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EU regulators level their first charges under the bloc's new digital competition rulebook, accusing Tim Cook-led Apple of preventing app makers from pointing users to cheaper options outside its App Store. P 14

Flames engulfed a lithium battery factory in S Korea after multiple batteries exploded, killing 22 workers, most of them Chinese, according to fire officials. The victims likely succumbed to toxic gas within seconds of the blaze getting out of control. P 14

A schoolboy from England makes medical history as he becomes first in the world with severe epilepsy to trial a new device fitted in his skull to control seizures. Neurostimulator said to have reduced his daytime seizures by 80%. P 14

The toll from a series of attacks on churches & synagogues in Russia's Dagestan region rises to 20. Putin, who has long accused the West of trying to stoke separatism in the Caucasus, sends his condolences to victims' kin. P 14



CM sledgehammer on mins, govt depts, party colleagues and cops

Didi Names & Shames, Sets 10-Day Deadline

Tamaghna Banerjee & Dwaipayan Ghosh | TNN

Kolkata: Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee — in her sharpest public criticism till date of cabinet and party colleagues and police and administrative officials — read out the riot act on Monday, naming and shaming some of them and setting civic bodies a 10-day deadline to give citizens better services.

Banerjee's 70-minute tirade at state secretariat Nabanna came exactly 20 days after the Lok Sabha results, which the Trinamool won handsomely in Bengal. But the Trinamool-BJP 29-12 score in the state was marred by her party's surprisingly weak showing in many of the state's urban areas.

Banerjee's unprecedented public rebuke spared no one; from ministers to bureaucrats, from municipalities to the state urban development department, from cops to district administrations, everyone came up for scrutiny as the CM warned that those who continued with their extortion and shoddy work would be thrown out of the party and only those who worked would

'IF I CAN SEE THE MALPRACTICES, WHY CAN'T YOU?'

CM's best & worst performing municipalities

DRINKING WATER
Best | Uluberia, Halisahar, Kolkata, Baidyabati, Bankura
Worst | Alipurduar, Bally, Baranagar, Siliguri, Santipur

BUILDINGS
Best | Uluberia, Jangipur, Habra, Krishnanagar, Madhyamgram
Worst | Bidhannagar, Asansol, Raigunj, Contai

CLEANLINESS & WASTE MGMT
Best | Kolkata, Basirhat, Baidyabati, Uttarpara, North Dum Dum, Nabadweep
Worst | Contai, Dalkhola, Panihati, Howrah, Suri, Cooper's Camp (Ranaghat)

Today is my turn to speak and yours to listen. How much money do you need to lead a good life? You are riding a big car, dining in fancy restaurants. Everything is fine but, first, think of people. Only those who work will get ticket in the next elections; those who won't will be thrown out. Why should govt be tarnished by the misdeeds of a few individuals?

get tickets in the next election. "It is my turn to speak today and yours to listen," she told an audience of civic body chiefs, select MLAs and administrative officials.

"I don't want master-extortionists. I want people's servants," she said as civic bodies managing Howrah, Bidhannagar and Siliguri got the bulk of her criticism, with civic ill-



CM Banerjee reads out the riot act on Monday to ministers, bureaucrats, civic officials, cops and district administrators

Reforms announced
Civic bodies cannot call tenders; all tenders to be called centrally by state govt
Performance of civic body to be evaluated by vigilance dept team, additional director general of police (law & order), an additional commissioner of police, officers from CID and director of security
Decision to be taken on whether various deptt authorities can be scrapped and excess employees shifted elsewhere
10-day deadline set for better civic services
Vivek Kumar appointed land secretary
3 SDOs in charge of civic bodies (Howrah, Haldia and Cooper's Camp) showcased

not be authorised to call tenders; instead, a committee comprising the state chief secretary and secretaries of home, finance, land and irrigation departments, police commissioners and an officer of the rank of additional director-general of police will oversee the process. She also issued show-cause notices to sub-divisional officers in charge of

civic bodies in Howrah, Haldia and Cooper's Camp (in Nadia). "Why should the govt's image be tarnished because of the misdeeds of a few? If I can see the malpractices, why can't you? Are roads dirty? Should I even have to sweep streets now?" she asked, reading out from a bunch of papers that contained reports collated during her election campaigns and the results of a survey by the state CID and the vigilance department. Multiple interest groups had emerged in every corner, she added.

As many in her range of firing visibly squirmed, the CM mentioned fire minister and Bidhannagar MLA Sujit Bose, accusing him of encouraging encroachments in Rajarhat and in front of Salt Lake Sector V's Webl Bhavan; she also accused state food processing minister and Howrah (Central) MLA Arup Roy and Howrah (North) MLA Goutam Chowdhury of extortion. She said Bally Municipality administrator Amrita Roy Burman neglected her duty.

"Have you seen Hatibagan's state? I had made the city so beautiful. But, now, a new OC (of a police station) comes and immediately brings in new illegal settlers. The situation is similar in Gariahat, where hawkers have brought back plastic sheds. Police and civic officials see everything but do nothing. Some are working only to make money," Banerjee said.

Think of people: CM, P 3

Emergency reminds us to protect Constitution: Modi

Oppn MPs Hold Up Copies Of Statute Book

Akhilsh.Singh @timesgroup.com

New Delhi: PM Modi marked the beginning of the maiden session of the new Lok Sabha by lobbing the "Constitution" issue back at INDIA bloc, asking everybody to ensure that there was no subversion of the Constitution as during the Emergency. A day before the 49th anniversary of the Indra Gandhi govt's decision to curb dissent by imposing Emergency, Modi urged people to ensure such an attempt to "blacken" the Constitution was never repeated and pledged to safeguard it.

His remarks came as the opposition, flush with the EDIT: It's People's House Be 'strong opposition', Naveen tells MPs, P 10 Nadda leader of House in Rajya Sabha, P 9

success of its allegation that Modi-led BJP had sought 400+ seats to change the Constitution, carried on with the theme. Members of Congress, Trinamool, DMK, Left and others held a protest after paying respects at Mahatma Gandhi's statue in Parliament complex, holding copies of the Constitution and "promising to protect it".

Opposition MPs flashed copies of the Constitution in what appeared to be a cele-



PM Modi arrives in Parliament to take oath as MP for a third time. Oppn MPs marched from the old Parliament building to the new, chanting slogans of 'save democracy' | P 6 & 9



Pro tem protest: Some oppn MPs skip oath

The first sitting of the 18th Lok Sabha was marked by three opposition members nominated to the panel of chairpersons (who fill in for the Speaker) refusing to take oath at their scheduled time over the pro tem Speaker's post not going to Congress's K Suresh. Further, INDIA bloc made plain its intent to force a contest for the Speaker's post if a consensus was not arrived at.

An unfazed BJP, however, began consultations with its allies on the NDA's candidate for the Speaker's post. The election is scheduled for Wednesday and nominations have to be filed by Tuesday. The three opposition MPs — Suresh, Sudip Bandyopadhyay (TMC) and TR Baalu (DMK) skipped oath taking as they were listed to do so just after the PM and ahead of the council of ministers. P 9

country was turned into a prison, with democracy utterly suppressed," the PM said in his address to media ahead of the session's commencement.

Modi, who had rebutted the charge that BJP intended to change the Constitution during the campaign and had argued that, to the contrary, it was the opposition which had violated the decision of the founding fathers.

Years remind us', P 10

Trudeau pays homage to AI bombing victims

Hemali.Chhappia @timesgroup.com

Paying homage to the victims of the AI Kanishka bombing, Canadian PM Justin Trudeau said it remained the deadliest terror attack in Canadian history, and a reminder of the shared responsibility to unequivocally condemn terror. The two sides paid their respects to the 329 victims, 280 of them Canadians, amid growing strife in ties caused by the political space given by Canadian authorities to pro-Khalistan extremists.

Earlier on Sunday, the Indian mission in Ottawa said in a release that the bombing was a cowardly act of terror, carried out by Canada-based pro-Khalistan terrorists. "It is unfortunate that such actions are allowed to be routine on many occasions in Canada," it said. P 11

NEET ranks jump on retry from obscure centres

Hemali.Chhappia @timesgroup.com

Mumbai: When Ashalata (name changed) took NEET for the first time in 2022, her rank was in the six-digit range. However, in her second attempt the following year, her rank leapt from 2 lakh-plus to 8,000. At present, the 20-year-old is a student of LTMG Sion Hospital in Mumbai.

Another aspirant from 2022 who secured a rank beyond 10 lakh now studies in a govt hospital in Mumbai after she got a rank of around 13,000 in her second attempt in 2023. This "second-time lucky" trend, with students scoring "unbelievable" ranks after taking a year's break to prepare for the second attempt, has been seen as baffling by academics in medical corridors. And there was a common thread: the second time, each had taken the exam from an obscure centre. While some took it

MAHA HEADMASTER ARRESTED

Latur zila parishad school headmaster Jaleel Khan Pathan among 4 held. Sources cite incriminating data found in mobile phones. Parents allegedly paid them money to get wards to pass NEET | P 8
UPSC decides to use facial recognition and AI-based CCTV surveillance to prevent cheating and impersonation
CBI teams reach Patna

Rules of new anti-paper leak law notified. Cheaters face up to five years in jail; it's 5-10 years for those involved in organised cheating crimes. Those involved in paper leak, for instance, face up to 10 years in jail and a fine of up to ₹1 crore | P 8

king a year's break to prepare for the second attempt, has been seen as baffling by academics in medical corridors. And there was a common thread: the second time, each had taken the exam from an obscure centre. While some took it from a tiny village in Belagavi, others opted for a small town near Patna and other places not popular as coaching hubs. Govt sources said attempts are on to make a list of those who scored well in their second attempt at obscure

centres and are now pursuing MBBS in govt-run colleges.

This year, a similar scenario emerged when students from various states opted to take the exam from a school in Godhra. The Gujarat police, who blew the lid off the scam, said students were asked to fill answers for the questions they knew and leave the rest unanswered. "The empty answer-sheets were to be filled in by the centre's deputy superintendent during the half-hour gap the supervisors get to pack the papers. The answer key was to be provided by coaching institutes, which make the key available online after the exam," Godhra superintendent of police Himanshu Solanki said.

1 lakh advance, P 8

Mamata takes aim at Centre over 'unilateral' Teesta treaty, NEET

Dwaipayan Ghosh & Debashis Konar | TNN

Kolkata: Chief minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday used PM Narendra Modi's Teesta water-sharing discussions with Bangladesh to accuse Centre of "selling Bengal" and planning to "snatch the livelihoods of Bengal's residents" and the "exam scams" to call for abolishing NEET in favour of reverting to the system in which state govt conducted their own medical entrance tests.

Banerjee sent two separate letters to the PM, one on the water-sharing issue and the other on NEET.

The "selling Bengal" comment was in reference to Centre's "unilateral" discussions with Bangladesh on Saturday in Delhi about — among other things — sharing Ganga and Teesta waters, when the neighbouring country's PM, Sheikh Hasina, met PM Modi. The two countries signed 10 agreements/MoUs and announced over a dozen other initiatives, as Modi hosted Hasina for the first state visit after the formation of the new NDA govt. Banerjee wrote there was simply not enough water in the Teesta to share. She said she "understands" govt at the Centre "is in the process of re-

newing the India-Bangladesh Farakka Treaty (1996), which is to expire in 2026." "It is a treaty which delineates the sharing of water between Bangladesh and India and, as you are aware, it has huge implications for people of Bengal," she said, adding that people of Bengal would be the "worst sufferers" of such treaties. "Such unilateral deliberations and discussions without consultation and the opinion of the state govt is neither acceptable nor desirable," she said.

The NEET demand came amid growing opposition here

No one in N Bengal, P 6

at over alleged mismanagement in the conduct of the examination. Banerjee said the mismanagement not only harmed students, but also compromised the quality of medical education in the country and affected the quality of medical service. "The allegations of paper leak, taking bribes by certain people and officials involved in the conduct of the examinations, opening of window to accommodate certain students to apply for examinations, grace marks etc. are some serious issues which need complete attention and require a thorough, clean and impartial probe," Banerjee wrote.

SC upholds ruling nixing Hry extra-marks order

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Supreme Court on Monday upheld the high court order for quashing of Haryana govt's decision to grant 5% additional marks to state domiciles in recruitment to certain posts based on "socio-economic" criteria, calling it a populist measure.

It also directed that fresh examinations, which were conducted last year, be conducted for jobs to Group C and D employees.

A bench of justices A S Oka and Rajesh Bindal rejected a plea of the Haryana

WE STAND BY OUR POLICY, SAYS CM SAINI

June 11, '19: Haryana issues notification, giving extra marks on socio-economic criteria to govt job aspirants in Group C & D category
May 31, 2024: HC quashes state policy of awarding extra marks; HSSC moves SC against HC order
June 24: SC upholds HC order to quash state policy

Staff Selection Commission (SSC) challenging the Punjab and Haryana High Court verdict quashing a state notification granting additional marks to domiciles of Haryana in the recruitment process during the Common Entrance Test of 2023 (CET 2023). The court also directed that fresh tests be conducted. Appearing for the commission, AG R Venkataraman pleaded the Supreme Court that there was no need to hold fresh examinations and

results could be declared after doing away with additional marks granted to state residents. But the bench said that HC had given reasons to hold retest and there was no error in the verdict.

Under this "socio-economic" criteria, additional weightage was granted by Haryana govt to domiciles of Haryana on fulfilment of certain conditions, including that none of the applicant's family members was a regular govt employee and the gross annual income of the family from all sources was less than Rs 1.8 lakh.

EURO 2024
Switzerland vs Germany 1-1
Hungary vs Scotland 1-0
FULL COVERAGE P 18

Britannia likely to open plant in Durgapur

Britannia is likely to pump in fresh investment in Bengal, said sources, and was also likely to soon set up a plant near Durgapur. This comes amid fears that the food major might minimise its operations in Bengal following the closing down of its plant in Kolkata's Taratala. The company has also indicated that its registered address would continue to be Kolkata. Britannia had received Bengal govt's approval in Jan 2019 for a plant and now, it has identified land near Durgapur. "There will be a decision in this regard soon," said a company source. P 15

WEATHER
Max 34.2°C (+1.2) Min 28°C (+1.2) Sunrise: Wednesday 4.54am
Sunset: Tuesday 6.25pm
Generally cloudy sky. Possibility of rain/thundershower in some areas. Maximum and minimum temperature may be around 34°C & 28°C. Max humidity 93% min 64%. Rain: Trace

RAMPAGING ROHIT POWERS INDIA INTO SEMIS



Having lost to Australia in both the World Test Championship final and ODI WC final last year, India (205/5) extracted a measure of sweet revenge, defeating the Aussies (181/7) by 24 runs to book their spot in the 2024 T20 WC semifinal against England. If Afghanistan beat Bangladesh today or the match ends in a no-result, Australia will be knocked out of the WC. India's victory was set up by skipper Rohit Sharma, who slammed 92 off 41 balls as records tumbled. When Rohit reached 50 off 19 balls (his fastest T20 half-ton and also the fastest in this WC), India were 52/1, a T20I world record for lowest team score when a batter has hit 50. Rohit crossed 200 sixers in his T20I career, a world record, and also became the highest run-getter in T20Is (4,165) | P 17

'I'll be back': After term ends, US consul gen plans semi-permanent home in city

Subhro.Niyogi@timesgroup.com

Kolkata: American consul general Melinda Pavek, who is set to return to the US after the end of her term, intends to rent or buy an apartment in Kolkata jointly with outgoing German and Australian consuls general, who are also keen to revisit the city.

"I will definitely be back," Pavek, who had arrived in Kolkata on Aug 12, 2021 and is set to depart this August, told TOI. "My counterpart in the German consulate, Barbara Voss, and in the Australian Deputy High Commission, Rowan Ainsworth, also plan to return to the city and we plan to jointly take up an apartment so that



US consul general Melinda Pavek at her official residence in Kolkata

we can visit Kolkata, particularly between autumn and spring, when the weather is pleasant. There are many things that I would like to do but cannot due to the overwhelming responsibilities of the office. So, once my diplomatic career ends, I intend to experience the city in a more relaxed manner. I have plans to study Bangla, learn yoga, do some pottery at Lipi Biswas's pottery studio in Santiniketan and pursue a one-year fine arts degree from Visva-Bharati."

The diplomat, who has done a lot of walking tours of the

city, is particularly fascinated by north Kolkata and how the old residences have adapted from being home to one large family to being subdivided to accommodate multiple families. "There's also the migration from north Kolkata to Bhowanipore and other parts of south Kolkata and Salt Lake, which is interesting," she said. Pavek is from Minnesota, in the upper midwestern region of the US, where the weather is cold, unlike Kolkata's climate. But she found parallels between the Hooghly — a tributary of the Ganga — and the Minnesota river, a tributary of the Mississippi.

Hooghly reminds..., P 5

India is set to surpass Japan & Germany to become the world's third largest economy by 2027 - Morgan Stanley

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USE PLASTIC TAPS TO STEM THEFT, CURB WATER WASTAGE, SAYS CM | 4

POWER NOD FOR ACROPOLIS MALL 10 DAYS AFTER FIRE, OFFICE BLOCK GEARS UP TO RESUME WORK | 5



Surprise raids, pushback plan to rein in hawkers after CM prod

Hatibagan And Gariahat Under Cop, KMC Lens

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Kolkata: Police will carry out a joint inspection with Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) to act on encroachment of roads and sidewalks.

During her 70-minute tirade on Monday, CM Mamata Banerjee talked tough on encroachments that have become a major concern for Kolkatans. Overcrowded sidewalks often force pedestrians on to the carriageways, increasing the risk of accidents and contributing to traffic slowdowns.

Plastic sheets return to city's hawking hubs as rain cover, spark fire concern



TOI | JUNE 24, 2024

According to a KMC official, in the wake of the CM rap, the civic brass has communicated to the cops to keep a regular vigil on fresh encroachments by hawkers in Gariahat, Hatibagan and New Market areas. The cops will also need to conduct a joint surprise inspection with KMC to push back hawkers who have been encroaching on the carriageways or pavements.

Late on Monday, mayor Firhad Ha-



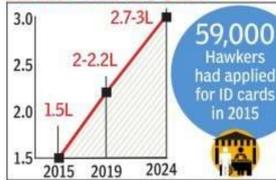
A chunk of pavement (top) and road space taken over by hawkers in Gariahat and Hatibagan

kim shared the CM's concerns about the problem and expressed apprehension that it might lead to an increase in the number of fire incidents. "The encroachment of pavement by a section of hawkers at the Gariahat crossing had made it difficult for the fire-fighters to douse the flames at an apparel

store some years ago. Now we have streamlined hawking at the spot," he said.

This apart, KMC and cops will also ensure that the hawkers shun plastic as far as practicable. However, a KMC official said they would need to reconsider pleas by a section of hawkers to allow them use plastic during rains.

HAWKER COUNT



Sunil Mondal, who sells garments in Gariahat, said that they refrain from using plastic all through the year but they are helpless during monsoon. "We only use plastic during the rainy season to protect our goods," he added.

Dibakar Jana, who sits on the Golpark pavement and sells a variety of shoes, echoed: "We are small-scale traders and do not have adequate resources to build shades to save our items from rain. Hence, we resort to using plastic. But as chief minister Mamata Banerjee has asked us not to use plastic, I will try to refrain from using it," said Jana.

According to Uma Sil, who sells household accessories like table clothes and mats at Hatibagan, many new hawkers have encroached the roads. "My stall has been here since the 1970s. We have approached the KMC authorities several times, appealing to them to give us a licence and a definite space to do our business but there has been no result. There has to be an alternative before they ask us to move out," she added.

(With inputs from Basabadda Sarkar and Biplab Bhattacharya)

Central squad to monitor demolition of illegal bldgs

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Debhobrata Shome

Kolkata: After a lull for nearly four months, the KMC buildings department is set to resume its drive for demolition of illegal buildings from Wednesday. The civic authorities had put the drive on hold due to the Lok Sabha polls. The decision to restart the drive was taken in the wake of chief minister Mamata Banerjee taking a dig at a racket engaged in construction of illegal buildings at the cost of the citizens' lives.

According to a KMC buildings department official, a central squad will take over monitoring of the demolition drive as the civic brass has asked the department to bring more buildings under the demolition drive. "Till Feb, we would demolish around 150 unauthorized buildings a month. The number will now go up to 200. The entire operation will be monitored by a special team to be stationed at headquarters," said the civic official. The squad will be led by a deputy chief engineer, who will keep in touch with the borough executive engineers and will need to take impromptu decisions on the mode of the operation.

KMC has decided to upgrade its infrastructure for demolition of illegal buildings. "Currently, we have four demolition agencies in 144 wards. We may need to hire more agencies," said a KMC executive engineer.

According to a KMC sour-

DRIVE TO BE RELAUNCHED



The illegal encroachment of 29 cottah at 355 Prince Anwar Shah Road found a mention in the CM's speech on Monday



The building collapse in Garden Reach led to the demolition drive

- ▶ Till Feb, the buildings dept razed 150 buildings a month
- ▶ From July, the target will be 200
- ▶ The dept will now identify sensitive areas
- ▶ Civic officials in the boroughs have been doing rounds in the 'red zones'
- ▶ Cossipore-Dum Dum, Burrabazar, Park Circus, Tiljala, Topsia, Tangra, Garden Reach-Metiabruz, Behala, Garia and areas off EM Bypass have seen a spurt in construction of illegal buildings

ce, the civic officials in the boroughs have been doing rounds in the areas that are known as 'red zones'. "In the past few years, our attempts to raze unauthorized buildings were foiled for want of the presence of cops. But now, the civic brass is strict about each and every move we make and the cops are also extending cooperation. Together we hope to bring pace to our drive," said the official.

Sources in the KMC said a constant vigil was being ma-

Greens welcome move as CM hits out at pond fill-up

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Kolkata: Environmentalists lauded chief minister Mamata Banerjee slamming rampant filling up of water bodies for constructions, which affected the city's environment, ecology and climate change.

"Ponds are being filled up to erect houses. But there is no one to pay heed," said Banerjee on Monday, pointing out that administration officials, elected civic body members and MLAs had tacit support in these activities, driven by financial incentives.

Mayor Firhad Hakim's office has been flooded with complaints of water bodies being filled up, especially in KMC-added areas, such as Behala, Joka, Garden Reach and places off E M Bypass. A survey by a JU team and a govt agency found there were over 8,000 water bodies in the city, about 75% of which were in the added areas of KMC wards 101 to 144. A KMC official said many of these ponds had been filled up by land sharks. "Unscrupulous builders first encourage locals to throw garbage in ponds. When the water is no longer visible under the layer of garbage, the developers fill up with debris," the official said.

An IEST study revealed the total area of water bodies in KMA, including South and North 24 Parganas, Kolkata, Nadia, Howrah and Hooghly



A file photo of garbage dumped in a water body in Beliaghata

Pond-filling: KMC lens on Behala-Joka & Tolly belts

has decreased from 195.6 sq km in 2003 to 103.8 sq km in 2023. "Nearly 100 sq km water bodies have been filled up in two decades. If no action is taken, we will have little to sustain us," said activist Bratin Chakraborty.

"It's now often difficult to source water locally in case of a fire. We have also lost the cooling effect water bodies on the atmosphere, which has exacerbated the urban heat island effect," said activist Subhas Datta. Ecologist Raja Chatterjee alleged complicity of councillors. "A pond is filled overnight. Even written complaints fail to elicit a response," he said.

TOI | MAY 5, 2024

'You travel by fancy cars, but first think of people'

▶ Continued from P 1

But how much money do you need to lead a good life? You are going around in big cars, dining at fancy restaurants. Everything is fine but, first, think of people. I see many of you going around in red-beacon cars. Even I don't (do that)," she added, acknowledging she was aware that some of her party colleagues and sections of the bureaucracy and police were involved in raising money.

"In municipalities where boards have not been elected, local MLAs are taking advantage. I will overhaul the entire system and conduct fresh elections. The clean-up should start from my home if needed," Banerjee said.

"Most panchayats and municipalities are not serving people. Encroachments are being encouraged, illegal constructions permitted. No action is being taken,"

'WILL OVERHAUL SYSTEM'

she added, asking: "What is the purpose of panchayats and municipalities if people do not get basic service? All that civic bodies do is raise taxes without consulting us."

State govt has allocated Rs 51,500 crore for urban development since 2011. "But garbage vats are overflowing, illegal parking is rampant, KMC added areas like Joka have poor roads," Banerjee said, ordering that delinquent officials be served with show-cause notices.

The performance of civic body officials will also be evaluated by a team comprising the additional director-general of police (law & order), an additional commissioner of police, officers from the CID, the state vigilance department and the director of security Banerjee, at the end of her session, told her under-fire colleagues "not to take this as an insult but as a heads-up and work for people's welfare".

CM: Won't let anyone sell our cultural identity

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kolkata: CM Mamata Banerjee on Monday said that there was a concerted attempt to destroy the cultural identity of Bengal and warned that those making such attempts won't be spared.

Speaking at Nabanna, Banerjee said every state had its own distinct culture and they had the right to preserve it. But some were trying to 'sell' the state's culture for money. "Those trying to meddle with or destroy our culture and language won't be spared. It has turned difficult to find people who speak in Bengali in our state. Hindi and English are being imposed. This is my last warning to those who are behind this. I am not against any language and don't wish to belittle them either. I will get the information and cultural affairs department to investigate this," said the CM.

She went on to say that she won't allow Bengal's culture to be sold for money. "This is not just

'WILL FOIL ALL ATTEMPTS'

my view. I am echoing what the people of Bengal feel. None will be allowed to sell Bengal's culture for money," she said.

Educationalist and former vice-chancellor of Rabindra Bharati University Pabitra Sarkar said that Kolkata had always been home to a significant non-Bengali population and hence a mixed culture where other influences have been strong. "The presence of non-Bengali population and their growth in number has been a continuous process, not a sudden change. They control whatever industries we have and hence also have a cultural presence as well. Since Kolkata has traditionally been a cosmopolitan city, the use of Bengali as a language has dwindled over the years. But it is not the case in districts where it has been on the rise," said Sarkar. He added that the govt needed to have a definite plan to change that.

Our guardian has scolded us, says Bidhannagar mayor before emergency meet with councillors

Tamaghna Banerjee & Mayukh Sengupta | TNN

Kolkata: Garbage dumped on Salt Lake roads, overflowing drains, illegal food stalls and mushrooming of illegal buildings: Chief minister Mamata Banerjee listed out irregularities in the Bidhannagar Municipal Corporation area, singling out the municipal corporation from a list of civic bodies, accusing the councillors of taking corruption to a different level, which tarnished the party's credibility.

"Salt Lake councillors don't work at all. I had decorated it with such care. Elected representatives don't even take a look at the condition of roads, lights, water and cleanliness of the township any more. Do I have to sweep the streets now?" said Banerjee on

Monday after the meeting with representatives of civic bodies, select MLAs and administrative officials.

Banerjee said BMC also topped the worst-performing civic bodies when it came to the buildings department's performance. "All of you have turned a blind eye to malpractices. You only think of expanding your own properties. I will stop everything," she said, reading out the names of the four worst performing civic bodies—Bidhannagar, Asasol, Raiganj and Contai.

She was vocal about fire minister and Bidhannagar MLA Sujit Bose's role in stalls encroaching on Sector V pavements, especially around Webel Bhavan. "Sujit Bose seems to have got into a competition to put more encroachments around Webel Bhavan. Don't think I am saying all this without proof," she said. "I know

SALT LAKE PROBLEM POINTS



- ▶ Garbage spilling from vats
- ▶ Overflowing drains
- ▶ Food stalls and illegal stalls
- ▶ encroaching on Sector V pavements
- ▶ Mushrooming of illegal buildings
- ▶ Wastage of
- ▶ water from street taps
- ▶ Street lights on during the day

how much the hawkers had to pay." TOI tried to reach Bose, but he didn't respond. TOI visited Sector V on Monday evening and found



(L) After CM's prod, police visited the Sector V area near Webel Bhavan on Monday evening and told traders to shift elsewhere or push back their stalls; garbage dumped on a Salt Lake road over 200 shops selling food, snacks, tea and cigarettes within 100m of Webel Bhavan.

The makeshift shanties blocked the pavements, forcing techies and office goers in the IT hub to walk on the road. A stall owner said, "To get space here, we have to pay Rs 2 lakh to Rs 5 lakh to the union, depending on the stall size. We also have to pay a 'monthly fee' to the union and police. We pay Rs 100 during every meeting of the party. Also, during puja, we pay Rs 5,000 to Rs 8,000 to multiple local functionaries."

Following the CM's rebuke, a trader said, a Bidhannagar Police team visited the area and asked them to vacate the place or push back their stalls to leave 2/3rd space on pavements. "Rajarhat, too, has been heavily encroached upon. I am against people losing their livelihood but efforts should be taken to free pavements and shift the stalls elsewhere.

Food zones in particular should be separated," Banerjee said.

Reacting to the CM's comments, Bidhannagar mayor Krishna Chakraborty said, "Mamata Banerjee is not only the chief minister but also our guardian. We humbly accept all the complaints she has raised against us and we vow to rectify them at the earliest. We held an emergency meeting with all councillors and will immediately take corrective measures." Chakraborty said the garbage vats were overflowing as the corporation could no longer dump waste at Mollar Bheri. Two trucks make rounds, collecting garbage from vats and home collection till Dhapa, she added. Chakraborty said they would identify and demolish illegal buildings and take steps to prevent wastage of water and electricity.

Vivek Kumar new addl ch secy (land)

Kolkata: Vivek Kumar, an IAS officer of 1990 batch, is the new additional chief secretary of the land and land reforms and refugee relief and rehabilitation department, along with land reforms commissioner. He will head the animal resource development department and will be the Biswa Bangla Corporation OSD. Additional chief electoral officer Binod Kumar will head the municipal affairs dept.

