow
45°C A dry weather to prevail. Morning will be slight warm. The day will be very hot and uneasy with warm winds. Several heat wave to continue.

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THE HINDU
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OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

SECOND ANNIVERSARY

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PH: 9820350726
selvakumar.@thehindu.co.in
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India's National Newspaper

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE
E-Tender notice no.: - SG-W-DNR-OT-05R-23-24 Sealed tenders are invited for and on behalf of president of India from competent and experienced contractors for execution of the work mentioned below:-
S.N.: (i) Name of work with its location and Completion Period: (ii) Design, manufacture, supply, installation, testing and commissioning of Automatic Block Signalling in Chhapra Gramin (CHPG) - CHAKMAKRAND (CKRD)(Excluding CKRD) (60 Km) in Sonpur division of E. C. Railway. Division: All Five Divisions including Zonal Headquarter of E.C. Railway. Completion period: 15 months.
(iii) Approx. cost of the work : ₹43,78,89,460.84/- (Rupees Forty Three Crore Seventy Eight Lakhs Eighty Nine Thousand Four Hundred Sixty and Sixty Four Paise only) (iv) Last date and time of submission of tender and Opening of tender: 09/07/2024 up to 12:00 Hrs. and 09/07/2024 at 12:30 Hrs. (v) Website particulars, Notice Board Location where complete details of tender can be seen: www.ireps.gov.in, on the Notice Board of Principal Chief Signal & Telecom Engineer/East Central Railway/Hajipur & Dy. Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer/Works, East Central Railway/Danapur.
Dy. Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer/Works
East Central Railway/ Danapur
PR/00475/DNR/S&T/T/24-25/40

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY Tender Notice
Email: dycmmcon@ner.railnet.gov.in, Internet: www.ireps.gov.in
Tender Notice No.-01, Dated 11-06-2024
Invitation of tenders through e-Procurement System
Dy. Chief Material Manager/Construction, North Eastern Railway/Gorakhpur and on behalf of the President of India, invites tenders through e-procurement system for the supply of the following items. Complete description of the item and other condition are available on website www.ireps.gov.in

Sr. No.	Tender No. & Due Date	Brief Description of Stores	Reserved to be procured from	Qty. Required	Earned Money (Rs.)
1	16245004 (e-RA) 08-07-2024	Contact wire 107 Sq. mm/ Joint less Grooved copper contact wire 107 Sq. mm made out of continuous cast copper wire rods etc.	CORE	85.8 MT	₹14,49,010/-
2	16245005 (O.T) 08-07-2024	Un insulated Cadmium copper catenary wire 65 Sq. mm. (19x2.10 mm)	CORE	50.5 MT	₹ 8,37,090/-

CPRO/S-29 Dy. Chief Material Manager/IC, Gorakhpur
Never travel on roof and foot boards.

THE HINDU GROUP

POWERPLAY T20 TRIVIA QUIZ

1. As of the start of this World Cup, which batting pair is the only one to have been involved in two century partnerships against India in T20 World Cups?
2. Which bowler currently holds the record for the worst bowling figures against India in T20 World Cups with a spell of 0/60 in 4 overs?
3. Which stadium is set to host the 2024 T20 World Cup final? (This stadium also hosted the 2010 T20 World Cup final)

Scan the code, to participate in the quiz and win exciting gift vouchers

Answer to yesterday's quiz:
1. Ajantha Mendis
2. England
3. Australia

UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Undertaking), Victoria Cross Vijeta Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwall Road, Dehradun-248001, Corporate Identity No. U440108UP2001SGC025887/2358, Telephone: (0135)-2763872-76, Fax: (0135)-2760289, Website: www.uktenders.gov.in
E-TENDER NOTICE (SPECIFICATION NO. CCP-II/2/2024-2025)
Uttarakhand Power Corporation Ltd., Dehradun invites e-tender for supply of following item:-

Name of the Item	Quantity (in Nos.)	Estimated cost (₹)	Average Yearly Turn Over of Preceding Three Financial year (₹)	Earnest Money Deposit (₹)	Cost of tender document including GST (₹)	Last Date & time of online request for Tender and submission of tender in online & off line mode	Date of opening of Part-I of tender in online & off line mode
33/11kV, 12.5MVA Power Transformers	90	108.98 CRORE	163.47 CRORE	2.18 CRORE	29 500	29.06.2024 upto 17.00 Hrs	01.07.2024 at 15:45 hrs.

for further details, please visit our website www.uktenders.gov.in
No.: 285/EE/(CM)/UPCL/A-2 Dt. 12.06.2024
"SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATION, Use L.E.D Bulb to Save Electricity (Toll Free No. 1912)" "Pay Electricity bill online 24x7 from www.upcl.org". (For information on Electricity theft, informer may report to Toll free No 1800 1804185/ Fax: 0135-2760911)
Superintending Engineer
Corporate (Contract & Procurement-II)

Notice Inviting Bid
Bid ID No.: - 2023_DAH1_79892_1 Dated: 7th June 2024
RFP for the "Establishment of Centre of Excellence-Dairy Farm-cum-Training Centre" at Village Basal District Una in Himachal Pradesh on Turnkey basis and on Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Mode and Supply of Robotics and Other equipment of Specified Standards Thereof Including Comprehensive Maintenance of Robotics, Machinery and Equipment for Period of Five (05) Years". The scope of work will broadly include the Design, Engineering, Development, Construction, and Supply of Robotics and other equipment of Specified Standards thereof as detailed at Volume-II: Requirements and Specifications and the Details of the facilities to be developed are given in Volume-III – Lay out, Drawings & Designs for buildings including Situation Plan, Building Floor Plans, Section & Facades in this RFP. The MS, HPLPDB now invites bids from eligible Bidder (s) for the following project:

Name of work	Estimated cost In Cr [†]	Completion period	Operation and Maintenance period
"Establishment of Centre of Excellence-Dairy Farm-cum-Training Centre" at Village Basal District Una in Himachal Pradesh on Turnkey basis and on Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Mode and Supply of Robotics and Other equipment of Specified Standards Thereof Including Comprehensive Maintenance of Robotics, Machinery and Equipment for Period of Five (05) Years".	₹ 40,00,00,000.00 (Indian Rupees- INR Forty-Crores Only) Exclusive of Operation & Maintenance Cost	18 months	60 Months (Post completion period)

- Estimated cost is an indicative cost Exclusive of Operation & Maintenance Cost and not binding on HPLPDB, bidders have to do their own due diligence for ascertaining the same.
- The RFP document is required to be downloaded from the web-site <https://hptenders.gov.in> Entire tender process will be carried out online through above mentioned website and the Tenderers need to login to the site through their user ID/ password chosen during registration at <https://hptenders.gov.in>
- The RFP document can also be downloaded from website of the Department of Animal Husbandry Himachal Pradesh <https://bit.ly/3F7LEaJ>
- The Bidding document may be downloaded from the website <https://hptenders.gov.in>, and the Bidder will pay a sum of ₹ 5,00,000 (Indian Rupees-INR Five Thousand Only) + 18% GST as non-refundable cost of the Bidding documents during the submission of the Bid, in the shape of Demand Draft in the name of Director Animal Husbandry, cum Member Secretary Himachal Pradesh Livestock Development Board, Shimla-5.
- The bids are required to be uploaded on the tender site: hptenders.gov.in within the stipulated time frame as detailed in NIT & tender input form and the Tender Notice dated 7 June 2024
Tenderer is required to upload the tender application along with requisite documents on the tender site. The tender documents shall be uploaded under two bid system. One bid containing separately the "Technical Bid" and the second bid "Financial Bid"
- The Bidder shall furnish as part of its Bid, an Earnest Money of ₹ 80,00,000 (Indian Rupees-INR Eighty Lakh Only). Earnest Money shall be paid through or BG-Bank Guarantee or FD Pledged in favour of DAH cum MS as mentioned in Tender document.
- The Bidder shall also be required to submit the Technical Bid in hard bound covers as specified in Clause 3.12 of this document. The Bidder shall be required to submit the Bid in hardbound cover by 11:00 AM, Monday-24-June-2024, Technical Bids of those Bidders who have not submitted their hard copy bid, shall not be considered for opening and evaluation.
- Financial Bid has to be uploaded Only online. Prices are expected to be quoted as the price in Indian Rupees in totality for the turnkey project over the BOQ in the Tender Document. Any attempt to disclose the price in Technical Bid will lead to disqualification of the bid.**
- The Time followed in this RFP is Indian Standard Time (IST) which is GMT+5:30. The bidders should adhere to this time during bid submission.
- All the informations contained in the RFP are merely indicative and may not represent the final requirement of the project.
- The specifications and requirements for all the items / structures are representative of standards and automated technological solutions and the bidder may provide better integrated automated solutions for establishing the facility
- The Service Provider/Contractor shall abide by and comply with all the relevant laws and statutory requirements covered under Contract Labour (regulation & abolition Act 1970), Minimum Wages Act, EPF & MP Act 1952 and any other law if applicable with regard to the labour engaged by him for works, at his own cost and risk.
- Exclusions: -
 - Procurement of Animals is not covered under scope of work of current RFP.
 - Construction of Bio Gas Unit is not covered under scope of work of current RFP.
 - Setting up of Dairy processing Plant is not covered under scope of work of current RFP.
 - Construction of Guard Room is not covered under the scope of work of current RFP.
- Bank Details Himachal Pradesh Livestock & Poultry Development Board-Shimla-5
 - Account No:- 36591811962
 - IFSC Code:- SBIN0006785
 - Branch:- SBI Bolleau Ganj, Shimla
 - Name of Account Holder:- HP Livestock Dev Board Shimla-5

Availability of tender information:-
Tender information Inquiries and clarifications are required to be addressed the Director, Animal Husbandry-cum-Member Secretary Himachal Pradesh Livestock & Poultry Development Board, Pashudhan Bhawan Shimla-171005 Phone No. 0177-2830089.
All queries must be sent over email to following e-mail addresses:-

- ms-lab@hp.gov.in
- ceohplpdb@gmail.com

(Signature)

Director, Animal Husbandry-cum-Member Secretary Himachal Pradesh Livestock & Poultry Development Board, Pashudhan Bhawan Shimla-171005 Phone No. 0177-2830089 Email: ms-lab@hp.gov.in

HP / 0133/24-25

Will strive to take control of State: Sharad Pawar

Shoumojit Banerjee
PUNE

Nationalist Congress Party (SP) chief Sharad Pawar has begun campaigning for the upcoming Maharashtra Assembly elections. On Thursday, Mr. Pawar, on the last day of his three-day Baramati visit, said he would strive to “take control” of Maharashtra, for which end his party must win the Assembly elections and change the *[Mahayuti]* government in the next

four-six months. “Prior to the Lok Sabha election, my partymen used to tell me that people were not speaking openly. I told them not to worry. The people voted for us in large numbers,” he said.

At a meeting at Shirshu-phal village in Baramati, Mr. Pawar said that while he would try to resolve the issues like farmers’ problems put before him, he could not give assurances now as a different government was in place.

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
भारत सरकार का उपक्रम A Government of India Undertaking
Together We Can

CANARA BANK EMPLOYEES' PENSION FUND
HUMAN RESOURCES WING, HEAD OFFICE, BENGALURU
Tel No : 080-25323801. E-mail: hopenfund@canarabank.com

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO CANARA BANK RESIGNEES
As per the 9th Joint Note / 12th Bipartite Settlement dated 08.03.2024 and with approval of DFS (MoF), employees who were in service of the Bank on or after 01.01.1986 and had joined the Bank before 01.04.2010 and have resigned from the service of the Bank on or before 26.04.2010 and were otherwise eligible to join the pension scheme while in service have been given an option and opportunity to join the Pension scheme within 90 days from the date of issuance of Bank's circular i.e. 12.06.2024 to 09.09.2024 (including both days).
For further details, please visit our Bank's website <https://canarabank.com/pages/ex-employees> or any Canara Bank Branch or contact Employees' Pension Fund Section, Canara Bank, HQ, Bengaluru.
Place : Bengaluru
Date : 14.06.2024 CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER-HR WING

NEW OKHLA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida G.B. Nagar, (UP)
Website : www.noidaauthorityonline.in
E-TENDER NOTICE
E-Tenders are invited from eligible contractors/firms for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened /downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website: www.noidaauthorityonline.in & <https://tender.up.nic.in> Please ensure to see these website for any changes/ amendments & corrigendum etc.
A) Fresh Tender Work:-

SL. No.	Job No	Name of Work	Tender Amount (Rs. in Lacs)
1	02/DGM(E&M)/SM (E&M)-II/ET-2024-25	Providing lighting Arrangement sport complex of village yakubpur in sector-86, Noida	73.21
2	01/DGM(E&M)/S.M.(E/M)-III 2024-25	Providing Park Light arrangement in A-block Park sector-42, Noida	33.43
3	04/D.G.M.(E./M)/Sr.M(E/M)-I/E.T/ 2024-25	Providing Decorative Pole and strengthening of Park light in Parks sector-105, Noida	94.91
4	05/D.G.M.(E./M)/Sr.M(E/M)-I/E.T/ 2024-25	Internal Electrification of newly constructed Community Center at B-Block Sector-108, Noida	56.04

The above tenders can be uploaded by dated 27.06.2024 up to 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on dated 28.06.2024 at 11.00 AM.
B) Re-Tender Work:-

SL. No.	Job No	Name of Work	Tender Amount (Rs. in Lacs)
1	52/DGM(E&M)/Sr.M(E/M)-IV/ 2023-24	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Hybycozo Lamp From DND to Film City Flyover, Sector-16A, Noida	96.29

The above tenders can be uploaded by dated 20.06.2024 up to 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on dated 21.06.2024 at 11.00 AM.
Office Dy. General Manager (E&M) Noida
Sector-39
CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

CUB
TRUST INCORPORATED SINCE 1984

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED
Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. E-Mail Id : crmd@cityunionbank.in, Ph : 0435-2432322, Fax : 0435-2431746

RE-TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002
The following properties mortgaged to City Union Bank Limited will be sold in Re-Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of Rs.26,47,028/- (Rupees Twenty Six Lakh Forty Seven Thousand and Twenty Eight only) as on 10-06-2024 together with further interest to be charged from 11-06-2024 onwards and other expenses, any one who is desirous to bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. (7) The successful bidder shall have to pay 25% (inclusive of EMD paid) of the sale amount immediately on completion of sale and the balance amount of 75% within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of 25% shall be forfeited. (8) The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. (9) The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. (10) The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. (11) The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.
Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 12-06-2024 Authorised Officer

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, CIN - L65110TN1904PLC001287, Telephone No. 0435-2402322, Fax : 0435-2431746, Website : www.cityunionbank.com

SPOTLIGHT

On May 5, after a tense 3.2 hours of answering 180 questions, 18-year-old Jind resident Shubham Lohan, expected a near perfect score of 705/720, in what would be his second attempt at the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) that qualifies students to study medicine.

Lohan says he attempted the test again this year because he hoped to improve his score for an MBBS in one of the 20 premier All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) that offer nearly 2,000 seats. He quickly calculated his possible score based on the answer key provided by his coaching class. The test is multiple-choice-based, and scores are calculated through a computerised system based on Optical Mark Recognition (OMR) technology.

“I was expecting to get admitted to AIIMS Jodhpur or Rishikesh,” he says. But a month later, when Lohan received the mark sheet, he was shocked. “My score was 705 (out of 720), but my rank was inflated by almost four times, to 1,177,” he says. “I belong to the General Quota, so I have next to no expectations of bagging a seat in AIIMS,” says Lohan, who has dedicated two years after school towards NEET preparation. He was hoping for a rank of about 300 based on the previous years’ records.

Over 2.3 million students like Lohan appeared for NEET. Of these, 67 got full marks, as revealed in the list of top 100 candidates that was attached in the public release. Since this had never happened before, students and their parents were thrown into confusion because even those who scored what would be considered a high mark were pushed down in the ranking system.

Further developments

Two days after the results, the National Testing Agency (NTA) that conducts NEET and a few other centralised entrance exams, revealed through a press statement that “grace marks” were given to 1,563 candidates for “loss of time”, when exams began late in some centres. Marks were also given for an error in a Physics concept in the NCERT textbook.

Students began demanding a re-exam. After the results were declared on June 4, public interest litigations (PILs) were filed in the Supreme Court demanding a fair probe. The NTA was compelled to open a probe, but the four-member committee is headed by Pradeep Kumar Singh, the chairperson of NTA, the very agency that has found itself in the eye of a storm.

In its decision on June 13, the SC ordered that the compensatory marks be cancelled and those students be given an option of a re-exam.

India has a little over 60,000 MBBS seats in government medical colleges with fees as low as ₹10 lakh for five years. These limited seats are available to top rankers, this year to over 13 lakh who have qualified. In a private medical college, of which there are another 50,000-odd seats, fees could go up to ₹1 crore or more. The rest of those who clear the exam but don’t make it to medical colleges, may choose allied subjects like dentistry, physiotherapy, and veterinary sciences.

Widespread anguish and protests

Over the past week, protests have erupted across the country from Banaras Hindu University in Varanasi to Delhi’s Jantar Mantar. Temperatures touching 46 degrees Celsius are not deterring desperate students from organising day-long sit-in protests outside the NTA office in Okhla, as well as staging demonstrations outside the Ministry of Education housed in Shastri Bhawan, a stone’s throw away from the Indian Parliament.

On Wednesday, the protest at Jantar Mantar, organised by student outfits National Students’ Union of India (NSUI), saw sloganeering led by “NTA ki taanashahi nahi chalegi (The highhanded approach of NTA won’t work),” and “We want re-NEET”. A poster forming the backdrop read, “24 lakh students demand exam not scam”.

The protests in Delhi brought together students from Delhi University, Jawaharlal Nehru University, and other institutes, uniting left-leaning and RSS-affiliated student outfits like the ABVP. While the All India Students’ Association (AISA), along with aspirants and parents, submitted a memorandum to the education ministry, ABVP called for a CBI probe into the matter.

Virendra Kumar Verma, 48, who participated in the protest outside NTA says he is crushed to learn about the irregularities in the way the exam was conducted. Originally from Bihar, Verma now works as a daily wage in Dwarka. “It has been our dream to see our daughter become a doctor.... She put in 14 hours a day, for three continuous years. Now, it is disheartening to see the system fail students like us.”

His daughter, Kanakpriya, 22, appeared for the test without coaching. Her score improved from 536 in 2022 to 631 in 2024. Kumar added, “I could not afford coaching classes. This is why it took three attempts. We were hoping that she would make it this time because she has worked very hard. We are fighting because the children deserve a retest.”

Nearly 140 kilometres away from Delhi, 48-year-old Priyavrat Verma in Mirchpur village, Hisar district in Haryana, shows off his son Harsh’s NEET score, published in a local newspaper. Harsh, 17, who graduated from a local senior secondary school, scored 645/720 in his first attempt. Priyavrat says he felt his son was assured of a government medical college seat in Haryana, going by last year’s college placements.

“PGI Rohtak or Kalpana Chawla Government Medical College in Karnal would have been easy for Harsh to get,” says Priyavrat, sitting with his wife in their three-room home. As per last year’s results, Harsh would have got a rank in the 7,000 range; now, he is at 34,056.



A protest over the alleged irregularities in the NEET 2024 results, in New Delhi on June 9; (bottom) a protester at Jantar Mantar. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP; SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

The NEET sheeters

Students from across India are out on the streets protesting the bump up in marks for a few, affecting the lives of many. **Maitri Porecha** finds that ranks have been impacted by this, leaving several candidates out of the possibility of entering low-cost government medical colleges. Students and parents have written letters to the authorities, with some filing cases in the Supreme Court



I could not afford coaching classes. This is why it took three attempts. We were hoping that she would make it this time because she has worked very hard. We are fighting because the children deserve a retest

VIRENDRA KUMAR VERMA
Father of a candidate

Every day in the last year, Harsh would travel over 35 km to attend coaching classes in the neighbouring district of Jind. “The coaching fees is ₹1.65 lakh per annum. I could not afford this after I lost my job, so I pawned off family gold and asked friends for money for my son’s coaching. It breaks my heart to see him study so hard for an exam which now stands compromised,” Priyavrat says.

NTA’s alleged lack of transparency

Since the start of NEET in 2016, every year only one candidate achieved the highest score until 2019. In 2020, two candidates got 720/720, and in 2021, the number of toppers rose to three. In 2022 and 2023, one and two candidates, bagged the full scores, respectively.

Of the students who got full marks, six candidates – with one each from Rajasthan and Delhi – were from just one centre, Hardayal Public School, in Haryana’s Jhajjar district.

“We want an analysis of data of the top 50,000 candidates to be put into the public domain to understand which centres the aspirants belong to, and if there is an issue of ‘clustering’ of toppers in other centres too,” says Dr. Krishan Sharma, a veterinarian and parent of an aggrieved candidate from the neighbouring Jind district.

Twelve candidates from the top 100 had Haryana as their exam centre; another 11 had exam centres in Maharashtra, and 18 toppers had their exam centres in Rajasthan.

Among those who chose exam centres in Rajasthan included candidates whose home states are Himachal Pradesh and Jharkhand. “The probe therefore should not only be limited to one particular exam centre in Jhajjar,” says Poonam Sain, another parent.

NTA in its official statements have still maintained that the exams were conducted in a transparent manner. “We respect the SC’s orders

and are now aligning steps to comply with it,” says NTA director general Subodh Singh.

The legal recourse

Three petitions were filed in the Supreme Court, including one by Alakh Pandey, founder of Physicswallah, an ed-tech platform offering online coaching, who had issued a legal notice to NTA on June 7 three days after the results were declared, before moving SC.

Pandey says that while the level of the examination papers was similar to the last five years, 2024 has seen the highest increase in the average marks (323 out of 720). From 2020 to 2023, average marks have hovered between 259 to 279. He wonders whether “there are more issues that exist that we are oblivious of”, since “the issue of grace marks was addressed only when we pointed it out”.

NTA justified awarding grace marks only after questions were raised in the media about the technical impossibility of scoring 718 or 719 marks, as NEET comprises of four subjects – Physics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology – with 45 questions on each subject carrying a weightage of four marks per question. “So if a student gets one answer wrong, then they get 716/720. NTA has given grace marks in the most whimsical fashion and not disclosed the original scores of students or the exact grace marks awarded to them,” Dr. Krishan said.

The NTA responded in a press conference, saying grace marks were along the lines of a 2018 judgment which followed a similar recourse for the Common Law Admission Test (CLAT). Dr. Krishan says that CLAT is an online exam, and grace marks to candidates were given in a measured manner after technical glitches in attempting the exam were observed.

“NEET on the other hand is an offline test. If the exam started late in a few centres, the students of those centres should very well be given extra time to finish the test, instead of awarding grace marks in an absurd manner,” he says. Dr. Krishnan and a few other parents have written to the additional deputy commissioner of Jind district, Dr. Harish Vashishth, airing their grievances.

Another coaching chain, Allen Career Institute has also written to NTA on June 8 demanding a free and fair investigation. “The lack of clarity surrounding NEET 2024 not only jeopardises the aspirations of millions of students, but also potentially undermines the integrity of the future of the medical profession,” Nitin Kukreja, CEO of the institute stated in a letter to NTA.

Allen has also stated that 26 out of 67 students who were given 720/720 have been the institute’s students. “One of these is Jahnvee, a resident of Rajasthan who wrote the exam in the Jhajjar centre,” says Dr Manish Jangra, founder, Federation of All India Medical Association (FAIMA). Her calculated score is 636/720, based on her answer sheet, but she scored 720/720. “On what basis has NTA given grace marks?” says Dr. Jangra.

Getting the better of the system

As the grace marks questions rages, the Bihar Police have begun to investigate a case of an alleged paper leak; multiple arrests have been made. In Patna, police officials of the Economic Offences

Unit, have recovered the leaked NEET question paper which they had retrieved as evidence. They are awaiting NTA’s response on whether the questions were matching.

The SC has directed the NTA to file its response on the alleged question paper leaks in two weeks. “The arrests and FIR related to the exam leak suggest deeper issues that may not be resolved by simply offering retests to a subset of candidates,” says Dr. Jangra.

Added to this, FIRs were registered across States in cases of impersonation. On May 5, as students were dispersing after writing the NEET exam from Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan on KG Marg in Delhi, Sumit Mandoliya, 19, and Krishna Kesharwani, 22, were detained. Ajay Bhardawaj, the Duty-of-Centre Superintendent appointed by NTA to ensure that the exam went smoothly, filed an FIR at the Tilak Marg police station. In it, Bhardawaj stated that Mandoliya and Kesharwani were impersonating the identities of Aksh Astaan and Jai Raj Kaushik, respectively.

Senior police officials investigating the case say that through advanced artificial intelligence tools, middlemen who had arranged for the

legged cheating had merged features of the impersonator, also referred to as ‘seater,’ with the original candidate. “Both impersonators belong to poor families in Varanasi and Rajasthan, are MBBS students, and were promised ₹10-12 lakh to write the exam,” say police. They also say that middlemen charged candidates ₹25-30 lakh to hire impersonators. The impersonators were caught after their biometric scan at the exam centre did not match the Aadhar card biometric data of the candidate whose name had been registered to appear for the exam. After over 48 hours of a cat-and-mouse game, the police caught two middlemen Prabhat and Kishore from their Greater Noida hideout. Similar impersonation FIRs have also been lodged in Ambedkar Nagar and Malviya Nagar police stations.

“The NTA started matching biometrics for the first time this year. The arrested middlemen admitted to operating exam solver gangs since 2015,” the police said. “In yet another manner of cheating, at times candidates are asked to leave their OMR sheet blank if they do not know the answers, and those are then filled retrospectively with the help of middlemen at the centre,” a Delhi police official said.

While Pandey wants an independent enquiry into NEET 2024, it is the aspirants who are caught in the chaos. Many cannot afford to take another year off to study, several feel defeated because their futures have been boiled down to a rank, and most have lost trust in the system. Everybody asks for #ReNeet.

(With inputs from Ashna Butani)



The provocateur

The acclaimed filmmaker and inveterate actor Anurag Kashyap discusses his spree of ‘baddie’ roles in Hindi and southern films, the timidity of streaming services, and the need for State support for independent voices

Shilajit Mitra
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It was only a matter of time before someone cast Anurag Kashyap and Gulshan Devaiah in a kitschy crime thriller together. Kashyap, acclaimed director of films like *Gangs of Wasseypur* and *Ugly*, has built a lucrative second career as an inveterate actor playing snarly heavies and agents of corruption. And Devaiah, who started his career under Kashyap’s wing, has flourished wonderfully on streaming, as the twin successes of *Duranga* and *Dahaad* – plus an outlandish cameo in *Guns & Gulaabs* – showed.

In *Bad Cop*, premiering on Disney+ Hotstar on June 21 and adapted from the German television series by RTL, Devaiah and Kashyap square off in a tale of cops, criminals, mad twists and some slo-mo-assisted Gun Fu. The series is directed by Aditya Datt (*Commando 3*) and marks the first fiction offering by Freemantle India.

We ask Kashyap, who also essays the antagonist opposite Vijay Sethupathi in the Tamil film *Maharaja*, what endears him to these roles.

“I love dying,” Kashyap says with a grin. “I tell my directors to give me incredible death scenes.*(laughs)*” His favourite death scene, he adds, is when Quentin Tarantino explodes near the end of his own *Django Unchained* (2012). “My biggest fantasy is that, at the end of my life, I’ll get Amit Trivedi or AR Rahman to compose a song and put together all my death scenes. I don’t have a problem playing evil,” he says.

The bigger picture
It is all fun and games at the *Bad Cop* junket, though other issues loom large. Kashyap, in a recent interview, fulminated against India’s tendency to ‘take credit’ for the achievements of independent filmmakers. The swell of national pride that erupted at the Cannes Film Festival last

month with Payal Kapadia and Anasuya Sengupta winning top honours was undercut by the fact – earlier raised by Resul Pookutty – that their movies were international co-productions, and fell way off the mainstream.

“Any artistic endeavour that is risky and challenging will need support,” Kashyap says. “There was a time when some of the strongest cinema in this country emerged out of the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC). Even in recent decades, films like *The Lunchbox* (2012) and my own *That Girl in Yellow Boots* (2010) wouldn’t have been made without their help. But I don’t know how much they do now.”

There is also the threat, as many have indicated, of preferential treatment based on a filmmaker’s political views and affiliations.

Kashyap, too, has had his fair share of run-ins with the establishment. In 2018-2019, two of his films, *Mukkabaaz* and *Sandh Ki Aankh*, were denied shooting incentives under the Uttar

The best literature, the best art always emerges from a lack of absolute freedom



STEP OUT

► Spectrum of emotions

Bharatanatyam dancer Apeksha Niranjana’s performance titled Nayanam can be seen for the first time in Delhi. The recital is a thematic exploration of myriad emotions and expressions conveyed through the eyes as the artist delves deep into the significance of the eyes as the windows to the soul, portraying their ability to define beauty, communicate emotions and enhance the storytelling aspect of dance.

At India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Colony; On June 14; 7pm. Tickets at the venue.



► Soulful music

An enchanting Sufi night with Niazi Nizami brothers promises to be a celebration of music, culture and food. The special event brings together the rich traditions of Spanish culinary art and soulful essence of Sufi music to create an unique experience.

At Tapas lounge bar, Jaypee Vasant Continental; On June 15; 8pm onwards; Tickets priced at ₹2,500 per person; For reservation, call 8885556370

► Creative meditation

Curated by Myna Mukherjee, Set Adrift on Memory Bliss is an intergenerational group exhibition featuring the works of SK Sahni, Shobha Broota, Puneet Kaushik, Reshmi Dey, among others. On display are more than 200 artworks including paintings, drawings, prints, glass blown sculptures, site specific installations, recordings, AI explorations

At Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay Complex, India International Centre, 40 Max Mueller Marg; Till June 18; 11am to 7pm



Rising from the ashes

NIRAD MOHAPATRA’S 1984 Odiya classic *Maya Miriga* revived for global audiences

Arpita Chowdhury

With Shyam Benegal’s *Manthan* (1976) making it to the headlines, thanks to the screening of its restored version at the Cannes Film Festival recently, the idea of lost and re-membered stands at the cross-section of visual retelling of the forgotten. The organisation responsible for its restoration is set to hit the headlines again with the screening of celebrated Odia film director Nirad

Mohapatra’s classic *Maya Miriga* (Mirage, 1984) at the Il Cinema Ritrovato festival in Bologna, Italy, from June 22 to 30.

“Even though the film was out of circulation for a long time, it kept popping up in conversations over the years. As it happened, of the hundreds of films teetering on the verge of disappearing and clamouring to be restored, circumstances dictated that *Maya Miriga* make the list,” says Shivendra Singh Dungarpur, director, Film Heritage Foundation.



Revival A still from the Odiya classic *Maya Miriga*. FILM HERITAGE FOUNDATION

The critically acclaimed film would have never seen the light of today, if the director’s son Sandeep Mohapatra had not made earnest efforts to restore it. The work that began in 2021, from one restoration lab to another, came to fruition after three years and is now going to be accessible to connoisseurs of cinema.

New wave cinema
Nirad Mohapatra, alumnus of the Film and Television Institute of India, adhered to Italian Neo-Realism and Indian New Wave schools of filmmaking. It is evident in his cinematic choices in *Maya Miriga* with amateur actors, real locations, lack of melodrama, realistic attires and improvisations.

Nirad Mohapatra wrote in his blog in October 2012, that he was not inclined towards

focussing on ‘individuation’, rather he wanted to showcase the overarching narrative and characters who are a part of the story.

The film stands at the crossroad of transition to modernisation while staying connected to one’s roots. The director subtly raises the questions of moving ahead and looking back. It is Mohapatra’s emotional attachment to the family as against freedom for oneself that provides the mainstay of its conflict, which arises from the social reality of the middle class.

A big joint family living in the semi-urban locality of Puri, Odisha, witnesses muted rebellion as the question of individual ambition and family values bog down the sons and the daughters-in-law. Two couples of the family stand at two extremes.

The eldest son (Tuku) takes on the responsibility of looking after the family and educating his siblings while his wife (Prabha), though submissive,

constantly questions his decisions but only behind closed doors. Prabha fits the archetype of an abiding and nurturing daughter-in-law. However, the glimmer in her eyes dies down slowly as duty takes over dreams.

The second son Tutu aspires for a better quality of life. Post joining the bureaucracy, the couple decides to relocate to Delhi on the suggestion of his wife. While Tuku’s wife might be termed as the ‘villain’ here, however, as the principles of realism hold, it is time and circumstances that pose to be the real harbingers of change for the good or the worse.

Mohapatra uses several symbols to say less and show more. He uses one single Carnatic raga in the film that is sung by a neighbour. Its liminality throughout the film strikes a chord.

Made with a shoestring budget, the film won accolades but got lost. Its revival after so many years shows it is still relevant.

Understanding songlines

An immersive digital experience at KNMA of an ancient practice of the Aboriginal Australians



Tools of communication Songlines of Aboriginal Australians depicted at the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

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Some 65,000 years ago, the native inhabitants of Australia developed a complex tool of communication – songlines, or “dreaming pathways” – not only as a means to map the histories and geographical routes of the tribes criss-crossing the vast country, but to also build pathways of knowledge which contained within them advice on sustainable living, seasonal vegetation, and how to survive in the great Australian outback.

These songlines have been passed down generations orally for many millennia, but in the absence of written text, have become increasingly difficult to preserve.

After nine years of hard work, the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (KNMA), Delhi, has come up with an immersive digital experience based on a component of the National Museum of Australia’s (NMA) internationally acclaimed exhibition on aborigine songlines. The show, representing the work of over 100 artists, features several spaces dedicated to visual storytelling of the oral traditions – through short films, puzzles and DIY stickers – in a way that celebrates their original identity.

An integral part
“Aboriginal communities involved in this exhibition are integral to it,” says Margo Ngawa Neale, emeritus curatorial fellow (First Nations) at the NMA. “We could not proceed without them. They are the owners of the story, the custodians of their parts of the songlines, and have the responsibility to keep them alive and keep their retelling correct,” says the Canberra-based curator through an email interview.

The show at KNMA is centred on the Seven Sisters songline – a story of seven sisters who make their way from East to West

Australia while running from a shapeshifting sorcerer who seeks to entrap them. The sisters’ journey, while mapping the contours of the country, also comes to signify themes of creation and sustenance.

The first few exhibits feature short films narrated by tribal elders. *Naji*, for instance, depicts how spirit beings awoke the dry, barren land, creating life and water as they travelled through the continent. *Footprints* captures how a group of young Aboriginal men on the verge of losing their songlines discovers that a neighbouring tribe still remembers some of their cultural songs. An especially immersive section, titled *Travelling Kungkarangkappa*, brings to life a version of the Seven Sisters story.

Amazing experience
To view the audiovisual experiment, one must lie flat on the ground and gaze up at the spherical projection on the ceiling, which uses animations modelled on paintings from Aboriginal artists. Another section allows visitors to work on a thousand-piece

In the absence of written text, the songlines have become increasingly difficult to preserve

puzzle of ancient artwork.

The final exhibit is a “dizzying” experience. It features a dark room that comes alive with projections of the masterfully animated abstractions of the Seven Sisters songline, which whoosh past the viewer and fade away. “NMA has tried to capture this oral tradition by incorporating features of dancing and painting – both of which came long after songlines first originated. The exhibition is abstract for a reason, because the Aboriginals viewed time as cyclical, not linear, and thus we are only able to depict fragments of this tradition,” says Divijot Singh, manager (Partnership and Events), KNMA.

At the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, 145, DLF South Court Mall, Saket; Till June 30; 10.30am to 6.30pm (Mondays closed)



उन्नति और खुशहाली की ओर निरंतर बढ़ते कदम

मध्यप्रदेश सरकार के 180 दिन



नरेन्द्र मोदी, प्रधानमंत्री

सुशासन से समृद्धि

- प्रधानमंत्री जी द्वारा साइबर तहसील परियोजना प्रदेश के सभी 55 जिलों में लागू। नामांतरण, बंटवारा आदि विभिन्न राजस्व प्रकरणों के ऑनलाइन निराकरण की पहल करने वाला मध्यप्रदेश, देश का पहला राज्य
- ध्वनि विस्तारक यंत्रों की अनियंत्रित आवाज का प्रयोग प्रतिबंधित
- खुले में मांस-मछली की बिक्री पर प्रतिबन्ध
- यातायात सुगमता के लिए भोपाल में बीआरटीएस कॉरिडोर हटाने का निर्णय
- जिलों, संभागों, तहसीलों की सीमाओं के पुनर्निर्धारण के लिए पृथक प्रशासनिक इकाई पुनर्गठन आयोग बनाने का निर्णय
- उज्जैन शहर के केडी गेट से इमली तिराहा मार्ग चौड़ीकरण के लिये 23 धार्मिक स्थलों को हटाने के लिये व्यवस्थापकों, पुजारियों और नागरिकों द्वारा सहयोग कर साम्प्रदायिक सौहार्द का उल्लेखनीय उदाहरण प्रस्तुत
- निजी स्कूलों द्वारा कोर्स की किताबें, यूनिफार्म एवं अन्य शिक्षण सामग्री किसी निर्धारित दुकान से खरीदने के लिए पालकों पर अनुचित दबाव डाले जाने के मामले में मुख्यमंत्री द्वारा स्कूलों के खिलाफ सख्त कार्यवाही के निर्देश
- 2000 से अधिक पुलिसकर्मियों को मिला पात्रतानुसार उच्च पद
- बालाघाट के कमकोटादर में हुई मुठभेड़ में नक्सलियों को खत्म करने वाले 24 शासकीय पुलिस सेवकों का आउट ऑफ टर्न प्रमोशन
- पुलिसकर्मियों के लिए मुख्यमंत्री आवास योजना के अंतर्गत 25 हजार मकान बनाने का लक्ष्य
- मध्यप्रदेश में आयी अपराधों में कमी, थानों की सीमाओं के पुनर्निर्धारण का कार्य तेजी से जारी
- 105 वर्ग मीटर तक के आवासीय भू-खंडों के लिए ऑनलाइन आवेदन कर डीमड अनुज्ञा प्राप्त करने और 300 वर्ग मीटर तक के आवासीय भू-खंडों पर त्वरित अनुज्ञा प्रदान करने की व्यवस्था लागू
- दो चरणों में राजस्व महाअभियान चलाकर 30 लाख 48 हजार से अधिक राजस्व प्रकरणों का निराकरण
- प्रदेश के सभी बोरवेलों की जानकारी रखने हेतु शासन द्वारा पोर्टल तैयार। खुले बोरवेलों को बंद करने के लिए अधिकारियों की जिम्मेदारी तय
- सभी संभागों में समीक्षा बैठकों के दौरान बड़े पैमाने पर विकास कार्यों का लोकार्पण एवं शिलान्यास
- शासकीय सेवकों के महंगाई भत्ते में 4 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि से 46% हुआ डीए



समावेशी शिक्षा से संवरता कल

- प्रधानमंत्री उच्चतर शिक्षा अभियान (पीएम उचा) के अंतर्गत 8 विश्वविद्यालयों में अधीसंरचना तथा अन्य विकास कार्यों के लिए ₹400 करोड़ स्वीकृत
- हर जिले में पीएम कॉलेज ऑफ एक्सीलेंस की स्थापना। गुणवत्तापूर्ण शिक्षा की उपलब्धता सुनिश्चित करने हेतु ₹485 करोड़ के निवेश से 55 जिलों में पूर्व से संचालित एक महाविद्यालय का पीएम कॉलेज ऑफ एक्सीलेंस में उन्नयन। इन कॉलेजों में 1750 शैक्षणिक एवं 369 तृतीय व चतुर्थ श्रेणी के पद सृजित
- पीएम कॉलेज ऑफ एक्सीलेंस को बहुसंकायी बनाने एवं स्नातकोत्तर कक्षाओं के संचालन हेतु 7 महाविद्यालयों में स्नातक स्तर पर नवीन संकाय एवं 55 महाविद्यालयों में स्नातक व स्नातकोत्तर स्तर पर संस्कृत, बायोटेक्नोलॉजी, कम्प्यूटर साइंस विषय प्रारंभ
- पीएम कॉलेज ऑफ एक्सीलेंस में सेंटर फॉर रिसर्च इन स्कीम एंड पॉलिंसी (CRISP) के माध्यम से 8 रोजगारोन्मुखी स्किल-आधारित पाठ्यक्रमों का संचालन
- आईआईटी इंदौर के सहयोग से उज्जैन में निर्मित देश के प्रथम शोध-आधारित नवाचार, प्रौद्योगिकी एवं उद्यमिता अनुभवात्मक विद्यार्जन केंद्र (डीप-टेक रिसर्च और डिस्कवरी सैटेलाइट कैपस) का उद्घाटन
- खरगोन में ₹170 करोड़ से क्रांतिसूर्य टंट्या भील विश्वविद्यालय का उद्घाटन
- 369 सर्वसुविधायुक्त सीएम राइज विद्यालयों का संचालन
- विश्वविद्यालयों के कुलपति को कुलगुरु कहे जाने का निर्णय
- सागर में रानी अवंतीबाई लोधी विश्वविद्यालय एवं गुना में ताल्या टोपे विश्वविद्यालय प्रारंभ
- आचार्य श्री विद्यासागर महाराज के नाम से होगा सागर में आयुर्वेद मेडिकल कॉलेज
- राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा नीति-2020 लागू करने वाला देश का पहला राज्य बना मध्यप्रदेश
- अंतरराष्ट्रीय शिक्षा की गुणवत्ता से जुड़ने के लिए 12 अंतरराष्ट्रीय संस्थानों के साथ एम.ओ.यू.
- विश्वविद्यालयों में छात्र-छात्राओं की अंक सूची एवं उपाधियों को डिजी लॉकर में अपलोड करने की व्यवस्था लागू
- व्यावसायिक शिक्षा एवं सामान्य शिक्षा का एकीकरण कर 35 व्यावसायिक विषयों का पाठ्यक्रम में समावेश
- इंजीनियरिंग-मेडिकल की तर्ज पर नर्सिंग स्टूडेंट की स्टेट लेवल पर परीक्षा का निर्णय, केंद्र के नर्सिंग एक्ट के अनुसार राज्य में आयोज गठित होगा। भविष्य में नर्सिंग संस्थाओं को मान्यता राष्ट्रीय आयोग देगा
- शिक्षा में गुणवत्ता के लिये भोपाल, ग्वालियर, जबलपुर, इंदौर, उज्जैन, रीवा के विश्वविद्यालयों में इन्क्यूबेशन केंद्रों की स्थापना
- पायलट टेनिंग के लिए विश्वविद्यालयों में कोर्स शुरू होगा
- एमपी बोर्ड 12वीं में 75 फीसदी अंक पाने वाले करीब 90 हजार छात्रों को लैपटॉप के लिए दी जायेगी ₹25-25 हजार की राशि
- सागर, खरगोन और गुना में नए विश्वविद्यालयों की स्थापना
- शासकीय महाविद्यालयों में कृषि को एक विषय के रूप में जोड़ा गया



स्वास्थ्य सुविधाओं का विस्तार

- प्रदेश के दूरस्थ क्षेत्रों से गंभीर रूप से बीमार/दुर्घटनाग्रस्त लोगों को एयरलिफ्ट कर समय पर उपचार उपलब्ध कराने के लिए सरकार की संवेदनशील पहल के तहत पीएमश्री एयर एम्बुलेंस सेवा का शुभारंभ
- कार्य दक्षता के लिए चिकित्सा शिक्षा विभाग और लोक स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग का विलय
- आयुष्मान भारत योजना में 3 करोड़ 99 लाख से अधिक आयुष्मान कार्ड वितरित। अब तक 38 लाख से अधिक मरीजों का निःशुल्क उपचार
- जिला अस्पताल एवं सिविल अस्पतालों को एक-एक शव-वाहन उपलब्ध कराने का निर्णय
- सागर, शहडोल, नर्मदापुरम, धार, झाबुआ, मंडला, बालाघाट, रथोपुर एवं खजुराहो में नए आयुर्वेदिक महाविद्यालय स्थापित करने का निर्णय
- सिंहस्थ को देखते हुए उज्जैन में नवीन शासकीय चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय की स्थापना का निर्णय
- चिकित्सा महाविद्यालयों को पीपीपी मोड पर स्थापित करने का निर्णय। मेडिकल कॉलेजों के साथ नए नर्सिंग कॉलेजों की स्थापना के लिए राशि स्वीकृत
- स्वास्थ्य संस्थानों में 46 हजार 491 नये पदों (नियमित/संविदा/आउटसोर्स) के सृजन की स्वीकृति
- स्वास्थ्य सूचकांकों में बेहतर प्रदर्शन के लिये स्वास्थ्य संस्थानों में चिकित्सीय विशेषज्ञों के 607 पदों पर पूर्वी सीधी भर्ती से कराने की मंजूरी



सशक्त बनती नारी शक्ति

- लाइली बहना योजना के अंतर्गत 1 करोड़ 29 लाख बहनों के खातों में जनवरी से अभी तक ₹9 हजार 455 करोड़ से अधिक की सहायता राशि का अंतरण
- लाइली लक्ष्मी योजना अंतर्गत दिसंबर 2023 से अभी तक 73 हजार 880 लाइली बालिकाओं के खाते में ₹34 करोड़ की छात्रवृत्ति का अंतरण
- 45 लाख 89 हजार बहनों के खातों में ₹450 में गैस सिलिंडर की रीफिलिंग के लिए ₹118 करोड़ का अंतरण
- प्रधानमंत्री उज्ज्वला योजना अंतर्गत 3 चरणों में अब तक 88 लाख से अधिक निःशुल्क गैस कनेक्शन दिये
- महिला स्व-सहायता समूहों को दी गयी ₹9 हजार 560 करोड़ से अधिक की सहायता



युवा कल्याण के सतत् प्रयास

- सरकारी नौकरियों के लिए चयनित 11 हजार से अधिक उम्मीदवारों को सौंपे गए नियुक्ति-पत्र
- स्टार्ट-अप को प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए नई पहल के तहत, प्रदेश के स्टार्ट-अप को राष्ट्रीय और अंतरराष्ट्रीय आयोजनों में सहभागिता के लिए ₹50 हजार से लेकर डेढ़ लाख तक वित्तीय सहायता का प्रावधान
- राज्य स्तरीय 'रोजगार दिवस' के अवसर पर रिकॉर्ड 7 लाख युवाओं को ₹5 हजार करोड़ का स्व-रोजगार ऋण वितरित
- अग्निवीर योजना में युवाओं का अधिक से अधिक चयन हो, इस उद्देश्य से 360 घंटे प्रशिक्षण देने का लक्ष्य
- मुख्यमंत्री सीखो कमाओ योजना में फरवरी 2024 में 8 हजार प्रशिक्षणार्थियों को ₹6 करोड़ 60 लाख का स्ट्राइपेड वितरित



११ हमारा उद्देश्य है कि सरकार उपलब्ध संसाधनों के साथ जनहितैषी गतिविधियों को प्रभावी तरीके से क्रियान्वित करे। प्रदेश को विकास के पथ पर निरंतर आगे ले जाना और सुशासन को सच्चे स्वरूप में धरातल पर उतारना ही हमारा लक्ष्य है ११