The CM told Kumar said some BLLROs should be replaced for corruption. She also asked to issue show cause notice to some SDOs for poor performance. TNN

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Cops rescue trader's son 3 days after abduction from New Market area

Victim Found In A Hotel Off Bypass, 8 Held

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Kolkata: Police on Monday rescued the son of a Tiljala businessman who had allegedly been abducted from the New Market area on Friday. He was rescued from a hotel in Mukundapur off Eastern Metropolitan Bypass. The abductors had allegedly demanded Rs 12 lakh from the victim's father as ransom over the telephone. A

₹12L RANSOM DEMANDED

TIMELINE
June 21: Victim, Mohammad Irfan, left his home under Tiljala police station area
June 22: Irfan's family lodged a complaint
 Family claimed to have received calls from abductors demanding ₹12 lakh ransom
June 24: Cops traced calls to a hotel in Mukundapur from where the victim was rescued
Prime facie motive: Dispute over loan
Arrests made: 8
Probe status: Ongoing, 1 at large

total of eight persons have been arrested in the case. At least one suspect is still at large. Investigators have reportedly confiscated the vehicle used for the abduction. Sleuths from Tiljala police station and anti-rowdy

about the city's safety. Additional CP (I) Murlidhar Sharma, said the family members of the victim — identified as Mohammad Irfan — contacted police when he didn't return home at night. The abductors had allegedly threatened to kill Irfan if the ransom wasn't paid. Irfan's father had lodged a complaint with the police. Cops tracked the ransom call's network location to reach the victim. "The kidnapers had made several ransom calls from various locations in Kasba and Narendrapur areas before finally being traced at a hotel in Mukundapur," cops said. One Gaurik Mukhopadhyay alias David and one Vivek Agarwal were the first to be arrested. Later, six others — identified as Ashutosh Roy, Suraj Kumar Singh, Rohit Roy, Md Alquama, Aman Kumar Gupta and Kundan Srivastav — were arrested. "Prima facie, we have found that the victim used to run a call centre in Narendrapur, whose operations stopped after police raided it. David had given a loan of Rs 16 lakh to the victim, but he was not repaying it claiming that he had no money as the call centre was shut. Hence, David hatched the conspiracy," cops said, adding probe is underway.

Jamshedpur calling London, Paris: Police arrest nine

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FAKE IT OFFICE

Cop raids: Kolkata Police teams raided two fake IT offices in Jamshedpur and Gorakhpur in UP
Arrests: 9 in cop net
Modus operandi: Duped people using AnyDesk, Spare Parts App, cryptocurrency and MoneyGram
Target groups: Foreign natives from London and Paris and rich traders of south Kolkata

Kolkata: Two separate offices in Jharkhand's Jamshedpur and Uttar Pradesh's Gorakhpur mimicked any genuine IT office, buzzing with employees grumbling overnight to offer technological solutions to remote clients, until the weekend. These offices soon turned out to be the hotspots of cybercrimes when sleuths from Kolkata raided those and arrested nine persons on Sunday for duping gullible citizens of Kolkata, Mumbai, London and Paris of lakhs of rupees. While the Jamshedpur gang targeted London-based victims, the one in Gorakhpur focused on wealthy traders of south Kolkata, cops said. The Kolkata police team that travelled to Gorakhpur claimed to have arrested two persons — Shivam Pandey (27) and Abhishek Pandey alias Nikhil for duping a Gariahat businessman of Rs 28.2 lakh. "The accused contacted the complainant through a mes-

sage regarding disconnection of electricity line, and when the complainant rang back, the fraudsters succeeded in convincing him to click on a purported link they had sent. In the process, they obtained the control of his bank account and siphoned off the amount," claimed additional CP (I) Murlidhar Sharma. The arrested duo was brought to Kolkata on transit remand and produced in court on Monday. In the raid at Golmuri area of Jamshedpur, police arrested seven members of a similar gang. The arrested individuals include Amrik Singh alias Rinku from Golmuri Tuiladungri, Vivek Gupta and Tanu Das from Kolkata, Gaurav Chaudhary, Manish Chaudhary, Sandeep Kumar Ram, and Praveen Chaudhary, all hailing from Kolkata and Howrah. The gang leader, Saurabh Kumar Sinha of Telco Ghadi Park, and Rameez Raza Khan, who provided the space for such activities, are currently at large. Saurabh allegedly paid each member a commission of Rs 30,000 to Rs 40,000 and additional commissions for larger fraud amounts. Saurabh's brother-in-law Deepu alias Gurdip Singh supplied food, while Dilip from Howrah provided recruits to the cyber fraud. The defrauded money was sent to Saurabh online. The accused trapped the victims using apps like AnyDesk and Spare Parts, besides cryptocurrency and MoneyGram. Singh supplied the gang with personal data of foreign nationals, cops said.

1 lakh applications on admission portal on 1st day amidst glitches

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Kolkata: The centralized admission portal for undergraduate admissions received 1,06,834 applications till 8.30 pm on Monday, but a section of parents and students claimed that they encountered some technical glitches. The state higher education department officials claimed that the reported 'glitches' were not severe that impacted the

LIVE TILL JULY 7

Form submission (till 8.30 pm) - 1 lakh
Unique visitors - 8 lakh
 Form submission will be live till July 7
First Merit list - July 12
Admission against seat allocation - July 12 to July 18
2nd list of seat allotment in upgrade round - July 23
Admission - July 23 to July 26
Physical verification - July 30 to Aug 6
UG class start - Aug 7
Second phase or mop-up - Aug 8 to Sept 7



admission procedure. The centralized admission portal started functioning from midnight on Monday. However, by morning, several students reported difficulties in generating a one-time password (OTP) to create their student profiles. Ananya Naskar, a student who began her registration

process at 12 pm, was only able to register with a user ID and password by 4 pm, allowing her to proceed to the next step. "In the morning, I tried many times, but the system was not working properly, and it was most difficult to get the OTP," she said. Saptarshi Chakrabarty, another student, said, "The portal was very slow since morning. It took me several tries over 4 hours to create my profile. But once it was done, I couldn't submit forms as all the colleges where I tried to apply showed I was not eligible, even though I have 82% marks." The higher education department received calls from applicants who encountered issues in the morning and resolved matters related to OTP generation, but officials denied that the system crashed multiple times. One official told TOI, "If the system had crashed, then how did we receive 43,000 applications within 12 hours? The system is new, we are in constant touch

with the service provider to ensure it runs seamlessly. After it started functioning, there were some technical issues reported in the morning that were resolved swiftly. At the same time, we learned that some students made mistakes during registration, and some couldn't receive their OTP due to non-maintenance, as we received a query from the service provider and resolved the matter." City colleges, including Lady Brabourne and Ashutosh, are satisfied with the first round of form submissions. Lady Brabourne College principal Siuli Sarkar said, "Till 4.30 pm 388 forms have been submitted, and not a single call was received at the college helpline." A notification was uploaded on the website in the evening saying the OTP issue has been resolved and students will get single and same OTP for the phone and mail ID for registration.

More rain likely in city after Thu: Met

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kolkata: With the monsoon flow still in its weak phase, the city can expect enhanced rainfall only towards the later half of the week. Till then, Kolkata have to be content with isolated showers, according to All-India weather office. "There is a possibility of enhanced rain only after Thursday in south Bengal, including Kolkata. Till then, we can expect only scattered or isolated showers," said H R Biswas, head of weather section at Regional Meteorological Centre, Kolkata. Even though there was no significant rain, the partially cloudy sky prevented the mercury from rising sharply. On Monday, the city recorded a maximum temperature of 34.2 degrees Celsius and a minimum temperature of 28 degrees Celsius. Both the night and day temperatures will continue to hover around the same mark over the next few days.

Scanner on neighbouring bldgs after Garstin Place fire

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Kolkata: The fire at 5 Garstin Place which gutted the top two floors and damaged several offices in the building, has once again shifted focus to the lack of fire safety measures and lack of maintenance in numerous places within the city. From electrical wires hanging overhead to crammed corridors, from the absence of fire alarms to indiscriminate use of air-conditioners without safety measures, several buildings housing numerous offices have turned into tinderboxes. Most of these buildings are decades old and in many cases due to a disagreement between the landlord and the tenants, maintenance and fire safety measures have taken a backseat. After every fire incident, the administration conducts a probe but situations hardly get better on the ground. "Such a fire can break out in any building around the Dalhousie area, as the situation of maintenance and fire safety is the same. In the past, several fires broke out within the vicinity of Dalhousie but it has had no impact on the administration or the stakeholders. Fire safety norms are being flouted on a daily basis," said the owner of CA firm on Kiran Shankar Roy Road. TOI visited several places around 5 Gars-



Cops investigated and collected samples from the damaged building

tin Place to locate buildings which indiscriminately use air-conditioners without any safety measures. Some of these buildings have over 50 offices with every office using multiple air-conditioners. In another building, common spaces have been rented out for trade. "This reduces the space in the passage. In case of a fire, people might find it difficult to evacuate," said another trader. Several umbrella bodies of traders have written to their members to increase vigilance and conduct follow-up checks. "We request our members to follow safety norms diligently as it helps in safeguarding the business as well as the neighbourhood," said Sushil Poddar, president of an umbrella body of 'Traders' in the city.

Joint urban counter-terror exercise by NSG, US forces

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Kolkata: The US Special Operations Forces (SOF) and the elite National Security Guard (NSG) conducted a joint exercise in Kolkata in late April and early May that focused on surgical counter-terrorism operations in densely populated pockets, including close quarter battle, hostage rescue operations and long-range sniping to neutralise targets.



The joint exercise held in Kolkata

Christened 'Tarkash', the exercise was held at a metro station, Biswa Bangla Convention Centre and other locations, including the NSG hub at Badu in Madhyamgram near Kolkata airport. Most of the operations were conducted at night. The joint exercise involved sharing of the best practices, tactics, techniques and procedures over a wide spectrum of counter-terror operations in an urban environment, including building in-

tervention drills, surveillance and planning complex operations which involved multiple targets in multiple locations. The exercise also involved operations by commandos of both special forces units to implement rapid neutralisation of enemies, rescuing of hostages and neutralising the threat of chemical weapons. "The objective of the exercise 'Tarkash' was to build functional relations and enhance interoperability between the two special forces in conducting coordinated counter-terror operations, particularly in urban counter-terror contingencies," US consul general Melinda Pavek told TOI. This was the seventh edition of the Indo-US joint counter terrorism exercise that is also aimed at improving bilateral cooperation between India and the US in matters relating to combating terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations. The previous edition of Tarkash — considered crucial in terms of security challenges being faced by both countries in the current global scenario — was conducted in Chennai in Jan 2023.

Hooghly reminds Pavek of Minnesota

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Kolkata: US consul general Melinda Pavek, who plans to return to Kolkata after her diplomatic stint ends, said she found parallels between the Hooghly — a tributary of the Ganga — and the Minnesota river, a tributary of the Mississippi, which gives her hometown, in the upper midwestern region of the US, its name. "That is a reason why I decided to get the interiors of the consul general's residence in Kolkata painted in different hues of blue," she recounted. "Like Bengal, Minnesota is extremely fertile and green. You can simply throw some seeds and they will grow into trees. We had a large five-acre homestead that had a three-acre garden where we grew all sorts of vegetables, like we do at the smaller garden in the CG's residence here. But unlike Minnesota, where there are only one or two seasons to grow, you can grow vegetables all year round here," she said. The US consulate in Kolkata is the country's second-oldest mission in the world. America's first president, George Washington, had nominated Benja-

min Joy of Newbury Port as the first consul to Kolkata on Nov 19, 1792, who arrived here in 1794. Though he was never recognized as consul by the British East India Company, Joy was permitted to reside in Kolkata as a commercial agent subject to the civil and criminal jurisdiction of this country. "Kolkata has a pre-eminent place in the history of American diplomacy as one of the oldest American consulates anywhere in the world, the oldest in India. Though it is currently the smallest of the diplomatic offices, it is important for piloting any project, like the Academy of Women Entrepreneurs, which has won kudos from Washington time and again," Pavek said.



US consul general Melinda Pavek plans to return to Kolkata after her diplomatic stint ends

NEWS DIGEST

Man drowns in Adi Ganga

A 58-year-old man died after he drowned in the Adi Ganga at Ramrik ghat in Kalighat while bathing on Monday afternoon. Ashok Mahakul, a resident of Sashi Sekhar Bose Road was fished out of the river by a team of disaster management group

personnel several minutes after he had drowned. He was declared dead at SSKM Hospital.

Road in Beniapur. Three fire tenders doused the flames. None were injured in either of the incidents.

Car goes up in flames

A private car parked on Ghulam Jilani Khan Road in Tiljala went up in flames early on Monday. A fire tender rushed to the spot to douse the flames. Earlier in the night, a fire broke out at a meter box on the ground floor of a three-storey residential building at Gorachand Day

Girl found hanging

The body of a 16-year-old girl was found hanging from an iron hook in her room on the first floor of a two-storey rented house at Mukundapur on Sunday evening. No suicide note was found. The body has been sent for post mortem. Cops have started an unnatural death case.

2, including lover, held for rape & murder

Monotosh Chakraborty | TNN

Kolkata: A young woman — whose body was fished out of a pond — was allegedly raped and murdered by her lover in the Baruiপুর police station area. She had been missing for two days. The victim's family had filed a complaint of rape and murder. Police have arrested two persons, including the victim's lover. The deceased had become acquainted with a young man named Ajay Mondal through Facebook. Ajay's home is in Madanpur, Baruiপুর. The victim's family resides in the Narendrapur police station area. The woman had her uncle's house near the accused's home. She had been staying there since July 1. On Friday, she was called out over the phone. It has been alleged that she had been raped by the accused. The accused had multiple complaints against him for harassing local women. According to the family, her phone was switched off after 11 pm that night and has not been found yet.

Locals resist eviction drive on port land

Debobrata Shome



Debobrata Shome | TNN

Kolkata: Taratala Police and Port Trust officials faced strong resistance on Monday while trying to clear encroachments on the Helen Keller Sarani near Majerhat station, following a Calcutta High Court order. Many families have been living in the area for a long time, relying on small kiosk shops for their food supply. There is also a club and what locals claim to be a school in the encroached space. Till 3 pm, officials could remove the shanty roof of the club. But with children standing near the cranes, the cops decided to call off the attempt after achieving partial success. The incident caused a stir as lawyers and police, arriving from the port side, began the demolition drive using JCB machi-

nes. Locals claimed that the club in the contested area was never a political office. However, it had been alleged that club house was a former Trinamool office. The Port Trust, which owns several plots of land on No.2 Helen Keller Sarani near Majerhat station, had filed a complaint against the encroachment. Local residents expressed their displeasure, accusing the authorities of spreading false information about the area's use.

Power nod for Acropolis mall 10 days after fire, office block gears up to resume work

Subhro Niyogi & Tamaghna Banerjee | TNN

Kolkata: The Acropolis mall and tower that houses 99 offices received the permission to restore electricity on Monday, 10 days after power had been switched off following the fire at a bookstore in the mall on June 14. Permission has been withheld for only the fire-affected sections that include the mezzanine level between the third and fourth floor. "We are extremely happy and relieved to have received the permission from the state fire services director-general to restore power at Acropolis. This will help us resume the functioning of offices in the unaffected tower block and also commence restoration, repair and testing of fire and life safety provisions in the mall," said Acropolis mall senior manager (operations) Krishna Jha. The fire services approval allowed power restoration to be granted to the basements and from the 5th to 20th floor or business occupancy areas for operation of fire safety installations and normal functioning of offices located



(Above) Cleaning work in progress inside the mall; (R) health check of an elevator

over 4 lakh sq ft that had not been carried out since June 14. From Tuesday, around 5,000 people who work in the office block are expected to return after working from home last week. Among the 99 companies who operate out of the tower include a petroleum major, two auto companies, a cement company, a pharmaceutical company and an electronics MNC. "We are cleaning the air handling unit and common area. We have asked the companies to come after 5 pm on Monday and conduct their respective cleaning operations. We have also asked them to check their electrical panel and we will then switch on the power supply to them. After the offices check their fire detection system, the central AC will be switched on," said Jha. Repair work in the mall will also begin in earnest. This includes replacing the false ceiling, wiring and electrical panel, repainting walls scarred by soot, and changing broken glass panels. Sources said it could take between 10-15 days to complete the repairs and open the mall to the public. Mall officials said they were geared up to resume the office block of Acropolis mall after conducting health check of elevators and other critical installations and a deep cleaning of the entire office block spanning



CANADA PM TRUDEAU: AI KANISHKA ATTACK A REMINDER OF SHARED DUTY TO CONDEMN TERROR | 11

'NEET, NEET' CHANTS IN PARLIAMENT AS EDUCATION MINISTER DHARMENDRA PRADHAN TAKES OATH | 8



'Want to take oath in House': Sayantika writes to guv

Kolkata: Newly elected Baranagar MLA Sayantika Banerjee, who was earlier invited to take oath at Raj Bhavan on June 26, wrote to Bengal governor C V Ananda Bose on Monday that she wanted to be sworn in by the speaker in the assembly instead.

She felt as a first-time M.L.A., she would prefer to attend an oath-taking ceremony in the legislative assembly of which she was a member.

Banerjee said she wanted to be sworn in as early as possible so she could begin work as an M.L.A. **TNN**

On 1st day of LS, TMC protests with Constitution, 'save democracy' slogans

Party To Play Role Of 'Bridge', Reaches Out To BJD, AAP

Dwaipayan Ghosh
@timesgroup.com



TMC's Pratima Mondal, Mahua Moitra and Sagarika Ghose with Atishi

Kolkata: Trinamool Congress MPs held copies of the Constitution and raised slogans of "save democracy" as they marched into the Parliament complex on Monday — the first day of the 18th Lok Sabha which saw TMC put up a united show of strength with INDIA bloc partners Congress, SP, DMK and RJD. During the protests, several TMC MPs held Bengali

versions of the Constitution. All TMC MPs are likely to take oath on Tuesday with the exception of Ansols MP Shatrughan Sinha.

Newly elected Burdwan-Durgapur Trinamool MP Kirti Azad said the priority for the party, beyond demanding an impartial probe in the education scams and Centre's anti-fe-

deral activities, was also to ensure that the state received its due share of funds. "We have a lot of priorities. The injustice that has been done to Bengal should end. We should get our share of funds, worth Rs 1,64,000 crore," said Azad.

Trinamool, now the third largest opposition party, had tried to play a proactive role in

unifying the opposition before the polls and is now reaching out to parties like BJD. TMC seniors on Monday reacted warmly to BJD RS MP Sasmitha Patra's statement of support for INDIA bloc and MP Derek O'Brien is likely to speak to him on Tuesday, said sources.

The development comes barely three days after Congress senior P Chidambaram met CM Mamata Banerjee at Nabanna and the two key INDIA bloc allies agreed to jointly formulate strategies on issues and bolster the opposition's united offensive against Centre.

Responding to Patra's statement in which he said that BJD MPs in Rajya Sabha would play the role of a "strong and vibrant opposition", O'Brien wrote on X: "Khela Hobe in Ra-

jya Sabha." BJD's nine MPs form the fourth largest party bloc in Rajya Sabha after Congress (29), TMC (13), AAP and DMK (10 each).

A senior Trinamool Congress MP said, "This is a welcome development. A meeting (with BJD) is likely on Tuesday. There will be parties who have fought against BJP but may also be allergic to Congress. For them, Trinamool can act like a bridge. TMC is not an electoral ally of Congress and these parties may be more comfortable discussing issues with us."

Trinamool on Monday sent a delegation of three MPs — Sagarika Ghose, Mahua Moitra and Pratima Mondal — to express solidarity with AAP minister Atishi's indefinite fast over the Delhi water crisis.

Saket posts 'proof' of 'insider trading'

Mohua Chatterjee
@timesgroup.com



Financial statements of a MAJOR exit poll company for last 3 years. This company has regularly been investing in the markets and generating cash flows of 3-4 crore every year. This is a matter of a HUGE conflict of interest because when exit polls by the company have effects on the market, they are legally not allowed to invest in the markets."

New Delhi: Trinamool Congress Rajya Sabha MP Saket Gokhale on Monday posted on X that exit poll results were linked to market manipulations accusing a certain "major exit poll company" of insider trading. The RTI activist turned-MP said on his post that he would be writing to Sebi with evidence, demanding that an investigation into the exit-poll related "stock market scam."

Gokhale wrote: "Update on exit poll scam: As you all know, exit poll companies broadcast FALSE predictions about election results which led to stock markets surging on 3rd Jun and then crashing on 4th." Posting copies of financial statements of a certain exit poll company that he did not name, Gokhale said, "These are copies from the fi-

Gokhale goes on to say the "Question is: Did a major exit poll agency continue to invest heavily in the stock markets on 3rd & 4th June after broadcasting FALSE exit poll predictions? If yes, that is clear INSIDER TRADING — a major crime... Will be writing to Sebi with all evidence continuing our demand that there must be an URGENT investigation into the scam."

'No one in north Bengal will get water in future'

Continued from P 1

About the Farakka treaty, Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee said: "Water is very precious and is the lifeline of the people. We cannot compromise on such a sensitive issue, which has severe and adverse implication on the people." Citing the proposed sharing of Teesta waters, she said the health of Teesta on the Indian side had suffered much already because of the construction of

several hydropower projects in Sikkim and deforestation in the river's upper catchment area. Now, she said, there was not enough water to share.

In a meeting in Nabanna later, Banerjee said: "Not one person of north Bengal will get drinking water in future. Just because they have won seats in north Bengal, they are thinking they can do anything. The MPs have not even taking their oaths, and they have sold Bengal's water. This can't happen. There will be

protests across Bengal and rest of the country. Ganga will see further riverbank erosion. They have not released funds for dredging at Farakka. This is affecting Kolkata Port. In Sikkim, they built 14 hydro power stations. At Balurghat, even if voters chose to vote for BJP, the Atreyee river has no water left, as Bangladesh has built a dam. I wrote a letter to Centre, but they didn't do anything."

The letter she wrote mentioned Banerjee's "surprise"

that no step had been taken by the ministry of Jal Shakti to restore the Teesta to its original form and health on the Indian side, even as "govt of India has proposed a bilateral cooperation between India and Bangladesh for its restoration in Bangladesh."

"If any water is shared with Bangladesh, lakhs of people in north Bengal will be severely impacted. Therefore, it is not feasible to share Teesta water with Bangladesh," she wrote.

World's oldest ostrich nest dating back 41k yrs discovered in Andhra

Prashant Rupera
@timesgroup.com

Vadodara: A team of archaeologists stumbled upon an ostrich nest that dates back 41,000 years — the oldest found in the world — in Andhra Pradesh.

Archaeologists from the Vadodara-based MS University, and colleagues from Germany, Australia, and US found this archaeological evidence while investigating a fossil-rich site in Prakasam district of Andhra Pradesh. The nest was the home of 9-11 ostrich eggs, the researchers said.

Typically, an ostrich nest is 9-10 feet wide and can accommodate 30-40 eggs at a time. Researchers say this finding is

crucial in finding out why megafauna (animals weighing more than 40kg) went extinct in India. The discovery of nearly 3,500 pieces of ostrich eggshells from a patch of 1x1.5 metres is not only the first evidence of the presence of ostrich in south India, it is also

HOME TO 9-11 EGGS

the first time that archaeological evidence of a 41,000-year-old ostrich nest has been established.

Megafauna, literally large animals, refers to animals like horses, elephants, cattle, and hippopotamus. Some of these megafauna became extinct around 40,000 years ago from different parts of the world.

TOI History Meets AI
AI VISUALISATION OF HISTORICAL EVENTS
JUNE 25

Michael Jackson, the King of Pop, passed away on this day in 2009, leaving behind a lasting legacy in the music industry

BIHAR URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD

NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR Raxaul I&D STP Project [A Govt of Bihar Undertaking] NATIONAL MISSION FOR CLEAN GANGA (NAMAMI GANGE PROGRAMME) Invitation for Bid National Competitive Bidding

No:BUIDCo/Yo-2421/2022 - 11

1. Namami Gange Programme', is an Integrated Conservation Mission, approved as 'Flagship Programme' by the Union Government in June 2014 with budget outlay of Rs.20,000 Crore to accomplish the twin objectives of effective abatement of pollution, conservation and rejuvenation of National River Ganga. The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India is the funding agency for Namami Gange Programme and intends to apply a part of the said budget outlay towards payments under the contract for work detailed below.

2. Qualification requirements as listed briefly below are required to be fulfilled by the bidder. [Bidders are advised to refer to the bidding documents for complete details.]

Financial:

a. The Bidder shall demonstrate that it possesses a net worth equivalent to minimum of INR 6.75 Cr. in each of the last three financial years preceding the date of submission of bid.

b. The Bidder shall demonstrate by submitting along with its bid, a banker's certificate that it has available cash credit facility equivalent to minimum INR 4.50 Cr. as on the date of submission of bid.

3. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding and is open to all eligible bidders. Bids will be received only through e-procurement mode www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in

4. The Bihar Urban Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. for and on behalf of the Owner in the State of Bihar, India invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the works detailed in the table below. The bidders may submit bids for the following work as per Instructions to Bidders and the Annexures thereto.

Name of the Work	Bid Security (Earnest money)	Bid Processing fees (Beltron) (In Rs.)	Period
TO (I) DESIGN AND BUILD TWO SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT OF INSTALLED CAPACITY 5 MLD AND 7 MLD ALONGWITH ALL APPURTENANCE STRUCTURES AND ALLIED WORKS, UV DISINFECTION, SCADA AND ONLINE MONITORING SYSTEM (II) SURVEY, REVIEW THE DESIGNS, REDESIGN WHERE NECESSARY, AND BUILD 3 NOs. PUMPING STATION WITH 685 MTR INTERCEPTION AND DIVERSION OF DRAIN, INCLUDING SCREENS AND MECHANICALLY OPERATED GATES FACILITATING, 400 MTR RISING MAIN INCLUDING EFFLUENT CHANNEL, DISPOSAL OF TREATED EFFLUENT THROUGH PIPELINE OF 55 MTR (III) OPERATION & MAINTENANCE OF THE COMPLETE WORKS OF SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT, SPS, INTERCEPTION & DIVERSION WORKS, RISING MAIN AND EFFLUENT CHANNEL FOR A PERIOD OF 15 YEARS IN RAXAUL TOWN, STATE OF BIHAR, INDIA.	Rs. 53.92 Lakh	As applicable in Eproc2.	Design, Build, Testing and Commissioning including 3 Month Trial Run = 21 months, Operation and Maintenance = 15 years.
5. Date of downloading of bid document	From 28.06.2024 to 22.07.2024 up to 05:00 PM Through website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in		
6. Date of Pre-bid meeting	Date 04.07.2024 Time 02:00 PM at CGM, PDM, Office, BUIDCo, Patna		
7. Date and time for submission of queries through e-mail	On 04.07.2024 up to 05:00 PM. Query may be send on e-mail id pdhqbuidco@gmail.com No Query will be entertained after the last date of submission of queries & other than the given e-mail.		
8. Last date and time for receipt (upload) of bids	Date 22.07.2024 up to 05:00 PM Through website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in		
9. Last Date and time for Submission of hard copy required documents (EMD, affidavits and undertaking)	Date 23.07.2024 up to 03:30 PM		
10. Time and date of opening of hard copy of required documents	Date 23.07.2024 Time 4:00 PM		
11. Time and date of opening of technical bids on eportal	Date 23.07.2024 Time 5:00 PM		
12. Time and date of opening of financial bids	To be communicated later on		
13. Place of opening of bid	Through website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in		
14. Period of bids validity	180 days		
15. Officer inviting bids	Chief General Manager, BUIDCo		

16. For participating in E-tendering process, the contractor shall have to get themselves registered to get user ID, Password and Digital signature. This will enable them to access the website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in and download/participate in E-tender. All tender queries related to this tender shall be communicated at cebuidco@gmail.com

17. (i) Bid processing fees to be paid through online mode i.e. Internet payment gateway (Credit/Debit Card), Net Banking, NEFT/RTGS.

(ii) Bids along with necessary online payments must be submitted through e-procurement portal www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in before the date & time specified in the NIT. The department does not take any responsibility for the delay/Non availability of internet connection, Network Traffic/Holidays or any other reasons".

18. The tender documents can be obtained through website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in and www.buidco.in Earnest Money (in hard copy) should be paid Separately in the form of Bank Guarantee and relevant document should be submitted to Managing Director, Bihar Urban Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd., # BUIDCo Office 2nd floor, Near RajapurPul, West Boring Canal Road, Patna-800001 on or before 03:30 PM on 23.07.2024 failing which the tender will be rejected.

19. Earnest Money can also be paid by online mode.

20. Submission of hard copy of bid (EMD, All Undertaking) is on 23.07.2024 up to 03:30 PM. The hard copy of required documents will be opened on the same day at 4:00 PM. And Technical bid on eportal will be open on the same day at 5:00 PM.

21. All the information/corrigendum/addendum related to the project shall be published on the website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in and www.buidco.in. The authority shall have the right to reject the bid partially or fully without assigning any reason what so ever.

22. For any information department help line No. 18003456109 may be used

23. Further details of works can be obtained from the office of Chief General Manager, BUIDCo. For clarification, regarding the E-tendering process, please contact e-procurement 2.0, Helpdesk, Mjunction services limited R Complex, 2 nd floor, Canara Bank Campus, Khajpura, Ashiana Road, P.S.-Shastri Nagar, Patna 800014, Bihar, Email id- eproc2support@bihar.gov.in, Contact no. 7650595831, 7650556830.