- डॉ. मोहन यादव, मुख्यमंत्री

अन्नदाता के जीवन में आयी खुशहाली

- प्रधानमंत्री किसान सम्मान निधि एवं मुख्यमंत्री किसान कल्याण योजना अंतर्गत 80 लाख से अधिक किसानों को प्रतिवर्ष ₹12 हजार की सहायता
- फसल बीमा योजना खरीफ-23 के अंतर्गत 25 लाख से ज्यादा किसानों को ₹750 करोड़ से अधिक की राशि के दावों का भुगतान
- श्रीअन्न (मिलेडू) उत्पादन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए रानी दुर्गावती श्रीअन्न प्रोत्साहन योजना में प्रति बिंदल ₹1000 का विशेष प्रोत्साहन
- रबी विपणन वर्ष 2024-25 में 6 लाख से अधिक किसानों से 48 लाख 35 हजार मीट्रिक टन से अधिक गेहूँ का समर्थन मूल्य पर नकद भुगतान कर उपार्जन। प्रति बिंदल ₹125 बोस का भुगतान
- किसानों के लिए शून्य प्रतिशत व्याज दर पर अल्पावधि फसल ऋण योजना लागू रखने का निर्णय
- मुख्यमंत्री सोलर पंप योजना अब प्रधानमंत्री कृषक मित्र सूर्य योजना के नाम से लागू
- सात जिलों (अमरिया, अलीराजपुर, बैतूल, मंडला, खंडवा, सीधी एवं सीहोर) में 71 हजार 345 हेक्टेयर वन क्षेत्र से लघु वनोपज के निर्यात के लिए मिला जैविक प्रमाण-पत्र



गरीब वर्ग को मिला सम्मानजनक जीवन

- इंदौर की हुकुमचंद मिल के 4 हजार 800 श्रमिक परिवारों को ₹224 करोड़ की राशि का भुगतान
- स्वामित्व योजना में 23 लाख 50 हजार लोगों को स्वामित्व अधिकार पत्र वितरित
- श्रमिकों को ई-स्कूटर खरीदने के लिए ₹40 हजार की आर्थिक सहायता का निर्णय
- 'मुख्यमंत्री जनकल्याण (संबल) योजना 2.0' के अंतर्गत 30 हजार से अधिक श्रमिक परिवारों को ₹670 करोड़ से अधिक की अनुग्रह सहायता राशि का अंतरण
- दिव्यांगता और मृत्यु के आधार पर मिलने वाली सहायता राशि को बढ़ाकर ₹4 लाख किया
- विभिन्न श्रेणी के ऊर्जा उपभोक्ताओं के लिये 24 हजार 420 करोड़ रुपये की सब्सिडी का निर्णय



कमजोर वर्ग के साथ प्रदेश सरकार

- सामाजिक सुरक्षा पेंशन योजनाओं के माध्यम से प्रतिमाह 55 लाख 60 हजार से अधिक हिस्साहियों को पिछले एक वर्ष में लगभग ₹4 हजार करोड़ से अधिक पेंशन राशि का अंतरण
- तंदूपता संग्राहकों का मानदेय ₹3000 प्रति बोरा से बढ़ाकर ₹4000 हजार किया। लगभग 35 लाख तंदूपता संग्राहक लाभान्वित
- पीएम जन-मन योजना अंतर्गत विशेष पिछड़ी जनजाति बहुल जिलों में ₹7300 करोड़ से अधिक की लागत से हो रहे अधोसंरचना के कार्य। कुल 11 लाख से अधिक भाई-बहन लाभान्वित होंगे। साथ ही बेगम, भारिया और सहरिया परिवारों के अविधुतीकृत घरों तक बिजली पहुंचाने की कार्ययोजना स्वीकृत
- आहार अनुदान योजना अंतर्गत विशेष पिछड़ी जनजातियों की बहनों के खातों में जनवरी से अभी तक ₹148 करोड़ से अधिक की राशि अंतरित



आर्थिक समृद्धि की ओर बढ़ता मध्यप्रदेश

- मध्यप्रदेश के चौरफा और तेज गति से विकास के लक्ष्य को लेकर चल रही मध्यप्रदेश सरकार की पहली प्राथमिकता अंत्योदय और विकसित मध्यप्रदेश के संकल्प को पूरा करना है। इस दिशा में कदम बढ़ाते हुए प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा वर्ष 2024-25 के लिए ₹ 1 लाख 45 हजार करोड़ से अधिक का लेखानुदान प्रस्तुत
- पिछले 6 माह में जीएसटी अंतरगत कुल ₹19091 करोड़ का राजस्व प्राप्त ,जो पिछले वर्ष से 28% अधिक है। अप्रैल की जीएसटी राजस्व वृद्धि दर में मध्यप्रदेश देश में प्रथम स्थान पर
- राजस्व वृद्धि के विशेष प्रयासों से ₹4150 करोड़ का अतिरिक्त राजस्व स्कूटीन प्रवर्तन, ITC रिवर्सल आदि के माध्यम से प्राप्त हुआ



औद्योगिक निवेश को प्रोत्साहन

- आप्टा (सीहोर) में लगभग ₹60,000 करोड़ के निवेश से पेट्रोकेमिकल कॉम्प्लेक्स तथा इथेन क्रैकर परियोजना की स्थापना का प्रस्ताव
 - 1 एवं 2 मार्च, 2024 को उज्जैन में रीजनल इंडस्ट्री कॉन्क्लेव ऐतिहासिक रूप से सफल रही
 - कॉन्क्लेव में 283 इकाइयों को 508 हेक्टेयर भूमि के आवंटन-पत्र प्रदान किये। इन इकाइयों द्वारा ₹ 12 हजार 170 करोड़ से अधिक का निवेश से 20 हजार से अधिक लोगों को रोजगार
 - ₹10 हजार करोड़ लागत की 60 से अधिक उद्योग इकाइयों का शुभारंभ हुआ, जिनसे 17 हजार से अधिक रोजगार सृजित होने की सम्भावना है
 - ₹1 लाख करोड़ से अधिक के व्यवसाय और उद्योग निवेश प्रस्ताव मिले
 - कॉन्क्लेव में कुल 12 देशों और 650 से अधिक औद्योगिक निवेशकों की भागीदारी हुई, 2100 से अधिक बिजनेस-टू-बिजनेस बैठकें, 4000 से अधिक डेलिगेट्स ने लिया भाग
 - उज्जयिनी विक्रम व्यापार मेला एवं ग्वालियर व्यापार मेला-2024 में वाहनों के आरटीओ पंजीयन पर 50% की छूट पर उज्जैन में हुई 23,000 वाहनों की रिकॉर्ड बिक्री
 - व्यापार मेले में हस्तशिल्प और हाथकरघा उत्पादों के क्रय-विक्रय के जरिए लोकल को बनाया गया वोकल। ₹ 2300 करोड़ का हुआ कारोबार



तेज गति से अधोसंरचना विकास

- पार्वती-कालीसिंह-चंबल लिंक परियोजना के लिए मध्यप्रदेश, राजस्थान और केंद्र सरकार के बीच समझौता। 10 जिलों को मिलेगा लाभ
 - केन-बेतवा लिंक परियोजना के लिये ₹24 हजार 290 करोड़ से अधिक की राशि स्वीकृत। परियोजना के दौधन बांध के निर्माण हेतु ₹5,137 करोड़ लागत की निविदा स्वीकृति के अंतिम चरणों में। प्रेशराइज्ड पाइप प्रणाली के निर्माण हेतु ₹12 हजार 210 करोड़ लागत की निविदाएं आमंत्रित
 - ₹308 करोड़ की लागत से खरगोन जिले में जलूद ऊर्जा संयंत्र का भूमिपूजन
 - ग्वालियर-बैंगलुरु, ग्वालियर-अहमदाबाद और ग्वालियर-दिल्ली-अयोध्या विमान सेवा का शुभारंभ
 - इंदौर उज्जैन सिक्स लेन परियोजना को स्वीकृति
 - इंदौर में ₹350 करोड़ से एलिवेटेड कॉरिडोर का भूमिपूजन। भोपाल, देवास, ग्वालियर, जबलपुर एवं सतना में भी बन रहे हैं एलिवेटेड कॉरिडोर
 - ₹10 हजार करोड़ से अधिक की लागत से 724 किमी लम्बी 24 सड़क परियोजनाओं का लोकार्पण एवं शिलान्यास
 - माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी के कर-कमलों से ₹24 हजार 500 करोड़ की अधोसंरचना परियोजनाओं का लोकार्पण और शिलान्यास
 - प्रधानमंत्री जी द्वारा अमृत भारत स्टेशन योजनांतर्गत मध्यप्रदेश के 33 स्टेशनों के पुनर्विकास कार्य का शिलान्यास एवं 133 रेल ओवर ब्रिज एवं अंडरपास का शिलान्यास और लोकार्पण
 - प्रदेश को 364 रेल परियोजनाओं की सौगात। प्रदेश की चौथी सेमी-हाई स्पीड रेलों बंदे भारत एक्सप्रेस खजुराहो से हजरत निजामुद्दीन ट्रेन मिली
 - भोपाल में बंदे भारत ट्रेनों के रख-रखाव और सुविधाओं के लिए लगभग ₹100 करोड़ की लागत से नए कोच कॉम्पलेक्स का शिलान्यास
 - निशातपुरा-संत हिरदाराम नगर रेल खण्ड का लोकार्पण
 - राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग परियोजनाओं के निर्माण और सुदृढ़ीकरण के लिए ₹3 हजार 500 करोड़ की राशि स्वीकृत
 - जबलपुर में ₹485 करोड़ से अधिक की लागत से मध्यप्रदेश राज्य न्यायिक अकादमी को स्वीकृति
 - उज्जैन-जावरा के मध्य 4-लेन प्रीमियल्स एक्सप्रेस कटोरेल हाई-वे निर्माण के लिये ₹5 हजार 17 करोड़ से अधिक की स्वीकृति। इस मार्ग के निर्माण से उज्जैन, इंदौर एवं आस-पास के क्षेत्र मुख्य-दिल्ली 8 लेन इंटरस्टीयल कॉरिडोर (एक्सप्रेस-वे) से जुड़ेगे
 - ₹1540 करोड़ की लागत से बनने वाले भोपाल मेट्रो के नए 8 स्टेशनों का भूमिपूजन, नगरीय निकायों को विकास कार्यों के लिए ₹1 हजार करोड़ की राशि का अंतरण
 - मुख्यमंत्री शहरी क्षेत्र अधोसंरचना (चतुर्थ चरण) निर्माण योजना के लिए ₹1630 करोड़ से अधिक राशि स्वीकृत
 - भोपाल, इंदौर, ग्वालियर, जबलपुर, उज्जैन एवं सागर में प्रधानमंत्री ई-बस सेवा योजना में 550 से अधिक शहरी ई-बसों के संचालन का निर्णय
 - कायाकल्प अभियान के अंतर्गत ₹2500 करोड़ के निवेश से बदल रही हैं शहरों में सड़कों की सूरत
 - प्रदेश के सभी प्रमुख शहरों में PNG पाइपलाइन से गैस कनेक्शन व्यवस्था करने का निर्णय
 - देश में सबसे कम समय में बनकर तैयार हुये मध्यप्रदेश के सबसे बड़े राजमाता विजयाराजे सिंधिया एयरपोर्ट (ग्वालियर) का उद्घाटन



सांस्कृतिक एवं आध्यात्मिक अभ्युदय

- पर्यटकों को हवाई यात्रा की सुविधा उपलब्ध कराने के लिए 'पीएमश्री पर्यटन वायु सेवा' एवं 'पीएमश्री धार्मिक पर्यटन हेली सेवा' का शुभारंभ
- नदी, तालाबों, कुओं, बावड़ियों एवं अन्य जल स्रोतों के संरक्षण एवं इनके पुनर्जीवन के लिये 5 जून विश्व पर्यावरण दिवस से 16 जून गंगा दशहरा तक जल-गंगा संवर्धन अभियान चलाया जा रहा है
- विक्रम सांस्कृतिक पर्व का 1 मार्च से 9 अप्रैल, 2024 तक किया गया आयोजन। इस दौरान कालजयी महानायकों की तेजस्विता पर केन्द्रित भारत के अपने किस्म के पहले संग्रहालय 'वीर भारत न्यास' का शिलान्यास एवं उज्जयिनी गौरव दिवस का आयोजन
- 29 फरवरी, 2024 को प्रधानमंत्री जी के कर-कमलों से विक्रमोत्सव के अवसर पर विश्व की पहली 'विक्रमादित्य वैदिक घड़ी' का शुभारंभ कर भारतीय काल गणना परंपरा का साक्षात्कार पूरी दुनिया से कराया गया
- पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री भारत रत्न स्व. श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी जी की स्मृति में ₹20 करोड़ की लागत से बनने वाले अटल स्मारक का भूमिपूजन
- शासकीय कैलेण्डर में विक्रम संवत् अंकित करना प्रारंभ
- मंडला में वीरांगना रानी दुर्गावती की प्रतिमा का अनावरण
- 1450 किमी लंबे श्रीराम वन गमन पथ के निर्माण का निर्णय
- जहाँ-जहाँ भगवान श्रीकृष्ण के चरण पड़े, उन स्थानों को तीर्थ के रूप में विकसित करने का निर्णय
- सिंहस्थ-2028 की तैयारी प्रारंभ, टास्क फोर्स गठित
- इंदौर से उज्जैन एवं ममलेश्वर ज्योतिर्लिंग तथा जबलपुर से चित्रकूट और ग्वालियर से ओरछा एवं पीताम्बरा पीठ के लिए हेलीकॉप्टर सेवाएँ
- वर्ष प्रतिपदा नव सम्वत्सर के शुभारंभ एवं सृष्टि आरंभ दिवस को पूरे प्रदेश में भव्य रूप में मनाने का निर्णय
- मध्यप्रदेश के श्रद्धालुओं की सुविधा के लिए अयोध्या में एक आस्था भवन (धर्मशाला) निर्माण करने का निर्णय
- देवालयों में लगने वाली सामग्री जैसे- भगवान के वस्त्र-अभूषण, शृंगार सामग्री, धातु व पत्थर की मूर्तियों के निर्माण को कुटीर उद्योग के अंतर्गत प्रोत्साहित करने स्व-सहायता समूह तथा क्षेत्र के युवाओं को इसके लिए प्रख्यात कलाकारों से प्रशिक्षण उपलब्ध कराने और मंदिरों में इन सामग्रियों के लिए स्टॉल की व्यवस्था करने का निर्णय
- स्वदेश दर्शन योजना 2.0 के अंतर्गत चित्रकूट के घाट पर अध्यात्म के अनुभव की नवीन परियोजना का भूमिपूजन
- चित्रकूट नगर के प्राकृतिक, ऐतिहासिक और धार्मिक विकास के लिये चित्रकूट विकास प्राधिकरण की स्थापना को स्वीकृति
- यूनेस्को के विश्व हेरिटेज सेंटर द्वारा भारत की अस्थायी सूची में मध्यप्रदेश की 6 धरोहरें सम्मिलित। ग्वालियर किला, धमनार का ऐतिहासिक समूह, भोजपुर का भोजेश्वर महादेव मंदिर, चंबल घाटी के रॉक कला स्थल, खूनी भंडारा बुरहानपुर और रामनगर मंडला का गोंड स्मारक इसमें शामिल हैं
- कूज दूरिमास को गति देने के लिए मध्यप्रदेश में ऑकरेश्वर स्थित एकात्म धाम (स्टैच्यू ऑफ वननेस) से गुजरात के कावड़िया में स्थित स्टैच्यू ऑफ यूनिटी तक कूज संचालित किये जाने का निर्णय




गौ-संरक्षण एवं संवर्धन

- भारतीय नव वर्ष अर्थात इस चैत्र माह से अगले वर्ष तक गौ-वंश रक्षा वर्ष मगाने का निर्णय
 - गौशालाओं में गौ-वंश के लिए बेहतर आहार हेतु प्रति गौ-वंश मिलने वाली ₹ 20 की राशि बढ़ाकर ₹ 40 करने का निर्णय
 - चरनोई की भूमि से अतिक्रमण हटाए जाएंगे
 - गौशालाओं को भूसा प्रबंधन के लिये आधुनिक मशीनों एवं उपकरणों के लिये अनुदान तथा प्रोत्साहन
 - प्रत्येक 50 किलोमीटर पर घायल गायों को इलाज के लिये परिवहन हेतु हाइड्रोलिक केटल लिफ्टिंग वाहन का टोल व्यवस्था के अंतर्गत प्रबंध का निर्णय
 - अधूरी गौशालाओं का निर्माण पूर्ण कर नई गौशालाएं प्रारंभ करने का निर्णय
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स्वच्छ भारत अभियान में
मध्यप्रदेश बना सिरमौर

- स्वच्छ सर्वेक्षण-2023 में देश के सबसे स्वच्छ शहर का पुरस्कार लगातार सातवीं बार इंदौर को मिला
 • मध्यप्रदेश, देश का दूसरा स्वच्छतम राज्य और भीपाल स्वच्छतम राजधानी बना
 • प्रदेश के 7 शहर वाटर प्लस, 361 शहर ओडीएफ डबल प्लस, एक शहर 7-स्टार, एक 5-स्टार, 24 शहर 3-स्टार और 132 शहर 1-स्टार गाब्रेंज फ्री श्रेणी में पुरस्कृत
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- 50वें खजुराहो नृत्य समारोह के अवसर पर 1 हजार 484 कथक कलाकारों ने एक साथ कथक नृत्य का बनाया गिनीज़ वर्ल्ड रिकॉर्ड
- ग्वालियर में आयोजित ताल दरबार में प्रदेश के 1300 से अधिक कला साधकों ने वंदे मातरम् की धुन बजाकर गिनीज़ वर्ल्ड रिकॉर्ड में प्रदेश का नाम दर्ज किया
- देश में सर्वाधिक खनिज ब्लॉकों की नीलामी कर पाया प्रथम स्थान
- प्रत्येक जिले में जिला पुलिस बैंड का गठन
- भारत सरकार के गृह मंत्रालय द्वारा देशभर के 10 सर्वश्रेष्ठ थानों में देवास के सिविल लाइन थाने का चयन
- राज्यों की स्टार्टअप रैंकिंग 2022 और राष्ट्रीय स्टार्टअप पुरस्कार 2023 के अंतर्गत मध्यप्रदेश 'लीडर' के रूप में पुरस्कृत
- 'एक जिला-एक उत्पाद' के अंतर्गत बुरहानपुर को केला प्रसंस्करण क्षेत्र में विशेष कार्य के लिए राष्ट्रीय सम्मान
- प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना (शहरी) के क्रियान्वयन में मध्यप्रदेश को बेस्ट परफार्मिंग स्टेट अवॉर्ड की श्रेणी में दूसरा स्थान
- मध्यप्रदेश टूरिज्म बोर्ड देश के बेस्ट टूरिज्म बोर्ड के रूप में सम्मानित
- मध्यप्रदेश टाइगर और चीता स्टेट के बाद बना लेपर्ड स्टेट
- अशोकनगर के चंदेरी के प्राणपुत्र ग्राम में ₹7 करोड़ से अधिक की लागत के देश के पहले 'क्राफ्ट हैण्डलूम टूरिज्म विलेज' का लोकार्पण
- 'एक जिला-एक उत्पाद' के तहत विभिन्न प्राचीन कलाओं को प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए परी बाजार, भोपाल में 'गोल्डर स्मारक' का शुभारंभ
- पंडित सुशीलाल शर्मा शासकीय स्वशासी आयुर्वेद महाविद्यालय के चिकित्सालय को एनएबीएच सर्टिफिकेशन



भारत सरकार की योजनाओं के क्रियान्वयन में लगातार अग्रणी

मध्यप्रदेश

- पीएम स्व-निधि योजना
- प्रधानमंत्री ग्राम सड़क योजना
- पीएम आवास योजना
- कृषि अवसंरचना निधि
- प्रधानमंत्री मातृ वंदना योजना
- स्वामित्व योजना
- नशामुक्त भारत अभियान
- आयुष्मान भारत योजना
- मधुआ क्रेडिट कार्ड योजना
- राष्ट्रीय पशु रोग नियंत्रण कार्यक्रम
- प्रधानमंत्री आदर्श ग्राम योजना
- राष्ट्रीय आजीविका मिशन
- स्वच्छ भारत मिशन

मध्यप्रदेश शासन

Text & Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

The increase in palm oil imports in the month of May

74 in per cent. India's palm oil imports surged to 7.63 lakh tonnes in May this year from 4.39 lakh tonnes in the year-ago period, as the country stocked up the commodity to meet rising domestic demand. PTI

The amount released by the IMF to Sri Lanka

336 in \$ million. The International Monetary Fund disbursed the third tranche from its \$2.9 billion bailout package to Sri Lanka, as it said that Sri Lanka's economy remains vulnerable. PTI

The rise in mosquito breeding cases in Delhi homes

90 in per cent. According to the latest report by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi, there are 3.25 lakh cases of mosquito breeding at home in Delhi in 2023, higher than the 1.71 lakh in 2022. PTI

Number of Myanmar nationals deported from Manipur

38 The Manipur government has deported close to 40 Myanmar nationals, including 11 children, to their home country through the integrated check post at Moreh in Tengnoupal district. PTI

The proposed salary of Tesla and SpaceX CEO Elon Musk

56 in \$ billion. Tesla shareholders are voting to approve a \$56 billion pay package, one of the largest in U.S. corporate history, for its CEO Elon Musk. REUTERS
COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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The allegations over NEET-UG, 2024

Why has the Union government told the Supreme Court that it will cancel the score cards of candidates who have been awarded grace marks? How did the National Testing Agency respond to the various charges against the conduct of the exams?

EXPLAINER

Ramya Kannan

The story so far:

On June 13, the Union government submitted to the Supreme Court that the score cards of 1,563 candidates who were given compensatory marks in the common undergraduate medical entrance examination, NEET-UG 2024, held on May 5, will be cancelled. Another test will be held for them, likely on June 23. Results would be out by June 30 and the counselling for seats can begin by July 6. These candidates will be informed of the actual score, without the grace marks, and they can choose to take another test. If they opt not to sit for the re-test, their scores, without the grace marks will be the final score.

What happened?

The court was hearing petitions challenging the award of grace marks to the 1,563 candidates from six NEET centres in the country, using a “normalisation formula”, on the grounds that they were not allowed the full period of 3.2 hours to write the exam, due to technical issues. Based on a Court order, the compensatory marks were awarded to these candidates on the recommendation of a committee constituted by the National Testing Agency (NTA), the body which conducts NEET. It was charged that the grant of grace marks was arbitrary and not transparent.

What are charges against NEET 2024?

In NEET, students have to answer 180 questions, (MCQ type), totalling 720 marks. For every right answer, the student will score four marks, with one mark deducted for a wrong answer. Hence, only certain marks can be scored by candidates. It was the grace marks that caused confusion, the NTA admitted. However, this is not the only charge or case in court against NEET 2024. This



Exam woes: Several student groups protesting at freedom park against alleged irregularities in NEET-UG 2024, in Bengaluru on June 11. MURALI KUMAR. K

year there has been a litany of charges that go beyond a question paper leak, including the slow distribution of question papers; providing the wrong question paper; wrong OMR sheets; and technical delays.

Post evaluation, there have been complaints about the unusually high number of students (67) who hit the perfect score, 720/720, and about students who scored “statistically impossible” marks, while some cases of cheating by proxy were also unearthed. Other cases pertaining to the question paper leak are still to be heard by the Supreme Court.

In the past, the exam has been dogged by charges of poor organisation and inadequate planning, besides inconsiderate rules on what candidates

are allowed to wear to the exam hall.