Chief General Manager, BUIDCO
Bihar Urban Infrastructure Development Corporation, Near RajapurPul, West Boring Canal Road, Patna-800001 (Tel: 0612-2558412, Email: mdbuidco@gmail.com)

PR. No.002358 (B&C) 2024-25

For further details please visit : www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar

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

EASTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. : O/ACT/1100 to 101/24-25 (Open), dated 21.06.2024.

e-Tenders (Open) are invited by Divisional Railway Manager, Eastern Railway, Asansol Division, Station Road, Asansol, Pin-713301 for the following works : **SI. No. 1. Case No. : O-AC-T-100-24-25.**

Name of the work : Open tender for Upgradation/Development of maintenance infrastructure and maintenance facilities for Vande Bharat trains at New Coaching Depot, Asansol. **Tender Value :** ₹ 25,83,225.61. **Earnest Money :** ₹ 51,700/-. **Completion period for the work :** 03 months. **SI. No. 2. Case No. : O-AC-T-101-24-25. Name of the work :** Open tender for supply of stone dust including loading and unloading as emergency materials etc. during monsoon for the year 2023-2024 under Sr. Divisional Engineer/II Asansol for Asansol Division. **Tender Value :** ₹ 2,68,24,567.14. **Earnest Money :** ₹ 2,84,100/-. **Completion period for the work :** 12 months. **Date and time of closing & opening :** 22.07.2024 at 12:00 hrs. for both sl. nos. Complete details can be seen in the Railway's website www.ireps.gov.in (ASN-98/2024-25)

Tender Notice is also available at websites: www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

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EASTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No. : 222-S/1W-II, dated 21.06.2024. Following e-tenders are invited online by Sr. Divisional Engineer/III, Eastern Railway, Sealdah, Remote Control Building, DRM Building, Room No.-44, Katker Street, Kolkata-700014 for the following work : **SI. No. 1. Tender No. : TN-95-24-25. Name of the work :** Provision for New Construction of Standard Gang Hut under the jurisdiction of Sr. Divisional Engineer/III/Sealdah. **Tender Value :** ₹ 70,56,058.35. **EMD :** ₹ 1,41,100.00. **Completion period for the work :** 06 (Six) Months. **SI. No. 2. Tender No. : TN-96-24-25. Name of the work :** Welding of rail joints by Alumino Thermit SKV process including supply of welding portion and supervision under the jurisdiction of Senior Divisional Engineer/III/Sealdah. **Tender Value :** ₹ 53,51,757.80. **EMD :** ₹ 1,07,000.00. **Completion period for the work :** 12 (Twelve) Months. **Date and time of closing of tender :** 16.07.2024 at 15:00 hrs. for both tenders. **Date and time of opening of tender is** 16.07.2024 at 15:30 hrs. for both tenders. The Tender Document and other details at www.ireps.gov.in. The bidding for the tender is to be submitted through the e-tendering on above website. Manual offers will be summarily rejected. (SDAH-97/2024-25)

Tender Notice is also available at websites: www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

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EASTERN RAILWAY

Open Tender Notices No. Sig_W_5, Policy, dated 21.06.2024. Open e-tenders are invited by Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer, Eastern Railway, Malda, Malda Town Office Building, P.O. Jhaljhalla, Dist. Malda, Pin-732102 (W.B.) for the following work : **SI. No. (1) : e-Tender No. : MLDT_SNT_24-25_05_OT, dated 20.06.2024. Name of the Work :** Implementation of the Hospital Management Information System at Workshop Railway Hospital Jamalpur. **Tender Value :** ₹ 12,31,281/-. **Earnest Money :** ₹ 24,600/-. **SI. No. (2) : e-Tender No. : MLDT_SNT_24-25_06_OT, dated 20.06.2024. Name of the Work :** Annual Repairing Contract (ARC) of various MSDAC cards of Siemens make through OEM/Authorised Dealer on open tender basis. **Tender Value :** ₹ 74,72,894/-. **Earnest Money :** ₹ 1,49,500/-. **Date & Time for submission of e-tender:** Upto 11.00 hrs. of 12.07.2024 from 28.06.2024 for both tenders. **Website particulars and Notice Board :** www.ireps.gov.in Notice Board - Sr. DSTE office, DRM building, Malda. (MLD-53/2024-25)

Tender Notice is also available at websites: www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

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TAMILNADU CIVIL SUPPLIES CORPORATION

Head Office: Poonamallee High Road, Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) Admin Building, Koyambedu, Chennai-600 107
Ph.No. (044) 26426773 Email ID : tnscs2@tnic.in
CIN:U15137TN19725G006157

SHORT E-TENDER NOTICE

BS6/023101/2024 Short E-Tender No: **BS6/023101/2024- TNCS2/24-25**

Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation invites Online electronic tender for the Purchase of "15,000 Metric Tonnes of Tur dal (Split- Husked & Fatka) [Indigenous/Tur Dal (Split Husked-Imported)/ Lentil locally known as Canadian Yellow Lentil (Split - Husked & Laired No.2) / Lentil locally known as Canadian Yellow Lentil (Whole - Husked & Laired No.2) as per AGMARK specifications".

Complete short e-tender document can be viewed and downloaded from <https://tenders.gov.in/nicseep/app>

The bidders have to participate online bidding only with Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) of Class-II or Class-III

Last Date and Time for Online Submission: **03.07.2024 up to 11.00 A.M.**

DIPR/ 2070 /Tender/2024

Managing Director

EASTERN RAILWAY

e-AUCTION NOTICE

Awarding contract for operation of Parking lots over Malda Division

Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Eastern Railway, Malda Division, Malda Town Office Building, P.O. Jhaljhalla, Dist-Malda, Pin-732102, West Bengal (Auction Conducting Officer) has published e-Auction catalogue on www.ireps.gov.in for the following work : **Name of Work :** Operation of Parking lots at Pirpainti station over Malda Division. • **Auction Catalogue No.:** Parking-2024-07. • **Auction Start :** 08.07.2024 at 11.45 hrs. • **Lot No.:** Parking-2024-07. • **Station :** Pirpainti. Prospective bidders are requested to visit IREPS e-auction module for further details.

(MLD-56/2024-25)

Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

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EASTERN RAILWAY

e-AUCTION NOTICE

Awarding contract for operation of Parcel sale in SLR over Malda Division

Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Eastern Railway, Malda Division, Malda Town Office Building, P.O. Jhaljhalla, Dist-Malda, Pin-732102, West Bengal (Auction Conducting Officer) has published e-Auction catalogue on www.ireps.gov.in for the following work : **Name of Work :** Operation of Parcel Sale in SLR over Malda Division. • **Auction Catalogue No.:** Parcel-2024-06. • **Auction Start :** 05.07.2024 at 12.45 hrs. • **Lot No.:** 13072-SLR-F1-JMP-HWH-22-1 (Parcel - SLR). Prospective bidders are requested to visit IREPS e-auction module for further details.

(MLD-54/2024-25)

Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

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MADHYA PRADESH TOURISM BOARD (MPTB)

Corporate Identification Number CIN-U75302MP2017NPL043078
6th Floor, Lily Trade Wing Jahangirabad, Bhopal
Tel. : (0755) 2780600, www.tourism.mp.gov.in

NIT No. : 3544/CS/MPTB/2024 System No. : 2024_MPTB_353131 Date : 25.06.2024

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

EOI FOR INVESTORS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATIONS OF 'CARAVANS IN MADHYA PRADESH

MPTB invites EOI from Investors for the Development and Operations of 'Caravans in Madhya Pradesh'. Terms and Conditions can be downloaded from website www.tourism.mp.gov.in and <https://www.mptenders.gov.in>. For any other information, contact +91-9407057416 or e-mail, at cs.mptb@mp.gov.in

Last date for offline submission of EOI is 22.07.2024 15:00 hrs.

M.P. Madhya/115038/2024 **MANAGING DIRECTOR**

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय

भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन प्रमण्डल नवादा

शुद्धि पत्र

एतद् द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक- 665 (अनु0) दिनांक 15.03.2024 के द्वारा निर्गत ई0-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या 06(SBD) / Nawada/2023-24 जो PR No:- 020070(BCD)2023-24, इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक-1017(अनु0) दिनांक 02.05.2024 के द्वारा निर्गत शुद्धि पत्र जिसका PR No:-000418(BCD)2024-25, इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक- 1263(अनु0) दिनांक 27.05.2024 के द्वारा निर्गत शुद्धि पत्र जिसका PR No:- 000955(BCD)2024-25 दैनिक सामाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित हुआ है जो पंचायत सरकार भवनों के निर्माण कार्य से संबंधित है कि तिथियों को अपरिहार्य कारणवश विस्तारित किया जाता है, जो निम्नवत् है:-

क्र0 सं0	विवरण	पूर्व में निर्धारित तिथि	नवसंशोधित तिथि
1	निविदा कागजात प्राप्त (डाउनलोड) करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक- 03.07.2024 को 15.00 बजे तक। केवल वेबसाइट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर।	दिनांक- 08.07.2024 को 15.00 बजे तक। केवल वेबसाइट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर।
2	निविदा जमा (अपलोड) करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक- 04.07.2024 को 15.00 बजे तक। केवल वेबसाइट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर।	दिनांक- 09.07.2024 को 15.00 बजे तक। केवल वेबसाइट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर।
4	निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय (तकनीकी बीड)	दिनांक- 05.07.2024 को 15.30 बजे।	दिनांक- 10.07.2024 को 15.30 बजे।
5	वित्तीय बीड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय	तकनीकी मूल्यांकन के पश्चात्।	तकनीकी मूल्यांकन के पश्चात्।

• शेष सभी शर्तें यथावत् रहेंगी।

• उक्त सूचना को www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in/state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar पर देखा जा सकता है, अथवा अधोहस्ताक्षरी कार्यालय में कार्य दिवस की कार्य अवधि में सम्पर्क किया जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता भवन प्रमण्डल, नवादा

PR- 002377 (BCD) 2024-25

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

Metro Railway, Kolkata

E-Tender Notice No. : 04/24-25 dt. : 24.06.2024 for procurement of stores. E-Tenders for following items have already been uploaded in www.ireps.gov.in with all details. Manual bid will not be accepted. Corrigendum/Amendment, if any, will be uploaded only in the aforesaid website.

Tender No.	Brief Description	Quantity	Closing Date & Time
01245030	LED based Emergency light unit	430 Nos.	02.07.2024 14.00 Hrs.
01235131A	Double Cam Switch & Bottom Plate	1) 228 Nos, 2) 20 Nos, 3) 152 Nos	05.07.2024 14.00 Hrs.
01231146	Spare parts of Bearing Bracket of Schaku Coupler	63 Sets	08.07.2024 14.00 Hrs.
01245039	On board spray type Wheel Flange Lubricator	54 Sets	08.07.2024 14.00 Hrs.
02245243	4Cx300 sq.mm 600/1000V grade Power Cable	18503 Mtrs	12.07.2024 12.00 Hrs.
02241983	Electronic Card for TCCU	5 Sets	16.07.2024 14.00 Hrs.
01245041	TRCC assembly without TRCC shoe	32 Nos.	23.07.2024 12.00 Hrs.

PCMM, Metro Railway, Kolkata

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mahindra ^{Rise}

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starting at ₹16.89 Lakh*

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- » Push Button Start
- » 7-Seater

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HC-formed panel starts seizing properties of Annex group

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kolkata: The former Justice SP Talukdar Committee, formed by Calcutta High Court to locate and auction properties held by Ponzi firms, has started seizing properties of Annex group in north Bengal. The committee, which is auctioning properties of nearly 55 Ponzi firms, has so far sold properties and seized cash worth more than Rs 140 crore.

On Sunday, the committee reached the office and other premises of Annex Global and Annex Infrastructure, the companies which mopped up money from gullible investors promising them very high returns. It has identified several properties in Siliguri that were purchased with proceeds of crime allegedly generated by the Ponzi group. The properties would be auctioned to compensate investors.

In 2015, the HC had formed a one-man committee headed by former Justice Talukdar to return money to duped investors. Subsequently the court referred several other Ponzi companies, including the MPS Group, Pallan Group, Vibgyor Group, ICORE Group and Tower Infotech, to the committee and entrusted it with auctioning the properties.

Apart from landed properties located across Bengal, the committee has also seized money kept with the bank accounts of various companies. The committee started returning money to investors from 2020-21. According to sources, it has so far returned money to nearly 50,000 investors who had applied with bona fide certificates.

"In Siliguri, we came across a plot where a building had been constructed. There was another property where thefts have continued over the past few years. Unless agencies speed up the investigations, many properties will be illegally occupied," said Arindam Das, lawyer representing the investors.

Pradhan takes oath amid oppn jibes over NEET

New Delhi: Opposition Monday displayed its intent to aggressively take up irregularities in NEET-UG exam and cancellation of UGC-NET in Parliament by raising slogans of "NEET, NEET" when education minister Dharmendra Pradhan stepped up to take oath as Lok Sabha MP. DMK MP Kanimozhi Karunanidhi said Tamil Nadu had been raising questions on the credibility of NEET for a long time and now the entire country was echoing those thoughts. "The credibility of exams conducted by the govt is under question," she told reporters outside Parliament. **TNN**

Prosecution of accused in NEET, NET cases to be under stringent new law

Anti-Cheating Law Will Apply Although Alleged Leaks Predated Notification

Manash.Gohain
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New Delhi: Govt has decided to prosecute those involved in manipulating this year's NEET-UG for medical entrance as well as UGC-NET to become college teachers under the just-notified Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, a decision which would mean that the wrongdoers would invite punishment tougher than what they would have faced under IPC provisions.

Sources in govt said though the alleged leak of NEET-UG and UGC-NET papers predated the notification of the new central law on Saturday, CBI will investigate the offences and chargesheet the accused under the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, which was enacted in Feb in the last session of the previous Lok Sabha. On Monday, the ministry of personnel and public grievances and pensions also notified the rules for conduct of public exams by the Centre, which prescribe the procedures for conducting inquiry and filing of reports against those involved in cheating during public exams.

This means that students as well as those involved in paper leaks in Bihar and elsewhere will face up to 10 years in jail and a fine of up to Rs 1 crore. Similarly, students who allegedly resorted to un-

JAIL, FINE, DISQUALIFICATION... WHAT NEW LAW PROVIDES

Provisions in Rules of The Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, 2024

Establishment of the National Recruitment Agency (NRA) to prepare norms, standards, and guidelines for conducting computer-based tests to ensure integrity and transparency

Mandatory Measures: Strict protocols for the handling and distribution of examination papers to prevent leaks; Use of technology such as encryption and secure transmission methods for exam materials.

Preventive Actions: Regular audits and inspections of examination centres; Mandatory training for personnel involved in the examination process on maintaining the security and integrity of exams

Grievance Redressal: Establishment of a dedicated mechanism for students and stakeholders to report irregularities and grievances; Timely investigation and resolution

PUNITIVE PROVISIONS

Imprisonment: Individuals found guilty of leaking examination papers or engaging in other unfair means may face imprisonment, duration of which varies based on the severity of the offence

Fines: Offenders can be subjected to substantial fines. These fines are intended to act as a financial deterrent against engaging in unfair practices

Disqualification: Candidates found guilty of cheating may be disqualified from taking the examination for a specified period.

Cancellation of Results: The examination results of candidates found to have engaged in unfair practices can be cancelled.

Legal action against aiding entities: Educational institutions,

coaching centres, or any other entities found to be complicit in facilitating unfair means can face legal action, including fines and other penalties

Technological Safeguards: The Act mandates the implementation of technological safeguards to prevent paper leaks and cheating. This includes secure transmission of examination papers, monitoring of examination centres, and other measures

Blacklisting: Individuals or entities repeatedly found guilty of unfair practices can be blacklisted, preventing them from participating in or facilitating future examinations.

Reporting and Accountability: Failure to report instances of unfair practices promptly by exam bodies can result in punitive measures against the responsible officials.

fair means in locations such as Godhra can face a sentence of at least three years along with a Rs 10 lakh fine.

The law aims to prevent unfair means in public examinations conducted by UPSC, Staff Selection Commission, railways, banking

recruitment examinations and NTA, among others.

According to the rules, educational institutions, coaching centres, or any other entity found to be complicit in facilitating unfair means can face legal action, including fines and other pe-

nalties. Involvement of "coaching centres" in recent irregularities is already being probed. Coaching institutes and their personnel as well as examination authorities and service providers can face up to 5-10 years in jail. These measures are signif-

NEET-UG 'paper leak': CBI launches probe in Bihar, another team in Guj

TNN & AGENCIES

Patna/Vadodara: CBI began its investigation into the alleged irregularities in NEET-UG in Patna on Monday, with two officials visiting the office of the economic offences unit (EOU) of Bihar Police.

A team from Shastri Nagar police station also reached the EOU office, as they were the first to expose the matter by arresting some suspects and registering an FIR on May 5.

Sources said the CBI questioned Chandra Kishore Yadav, father of Sonu Kumar, a student suspected to be involved in the alleged NEET-UG paper leak case, at the EOU office. "CBI officers are collecting evidence related to the case from EOU. Evidence collected by EOU during the course of investigation includes pieces of the burnt question paper re-



Mediapersons outside the Economic Offences Unit office in Patna on Monday

covered from a house in Patna, cellphones of those arrested, sim cards, laptops, postdated cheques, and reference question papers provided by the National Testing Agency (NTA)," an EOU officer said. "All those arrested are in judicial custody in Patna, and the CBI team might take them to Delhi for detailed interrogation by obtaining transit remand from a court here. A disproportionate assets case may be registered against the arrested accused Sikander

Prasad Yadvendu, a junior engineer in Danapur Town Council, as he reportedly acquired huge assets that are disproportionate to his known source of income," the officer said. Yadvendu, originally from Samastipur, has been identified as the prime suspect in the case.

Meanwhile, according to EOU sources, the serial code of the charred question paper remnants corresponded to an exam centre in Hazaribagh in Jharkhand. Suspicion fell upon a courier company operating in Jharkhand. The courier company had entrusted nine packets of question papers to a transport company, which was responsible for delivering them to strongrooms in two public sector banks.

However, on May 3, just two days prior to the examination, the transport company's vehicle mistakenly delivered the nine packets to

a sub-centre of the courier company in the Oreyra area of Hazaribagh, rather than to the intended banks, according to sources.

EOU sources added that an e-rickshaw was used to deliver the packets from the sub-centre to one of the banks. CCTV footage showed the packets being dropped off at 1.30pm on May 3. Sources said EOU investigators questioned the courier company about this incident, and the company claimed it had "no control over the driver who would deliver the papers."

A team of CBI officials also reached Godhra in Gujarat on Monday to begin the probe into the alleged NEET irregularities case there. The officials held a marathon meeting with the Panchmahal district police to gather information about the case and the development so far.

HC grants bail to accused in UP cop exam paper leak case

Rajesh Kumar Pandey | TNN

Prayagraj: Allahabad High Court has granted bail to an accused in the UP Police examination paper leak case, observing that nothing incriminating was recovered from him. While granting bail to Monu Sharma alias Monu Pandit, Justice Sameer Jain observed that nothing incriminating was recovered from him and that co-accused Monu Kumar and Rajneesh Ranjan, who were also apprehended along with the applicant, have already been released on bail by the high court.

The applicant was held earlier this year for allegedly trying to manipulate a police constable examination and leaking question papers. Monu Pandit was booked under sections 420 (cheat-

'Mastermind' of JKSSB paper leak in ED net

Jammu: Enforcement Directorate (ED)'s Jammu wing has arrested Yatin Yadav, the alleged mastermind of J&K Service Selection Board (JKSSB) Sub-Inspector Recruitment Exam-2022 paper leak case, in an ongoing money laundering probe, officials said Monday, reports Sanjay Khajuria.

The examination was conducted on March 27, 2022, and the selected list of 1,200 candidates was cancelled by J&K administration following allegations of paper leak and malpractice.

CBI, which was handed over the case, filed a chargesheet against 33 accused, including Yadav from Haryana, in Nov 2022.

"The CBI FIR and chargesheet identified Yadav as the 'kingpin' of a sophisticated operation involving touts from Haryana and J&K," ED said in an official communi-

que, adding that the accused sold the leaked paper to willing aspirants for Rs 15-30 lakh. price between Rs 50,000 and Rs 2 lakh. It was also alleged that many of the candidates had obtained the paper 8-12 hours before the commencement of the examination.

Over 48 lakh aspirants filed the form to appear in the written test, which took place at over 2,300 centres across 75 districts of UP.

First in Bastar: Forces bust Maoist fake currency unit

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Raipur: Security forces on Sunday seized a huge cache of fake currency notes and printing material during a raid on a Maoist hideout in Chhattisgarh's Sukma district on Sunday. It's the first such seizure in Bastar division.

Apart from fake notes of Rs 50, Rs 100, Rs 200 and Rs 500 denomination, two guns and a cache of explosives were also seized. Sukma SP Kiran Chavan said Maoists were circu-

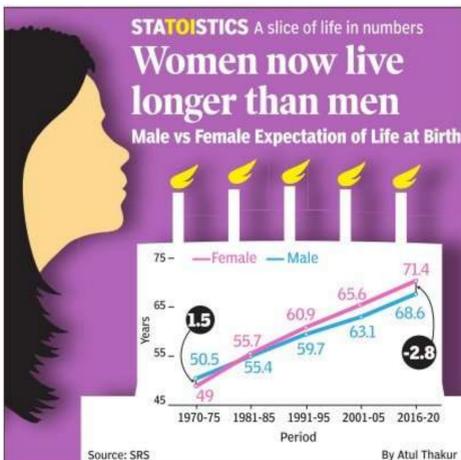
lating fake currency through weekly village markets in the interior regions of Bastar to "destabilize the economy".

"We received information that Maoists of Konta area

WEAPONS SEIZED

committee were involved in printing fake currency in the forests near Korajguda village," said the SP. This is midway between Maoist hotspots of Chintagufa and Kistaram, close to Chhattisgarh-Odisha-

Andhra-Telangana junction and around 500km south of Raipur. A joint force of CRPF, District Reserve Guards, Bastar Fighters and district police raided the place and recovered a huge quantity of fake notes, colour printers and 200 bottles of ink, said SP Chavan, adding: "Maoists were operating this unit as a major project, and insurgents from west Bastar division had trained one or two cadres from each area committee in 2022 to operate this unit."



Dead man walking: Shepherd turns up alive at own burial

Sushil.Rao@timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: It had all the trappings of a bizarre tale but the heart-warming twist at the end banished all doubts about the mistaken identity of a dead person in a remote village in Telangana.

Pittla Yellappa (47) of Vikarabad district, a shepherd, was presumed dead and his family were busy making arrangements for his last rites when he showed up just as the body was to be buried, much

to the shock of his family members.

But whose body was it that was handed over to the family by police? Yellappa himself cleared the air.

He said his mobile phone was stolen when he was tending sheep on June 21 and the device was detected on a person whose body was found at the railway tracks.

The man's face was smashed beyond recognition after he was hit by a train near Vikarabad railway sta-

tion. Police officers called up some of the numbers on the phone, found out that it belonged to Yellappa and handed over the body to his family.

On June 21, Yellappa of Navalga village had set out early in the day from his home. He often returned after a week. On June 22, the family received a call from Govt Railway Police informing them that they had found the mobile on Yellappa, who had died after being hit by a moving train.

Group of OBC docs wants to relinquish quota to help others

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Mumbai: Forty-year-old Dr Rahul Ghule belongs to the nomadic Vanjari community and hails from Marathwada's Dharashiv. The son of a teacher, he had availed of the OBC-NT quota to get a seat in Mumbai's G S Medical College in 2003 and graduated as an MBBS doctor. He has been practising in the city for the last 16 years and is married to an anaesthetist.

As the quota war between the Maratha and OBC communities simmers in Maharashtra, Ghule wrote to CM Eknath Shinde on Monday, saying he wants to give up the reservation and other quota



The doctors want to return their caste certificates too

benefits due to his family and children. He also wants to return their caste certificates.

The doctor set up the One Rupee Clinic in Thane in 2017 and runs a string of these in the city and UP.

He claims that at least 15 doctors in the state from OBC Medicos Association that he set up in 2008 also want to return their caste certificates and give up their quotas.

No pretence of bonhomie, session kicks off amid hostility

Subodh.Ghildiyal
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New Delhi: The divide between the treasury and the opposition benches in the 18th Lok Sabha went beyond seat-arrangements to appear like battlelines drawn on the first day of the new House.

INDIA bloc kicked off the day with a protest in the Parliament complex. Mallikarjun Kharge, Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, K C Venugopal, and Trinamool MPs like Mahua Moitra, DMK's Kanimozhi and TR Baalu, NK Premachandran, Rajkumar Roat and others, held up red-covered copies of the Constitution and led rounds of lusty sloganeering. Rahul said, "We will protect the Constitution from attacks by PM Narendra Modi and Amit Shah. Our message is going deep." As part of a plan, Samajwadi Party chief Akhi-

lesh Yadav with this troupe of 37 MPs walked into Parliament, all with a copy of the Constitution. It was in Hindi, with white covers.

Modi entered the house at 10.57am, to the now familiar chants of "Modi, Modi" and loud applause. And when

With PM taking the seat right after his oath, a decades-old custom of greeting oppn benches with folded hands had been given a miss

at 11.07am, he took the podium to say "main Narendra Damodardas Modi" for oath, Rahul Gandhi, K Suresh, K C Venugopal, Gaurav Gogoi, Deepender Hooda, Supriya Sule, Dimple Yadav raised copies of the Constitution — the same was done to Amit Shah. It appeared bitter, a

spillover of the no-holds-barred campaign that ended days ago. Suresh, ignored for protem Speaker, would be recorded in history as the first protester in the 18th House, rising within minutes of convening to ask that his name be dropped from the panel to assist protem Speaker Bhartruhari Mahtab. His shouts were ignored, which led to even louder shouts.

The Prime Minister, on his part, did not make any pretence of bonhomie. He took the oath, and took his seat. Given a go by was decades-old custom of a round of the opposition benches with folded hands and pleasantries. Rajnath Singh and Amit Shah, took his cue. Gaurav Gogoi and Kalyan Banerjee pointed out "the old conventions are being broken". But there were no takers for feel-good. Gogoi, when his turn came, took oath from the



PARLIAMENTARY SNAP: TMC MP Kalyan Banerjee clicks a photograph of party MPs on the first day of the 18th Lok Sabha in Delhi on Monday

podium on the treasury side, and even shook a few hands.

The seating appeared to betray the tension. Bang opposite PM Modi, across the aisle, was his implacable critic Rahul Gandhi. There has been no announcement yet on the leader of opposition, but Rahul led the show in the absence of Sonia

Gandhi, who has moved over to the House of the Elders. Not clear from afar was if they glanced at each other.

One of the heroes of the Battle 2024, Akhilesh Yadav appeared to rub it in. He sat sporting his trademark red cap with an easy smile plastered on his face, but gave primacy to Awadhesh Prasad,

the veteran and Dalit who arguably gave BJP the sorest wound by winning the Ayodhya (Faizabad) constituency. The red caps appeared like red rag to the ruling camp.

It continued in that tone. Education minister Dharmendra Pradhan was taunted with cries of "NEET, NEET", Giriraj Singh was told by Trinamool Congress's Kalyan Banerjee that "your comments increased Trinamool's tally". Rahul let out guffaws as the voluble Banerjee told Prahlad Joshi "we will miss you as parliamentary affairs minister". The day was for left-handed barbs. Not long ago, Day 1 used to be a solemn occasion of bipartisanship, littered with light moments and comments, fist bumping and reminiscing. This time, there were few handshakes. And if it was an indication of the term to follow, many found it foreboding.

TMC wins Singur co-op body, BJP wins in Nandigram

Falguni Banerjee & Suman Mandal | TNN

Singur/Nandigram: Trinamool has won all 45 seats in the Singur Gobindapur Cooperative Agricultural Development Society election. The co-operative had been under Left control since 1989.

The votes for the cooperative society was held on Saturday and as many as 2,265 cooperative members exercised their voting rights as TMC-supported candidates locked horns with Left Front candidates. As many as 12 BJP candidates also contested the polls.

Meanwhile, a BJP activist was arrested on Sunday after the party won 11 of 12 seats in the first Priyanagari Agricultural Cooperative Society polls in Nandigram's Haripur. A police team led by the SDPO caught hold of a BJP activist while party supporters were celebrating and took him to a police van. There was a scuffle between cops and BJP workers, but police took the party activist away.

BJP functionary Meghnad Pal said: "The police swung in to action after they found that Trinamool was losing the elections. They didn't even give a reason for the arrest."

Trinamool's Bappaditya Garg called the cooperative polls an "apolitical contest", adding: "BJP was in the mood for a battle right from the beginning."

Little black-red book scores big in Parliament

Arvind Chauhan | timesgroup.com

Lucknow: A key attraction on the inaugural day of the 18th Lok Sabha was the Indian Constitution's coat pocket version, waved by several INDIA bloc members, including Rahul Gandhi, in pocket edition of the House as well as outside to protest against the Modi govt.

The leather-bound black and red book published by Lucknow-based Eastern Book Company (EBC) had grabbed the limelight when it was frequently pulled out by opposition leaders, especially Rahul, in rallies to claim that BJP would tamper with the Constitution if it returned to office.

EBC publisher Sumeet Malik claims to have sold 5,000 copies in the last three months. The same number was sold in 2023.

Oppn MPs on panel of chairpersons give oath-taking event in LS a miss

Statute In Hand, Cong & SP MPs Protest As Modi, Shah Take Oath

Akhillesh Singh | timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The routine custom of newly-elected Lok Sabha members being administered oath by the protem Speaker was marred on Monday with opposition members nominated by the President to the panel of chairpersons refusing to take oath when their scheduled turn arrived in order to avoid presiding over the session in the absence of protem Speaker Bhartruhari Mahtab.

PM Modi was the first to take oath followed by members of the panel of chairpersons, which included Radha

Mohan Singh and Fagga Singh Kulaste of BJP, after which the council of ministers took oath before other MPs in alphabetical order.

However, the three opposition MPs in the panel of chairpersons — K Suresh (Congress), Sudip Bandyopadhyay (Trinamool Congress) and TR Balu (DMK) — gave a miss to the oath-taking. They were listed just after PM Modi and ahead of the council of ministers.

With substantial increase in their numbers, most opposition MPs, particularly from Congress and Samajwadi Party, carried copies of the Constitution to



Home minister Shah & defence minister Rajnath Singh take oath

Independent MP from Baramulla in Kashmir Abdul Rashid Sheikh could not take oath on Monday despite his name being called as he has been lodged in jail since 2019 after being charged by the NIA in a terror-funding case

the House. While Modi was taking oath, opposition members rose to their feet, holding copies of the Constitution. They did the same

when Union home minister Amit Shah took oath, but remained seated this time.

Congress MP from Mavelikara in Kerala K Suresh

was the first to raise objection when proceedings started as he asked the chair to drop his name from the panel of chairpersons.

When Modi reached Parliament on Monday, he was accompanied by Union ministers from four different regions of the country — Jitendra Singh, L Murugan, Arjun Ram Meghwal and Kiren Rijiju, to which a senior BJP leader said, "It is true spirit of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat."

Independent MP from Baramulla in Kashmir Abdul Rashid Sheikh could not take oath Monday despite his name being called as he has been lodged in jail since 2019 after being charged by the NIA in a terror-funding case. Popularly known as Engineer Rashid, he had defeated former J&K CM Omar Abdullah.

Oppn parties march to new Parl, vow to save Constitution

Mohua Chatterjee | timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The INDIA bloc of opposition parties made their intent clear on the first day of the 18th Lok Sabha on Monday by marching from the old Parliament building gate towards the new Parliament House holding copies of the Constitution and chanting slogans of "save democracy" and "long live Constitution".

Opposition leaders, including Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, party MP Rahul Gandhi, Trinamool Congress's Sudip Bandyopadhyay and DMK's TR Balu, among others, assembled at the spot where the Gandhi statue once stood in the Parliament complex. Former Congress chief and Rajya



Sonia Gandhi and other INDIA bloc partners at the Parliament House complex on Monday

Sabha MP Sonia Gandhi too joined the MPs.

Rahul said they (opposition) would not allow the Constitution to be "attacked" by PM Narendra Modi and home minister Amit Shah. "This attack is not acceptable to us and that is why we held the Constitution and took oath," he said. "Our message is reaching the pub-

lic and no power can touch the Constitution and we will protect it," he added.

The Gandhi statue, which was the favourite protest site for MPs, was recently relocated along with 14 other statues that dotted the complex, to a new spot in the Parliament complex named Prerna Sthal. Several opposition parties said the mandate of the Lok Sabha elections was against the BJP, even though it was able to form govt with support of other parties.

In the House, Rahul Gandhi, TMC's Kalyan Banerjee, Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav and Faizabadi MP Awadhesh Prasad were seated in the first row in the opposition benches Prasad defeated two-time BJP MP Lallu Singh from Faizabad.

Country will be run according to law, not mobocracy: BJP

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: NDA members on Monday criticised opposition MPs for taking out "save Constitution" march to Lok Sabha on Monday, saying they should consider how to take the country on the path of progress, ending political bickering as elections were over.

Union minister and BJP MP S P Singh Baghel slammed the opposition parties and said the country would run according to rules and laws, not "mobocracy".

TDP MP and Union minister K Rammoan Naidu added, "It was not right to do such politics, make such comments and create such an atmosphere on a day when everyone (newly-elected MPs) would like to take oath in a good atmosphere. There should now be conversation on how to take the country on the path of progress and serve

BJP plans to use Emergency of 1975 to 'expose' Cong

BJP on Monday said it will launch a nationwide programme on the anniversary of the Emergency imposed by former PM Indira Gandhi in 1975 to "expose" Congress's "authoritarianism and its disregard" for the Constitution. BJP chief J P Nadda will address the main event, dubbed 'Dark Days of Democracy', at the party head office on Tuesday, BJP chief spokesperson Anil Baluni said. "Emergency stands as an unforgettable dark chapter in India's robust democracy," Baluni said. TNN

BJP MP and former Karnataka CM Basavaraj Bommai said it was Congress govt that had "murdered" democracy by imposing Emergency in 1975.

BJP consults allies on speaker, oppn seeks dy speaker's post

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: As the BJP leadership moved closer towards picking its choice for speaker, a confrontation seemed to be brewing with the opposition bloc insisting on the deputy speaker's post and indicating that it would field a candidate for the speaker's post if the govt did not agree to its demand.

BJP began consultations with its allies on NDA's candidate for speaker a day ahead of nominations for the

election scheduled on Wednesday. There are indications that the govt will convey its choice to opposition parties on Tuesday evening, a day before the election.

The INDIA bloc is considering its options and may force a contest although the speaker has always been elected with consensus.

The NDA, which enjoys a clear majority in Lok Sabha, gave little indication about its choice as it weighs its op-

tions and looks to deny the opposition any opportunity to mount a political attack.

TDP leader and Union minister K Rammoan Naidu told reporters that the alliance's leaders, including his party president N Chandrababu Naidu, would take a decision on the matter, adding that no final decision had been conveyed to them yet. There is a view among a section of NDA leaders that Om Birla, who was speaker in the previous Lok Sabha, may be nominated again.

NAME CHANGE
I Riya Mitra, daughter of Late Parimal Kumar Mitra by swearing an affidavit before 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Alipore vide Affidavit No. 36688 dated 19/06/2024, hereby declare that after my marriage with Ajoy Mahakuru, adopted the surname of my husband 'Mahakuru' and thereafter known as Riya Mahakuru. So, Riya Mitra and Riya Mahakuru are the same and identical person and at present I have adopted my maiden surname and would thus be known as 'Riya Mitra' hereafter.

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given to all concerned that my client, Mr. Ranjan Mukherjee, residing presently at BF 72, Sector - I, Salt Lake, Kolkata - 700064, intends to purchase all that residential apartment No. 9C, measuring 2231 sq.ft. super built up area approximately, on the 9th floor at Tower - IV of "Rosedale Garden Complex" alongwith one covered car parking space bearing no. 332 in the basement of the said complex at Mouza Patharghata, J.L. No. 36, Action Area - III, Bulk Plot No. BLK-3, P.O. - Karigori Bhavan, P.S. - New Town, Kolkata - 700160, District - North 24-Parganas from Mr. Binod Patwari and Mrs. Sima Patwari. If any one has any objection with regard to the aforesaid transaction, he / she / they may intimate the grounds of such objection in writing to the undersigned within a fortnight from date by registered / speed post. If no objection is received by the undersigned within a fortnight from date, as aforesaid, it will be presumed that no one has any objection with regard to the aforesaid transaction and that the said property is free from any encumbrance and accordingly, my client will be free to purchase the said property. Be it noted that no claim will be entertained after the said period of a fortnight.

BJP president Nadda appointed leader of House in Rajya Sabha

New Delhi: Union health minister and BJP's national president J P Nadda has been appointed leader of the House in Rajya Sabha, replacing Union minister Pi-yush Goyal, who has been elected to Lok Sabha from Mumbai North constituency.

Nadda, currently a member of Rajya Sabha from Gujarat, is in charge of ministries of health and family welfare

as well as that of chemicals and fertilizers. Besides him, 11 other members of the Upper House of Parliament are in the Union council of ministers. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge remains the leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha.

Congress's Jairam Ramesh urged Nadda to accommodate the views of the opposition in the House. TNN

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VENUE: APOLLO HOSPITALS (CHENNAI) REGIONAL OFFICE
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For appointments & registration please call: 80173 63636 / 62922 33636

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DEAR WEEKLY LOTTERY
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Weekly Lottery in the draw held on 20.04.2024. His winning ticket number is 49J 48089. He has submitted his prize-winning ticket along with the prize claim form to the Nodal Officer, Nagaland State Lotteries located at Kolkata. "Dear Lottery should be praised for making Crorepatis on one hand and giving employment opportunity to several people on the other hand. We can try our fortune simply by spending few tens of rupees. I indebted to Dear Lottery and Nagaland State Lotteries for this," said the winner.

Mr. BARUN MAJI from PASCHIM MEDINIPUR, WEST BENGAL has won Rs.1 Crore as first prize in Dear

SEBI भारतीय प्रतिभूति और विनियम बोर्ड
Securities and Exchange Board of India

NOTICE

Ms. Anitha Anoop, Quasi-Judicial Authority, Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI") has issued Hearing Notices ("HNs") / Show Cause Notices ("SCNs") respectively to the following Noticees as per the details provided herein below:

SCNs/HNs/Orders

Sl. No.	Details of SCN/HN/AO (in the matter of)	PAN/CIN	Name of the person/Noticees and last known address
1.	SEBI/ERO/VSS/GB/P/OW/2024/8303/1 SCN Dated March 01, 2024 In the matter of M/s Diamondray Industries Limited	U29253WB2012PLC175512	M/s. Diamondray Industries Limited 38/2, Jessore Road (West) Barasat P. S. - Barasat, Dist. - 24 Paraganas (North) Kolkata Parganas North West Bengal - 700124
2.	SEBI/ERO/VSS/GB/P/OW/2024/8303/2 SCN Dated March 01, 2024 In the matter of M/s Diamondray Industries Limited	BAAPS3033G	Shri Talebul Haque Sahaji S/O Golam Rasul Sahaji Purba Uttar Bagundi, Gotra Basirhat, North 24 Parganas Basirhat West Bengal - 743422
3.	SEBI/ERO/VSS/GB/P/OW/2024/8303/3 SCN Dated March 01, 2024 In the matter of M/s Diamondray Industries Limited	AGYPB6263A	Shri Subrata Bandyopadhyay S/O Manindranath Bandyopadhyay 232, Kartik Pur, Deganga, North 24 Parganas, Kolkata West Bengal - 743423
4.	SEBI/ERO/VSS/GB/P/OW/2024/8303/4 SCN Dated March 01, 2024 In the matter of M/s Diamondray Industries Limited	AJLPM6376M	Shri Mohammed Abdur Razzak Mondal S/O Mohammed Abdul Latif Mondal VII-Daulatpur, P.O. Sendanga PS-Ashoke Nagar North 24 Parganas West Bengal - 743272

The SCNs/Hearing Notices could not be served at the last known address. The Noticees may download a copy of the SCN/HN from the SEBI website (www.sebi.gov.in) under the head Enforcement -> Unserved Summons/Notices that could not be served, or collect it with Annexures from the SEBI Eastern Regional Office (SEBI ERO, L&T Chambers, 3rd Floor, 16 Camac Street, Kolkata - 700017, West Bengal), or obtain it through e-mail sent to vikas@sebi.gov.in and gunjanb@sebi.gov.in.

For the SCNs at Sl. Nos. 1-2-3-4 and HNs at Sl. Nos 1-2-3-4, it is hereby notified that opportunity of personal hearing is being provided on **July 03, 2024 at 11:30 a.m.** either online through Webex platform or physically at the below mentioned address and accordingly, the Noticees are advised to file their written reply, if any, latest by June 30, 2024. If any of the entities pertaining to the said SCNs/HNs fails to respond to this notice, the proceedings shall be proceeded ex-parte qua them.

Ms. Anitha Anoop (Chief General Manager and Quasi-Judicial Authority)
Securities and Exchange Board of India
SEBI Bhavan II, Plot No. C7, 'G' Block,
Bandra Kuria Complex, Bandra (East) Mumbai - 400 051

Date: 19/06/2024
Place: Mumbai
CBC 15204/11/0041/2425

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The Goan coastline, with its tapestry of golden sands, sun-kissed islands, lush mangroves, and blue skies, makes for an alluring destination. Tourists have discovered that the best way to capture it all is from the deck of a yacht cutting through azure waters

IT'S FULL STEAM AHEAD FOR Goa's Yacht Sector

SETTING SAIL

Newton.Sequeira
@timesgroup.com

From watching the sun dip below the horizon while standing on a gently swaying deck, to proposing to the love of your life, Indians are always looking for new ways to make unforgettable memories. Keen to create a "never-before" experience for the 'Gram', many tourists are turning to yachts, and Goa has them aplenty.

Yacht operators in Goa say tourists are willing to pay top dollar, which is anywhere between Rs 12,000 and Rs 75,000, for a front row seat to witness nature's masterpiece—a multi-hued sunset or a palette of verdant mangroves—all while sipping on champagne.

"Every sunset is occupied. If the tourists are there, there are multiple bookings every day. Weekends are occupied," said the owner of Boat Goa, a firm that offers yacht services.

Two months earlier, a group of military officers rented a yacht to celebrate their retirement from the services. And every week, a man gets down on one knee to pop the question while his beaming fiancée stands at the bowsprit, her gown caught in the wind. The wind, the waves, and that sparkling ring—it's a scene straight out of a romantic novel.

"We get a lot of pre-wedding shoots in the morning half...that is something that is trending in a big way. The couple books the yacht for a minimum of two hours. They need the warm light in the morning, which is between 7am and 9am. After that, the light gets harsh," said Leon Fernandes,



director of Yacht Life Goa. "We have seen a steep jump in the number of people looking to make reels during sunset," Fernandes said. Indians, with their innate sense of romance and flair for the dramatic, are latching onto this nautical trend with gusto. It's not just about the journey anymore. It's about crafting that reel to set Instagram feeds ablaze.

Also, it's not just proposals. Honeymoons, babymoons and wedding anniversaries...Yacht operators have seen them all.

"Over the last few years, yachts have gained popularity and have increased in number. We foresee this will be a trend that will continue to grow. Group sizes of eight to 15 people are the most common when it comes to yacht bookings. Anniversary and birthday celebrations, proposals, retirement parties, and high-profile guests just looking for a private

time to celebrate on vacation are mostly the reasons yachts are booked," said Ryan Prazeres, co-founder and CEO of OneBoard.

The price tags for these floating experiences vary as much as the types of yachts on offer. For those looking to dip their toes into the world of yachting, prices start at a reasonable Rs 12,000. But for those seeking the pinnacle of maritime luxury, prices can soar to a princely Rs 75,000 for a mere two hours.

"The average cost for just the yacht is Rs 20,000. The number of people can bring their own food and drinks. We provide an ice box, water and some mixers and wafers," said Prazeres.

For private luxury yachts, the peak booking season is from Nov to Feb, with weekends generally sold out. Couples looking for some intimate time generally prefer early morning cruises, while the prime slots for tourists and corporate events are 4pm to 8pm.

Goa has around 50 pleasure boats, which include close to 20 luxury yachts, just over 10 catamarans and an equal number of speedboats. There are twin-hulled boats for sunset cruises too, which can accommodate larger groups. The larger catamarans are used for corporate functions and large private parties with groups of anywhere between 40 and 100 individuals.

"An IT company based in Germany, which has a team based in

India, recently hosted its annual meeting on the yacht to thank its team members. A lot of corporate events for team members and distributors are held on yachts instead of hosting them at a hotel's banquet hall. It becomes more memorable," said the owner of Boat Goa Yacht Services.

But it is not all smooth sailing. Given that customers are paying a significant amount for a luxury experience, the lack of infrastructure threatens to run the industry

ground. "One challenge we have witnessed and the most common feedback we get is that when guests pay such a high price for a two-hour luxury experience, they expect the infrastructure, parking, the jetty, and the pathway to the yacht to be of decent quality. Unfortunately, this is not the case, and guests must board through narrow lanes with no proper lighting, the pathways some-



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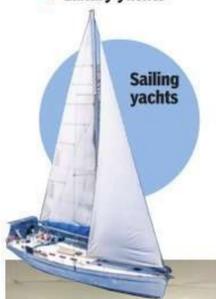
Types of YACHTS

₹20,000
Average cost for just the yacht



Luxury yachts

There are more than 15 yachts that have a capacity of between 5 and 25 people



Sailing yachts

The price range is ₹15,000-70,000 for two hours, which includes one hour cruising and one hour anchored

Goa also has catamarans that are not as premium but are used for corporate functions or large private parties

The average cost for the yacht, food, entertainment, and drinks is ₹30,000

Peak booking season is Nov-Feb



Cabin cruisers



Speed boats



Sail boats



Party vessel

5-15 people | Can be accommodated on luxury yachts

Party yachts are generally bigger and can accommodate large groups



Maintaining a yacht is very difficult as spare parts are not available, adequate manpower is scarce and repairs are very expensive and time-consuming. This is a niche market. The yacht continues to incur costs whether you run it or not

Yacht owner



Kharge: Modi still arrogant after 'moral & political' defeat

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Reacting strongly to PM Modi invoking the Emergency at the start of Parliament, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said "even after moral and political defeat (of Modi), the arrogance remains". He said the country expected the PM to speak on important issues like NEET and other recruitment exams but he avoided taking responsibility for corruption in his govt.

Posting a video of the opposition's protest in Parliament on day one of the 18th Lok Sabha, Kharge tweeted, "PM Modi, you are reminding us of the 50-year-old Emergency, but have forgotten the last 10 years of undeclared emergency, which was ended by the people. People have given their mandate against Modi. Despite this, if he has become the PM, then he should work."

LS MP K C Venugopal said, "The INDIA alliance enters the 18th Lok taking Bapu's blessings and with a fresh resolve to give voice to the people's issues, challenges, hopes and aspirations in Parliament, and keep the govt in check every single minute."

Modi: The yrs after Emergency remind us to protect democracy

Continued from P 1

PM Modi argued that the opposition implemented quotas for Muslims on grounds of religion, and sent out an equally loud signal that for him, the battle over the Constitution was not over yet.

Taking up suspension of democracy and civil rights during the Emergency, he said, "These 50 years since the Emergency remind us to protect our Constitution and democracy with pride. The country must resolve that such a travesty will never be allowed to happen again. We commit ourselves to ensuring a vibrant democracy and fulfilling the common man's dreams as outlined by the Indian Constitution."

The remarks appeared to



PM Modi welcomed by Union ministers at Parliament Monday

be a prelude to a BJP campaign to recall the days of the Emergency when most of its stalwarts were put in prison.

Modi sought to play down his lower-than-expected numbers by highlighting his success in getting a record third term. Terming NDA's third victory as remarkable and significant, he said the

third consecutive mandate also meant a three-fold jump in his responsibilities, as he sought to assure that he would work three times harder.

"We will achieve three times the results, moving forward with this new mission," he said, adding, "This House of ours will become a House of resolutions. Our

18th Lok Sabha should be filled with resolutions that bring the dreams of the common man to fruition."

He emphasised the importance of consensus in governance, but without mentioning the role of a "responsible opposition". Recalling disruptions during Parliament proceedings in the past, he said people expect debate and diligence, not tantrums, drama and disturbance. "They seek substance, not slogans. The country needs a good and responsible opposition," he said, adding that he would try to take everybody along. "Over the past 10 years, we have continuously strived to establish a tradition because we believe that while a majority is necessary to run a government," Modi said.

Naveen signals shift, tells party to work as strong oppn force

Bhubaneswar: Naveen Patnaik's BJD signalled a departure Monday from its perceived pliancy towards BJP-led NDA in Parliament, with the party patriarch and former Odisha CM urging his Rajya Sabha members to function as "a strong and vibrant opposition" that would

"make the Centre accountable on all issues", reports Ashok Pradhan.

"Be the voice of 4.5 crore people of Odisha in Parliament," BJP quipped Naveen as NDA at a parliament party meeting in preparation for the Rajya Sabha session starting June 27.

"Many just and rightful demands of Odisha haven't been met. We must ensure that those demands are met in right earnest by Centre," said Naveen, whose party drew a blank in Lok Sabha polls. BJD's changed stance is seen as part of its renewed resolve to pursue its long-

standing demand for special-category status to Odisha.

The party also intends to highlight alleged delays in projects, including the Cuttack-Sambalpur Road, the proposed Coastal Highway, and the Odisha Capital Region Ring Road near Bhubaneswar.

Assam gov pushes away RSS man trying to felicitate Rajee

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Jaipur/Udaipur: Assam governor Gulab Chand Kataria pushed an RSS veteran off the stage when he purportedly attempted to garland ex-Rajasthan CM Vasundhara Rajee at an event Sunday in Udaipur's Sukhadia Hall. Kataria said he deemed the act of someone from the audience climbing the stage and approaching Rajee in the middle of the event "inappropriate".

Rajee, too, stood up to admonish the RSS worker, identified as Vijay Raj Suwalka. She later spoke of the "shifting dynamics of loyalty".

A 40-second video that has since been widely shared on social media shows Suwalka trying to approach Rajee, disregarding Kataria's gesture asking him to return to his seat. The governor is then seen rushing towards Suwalka and pushing him. Reluctant to leave the stage even then, Suwalka is seen arguing with Kataria.

When the guards and some people in the audience intervene, the RSS worker is seen going off stage while shouting at Kataria.

ED claims trial court didn't consider all papers filed in case

Continued from P 1

Arvind Kejriwal's counsel, senior advocate A M Singhvi pressed for interim relief, and said that if HC could stay trial court's order when it was not even uploaded and handed over to parties, then SC should also stay HC's interim order without waiting for the order copy. But the bench responded that if HC had committed a mistake, as submitted by him, the same mistake could not be repeated by the apex court.

Arvind Kejriwal's plea was opposed by solicitor general Tushar Mehta and additional solicitor general S V Raju, who, on behalf of ED, submitted that the agency did not get full opportunity to present its case before the trial court.



They said that the trial court did not go through the entire documents filed in the case and

granting bail was also violative of Section 45 of PMLA on twin conditions test. Singhvi said that the trial court in its order recorded all submissions and the order falsified ED's arguments. He said that Kejriwal is not a flight risk if he comes out on bail and there was no need for HC to stay the order.

As both the sides kept questioning trial court and HC orders, the bench said that the HC itself indicated that it would soon pass a detailed order and said that it could hear the case on Wednesday.

'Cellphone thief' lynched in Assam

Dibrugarh: An incensed mob lynched a 28-year-old man on Monday in Assam's Sivasagar on suspicion that he had stolen a cell phone. The deceased was identified as Palu Gowala.

The cellphone was reported stolen from the house of Jayram Gowala in Phukan Nagar on Sunday.

Around 6am Monday, Jayram, with locals' help, dragged Palu and his relative Dadu—residents of the same locality—out of their houses, suspecting them of being involved in the theft. The mob brutally thrashed both men, leaving them with critical injuries. Police rushed the duo to Sivasagar Civil Hospital where Palu was declared dead.

10 BJP workers who had fled after violence return home

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kolkata: BJP workers, who had fled their homes in the wake of poll-related violence, have started to return.

At Minakhan in North 24 Parganas, 10 BJP workers came back home on Monday morning. Party functionaries said another 150 would return on Tuesday.

"In each assembly segment in Basirhat, hundreds of party workers had to leave their homes. In Haroa alone, more than 150 workers could not go back after the polls," said BJP's Basirhat functionary Archana Majumdar.

Earlier, leader of opposition Suwendu Adhikari had given to governor C V Ananda Bose a list of 10,000 workers who had allegedly fled their homes following poll-related violence. A week back, a BJP team from New Delhi came to the state to take stock of the situation and sent a report to the party headquarters.

"We fear backlash as many of the party workers have been implicated in false cases," said lawyer Priyanka Tibrewal.

Meanwhile, Kamduni protester Tumpa Kayal's husband Biswajit Mandal, a BJP worker, was allegedly attacked on Sunday night. They were returning home when a victory rally of Trinamool was passing by in Hatishala area. Mandal was allegedly attacked by local TMC supporter Raju Naskar and nine others. Naskar, however, said: "We had a scuffle, but I did not attack him." BJP workers were also beaten up at Mathurapur, allegedly by TMC supporters.

Trudeau: AI attack reminder of shared duty to condemn terror

Pays Homage To Kanishka Victims

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Paying homage to the victims of the Air India Kanishka bombing, Canadian PM Trudeau said it remains the deadliest terrorist attack in Canadian history, and a reminder of the shared responsibility to unequivocally condemn terrorism.

The two sides paid their respects to the 329 victims, 280 of them Canadians, amid growing strife in bilateral ties caused, as India has repeatedly said, by the political space given by Canadian authorities to Khalistani extremists who advocate violence against India. Earlier on Sunday, the Indian high



Indian high commission in Ottawa had on Sunday termed the bombing a cowardly act of terror, carried out by pro-Khalistani terrorists

commission in Ottawa said in a press release, while remembering the victims, that the bombing was a cowardly act of terror, carried out by Canada-based Khalistani terrorists.

Stating that perpetrators and co-conspirators of the dastardly act remained free, the Indian mission said any act of glorifying terrorism including the bombing of AI-182, in 1985, is deplorable and should be condemned by all peace-loving countries and people. "It is unfortunate that such actions are allowed to be routine on many occasions in Canada," said Foreign minister S Jaishankar had said on Sunday in

a post on X that the anniversary is a reminder why terrorism should never be tolerated. Canada has observed the anniversary of the June 23, 1985, terrorist attack since 2005 as National Day of Remembrance for Victims of Terrorism.

"Today, we remember and honour every Canadian whose life was cut short or forever changed by a terrorist attack," said Trudeau.

"Thirty-nine years ago today, 329 innocent people, including 280 Canadians, tragically lost their lives when a bomb, planted on Air India Flight 182 in Canada, exploded mid-flight. This remains the deadliest terrorist attack in Canadian history. It reminds us of the senseless violence that terrorism perpetuates and of our shared responsibility to unequivocally condemn terrorism," he added.

Odisha CM: Attempt made to kill me during BJD regime

Keonjhar: Odisha chief minister Mohan Charan Majhi on Monday alleged there was an attempt to assassinate him during the regime of the previous BJD govt by hurling bombs.

Majhi, a senior BJP leader, made the remark while addressing a public meeting at Jhumpura. "There was an attempt to kill me in a bomb blast in Keonjhar's Mandua. However, I was saved due to God's blessings and the love of people," he

said. "I have nothing to fear when Maa Tarini, Maa Durga, Lord Baladev and Lord Jagannath are with me," the CM said.

Majhi, on the second day of his Keonjhar visit, held a roadshow where he was felicitated. The CM said his priority is to provide Rs 3,100 per quintal of paddy as MSP from the Kharif season. He also said Rs 50,000 will be paid to every eligible woman under the Subhadra Yojana.

K'taka bans artificial colours in kebabs: After 'Gobi Manchurian' and 'cotton candy', Karnataka govt has now prohibited the use of artificial colouring agents in the preparation of kebabs (veg and non-veg) across the state, saying it adversely affected public health.

National Highways Authority of India

(Ministry of Road Transport and Highways)

पदों की सूचना / RECRUITMENT NOTICE

मा.रा.श.प्र. मुख्यालय, नई दिल्ली में डीपीआर सेल में काम करने के लिए अनुबंध के आधार पर निम्नलिखित पदों के लिए आवेदन आमंत्रित करता है।
NHA invites applications for the following positions on contract basis to work in DPR Cell at NHAHQ, New Delhi.

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	वरिष्ठ राजमार्ग विशेषज्ञ / Senior Highway Expert	05
	सड़क सुरक्षा विशेषज्ञ / Road Safety Expert	05
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	भूमि अर्जन विशेषज्ञ / Land Acquisition Expert	05
	मू-सकनीकी विशेषज्ञ / Geotechnical Expert	05
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	टनल विशेषज्ञ / Tunnel Expert	01

2. अधिक जानकारी के लिए मा.रा.श.प्र. की वेबसाइट www.nhai.gov.in देखें।
For details, kindly visit NHAHQ website www.nhai.gov.in

ऑनलाइन आवेदन जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि : 18.07.2024 (सायं 6:00 बजे तक)

Last date for submission of online application : 18.07.2024 (6:00 PM)

3. इस विज्ञापन के संबंध में शुद्धिपत्र/अनुशेष/निरस्तकरण, यदि कोई होगा तो, उसे केवल मा.रा.श.प्र. की वेबसाइट पर प्रकाशित किया जाएगा।
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(w/o Late Shri. Pinjo K. Punjabi)

With profound grief we inform that our beloved mother left for her heavenly abode on 22nd June 2024. Prayer meeting (Chautha) will be held on Tuesday 25th June 2024 between 5:30 pm and 6:00 pm at Chemurandri, Navjeevan Society, Chemur Colony, Chemur, Mumbai 400 074.

Fondly remembered by family and friends.

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

Office of the Executive Engineer, North 24 Parganas Division
Municipal Engineering Directorate
Urban Development & Municipal Affairs Department
7, K.B. Bose Road, 2nd Floor, Barasat, Kolkata - 700 124
E-Mail : north24pgsdivisionmed@gmail.com

NOTICE FOR INVITING NIT

The Executive Engineer, North 24 Pgs. Division, MED invites NIT on behalf of Govt. of West Bengal for below listed work.

Sl. No.	Location of Work	Tender ID
1	Construction of approach road at Ward No.-13 under Kanchrapara Municipality. (WB/MAD/e-tender/1 of EE (N24)-2024-25) (2nd Call)	2024_MAD_699022_1

Last date of bid submission: 13.07.2024, 11:00 a.m.
Interested bonafide bidders are requested to visit <https://wbtdenders.gov.in>

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EE, North 24 Pgs. Division, M.E. Dte.

Central Electricity Regulatory Commission

6th, 7th, & 8th Floor, Tower-B, World Trade Centre, Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi-110029

Petition No. 178/TL/2024 Dated: 21.6.2024

NOTICE UNDER CLAUSE (a) OF SUB-SECTION (5) OF SECTION 15 OF THE ELECTRICITY ACT, 2003

An application under Sections 14, 15 and 79(1)(e) of the Electricity Act, 2003 (the Act) has been made WRSS XXI (A) Transco Limited, Adani Corporate House, Shantigram, Near Vaishno Devi Circle, S G Highway, Khodiyar, Ahmedabad - 382421, for the grant of a separate transmission licence for implementation of the "Augmentation of transmission capacity at 765/400 kV Lakadia S/S (WRSS XXI(A) Transco Ltd) in Gujarat - Part A" on RTM route (hereinafter referred to as the "transmission scheme/project"). The scope of the project for which a transmission licence has been sought is as follows:

S. No.	Name of the scheme and Implementation timeframe	Estimated cost (₹ crore)	Remark
1.	Augmentation of transmission capacity at 765/400 kV Lakadia S/S (WRSS XXI(A) Transco Ltd) in Gujarat - Part A Tentative Implementation timeframe: 18 months (By 30.06.2025 on best effort basis)	142	Approved to be implemented under RTM by WRSS XXI (A) Transco Limited

Detailed scope of the Scheme is as under:

S. No.	Scope of the Transmission Scheme	Capacity/ km
1.	Creation of 220 kV switchyard at Lakadia 765/400kV S/S along with 220kV line bays for RE Interconnection	220 kV switchyard & 220kV line bays - 2 Nos. 220 kV Bus coupler - 1 No. 220 kV Transfer bus coupler - 1 No.
2.	Installation of 2x500 MVA, 400/220 kV ICTs (1st & 2nd) at Lakadia PS along with associated ICT bays	400/220kV, 1x500MVA ICT - 2 Nos. 400kV bay - 2 Nos. 220kV bay - 2 Nos. Associated 400 kV Bus Bar extension

2. The Central Transmission Utility of India Limited vide its letter dated 14.5.2024 has recommended for the grant of a transmission licence to the applicant to establish the proposed transmission system.