All these charges sparked protests from students and political parties across the country. Political parties called for a fair investigation of the charges and called on the government to conduct a fresh NEET exam. Students had the same demand, to re-conduct the test, on the grounds that the question paper leak had facilitated some students scoring full marks, or, giving them an unfair advantage. Experts and students pointed to how the very idea of starting NEET as a common entrance exam to regulate medical admissions in the country and ensure quality-control of the process would be defeated in the light of all the reported violations.

In response, the NTA had appointed a four-member committee to go into allegations made against the conduct of

the NEET exam in 2024. This panel's recommendations have now found their way into the court also.

What was the NTA's response?

NTA officials attributed an ‘easy paper’ to the unusual number of full scores this year. But the NTA still constituted a four-member committee to go into the truth behind the allegations made this year. The panel found that the compensatory marks awarded to the 1,563 students, resulted in a “skewed situation”. Grace marks had to be limited to the attempted questions alone, and while the panel did not comment further on how many marks were granted in compensation, it concluded that it would be best to cancel the test for these students alone.

What next?

Students and education experts have already expressed dissatisfaction with the cancellation of the exam only for a few students. Arguing that if the exam can be cancelled for 1,500 students, then that is an admission of error and therefore, they claim that the logical thing would be to cancel the May 5 exam for all candidates and conduct a re-test. It indicates a failure of the system and loss of faith, students complained on social media.

Instead of rendering the pitch even, as a measure of ensuring the quality of candidates entering the medical profession, the way NEET is being conducted has created several additional layers of privilege. For an exam of its size and scale, where over 23 lakh students take the test in about 4,500 centres across the country, in multiple languages, small issues may crop up.

However, the test has been around for nearly a decade, and it is reasonable to assume that its teething troubles are over. Preventing fraud and application of mind (on the part of the invigilators to give extra time to students who did not have adequate time) should be eminently possible, certainly by the government agencies.

THE GIST

On June 13, the Union government submitted to the Supreme Court that the score cards of 1,563 candidates who were given compensatory marks in the common undergraduate medical entrance examination, NEET-UG 2024, held on May 5, will be cancelled.

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China's 'grey-zone' warfare tactics against Taiwan

What are the coercive measures China has imposed on Taiwan?

Anushka Saxena

The story so far:

Since the new Taiwanese president Lai Ching-te has assumed office, all eyes have been on the rocky start to his tenure. While China's belligerent response to Mr. Lai's “pro-independence” and “secessionist” statements was striking, it has now resorted to a sophisticated ploy to respond to Mr. Lai's Democratic Progressive Party (DPP). This is often referred to as ‘grey-zone’ warfare, which comprises elements that frustrate Taiwan in a sustained manner.

What has China done?

China's preparedness to invade Taiwan and fight a high-intensity war over the island is a much debated subject. Training drills in the People's Liberation Army Eastern Theater Command (PLA ETC) are targeted precisely at demonstrating China's ability to fight and win. However, a more cognitive tool that Beijing is

deploying to demonstrate this ability is simulated audiovisuals. On May 24, for example, the PLA ETC Weibo account released a 3D animation video depicting how in an invasion scenario, land- and warship-based ballistic missile launchers would fire tens of missiles at one go, striking areas in Taipei and Kaohsiung.

Moreover, since 2020, the X account of the Taiwanese Ministry of National Defence has turned into a repository of reportage on daily sorties conducted by PLA fighter jets, unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), strategic fighters and early warning aircraft. While such sorties do not engage the island's defence forces directly, they exert sustained pressure on them. Further, these UAVs also conduct intelligence work in the areas surrounding the island. The long term presence of such mobilisation induces wear-out within Taiwanese forces, even before there is kinetic combat.

What about ideology?

To build a favourable image for itself,

Beijing often deploys narratives within Taiwanese territory that thrust ideological choices upon its citizens. For example, sometime on May 25, just under a week after Mr. Lai assumed office, internet users in Taiwan observed a Youtube video of a Chinese citizen operating a drone to drop cardboard boxes on Kinmen island. When investigated by the Kinmen Defence Command on May 26, the boxes unveiled fliers written in simplified Chinese, stating “Both sides of the Taiwan Strait belong to one China, one Chinese nation. Taiwan independence is a dead end. Lai's Taiwan independence is a dead end.” Some other fliers warned, “Don't sacrifice your life for Taiwan independence, do you understand?”

The Kinmen Command stated that this was “a typical cognitive warfare tactic” deployed by China, because it initiates public discussions on social media, and garners attention for the Chinese cause.

What are political tactics China uses?

In its ‘carrots and sticks’ approach

towards Taiwan, Beijing deploys sticks for the DPP and carrots for its primary opposition party, the Kuomintang (KMT). Well known for its relatively pro-mainland views, the KMT continues to engage with Communist Party (CPC) officials, even as any meaningful communication between the DPP and the CPC has stalled since Ms. Tsai became President of Taiwan in 2016. DPP legislators have often described these engagements as KMT's “collusion” with the CPC. In fact, KMT officials have, in the past, been investigated by the Tsai administration under the ‘anti-infiltration law’ after their visits to China.

China's ‘sticks’ against the DPP entail coercive economic measures, which leverage the cross-strait trade and business interdependence to seek concessions. One such example is China's unilateral suspension of preferential tax rates for chemical imports from Taiwan, granted under the only trade agreement to exist between the two sides – the Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA). Beijing announced that such a suspension, applicable to 134 items imported from Taiwan, is retaliation against Mr. Lai's propagation of “separatist” sentiments in his inaugural speech, as well as Taipei's own restrictions against imports of over 2,000 goods made in China.

As ‘grey-zone’ warfare tactics become a subject of deliberation, Mr. Lai will have much to grapple with during his tenure. Anushka Saxena is a Research Analyst at Takshashila Institution, Bengaluru.

THE GIST

While China's belligerent response to new Taiwanese president Lai Ching-te's “pro-independence” and “secessionist” statements were striking, it has now resorted to a sophisticated ploy to respond to Mr. Lai's Democratic Progressive Party (DPP).

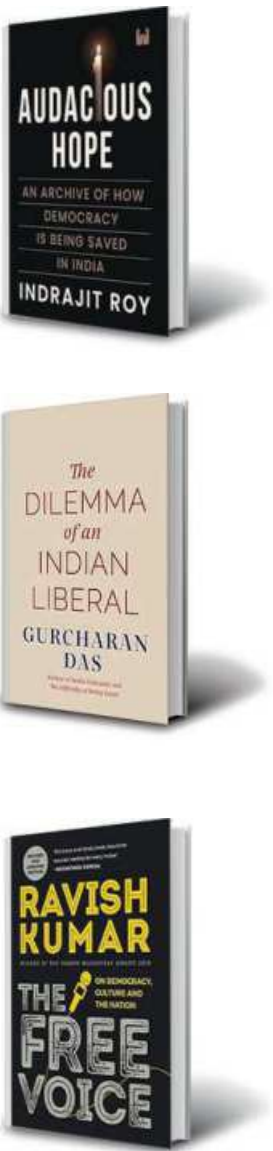
China has unilateral suspended preferential tax rates for chemical imports from Taiwan, in retaliation against Mr. Lai's propagation of “separatist” sentiments in his inaugural speech.

Additionally, to build a favourable image for itself, Beijing often deploys narratives within Taiwanese territory that thrust ideological choices upon its citizens.

BIBLIOGRAPHY



In defiance: Over 500 women hold a sit-in protest against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) at Jaffrabad, New Delhi on February 23, 2020. FILE PHOTO



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

“Disclose, reveal (R. Ravi, Kochi)”

“Both words share the meaning ‘to make known to others what was intended to be kept secret, private or confidential’. The secret or confidential matter can be information, or objects hidden from view. Here are a few examples:

Mohan revealed the truth to Sujatha.

In these examples, it is information that is being shared with others.

The mist lifted and revealed the lake.

In these two sentences, objects previously hidden are being seen.

Although both ‘disclose’ and ‘reveal’ have more or less the same meaning, they are not always interchangeable. You cannot for example use ‘disclose’ with supernatural phenomena – god, ghosts, devil, etc. You cannot for example say ‘The devil disclosed himself to her,’ but ‘The devil revealed himself to her.’

God revealed the truth to Moses.

The word ‘reveal’ literally means ‘remove the veil.’ So when you ‘reveal’ something, you are removing a veil so that people can see the object. ‘Disclose’ on the other hand means ‘not shut,’ in other words ‘not hidden.’ So when you disclose something, you do not hide it, but keep it in the open for inspection.”

“Descriptive grammar and prescriptive grammar (A. K. Brinda, Chandigarh)”

“Both deal with the grammar of a language. Descriptive grammar merely lists the rules the native speaker of a language actually uses. Prescriptive grammar, on the other hand, tells (prescribes) what rules the learner should use. The prescriptive grammarian is more interested in the notion of ‘correctness.’ ‘Correctness’ is not the concern of a descriptive grammarian. He is concerned with facts. The prescriptive grammarian is concerned with value. He sets up a norm based on the writings of distinguished authors and he considers any deviation from the norm ‘incorrect.’ The sentence ‘Each one brought their pen’ will be listed by a descriptive grammarian as such sentences are common. A prescriptive grammarian would consider the sentence wrong and say that ‘each’ in the sentence should be followed by ‘his/her.’ ‘Each one brought his/her pen.’ The prescriptive grammarian’s contention would be that ‘each should be followed by a singular pronoun. Modern writers use ‘their’ instead of ‘his/her.’ Descriptive grammarians list innovations and prescriptive grammarians resist them initially but eventually accept them reluctantly when the innovations are accepted and used by good writers. Both serve a useful role. The role of the descriptivist is to see that the language does not become too rule-bound and that of the prescriptivist is to stoutly resist ‘the anything goes’ attitude.”

Writers speaking truth to power: the democratic value of dissent

Writers have always been the public voice of the truths of a time, while striving for a better future. Contemporary critics and writers keep the spirit of democracy alive; as do the common men and women of a country, leaning on constitutional and democratic values

Nandini Bhatia

“The writer has taken on more and more of the intellectual’s adversarial attributes in such activities as speaking the truth to power, being a witness to persecution and suffering, and supplying a dissenting voice in conflicts with authority,” wrote Edward Said, Palestinian-American philosopher-critic, at the turn of the millennium. With the rise of writers like George Orwell, Hannah Arendt, Noam Chomsky, and if we look closer to home, Romila Thapar, Anand Teltumbde and Arundhati Roy, this “special symbolic role of the writer as an intellectual testifying to a country’s or region’s experience, thereby giving that experience a public identity [is] forever inscribed in the global discursive agenda.”

Writers have always been the public voice of the truths of a time, while striving for a better future; although it can be a tedious task. Academic Indrajit Roy, in his book *Audacious Hope: An Archive of How Democracy is Being Saved in India* (2024), revives the lost hope of a people-centric democracy and the dissenting voices that advocate for it. Placing India within historical democratic crises across the world – from radical democratic breakdowns in Chile, Germany, South Africa or Pakistan, to a subtle but significant loss of the democratic spirit in Turkey, Brazil or the U.S. – he offers an optimistic view for India’s future, as students, artists, comedians, farmers, women, and other marginalised groups, take a stand against the growing authoritarianism in fields of education,

religion, agriculture, citizenship, art and so on. Some emerge victorious in bringing change or at least in reversing autocratic/capitalist measures; others, get the ball rolling for future generations and future governments. “Not all battles are fought for victory. Some are fought simply to tell the world that someone was there on the battlefield,” Roy quotes the former NDTV news anchor, Ravish Kumar, from his 2019 speech as he accepted the Ramon Magsaysay Award. Either way, “Democracy welcomes, rather than stifles, dissent,” he insists.

Cost of speaking up

Roy calls Ravish Kumar an intrepid journalist; the latter, however, has written honestly and elaboratively on the fear that entails speaking up, both before and after, and his every day journey from fear to courage, in *The Free Voice: On Democracy, Culture and The Nation* (2018). Where Kumar addresses the personal cost of nationalism that came with the political shift in 2014 – in matters of religion, love, privacy, etc. – Roy reviews the last decade through the collective spirit of dissent. Each offer a positive as well as a negative spin on the strength-in-numbers argument, where mobs attack and resent, and protesters question and dissent. “The power that resides in the people must not be frittered away. Be a film star’s fan, or cricketer’s, but never be a politician’s fan. Respect him, but don’t be so hypnotised by his words that you forget to evaluate his work and hold him to the promises he makes,” Kumar writes, as he urges people to remain, first and foremost, (responsible and duty-bound) citizens of the country. It is in this spirit, and driven by this

power, that the subjects of Roy’s book will be remembered – as virodhi (dissenter) and not krodhi (resentful), as Kumar distinguishes – in history. They could be students from Hyderabad, Allahabad, Manipur, Delhi and many other States, protesting systematic and institutional violence rooted in caste and class discrepancies; or the people from all age-groups, genders, and religious backgrounds, who stood up to fight against the “weaponisation of minorities” as perpetrated by the announcement of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (2019) and the subsequent fear that overwhelmed Assam and other pockets of India. It could also be the humanitarian spirit of the citizens of India as they collected, organised and facilitated the movement of funds and supplies, rebuilding hope in the thick of the COVID-19 pandemic. The decisive victory of the farmers’ protests also renews the hope Roy endorses.

On a lonely road

Where does the Indian liberal stand amid all this socio-political spinning? Gurcharan Das may have some answers, as he deliberates on a dozen or so aspects of the Indian identity, misled by the growing demagogues in politics, buried beneath the lethal (and in hindsight, tragic) cocktail of “identity politics, majoritarianism and nationalism”. In his latest book, *The Dilemma of an Indian Liberal* (2024), he goes back and forth between the paradox of maintaining democracy – as a politician’s responsibility and a citizen’s duty. As an economist, he gives a fair economic hue to his argument, conferring India as a

rising global power, held back by the social decline from within. In this journey, he writes, “the liberal is on a lonely road”. The solution is to stay away from “political association with religion” as Roy calls it – be it in animal rearing, caste sanction or in worship.

‘Realistic hope’

All three scholars – Indrajit Roy, Ravish Kumar, and Gurcharan Das – show little faith in the opposition and their lack of promising strategy in dealing with the issues that threaten the democratic fabric of the country. Nonetheless, Roy appeals for a “realistic hope” against a radical one. “It is tempting to conflate hope with utopia,” he writes, “...this obsession with perfecting humanity” will not lead us anywhere. As long as we lean on and exercise constitutional values, of which, dissent is one, there is hope. Indian citizens did lean on and exercise their constitutional and democratic values, as is evident from the results of the 2024 general elections. They have kept the “realistic hope” alive by practising ‘dissent’ in its purest form: by voting, by showing up for their democratic right and their role in sustaining it. At a time like this, one is reminded of *The Washington Post* slogan: “Democracy Dies in Darkness”. Contemporary critics and writers alike keep the spirit of democracy alive; as do the common men and women of a country. The lone candle flame on the cover of Roy’s book, enveloped by darkness, spreads light and empowers citizens to pursue it; an undeniable testimony to hope.

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THE DAILY QUIZ

White is a colour often associated with peace and goodness. A quiz on the colour and what it has meant for cultures throughout history

Vasudevan Mukunth

- QUESTION 1
- The white colour is said to be achromatic because it has no _____. Fill in the blank with a property that is used to mean the extent to which a colour can be said to be similar to or different from another colour.
- QUESTION 2
- On electronic screens, when the three primary colours of red, green, and blue are mixed, you get white. This process, in which a new colour is created by bringing together multiple other colours, is called _____. Fill in the blanks.
- QUESTION 3
- The earliest cave paintings, from the

- Palaeolithic era, featured white among a few other colours. Name the carbonate mineral (or rock) with the use of which they were able to obtain this white.
- QUESTION 4
- Ancient Rome had two words to describe the colour white: _____ and candidus. The former stood for plain white and the latter was for a brighter variety. Fill in the blank. Hint: A famous and popular Harry Potter character has the same first name.
- QUESTION 5
- Jainism has two branches. The names of the two branches are _____ and Digamber, which in Sanskrit mean “white clad” and “sky clad”, respectively. Fill in the blank.



Visual question:

Name this man. As the story goes, he created Russia’s flag by reordering the colours of the Dutch flag, which was the first national flag to feature the white colour. PUBLIC DOMAIN

- Questions and Answers to the previous day’s daily quiz: 1. The name of the book Anne Frank is known for. **Ans: The Diary of a Young Girl**
2. The hiding place where Anne hid from Nazi persecution with her family. **Ans: Secret Annex**
3. Anne aspired to this profession. **Ans: Journalist**
4. The only person in Anne Frank’s family who survived the confinement. **Ans: Anne’s father, Otto Frank**
5. The name Anne called her diary. **Ans: Kitty**
6. The location of the Anne Frank House. **Ans: The Netherlands**
- Visual: This actor played Anne Frank in this 1959 film and this actor won the Academy Award for the Best Supporting Actress. **Ans: Millie Perkins played Anne; Shelley Winters who essayed the role of Petronella van Daan won the award**
- Early Birds: Vasudha A. S. | Mouli Pal | Nyasha | Abhinav Raj | Prashant Nain

Word of the day

Corrigible:

capable of being corrected or set right

Synonyms: sort out, discipline

Usage: It is a corrigible defect.

Pronunciation: bit.ly/corrigiblepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /kɒrɪdʒɪbəl/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject ‘Text & Context’

From Page One

NTA cancels scorecards of 1,563 NEET candidates

The results will be declared on June 30. Care will be taken to not disturb the counselling session scheduled on July 6, the NTA added.

The Bench disposed of the pleas on the issue of grace marks. As for the allegations of question paper leaks and other concerns, the court directed the NTA to file its response in two weeks.

Earlier, while hearing another petition filed by 10 candidates, the court had scheduled the next hearing on July 8. One of the petitions was filed by online ed-tech platform Physics Wallah's CEO Alakh Pandey, represented by advocate J. Sai Deepak, who claimed that the NTA's decision to award grace marks was "arbitrary".

Kuwait offers help to repatriate bodies



Family members of a victim, who died in the tragic fire in Kuwait, in Ramanathapuram, Tamil Nadu. L. BALACHANDAR

An Indian Air Force aircraft is on standby to fly back the mortal remains of the Indians. Kuwait has also ordered the preparation of a military aircraft to help in the repatriation.

Mr. Singh met Sheikh Fahad Yousef Saud Al-Sabah and other senior Kuwaiti officials, and conveyed India's gratitude for their support. He also visited Mubarak Al Kabeer Hospital and other facilities where the injured Indians are undergoing treatment.

Kuwaiti Emir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al Jaber Al-Sabah has issued a directive to provide financial assistance to the families of the deceased, though the exact amount to be distributed has not been announced yet.

Mr. Singh, accompanied by Joint Secretary Aseem R. Mahajan, reached Kuwait on Thursday, hours after a deadly fire engulfed a multi-storey building housing 196 migrants in the Al Ahmadi governorate in southern Kuwait, shining a spotlight on the poor living conditions of Indian workers in the Gulf region.

In a conversation with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar soon afterwards, the Kuwaiti Foreign Minister promised that the incident would be investigated and that "responsibility will be fixed".

"Urged the early repatriation of the mortal remains of those who lost their lives. He emphasized that those injured were getting the requisite medical attention," Mr. Jaishankar had said about his telephonic conversation with Mr. Al-Yahya.

"MoS conveyed his appreciation for the cooperation being extended by all concerned authorities of Kuwait," the Embassy of India announced in a social media post. The Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) reports that the Kuwaiti Minister assured that they are "doing everything necessary to determine the circumstances and causes of the horrific incident and that justice will take its course with transparency and integrity."

Kuwait's public prosecutor has launched an investigation into the incident, with some reports indicating that the fire was caused by a gas leak from the building's ground floor. The Kuwait Fire Department's head of investigations Colonel Sayed Al-Mousawi said his team had found that inflammable materials were used as partitions between apartments and also between rooms, which had caused the black smoke.

Fresh infiltrators in J&K may have played role in attacks

Security agencies say three or four groups of terrorists on the move in Reasi, Doda and Kathua; since mid-2021, Jammu division hit by 26 terror strikes, pointing to bid to revive militancy

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Amid a spate of terror attacks in the past three days in the Jammu region, security agencies suspect that three or four groups of terrorists, some of them who have freshly infiltrated, are on the move in the Reasi, Doda and Kathua areas.

Since June 9, there have been terror strikes at four places in Reasi, Kathua and Doda, where nine pilgrims were killed, a Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) jawan was killed, a civilian was injured and at least seven security personnel were injured. Jammu has remained largely free of militant activities in the last two decades compared to the Kashmir Valley.

A top government source said since mid-2021, at least 26 terror attacks have occurred in the Jammu division, pointing to sustained bids to revive militancy in the region after the special status of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) under Article 370 of the Constitution was read down on August 5, 2019.

On June 11 and 12, two suspected terrorists were



On alert: Army soldiers near the site of the ongoing encounter between forces and terrorists in Kathua district on Wednesday. PTI

killed in an encounter with the security forces in Kathua and a large quantity of arms and ammunition, dry fruits, medicines, batteries, walkie talkie sets were recovered from them.

Recounting the horror
Recounting the June 11 incident at Saida Sukhal near Kootah Morh in Hira Nagar, close to the Pakistan border, an eyewitness told *The Hindu* that though two terrorists were killed, there could be more gun-wielding men moving in the area.

"My employee was on way home on a motorcycle when he was stopped by two armed men on June 11

around 7.30 p.m. They asked him for his ID card and pulled his hair. One of the gunmen appeared to be high on drugs, and who could barely stand, asked the other person to kill the employee, but they eventually let him go. Both were carrying weapons and were clean-shaven. But the ones who were killed by the police had a beard, this makes us believe that there were more than two persons," said Dalvir Singh, a resident.

Mr. Singh added that since there had been no rain in the region, the terrorists came out of the forests to fetch water.

A police statement after

CRPF soldier laid to rest in M.P.

BHOPAL

The last rites of Kabir Das Uikey, the CRPF jawan who was killed following an encounter with terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua area on Tuesday, were performed with full State honours on Thursday at his village in Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh. Uikey had succumbed to his injuries on Wednesday.

the incident said that the two terrorists asked for water from a few houses to which villagers grew suspicious and slammed the doors on them and few raised hue and cry.

'Hiding in forest'

The terrorists panicked and fired randomly in the air and also at villagers, leaving one injured.

"After infiltrating from Pakistan, we suspect they were hiding in the forests. They had food but no water. The two who were killed after being engaged by the police seem to be different from the two terrorists who assaulted my employee," Mr. Singh said.

Terrorists planning strikes on forces in Jammu: J&K police

Peerzada Ashiq
JAMMU

The Jammu & Kashmir Police have raised an alert for security formations in Rajouri-Poonch belt and Jammu districts to prepare for possible "suicide attacks" by militants in the next 48 hours. In an internal cable (communication) raised by the police in Jammu on Wednesday, the Army in Poonch, the CRPF and the BSF in Jammu, top police officials in the Rajouri-Poonch and Udhampur-Reasi range were asked "to remain vigilant".

"Inputs received from reliable sources (say) that terrorists are planning suicidal attack on security forces, camps, installations, particularly in Sunderbani, Nowshera, Lam-beri, Akhnoor and Domana areas of Rajouri district and Jammu districts in next 48 hours, you are requested to brief the lower formations to remain extra vigilant," reads the communication.

The alert comes in the wake of four attacks in the past five days. Nine civilians, one CRPF jawan and two militants were killed in four terror attacks since Sunday. Two gunfights were reported from Doda district, where two groups

In Reasi, the police detained 50 persons in connection with attack on pilgrims bus in Kanda area

of militants opened fire on checkpoints at Gandoh and Chattergala area, leaving seven personnel injured.

The police have released sketches of four terrorists believed to be active in the upper reaches of Bhaderwah, Thathri and Gandoh. A reward of ₹5 lakh was announced for those who will provide information.

In Reasi, the police detained 50 individuals in connection with the attack on a pilgrims' bus in the Kanda area, which left nine dead. "Significant leads have been uncovered, aiding in the identification and capture of those who may be potentially involved in orchestrating the attack. To ensure a comprehensive probe, search operations have been expanded to encompass the far-flung areas of Arnas and Mahore. These operations aim to uncover further evidence and apprehend terrorists who may be hiding in these remote regions," the police said.

Jarange-Patil ends fast, gives a month to govt. to accept demands

Abhinav Deshpande
MUMBAI

Maratha quota activist Manoj Jarange-Patil on Thursday agreed to end his indefinite strike, six days after he started it, granting the Eknath Shinde-led government a one-month deadline to accept the community's demands.

While ending his fast in Jalna's Antarwali Sarati village, his native home, the activist maintained pressure on the ruling party leaders despite giving a month's deadline and threatened the ruling alliance that they would go ahead with their preparations for the next upcoming Assembly election.

On June 8, he started his fresh round of indefinite fast, demanding the implementation of a draft notification that recognises all



Manoj Jarange-Patil

blood relatives of Maratha community members as Kunbis, an agrarian group classified as an OBC community. He also called for the framing of a law to identify Kunbis as Marathas, warning that he would field candidates for all 288 Assembly seats in the State election if his demands were not met.

He announced his decision to suspend the fast after Minister Shamburaj Desai and Shiv Sena MP-elect from Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar Sandipan Bhumre discussed the issue.

Manipur govt. forms panel to oversee rehabilitation of internally displaced persons

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Manipur government on Thursday constituted a Cabinet sub-committee to oversee the rehabilitation and relocation of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the State due to the ongoing conflict, days after a recent spate of violence in Jiribam district displaced around 1,000 more people from their homes and villages. The ethnic conflict in the State has led to over 220 deaths so far. Over 50,000 people have been internally displaced since the conflict began.

Meanwhile, sporadic violence was reported around Moreh town and in Jiribam district in the last 24 hours, with the Indigenous Tribal Advisory Council of Jiribam and



Thousands of children in relief camps in Manipur have had to pause their schooling due to the conflict. REUTERS

Pherzawl reporting that four shops belonging to Hmar tribal people had been burnt down on Wednesday night.

Following this, on Thursday, the burning of a school building near Moreh town was also reported, with sources saying unknown miscreants had set fire to a new building of a

Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya there.

According to a press note issued by the government, the sub-committee will be headed by Minister of Works and YAS, K. Govindas Singh, with three other Ministers – Awangbow Newmai, Sapam Rajan Singh, and Kashim Vashum – appointed as members.

Amarwara bypoll: BJP fields former Congress MLA

The Hindu Bureau
BHOPAL

The BJP has nominated Kamlesh Shah as its candidate for the Assembly byelection in the Amarwara (ST) constituency in Madhya Pradesh's Chhindwara.

The byelection was necessitated after Mr. Shah, a former loyalist of former Chief Minister Kamal Nath and a two-term Amarwara MLA, had quit the Congress and gave up his legislative membership to join the BJP ahead of the Lok Sabha election. On June 10, the Election Commission announced byelections on 13 seats across the country.

Mr. Shah was one of many Congress leaders who quit the Opposition party before the election. BJP candidate Vivek Buntia Sahu won the election by a margin of over 1.13 lakh.

Priyanka Gandhi may contest from Wayanad: Cong. leader

Sandeep Phukan
Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI



Priyanka Gandhi

The option of Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra contesting the Wayanad Lok Sabha seat cannot be ruled out if her brother and Congress MP Rahul Gandhi vacates it in favour of Rae Bareilly, a top party leader said on Thursday.

During his trip to Wayanad, Mr. Gandhi had told the people of the constituency that he faces a dilemma over which of the two seats to choose, given that he won both in the Lok Sabha election. However, he added that his decision would make them happy.

The comment of the top Congress leader, who did not wish to be named, assumes significance against the backdrop of Mr. Gandhi's remarks.

"Rahul Gandhi had made the decision to contest Rae Bareilly two years ago but he didn't let anyone know. Even with regard to vacating one of two seats, the party will announce it," the source said.

Mulling LoP post
On the question of accepting the post of the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, the top leader said that Mr. Gandhi would take this decision at the right time, but added that the former Congress chief considers organisational

responsibility equally important. "If RG takes the position, then the only downside is that he will be pinned down in Delhi. We will have to assess all sides before taking the call," another Congress leader said.

The Congress leaders maintain that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government is crippled and can be overturned at any time, but said that the larger consensus within the party is not to rush into it just yet.

However, the top Congress leader admitted that it is unlikely that the Central agencies will be allowed to function with greater autonomy.

"No, the coalition partners can't ensure that. The entire system has been taken over by the BJP, more so in the past five years," the leader said.

Sunetra Pawar is NCP's candidate for Rajya Sabha bypoll

Shoumojit Banerjee
PUNE

Ending days of suspense, the Ajit Pawar-led Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) faction on Thursday announced Sunetra Pawar as its candidate for the Rajya Sabha bypoll, which will be held on June 25.

Ms. Pawar's election to the Upper House is likely to take place unopposed as the ruling coalition – comprising of Eknath Shinde's Shiv Sena, the BJP, Mr. Pawar's NCP – has strength of more than 180 MLAs (BJP 103, NCP 40 Shiv Sena 38) as compared to the Opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) which has 69 MLAs in the Assembly.

Ms. Pawar's maiden entry into Parliament is being dubbed a 'backdoor' one by observers after she lost



Sunetra Pawar

spectacularly (by a margin of 1.58 lakh votes) to her sister-in-law Supriya Sule, daughter of the NCP(SP) chief Sharad Pawar in the hotly contested Baramati Lok Sabha constituency.

The loss of Baramati has been a body blow to the Deputy Chief Minister's prestige, given that his son, Parth Pawar had lost the 2019 general election from Maval Lok Sabha seat by a margin of over three lakh votes to the Shiv Sena's Shrirang Barne.

Fact-finding team must probe Rajkot fire, says HC

Mahesh Langa
AHMEDABAD

The Gujarat High Court on Thursday slammed the State government and directed it to set up a "fact-finding committee" to probe the Rajkot game zone fire incident and the role of officials in allowing the illegal structure to come up which remained functional for years without any licence.

During the hearing of suo motu petition, the court hit out at Municipal Commissioners, accusing them of massive negligence in the fire incident.

A Division Bench of Chief Justice Sunita Agarwal and Justice Pranav Trivedi instructed the State government to set up the fact-finding committee, with a report due by July 4.

Four forest staff die in Uttarakhand fire

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

Four Forest department employees died on their way to douse a forest fire in Almora district of Uttarakhand on Thursday.

Four others were severely injured and admitted to hospital.

According to the information, a Forest department vehicle caught fire in

Binsar wildlife sanctuary, Almora, around 3.30 p.m. on Thursday.

"Their vehicle caught fire. Four of them died before they could jump out of the vehicle, while others got injured," said a communique from the State government. Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami announced an ex-gratia of ₹10 lakh to the families of the deceased.



APPEAL

Master AATIF RAJA ANSARY, son of Monazir Ansary, 3 years admitted in Christian Medical College is suffering from THALASSEMIA MAJOR. This is a type of blood disorder which is life threatening. The best option for him would be to undergo Allogeneic Peripheral Blood Stem Cell Transplant (PB SCT). The estimated cost of PB SCT at this hospital is approximately **Rs. 15,00,000/-**. Please send donation however small and save the boy. Cheque/D.D./M.O. favouring **Save Poor Lives A/c Aatif Raja Ansary**. Our Account Details: S/B Account No. 2000913487, State Bank of India, R.A.Puram, and IFSC Code: SBIN001855. You can donate through Google Pay No. 9884607377, UPI Id: savepoorlives@oksb. All donations are exempted under 80G of I.T. Act. Save Poor Lives Registered Public Charitable Trust, Flat No. A1, Ceebros Garden, Ground Floor, Old No. 76, Kamarajar Salai, Raja Annamalaiapuram, Chennai-600028. Contact No. 044-42044165 & 044-35691848, Mobile: 9884607377, Email: savepoorlives@gmail.com Our website: www.savepoorlives.com

Pema Khandu sworn in as CM of Arunachal for the third time

Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein, 10 others also take oath in Itanagar; CM says BJP's poll manifesto will guide the State government for the next five years and adds that the election results reflect the people's trust in the leadership of Modi

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu said in Itanagar on Thursday that the Bharatiya Janata Party's election manifesto will guide the State government for the next five years.

His Council of Ministers will meet to draw up the road map for development within the first 100 days of taking charge, he added.

Mr. Khandu was sworn in on Thursday as the Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh for the third time in succession.

"We won 46 of the 60 Assembly seats in Arunachal Pradesh. It reflected the trust the people have in the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who has been showering his attention on the State and el-



Taking charge: Arunachal Governor K.T. Parnaik administering the oath of office to Pema Khandu in Itanagar on Thursday. ANI

sewhere in the Northeast," he told presspersons after the oath-taking ceremony.

"The mandate means we have to live up to the expectations of the people. We will try to follow our election manifesto to make Arunachal Pradesh more developed over the next

five years," he said. "The first step for the Cabinet will be to set a 100-day target to draw a plan for growth," he added.

Council of Ministers Apart from Mr. Khandu, Arunachal Pradesh Governor K.T. Parnaik adminis-

tered the oath of office to Chowna Mein as the Deputy Chief Minister.

He had served in the same post in the previous government headed by Mr. Khandu.

Ten others were sworn in as Ministers: Pasang Dorjee Sona, who was the Speaker between 2019 and 2024; Biyuram Wahge, the State BJP president; Nyato Dukam; Gabriel Denwang Wangsu; Wanki Lowang; Mama Natung; Dasanglu Pul; Balo Raja; Kento Jini; and Ojing Tasing.

Ms. Pul, the only woman in Mr. Khandu's Council, is the widow of former Chief Minister Kalikho Pul.

Union Ministers Amit Shah, J.P. Nadda, and Kiren Rijiju, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, his Tripura counterpart Manik Saha, Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio, and Sikkim Chief Minister

Prem Singh Tamang were among the dignitaries present.

Changing loyalties

Mr. Khandu became the Chief Minister for the first time in 2016 after a power struggle in the then-ruling Congress.

Later, he led 43 MLAs in a switch of loyalties, first to the regional People's Party of Arunachal, and then to the BJP, helping it form the second government in the State without winning an Assembly election.

The BJP had formed a government under almost similar circumstances in 2003 as well.

This time around, the BJP won 10 of its 46 seats in Arunachal Pradesh unopposed.

The party also won the State's two Lok Sabha seats, one of them held by Mr. Rijiju.

Doval reappointed National Security Adviser, Mishra to stay PM's Principal Secretary

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI/AHMEDABAD

The top officials in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) were reappointed on Thursday after Prime Minister Narendra Modi assumed office for a third straight term last week.

P.K. Mishra, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, was retained for a second term and National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Doval for a rare third term, while two advisers, Amit Khare and Tarun Kapoor, have been reappointed for a tenure of two years each.

After repeating most of his top ministerial team from his previous term, the Prime Minister has also signalled continuity in governance by repeating Mr. Mishra, an old hand who worked with him in Gujarat and since 2014 when Mr. Modi took over as the Prime Minister.

The Centre's top per-



Status quo: Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Principal Secretary P.K. Mishra (left) and National Security Adviser Ajit Doval. FILE PHOTO

sonnel body, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) headed by the PM, approved appointments of Mr. Mishra and Mr. Doval with effect from Thursday and said their tenures would be coterminous with the Prime Minister's term or until further orders, whichever was earlier.

As per the ACC notification issued by the Department of Personnel and Training, both officials will

have Cabinet rank in the table of precedence in the PMO.

In the PMO, Mr. Mishra looks after the Central administration handling personnel matters and administration matters, while Mr. Doval is tasked with national security and foreign affairs.

Mr. Khare deals with subjects related to social sectors, while Mr. Kapoor handles infrastructure-related matters.

Jake Sullivan, Kurt Campbell expected to visit Delhi next week to discuss key issues

The Hindu Bureau

After two previously cancelled trips to India earlier this year, it appears that U.S. National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan is once again scheduled to visit New Delhi, with plans for a trip next week. U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Kurt Campbell confirmed on Wednesday that he would also be travelling to India with Mr. Sullivan.

Technology cooperation and the U.S.-India Initiative on Critical Emerging Technology (ICET) launched in January 2023 are expected to be high on the agenda for the visit. The ICET has been led so far by Mr. Sullivan and Ajit Doval, whose reappointment as National Security Adviser was announced by the government on Thursday.

"We've worked assertively in technology. I'll be with Jake Sullivan in India next week as we advance areas of coordination with India here," Mr. Campbell said on Wednesday, during a discussion at the Stimson Centre, a Washington DC-based think tank.

"I think we feel very good about this [U.S.-India] partnership," he said.

The Hindu approached the U.S. National Security Council (NSC) for the exact date of Mr. Sullivan's visit, but did not get a confirmation of his schedule.

Other topics high in the bilateral agenda is the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC), launched on the fringes of the G-20 Summit held in New Delhi last year. The corridor, which was conceived in part to com-



Boosting ties: U.S. National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan and U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Kurt Campbell. FILE PHOTO



pete with China's Belt and Road Initiative, is part of the White House's Indo-Pacific strategy, but has run into trouble over the strife in West Asia, specifically the Israel-Hamas conflict and the frictions between Israel and Saudi Arabia.

Jet engines

The co-production of General Electric's F414 jet engines is also expected to feature in the discussions. The project was announced during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit to Washington DC in June 2023. Mr. Modi will be meeting U.S. President Joe Biden at the G-7 meeting in Italy on Friday. The two politicians spoke to each other on the phone last week when Mr. Biden called to congratulate Mr. Modi on being reappointed Prime Minister following the general elections.

Responding to a question from a reporter on U.S. export controls acting as an impediment to technology cooperation, Mr. Campbell admitted that there are certain longstanding "practices and some steps" that are no

longer relevant, and that the two countries would need to move beyond that to find new areas of cooperation.

"And I think that's going to be one of the issues that National Security Advisor Sullivan will be talking to his Indian counterparts about," he said, adding that the U.S. wanted to take these steps to ensure that the momentum is "unmistakable".

"And we are quite bullish on the U.S.-India relationship," Mr. Campbell said.

Presumably, the U.S. charge that Indian agents were behind a plot to kill Khalistani separatist and American citizen Gurpatwant Singh Pannun in New York, will also be discussed during Mr. Sullivan's visit. New Delhi has instituted a high-level probe to investigate the matter.

Asked by the travelling White House press corps, if Mr. Biden would raise the issue with Mr. Modi in Italy, Mr. Sullivan did not directly answer the question beyond saying the topic would continue to be discussed "at very senior levels".

Target is to achieve self-reliance in defence manufacturing: Rajnath

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The government's target will be to export defence equipment worth over ₹50,000 crore by 2028-2029, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Thursday after assuming charge for the second consecutive term.

He chaired a review meeting on the action plan for the first 100 days of the Ministry under the new government, with a focus on the welfare of ex-servicemen.

"The meeting focused on the welfare of veterans, wherein major issues pertaining to the Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare were discussed. He instructed the officers to rededicate themselves to fulfil the agenda laid out in the 100 days' action plan," the Defence Ministry said in a statement.

"Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, our aim will be to further strengthen the



Setting goals: Rajnath Singh took charge as Union Defence Minister for the second term, in New Delhi on Thursday. ANI

security apparatus of the country, with focus on achieving self-reliance in defence manufacturing. Armed forces modernisation and the welfare of the soldiers, both serving and retired, will continue to be

our main focus," Mr. Singh said. In this regard, he noted that defence exports had touched a record ₹21,083 crore in financial year 2023-24. "It was historic," he stated.

He said the armed forces were being equipped with state-of-the-art weapons and platforms. In line with this, Mr. Singh said he would hold regular review meetings to fast-track the progress of the flagship schemes and the initiatives of the Ministry.

Emphasising the growing salience of the Indian Ocean Region in the defence calculus, Mr. Singh's first visit this term would be to the Eastern Naval Command, Visakhapatnam, where he would interact with officers and sailors, the Ministry said.

Purnea MP Pappu Yadav gets bail in extortion case

The Hindu Bureau
PATNA

In a relief for Purnea MP Pappu Yadav, the Purnea Chief Judicial Magistrate court granted him bail in an extortion case.

A Purnea-based furniture businessman, Raja Kumar, had lodged a case of extortion against Mr. Yadav at the Muffasil police station. Based on the complaint, the police had lodged an FIR against him.

Judge Shyamal Kumar granted bail to Mr. Yadav on two bail bonds of ₹10,000. In the court, Mr. Yadav's advocate said the mobile number mentioned in the FIR, from which the alleged extortion call was made, did not belong to his client.

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY
MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DIVISION
File no.- EMI/IMSc-31/2021/11
Date - 07/06/2024
e-TENDER NOTICE

Name of the work : "Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Operation & Maintenance of 04 Nos of Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations." Estimated Cost : Rs.5,28,50,000/- excluding GST. Last Date & time of submission of bid : Dt:01.07.2024 upto 1715 Hrs. Refer our Website for details : <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app> and www.paradipport.gov.in
Sd/- Materials Manager
Paradip Port Authority
PPA/PR/13/2024-2025, Dt:12/06/2024

THE INSTITUTE OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES, CHENNAI
(Department of Atomic Energy, Govt. of India)
14.06.2024
Advt No. 21-R/IMSc/2024
IMSc invites online applications for **Direct Recruitment** for filling up of One vacant post [UR] of **Scientific Officer "C" [Systems] (Level-10 in Pay Matrix under 7th CPC)**.
For more details, please visit our website: https://www.imsc.res.in/other_positions.
Sd/-
REGISTRAR

BENGALURU METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION
CENTRAL OFFICE: STORES & PURCHASE DEPARTMENT
K.H. ROAD, SHANTHINAGAR, BENGALURU-560 027
No. BMTCC/OSP/STR/SDS/127/2024-25 Date:13.06.2024
CORRIGENDUM / ADDENDUM NOTICE
Ref. BMTCC/OSP/STR/SSD/88/2024-25, Date:21.05.2024.
With reference to the above e-Auction Notification published in the Newspapers on 24.05.2024 for scrapping of 550 vehicles through KPPP e-auction portal on 05.06.2024. The last date of the e-auction and number of scrapped vehicles amended to **17.06.2024 at 16:00 Hrs and 710 nos. of vehicles.**
BMTCC Contact phone Nos : + 91 7760991988 / 7760991157
Sd/- CONTROLLER OF STORES & PURCHASES

KALYANA KARNATAKA ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION
Stores & Purchase Department, Central Offices,
Sarige Sadana, Main Road, Kalaburagi-585 102.
Tel. & Fax No. 08472-260502, Mobile No. 77606 86172 (COSP), 77609 92029 (S.O.).
No. KKRTC/CO/COSP/ 257 /2024-25 Dated: 13.06.2024
NOTICE INVITING SHORT TERM TENDER (THROUGH KPP PORTAL MODE ONLY)
Short Term Tenders through KPP portal (pre-qualification & commercial) are invited for supply of following items.

Sl. No.	Tender No. & date	Tender nomenclature	Value in crores.	Last date for submission of tender
1	G-11/2024-25 dtd: 13.06.2024	Supply of tyre, tube & flap sets, tubeless tyres and additional tubes & flaps.	Rs. 19.00	01.07.2024 up to 15.00 hours
2	G-14/2024-25 dtd: 13.06.2024	Supply of M.S Angle, M.S Flat, MS C-Channel, ERW GI Squire Tubes & CR ERW M.S Round Tubes	Rs. 4.58	01.07.2024 up to 15.00 hours
3	G-09/2024-25 dtd: 13.06.2024	Supply of PCTR & Allied Materials	Rs. 3.47	01.07.2024 up to 15.00 hours
4	G-13/2024-25 dtd: 13.06.2024	Supply of Plywood Sheets	Rs. 1.20	01.07.2024 up to 15.00 hours
5	G-12/2024-25 dtd: 13.06.2024	Supply of Automotive Cables & Wires.	Rs. 0.61	01.07.2024 up to 15.00 hours
6	G-10/2024-25 dtd: 13.06.2024	Supply of Tyre & Tube Patches	Rs. 0.31	01.07.2024 up to 15.00 hours

All the details of Tender, Registration, Tender form documents etc. are available at <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/>. Mail to cospnekrtrc@gmail.com or support@eprocurehelpdesk.com for further information if required. Further, any addendum / corrigendum related to changes in terms and conditions of tender, specification and calendar of events etc. will be uploaded only through KPP portal.
Sd/- Controller of Stores and Purchases
(Tender Inviting Authority)
DIPR/Kalaburagi/81/KSMC&A/2024-25

KARNATAKA STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION
Central Offices, Mechanical Engg Dept., K.H. Road, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru-560027 Tel No.: 080-22221321 EXT: 291
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
NO: KSRTC/2024-25/IND0104 (T-142) Dated: 14.06.2024
(Through e-procurement mode only)
(1) Tender is invited through e-Procurement Portal <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> for supply of 70 Nos. diesel fuelled **222" Wheel Base BS-VI fully built Non AC Sleeper Coaches and 30 Nos. Non AC Seater cum Sleeper (Hybrid) Coaches** for Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC).
(2) Tender Value in Crores (Approx): **Rs. 47/- Crores.**
(3) Last date for bid submission in e-procurement portal on **15.07.2024 @ 17:30 Hours.**
Further, any addendum/corrigendum in respect of changes in calendar of events, scope, other tender terms & conditions etc., will be uploaded/published through e-portal only.
Note: Interested bidders need to register in the GoK e-procurement portal. For further information log into <http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> for details. In case of further assistance, the bidders may contact e-procurement cell (Phone No.: 080-22230960 & 080-22234115). Interested suppliers may also contact e-procurement cell for training on bid submission. E-mail to support@eprocurehelpdesk.com for further information if required. In case if bidders need any assistance from KSRTC, they can communicate the same at cmem@ksrtc.org / cmep@ksrtc.org (contact: 776098870, 7760990073, 7760990773, 7760990054).
Sd/-
Chief Mechanical Engineer
(Tender Inviting Authority)
DIPR/CPLC/324/2024-25

UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Undertaking)
Victoria Cross Vijeta Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwali Road, Dehradun-248001
Corporate I. D. No. U40109UR2001SGC025867, E-mail ID: cascommercialupcl@gmail.com
Website: www.upcl.org, Telephone No. - 0135-2762444, Fax- 0135-2763839

CORRIGENDUM FOR PURCHASE OF POWER AGAINST TENDER SPECIFICATION No. 15/CE (COMM)/UPCL-15/2024
The tender process and activities timeline modifications against tender specification No. 15/CE (COMM)/UPCL-15/2024 are as under:-

Last Date of request for purchase of tender document	14/06/2024 upto 11:00 hrs.
Last date and time of submission of e-tender document	14/06/2024 upto 12:00 hrs.
Date and time of opening of tender document(Part-1)	14/06/2024 upto 13:00 hrs.
Date and time of opening of Initial Price Offer (IPO) & e-Reverse Auction (e-RA).	18/06/2024 at 11:00 hrs.