3. Based on the material available on the record, the Commission vide order dated 21.6.2024 in Petition No. 178/TL/2024, has proposed to issue a transmission licence to the applicant for establishment of the transmission scheme as noted in para 1 above.

4. A copy of the application, along with its annexures and enclosures, made by the applicant for the grant of an inter-State transmission licence to WRSS XXI (A) Transco Limited before the Commission can be accessed at the website www.adanienergysolutions.com or inspected by any person in the Commission's office by following the laid down procedure.

5. Notice is hereby given in pursuance of clause (a) of sub-section (5) of Section 15 of the Act that suggestions or objections, if any, to the Commission's proposal to grant a transmission licence to the applicant, as aforesaid, be sent to the undersigned by 2.7.2024 at the above noted address. The suggestions or objections received after the specified date shall not be considered.

6. The application shall be taken up for the further hearing by the Commission on 4.7.2024. Any person who files suggestions or objections may in his/her discretion attend the hearing, for which no TA/DA shall be paid by the Commission.

Sd/-
(Harpreet Singh Pruthi)
Secretary

FEDERAL BANK

YOUR PERFECT BANKING PARTNER

The Federal Bank Ltd.,
LCRD/Kolkata Division
1, R N Mukherjee Road, Martin Burn House, Kolkata 700001.
Phone numbers 033-2265 4334, email id: kollcrd@federalbank.co.in

Appendix-IV (Rule 8(1))
POSSESSION NOTICE
(For immovable property)

Name & Address of the Borrower :- 1) Sumita Sinha alias Sumita Malakar, D/o Tarak Nath Malakar, 2) Tapas Kumar Malakar, S/o Tarak Nath Malakar and, 3) Tarak Nath Malakar, S/o late Radha Ballab Malakar, Sl No. 1-3 are residing at Flat No. A/2, Block B, 1st Floor, Ananda Lok Apartment - II, 10, Thakurdas Banerjee Road, Belghoria, Kolkata, West Bengal - 700056 and Sl. No. 1 also residing at Indira Apartment, Flat 4A and 4B, P-33, Near Kalimata Club, Parnashree Pally, Road No.4, Kolkata - 700060.

Details of secured assets: All that piece and parcel of the Flat No. A/2 on the 1st floor Block B measuring about an area a little more or less 1069 Sq. Ft. SBU area together with all the fittings and fixtures in the building/apartment constructed on an area of 7 Cottahs 14 Chittaks and 3 Sq. Ft. under C.S Khatian No. 521, R.S Khatian No. 2527 and 2476, C.S Dag Nos. 567 and 568, R. S Dag nos. 568 and 568/1811, J.L.No.3, R.S No.17 and Touzi no. 172, Mouza Belghoria, P.S Belghoria, Dist 24 Parganas (N), Premises No.10, Thakur Das Banerjee Road, Kolkata - 700056, West Bengal State within the Additional Registrar of Assurances-II, Holding No. 1024/1, Ward No. 21 of the Kamarhati Municipality along with undivided proportionate share of land and common space and facilities, West Bengal State within the Additional Registrar of Assurances -II, bounded on the East: The house of Smt. Nupur Banerjee and Nirmal Ranjan Biswas, on the West: 11 feet 9 inch common passage, on the North: The land property of Ashalata Ghosh and others and on the South: Municipal lane.

Amount outstanding: Rs. 6,14,047.60 (Rupees Six Lakh Fourteen Thousand Forty Seven and Paise Sixty only) as on 28.05.2024 in loan A/c No 14007300009221, with further interest & cost thereon.

Demand Notice Date: 05.10.2023 **Date of Possession:** 21.06.2024

Name & Address of the Borrower:- 1) Soumitra Trivedi, S/o Niranjan Shankar Trivedi alias Niranjan Sarkar Trivedi, and, 2) Tejal Trivedi, W/o Soumitra Trivedi, both are residing at Raipur, Antpur P.O, PS Jangipara, Hooghly, West Bengal - 712424, both are residing at 1) 12A, Nanda Mullick Lane, Beadon Street, Kolkata, West Bengal - 700006 and 2) Shree Radhekrishna Enclave, Flat 3A, Panchwati, Shyambaba Complex, VIP Road, Opposite Haldiram's, Kolkata, West Bengal - 700052.

Details of secured assets: All that the Unit in or portion of the New Building being Flat/Unit No.3A containing a super built up area of 1328 Sq.Ft more or less on a portion on the 3rd Floor in the building known as "Shree Radhe Krishna Enclave", along with electric and/or other installations, together also with easements and all other rights, liberties, privileges and benefits appurtenant thereto, at the said premises together with proportionate and undivided share in the land admeasuring an area of 4 Cottahs, 2 Chittaks and 30 Sq.Ft be the same or a little more or less, comprised in Mouza Kaikhal, JL No 5, RS No 115, Tauzi No 172, R.S. Dag No. 590, R.S. Khatian No. 49, L.R Khatian No's 87,88,100,544 and 568 and present LR Khatian No 1875, Municipal Holding No AS/336/BL-KB/11-12, Internal Plot No 20 and within the local limits of Rajarhat Gopalpur Municipality, Kolkata 700052 PS Baguiati, District 24-Parganas North, West Bengal State, A.R.A- II Kolkata, bounded On the East by: Others Land, On the West by: 18 Feet Wide Common Passage, On the North by: Plot No 21 and On the South by: Plot No.19 and presently bounded on East: Open to Sky, West: Staircase, Lobby, Lift and party Flat No.3B, North: Open to Sky and South: Open to Sky.

Amount outstanding: 1) Rs. 52,04,940.30 (Rupees Fifty Two Lakh Four Thousand Nine Hundred Forty and Paise Thirty only) as on 26.05.2024 in Loan A/c No. 12847300001765, with further interest & cost thereon and 2) Rs. 11,29,932.00 (Rupees Eleven Lakh Twenty Nine Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty Two only) as on 31.05.2024 in loan A/c No. 12845600003663, with further interest & cost thereon.

Demand Notice Date: 14.06.2023 **Date of Possession:** 21.06.2024

Name & Address of the Borrower:- (1) Sardar Safiur Rahman, S/o Abdul Maabud carrying on business in the name and style of M/s Geo Infrastructure Solutions at 654 A, Thakurpukur Road, South 24 Parganas, Kolkata, West Bengal - 700063, and (2) Runa Nasrin, W/o Sardar Safiur Rahman, both residing at (a) 168 Abdus Samad Road, Behrampore, Murshidabad, West Bengal - 742101 and also at (b) Flat No. 3B, 3rd Floor, Milon Deep Holding No. 317, Ward No. 124, Diamond Harbour Road, Thakurpukur, 24 Parganas (South), Kolkata, West Bengal - 700063.

Details of secured assets: All the piece and parcel of the Flat No. 3B on the 3rd Floor, North - Western side measuring about 815 Sq. Ft. super built up area together with covered car parking space on the Ground floor, measuring about 120 Sq. Ft. and all other improvements thereon in the building known as "Milon Deep" built and constructed at or upon the Plot of land measuring about 4 Cottahs be the same a little more or less comprised in Mouza - Purba Barisha, J.L. No. 23, R.S No. 43, Touzi No. 1 - 6, 8 - 10 and 12 - 16 appertaining to R.S Khatian No. 402, under R.S Dag No. 2056, Municipal premises No. 317, Holding No. 1771/1, Diamond Harbour Road, under P.S Thakurpukur, Ward No. 124, within local limits of Kolkata Municipal Corporation, District 24 Parganas (South), West Bengal State, within the Additional District Sub-Registrar of Behala, landed property bounded On the East: By 2.438 Mt. wide common passage, On the West: By DH road, On the North: By 12 Ft. common passage and On the South: By the land of Nihar Bala Majumder.

Amount outstanding: 1) Rs. 29,36,325.44 (Rupees Twenty Nine Lakh Thirty Six Thousand Three Hundred and Twenty Five, Paise Forty Four only) is due as on 31.05.2023 under loan account no 13145500014905, with further interest & cost thereon.

Demand Notice Date: 10.04.2023 **Date of Possession:** 21.06.2024

Name & Address of the Borrower:- (1) Mr. Zacharia Nasir Khan, S/o Yousaf Khan, and (2) Mrs. Shamma Khan, W/o Zacharia Nasir Khan both residing at House No. 95-C, Gali No-5, Krishna Nagar, Saldarjung Enclave - South, West Delhi, Delhi, 110029 // 18A, Colonel Biswas Road, PS-Karaya, Post Office-Circus Avenue, Kolkata, 700019. Sr. no. 1 also residing at 8546 Ibrahim Al Qurtubi- Al Wazarat Riyadh 12622-3627, Riyadh 11311.

Details of secured assets: All that piece and parcel of the permanent leasehold right in respect of Flat admeasuring more or less 1076 Sq Ft super built up area, on the Ground Floor situated at Premises No.18A, Colonel Biswas Road, Police Station Karaya, Kolkata 700019, Ward No 69, within the jurisdiction of Kolkata Municipal Corporation, P.O.Circus Avenue, Police Station - Karaya (Previously Ballygunge), Kolkata - 700019 and bounded on East: Partly by premises No.18B Colonel Biswas Road and Partly by common passage of the said premises leading to Colonel Biswas Road, West: Premises No. 14, Tarak Dutta Road, North: Premises No.16 Colonel Biswas Road and South: Premises No.20, Colonel Biswas Road (As per Deed of Assignment of Lease No.1-1606-01245/2019 dated 26.03.2019 registered with ADSR Sealdah).

Amount outstanding: 1) Rs. 60,28,879.91 (Rupees Sixty Lakh Twenty Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Nine and Paise Ninety One only) is due as on 05.06.2024 under loan account no 13147300001736, and 2) Rs. 2,04,151.00 (Rupees Two Lakh Four Thousand One Hundred and Fifty One only) is due as on 05.06.2024 under loan account no 13147600002335, with further interest & cost thereon.

Demand Notice Date: 02.09.2023 **Date of Possession:** 21.06.2024

Whereas, The Authorised Officer of the Federal Bank Ltd. under the Securitisation & Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (hereinafter referred to as Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) of the said Act read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (hereinafter referred to as Rules) issued a demand notice dated above calling upon the above borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein above in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said Rules on the date mentioned above.

The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of section 13 (8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets (security properties).

The borrowers in particular and public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of the Federal Bank Ltd. for an amount mentioned above and interest thereon.

For The Federal Bank Ltd.,
Authorised Officer under SARFAESI Act.

Place: Kolkata

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KEY SPEAKERS

 Sanjiv Mehta Executive Chairman L Catterton India, Former Chairman, HUL	 Manish Tiwary VP and Country Manager, Amazon India	 Aman Gupta Co-founder & CMO boat	 Sudhir Sitapati MD & CEO Godrej Consumer Products	 Susanne Pulverer CEO & CSO IKEA India	 Piyush Pandey Chief Advisor Ogilvy India
 Deepak Subramanian Unilever	 Aseem Kaushik Country MD Loreal India	 Karthik Balagopalan MD PUMA India	 Geetika Mehta MD Nivea India	 Manish Chowdhary Co-Founder WOW Skin Science	 Vikas Gupta MD & CEO VLCC
 Manish Anandani MD Kenvue India	 Manish Kapoor MD Pepe Jeans India	 Anoop Manohar CMO Axis Bank	 Mukta Maheshwari CMO, VP & Category Head - Fabric Care P&G India	 Manish Dubey CMO Pillitine Industries	 Ravi Santhanam Group Head, CMO & Head - Direct to Consumer Business, HDFC Bank
 Raj Rishi Singh CMO & CBO - Corporate MakeMyTrip	 Shamik Banerjee CMO & Founding Team Member Apollo 24 7	 Ashwin Moorthy CMO Godrej Consumer Products	 M V S Murthy CMO Federal Bank	 Rahul Talwar CMO Max Life Insurance	 Anuradha Aggarwal Director, User Growth & CMO, Amazon Pay India
 Arpan Biswas CMO AJIO	 Poulomi Roy CMO Joy Personal Care	 Renjie Wong Area Director, India (Mumbai), South Asia & MEA, Singapore Tourism Board	 Amit Kumar Banka Head of Growth Marketing Swiggy	 Virat Khullar Group Head of Marketing Hyundai	 Nitin Saini Vice President - Marketing Mondelez India

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Notice Inviting e-Tender
 No. WB/PWD/EE/BI/02/2024-25
 Dte. Invites online Tenders from Bonafide resourceful outsider having credential in similar nature of work for the works in Repairing and maintenance of building and A-5 staff quarter of Surtipuri BPHC in Abinashpur G.P. of Sarai-II Block, Birbhum. (Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_696550.1) ii) Repair and Renovation of Single Storied Gown at ZAR.S, Naldia. (Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_696550.2) iii) Repairing & maintenance of the doors & windows of the Haji Md. Serafat Mondal Government Polytechnic at Rampurhat, Birbhum. (Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_696550.3) iv) Repairing & maintenance of the doors & windows of the Haji Md. Serafat Mondal Government Polytechnic at Rampurhat, Birbhum. (Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_696550.4) v) Repairing & maintenance of the doors & windows of the Haji Md. Serafat Mondal Government Polytechnic at Rampurhat, Birbhum. (Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_696550.5) Further details can be seen in website - <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> Sd/- Ex. Engr., Bir. Divn., PW. (S&S) Dte. ICA-1962(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
 EE.PWD, Cob. Divn. Invites online e-Tender (e-NIT 04) Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_697089_1. Bid submission start date: 27.06.2024, 10.00 hrs. Bid submission closing date: 05.07.2024, 18.30 hrs. Details can be seen in website - <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> Sd/- EE.PWD, COB. DIVN. ICA-1964(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Q/O the Executive Engineer, P.W.Dte., Paschim Medinipur Electrical Division, Sahid Mangal Pandey Sarani, Midnapur 721101
PWD TENDER NOTICE
 Notice Inviting e-Quotation No. - WBPWD/EE/PMED/NIC-32/8-Q/2023-24 (1st Re-Tender). Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_697072_2. Last date of submission of bid: 03.06.2024 up to 1:00 PM Name of Work: Construction of Proposed (G+2) storied 60 Bedded ward bedded at Garbheta Rural Hospital, Paschim Medinipur. -SITC of Silent DG set. (1st Re-Tender) EMD Amt, Rs. -10,70,000. Further details can be seen in website - <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> during working hours or in Official Website www.pwdwb.gov.in For all details and online tender submission visit <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> Sd/- EE, PMED, P.W.Dte. ICA-1963(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
 e-Tender is invited by the Executive Engineer, Nadia Arsenic Division-I, PHE Dte. on behalf of the Government of West Bengal vide Ref. No. WBPHE/01/NAD-1/24-25 and ID-2024_PHE.D. 693000.1 and 3 for works under Nadia Arsenic Division-I, PHE Dte., Kalyani, Nadia. Details will be available in the website wbtdenders.gov.in the last date for online submission of tender is 29.06.2024 at 12.00 P.M. Sd/- Executive Engineer, Nadia Arsenic Division-I, PHE Dte. ICA-1965(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
 WBPWD/EE/24PSSD/NICQ_21/2024-2025 Sealed Quotation is invited by the E.E. South 24 Parganas Division, P.W.Dte. for "Providing round the clock security services by supplying of un-armed security personnel purely on temporary basis at different Stacked yard, Offices, Inspection Bungalow etc. under the jurisdiction of Executive Engineer, South 24 Parganas Division PWD in the district of South 24 Parganas during the year 2024-25". Details of the NIT will be available in the Office Notice Board as well as in the Departmental Websites. <http://wbtdenders.gov.in> and <http://www.pwdwb.gov.in>. Last Date of Bid Submission (Online) 15-07-2024 upto 11:30 A.M. Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_697197_1 Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD, South 24 Parganas Division ICA-1964(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
 The Executive Engineer, PWD, Kolkata East Division invites e-tender on item basis vide e-Tender No. WBPWD/EE/KED/NIT/04-2024-2025 for 1 (One) no work vide Tender ID No. 2024_WBPWD_696988.1 of 2024-2025. Bid submission start date (online) is 24.06.2024 from 2.30 p.m. Bid submission closing date (online) is 02.07.2024 at 09.00 AM. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT and Tender documents may be downloaded from <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD, Kolkata East Division. ICA-1964(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Ex-Officio Director, Adina Deer Park Open e-Tender Notice
 Online (e-Tender) tenders are invited for the following: (i) Operational and Maintenance of (ii) Renovation of Garage cum Store Room attached to Malda Division office, (iii) Installation of CCTV Camera, (iv) Supply of food materials for different category animals at Murshidabad. Installation of Play Equipments at Children Play area and (v) Supply of Search-rescue documentation equipments at the Deer Park. NIT No. 02_04_05_06/WBZA/MLD of 2024-25 (2nd Call) and NIT No. 01 & 02/WBZA/MLD of 2024-25. Last date of Bid submission online is 10.07.2024 upto 03.00 P.M. For further details contact in the Office of the Ex-Officio Director, Adina Deer Park & Divisional Forest Officer, Malda Division, Nazrul Sarani, Mukdampur, Malda P.O. & Dist. Malda. Website: <http://www.westbengalforest.gov.in> <http://tender.php5d-shri.jaijuaespar.in> IFS, Ex-Officio Director, Adina Deer Park & Divisional Forest Officer, Malda Division ICA-1956(4)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
ABRIDGED TENDER NOTICE
 On behalf of the Governor of West Bengal, e-tender is invited by the undersigned for (5) five nos work under East Midnapore Division, I&W Dte. Online bid submission closing date is 10.07.2024 upto 17.30 hrs. Other details may be seen in the website www.wbtdenders.gov.in and www.wbtdenders.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, East Midnapore Division, I&W Dte., Tamuk, Purba Medinipur ICA-1957(4)/2024

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS
OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE
 The following e-Tenders can be accessed under the link www.ireps.gov.in. Offers for such e-Tender can be submitted only electronically by accessing the link www.ireps.gov.in - login ID: www.ireps.gov.in and password: www.ireps.gov.in Also contact the following officials to obtain clarification regarding particular tender or IREPS related information if any. Dy. Commr./HQ/CLW/Chittaranjan, 0341-2525594 or SMM/CMO/HQ, 0341-253563. OFFICE ADDRESS: OFFICE OF THE P.W.D. CHITTARANJAN, [A] No. COSCR/PUB/EE-Tender/19/01/2024. Date: 19/06/2024. Sl. No.: Tender No.: Brief Description of Item; Qty.; Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.); Tender Closing Date; (IST) are as follows: (i) 75243884; (ii) SET OF BOLTS HEX HEAD FOR WAG-9H PER SET ELA/LD/KA/E/AC/ST/15/1/01/2024. (iii) SET CONSISTING OF 16 ITEMS AS PER SET DETAILS ATTACHED/Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery; (iv) BOLTS HEX HEAD FOR WAG-9H/EA/CH/SET/15/1/01/2024. (v) Loco set consisting of 33 items as per set details attached/Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery; (vi) 10100 Set, 887.00 Set; 40231.00; 22/07/2024 at 11:00 AM. (vii) 75243772/A: All Steel Loco Nut for WAG-9H Locomotives as per Specification No.-CLW/MSE/3/08/Rev-1/April 2007/A-1/01. (viii) One set consists of 05 items as per set details attached/Warranty Period: 72 Months after the date of delivery; 768.00 Set; 629660.00; 17/07/2024 at 11:00 AM. (ix) [B] No. COSCR/PUB/EE-Tender/19/01/2024. 20/06/2024. Sl. No.: [1]; Tender No.: 70241884; Brief Description of Item: MAIN COMPRESSOR W/TH MOTOR AND ACCESSORIES ALONG WITH MOTOR (WOUND WITH CORONA RESISTANCE WIRE), DRG./SPEC. (IRDSO/2018/EL/Spec/01/37 REV.02) SPEC/01-3/09 (Motor) With Amendment No.-01 to 06. (viii) Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery; Qty.: 17008.00 Set; Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.): 5,00,000.00; Tender Closing Date: (IST) are as follows: 20/07/2024 at 11:00 AM. (ix) [B] No. COSCR/CLW/Chittaranjan Like us on: www.facebook.com/clwraiyas

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
 EE/PWD/TD, invites e-Tender for Annual Maintenance (Civil) of Administrative Complex at Nimitara, Purba Medinipur for 2024-25. (Sweeping, cleaning and Scavenging of New Administrative Building Complex at Nimitara). NIT No. 02 of 2024-2025, Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_697195_1. Bid submission start date (online) is 21.06.2024 from 10.00 hrs. Bid submission closing date (online) is 07.07.2024 at 11.00 hours. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT and Tender documents may be downloaded from <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> Sd/- Executive Engineer, P.W.Dte., Tamuk Division ICA-1962(8)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
 e-Tender is being invited from eligible and resourceful contractor/bidders for e-Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_697203_1 to 4 and Tender Ref. No. WB/EE/MDMD/EE/NIT-05/2024-25. For "Maintenance repair work of switch gear, transformer, VCB, HT, ACB, MCCB, LT, Starter & control panel at different pumping station under M.D.M.D.", and details information will be available in website www.wbtdenders.gov.in or <http://www.wbtdenders.gov.in> for submission of tender: 08/07/2024 upto 11.00 a.m. Other relevant information will be available from the office during working hour. Sd/- Executive Engineer, I&W Dte., Paschim Medinipur, Mechanical Division, Jalisampad Bhanawal, Salt Lake-91 ICA-1957(5)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
 Executive Engineer, Murshidabad Division, Social Sector, P.W.Dte. invites e-Tender for the works in (i) Repair & Renovation for setting up of X-ray unit and C.R. System at Belganga B.P.H.C., Belganga-I Block in the District of Murshidabad under Murshidabad Division, Social Sector, P.W.Dte. Estimated Amount: Rs. 22,45,000. Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_696919.1 ii) Repair & Renovation for setting up of X-ray unit and C.R. System at Nabagram B.P.H.C., Nabagram Block in the District of Murshidabad under Murshidabad Division, Social Sector, P.W.Dte. Estimated Amount: Rs. 3,35,643.00. Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_696919.2 iii) Repair and Renovation work for setting up of T.B./Siliculous unit at Nashipur B.P.H.C., under Bhagwanga-I Block in the District of Murshidabad. Estimated Amount: Rs. 2,51,271.00. Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_696919.3 iv) Repair and Renovation work for setting up of T.B./Siliculous unit at Teghari B.P.H.C. under Raghunathan-I Block in the District of Murshidabad. Estimated Amount: Rs. 2,54,972.00. Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_696919.4 v) Repair and Renovation work for Toilet Blocks (Male and Female) of Main Ward and One Toilet of Cold Chain Section of Nashipur B.P.H.C., Murshidabad. Estimated Amount: Rs. 25,673.00. Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_696919.5

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Open e-Tender Notice
 Online (e-Tender) tender is invited for Creation of Strip Plantation for 2024-25 under Malda Forest Division, NIT No. 01/SP/MLD/2024-25 - Creation of Strip Plantation over 10 ha. - Estimated Cost Rs. 896080.00 lakh. Last date of Bid submission online is 10.07.2024 upto 3.00 P.M. For further details contact in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Divisional Forest Officer, Malda Division, Nazrul Sarani, P.O. Mukdampur, P.S. English Bazar, Dist. Malda, Pin - 732101. Website: <http://wbtdenders.gov.in> or <http://www.westbengalforest.gov.in> Sd/- Executive Engineer, Divisional Forest Officer, Malda Division. ICA-1957(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
 WB/PWD/EE/NBD/SS/NIT No. 5 of 2024-2025. EE, NBD, SS, PW Dte. invites e-Tender for the work of: Supply and installation of metal Compactor Bins of capacity 4000 liter at North Bengal Medical College & Hospital campus, Sushrutnagar, West Bengal, District of Darjeeling. Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_696840.1. Bid submission start date (online) 25.06.2024 from 12.00 p.m. Bid submission closing date (online) 09.07.2024 at 09.00 a.m. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT & Tender documents may be downloaded from <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> Sd/- EE, NBD, SS, PW Dte., Siliguri. ICA-1962(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
ABRIDGED TENDER NOTICE
 On behalf of the Governor of West Bengal, e-tender is invited by the undersigned for (5) five nos work under East Midnapore Division, I&W Dte. Online bid submission closing date is 10.07.2024 upto 17.30 hrs. Other details may be seen in the website www.wbtdenders.gov.in and <http://www.wbtdenders.gov.in> Sd/- Executive Engineer, East Midnapore Division, I&W Dte., Tamuk, Purba Medinipur ICA-1957(4)/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
 (A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
 Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
 Sagardighi Thermal Power Project
 P.O. Monigram, P.S. Sagardighi, Dist. - Murshidabad, Pin - 742237
Notice Inviting e-Tender
 Ref. No.: WBPDC/ Tend-Adv/24-25/SgTPP/CC-1919 Date: 20.06.2024
 NIT No.: WBPDC/SGTPP/NIT/E2948/24-25
 E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> by the General Manager, SgTPP, WBPDC from eligible Agencies/Companies in 3 (three) Part bid system for "Procurement of Grinding Roll and Bull Ring Segment of XRP 1003 Coal Mill for sign-blower maintenance, SgTPP". Tender Document Download Start Date: 24.06.2024 at 09.00 AM. Bid Submission End Date: 15.07.2024 at 09.00 AM. Contact Person: Mr. Arun Mandal, Senior Manager (Purchase), Mobile: 8336903847. E-mail: amandal@wbpdco.in For details please visit: <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> ICA-1959(3)/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
 (A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
 Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
 Sagardighi Thermal Power Project
 P.O. Monigram, P.S. Sagardighi, Dist. - Murshidabad, Pin - 742237
Notice Inviting e-Tender
 Ref. No.: WBPDC/ Tend-Adv/24-25/SgTPP/CC-1915 Date: 20.06.2024
 NIT No.: WBPDC/SGTPP/NIT/E2953/24-25
 E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> by the General Manager, SgTPP, WBPDC from eligible Agencies/Companies in three (03) Part bid system for "Refurbishment of Rotary coal nozzle ring & Static coal nozzle ring of Coal Mill ZGM123N of Stage-I, SgTPP". Tender Document Download Start Date: 15.06.2024 at 10.00 hrs. Bid Submission End Date: 15.07.2024 at 10.00 hrs. Contact Person: Mr. Atanu Chowdhury, DGM(Engg), Mobile: 8336903740. E-mail: achowdhury@wbpdco.in For details please visit: <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> ICA-1959(2)/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
 (A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
 Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
 Sagardighi Thermal Power Project
 P.O. Monigram, P.S. Sagardighi, Dist. - Murshidabad, Pin - 742237
Notice Inviting e-Tender
 Ref. No.: WBPDC/ Tend-Adv/24-25/SgTPP/CC-1919 Date: 20.06.2024
 NIT No.: WBPDC/SGTPP/NIT/E2933/24-25
 E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> by the General Manager, SgTPP, WBPDC from eligible Agencies/Companies in 3 Part bid system for the job "Fixing of double glass windows/doors at 1st floor of Tech-II and concrete approach roads towards ESP-4 building of SgTPP". Tender Document Download Start Date: 25.06.2024 at 10.00 hrs. Bid Submission End Date: 08.07.2024 at 15.00 hrs. Contact Person: Mr. Manas Mallick, Addl. General Manager (M&C), Mobile: 8336903847. E-mail: m.mallick@wbpdco.in For details please visit: <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> ICA-1959(2)/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
 (A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
 Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
 Sagardighi Thermal Power Project
 P.O. Monigram, P.S. Sagardighi, Dist. - Murshidabad, Pin - 742237
Notice Inviting e-Tender
 Ref. No.: WBPDC/ Tend-Adv/24-25/SgTPP/CC-1925 Date: 20.06.2024
 NIT No.: WBPDC/SGTPP/NIT/E2870/23-24
 E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> by the General Manager, SgTPP, WBPDC from eligible Agencies/Companies in three (03) Part bid system for the job "Service contract for Housekeeping and food catering service at both Main & Annex Guest House at SgTPP including extended rooms for two years". Tender Document Download Start Date: 20.06.2024 at 10.00 hrs. Bid Submission End Date: 13.07.2024 at 15.00 hrs. Contact Person: Mr. B. Biswas, SM (Contract Cell), Mobile: 8336904003. E-mail: b.biswas@wbpdco.in For details please visit: <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> ICA-1959(2)/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
 (A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
 Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
 Sagardighi Thermal Power Project
 P.O. Monigram, P.S. Sagardighi, Dist. - Murshidabad, Pin - 742237
Notice Inviting e-Tender
 Ref. No.: WBPDC/ Tend-Adv/24-25/SgTPP/CC-1923 Date: 20.06.2024
 NIT No.: WBPDC/SGTPP/NIT/E2911/24-25
 E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> by the General Manager, SgTPP, WBPDC from eligible Agencies/Companies in three (03) Part bid system for "Comprehensive biennial maintenance contract of server, workstation and computer under C&I SgTPP WBPDC". Tender Document Download Start Date: 19.06.2024 at 10.00 hrs. Bid Submission End Date: 29.06.2024 at 15.00 hrs. Contact Person: Mr. Alanu Chowdhury, DGM (Contract Cell), Mobile: 8336903704. E-mail: achowdhury@wbpdco.in For details please visit: <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> ICA-1959(2)/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
 (A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
 Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
 Santaldin Thermal Power Station
 P.O. Santaldin Thermal Plant, Dist. - Purulia, Pin - 723146
Notice Inviting e-Tender
 Ref. No.: WBPDC/ Tend-Adv/24-25/SgTPP/CC-1842 Date: 14.06.2024
 NIT No.: WBPDC/STPS/NIT/E3580/24-25
 E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> by the General Manager, STPS, WBPDC from eligible Agencies/Companies in 2 Part bid system for "Construction of siding platform at Fly Ash Line No. 2 at STPS, WBPDC". Tender Document Download Start Date: 19.06.2024 at 15.00 hrs. Bid Submission End Date: 15.07.2024 at 15.00 hrs. Contact Person: Mr. K. K. Dutta, Dy. General Manager (Contract Cell), Contact No.: 8336903918. E-mail: kudutta@wbpdco.in For details please visit: <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> ICA-1959(2)/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
 (A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
 Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
 Sagardighi Thermal Power Project
 P.O. Monigram, P.S. Sagardighi, Dist. - Murshidabad, Pin - 742237
Notice Inviting e-Tender
 Ref. No.: WBPDC/ Tend-Adv/24-25/SgTPP/CC-1916 Date: 20.06.2024
 NIT No.: WBPDC/SGTPP/NIT/E2848/23-24
 E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> by the General Manager, SgTPP, WBPDC from eligible Agencies/Companies in 3 Part bid system for the job "Supply of 10 nos of 2000 liter capacity water tank for replacement of pipes, fittings, retreating & chemical dosing at miscellaneous areas under Water Package of Sig-I & 2 Solar module cleaning line maintenance for one year in SgTPP". Tender Document Download Start Date: 20.06.2024 at 10.00 hrs. Bid Submission End Date: 16.07.2024 up to 15.00 hrs. Contact Person: Mr. Manas Mallick, AGM (Contract Cell), Mobile: 8336903847. E-mail: m.mallick@wbpdco.in For details please visit: <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> ICA-1959(2)/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
 (A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
 Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
 Sagardighi Thermal Power Project
 P.O. Monigram, P.S. Sagardighi, Dist. - Murshidabad, Pin - 742237
Notice Inviting e-Tender
 Ref. No.: WBPDC/ Tend-Adv/24-25/SgTPP/CC-1922 Date: 20.06.2024
 NIT No.: WBPDC/SGTPP/NIT/E2910/24-25
 E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> by the General Manager, SgTPP, WBPDC from eligible Agencies/Companies in 3 Part bid system for the job "Repairing, structural painting of TP-4 and required portion of stage-I boiler at SgTPP, WBPDC". Tender Document Download Start Date: 25.06.2024 at 10.00 hrs. Bid Submission End Date: 22.07.2024 at 15.00 hrs. Contact Person: Mr. Manas Mallick, Addl. General Manager (M&C), Mobile: 8336903847. E-mail: m.mallick@wbpdco.in For details please visit: <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> ICA-1959(2)/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
 (A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
 Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
 Sagardighi Thermal Power Project
 P.O. Monigram, P.S. Sagardighi, Dist. - Murshidabad, Pin - 742237
Notice Inviting e-Tender
 Ref. No.: WBPDC/ Tend-Adv/24-25/SgTPP/CC-1920 Date: 20.06.2024
 NIT No.: WBPDC/SGTPP/NIT/E2932/24-25
 E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> by the General Manager, SgTPP, WBPDC from eligible Agencies/Companies in 3 Part bid system for the job "Construction of toilet block at police camp and techno office near AHP stage-I of SgTPP, WBPDC". Tender Document Download Start Date: 25.06.2024 at 10.00 hrs. Bid Submission End Date: 08.07.2024 at 15.00 hrs. Contact Person: Mr. Manas Mallick, Addl. General Manager (M&C), Mobile: 8336903847. E-mail: m.mallick@wbpdco.in For details please visit: <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> ICA-1959(3)/2024

AWARDING CONTRACT FOR OPERATION OF PRADHAN MANTRI BHARATIYA JANAUSHADHI KENDRA OUTLET AT THE CIRCULATING AREA OF RANGIYA STATION
 E-auction for awarding contract for operation of Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Janaushadhi Kendra outlet at the circulating area of Rangiya station for a period of 3 (three) years. Rate Unit: Annual Licensing Fee. Trips/Days, 1995.