All other terms and conditions shall remain as per bid document of Tender No. 15/CE (COMM)/UPCL-15/2024.
No.-: 286/EE(CM)/UPCL/A-2 Date:- 13.06.2024 Superintending Engineer (Commercial)
SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF NATION. Use LED Bulb. Save Electricity. (Toll Free No. 1912)
*Pay Electricity bill online 24x7 from www.upcl.org. (For information on Electricity Theft, Informer may report to Toll Free No. 18001804185/Fax No. 0135-2760911)

INBRIEF



All four gates of Jagannath temple in Puri reopened

All four gates of the 12th-century Jagannath temple in Puri were reopened for devotees on Thursday morning in the presence of Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi and his Council of Ministers. The previous BJD government had kept three of the four gates shut since the pandemic. Devotees had been facing inconvenience as entry was allowed through only one gate. Opening all the temple gates was a key promise in the BJP's election manifesto. Mr. Majhi said the Odisha government had also decided to set up a ₹500-crore corpus fund for better management, maintenance, and development of the temple. PTI

Court stays release of *Shaadi ke Director, Karan aur Johar*

The Bombay High Court on Thursday stayed the release of the Hindi film *Shaadi ke Director, Karan aur Johar*, which was set to be released on Friday. Filmmaker Karan Johar filed a suit in the Bombay High Court on Wednesday against producer IndiaPride Advisory, writer Sanjay Singh, and director Bablu Singh, objecting to the use of his name in the movie. The court restrained the makers from using any promotional material related to the film after finding a *prima facie* case that the makers used Mr. Johar's name in the movie title without his authorisation and that they had violated a person's fundamental rights.

ED seizes assets worth ₹13 cr. in case involving Chinese man

The Enforcement Directorate on Thursday said it has attached properties worth ₹13.58 crore in a money laundering case involving a Chinese national, who allegedly stayed in India illegally, and his associates. Xue Fei, the Chinese national, and his accomplices had allegedly opened hotels and clubs in the National Capital Region for fellow Chinese citizens, particularly those who entered in the country illegally. The attached assets are in the form of bank balance, fixed deposits, immovable properties, and insurance policies beneficially owned by Ravi Natvarlal Thakkar and others, the agency said.

CBI searches 67 places in Odisha in postal job scam

The CBI on Thursday conducted searches at 67 locations in nine districts of Odisha over alleged certificate forgery in postal recruitment. As many as 63 candidates have been booked for forgery in connection with the Gramin Dak Sevak examination. The districts where searches have been conducted are Kalahandi, Nuapada, Rayagada, Nabarangpur, Kandhamal, Kendujhar, Mayurbhanj, Balasore and Bhadrak. The search operation involved more than 204 officials, including 122 officers from the CBI, and 82 personnel from other departments. The search teams are striving to uncover the inter-State organised gang responsible for providing these fake certificates.

Vaishnaw directs Railways to prevent unauthorised travel

Railway Minister concerned by reports of unreserved passengers travelling in reserved coaches, asks General Managers to launch special drives involving RPF personnel to curb the menace

S. Vijay Kumar
CHENNAI

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has expressed concern over the trend of unauthorised persons travelling in reserved coaches.

According to railway sources, Mr. Vaishnaw held a video conference with General Managers of all Zonal Railways on Thursday and pointed to the surge in the number of complaints received on the 'RailMadad' application about unreserved passengers travelling in reserved coaches and called for effective measures to curb the same.

Zonal Railways were told to launch special intensive drives involving the Railway Protection Force (RPF) and the Government Railway Police personnel to ensure that only passengers holding confirmed tickets travelled in reserved coaches, the sources said.

The move came a day after *The Hindu* reported



The Railways Minister has directed officials to penalise those who board reserved coaches without advance booking. FILE PHOTO

how several passengers could not board Train No. 12840 Chennai Central-Howrah Superfast Mail here on Tuesday night after unauthorised persons barged into Sleeper Class coaches and occupied reserved berths.

Southern Railway had contended that the sudden rush was due to festival holiday and arranged travel for some passengers who missed the train by allowing berths under the Emergency Quota.

Acting on the instructions of the Railway Minister, Southern Railway launched the drive against unauthorised travellers.

Ten trains that had increasing number of complaints from passengers in reserved coaches were short-listed for intensified action.

Besides the long-distance trains that are prone to complaints of overcrowding in reserved compartments, instructions were given to the Commer-

cial and Security department officials to deploy adequate number of ticket-checking staff and RPF personnel on all trains, the sources said.

If unauthorised persons were found to be travelling in reserved coaches, railway staff were told to impose penalty (excess fare) up to the point of detection and deport them at the stopping station.

Announcements would be made at originating stations and also *en route*, advising passengers with season tickets, general or waitlisted tickets not to board reserved coaches.

Among the trains that were found to be prone to unauthorised travel, Train No. 16127 Chennai Egmore-Guruvayur Express topped the list with 68 complaints in May alone.

Instructions were given late on Thursday to Senior Divisional Commercial Managers across the zone to give a daily feedback on the action taken on the issue, such as de-boarding of unauthorised passengers and imposing of penalty.

6 killed as landslides, rain wreak havoc in Sikkim, north Bengal

Moyurie Som
SILIGURI

At least six people were killed and 1,500 tourists stranded as massive landslides triggered by incessant rainfall caused devastation in northern Sikkim's Mangan district, officials said on Thursday.

Due to the torrential rain in Sikkim this week, surging water levels in the Teesta river wrought havoc at Kalimpong in north Bengal, flooding the Teesta Bazar area and instructed the closure of Kalimpong-Darjeeling Road.

The situation turned dire on Wednesday night after heavy rainfall led to the inundation of areas like Geil Khola and several roads in Kalimpong's Teesta Bazar connecting Darjeeling and Kalimpong. Roads connecting Siliguri with Darjeeling and Kalimpong are also being monitored closely.

A newly constructed Bailey bridge at Sangkalang in Sikkim collapsed snapping the link between Mangan with Dzongu and Chungthang. Landslides blocked stretches of roads and several houses were



A house that was damaged during the landslide in northern Sikkim on Thursday. ANI

inundated or damaged, while electricity poles were swept away.

"Three persons each died in Pakshep and Ambhithang villages," Mangan District Magistrate Hem Kumar Chettri said.

He held a meeting with officials to take stock of the situation following incessant rainfall in and around Mangan district since Wednesday and instructed them to carry out rescue and relief work.

Alerts have been sounded to those living in houses along the banks of the swollen Teesta river. Local officials urged residents of affected areas to evacuate houses and move to safer ground. (With PTI inputs)

Congress to voice the anger of 24 lakh NEET candidates in Parliament: Gaurav Gogoi

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Reiterating its demand for a Supreme Court-monitored probe into allegations of irregularity in conducting the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) for undergraduate medical courses, the Congress on Thursday said that the plight and anger of the 24 lakh students who took the exam will "reverberate" in Parliament.

The Opposition party also sought the removal of the Director-General of the National Testing Agency (NTA).

Congress leader Gaurav Gogoi said the INDIA bloc had enough numbers in the Lok Sabha to "bring the government to its knees and make them accountable to the students". "We are waiting for the Parliament session, We will raise the voice of 24 lakh youth of the country inside Parliament. The anger over



Gaurav Gogoi

the NEET exam in the country will also reverberate inside Parliament," Mr. Gogoi said at a press conference.

"The Congress believes that the BJP government's attitude towards the ongoing demand for an inquiry into the NEET exam is irresponsible and insensitive... Ordinary families have been forced to cough up amounts close to ₹30 lakh due to promises given to them by different coaching and examination centres," he added.

Earlier, party chief Mal-

'No evidence of NEET paper leak'

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Thursday rejected allegations of paper leak in the NEET-UG examination for medical courses, saying there was no evidence to substantiate the claims. PTI

Six workers killed in blast at firecracker unit near Nagpur

Snehal Mutha
MUMBAI

At least six workers, five of them women, were killed and three critically injured in an explosion at a firecracker manufacturing unit near Nagpur in Maharashtra on Thursday.

The incident took place around 1 p.m. at Chamundi Explosive Private Ltd. at Dhamna village in the Katol Assembly constituency, 25 km from Nagpur, the police said. "The firecrackers that were stored in a nearby unit caught fire, which resulted in the blast. The workers were packing them when the incident took place. Experts have been roped in to ascertain the cause of the incident," Commissioner of Police Ravindra Singhal said to *The Hindu*.

Mr. Singhal said nine injured persons were initially rushed to two private hospitals in the city. Of them, five women and a man died while undergoing



Charred remains after the blast at the firecracker factory, in Nagpur on Thursday. ANI

treatment. The bodies were shifted to the government hospital for autopsy. A probe is on, he added.

NCP (Sharad Pawar) MLA from KatolAnil Deshmukh visited the site. He said the manager and the owner of the manufacturing unit were absconding, and criticised the company for not having basic safety measures, including an ambulance.

Sanjay Tidke, general manager of the firecracker manufacturing unit, said that compensation would be given to the families of the deceased.

SC suspends screening of *Hamare Baarah*

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday ordered the public screening of the film *Hamare Baarah* to be suspended for the time being.

The order came in response to a petition filed by Azhar Basha Tamboli, represented by Fauzia Shakil. Mr. Tamboli approached the top court against the Bombay High Court's interim decision to recall its earlier injunction order of June 5 against the release of the film.

His petition alleged that "the film's theme, explicit visuals and dialogues are not just hurtful, harmful and defamatory to the sentiments of the Muslim community but would incite hatred against Muslims, breach harmony, public order".

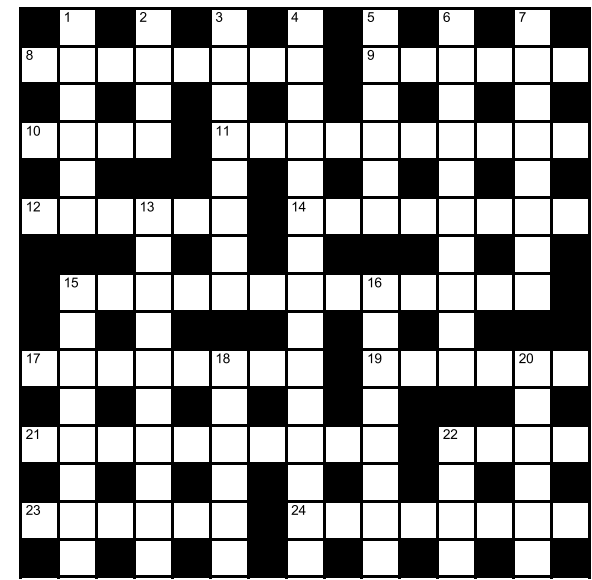
The top court refused to enter into the case's merits as a writ petition challenging the film's release was pending in the High Court.

THCROSSWORD+14201

(set by Vidwan)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ <https://qrqo.page.link/jjpTn>

SCAN TO PLAY



- 11 'Days of Yore' by English poet, describes love as sham (10)
- 12 Just showcasing power and energy in public (6)
- 14 Job presented with mobile communication plan (4-4)
- 15 At home, word sex's stressful! Sounding like irregularity! (13)
- 17 Blissfully calm face, bit rattled after embracing one (8)
- 19 Plan time and ground (6)
- 21 Start! Go! Run! Spare us pretended disdain! (4,6)
- 22 Bad German stuff, pious fellow rejected (4)
- 23 Lands some of the best at entrepreneurship (6)
- 24 Unmasking old girlfriend's heartless attitude (8)

Down

- 1 It can do with bit of pepper mint (6)
- 2 Most amazing priest (4)
- 3 Governance takes a toll on him (8)
- 4 Top Kings embraced IPL basics (5,10)
- 5 Exiting, going, running, escaping, something similar basically (6)
- 6 Reward comperes struggling with English (10)
- 7 Leader of England almost resigned, failing to motivate (8)
- 13 Horrible riot in South African region related to swimming! (10)
- 15 Smartly, I chose EU for cold storage (3,5)
- 16 Part of church school, one wasted by blighted pest (8)
- 18 Designed car crashed by me (6)
- 20 Cripple redesigned 18D (6)
- 22 Fighter, not priest, gets earth (4)

- Across
- 8 Queen mother managed one without slightest sound of laughter (8)
- 9 Conservationists - endless avarice and vacuous nitwittedness (6)
- 10 Against some obscurantists (4)

SUDOKU

2				1	4			
5	3			2				7
	4	7			5			
		1		6		2		8
6		2		5		9		
				5		6	8	
4						8		7
				6	7			1

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★☆

Solution to previous puzzle									
G	R	A	F	T	S	C	L	I	N
A	M	I	C	L	A	M	P	I	A
M	A	G	I	C	L	A	M	P	I
E	U	K	L	S	V	E	R	H	
P	A	R	A	S	O	L	T	R	E
L	E	I	T	I	E	S			
A	U	D	E	N	A	C	C	O	L
N	T	T	K	O	G	I	S	T	
P	A	L	O	M	I	N	O	G	I
C	E	V	N	A	P				
L	I	T	E	R	A	T	E	R	S
T	R	A	C	P	I	R	E		
C	O	B	R	A	A	R	I	S	T
H	I	M	R	G	H	A	D		
I	N	C	L	O	V	E	R	A	M
E	N	D	S						

5	4	3	9	2	6	1	8	7
1	7	2	5	3	8	9	6	4
8	9	6	7	4	1	2	5	3
9	5	7	3	8	2	4	1	6
4	2	8	1	6	7	3	9	5
6	3	1	4	5	9	8	7	2
2	1	9	6	7	4	5	3	8
7	8	5	2	1	3	6	4	9
3	6	4	8	9	5	7	2	1

MADGALDEEP

PREMIUM QUALITY INCENSE

SCENT

PERFUME LIKE FRAGRANCES

3in1

FAITH

Five limbs of surrender

Acharya Sri Vedantha Desika has composed *Nyasa Dasakam* in which he explains all the concepts and the benefit of surrendering (*saranagathi*) at the divine feet of God in a simple manner. Navalpakkam Sri Vasudevachariar Swamy said in a discourse, "*Nyasa*" means to place or submit, and "*Dasakam*" denotes 10. Like Sri Ramanuja, who had given the essence of Veda Bhashya in a condensed form as "*Vedanta Deepam*", Sri Vedantha Desika has presented the doctrine of surrender in an abridged form in 10 verses in "*Nyasa Dasakam*". Though small, it contains excellent information about the import of "*Dwaya Mantra*".

One has to submit oneself to God, which involves three things. Submitting one's soul as it is the property of God (*Aatma Nyasam*), the responsibility of protection (*Bhara Nyasam*), and the benefit of surrender (*Phala Nyasam*).

The concept of surrender has six parts, called '*Shad Vidhya Saranagathi*'. The main part is called *Nyasa* (surrender). The five limbs of surrender are: To resolve to perform only the duties enshrined; to desist the acts that displease God; to express our humility with helplessness; to have an absolute and enduring faith and to entrust our protection to Him with a sincere appeal. It is prayed to grant *Moksha* at the end of this birth. As long as we exist in this world, He should bless us to serve Him.

INBRIEF



‘Regency Ceramics to restart Yanam plant by June end’

Tile manufacturer Regency Ceramics Ltd.’s (RCL) Yanam plant is all set to restart operations by June end, said Executive Director Narala Satyendra Prasad. “We announced that the first line will commence operations by Q1. Plant refurbishment is over and trials started during February,” he said. Mr. Prasad said the company had tied up with raw material suppliers and strengthened supply chain logistics.

Aurionpro arm gets RBI’s final nod for aggregator licence

Aurionpro Payment Solutions Private Ltd., a subsidiary of Aurionpro, said it had received final authorisation from the Reserve Bank of India to operate as an online payment aggregator under the Payments Settlements Act, 2007, through its payments brand AuroPay. “Receiving the final approval from RBI to operate as a full-fledged online payment aggregator is a significant milestone in achieving our long-term goals as a payment service provider,” the company said.

PNB MetLife declares ₹930 crore bonus for FY24

Life insurer PNB MetLife has declared ₹930 crore bonus for FY24, a payout that will benefit 5.82 lakh customers. Compared with the previous fiscal this is 21% more. The number of eligible beneficiaries has increased by 30,000 compared to FY23. “The ₹930 crore bonus declaration this year reinforces our commitment to generate the best possible outcomes for our customers’ financial security and long-term prosperity,” said Sanjay Kumar, Chief Investment Officer.

LIC holding in Dr. Reddy’s crosses 5%

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Life Insurance Corporation of India’s (LIC) holding in Dr. Reddy’s Laboratories has crossed 5%, with the institutional investor purchasing more than 1.08 lakh shares of the drugmaker.

The shares were acquired from the open market, as an investment function, at an average price of ₹6,059.82 each, LIC said in a filing on Thursday.

Consequently, the holding increased from 4.95% to 5.01%. In terms of number of shares, LIC holds 83,69,879 shares of Dr. Reddy’s.

On Thursday, Dr. Reddy’s shares closed 0.53% higher to ₹6,095.10 apiece on the BSE.

CAMSRep unveils Bima Central to plan insurance portfolio

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

CAMSRep (CAMS Insurance Repository Services) unveiled Bima Central, a one-stop platform for simplifying insurance portfolio management.

Bima Central allows users to manage life, health and motor policies through their secure e-insurance account (eIA), said CAMS wholly owned subsidiary in a statement.

Registered users of eIA will get access to Bima Central for managing their policies with various insurers, with features such as simplified policy information, renewals and reminders, profile management of

Will prioritise airfare review: new Civil Aviation Minister

As Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu takes charge, he says ‘price fluctuations since COVID-19 is a cause of concern’; promises to pursue regional connectivity begun during Ashok Gajapathi Raju’s tenure

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

A review of airfares will be a “priority” for the new government as pricing fluctuations are a “cause of concern”, said Telugu Desam Party’s Member of Parliament Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu as he took charge of the Ministry of Civil Aviation on Thursday.

“We have seen ticket price fluctuations right from the time of Covid-19 when air travel took a huge hit. Air fares have been



Accessible flying: TDP MP says biometric boarding passes will be expanded to all airports; “ease of flying” to be policy mantra. PTI

fluctuating and have not stabilised since then. I have observed this also as a passenger. This is a cause of

concern,” Mr. Naidu told journalists, adding he will prioritise a review meeting on this issue with airlines

and ministry officials.

The Minister said the common man will be at the “core” of policy making, and that he will ensure “ease of flying” in India. The Ministry will soon finalise a 100-day action plan.

Mr. Naidu said he will pursue initiatives like the regional connectivity scheme to expand connectivity to tier-2/3 cities, launched within this party colleague Ashok Gajapathi Raju headed the Ministry. He also said biometric boarding passes will be expanded to all airports.

‘Push land, labour, agriculture reforms in Modi’s third term’

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Industry body CII made a case for pushing reforms in land, labour, and agriculture in PM Narendra Modi’s third term to accelerate economic growth estimated at 8% in FY25.

Incoming CII President Sanjiv Puri said several policy interventions in the past put the economy on “a much stronger wicket”.

“The growth estimate hinges on addressing unfinished reforms on priori-

On reforms related to land, CII suggests moderating stamp duty to lower the cost of acquisition

ty, and improvement in world trade prospects aiding our exports, twin engines of investment and consumption doing well,” Mr. Puri added.

On reforms related to land, CII suggests a moderation in stamp duty to lower the cost of acquisition.

Ambuja Cements to acquire Penna Cement for ₹10,422 cr.

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Ambuja Cements Ltd. said it had signed a binding agreement for acquisition of 100% shares of Penna Cement Industries Ltd. (PCIL) from its existing promoter group - namely P. Pratap Reddy and family - at an enterprise value of ₹10,422 crore.

The acquisition will be fully funded through internal accruals, the Adani Group company said in a filing with stock exchanges.



Ajay Kapur

“This landmark acquisition is a significant step forward in Ambuja Cements’ accelerating our growth journey,” Ajay Kapur, CEO and Whole Time Director of Ambuja Cements said in a statement.

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SHORT ADVERTISEMENT for Appointment on Deputation basis
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2	Assistant Controller of Examination	01	Level-11 (₹ 67,700 - 2,08,700)
3	Senior Accounts Officer	01	Level-11 (₹ 67,700 - 2,08,700)
4	Personal Assistant	02	Level-06 (₹ 35,400 - 1,12,400)

The last date of receipt of application will be **30 days** from the date of publication of this advertisement in the Employment News. For further information please visit our website <https://ijpmer.edu.in/announcements/aiims-madurai> for qualification, experience, age limit, tenure, application format and procedure to apply.
Note: Any corrigendum/amendment in this advertisement will be published/ uploaded on website (<https://ijpmer.edu.in/announcements/aiims-madurai>) only.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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कार्यालय कृषि उपज मंडी समिति (फल एवं सब्जी) जयपुर का ई-निविदा पोर्टल <http://kuma.jipurvtvrajasthan.gov.in>
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कृषि उपज मंडी समिति (फल एवं सब्जी) जयपुर द्वारा मुख्य मंडी प्रांगण टर्मिनल मार्केट मुहाना में इन्क्यूबेशन सेंटर स्थापित किये जाने हेतु विभिन्न शेष उपकरण एवं प्रयोगशाला सामग्री क्रय की जानी है तथा स्थापित इन्क्यूबेशन सेंटर को 5 वर्ष के लिये संचालन हेतु इच्छुक संस्था / व्यक्तिको Operation and Management (O&M) आधार पर दिया जाना है। उक्त कार्यों हेतु कार्यालय द्वारा ऑनलाईन निविदा संख्या 01 / 2024-25 एवं 02 / 2024-25 आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा प्रपत्र व शर्तें sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, <https://agriculture.rajasthan.gov.in> पर देखी जा सकती है व eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर दिनांक 13.06.2024 से दिनांक 07.07.2024 तक निविदा दर्श प्रस्तुत कर भाग लिया जा सकता है।

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NIEPMD invites E-Tender through NIC e-procurement portal URL <http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app> in two bid system from reputed TLM manufacturers and their authorised suppliers & Distributors having proven track record in supplying of Teaching Learning Materials to institutes / colleges / Special schools / NGOs. The bidder must have a minimum experience of 03 years for supplying TLM materials duly supported by proper testimonials certificates. The tender document can also be downloaded from over website www.niepmtd.nic.in

Last date for E-bidding	02.07.2024 (2.00 PM)
EMD Amount	Rs.10.00.000/- (Refundable)
Date & Time of opening of Tender documents	03.07.2024 (4.00 PM)

Sd/-
DIRECTOR

Kerala State IT Mission
Department of Electronics & IT, Government of Kerala.
Website: <http://www.itmission.kerala.gov.in/>

TENDER NOTICE

Selection of Data Centre Operator for the Operations and Management of Kerala State Data Centres

Tender ID 2024_KSITM_675597_1
Tender Reference No. SDC/9/2024-KSITM

Detailed Notification and RFP documents may be downloaded from <https://etenders.kerala.gov.in/>

(D3/323/2024/I&PRD)

GST Council to meet for the first time this year on June 22

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

The Centre has decided to convene a meeting of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council on June 22, eight-and-a-half months after its last meeting, the Finance Ministry said on Thursday.

“The 53rd meeting of the GST Council will be held on 22nd June, 2024 at New Delhi,” a ministry statement informed.

The Council that is generally expected to meet every quarter, has met just six times since 2022.

The agenda for the upcoming meeting is not known yet but State Finance Ministers can be expected to flag suggestions for the indirect tax regime that can be incorporated in the Union Budget likely to be presented next month.

Industry will also be keen for signals on the revival of a plan to restructure the complex multiple-rate tax structure, now that GST revenues have risen significantly, along with a promised review of the 28% levy on bets made in online gaming, casinos, and horse racing.

At its last meeting held on October 7, 2023, the Council, headed by the Finance Minister, had initiated discussions on a “perspective plan” to impose a cess or surcharge on top of GST levies after March 2026, when the GST Compensation Cess is due to expire.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	76,911	0.27
US Dollar	83.54	-0.07
Gold	72,150	-0.06
Brent oil	82.70	0.60

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter.....	3224.80	-5.75
Adani Ports.....	1404.45	10.50
Apollo Hosp.....	6206.20	37.60
Asian Paints.....	2910.00	-4.20
Axis Bank.....	1174.65	-13.25
Bajaj Auto.....	9923.40	19.15
Bajaj Finserv.....	1590.10	11.00
Bajaj Finance.....	7294.95	77.20
Bharti Airtel.....	1425.75	-12.65
BPCL.....	619.35	6.00
Britannia Ind.....	5379.45	-59.85
Cipla.....	1544.55	-3.60
Coal India.....	487.90	-0.80
Divis Lab.....	4593.50	141.15
Dr Reddys Lab.....	6095.85	35.80
Eicher Motors.....	4801.50	-49.15
Grasim Ind.....	2458.05	-7.90
HCL Tech.....	1444.15	-5.40
HDFC Bank.....	1580.75	-6.60
HDFC Life.....	593.50	20.80
Hero MotoCorp.....	5816.00	25.80
Hindalco.....	680.70	-6.80
Hind Unilever.....	2487.40	-41.30
ICIICI Bank.....	1107.35	-12.20
IndusInd Bank.....	1507.25	23.00
Infosys.....	1493.95	8.75
ITC.....	430.30	-2.00
JSW Steel.....	915.75	-1.15
Kotak Bank.....	1726.35	10.60
L&T.....	3703.65	73.35
LTIMindtree Ltd.....	5047.20	96.10
M&M.....	2861.70	-74.15
Maruti Suzuki.....	12846.85	-2.50
NestleIndia.....	2551.75	14.45
NTPC.....	369.95	-1.35
ONGC.....	276.55	1.05
PowerGrid Corp.....	321.45	-3.20
Reliance Ind.....	2930.50	3.85
SBI Life.....	1449.90	-2.80
State Bank.....	843.90	4.80
Shriram Finance Ltd.....	2684.30	117.35
Sun Pharma.....	1510.80	3.95
TataConsumerPro-duct.....	1114.60	-10.05
Tata Motors.....	985.85	-2.85
Tata Steel.....	182.56	-0.33
TCS.....	3878.15	46.50
Tech Mahindra.....	1388.95	18.35
Titan.....	3472.20	89.90
UltraTech Cement.....	11173.80	129.00
Wipro.....	482.60	5.70

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on June 13

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar.....	83.34	83.66
Euro.....	90.07	90.42
British Pound.....	106.55	106.97
Japanese Yen (100).....	53.03	53.23
Chinese Yuan.....	11.49	11.54
Swiss Franc.....	93.05	93.41
Singapore Dollar.....	61.78	62.03
Canadian Dollar.....	60.65	60.89
Malaysian Ringgit.....	17.69	17.77
Australian Dollar.....	55.44	55.66

Source:Indian Bank

राष्ट्रीय पृथ्वी विज्ञान अध्ययन केंद्र
NCESS
NATIONAL CENTRE FOR EARTH SCIENCE STUDIES
पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
Ministry of Earth Sciences, Govt. of India
Akkulam, Thiruvananthapuram - 11
No.NCESS/P&GA/1224/01/2024 Date:10.06.2024

RECRUITMENT OF SCIENTIST B (Four Posts)
NCESS invites online applications from eligible Indian citizens for appointment to four posts of Scientist B, on direct recruitment basis, in the Pay Level 10 of the 7th CPC Pay Matrix of Rs.56,100-1,77,500 in Group A.

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Regd Office : 21, Patulos Road, Chennai – 600 002
CIN : L35921TN1960PLC004175
Phone : 044-2623 4300; Fax : 044-26257121
Website : www.wheelsindia.com

Invites offers from interested parties for purchase of Mild Steel scrap items, for the two month period JULY - AUGUST 2024.
Details of the items available for disposal and tender terms and conditions can be had from the Company on written request.
Sealed offers can be submitted to the **Sr. Vice President (Supply Chain)**, Wheels India Limited, Padi, Chennai - 60 050 to reach on or before **28th JUNE 2024**.

Office of the Additional Chief Engineer, PWD, Zone, Ajmer
No.: ACE/AJTCH/F2(30A-NIT)/2024-2025/D-792 Date: 11.06.2024
NIB No. PWD2425A0168

Notice Inviting Bid No. 02/2024-2025
Bids for 01 No. ROB Work (EPC MODE) are invited from interested bidders upto 6.00 PM on Monday 08 July 2024. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (<http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.raj.nic.in>) of the State; and DIPR departmental website. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 3614.06 Lacs.

UBN No. PWD2425WLOB00542
(V.K. Jain),
Additional Chief Engineer,
PWD, Zone, Ajmer.

DIPRC/4214/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTIFICATION
Department of Agriculture
Memo No : 173-20/HQ Dated : 12.06.2024

In pursuance of Clause VIII(A) of the Guidelines of Farm Mechanization Schemes 2024-24 vide Memo No : 179-AG-11030(I)/1/2024-NAB-SEC dt. 28.02.2024, indicative price of the different farm Machinery/implements is to be published by the Department of Agriculture, Govt. of West Bengal.

Now, as per decision of the meeting of the SPMT held on 12.06.2024, all the Farm Machinery Manufacturers who are interested to take part in Farm Mechanization Schemes-2024-25 in West Bengal are invited to furnish their information as stated below in respect of different models of the farm machinery / implements through email to facilitate publication of indicative price for the year 2024-25:

- Information in respect of different models of farm machinery / implements in an excel sheet in the prescribed format (Annexure-A).
- Invoices as referred to in the format in a folder creating dealer wise sub-folder.

The notice including the format (Annexure-A) & Guidelines of FMS-2024-25 is available in <https://matirkatha.wb.gov.in> portal. For any query please contact with the Farm Mechanization Cell, Jessop Building, 1st Floor, 63 N S Road, Kolkata-700001, Phone:033-22540917.

The information as detailed above is to be sent to the mail id : **wbfm2024@gmail.com** only by 30.06.2024. Registration of manufacturers in the portal will be started after publication of indicative price.

Sd/-
Director of Agriculture
West Bengal

ICA- N 248(5)/2024

Mumbai, Delhi luxury real estate among top 5 globally: Knight Frank

Ateeq Shaikh
MUMBAI

In the last 12 months, Mumbai witnessed a 11.5% rise in luxury real estate prices, reaching the third spot globally, after Manila and Tokyo. Delhi’s prime residential prices soared by 10.5% in the last year, finding fifth spot on property consultant Knight Frank’s prime global cities index, which is ranked as per annual percentage change in realty prices.

Contrary to financial and national capitals of India, Bengaluru witnessed a drop in luxury home rates. At the top of the table is Manila with 26.2% annual growth, followed by Tokyo



at 12.5%. In fourth place is Perth, at 11.1%.

“With annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth running at over 8%, strong economic growth across India has boosted housing prices in the main cities, particularly in Delhi and Mumbai, as our results confirm,” Knight Frank said in its recent report.

Mumbai’s rank moved

three positions in Q1 FY24, from the corresponding period in FY23. Delhi’s jump was bigger from 17 rank to fifth. However, Bengaluru’s rank slipped a notch from 16 to 17, even while it recorded a 4.8% annual growth in luxury residential prices.

“The strong demand trend for residential properties has been a global phenomenon, led by gateway markets of Asia-Pacific, Europe, Middle East and Africa. Like its peers in these regions, the improved rankings of Mumbai and Delhi on the prime global cities index was underscored by resilience in sales growth volume. We expect momentum of sales

to remain stable over the next few quarters as economic corridors are likely to remain unchanged.”

Anarock, another property consultant seconds Knight Frank. Anarock in its report said, “There were periods when the supply of real estate exceeded demand, resulting in stable price growth that kept pace with inflation in the pre-pandemic era. Between 2013-2020, top seven cities recorded a cumulative supply of 23.55 lakh units against a demand for 20.68 lakh units. Following the pandemic, residential real estate saw rapid recovery, leading to significant price growth outpacing general inflation.”

BRUSSELS
EU court fines Hungary €200 mn for not following asylum laws



REUTERS
The European Union's top court on Thursday fined Hungary 200 million euros (\$216 million) and imposed a daily one-million-euro penalty for failing to follow the bloc's asylum laws and illegally deporting migrants, a decision Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orban slammed as "outrageous and unacceptable". AFP

WELLINGTON
Chinese Premier warns against 'chasm' in ties with New Zealand



GETTY IMAGES
Chinese Premier Li Qiang said on Thursday his nation's differences with New Zealand must not become a "chasm", pledging greater trade and "friendship" after touching down in Wellington for rare bilateral talks. Mr. Li is embarking on a six-day tour of New Zealand and Australia. AFP

MANCHESTER
Will end the era of 'gestures and gimmicks' if we win polls: Starmer



AFF
Labour Party leader Keir Starmer, the left-of-centre politician aiming to become Britain's Prime Minister in three weeks' time, while launching the election manifesto, said on Thursday he will lead a government that's both "pro-business and pro-worker" and restore stability after years of economic and political turmoil. AP

MOSCOW
U.S. reporter Gershkovich to be tried on spying charges: Russia



AFF
U.S. reporter Evan Gershkovich, who was arrested in Russia in March 2023 on charges of working for the CIA and collecting "secret information" he and his employers have rejected as false, is to face trial, prosecutors said on Thursday. His trial will take place in the Urals city of Yekaterinburg, they said. AFP

U.S., Europe will lock up Russian assets until it pays for Ukraine war

Leaders agree to leverage interest and income from the \$260 bn in frozen Russian assets; they back a \$50 bn loan for Kyiv; President Joe Biden signs a 10-year security agreement with Zelenskyy, endorsing Washington's commitment to Ukraine

Associated Press
BORGO EGNAZIA

The U.S. and European countries have agreed to lock up sanctioned Russian assets until Moscow pays reparations for its invasion of Ukraine, a senior U.S. official said on Thursday. The move cleared the way for leaders as they announced a \$50 billion loan package for Kyiv at the Group of Seven summit, where President Joe Biden signed a 10-year security agreement with Ukraine's Volodymyr Zelenskyy. The highly anticipated agreement will leverage interest and income from the



U.S. National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan described the pact as a 'real marker' of the U.S. commitment to Ukraine. AFP

more than \$260 billion in frozen Russian assets, largely held in Europe, securing a \$50 billion loan from the U.S. and additional loans from other partners. The first disbursements

will be made this year, but it will take time for Ukraine to use all the money, the official said. The official spoke on the condition of anonymity to preview the agreement, which will be

included in the G-7 leaders' communique on Friday. The leaders' statement will also leave the door open to confiscating the Russian assets entirely, for which the allies have yet to secure the political will, largely citing legal and financial stability concerns. Mr. Biden will meet on Thursday with Mr. Zelenskyy to discuss a bilateral security agreement between the U.S. and Ukraine, as the international group of wealthy democracies has been looking for new ways to bolster Ukraine's defences against Russia. It comes several months after the White House broke through a logjam in

Congress that stalled approval of some \$60 billion in U.S. aid for Ukraine. The delay gave Russia time to make up ground on the battlefield. Mr. Biden's National Security Adviser, Jake Sullivan, described the pact as a "real marker" of the U.S. commitment to Ukraine, "not just for this month and this year, but for the many years ahead". Mr. Sullivan said the pact would not commit U.S. troops directly to Ukraine's defence. That is a red line drawn by Mr. Biden, who does not want to have the U.S. pulled into a direct conflict with Moscow.

Hezbollah attacks Israeli bases as Gaza war rages

Agence France-Presse
BEIRUT

Lebanon's Iran-backed Hezbollah group said it launched rocket and drone attacks on several Israeli Army bases and positions on Thursday, after an Israeli strike killed one of its senior commanders. Hezbollah fighters launched "an attack with rockets and drones, targeting six barracks and military sites" while simultaneously flying "squadrons of explosive-laden drones" at three other Israeli bases, the group said in a statement. It said the attacks were "part of the response to the assassination" of Hezbollah commander Taleb Abdallah on Tuesday. Meanwhile, Israeli helicopters struck Gaza's Ra-



Antony Blinken

fah, residents said, with Hamas militants reporting street battles in the southern city after top U.S. diplomat Antony Blinken said a truce was still possible. Continued operation Israeli ground forces have been operating in Rafah, near the Egyptian border, since early May to pursue Hamas Palestinian fighters,

despite widespread international alarm over the fate of displaced people crowded into the city. Western areas of Rafah came under heavy Israeli fire from the air, sea and land, residents said. The Ezzedine al-Qassam Brigades, the armed wing of Islamist movement Hamas, said its fighters were battling Israeli troops on the streets of the same area. The top world court, the International Court of Justice, in May issued a binding ruling for Israel to halt any offensive in Rafah and elsewhere that could bring about "the physical destruction" of the Palestinians. Israel responded that it had not "and will not" engage in such operations against the Palestinians.

U.K. issues sanctions on Moscow stock exchange

Agence France-Presse
LONDON

The U.K. announced on Thursday dozens of new sanctions aimed at constraining Russia's war in Ukraine, including targeting Moscow's main stock exchange, a day after Washington announced similar measures. London said the 50 new curbs – part of "co-ordinated action with G-7 partners" as the Western-led bloc's leaders meet in Italy – will hit the Russian financial system and suppliers supporting its military production. The major new financial punishment, set to complicate billions of dollars in transactions, prompted the exchange to halt dollar and euro trades on Thursday.

South Africa's ANC strikes deal with several parties

Agence France-Presse
CAPE TOWN

South Africa's long-standing ruling ANC said on Thursday it has reached an agreement with several other parties to form a coalition government, after failing to win an outright majority in general elections in May. Speaking on the eve of the first sitting of the newly elected Parliament, African National Congress Secretary General Fikile Mbalula said the government would "gravitate to the centre", after leftist parties shunned the deal. "We have reached a breakthrough on the common agreement that we need to work together," Mr. Mbalula told a news conference. The agreement means President Cyril Ramaphosa is likely to be appointed for



Fikile Mbalula

a second term when lawmakers convene in Cape Town on Friday. Mr. Mbalula described the coalition as a national unity government and said it was to include the centre-right Democratic Alliance (DA), the Zulu nationalist Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP), the small centre-left United Democratic Movement, and right-wing Afrikaner Freedom Front Plus (FF+). The radical leftist Economic Freedom Fighters

(EFF) was left out as talks with the party lead by firebrand politician Julius Malema did not bear fruit, Mr. Mbalula said. Angry former ANC president Jacob Zuma's vehicle, the uMkhonto weSizwe (MK) party, which came in third in the election, was also not to back the government, although Mr. Mbalula did not name it. The party has denounced the results and its 58 MPs plan to boycott Parliament. Other small groups, including Muslim party Al Jama-ah, centre-left Rise Mzansi and the minority National Coloured Congress had agreed to join, but with reservations, he added. For 30 years, the late Nelson Mandela's ANC has held an absolute majority and elected a President from its own ranks.

Turkiye to buy F-16 warplanes from U.S.

Agence France-Presse
ISTANBUL

Turkiye and the United States have signed a contract for the sale of F-16 warplanes after Washington greenlighted the \$23 billion deal following months of negotiations, Turkish Defence Ministry sources said on Thursday. "The contract was signed and delegations from both sides are negotiating the details," the Ministry sources said. Under the deal, Turkiye will get 40 new F-16s and upgrades to 79 of the jets in its existing fleet.

The State Department last week hailed "a major step forward" in Turkiye's purchase of new F-16 fighter jets calling them "the most advanced F-16 ever made available only to closest Allies and partners". "Just the latest example of United States enduring commitment to security partnership with Turkiye," it said in a social media post. The United States did not green light the transaction until Turkiye's instruments of ratification of Sweden's membership had arrived in Washington.

BENGALURU METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION
CENTRAL OFFICE, STORES & PURCHASE DEPARTMENT
K.H. ROAD, SHANTHINAGAR, BENGALURU-560 027
No. BMT/C/OSP/STR/SDS/126/2024-25 Date:13.06.2024

E-AUCTION NOTICE
Scrap Materials available at BMTCC will be sold through e-Auction to be conducted by M/s. M.S.T.C. (A Govt. of India undertaking). The e-Auction schedule is as under:-
1) **Scrapped Materials Date of e-Auction: 25.06.2024.**
The interested bidders may log on to www.msstcecommerce.com for further details and registration. They may also contact M/s. M.S.T.C. Ltd., at below mentioned address for needful clarification. **Address:- M/s. M.S.T.C. LTD., No.19/5, 19/6, 3rd Floor, Kareem Tower, Cunningham Road, Bengaluru-560 052.** Contact Phone Nos:080-22260054, 22266417, 22287356, FAX No. 080-22256365. BMTCC Contact phone Nos: + 91 7760991198 / 7760991157
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TN No. 01/HPC/SMP/2024-25 Dated 13.06.2024

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS (RE-TENDER)
High Power Committee for Implementation of Sabarimala Master Plan invites Competitive e-tenders (Re-tender) from the registered Civil/Electrical/Composite category contractors in Central Government Departments, Bidders of Kerala PWD/Central PWD/Other Central or State Government Departments/State or Central Public Sector Undertakings etc.
Name of Work: **SMP-Nilakkal-Development of Core Area. Re-Tender No. T. 01/HPC/SMP/2024-25, Tender ID: 2024. HPC. 675727. 1. PAC : 23.25.64.944/- + GST as applicable. Last date of receipt of tender: 5pm on 03.07.2024. Opening: 11am on 06.07.2024.** For details and submission of e-tenders, log on to www.etenders.kerala.gov.in . For any further details contact at sabarimalamasterplan.hpc@gmail.com
Sd/- Devaswom Commissioner & Member Secretary
for and on behalf of the High Power Committee for Implementation of Sabarimala Master Plan

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SPEAKING OUT

Frustrated Williamson calls T20s a game of ‘cat and mouse’



GETTY IMAGES

Kane Williamson’s play to bowl out the pacers upfront proved disastrous against the West Indies, prompting the New Zealand captain to term T20s a game of “cat and mouse.” “I think, in T20 cricket nowadays, with teams that are batting a lot deeper... you’re always trying to sort of play a game of cat and mouse.”

NEW RULE

Five-run penalty law is something we need to address, says Law



K.R. DEEPAK

USA coach Stuart Law stated that his team is yet to get accustomed to the five-run penalty law for time taken between overs. “It is a rule that has only just come in. A lot of our players would not have heard about it before we played in the Bangladesh or Canada series earlier this year. It is something we need to address,” Law said.

IDEAL CHOICE

Kuldeep will be India’s preferred spinner in Super 8 stage: Chawla



GETTY IMAGES

Piyush Chawla feels that left-arm unorthodox spinner Kuldeep Yadav will be India’s preferred specialist spinner when the Indian team competes in the Super Eight stage. Chawla said while the conditions in New York did not support spin bowling, the Indian spinners will now come into play in the tournament.

INNINGS ENDS

Nassau County International Stadium set for demolition



K.R. DEEPAK

The Nassau County cricket ground, which was built specifically for the T20 World Cup, is all set to be demolished after the New York leg of the event came to an end. “After the last match is held at East Meadow on June 12, the stadium will be dismantled but with a world-class cricket pitch left behind,” according to a report.

WI rallies around Rutherford, Motie to secure Super 8 berth

The southpaw’s late assault, after Powell’s men were in trouble throughout their innings, lifts the side to a competitive total; the left-arm spinner, along with Joseph (four-for), extinguishes the Kiwi challenge to the delight of the faithful fans

T20 WORLD CUP

Avan Acharya
TAROUBA (TRINIDAD)

Calypto singer David Rudder performed “Rally ‘Round the West Indies” live at the Brian Lara Stadium in Tarouba, its rousing lyrics and tropical melody providing an uplifting back-drop as Rovman Powell’s men sailed into the Super Eight of this year’s T20 World Cup with a come-from-behind 13-run win against New Zealand, whose hopes now hang by a thread.

Adversity is known to test character, provoking reactions ranging from panic to composure.

Choke-hold

In its 150-run chase on Wednesday night, the New Zealand batting order appeared skittish as West Indies spinners, especially left-arm orthodox Gudakesh Motie, applied a brilliant choke-hold on a two-paced pitch.

Motie’s three for 25, coupled with Alzarri Joseph’s four-for and Sherfane Rutherford’s unbeaten 39-ball 68, extinguished the Kiwi challenge.

Allen, Phillips shine

Finn Allen and Glenn Phillips were the only New Zealand batters to show resistance.

Powell’s smart bowling changes, particularly his



Game-changer: Rutherford’s knock gave the impetus that set up his side’s incredible win. GETTY IMAGES

use of spinners during the dew-affected middle overs, played a crucial role. This strategy exploited favourable match-ups and mitigated the impact of the wet ball.

Tricky pitch

After New Zealand chose to bowl, the home fans watched West Indies’ first-ever men’s World Cup match at the Brian Lara Stadium unfold on a tricky pitch. West Indies lost four for 10 to be 30 for five in the seventh over.

Kane Williamson’s decision to delay introducing spin until the ninth over, using Jimmy Neesham’s

slower balls and cutters, initially paid off.

Andre Russell attempted to shift the momentum with Rutherford but was deceived by a slower Trent Boult delivery.

New Zealand’s fielding, previously shaky against Afghanistan, was sharp until Rutherford’s late assault, which included three sixes off Daryl Mitchell in the 19th over, proved crucial.

Gamble fails

Williamson gambled by having Mitchell bowl the penultimate over, leaving left-arm Mitchell Santner for the final over against

Rutherford.

The left-hander capitalised, hitting with the wind and exploiting the shorter boundary to his leg side.

Crucial partnership

His 37-run last-wicket stand with Motie propelled the Windies to 58 runs in the last five overs, turning the match on its head.

The scores:

West Indies 149/9 in 20 overs (Rutherford 68 n.o., Boult 3/16, Southee 2/21, Ferguson 2/27) bt New Zealand 136/9 in 20 overs (Allen 26, Phillips 40, Joseph 4/19, Motie 3/25).

Toss: New Zealand.

PoM: Rutherford.

TODAY’S MATCHES

Afghanistan VS Papua New Guinea
Tarouba, 6 a.m.
HEAD-TO-HEAD T20Is
Played: 1
Afghanistan | Papua New Guinea
1 | 0

USA VS Ireland
Florida, 8 p.m.
HEAD-TO-HEAD T20Is
Played: 2
USA | Ireland
1 | 1

I am very confident about my batting, reveals Arshdeep



Adding another string: Arshdeep, who had a great outing with the ball against USA, is keen to contribute with the willow. K.R. DEEPAK

Ashwin Achal
NEW YORK

Arshdeep Singh’s four for nine against USA on Wednesday gave him the best ever bowling figures by an Indian in an ICC Men’s T20 World Cup match. The previous best was R. Ashwin’s four for 11 versus Australia in the 2014 ICC World Twenty20.

Arshdeep enjoyed the success, especially since his family was at the ground. “It feels good when you perform well for the team. I’m very happy - my family was here, and they were really happy with my performance as well,” the left-arm speedster said in the post-match press conference on Wednesday.

Arshdeep also fancies

himself as a batter, having been promoted ahead of Jasprit Bumrah in the Pakistan match on Sunday. “You never know when the team needs those runs. It can be two runs, four runs, anything. I am trying to work as hard as possible with (batting coach) Vikram (Rathour) bhai regarding my batting,” he said.

“In the last game, Jassi (Jasprit Bumrah) bhai was supposed to go before me, but I just went in to bat after asking (captain) Rohit (Sharma). They were surprised, but now I told them that I will go up the order regardless of whatever you say. I will go at nine because I faced the quickest bowlers in the Pakistan game. I am very confident about my batting,” Arshdeep said.

Heavy rain puts India’s last group match against Canada in doubt

Sports Bureau
NEW YORK

Heavy rain in Lauderhill has put India’s last Group ‘A’ ICC Men’s T20 World Cup match against Canada in doubt.

A flash flood warning was issued for the area, which is scheduled to host the game on Saturday.

A No Result will not impact India, which has already sealed a Super 8 berth.

But for Pakistan, the stakes are high. If the USA-Ireland outing at Lauderhill on Friday is called off, USA will progress from Group-A and Pakistan will exit the tournament.

The Sri Lanka-Nepal game at Lauderhill on Tuesday was called off due to heavy rain. This has put Sri Lanka on the brink of elimination.