Auction Catalogue No. PMBJK-RNY-24-1

Seq No.	Lot No./Category	Description
AA/1	PMBJK-RNY-RNY- (PMBJK-1-24-1) (PMBJK - Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Janaushadhi Kendras)	Awarding contract for operation of the Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Janaushadhi Kendra (PMBJK) outlet at the circulating area of Rangiya station for a period of 3 (three) years.

Auction Start Date & Time: 11.00 hrs. of 05-07-2024. Auction Close Date & Time: 11.30 hrs. of 05-07-2024. Prospective bidders are requested to visit E-Auction Leasing Module on IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
 Serving Customers With A Smile
 For details, visit <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> & www.wbssedl.in

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
 e-Tender are invited for 1) Construction of a new playground at ITI Gariahat. Estimated Amount: Rs. 28,13,684.00. NIT No. 02/2024-25. Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_697039_1. Bid submission start date (online) 20.06.2024 upto 5.55 p.m. Bid submission closing date (online) 10.07.2024 upto 1.30p.m. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT and Tender document may be downloaded from: <http://wbtdenders.gov.in> Sd/- Executive Engineer, Kolkata Division, Social Sector, P.W.Dte. ICA-1962(1)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
 e-Tender are invited for Construction of Guard room Along with Toilet at ITI Gariahat. Estimated Amount: Rs. 10,89,487.00. NIT No. 03/2024-25. Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_697156_1. Bid submission start date (online) 20.06.2024 upto 5.55 p.m. Bid submission closing date (online) 10.07.2024 upto 1.30p.m. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT and Tender document may be downloaded from: <http://wbtdenders.gov.in> Sd/- Executive Engineer, Kolkata Division, Social Sector, P.W.Dte. ICA-1962(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD-NH TENDER NOTICE
 EE, Construction Division, Spl. Project (AH-48) Maynaguri invites online Quotation for Nine numbers of Security Guard vide e-NIT No. 01 of 2024-25. Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_697156_1. Bid submission start date (online) 25.06.2024 at 19.00 Hrs; Bid submission closing date (online) 11.07.2024 upto 19.00 Hrs. Details of NIT and Quotation documents may be downloaded from <http://wbtdenders.gov.in> Sd/- EE, Construction Division, Spl. Project (AH-48) Maynaguri ICA-1961(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
 NIT No. WBPWD/EE/KCHO/NIT/02/2024-2025. Name of Work: (1) Consultancy Services for inspection of hydrant base fire fighting system along with the Fire pump at the premises of the hospital premises of NRS Medical College & Hospital (Dr. R. Ahmed) at Patalipatna College, Dist. East. R. Shyamadas Vaidya Shashtra Pr. Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_696998_1. 2. Estimated Amount: (1) 5,00,000.00 (2) 10,00,000.00 (3) 4,00,000.00. Bid Submission start Date: 24/07/2024 at 12.00 Hrs. Bid Submission end Date: 03.07.2024 upto 14.00 Hrs. Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWDte, Kolkata Central Health Division ICA-1960(2)/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
 (A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
 Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
 Sagardighi Thermal Power Project
 P.O. Monigram, P.S. Sagardighi, Dist. - Murshidabad, Pin - 742237
Notice Inviting e-Tender
 Ref. No.: WBPDC/ Tend-Adv/24-25/SgTPP/CC-1917 Date: 20.06.2024
 NIT No.: WBPDC/SGTPP/NIT/E2943/24-25
 E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> by the General Manager, SgTPP, WBPDC from eligible Agencies/Companies in three (03) Part bid system for the job "Service contract for two years to prevent the foliage/creepers growth and tree trimming around all the Electrical Installations under EMOPH, SgTPP". Tender Document Download Start Date: 19.06.2024 at 10.00 hrs. Bid Submission End Date: 12.07.2024 upto 15.00 hrs. Contact Person: Mr. Manas Mallick, AGM (Contract Cell), Mobile: 8336903847. E-mail: m.mallick@wbpdco.in For details please visit: <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> ICA-1959(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
 WBPWD/SEKHEC/KNHED/ENIT04/24-25 e-Tender being invited by the SEKHEC, PWD KIT, Zames Building, 5/Floor, Kolkata-73 from the eligible Contractors for Operational charges for Lift (operator/attendant) installed at different building within the jurisdiction of R.G.Kar Medical College Electrical Sub-Division, P.W.Dte. SgTPP WBPDC, from eligible Agencies/Companies in THREE (03) Part bid system for the job "Service contract for two years to prevent the foliage/creepers growth and tree trimming around all the Electrical Installations under EMOPH, SgTPP". Tender Document Download Start Date: 19.06.2024 at 10.00 hrs. Bid Submission End Date: 12.07.2024 upto 15.00 hrs. Contact Person: Mr. Manas Mallick, AGM (Contract Cell), Mobile: 8336903847. E-mail: m.mallick@wbpdco.in For details please visit: <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> ICA-1963(6)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
 The Executive Engineer, North Bengal Construction Division, PWD, Siliguri, on behalf of the Governor of West Bengal invites e-Tender for one lot, the details of which may be found from the office of the undersigned on working days during the office hours or on website: <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> or <http://www.pwdwb.in>. NIT No. WBPWD/EE/NBD/SS/NIT No.

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
e-NIT No. - WBPWD/EE-WKED/NIQ-03/2024-25 Tender ID : 2024_WBPWD_696146_1. Name of Work: Annual Maintenance of the Electrical Installations at Registrar of Assurance Office & Red cross society at 5 & 6 Govt. Place (North) for the period of one year; Bid Submission End Date: 02.07.2024 upto 1.00p.m.; Website : <https://wbenders.gov.in> of <https://wbenders.gov.in> of Executive Engineer-I, P.W.D., West Kolkata Electrical Division, 4th floor, C-Block, New Sectt. Bldg., K.S. Roy Road, Kol-01. ICA-19663(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
Superintending Engineer, Southern Circle, Social Sector, P.W.D. invites online e-tender for the work of "Proposed three storied Integrated English Medium School at Kalligan, in the district of Nadia under Krishnagar Division, Social Sector, P.W.D." e-NIT No. 03/SESSCPWD of 2024-25. Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_692004_1. Bid Submission Start Date (online): 19.06.2024 at 03.00 PM. Bid Submission Closing Date (online): 09.07.2024 upto 03.00 PM. Corrigendum if any will be published in the website only. Details of N.I.T. and Tender Documents may be downloaded from <https://wbenders.gov.in> Sd/- SE, SC, SS, P.W.D. ICA-19653(3)/2024

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer (Lakes South Zone), Room No.309, 3rd Floor, New Building, B.M.P. N.R. Square, Bengaluru-02.
No: EE-South Zone/Lakes/TN-01/2024-25 Date: 24.06.2024
INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT) (Two Cover Tender) (Through GOK KPP Portal only)
Tenders on item rate basis are invited by the undersigned for the work mentioned below from the registered contractors of B.M.P. or equivalent registration with CPWD/KPWD/Railways/ MES or any State Government Organizations.
Call-2

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Value of work (Rs. in Lakhs)	Amount put to tender (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD (in Rs.)
1	Comprehensive Development of Madiwala Lake (Call-2)	1500.00	1234.38	15.00 Lakhs

Stipulated Period of Completion : 11 Months
Calendar of Events: 1) Bid documents can be downloaded from 29-06-2024 from the website <http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>. (2) Pre-bid meeting which will take place at office of the Chief Engineer (Lakes), B.M.P. on 02-07-2024 at 15.00 hrs. (3) Tenders must be submitted online through KPP Portal on or before 16.00 hrs. on 12-07-2024. (4) Technical Bids will be opened on the website <http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> in the Office of the Executive Engineer (South), Lakes, B.M.P. on 15-07-2024 at 12.00 hrs.
Further details can be had from the office of the above. For details, registration and e-payment visit GOK KPP Portal website: <http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> or Contact KPP Portal Helpdesk at 080-22485867/22485927.
Sd/- Executive Engineer (Lakes South Zone), B.M.P.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER & PROJECT DIRECTOR
STATE PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT
WEST BENGAL MAJOR IRRIGATION AND FLOOD MANAGEMENT PROJECT
JALASAMPAD BHAWAN, 9TH FLOOR, SALT LAKE CITY, KOLKATA - 700 091
EMAIL : ce.p.wbmfmp@gmail.com Tel : 033-23581315
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement
Procurement Notice for India - P16279
West Bengal Major Irrigation & Flood Management Project - IN-INDV-430222-CW-RFB (Funded by World Bank, AIB & Government of West Bengal)
1st Corrigendum / Addendum Notice
Name of Work : "Distributed PLC based SCADA Canal Gate Automation Project under West Bengal Major Irrigation & Flood Management Project, Package No. IRR-15 - comprising of two lots". RFB No. : WBMFMP/PD/NCB/24-25/IRR15, Tender ID : 2024_IWD_689681_1, Tender ID : 2024_IWD_689681_2. For detailed 1st Corrigendum / Addendum to above work, please visit the website : <https://wbenders.gov.in>
Sd/- Chief Engineer and Project Director, SPMU, WBMFMP, Government of West Bengal

Govt. of NCT of Delhi
Dethi Urban Shelter Improvement Board
Vikas Kutir, I.P.Estate, New Delhi-110002
E-Auction Notice
Dethi Urban Shelter Improvement Board invites online e-auction of 13 sites of various Assets/ Premises of DUSIB for renting out for installation of Mobile Network Tower (as per list available on website) on temporary basis as per prescribed terms & conditions for an agreement for a period of six years from the date of taking over the possession with one extension of 4 years and total maximum period upto 10 years with the approval of competent authority. There will be an automatic escalation/increase in the rates of license fee (rental) by 8% every year at the beginning of each successive year.
DATE OF E-AUCTION
22.07.2024 (Monday) from 11.00 AM to 02.00 PM
Online registration starts : 01.07.2024 (Monday)
Last date for online registration/submission of mandatory documents with EMD is 12.07.2024 (Friday) upto 6:00 PM
For further details of the sites and procedure kindly visit the e-auction website <https://dusib.ebizard.in> or DUSIB website www.delhishelterboard.in
Sd/- Dy. Director (RP) (Mob. No.8526697456)
DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0099/24-25

Govt. of NCT of Delhi
Dethi Urban Shelter Improvement Board
Vikas Kutir, I.P.Estate, New Delhi-110002
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Sd/- Dy. Director (RP) (Mob. No.8526697456)
DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0099/24-25

Govt. of NCT of Delhi
Dethi Urban Shelter Improvement Board
Vikas Kutir, I.P.Estate, New Delhi-110002
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DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0099/24-25

Govt. of NCT of Delhi
Dethi Urban Shelter Improvement Board
Vikas Kutir, I.P.Estate, New Delhi-110002
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Dethi Urban Shelter Improvement Board invites online e-auction of 13 sites of various Assets/ Premises of DUSIB for renting out for installation of Mobile Network Tower (as per list available on website) on temporary basis as per prescribed terms & conditions for an agreement for a period of six years from the date of taking over the possession with one extension of 4 years and total maximum period upto 10 years with the approval of competent authority. There will be an automatic escalation/increase in the rates of license fee (rental) by 8% every year at the beginning of each successive year.
DATE OF E-AUCTION
22.07.2024 (Monday) from 11.00 AM to 02.00 PM
Online registration starts : 01.07.2024 (Monday)
Last date for online registration/submission of mandatory documents with EMD is 12.07.2024 (Friday) upto 6:00 PM
For further details of the sites and procedure kindly visit the e-auction website <https://dusib.ebizard.in> or DUSIB website www.delhishelterboard.in
Sd/- Dy. Director (RP) (Mob. No.8526697456)
DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0099/24-25

Govt. of NCT of Delhi
Dethi Urban Shelter Improvement Board
Vikas Kutir, I.P.Estate, New Delhi-110002
E-Auction Notice
Dethi Urban Shelter Improvement Board invites online e-auction of 13 sites of various Assets/ Premises of DUSIB for renting out for installation of Mobile Network Tower (as per list available on website) on temporary basis as per prescribed terms & conditions for an agreement for a period of six years from the date of taking over the possession with one extension of 4 years and total maximum period upto 10 years with the approval of competent authority. There will be an automatic escalation/increase in the rates of license fee (rental) by 8% every year at the beginning of each successive year.
DATE OF E-AUCTION
22.07.2024 (Monday) from 11.00 AM to 02.00 PM
Online registration starts : 01.07.2024 (Monday)
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Govt. of NCT of Delhi
Dethi Urban Shelter Improvement Board
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Sd/- Dy. Director (RP) (Mob. No.8526697456)
DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0099/24-25

Govt. of NCT of Delhi
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Vikas Kutir, I.P.Estate, New Delhi-110002
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DATE OF E-AUCTION
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NOTICE
I, Smt Durga Rani Maiti Chandra wife of Late Asok Kumar Chandra do hereby declare and notify as follows:
(i) That in the service records of my late husband Asok Kumar Chandra, my name has been recorded as Durga Rani Chandra and my date of birth has been recorded as 19th March, 1954 wrongly out of inadvertence.
(ii) My correct name is Durga Rani Maiti Chandra and my correct date of birth is 11th April, 1950 as per my Aadhar card and PAN card issued by the respective departments of Government of India.
(iii) This notice is made for change/correction of my name and date of birth as above in the service records of my late husband Asok Kumar Chandra.
(iv) This is for general information of the public.
Durga Rani Maiti Chandra

INFORMATION WANTED
This is the photograph of Ram Avtar Sharma, Son of Lt. Gopiram Sharma, of Viveknagar Titagarh, PO-Khardah, PO-Titagarh, 700119, who has been missing since 25.07.2021 from Residence, Khardah, Barrackpore Commissionerate, W.B. Description of this missing person is: Age-60 years, Complexion-Sallow, Height-183 cms., Wearing-Pink Shirt, Blue Pant, Language-Hindi. Please inform whereabouts of the missing person, to the Spl. Supdt. of Police, C.I.D. (W.B.), Bhabani Bhaban, Kolkata-700027, Ph. No.-033-2450-6120.
ICA-D1024(3)/2024

INFORMATION WANTED
This is the photograph of Subhankar Mandal, Son of Dulal Chandra Mondal of Vill-Paschim Nagdal, PO-Kampa, PS-Jedia, 743193, who has been missing since 01.06.2024 from Residence, Jedia PS, Barrackpore Commissionerate, W.B., Description of this missing person is: Age-30 years, Complexion-Sallow, Height-175 cms., Wearing-Round Neck T-Shirt, Half Bermuda Pant, Language-Bengali, Identification Mark/Nature-One Big Cut Mark in Head and Mentally Disabled. Please inform whereabouts of the missing person, to the Spl. Supdt. of Police, C.I.D. (W.B.), Bhabani Bhaban, Kolkata-700027, Ph. No.-033-2450-6120.
ICA-D1016(3)/2024

INFORMATION WANTED
This is the photograph of an Unknown Male Deadbody, of PO-Sainthia, 731234, found on 24.09.2023 at KM Post 63-01 to 63-03 UP Main Line Bataspur RS under Sainthia GRPS, Description of this Deadbody is: Age-65 Years, Height-166 cms., Sex: Male, Wearing- Half Shirt Panjabi, White Pajama and White Under Pant. Please inform whereabouts of the Unknown Male Deadbody/ person or contact (to) the Spl. Supdt. of Police, C.I.D. (W.B.), Bhabani Bhaban, Kolkata-700027, Ph. No.-033-2450-6120.
ICA-D1027(3)/2024

INFORMATION WANTED
This is the photograph of an Unknown Male Deadbody, of PO-Burdwan, 713102, found on 14.03.2024 at KM Post No-98-27 to 98-29 between Sakitgarh RS to Gangpur RS under Burdwan GRPS, Description of this Deadbody is: Age-35 Years, Height-163 cms., Sex: Male, Wearing- Black Full Ganjee, Ash Colour Burmuda. Please inform whereabouts of the Unknown Male Deadbody/ person or contact (to) the Spl. Supdt. of Police, C.I.D. (W.B.), Bhabani Bhaban, Kolkata-700027, Ph. No.-033-2450-6120.
ICA-D1019(3)/2024

INFORMATION WANTED
This is the photograph of an Unidentified Deadbody, of PO-Sainthia, 731234, found on 03.05.2024 Lying at KM Post 72-2 to 72-3 on Reverse Line outside the Track under Sainthia GRPS, Description of this Deadbody is: Age-55 Years, Height-163 cms., Sex: Male, Wearing- White Sando Ganji, White Green Check Lungi. Please inform whereabouts of the Unidentified Deadbody/ person or contact (to) the Spl. Supdt. of Police, C.I.D. (W.B.), Bhabani Bhaban, Kolkata-700027, Ph. No.-033-2450-6120.
ICA-D1022(3)/2024

INFORMATION WANTED
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ICA-D1022(3)/2024

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ICA-D1019(3)/2024

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ICA-D1019(3)/2024

INFORMATION WANTED
This is the photograph of an Unidentified Deadbody, of PO-Burdwan, 7131



TAYLOR SWIFT SURPRISES FANS BY BRINGING BF TRAVIS KELCE ON STAGE AS DANCER AT UK SHOW; CLIP OF NFL STAR LIFTING HER VIRAL



ELON MUSK QUIETLY WELCOMES BABY NO. 12 THIS YEAR, HIS 3RD WITH NEURALINK EXEC SHIVON ZILIS: 'NOT A SECRET. FRIENDS, FAMILY KNOW'

Attack on religious sites in Russia's Dagestan kills 20

Churches, Synagogues And Police Post Targeted In Assaults Suspected To Be Conducted By Islamist Extremists; 15 Cops Among Dead; All 5 Gunmen Killed

Moscow: Russia's southern region of Dagestan held the first of three days of mourning Monday following an attack by Islamist militants who authorities say killed 20 people, mostly police, and attacked Christian and Jewish houses of worship in assaults in two cities. Sunday's violence in Dagestan's regional capital of Makhachkala and nearby Derbent was the latest that officials blamed on Islamist extremists in the predominantly Muslim region in the North Caucasus. It was also the deadliest in Russia since March, when gunmen opened fire at a concert in suburban Moscow, killing 145 people.



Dagestan governor Sergei Meliko (in grey shirt above) visits an Orthodox church attacked on Sunday. Dagestan is a predominantly Muslim region.

8 die in building inferno near Moscow

Two people jumped to their death from the top floors of a burning eight-storey former Russian electronics research institute on Monday and at least six others died in the fire, state-run TASS news agency reported. Black smoke billowed from the building outside Moscow and flames roared up its walls. Some people were trapped on the top floors but were unable to escape. One man was seen jumping from the upper floor of the building, while another — with serious burns — fell. It was not clear what caused the fire. **REUTERS**

link the attack to Moscow's military action in Ukraine — but also provided no evidence. Prez Putin had sought to blame the March attack on Ukraine, again without evidence and despite the claim of responsibility by the Islamic State affiliate. Kyiv has vehemently denied any role. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Putin has received reports on Sunday's attacks and efforts to help the victims. The Investigative Committee, the country's top state criminal investigation agency, said all five attackers were killed. Of the 20 people killed, at least 15 were police. Authorities said at least 46 people were injured. Among the dead was the Rev. Nikolai Kotelnikov, a 66-year-old Russian Orthodox priest at a church in Derbent. The attackers slit his throat before setting fire to the church, according to Shamil Khadulayev, deputy head of a local public oversight body. The attack came as the Orthodox faithful celebrated Pentecost. Melikov, the Dagestan governor, said also among the dead were a Russian Orthodox believer and 18 Muslims. The Kele-Numaz synagogue in Derbent also was set ablaze. Shortly after, militants fired at a police post in Makhachkala and attacked a Russian Orthodox Church and a synagogue there before being killed by special forces.

In the early 2000s, Dagestan saw near-daily attacks on police and other authorities that was blamed on militant extremists. The violence has abated in recent years, but in a sign that extremist sentiments still run high in the region, mobs rioted at an airport there in Oct, targeting a flight from Israel. Over 20 people were hurt — none of them Israelis — when hundreds of men, some carrying banners with antisemitic slogans, rushed onto the tarmac, chased passengers and threw stones at police. The airport rampage challenged the Kremlin's narrative that ethnic and religious groups co-exist in harmony in Russia. **AP**

Blaze at S Korea lithium battery plant kills 22

18 Of Them Were Chinese Workers

Seoul: A fire likely sparked by exploding lithium batteries swept through a manufacturing factory near South Korea's capital on Monday, killing 22 mostly Chinese migrant workers and injuring eight, officials said.



The fire, likely caused by exploding lithium batteries, started at one of the factories owned by battery manufacturer Aricell. Authorities will probe whether fire extinguishing systems were at the site and if they worked

The fire began after batteries exploded while workers were examining and packaging them on the second floor of the factory in Hwaseong city, just south of Seoul, at around 10.30am, fire officials said, citing a witness.

many people from China have migrated to South Korea to seek jobs. They often end up in factories or in physically demanding and low-paying jobs shunned by more affluent South Koreans. Kim said a worker remained out of contact and rescuers were searching the site. He said two of the eight injured were in serious condition.

The fire started at one of the factory buildings owned by a battery manufacturer, Aricell. Rechargeable lithium-ion batteries are ubiquitous in consumer goods from laptops to cellphones. They can overheat if damaged, defective or packaged improperly, leading to fires and explosions and making them a hazard for shipment on aircraft.

The dead included 18 Chinese, two South Koreans and one Laotian, local fire official Kim Jin-young said. He said the nationality of one of the dead was to be verified. In the past few decades,

Senior fire official Jo Seon-ho, citing video footage, said workers mobilised fire extinguishers but failed to put out the blaze. They later rushed to an area where there was no exit before they likely inhaled toxic smoke and lost their consciousness, he said.

Prez Yoon Suk Yeol, wearing a safety helmet and a mask, visited the site. He expressed condolences to the dead people and ordered officials to put in place measures to effectively deal with battery-related fires. Monday's blaze is one of the deadliest in South Korea in recent years. **AP**

Suffered Seizures In Dozens To Hundreds. Now, A Big Relief

UK schoolboy gets world's first epilepsy device fitted in skull

London: A schoolboy from England has made medical history as the first in the world with severe epilepsy to trial a new device fitted in his skull to control seizures, the UK media reported Monday. The neurostimulator, which sends electrical signals deep into brain, has cut Oran Knowlson's daytime seizures by 80%.



The neurostimulator, which sends electrical signals deep into his brain, has cut 13-year-old Oran's day seizures by 80%. The surgery that lasted 8 hrs took place in Oct 2023 when he was 12

Oran has Lennox-Gastaut syndrome, a treatment-resistant form of epilepsy which he developed at three. Since then he has suffered daily seizures ranging from two dozen to hundreds, BBC reported. His mother Justine told BBC Oran had a range of different seizures, including those where he fell to the ground, shook violently and lost consciousness. She said he would at times stop breathing

and require emergency medication to resuscitate him. The surgery, which lasted some eight hours, took place in Oct 2023. It was part of a trial at Great Ormond Street Hospital when Oran, who is now 13, was 12. It was in partnership with University College London, King's College Hospital and Oxford University.

Deep brain stimulation has been tried before for childhood epilepsy, but until now neurostimulators were placed in the chest with wires running up to the brain. **PTI**

Epilepsy seizures are triggered by abnormal bursts of electrical activity in the brain. The device, which emits a constant pulse of current, aims to block or disrupt abnormal signals. Justine told BBC he was happier and had a "much better quality of life". "He's a lot more chatty, more engaged. I definitely now have a teenager — he's happy to tell me no," she said. His night-time seizures are now "shorter and less severe".

Under the 2021 deal, the company was asked to overhauled its compliance practices and submit regular reports. Boeing had also agreed to pay \$2.5 billion to settle the probe. **REUTERS**

Criminal charges recommended against Boeing in fatal crashes case

Washington: US prosecutors are recommending to senior US justice department officials that criminal charges be brought against Boeing after finding the planemaker violated a settlement related to two fatal crashes, two people familiar with the matter said. The federal agency determined in May that Boeing had breached a 2021 deferred-prosecution agreement that was put in place after the 737 Max crashes, which killed 346 people in 2018 and 2019. The planemaker has denied the findings, and the DoJ now has until July 7 to decide what punishment, if any, it should face. Under the 2021 deal, the company was asked to overhauled its compliance practices and submit regular reports. Boeing had also agreed to pay \$2.5 billion to settle the probe. **REUTERS**

If Labour wins UK polls, party says 'ready to go' for FTA with India

London: The UK's opposition Labour Party Monday criticised the governing Conservatives of having "over-promised and under delivered" on relations with India and declared that it is "ready to go" on striking a free trade agreement (FTA) if it wins the July 4 general election. Addressing the India Global Forum (IGF), the party's shadow foreign secretary David Lammy laid out his ambitions of the FTA being "a floor not a ceiling" of the partnership he aspires to with his "friend" external affairs minister S Jaishankar.

India and the UK have completed 13 rounds of FTA negotiations to enhance the estimated GBP 38.1 billion a year trading relationship, with talks currently stalled amid the election cycles in both the countries.

"Many Diwalis have come and gone without a trade deal and too many businesses have been left waiting," said Lammy referring to the missed Diwali 2022 deadline set by former PM Boris Johnson for the FTA. "My message to [finance] minister (Nirmala) Sitharaman and (trade) minister (Piyush) Goyal is that Labour is ready to go. Let's finally get our free trade deal done and move on," he said, adding he will be in Delhi before the end of July if elected to govt on July 4. **PTI**

Russia summons US envoy to protest Ukraine's use of 'US missiles' in Crimea

Russian foreign ministry summoned American ambassador Lynne Tracy on Monday to protest what it says was the use of US-made advanced missiles in a Ukrainian attack on Russian-annexed Crimea that reportedly killed four, including two children, and wounded over 150. Washington "has effectively become a party" to the war on Ukraine's side, the ministry said, adding, "Retaliatory measures will certainly follow."

There was no comment from US or Ukrainian officials. Meanwhile, Russian defense ministry on Monday reported striking a "major logistical hub" of the Ukrainian military that held Western-supplied missiles and other weapons. It said the strike was carried out by warplanes, drones, ground-launched missiles and artillery. The ministry didn't name its location. **AP**

Bibi: Intense Gaza ops winding down, to focus on Hezbollah

Says War Not Ending, Prepared To Fight On Several Fronts

Jerusalem: Israeli PM Netanyahu said on Sunday that the "intense phase" of fighting against Hamas in Gaza is winding down, setting the stage for Israel to send more troops to its northern border to confront Lebanese militant group Hezbollah.



Israeli jets bombarded an UNRWA compound near Gaza City Sunday, killing at least 8 people. The Israeli military said the compound was being used by Hamas and Islamic Jihad militants, which Hamas denied

The comments threatened to further heighten the tensions between Israel and Hezbollah at a time when they appear to be moving closer to war. Netanyahu also signalled that there is no end in sight for the grinding war in Gaza. The current phase of the war "is about to end," Netanyahu said. "That doesn't mean the war is about to end."