Several flights in and out of Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (primary airport for Lauderhill) were cancelled.

Bangladesh inches closer to a spot in the Super 8



Shakib. AP

Press Trust of India
KINGSTOWN

Bangladesh defeated Netherlands by 25 runs in their T20 World Cup match here on Thursday. This was Bangladesh’s second win in the tournament.

Bangladesh posted 159 for five, thanks to Shakib Al Hasan, who remained unbeaten on 64 not out off 46 balls. Off-spinner Aryan Dutt (two for 17) was the pick of the bowlers for the Dutch.

Netherlands kept itself in the hunt for a major part of the chase before losing its way and finishing at 134 for eight. Leg-spinner Rishad Hossain, with three wickets, was Bangladesh’s best bowler.

Bangladesh’s second victory in three games took it a step closer to a spot in the Super 8.

The scores: Bangladesh 159/5 in 20 overs (Shakib 64 n.o., van Meekeren 2/15, Aryan 2/17) bt Netherlands 134/8 in 20 overs (Engelbrecht 33, Vikramjit 26, Edwards 25, Taskin 2/30, Rishad 3/33); PoM: Shakib.

I had to wait for the right ball to hit, says Dube

Ashwin Achal
NEW YORK

For the first 25 balls of his stint against USA here on Wednesday, Shivam Dube looked completely at sea. He barely made good contact, and ate up dot balls.

There were fears that Dube’s struggles would cost India the Group-A ICC Men’s T20 World Cup match.

All through this tense time, Dube remained confident. The required rate was manageable, so it was a matter of getting one big hit.

Release shot

The release shot finally came in the 15th over bowled by Corey Anderson. Dube sat back, picked the length, and swatted the speedster way into the stands.

With the pressure finally off, Dube and Suryakumar



Hard grind: Dube said the New York pitch wasn’t as easy to bat on as it seemed to be. K.R. DEEPAK

Yadav went on to make easy work of the target.

“I had to wait for the right ball. It was not easy to come in and start hitting. The plan was to take the game deep,” Dube said.

The pitch made it difficult to line up the power blows, Dube added. “The ball was sticking

and staying low. I don’t think any T20 World Cup has seen a pitch like this.

Difficult to gauge

“From the same spot, one ball came on fast and another one stuck to the surface. It was very difficult to gauge,” said Dube after taking India home.

If you love doing something, plant the seed and water it: Netravalkar

Ashwin Achal
NEW YORK

Saurabh Netravalkar is the ideal candidate for an Instagram reel with uplifting background music and a motivational ‘Never give up on your dreams’ storyline.

Once a promising India under-19 and Mumbai cricketer, Netravalkar said goodbye to his cricket ambitions and moved to the USA to pursue a masters degree.

On Wednesday, turning out for USA, the left-arm pacer nicked off superstar Virat Kohli for a golden duck. In his next over, he took out India captain Rohit Sharma. All this is a World Cup encounter in the Big Apple.

The 32-year-old is an inspiration for the common man with big aspirations. “If you love doing something, plant the seed and wa-



Incredible journey: Netravalkar has proved to be an inspiration for the common man with big aspirations. K.R. DEEPAK

ter it. It might bloom late, but if you are on the right track, it will happen. True hard work never goes to waste,” Netravalkar said.

Netravalkar understandably finds it tough to describe his incredible journey. “My journey is one of ups and downs. I had to take a practical call at the time to move out of India. I could not make it big in In-

dian cricket, simply because of all the competition there. I got a good scholarship offer at a top university here (Cornell University), so I moved. I’m glad that God gave me another chance to play cricket again,” Netravalkar said on Wednesday.

Netravalkar also holds a steady job at Oracle, which has made him a cult hero

in the corporate world. “I love my job at Oracle, and I love to enter the cricket field and bowl. I am blessed that I get to do what I love. Everyone at Oracle have been very supportive. There has been an outpouring of love from my colleagues. I wish I could thank everyone in person,” the soft-spoken pacer said.

After the match, Netravalkar spent time chatting with his old mates Rohit and Suryakumar Yadav. “Surya and I reminisced about old times. We played together in age-group cricket. We carried off from where we left with jokes from those times. I also spoke to Rohit. He is my senior. I have played with him in Mumbai, and bowled to him at nets. I have not played with Virat, but he acknowledged the USA team for our performance,” said Netravalkar.

INBRIEF



SA-President's XI women's warm-up match abandoned

South Africa's warm-up match against Board President's XI women at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru on Thursday was abandoned because of rain. Only 14 overs of play was possible and Board President's XI, which won the toss, had reached 71 for one with Shweta Sehrawat (24 n.o., 33b, 4x4) and Shubha Satheesh (18 n.o., 20b, 2x4) batting. India takes on South Africa in the first ODI here on Sunday.

Nadal to skip Wimbledon to prepare for Olympics

Rafa Nadal will skip Wimbledon in July in order to prepare for the Paris Olympic Games which will be played on the clay courts at Roland Garros, the Spaniard said on Thursday.



Rohan Bopanna, Sriram Balaji get the nod for Olympics

The All India Tennis Association (AITA) announced the "qualification" of Rohan Bopanna, *in pic.*, and Sriram Balaji for the doubles event of the Paris Olympics. In a release on Thursday, AITA secretary-general Anil Dhupar stated that coach M. Balachandran and physio Rebecca Van Orshagen would be the support cast for the Indian pair. There was considerable suspense about Bopanna's doubles partner, as he had qualified straight as a top-10 doubles player with his World rank of No. 4.

India men to take on Pakistan in the quarterfinals

India blanked Chinese Taipei 3-0 in the women's section of the 22nd Asian team squash at Dalian (China) on Thursday. India will meet Republic of Korea on Friday in its last Pool-A match. If it wins, it will enter the semifinals. In the men's section, India defeated Mongolia 3-0 to finish second in Pool-D behind Japan and will meet Pakistan, also on Friday, in the quarterfinals.

The results: Men: India bt Mongolia 3-0 (Suraj Kumar Chand bt Yesun Otgonchimeg 11-3, 11-5, 11-1; Om Semwal bt Brian Bayarmaa 11-2, 11-3, 11-2; Rahul Baittha bt Amartuvshin Mandakhbayar 11-4, 11-5, 11-8). **Women: India bt Chinese Taipei 3-0** (R. Pooja Arthi bt Wu Yi Chun 11-4, 11-1, 11-3; Sunita Patel bt Wang Yuan 11-6, 11-8, 11-9; Rathika Suthanthira Seelan bt Lee Yi Hsuan 11-7, 11-6, 11-5).

Nainika downs Divya in the quarterfinals

Second seed Nainika Reddy defeated Divya Ungrish 6-3, 7-6(2) in the under-18 girls' quarterfinals of the AITA National series junior tennis tournament in Chandigarh on Thursday. In the boys section, Aditya Mor beat third seed Akshat Dhull 6-2, 6-3.

The results (quarterfinals): Boys: Shanker Heisnam bt Dhruv Ghanghas 6-2, 7-5; Aditya Mor bt Akshat Dhull 6-2, 6-3; Aryan Chauhan bt Ojas Mehlatw 6-2, 4-6, 6-3; Aashravya Mehra bt Aarav Chawla 6-4, 6-3. **Girls:** Shagun Kumari bt Devanshi Gohil 6-3, 6-3; Ananya Jain bt Snigdha Pattbandia 6-3, 6-2; Mahika Khanna bt Anandita Upadhyay 6-1, 6-2; Nainika Reddy bt Divya Ungrish 6-3, 7-6(2).



Celtics hold off desperate Mavericks, go 3-0 in Finals

Boston Celtics, fueled by the star duo of Jayson Tatum (31 points) and Jaylen Brown (30) held off a furious Dallas rally to beat the host Mavericks 106-99 on Wednesday and take a 3-0 stranglehold on the NBA finals. Mavericks will try to claw back a game when they host game four on Friday.

Can Germany stand its ground or will Scotland spring a surprise on the host?

After a disappointing round-of16 loss to England in Euro 2020, Nagelsmann's men will look to alter the script by going the distance on home soil



Associated Press
MUNICH

The sound of bagpipes, and men in kilts on the streets of Munich – Scotland is in town and the excitement is ramping up ahead of the European Championship curtain-raiser between Germany and Scotland on Friday.

Expectations

Germany's lacklustre form at recent major tournaments has forced fans to readjust expectations.

"We are not here just to say hello but we still have to be humble," Germany defender Antonio Rudiger said.

"It's been up and down



Welcome! The mascot Albart the bear with the Henri Delaunay Cup and official match ball. REUTERS

for us all the way here and that's why we have to be humble. The first match is very important and then we'll see what happens during the rest of the tournament." A good first match and group stage would set off a new wave of excitement in Germany. While the Germans are

bemused by their raucous Scottish counterparts, there should still be plenty more to witness on match-day.

Anticipation

"First and foremost, there's a lot of anticipation because it's a huge event," Germany coach Julian Na-

gelsmann said. "It's probably not just Europe, but the whole world that will be watching how the Euros will go ... we're really looking forward to it."

Germany went out at the group stage of both previous World Cups and was eliminated by England in the round of 16 at Euro



2021. "It's going to be an amazing experience ... being part of that kind of opening ceremony," Scotland forward Ryan Christie said when asked about playing the opening match.

Having failed to reach the Euros from 2000-16, Scotland has qualified for

back-to-back tournaments and the next aim is to reach the knockout stage for the first time.

"That's the dream," Christie said. "To everyone around Scotland, it would mean the world, a massive kind of footballing country. If we come out of the group stages, that's the furthest Scotland will have ever been in a major tournament.

"So, you know, it puts us down in history as the most successful Scottish team ever, and that's the kind of motivation right there.

"We've got a huge belief in ourselves, with this squad of players, that we can really do a lot of damage to other teams and hopefully do well when we go to these big tournaments."

Scotland showed during the qualifying campaign it can surprise, in beating Spain and Norway.

Germany will be more motivated than ever to win the trophy on its own turf.

Match kicks off at 12.30 a.m. IST (Saturday).

Ankita exits in the pre-quarterfinals

TENNIS

Sports Bureau

Ankita Raina was beaten 6-1, 6-4 by Mariam Bolkvadze of Georgia in the pre-quarterfinals of the \$60,000 ITF women's tennis tournament in Guinaraes, Portugal, on Thursday.

In the €148,625 Challenger in Perugia, Italy, Sriram Balaji and Andre Bege- mann sailed into the doubles quarterfinals.

The results: **€148,625 Challenger, Nottingham: Doubles (pre-quarterfinals):** Rithvik Bollipalli & Niki Poonacha bt Jacob Fearnley & Cameron Norrie (GBR) 7-6(1), 6-4. Charles Broom & Ben Jones (GBR) bt Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan & Vijay Sundar Prashanth 3-6, 6-3, [10-7]. **€148,625 Challenger, Perugia, Italy: Doubles (pre-quarterfinals):** Sriram Balaji & Andre Bege- mann (Ger) bt Jesper De Jong & Ryan Nijboer (Ned) 7-6(5), 6-3. **\$25,000 ITF men, Wichita, USA: Singles (first round):** Quinn Vandecasteele (USA) bt Ramkumar Ramanathan 7-5, 6-1.

\$15,000 ITF men, Koszalin, Poland: Singles (pre-quarterfinals): Pawel Juszczak (Pol) bt Manas Dhamne 7-6(5), 3-6, 6-4. **\$15,000 ITF men, Hong Kong: Singles (pre-quarterfinals):** S.D. Prajwal Dev bt Daisuke Sumizawa (Jpn) 6-3, 6-4. **Doubles (quarterfinals):** Prajwal Dev & Adil Kalyanpur bt Daniil Golubev & Evgenii Tiurnev 6-1, 6-4. Ajeet Rai (Nzl) & Rishi Reddy bt Ryotaro Taguchi & Ryoto Tanuma 6-1, 6-7(6), [11-9]. **\$15,000 ITF men, Monastir, Tunisia: Singles (pre-quarterfinals):** Manish Sureshkumar bt Amr Elsayed (Egy) 6-2, 6-2. **First round:** Manish bt Paul Ender (Aut) 6-1, 6-2; Paulo Santos (Bra) bt Abhinav Sanjeev Shanmugam 7-6(2), 6-3. **\$60,000 ITF women, Guimaraes, Portugal: Singles (pre-quarterfinals):** Mariam Bolkvadze (Geo) bt Ankita Raina 6-1, 6-4. **\$15,000 ITF women, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic: Singles (first round):** Christasha McNeil bt Saumya Vig 6-1, 6-1. **\$15,000 ITF women, San Diego, USA: Doubles (pre-quarterfinals):** Anna Campana & Carolyn Campana (USA) bt Teja Tirunelveli & Brandy Walker (USA) 6-4, 4-6, [10-7].

WORLD JUNIOR CHESS

P.K. Ajith Kumar
GANDHINAGAR

Divya Deshmukh added another significant title to her already impressive collection on Thursday. The 18-year-old from Nagpur won the World junior girls' chess championship after beating Bulgaria's Beloslava Krasteva in the final round at the Gift City Club.

Top-seeded Divya finished with 10 points, out of a possible 11, as she remained unbeaten, winning nine games and drawing two.

The Open title was claimed by Kazakhstan's Kazybek Nogerbek, whose win in the last round against the sole overnight leader Mamikon Ghari- byan of Armenia took him to 8.5 points.

Armenia's Emin Ohan- nyan had already scored 8.5 points, thanks to his victory against Daniel Qui- zon of the Philippines. A better tie-break score gave the title to Nogerbek, seed-



Best on show: Nogerbek and Divya sealed the World titles on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

ed ninth.

Luka Budisavljevic of Serbia finished third. Prana- v Anand, who began as the third seed, was the best-placed Indian at 10th.

In the girls' section, Ma- riam Mkrtchyan took the runner-up spot after finish- ing half-a-point behind Di- vya. Azerbaijan's Ayan Al- lahverdiyeva was third.

Important results (final round): Open: Kazybek Nogerbek (Kaz) 8.5 bt Mamikon Ghari- byan (Arm) 8; Emin Ohanyan (Arm) 8.5 bt Daniel Quizon (Phi) 7.5; Luka Budisavljevic (Srb) 8 drew with

Jose Gabriel Cardoso (Col) 8; Anuj Shrivatri 7 drew with Rudik Makarian (FIDE) 7.5; Shawn Rodrigue-Lemieux (Can) 7.5 drew with Aditya Samant 7.5; Tobias Koelle (Ger) 8 bt Baris Ozenir (Tur) 7; Aleksandr Domalchuk-Jonasson (Isl) 6.5 lost to Aleksey Grebnev (FIDE) 7.5; Pranav Anand 7.5 bt Arsen Davtyan (Arm) 6.5; L. Srihari .5 lost to Santiago Avila (Col) 7.5; L.R. Shrihari 7 drew with Pham Tran Gia Phuc (Vie) 7. **Girls:** Divya Deshmukh 10 bt Beloslava Krasteva (Bul) 7; Mariam Mkrtchyan (Arm) 9.5 bt Rakshitta Ravi 7.5; Ksenia Norman (FIDE) 7 lost to Ayan Allahverdiyeva (Aze) 8.5; Sachi Jain 7 lost to Shubhi Gupta 8;

Mrudul Dehankar 7.5 bt Martyna Wikar (Pol) 7; Ayalum Kaladorva (Kaz) 7 drew with Xeniya Balabayeva (Kaz) 7; G. Tejaswini 7 drew with Sofia Hryzlova (Sui) 7; Bristy Mukherjee Anna Zhurova (FIDE); V. Rindhiya 7.5 bt Oshini Gunawardhana (SL) 6.5; Eszter Suloyk (Hun) 6 lost to Narmin Abdinova (Aze) 7.5.

The standings: Open: 1-2. Nogerbek and Ohanyan 8.5; 3-5. Budisavljevic, Ghari- byan and Koelle 8; 4-10. Grebnev, Cardoso, Makarian, Quizon and Pranav 7.5. **Girls:** 1. Divya 10; 2. Mkrtchyan 9.5; 3. Allahverdiyeva 8.5; 4. Shubhi 8; 5-8. Rakshitta, Abdinova, Rindhiya and Mrudul 7.5; 9-10. Hryzlova and Kseniya 7.

NEW DELHI ROUND-UP

Century by Keshav Keshav Singh top-scored with 108 and Vaibhav Kandpal made 74 as Madras Club beat Maulana Azad Club by 53 runs in the DDCA T20 League. **The scores:** Madras Club 229/4 in 20 overs (Keshav Singh 108, Vaibhav Kandpal 74) bt Maulana Azad Club 176 in 20 overs (Yash Tandon 38, Kartik Pawar 3/29). Young Friends 176/7 in 20 overs (Akshay Saini 65) lost to Sporting Club 179/8 in 19 overs (Lalit Yadav 56, Vision Panchal 35, Kaushal 3/25). TEDCO 126 in 19 overs (Uzair Akhtar 60, Harshit Sehrawat 5/17) lost to Roop Nagar Gymkhana 127/3 in 10 overs (Madhur 62, Dweep 40); Delhi Police 199/8 in 20 overs (Manjeet 126) bt Sonnet Club 174/9 in 20 overs (Aryan Dalal 66, Sagar Tanwar 54, Vinit 3/33). DDA 148/6 in 20 overs lost to Gemini Club 152/2 in 13 overs (Ashutosh Aggarwal 60, Akshay Kumar 37). MCD 132 in 18 overs (Kapil Kohli 41, Ashwani Hooda 6/29) lost to Darling 138/7 in 14 overs.

Easy wins for TSA, RRG Purva Siwach scored a crucial half-century and claimed three wickets as Talent Sports Academy (TSA) beat Vijay Yadav Academy (VYA) by 197 runs in the all-India Shanti Devi women's cricket tournament. In another match, Rohtak Road Gymkhana (RRG) defeated The Aryavrat School by 84 runs. **The scores:** TSA 250/9 in 40 overs (Saachi Grover 72, Purva Siwach 54, Falak Dagar 3/23) bt VYA 53 in 23 overs (Purva Siwach 3/13); RRG 221/4 in 35 overs (Nidhi Mehto 47, Shweta Singh 46, Avleen Kaur 45) bt Aryavrat School 137 in 32 overs (Tanika Sharma 57). **Mohit scalps six** Man-of-the-match Mohit returned figures of six for 25 as Delhi Cricket Hub (DCH) beat Harsha Sports by nine wickets in the fourth Harcourt Butler

cricket tournament. **The scores:** Harsha Sports 112 in 33 overs (Yug Sharma 38, Mohit 6/25) lost to DCH 113/1 in 11 overs (Noor Mohammad 56 n.o.). **Deepanshu shines** Deepanshu top-scored with 84 as Shree Sai Academy (SSA) beat LB Shastri Coaching Center (LBSCC) by six wickets in the fourth Friendship Cup cricket tournament. **The scores:** LBSCC 230/8 in 40 overs (Lakshay Sekhri 98) lost to SSA 231/4 in 24 overs (Deepanshu 84, Aaryan Sharma 42). **Anurag smashes ton** Anurag Yadav's 101-ball 123 and Adarsh Kumar's 61 saw West Delhi Academy (WDA) downed SMC Academy by 152 runs in the fifth Srimati Vidya Devi memorial tournament. **The scores:** WDA 377 in 49 overs (Anurag Yadav 123, Adarsh Kumar 61, Anshu Sonkar 3/53) bt SMCA 225 in 43 overs (Priyansh 82, Yash 3/35).

Prannoy and Sameer enter quarterfinals

Press Trust of India
SYDNEY

H.S. Prannoy and Sameer Verma progressed to the men's singles quarterfinals of the Australian Open badminton tournament with contrasting victories here on Thursday.

The results: Men: H.S. Prannoy bt Misha Zilberman (Isr) 21-17, 21-15; Sameer Verma bt Loh Kean Yew (Sgp) 21-14, 14-21, 21-19; Kenta Nishimoto (Jpn) bt Kiran George 22-20, 21-6. **Women:** Aakarshi Kashyap bt Kai Qi Bernice Teoh (Aus) 21-16, 21-13; Putri Kusuma Wardani (Ina) bt Anupama Upadhyaya 21-11, 21-18; Ester Nurumi Tri Wardoyo (Ina) bt Malvika Bansod 21-17, 23-21. **Doubles:** Pei Jing Lai & Chiew Sien Lim (Mas) bt Rutaparna & Swetaparna Panda 21-5, 21-9. **Mixed doubles:** B. Sumeeth Reddy & N. Sikki Reddy bt Kai Chen Teoh & Kai Qi Bernice Teoh (Aus) 21-11 21-11.

SNAPSHOTS

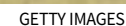
Wimbledon to offer record prize money of £50 million Wimbledon will have a record £50 million prize money pot this year with the singles champions taking home £2.7 million each. The total prize money is £5.3 million more than offered at last year's tournament. **Bhowneesh finishes fourth** Bhowneesh Mendiratta finished fourth in the men's trap final in the shotgun World Cup in Lonato, Italy, on Thursday. Bhowneesh bowed out with a 29 after the first 35 shots of the 50-shot six-man final. Great Britain's Matthew John

Coward-Holley won with a score of 47, ahead of Italy's Daniele Resca (46), and China's Haicheng Yu (34). **Historic win for Shruti** Shruti Vora became the first Indian rider to win a three-star Grand Prix event, the Equestrian Federation of India (EFI) said on Thursday. Shruti scored 67.761 points in the CDI-3 event in Lipica, Slovenia, from June 7-9. She finished ahead of Moldova's Tatiana Antonenco (Aachen), who scored 66.522. In the Grad Prix Special, Shruti finished second behind Antonenco-Aachen combo with 66.085.

LIVE TELECAST

T20 World Cup: Star Sports 1, 2, 3 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 8 p.m., 5 a.m., 6 a.m. (Saturday) **Football:** Euro 2024, Sony Sports Ten 1, 2, 3, 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 12.30 a.m. (Saturday)

In a sport where teams are valued in billions of dollars, Uganda did the unthinkable without proper infrastructure, equipment, finances, and a whole lot of other things; with sincere preparation, utmost passion, and love for the game, The Cranes captured the hearts of the world with their first-ever victory



\$ND-ND\$

Abdul Ghafur

The dipstick test has an accuracy of 50-60%. Even if the doctor carries out a dipstick test, it doesn't help the doctor choose the right antibiotic. GETTY IMAGES

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In 1714, the British government

(Dr. Abdul Ghafur, Consultant in Infectious Diseases, Apollo Hospitals, Chennai, and a member of the Longitude Prize jury from its inception. drghafur@hotmail.com)

The Hindu Bureau

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a medical syringe and a small glass vial. The syringe is clear with a green plunger and has black markings on its barrel. The vial is small with a silver cap and a white label. The label text reads: "1 DOSE VIAL 0.5 mL", "Quadrivalent Human Papillomavirus (Types 6, 11, 16, 18) Recombinant Vaccine)", "pandasyl™", "J.D. Biol. Sci. Tech. 2", and "Rx only". The background is a blurred indoor setting.

Women spend 25% more time in poor health compared to men. AP

Sriram Natarajan (fourth from left), founder and CEO, Molbio, was part of a panel at the WHA, discussing point-of care diagnostics in India, as per a press release. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

India-made TB diagnostics tech wins acclaim at World Health Assembly

The Hindu Bureau

The Global Fund noted that India's

Truenat was launched in 2017. It is a real-time quantitative micro-PCR system. The device is portable and battery-operated and can be deployed at labs, health centres, and in the field. Truenat delivers results in less than an hour and can test for over 40 diseases

Early diagnosis and treatment are crucial to combating TB, which kills an estimated 480,000 Indians every year, or over 1,400 patients every day. The WHO reports over 10 million new cases of TB every year, and India alone accounts for 27% of the global TB burden.

For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to
science@thehindu.co.in with the
subject 'Daily page'