Netanyahu said in a lengthy interview that while the army is close to completing its ground offensive in Rafah, that would not mean the war against Hamas is over. But he said fewer troops would be needed in Gaza, freeing up forces to battle Hezbollah.

Gallant holds talks in US on war's next phase

Israel's defence minister Yoav Gallant met with the CIA director on Monday morning in Washington and was expected to sit down with secretary of state Antony Blinken, as the US works to head off a new Israeli military push in Lebanon. The visit comes at a crucial time for Israel and the war in Gaza. The fate of a ceasefire deal that would release the hostages is unclear, worries about intensified fighting between Hezbollah and Israel are increasing, and PM Netanyahu said that the intensive phase of Israel's war against Hamas was "about to end". Monday's meetings will focus on all three issues, with US officials seeking clarity on the Israeli govt's intentions with a possible ceasefire agreement and whether Israeli leaders are considering a new offensive against Hezbollah fighters, military action that Washington worries could drag the US. **NYT**

war: Netanyahu said he hoped a diplomatic solution to the crisis could be found but vowed to solve the problem "in a different way" if needed. "We can fight on several fronts and we are prepared to do that."

Hezbollah warned Israel last week against launching war on Lebanon's front, saying it has new weapons and intelligence capabilities that could help it target critical positions deeper inside Israel. **AP**

Apple is first company charged under new EU competition law

Apple is imposing unfair restrictions on developers of applications for its App Store in violation of a new European Union law meant to encourage competition in the tech industry, regulators in Brussels said on Monday. The charges further escalated a tussle between Apple, which says its products are designed in the best interest of customers, and EU regulators, who say the company is unfairly using its size and considerable resources to stifle competition.



EU regulators said Apple was putting unlawful restrictions on companies that make games, music services & other apps

Apple is the first company to be charged for violating the Digital Markets Act, a law passed in 2022 that gives European regulators wide authority to force the largest "online gatekeepers" to change their business practices. After initiating an investigation in March, EU regulators said Apple was putting unlawful restrictions on companies

that make games, music services and other applications. Under the law, Apple cannot limit how companies communicate with customers about sales and other offers and content available outside the App Store. The company faces a penalty of up to 10% of global revenue, a fine that could go up to 20% for repeat infringements. Apple reported \$383 billion in revenue last year.

Commission executive vice-president in charge of competition policy. She said Apple's App Store policies make developers more dependent on the company and prevent consumers from being aware of better offers. EU regulators said the charges were preliminary and gave Apple a chance to respond. A final decision will be announced by next March.

Apple defended its practices, saying its rules and fees are a fair trade for providing such a large platform to reach consumers. Developers can point consumers to websites to make purchases outside the App Store, the company said. "Throughout the past several months, Apple has made a number of changes to comply with the DMA in response to feedback from developers and the European Commission," Apple said. "We are confident our plan complies with the law." **NYT**

Restored Ranjit Singh statue to be unveiled at Kartarpur gurdwara in Pak on June 26

Yudhvir Rana | TNN

The restored statue of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, vandalised thrice since its installation in Lahore Fort and relocated to Gurdwara Darbar Sahib complex in Kartarpur, Pakistan, will be inaugurated in the neighbouring country to commemorate the 185th death anniversary of the Sikh warrior on June 26.

Nearly 450 Indian Sikh are currently in Pakistan to observe the death anniversary of Ranjit Singh who ruled Punjab in the 19th century and was the first maharaja of Sikh empire. Lahore's Fakir Khana Museum director Fakir Syed Saifuddin spearheaded the project to repair, rebuild, and restructure the statue that had incurred nearly 80% damage.

"It was out of love and respect for Ranjit Singh that I undertook this project. The restoration cost around Rs 27 lakh and the work spanned over a year. The statue was donated for its installation in Gurdwara Darbar Sahib complex," Saifuddin, a fifth generation descendant of Fakir Sayed Azizuddin who was chief secretary and foreign minister in Ranjit Singh's govt said. His brothers Fakir Syed Imamuddin and Fakir Syed Nooruddin were acting governor, Amritsar, and governor, Lahore, respectively.

The 9-foot bronze statue was sculpted by Fakir Khana Museum in 2019. It was vandalised in 2019 and 2020 by religious groups and in 2021 by terrorist outfit Tehreek-e-Labbaik.

AROUND THE WORLD



DALI LEAVES BALTIMORE FOR VIRGINIA: Cargo ship Dali headed out of Baltimore for Virginia on Monday, nearly three months after it lost power and crashed into one of the Francis Scott Key bridge's supporting columns and caused the bridge to collapse. The 984-foot Dali started moving shortly before 8.30am (local time) with four tugboats. The Dali was sailing under its own power with a full crew of 22 and six salvage experts, said the US Coast Guard said, which is overseeing the voyage & providing a 500-yard safety zone around Dali

In latest UK royal health setback, Anne hospitalised with head injury

Princess Anne, King Charles' younger sister, is in hospital after suffering a head injury on Sunday, Buckingham Palace said, adding that the royal was expected to make a full recovery from the incident which was believed to have involved a horse. The palace said on Monday that the 73-year-old had suffered minor injuries and a concussion following the incident, and was now recovering at Southmead Hospital in Bristol. The princess had been walking in the grounds of Gatcombe Park estate where her home is located when she suffered minor injuries to her head, a royal source said. The source said there were horses in the vicinity and her medical team said the head injuries

were consistent with impact from a horse's head or legs. "Hello Kitty", parasites & more trash: N Korea resumes balloon landings in South

North Korea resumed launches of balloons likely carrying trash toward South Korea on Monday night, South Korea's military said, in the latest round of a Cold War-style campaign on the Korean Peninsula. Among the trash that balloons carried over the border from North were articles printed with Hello Kitty characters, badly worn clothing, and soil containing traces of human faeces and parasites, South Korea said. North Korea has flown balloons with trash since late May, with hundreds landing in the South. Parasites and human DNA were found in the dirt in some of the bags, which shows it contained fertiliser that used human faeces, the South said. It also contained worn items of clothing with Mickey Mouse and Winnie the Pooh characters, as well as clothes that were donated from the South that were slashed and cut up.

Haj deaths put spotlight on underworld of illicit tour operators

1,300+, Including 98 Indians, Have Died; 83% Of Them Were Walking In Heat Sans Permits

Cairo: More than 1,300 people died making the Islamic pilgrimage of haj in Saudi Arabia this month, the vast majority of whom the Saudi govt said did not have permits. Many walked for miles in scorching heat as high as 51.8 degrees Celsius after paying thousands of dollars to illicit tour operators. The fatalities included 660 Egyptians, 165 from Indonesia, 98 from India and dozens more from Jordan, Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria and Malaysia, according to an AP tally. Two US citizens also died.

While pilgrims with permits are transported around Mecca in air-conditioned buses and rest in air-conditioned tents, unregistered ones are often exposed to the elements. On Sunday, Saudi health minister Fahd bin Abdurrahman Al-Jalajel said 83% of the 1,301 reported deaths involved pilgrims who lacked permits. With nearly 2 million participating each year, it is not unusual for pilgrims to die from heat stress, illness or chronic disease. But it is unclear if the number of deaths

this year was higher than usual, because Saudi does not regularly report those statistics.

But as so many of those who died had no permits, this year's toll exposed an underworld of illicit tour operators and smugglers who profit off Muslims desperate to make the journey. An estimated 400,000 undocumented people tried to perform haj this year, a senior Saudi official told AFP.



A child in a stroller during this year's Haj pilgrimage. Temperatures in Mecca climbed as high as 51.8° C

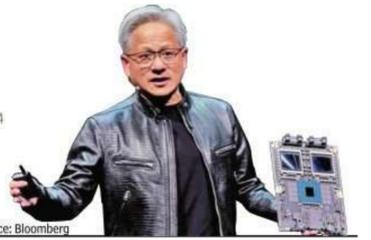
Haj tour operators, pilgrims and relatives of the dead described easily exploited loopholes that allow people to travel to the kingdom with a tourist or visitor visa before haj. Once they arrive, they find illegal brokers and

smugglers who offer their services, take their money and sometimes abandon them to

fend for themselves, they said. The number of unregistered pilgrims appeared to have been driven up this year by rising economic desperation in countries such as Egypt and Jordan. An official haj package can cost more than \$5,000 or \$10,000, depending on a pilgrim's country of origin — far beyond the means of many.

One unregistered pilgrim who died was Safaa al-Tawab from the Egyptian city of Luxor. Al-Tawab, 55, had not been able to obtain a haj permit but found an Egyptian tour company to take her for around \$3,000, her brother Ahmed said. After she arrived, she told relatives she had been put in

inadequate housing and prevented from going outside. Although the tour operator had promised air-conditioned buses, she found herself walking for miles in the heat, her brother said. She died midway through the pilgrimage, but when her brother contacted a representative from the tour company, he assured him she was fine, then turned off his phone. Even for the young and fit, haj is a physically challenging event, and many pilgrims are elderly or ailing by the time they can make the journey. Some believe the hajj might be their final rite, and that dying in Mecca will confer great blessings. **NYT & AP**



Source: Bloomberg

■ A surge in demand for Nvidia's chips sparked by the AI frenzy has made a mockery of Wall St's financial estimates. **Even Nvidia's leadership is struggling to anticipate** how much money the chipmaker will generate 3 months into the future

Tough Time Forecasting

■ Since Nvidia's sales began exploding in April 2023 qtr, revenue has **exceeded** the midpoint of the co's own forecast by an average of **13%**

What Price To Pay

■ **Jensen Huang-led Nvidia** is projected to deliver a profit of **\$14.7bn** on sales of **\$28.4bn** this quarter, up **137%** and **111%**

■ **Microsoft's sales** are set to rise **15%** with **Apple** projections sitting **3%**

Sebi probes Quant MF over front-running by employees

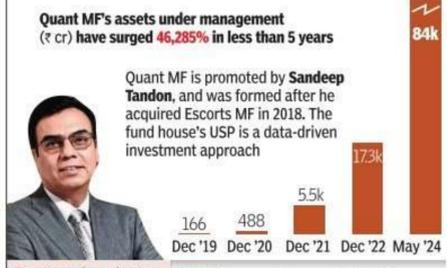
Fund House Confirms Inquiry, Says It'll Cooperate With Sebi

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Sebi has launched an investigation into possible front-running by Quant Mutual Fund employees after the markets regulator's surveillance system flagged suspicious activities. Front-running refers to an illegal practice in the stock market where an entity trades on the basis of advance information from a broker or analyst before the information has been made available to their clients.

Sebi is understood to have conducted search operations at Quant's offices in Mumbai and Hyderabad. After reports of search operations, several stocks in the mutual fund's portfolio ended lower on Monday. RBL Bank closed 2.6% lower while Nalco was down 2%. Quant MF is one of the fastest-growing mutual funds, with over Rs 84,000 crore in assets under management as of May 31. The company's small-cap funds top the industry in performance with 31% returns in five years.

AUM Jumps From ₹166Cr To ₹84K Cr Within 5 Yrs



Quant MF is promoted by **Sandeep Tandon**, and was formed after he acquired Escorts MF in 2018. The fund house's USP is a data-driven investment approach.

Quant MF has received inquiries from Sebi... We want to assure you (investors) that Quant MF is a regulated entity, and we are always fully committed to cooperate with the regulator throughout any review. — **Quant MF's note to investors**

Market surveillance tools typically help detect front-running in stocks by continuously monitoring trading patterns and analysing order timing to identify suspicious activities. They compare employee trades to client orders, flagging those that consistently precede large client transactions. These tools also analyse profitability, looking for unusually high trade profits before significant market movements. Quant MF, in a communication to shareholders, confirmed the inquiry from Sebi. "Recently, Quant MF has received inquiries from Sebi... We want to assure you that Quant

Trade unions seek rise in tax rebate for salaried class

New Delhi: Constitution of the 8th pay commission, increase in tax rebate for salaried class and restoration of the old pension scheme are some of the key demands made by trade union leaders during a pre-Budget meeting with FM Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday. The unions also asked the government to stop the privatisation drive of PSUs. "The ceiling limit for the income tax rebate for the salaried class on their salary and gratuity must be substantially raised. Govt-sponsored social security fund for the unorganised workers and agricultural workers has to be set up to provide them with defined universal social security schemes, including minimum pension of Rs 9,000 per month and other medical, educational benefits," CTUs said in their memorandum.

Besides, they have sought that all the existing vacancies in the central government departments and PSUs must be filled immediately and the practice of contract and outsourcing should be stopped. They further said resource mobilisation has to be done by increasing the corporate tax, wealth tax and introducing inheritance tax instead of burdening common masses with the GST on essential food items and medicine. AGENCIES

Britannia likely to invest more in state, open plant near Durgapur

Udit Prasanna Mukherji & Rohit Khanna | TNN

Kolkata: Britannia is likely to pump in fresh investment in Bengal, said sources, and was also likely to set up a state-of-the-art plant soon near Durgapur. This comes amid fears that the food major might minimise its operations in Bengal following the closing down of the Taratala plant. The company has also indicated that its registered address will continue to be Kolkata.

Britannia had received Bengal govt's approval in Jan 2019 for plant and now, it has identified land near Durgapur. "There will be a decision in this regard soon," said a company source. Sources pointed out that across the country, Britannia was moving its manufacturing facilities away from city centres to locations near highways for more space and better logistics. Before Taratala, plants in Mumbai and Chennai were also closed down. In fact, the company now outsources a major portion of its production from contractual manufacturers.



Britannia's Taratala plant was 'outdated and not cost-effective'

Sources added that Britannia had quite a few contractual manufacturers in Bengal, including a big one in Dankuni. "Bengal being a very big market for the company, manufacturing operations here would be needed. However, the plant in Taratala was outdated and it was not cost-effective," said sources. Bengal remains to be the third largest market for Britannia in the country as the revenue earned from the state is over Rs 900 crore, said sources. In Jan 2019, state govt had

said that Britannia Industries Ltd was keen to invest in Bengal—the state from where it began its journey over a century ago. State govt had then said that the company was likely to invest around Rs 350 crore. After the cabinet approval for the project, Vinay Singh Kushwaha, head of Britannia's supply chain, had said: "We have submitted an investment proposal to Bengal govt and initial discussions following due protocol have taken place. The investment proposal is across multiple phases and across product categories."

RBI names add'l director on board of Bandhan Bank

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: RBI has appointed its retired chief general manager Arun Kumar Singh as additional director on the board of Bandhan bank for a year from June 24. The appointment comes just over a fortnight before the term of Chandrashekhar Ghosh, founder & CEO of Bandhan Bank, ends. "The bank is still in the process of finalising a successor for Ghosh. Singh, aged 60 years, has experience of almost 36 years in RBI."

The RBI said that it has invoked its powers under Section 36AB of the Banking Regulation Act. In the past, RBI had earlier appointed chief general manager Yogesh Dayal as an additional director on the board of RBL Bank invoking its powers under Section 36AB. The appointment in RBL Bank was also made at a time when the bank had not identified a successor for Vishwavir Ahuja the outgoing CEO of the bank.

Zee MD Goenka buys majority stake in Maverick

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Zee MD Punit Goenka has acquired a majority stake in Maverick Media, a company that builds and refurbishes single screen theatres, for an undisclosed amount. Goenka, who is also the promoter of Zee, has made this stake purchase in his personal capacity.

"While my professional commitments continue to remain a priority (referring to his executive position at Zee), I believe that as key members of the fraternity, it is our collective responsibility to enhance the growth opportunities for all segments in the media value chain, and hence I have taken this decision in my personal capacity," Goenka said.

Prosus writes off Byju's bet, sees zero value in 10% stake

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: For Prosus, one of Byju's largest investors, the startup now has zero value. The company has written off the fair value of its 9.6% stake in Byju's, the Netherlands-based technology investor said in its FY24 annual report on Monday, marking a steep downturn for a startup which was once valued at \$22 billion. "We impaired Byju's down to zero at the end of FY24. We have written down Byju's primarily because we have inadequate information on the company's financial health, liabilities and future outlook," a company spokesperson said. Prosus, which has infused over \$500 million into the troubled startup, said that it has recognised a fair value loss of \$493 million on its investment in Byju's in FY24.

A series of financial and corporate governance lapses cost Byju's the trust of its investors who had collectively invested over \$5 billion into the company that sought to leverage technology and reduce barriers to quality education for students. Byju's widening rift with its investors has been out in the open and has reached the courtroom with a group of investors including Prosus filing an oppression and mismanagement suit against the startup's management. Investors Prosus, General Atlantic, Sofina and Peak XV Partners have also been opposed to Byju's rights

\$22BN TO ZERO
A Steep downturn for the edtech player that was once India's most valued startup

While Byju's bleeds, Prosus' other portfolio company Swiggy's revenues grew 24% while its gross order value grew by 26% y-o-y on the back of healthy order growth and higher average order value in CY2023. "Adjusted Ebitda improved to a loss of \$261 million," Prosus said.

issue and have managed to get a court-approved order restricting the startup from using funds raised through the rights issue. In June last year, Prosus representative Russell Dreisenstock stepped down from Byju's board citing disregard for Dreisenstock's advice and recommendations by a majority of Byju's investors led by Prosus also voted to oust Byju Raveendran as the CEO while seeking a reconstitution of the company's family run board.

While Byju's bleeds, Prosus' other portfolio company Swiggy's revenues grew 24% while its gross order value grew by 26% y-o-y on the back of healthy order growth and higher average order value in CY2023. "Adjusted Ebitda improved to a loss of \$261 million," Prosus said.

Houses under construction see 15% rise in prices: Study

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Prices of under-construction properties rose by 15.2% QoQ across top 13 cities in the June quarter. The supply of such properties which also increased by 11.7% QoQ helped the overall market for residential supply which witnessed the fastest growth rate in the last 24 months through the quarter, said a report.

This surge has resulted in prices of under-construction properties surpassing those of ready to move properties in several cities such as Gurugram, Mumbai, Noida and Thane, according to a Magicbricks Propindex report. The continued customer confidence in under-construction properties is seen as an indication of a promising outlook in the long run. On the demand front, top cities continued to grow, recording an aggregate increase of 4.6% QoQ during the June quarter. Gurugram, Delhi and Noida, home to several corporate employees, registered the highest increases with a QoQ growth of 19.6%, 17% and 16.4%, respectively.

Sony appoints Walt Disney exec as its India MD

Mayur.Shetty@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: Sony Pictures Networks India has appointed entertainment industry veteran Gaurav Banerjee to succeed outgoing MD & CEO N P Singh with effect from August 26. SPNI said last month that Singh was stepping down to pursue other opportunities. Banerjee will join the company from Walt Disney India, which is being merged into Viacom18. TNN

Beware... nearly 800 online financial fraud cases every day

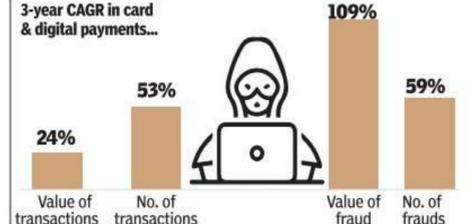
Mayur.Shetty@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: Nearly 800 digital payment fraud cases are reported every day in India, nearly 10 times more than what RBI's annual report showed. This is because the central bank's took into account cases above Rs 1 lakh only.

According to the report, 29,082 card & digital payment fraud cases worth Rs 1,457 crore were reported in the previous fiscal. When frauds below Rs 1 lakh are taken into account, the total number of cases increases by 2.7 lakh, amounting to Rs 653 crore.

This was disclosed by RBI in a response to an RTI query where it said that in the last five years, there were 5.4 lakh fraud cases worth Rs 1,146 crore. This translates to nearly 800 fraud cases a day. If all the cases from the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal in FY24 up to Sept 2023. Another RTI response last year had revealed that there were 21 lakh complaints on the portal between Jan 2022 to May 2023. According to bankers, there are various kinds of frauds. First, where fraudsters use malware or breach systems to steal funds. Second, phishing or misrepresentation to get the victim to

Frauds Rise Faster Than Payments



chant or service provider. In Feb this year, a committee relating to the ministry of electronics and IT said that there were Rs 5,574 crore worth of cyber frauds reported on the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal in FY24 up to Sept 2023. Another RTI response last year had revealed that there were 21 lakh complaints on the portal between Jan 2022 to May 2023. According to bankers, there are various kinds of frauds. First, where fraudsters use malware or breach systems to steal funds. Second, phishing or misrepresentation to get the victim to reveal credentials or undertake a transactions. Third, where the victim voluntarily transfers funds into a fraudulent scheme or fake e-commerce site. Bankers said that many cases where the customer voluntarily transfers funds are not reckoned as banking frauds because the bank systems are not breached. According to a study by payments company EPS, over the past three years, retail digital payments have grown 24% in value and 53% in volume year-over-year. However, frauds have risen 109% in value and 59% in volume over the same period.

Current a/c surplus for 1st time in 10 qtrs in March qtr

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: The country's current account balance showed a surplus for the first time in 10 quarters in Q4FY24. The surplus was a result of higher inflows from service exports and individuals.

In Q4, the surplus was \$5.7 billion compared to a deficit of \$8.7 billion in the previous quarter. The current account position was a 0.6% surplus as a percentage of GDP, compared to a 1% deficit in Q3FY24. For the full year, the current account deficit narrowed down to \$23 billion or 0.7% of the GDP from \$67 billion or 2% of GDP in FY23. The current account had turned into

a surplus for the first time in 17 years in FY21 when it was around 0.9% of the GDP. On a quarterly basis, the last surplus was in Q3FY21 when imports had decreased during the pandemic. Service exports in Q4FY24 increased by 4.1% year-over-year, driven by more exports of software, travel, and business services. Net service receipts were \$42.7 billion, up from \$39.1 billion a year ago, contributing to the current account surplus in Q4 2023-24. Receipts from private transfers, primarily remittances sent by Indians working abroad, totaled \$32.0 billion, marking an 11.9% increase compared to the previous year. In Q4 2023-24, net inflows

from external commercial borrowings to India were \$2.6 billion, up from \$1.7 billion a year ago. Non-resident deposits saw a higher net inflow of \$5.4 billion compared to \$3.6 billion in Q4 2022-23. Foreign exchange reserves increased by \$30.8 billion during Q4 2023-24, excluding valuation effects, compared to an increase of \$5.6 billion a year ago. "For FY25, based on early trends, the current account deficit should be manageable at 1-1.5% of GDP, and steady capital inflows should ensure that the balance of payments, which reflects the fundamentals, remain comfortable," said Madan Sabnavis, chief economist of the Bank of Baroda.

Good news for Bangla films: QUBE cuts projection cost

Priyanka.Dasgupta@timesgroup.com

Kolkata: There is now cause for celebration for the Bengali film industry with QUBE cutting the cost of digital projection by one-third. On Monday, QUBE operators SVF Pvt Ltd, announced the introduction of a per show VPF (virtual print fee) model for Bengali movies in non-DCI (digital cinema initiatives) properties.

Last week, Raj Chaurasia, on behalf of Arati Cinemas Pvt Ltd, had announced that UFO was introducing the concept of per show payment. Under the guidance of EIMPA and its president Piya Sengupta, SVF had followed suit. Sengupta said: "There was a per show model across India, with the exception of Bengal. So, if

a film had one show a day in a week, the amount would be Rs 2,975. In Bengal, that amount was Rs 7,000. For multiple shows, this amount was Rs 14,000. Now for both UFO and QUBE, the rates are Rs 300 for a single show a week in first and second week. In third week, the rates go down to Rs 150. From the fourth week, there will be no charges."

The move comes after years of appeals and negotiations by filmmakers in Bengal. Asked why it took so long, an SVF spokesperson said the business model underwent continuous evolution and that the announcement was delayed due to a fire at Acropolis Mall. SVF director Mahendra Soni said the development would enable more films to reach a wider audience.

India gained via info sharing with 171 countries: OECD

Lubna.Kably@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: In 2023, the exchange of information mechanism spearheaded by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), which helps tax authorities detect cross-border tax evasion, enabled the Asian members of the Global Forum (including India), to identify at least Euro 1.8 billion of tax revenue.

During the period 2009-2023, India and 12 other Asian member countries of the Global Forum, identified Euro 21.8 billion in additional revenue (tax, interest and penalties) through the use of 'exchange of information on request (EOIR)' and 'automatic exchange of information (AEOI)', including voluntary disclosure programmes and offshore tax investigations.

The Global Forum's report on "Tax Transparency in Asia (2024)" released by the OECD on Monday, points out that most Asian members of the forum (the international body engaged in implementation of information exchange) have a network covering more than 140 countries. India has the widest network with an exchange of information relationship with 171 countries and is a significant gainer of this mechanism. China has a network of 166 countries and Singapore of 155 countries.

Jain raises \$5bn in biggest hedge fund debut since '18

Former co-chief investment officer at Millennium Management, **Bobby Jain**, has gathered \$5.3 billion in commitments for his new multi-strategy hedge fund, marking the biggest fundraising haul since ExodusPoint Capital Management's record debut. Jain Global will start trading July 1, according to people familiar with the matter. Investors include endowments, foundations, family offices, bank wealth platforms and sovereign wealth funds.

The premiere caps a busy year for Jain who has travelled the world pitching his fund. He initially aimed to gather as much as \$10 billion. But after struggling to hit that goal, he cut client fees to entice investors and reduced his target to between \$5 billion and \$6 billion. A representative for the firm declined to comment.

Jain Global is the biggest launch since 2018. Jain topped fellow Millennium alumnus Diego Megia, whose Taula Capital Management began trading this month with \$5 billion. Megia spun out his macro pod from Millennium and received \$3 billion from his former employer. Jain has been raising money in a challenging environment, as interest rates remain elevated and deals have slowed to a trickle.

New hedge funds also face stiff competition from bigger multi-strategy funds with established track records. BLOOMBERG

**A thought for today***Politicians will be politicians, they will have a weakness at times for not seeing beyond their nose*

ARUN JAITLEY

It's People's House

Challenge before new LS is to deliver quality debate in a civil manner. That's the message voters sent

As MPs took oath on Day One of the 18th Lok Sabha, three incidents stood out as an indication to what can be expected in the days ahead. Opposition's protest against temporary speaker and Congress's missive to NDA govt on key issues for first 15 days showed INDIA in attack mode. Modi's comments about opposition, that "people want substance not slogans", showed PM is in no mood to relent. And third, soft-spoken Naveen Patnaik's stark message to BJD's Rajya Sabha members to be in opposition hints at rows in RS.

On fire | Opposition MPs refused to be part of the panel to assist the temporary speaker during the oath ceremony. Though negotiations for a consensus speaker continue, it's likely India may witness its first election to the speaker's post since Independence. The 18th LS will have made history from the first day House meets for business. INDIA bloc also hit the deck running to try and continue to set the agenda as it did through the election campaign. Rahul Gandhi

listed out "NDA's first 15-day agenda", including train accidents, quality of train travel, NEET-NTA scandals, high prices, forest fires and heatwave deaths. Expect fireworks.

Firing back | Modi recognises the challenges of a hawkish opposition. His address captured it — that people

want from opposition "debate and diligence", not "drama and disturbance". Govt will need to bring its best game — of listening — to ensure its first session is not lost in the din of hostile exchanges, or that opposition voices aren't drowned out. So far, most interruptions in Parliament occurred during the 15th LS (2009-2014). And dubious history was made in the 17th LS too. A hundred LS MPs and 46 Rajya Sabha members were suspended during Parliament's winter session last year — the highest number of MPs suspended in a single session in Parliament's history.

Stoking some | It was also no coincidence that Naveen Patnaik should have chosen Day One to send a message to his party's nine Rajya Sabha members — BJD has zero LS MPs for the first time ever. Patnaik asked the RS members to emerge as a "vibrant and strong" opposition. In BJD's wipeout in Odisha assembly and LS, Modi seems to have lost an all-weather ally in Patnaik. Expect a more combative RS session too.

Day One may have been far from routine. But it is still not too much to expect civility and conviviality in the House — electoral results suggested an aggressive govt and forceful opposition work side by side. Will parties comply with the people's verdict?

Lithium & More

Syncing mining and battery tech R&D crucial to India's Atmanirbhar goals

In mixed progress for India's battery tech ecosystem, Chhattisgarh's Korba district has seen one block of lithium move to the auctions stage and another block showing promising deposits of the mineral. This comes after setbacks such as the cancellation of auctions for the lithium block in J&K's Reasi district due to insufficient investor interest, and shelving of exploration plans in Manipur's Kamjong district due to local resistance. But if India is to emerge as a top player in sunrise manufacturing sectors such as electric vehicles (EVs) and consumer goods, it has to get ahead in the battery game, lithium-ion and others.

Lithium-ion challenge | In 2022, China accounted for as much as 77% of global lithium-ion battery production capacity. Beijing is projected to retain this dominance even in 2027. It's on the strength of this lithium-ion battery manufacturing capacity that the Chinese are looking to dominate the global EV market. India is way behind here. If it's not to remain dependent on Chinese suppliers, it must ramp up its own lithium-ion battery production base or look for alternatives.

Poor technical depth | India also faces handicaps such as underdeveloped mineral reporting standards. This leads to figures for mineral reserves for several blocks being inconclusive, hindering investments. Plus, most of the lithium found in India is in the form of hard rock granites and pegmatites, making it difficult to extract the mineral.

Alternatives on anvil | There are other battery options too, but they need significant R&D. Metal-air batteries use atmospheric oxygen and metals such as aluminium, zinc and iron. They can be a lightweight, budget-friendly, and recyclable but non-rechargeable, option. Then, China is heavily investing in cheaper sodium batteries. For India to follow suit, it has to heavily invest in battery research and line up appropriate mining industry tech and processes. That's the only way India can emerge as an alternative battery hub to China.

Exes with benefits

Putting children first is the love story after divorce

Shinie Antony

A new and tender love story is doing the rounds. This one is made up of exes. Once a marriage heads for divorce courts, a husband and wife are simply called Tom and Jerry. While wedding anniversaries are all about roses and candlelit dinners, divorce anniversaries don't come with mushy cards and teddy bears. But couples who part ways may still be bound together eternally — as parents. Romance flies out of the window, children don't.

Parents have always had a choice: stay together and mess up the kids or split up and mess up the kids. In US, about 50% children have separated parents. India, with its non-stop worrying about what others will say, artificially maintained the world's lowest divorce rates for a long time. Many a grim-faced Mr and Mrs would rather murder each other than part and bring bad name to family. Fidelity was optional for men, a terminal illness for women. In a traditional household when the "divorce" word is uttered, everyone shrieks against a loud background score. Divorce was a public tragedy; even strangers demanded to know the gory details. At least he doesn't beat you' was the anti-divorce hymn.

Modern divorces are thought to be too pat. Young couples don't try hard enough, say old couples. We don't want to end up like them, shudder the young couples. Custody battles follow. The family becomes single-parent, blended or extended, and co-parenting is parallel, cooperative or conflicted. Couples move into different flats in the same building to make child care easier; an ex is now a neighbour! Some women dump offspring with husband just so his new romance is punctuated with adolescent cries of 'I won't eat this!' and 'Give me your credit card'.

The initial strategy of running the other spouse down is replaced by the practicality of having someone to fall back on. An ex who will pick or drop a kid when you run late is always better than one who stands there making faces. Up against a child's decision to tattoo a life-size Zendaya or Timothée Chalamet on their back another type of togetherness beckons the former spouses. Now they actually listen to each other — the previous vacant look sported during the marriage is gone. They find themselves defending each other when kids complain instead of sighing with deep contentment. Such a relief to lay down weapons, which are also the children.

Neat Solution For NEET

Allow more local input in medical education, let states tailor admission to their govt colleges per their needs. But continue an all-India test for private colleges, which can't be trusted to hold their own exams

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NEET 2024 paper leak has brought the focus back on the demand to scrap a nationwide single entrance test. But when looking for possible solutions to the current mess, it is important to understand the circumstances under which NEET came into being and how it has fared on its basic mandates:

- To put an end to multiple entrance tests across India
- To bring in merit-based admission
- To tackle capitation fees.

Before NEET, there were dozens of entrance exams all over the country. Students had to appear for at least five to six exams and worry about clash of exam dates and travel to distant places for counselling for seat allotment. Every year, numerous cases were filed in high courts and Supreme Court related to these issues.

Along with this, there were reports of frequent scams, especially in the entrance exams conducted by private medical colleges or their associations in each state. In Madhya Pradesh, even the state govt-conducted entrance exam for govt medical colleges was compromised.

Crores being paid for admission into medical colleges were mostly unaccounted money, euphemistically called donation or capitation fee. There was a rising demand to put an end to all such practices and to ensure admission based on 'merit'.

With a final push from SC and dismissing objections from states, NEET was born. While NEET has made it possible to replace a plethora of exams with a single exam, it has failed to ensure 'merit'. There is no requirement to pass in each of the subjects students are tested on — physics, chemistry and biology. High scorers have to forego seats in expensive private colleges, which then accommodate poor scorers who have deep pockets. Thus, money continues to decide who gets admission to almost half the medical seats in the country. Moreover, instead of scams at state level in a few states, we have scams and leaks that affect students across the whole country.

Case for state-run admission policy | Despite govt-owned medical colleges remaining relatively free of scams in the pre-NEET era, courts repeatedly insisted

on judging govt and private colleges the same in the name of fairness. But with 85% of seats in most govt medical colleges being open only to students from the respective states, there was actually no reason why states should not have continued to use Class XII marks of students for admission — as most of them would be from the state educational board.

This would have given states greater flexibility in designing admission policies that suited their needs — as Tamil Nadu did in reserving seats for students from govt schools, thus improving the odds of underprivileged students getting a chance to become doctors. It would also have helped save poorer students from having to spend on coaching for entrance exams, as they could opt out of trying to crack the all-India quota and only concentrate on scoring well in school to get into a college within their state.



Uday Deb

For many states, it might make a lot of sense to revert to Class XII board exam results as the basis for admission into state govt medical colleges. Meanwhile, states whose school systems are too uneven in quality, could conduct entrance exams for seats in state medical colleges.

Either way, since it has become clear that a centrally administered exam is as vulnerable as a state-level

exam, exam systems need to be strengthened in general. Govt should reduce outsourcing of sensitive functions like setting and printing of question papers, invigilation and correction. This will help ensure that responsibility is easily traced and fixed. It should also treat whistleblowers as people aiding govt in keeping the system honest, instead of proceeding against them as enemies of state.

Fix admission to private medical colleges | Private colleges, whether deemed universities or otherwise, can hardly be left to conduct their own admission tests. They have strong incentives to game the system and state govt has proved totally ineffective in regulating them. Moreover, since their intake is from all over India, there is every reason to club them with the all-India quota and subject them to a centralised entrance test.

In many states like Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Tamil Nadu, 50% of seats in private medical colleges are for state govt to fill. Those seats can be filled the same way the state govt fills seats in its own medical colleges. Thus, the case for an all-India exam for about 40%-50% (15% all-India quota + management/NRI quota in private colleges) of MBBS seats remains strong.

There is an urgent need to undo the centralisation of everything, especially in health and education, which are the domain of states. Medical education involves both health and education, but it is a concurrent subject as doctors in any state are allowed to practise anywhere in the country once they clear the final MBBS exam. However, medical education must allow for more local input, with states being allowed to tailor admission policies according to their needs.

If there are underserved areas/communities within a state, the state govt might want to take in more students from those areas/communities. If NMC can make peace with admitting students who score zero in a subject or have ranks below 10 lakh but can pay crores in the name of 'merit'-based admission, it can surely allow states to give preference to students from rural areas or to govt doctors who have done rural service.

The White & Wrong Of UK's Rishism

No British politician of a party seen to be losing has got it like Sunak. But this racism has worked subtly, through dog whistle or sneer. Britain may have moved forward on race question but it still matters

Rashmee Roshan Lal



Is the race card finally in play against Rishi Sunak in the second half of Britain's six-week general election campaign? Just the dog whistle, not in propah fashion, not enough to provoke some genuine sympathy for the country's first prime minister of Indian ethnicity, rather than the abundant pity he currently evokes.

As of now, all the funeral head-shaking is about Sunak leading "Torysauros" — the shrunken dinosaur that is Conservative Party — through a political Jurassic Park, which is readying for an "extinction-level" event.

It keeps coming | Alternately cast by tabloid pundits as "gaffe machine" or "sleep agent" of the main opposition Labour, Sunak is subject to daily verbal pummeling for failing to arrest the political decline of a party weary from 14 years in govt. To outward seeming, it's politics as usual and Sunak is just the unlucky captain of a vessel that started to go down long before he took command 21 months ago.

In actual fact, Sunak's predicament seems unlike that of any other politician of a major British party said to be headed for a major election defeat. Oddly for a British born-and-bred man, he is deemed an outsider and a rootless cosmopolitan, and is almost always predicted to be unlikely to stay on in Britain or its politics should his party lose. Faced with race-baiting commentary, he is either unable or unwilling to call it out because he is supposed to be the face of a rainbow nation with British characteristics.

He is not one of us | A case in point is the fallout from Sunak's ill-advised early exit from an inter-

national commemoration of the 80th anniversary of the Normandy landings, one of the turning points of 20th century history and World War II. When Britain learnt that Sunak had skipped a June 6 event in France attended by Joe Biden, Emmanuel Macron and Olaf Scholz, in favour of a TV interview back home, it was as if he had been found butchering babies. The commentariat as well as radio and TV talk shows erupted in fury.

But it was left to Nigel Farage, champion of Donald Trump, Brexit firebrand and newly installed leader of the right-wing Eurosceptic Reform UK party, to say the unsayable. That Sunak "has no sense of our history, or feeling genuinely for the culture", that he wasn't "patriotic" and that his "instinct" is not the same as the British people's because he's "utterly disconnected in every way".

Other than some half-hearted protests about dog whistles from a few politicians, Farage's commentary on Sunak's moment of shame was allowed to stand.

The racist overtones in that judgment seemed to be on a par with an earlier incident revolving around roots and reflexive instincts, when a quite different English politician delivered a damning verdict on another non-White politician, though from across the Atlantic.

Back in 2016, Boris Johnson wrote a newspaper column saying Barack Obama's removal of a bust of Churchill from the Oval Office was driven by the US president's "part-Kenyan" ancestry. He added that this act was seen by some as a sign of an "ancestral dislike of the British

Empire". Though, like Farage, Johnson wasn't UK prime minister at the time, he was hardly a political nobody. As for Obama, like Sunak, he too seemed to symbolise a new post-racial politics. Except that it isn't.

There and not there | Britain has moved quite some way towards an inclusive politics from the charged immigration debates of the late 1960s and the infamous "rivers of blood" speech of Enoch Powell, but Sunak's rise to Downing Street was no post-racial moment. There is euphemistic racism, just as attended Sunak's election to parliament nine years ago from an ultra-safe Conservative seat in Yorkshire. At the time, his prospective constituents offered comments that went heavy on the curry theme: "Just tell him ya' don't like curry". "That MP he'll be doing curry night every night". What they were saying, of course, had nothing to do with food but perception of belonging.

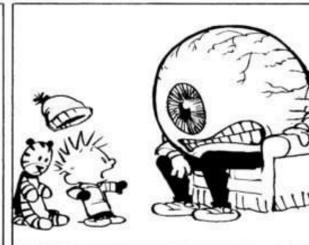
Sunak hasn't helped matters | Interestingly, in his scant decade in frontline British politics, Sunak himself has contributed nothing meaningful to the debate about racism other than to declare it "unacceptable". Before the election was called, he acknowledged the racism he experienced as a child, his mother's determination that he and his siblings "didn't speak with accents (but) properly", his parents' determination their Indian heritage not be "a barrier... in any way shape or form" and that their children should "fit in".

That, he has done, in quintessentially understated British fashion. And he was fortunate to find political prominence at a time when British politics either ignored or minimised race, thereby relegating it to a hidden transcript.

Like Schrödinger's cat, the nearly century-old thought experiment in which the hypothetical feline in its sealed box could be considered simultaneously alive and dead, Sunak's situation may suggest that racist and post-racist realities both flourish at the same time.

Lal writes on international affairs

Calvin & Hobbes



Sacredspace



Life is life — whether in a cat, or dog or man. There is no difference there between a cat or a man. The idea of difference is a human conception for man's own advantage.

Sri Aurobindo

Navigating Uncertain Times With Ontological Leadership

Yogi Balkrishna

Amid today's tumultuous and rapidly changing world, the idea and spirit of leadership need a profound transformation. Conventional leadership models, once effective, are now proving inadequate in the face of complexity and uncertainty. In this era of chaos and disruption, a compelling need emerges for a new leadership paradigm: ontological leadership, rooted in timeless Indic wisdom, offering a path towards deeper understanding and harmony that resonates with today's challenges.

It transcends prosaic managerial techniques or strategic frameworks. Ontological leadership delves into the essence of Being and consciousness, drawing inspiration from profound insights in the Indic philosophies of Yoga and Vedanta. At its core, ontological leadership is about leading with the

light of unbound inner wisdom emanating from unattached, unswayed and all-inclusive consciousness, including virtues such as integrity, authenticity, creativity, courage, and compassion.

Yog, as expounded in the Yog Sutras of Maharshi Patanjali, offers a holistic framework for Self-realisation and transformation. The union of Vashti, individual consciousness, with Yamashita, universal consciousness, is central to the yogic vision. In the context of leadership, this union implies a deep recognition of the interconnectedness of all beings and a sense of responsibility for the well-being of the entire ecosystem — be it an organisation, community, nation, or planet. Vedanta deepens this idea further, revealing the essential oneness of all beings. From the leadership standpoint, ontological leadership recognises the inherent

oneness of all existence and leads from a place of profound interconnectedness and compassion. Its key tenets are:

Self-awareness | The ability to introspect and understand one's strengths and weaknesses and operate from a place of authenticity. Strengthening one's strengths and weakening one's weaknesses, an ontological leader constantly evolves into a finer version of oneself. Drawing from the practice of *atma vichar* of Vedanta supported by yogic disciplines, leaders need to cultivate a deep understanding of themselves, enabling them to lead with clarity and purpose.

Presence | A state of being fully engaged in the present moment, free from distractions, preconceptions and preoccupations. Being mindful, leaders develop the capacity to remain grounded amidst chaos.

Compassion | Driven by the principle of *ahimsa*, practising empathy and compassion in all interactions, ontological leaders don't just recognise the inherent dignity and worth of every individual; they actively seek to create an environment, culture, and institutions that nurture growth, fostering a sense of connection and empathy among all.

Resilience | Ontological leaders embrace change as a natural part of life. They cultivate resilience and adaptability, recognising that challenges and setbacks are opportunities for growth and learning.

Servant leadership | In accordance with the spirit of *Karm Yoga*, ontological leaders adopt a servant leadership approach, placing the needs of others above their ego-driven desires. Without hankering for power, they empower and inspire those around them, nurturing a culture of trust, accountability, and collective purpose.



THE SPEAKING TREE

T20 WORLD CUP

"A LOT OF RELIEF TO GET THROUGH TO THE SEMIFINAL. NOT GOING TO BE BRAINWASHED BY THAT. WE WOULD HAVE LIKED TO BE MORE CONVINCING WITH BAT IN HAND. THE WICKET PLAYED NICELY AFTER THE RAIN BREAK."

—Aiden Markram | SA SKIPPER



ROHIT SPECIAL SPOOKS OZ

Skipper's Blazing 92 Helps India Win By 24 Runs, Set Up Semis Date With England



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St. Lucia: There's an active volcano in a small town called Soufriere, about 55 kilometres away from where India were playing Australia on Monday. The fumes that emanate from the eye of the volcano gives one the feeling that the mountains are angry. It seemed that everyone with India in their hearts at the Darren Sammy International Stadium here on Monday were physical representations of that volcano. No one had forgotten Ahmedabad, Nov 19—the day Australia snatched the ODI World Cup from India last year—and it was payback time.

Now, India will play England in the semifinal on the spinner-friendly Guyana track on Thursday while Australia's fate isn't in their hands: they are out if Afghanistan beat Bangladesh, or if Bangladesh win big. The architect of India's win was 'Hitman' Rohit Sharma himself. His mood on Monday was something similar to what it was in Ahmedabad in the World Cup final. But his innings had been cut short by an outstanding catch by Travis Head.

Here in St. Lucia, there wasn't any such otherworldly activity that could stop Rohit as he played the innings of the World Cup so far. It was Rohit's 92 off 41 balls that was the cornerstone of India's 205-5 which left the Aussies stunned once they had put India in. After Virat Kohli (0) failed once again, it was a complete Rohit show for the next 10 overs or so. It started with the first ball of the third over by Mitchell Starc which the left-arm pacer tried to bowl full and Rohit's slash over cover went for a six.

Rohit smashed four sixes and a four in that over which yielded 29 and swung the momentum in India's favour.

Rohit didn't care who the bowler was,

he just knew he had to go after him. Anything in his hitting range was going over the top while those dropped short were pulled with power. It was Rohit's uncluttered mindset that was that was central to this onslaught.

The dominance of Rohit was highlighted by the fact that India were 52-1 in the sixth over when he reached his 50. An innings of this quality deserved a century as a topping, but Starc, coming back for his second spell, finally landed a yorker that hit the inside edge of Rohit's bat and knocked the stumps over.

When Rohit was dismissed in 11.2 overs, the score was 127. After that, off the 52 balls, India managed 78, which proves that run-scoring probably wasn't as easy as Rohit made it seem. Still, India managed a score which was big enough.

The Aussies, though, tried with Head (76 off 43 balls) taking life in his hands and going after the Indian bowling. There were periods during their chase when it seemed that the target was actu-

19 Balls taken by **ROHIT** to race to his fifty—the seventh quickest in the history of T20 World Cup. Among the Indians, his fifty is the third fastest behind Yuvraj Singh's world-record 12-ball fifty vs England at Durban on Sep 19, 2007 and KL Rahul's 18-ball fifty vs Scotland at Dubai (DICS) on Nov.5, 2021.

ally achievable. But somewhere in the middle, left-arm wrist-spinner Kuldeep Yadav (2-24) bowled an outstanding spell that halted the Aussies in their tracks. He was assisted by a brilliant one-handed catch at deep square-leg by Axar Patel to dismiss Aussie No. 3 Mitchell Marsh, which was one of the turning points of the game.

Still, there was a Head to deal with, but with wickets falling at the other end, you could gauge that the swashbuckler was getting impatient. Coming back for his second spell, he induced an edge off Head and it was fitting that Rohit completed a skier. The rest was a formality.

SMASH HIT: Rohit Sharma was in full flow during his 92 vs Australia

“THE FIFTIES AND HUNDREDS DON'T MATTER, I WANTED TO BAT WITH THE SAME TEMPO AND CARRY ON. YOU WANT TO MAKE THE BOWLERS THINK WHERE THE NEXT SHOT IS COMING”
—Rohit Sharma



8 Rohit Sharma has become the first captain to hit eight sixes in an innings in T20 World Cup, eclipsing the seven each hit by Chris Gayle and Jos Buttler. Rohit also has become the first batter to hit five sixes within the powerplay in a T20 international.

SCOREBOARD

India: Rohit Sharma b Starc 92, Virat Kohli c David b Hazlewood 0, Rishabh Pant c Hazlewood b Stoinis 15, Suryakumar Yadav c Wade b Starc 31, Shivam Dube c Warner b Stoinis 28, Hardik Pandya not out 9. Extras (lb 1, w 2) 3. Total (for five wickets, 20 overs). 205.

Fall of wickets: 1-6, 2-93, 3-127, 4-159, 5-194.

Bowling: Mitchell Starc 4-0-45-2, Josh Hazlewood 4-0-14-1, Pat Cummins 4-0-48-0, Adam Zampa 4-0-41-0, Marcus Stoinis 4-0-56-2.

Australia: David Warner c Yadav b Arshdeep Singh 6, Travis Head c Sharma b Bumrah 76, Mitchell Marsh (c) c Patel b Kuldeep Yadav 37, Glenn Maxwell b Kuldeep Yadav 20, Marcus Stoinis c Pandya b Patel 2, Tim David c Bumrah b Arshdeep Singh 15, Matthew Wade c Kuldeep Yadav b Arshdeep Singh 1, Pat Cummins not out 11, Mitchell Starc not out 4.

Extras (b 5, lb 1, w 3) 9. Total (for seven wickets, 20 overs) 181.

Fall of wickets: 1-6, 2-87, 3-128, 4-135, 5-150, 6-153, 7-166.

Bowling: Arshdeep Singh 4-0-37-3, Jasprit Bumrah 4-0-29-1, Axar Patel 3-0-21-1, Hardik Pandya 4-0-47-0, Kuldeep Yadav 4-0-24-2, Ravindra Jadeja 1-0-17-0.

Result: India won by 24 runs. **Player-of-the-Match:** Rohit Sharma.

203 Number of sixes in 149 innings hit by Rohit Sharma to become the first batter to complete a double century of sixes in T20Is—103 in 60 innings as captain and 100 in 89 innings when not captain.



South African chinaman Tabraiz Shamsi's three-wicket burst crippled the West Indies in the middle overs at North Sound

No choke, just clutch as SA pip Windies to SF

North Sound (Antigua): South Africa's golden generation of white-ball cricketers took a big step towards erasing the "eternal chokers" tag by keeping their composure to enter the semifinals of the T20 World Cup, beating a formidable West Indies by three wickets in a thrilling rain-truncated Super 8s game here.

After part-time magician and full-time wrist spinner Tabraiz Shamsi (3/27), along with his slow bowling colleagues Keshav Maharaj (1/24) and skipper Aiden Markram (1/28), restricted West Indies to a manageable 135 for 8, South Africa achieved the revised target of 123 with five balls to spare.

The Proteas were 15/2 in two overs when rain disrupted proceedings. With this win, South Africa topped Group 1 followed by defending champions England as the second semifinalist from it. Tristan Stubbs (29 off 27 balls), one of the most talked-about among young T20 batters, set up the chase in company of Heinrich Klaasen (22 off 10 balls) for the South Africans.

But it was Marco Jansen (21 not out off 14 balls), who hit a beautiful six down the ground off the first ball of the 17th over bowled by left-arm pacer Obed McCoy to seal the deal. Equally praiseworthy was Kagiso Rabada's copybook cover drive off Roston Chase when South Africa required 9 off 7 balls.

It was an unfair rain-rule in the 1992 ODI World Cup that saw South Africa bow out of the semi-finals against England and often the Proteas found ways to lose important games of cricket. But on Sunday night in North Sound, the one hour rain delay did a world of good for their batters as the pitch suddenly became better for batting with the ball skidding and coming on easily.

TRYING TO GET A BIGGER PLAYER POOL IN THE US: ANDERSON

Bridgetown (Barbados): Their fairy tale run was cut short by the "Big Boys" but USA batter Corey Anderson says his assorted team is signing off from the T20 World Cup here with its head held high and "heaps of learnings".

"I mean sky's the limit really...the last few years there's always been whispers around what's happening in America with cricket...hopefully in years to come as well, we can kind of grow that," Anderson, who is from New Zealand and even played 93 games for that country before shifting base to the USA, said following their campaign-ending loss to England on Sunday. AGENCIES



COREY ANDERSON

FACE-OFF

AF VS BAN

TV TIME: 6 AM

STAR SPORTS HOTSTAR

HEAD TO HEAD

AF 6 BAN 5

LAST FIVE MATCHES

AF W L L W W

BAN L L W W L

VENUE: KINGSTOWN

ODDS

AF 7/10 BAN 5/4

What Af need to make semis

Kingstown: Afghanistan have a simple task in front of them if they are to progress to the first semifinal in a global event. Beat Bangladesh, India's 24-run win over Australia in St. Lucia means that Afghanistan, with two points can knock Australia out as they have only two points from two games.

India (6 points) topped Group A in the Super-8 stage with 6 points.

SCENARIO

Australia (2) had to get at least 176 against India on Monday to ensure that Afghanistan (2) needed a win over Bangladesh (2) to go through to the semis. If Afghans lose then Aussies will be through unless Bangladesh win by a mammoth margin to pip them on NRR. TNN

Party is over for WI fans but skipper Powell urges them to not turn away

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St. Lucia: Travelling through the West Indies for the last few days, one felt there was a sense of hope developing among those who still care for cricket in this part of the world.

Be it in conversations with the cab driver or a new acquaintance in the roadside bar or the fisherman taking you out for a boat ride on the Caribbean sea, everyone felt there was a chance for the West Indies. 'It wasn't exactly a chest-thumping super-confidence that the world is all theirs, but a ray of hope that this World Cup might be the start of a cricketing revival in the region.

However, that wasn't to be. West Indies flattered for a while, only to deceive at the end in a virtual quarterfinal with South Africa in the Super 8 clash.

Gregory, a man in his 40s donning a Barcelona shirt in a small town called Soufriere, near the active volcano in the Piton Mountains in St. Lucia says: "It's hard times man, my football team (Barcelona) isn't the team I knew anymore. Was hoping West Indies will play you guys in the semis or final, that's also not happening."

Cricket in the West Indies has been in perpetual decline over the last two decades. The national team doesn't win enough to get the GenNext hooked to it. Being unable to qualify for the ODI World Cup last year was the nadir.



PARTY TIME: Afghan fans burst firecrackers in Khost on Sunday



The Windies fans were hopeful of the team making the knockout stages of a home World Cup

Still, you can feel a genuine love for the sport. In the roadside bars during the famous Friday street party in St. Lucia, it was cricket that was being played on the TVs as Indian fans mingled with the locals, shaking their leg to some reggae beats.

Dileep, a chartered accountant in his 70s from Guyana who now lives in Canada, had flown down with his family for a vacation that included cricket in this lovely island country. "My favourite was Roy Fredericks. The way that little man used to play Dennis Lillee, my god...we don't have such guys anymore. Still, we don't give up hope. That's why we still take time off from our schedules to come and watch cricket," Dileep, in his 70s, says, buying a fresh round of beer for "a new friend".

The locals in St. Lucia were slightly more expectant because the current

West Indies team is being coached by a local boy Darren Sammy, the only St. Lucian who also led the country. "His house is just around the team. We all feel proud of him. There's a sports school, too, nearby where he has put in some effort. Just wanted his team to do well," Terrol, who runs a bed and breakfast by Rodney Bay, said the other day.

A meaningful performance in this T20 World Cup would probably have reignited the passion among the youth who have more in life "that rooting for a losing team". But during the course of this World Cup, West Indies did show glimpses and skipper Rowman Powell urged the fans not to turn their backs despite the soul-crunching defeat.

"We are disappointed because we thought we had the personnel within our room to actually win a home World Cup. But having said that we have played good cricket, we have entertained them in patches, and it's just for them to keep on supporting us. How important the support is in whatever you do. So, I would implore them to just keep on working with us, keep on supporting us over the last 12 months," Powell said, mentioning that for the first time West Indies have been ranked No. 3 in T20s in the world.

But is it enough to keep the fans who need that sense of a victory to keep them going after a hard day's work? We will see...

Shamsi hits out at 'ridiculous' criticism by former players

South Africa leg-spinner Tabraiz Shamsi lambasted his team's "ridiculous" critics after the Proteas won another T20 World Cup nail-biter to reach the semifinals.

Shamsi claimed 3-27 in Sunday's three-wicket win over two-time champions West Indies as South Africa chalked up a seventh win in seven games at the tournament.

The 34-year-old took the wickets of dangerous opener Kyle Mayers and top-scoring Roston Chase in his four overs.

Four days earlier, he had conceded 50 runs on the same ground as the United States threatened a shock victory and he was dropped for the victory over England.

"In the previous game I bowled later in the innings and I went for 50 and there were certain critics coming out from the woodwork, speaking about pressure and how I can't handle pressure," said Shamsi.

"I think in a quarter-final match I hope that was enough pressure for me to respond to."

Shamsi said he was dismayed by the criticism he and his team have faced in their campaign.

"It's just a little bit ridiculous when it's ex-players," said Shamsi.

"When they were on the field they did the same things. As cricketers we know sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't." AGENCIES

Afghan fans over the moon after historic win vs Oz

Kabul: Beleaguered Afghans were riding high Monday after a historic weekend T20 World Cup victory over Australia spread a rare mood of euphoria across the country. "With every ball, every run, every boundary, every wicket, I wasn't able to hold my emotions," said university student Zamir Afghan in the capital Kabul.

"It was very early morning, but I was jumping, screaming, I was not able to contain myself," the 20-year-old said. "I couldn't stop my tears."

"Afghanistan as a nation has suffered

a lot, such moments are rare for us," said Afghan.

While cricket is hugely popular in Afghanistan, the match over 11,000 kilometres (7,000 miles) away in Arnos Vale on the Caribbean island of St. Vincent, took place around dawn local time.

Though the last ball was bowled around 8:30 am on Sunday, many diehard fans had been awake to witness the win. In eastern Khost city, around 1,000 raucous cricket fans gathered to bask in the glow of fireworks early on Sunday morning in half

an hour of revelry swiftly broken up by Taliban security forces.

An uncrowded smaller crowd came together again at night, clapping as they lit off more pyrotechnics. Since the Taliban took over in August 2021 and introduced an austere vision of Islam, scenes of public jubilation have been rare. "Such moments are special for everyone," said 18-year-old fruit shop worker Saddam Saleh. "Beating mighty Australia is not something small."

Afghanistan has been isolated since the

withdrawal of foreign forces and the collapse of the US-backed government, with diplomats wary of engaging with Taliban rulers. The isolation has spilled into the world of sport. Cricket Australia has withdrawn from bilateral series because of the "deterioration in human rights" for women and girls in Afghanistan.

"The Afghanistan national team responded to their disrespect on the pitch," said 32-year-old Shahid, who goes by only one name. "No one should ever underestimate the greatness of Afghanistan." AFP

India's Oly trip to cost Rs 33.68 cr

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New Delhi: Indian contingent's trip to the Paris Olympics will cost the exchequer Rs 33.68 crore—more than double of what was spent from the govt's coffers during the Tokyo Games in 2021. The Games will run from July 26 to August 11.

TOI has learnt that the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has worked out a detailed budget estimate for the Paris Games and the amount to be spent on the travel, accommodation, equipment and logistics needs of athletes, support staff and the govt and IOA delegates would be around Rs 33 crore. For Tokyo, the govt had spent Rs 13.33 crore.

considering the size of India's contingent, which will have 195 members. A total of Rs 14 crore has been earmarked for athlete-related activities, including reward money for sports persons and teams winning medals for the country.

A significant part of the overall budget, comprising Rs 12 crore would be borne by the sports ministry. The airfare (195 persons) alone will cost Rs 3.41 crore, while Rs 2.04 crore (@\$50 for 25 days on 195 persons) will be spent on out-of-pocket allowance.

A huge amount—Rs 18.90 crore—will be spent on delegates and IOA's executive committee (EC) members and headquarter officials. Significantly, the TA/DA paid to EC members will alone cost Rs 8.4 crore.

IOA has a 12-member EC, including president PT Usha, senior vice-president Ajay H Patel and treasurer Sahdev Yadav, among others. Rs 1.2 crore will be spent on EC members' visits to ceremonies and on their match tickets.

The budget estimate for Paris has led to another round of show-down between Usha and EC members. After Usha shared the Paris budget with the EC members and sought their concurrence, Yadav wrote a letter demanding convening of an urgent EC meeting.

"As the matter concerns financial approval for Paris Games, it is my humble suggestion to call an EC meeting of IOA to finalise the budget estimates," Yadav wrote.

Aditi and Diksha qualify for Paris

New Delhi: Indian golfing stars Aditi Ashok and Diksha Dagar on Monday secured qualification to the upcoming Paris Olympics via the world rankings.

The two women join Shubhankar Sharma and Gaganjeet Bhullar (men's section) to form a four-member Indian team for the showpiece, which will be held from July 26 to August 11.

While it will be a third appearance for Aditi at the Olympics which is also the most for an Indian, Diksha will be competing for the second time.

For Sharma and Bhullar, it would be their maiden appearance at the Olympics.

India's best performance at the Olympics came from Aditi who finished fourth in the Tokyo Games 2020. PTI

Archers bag Oly team quotas

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kolkata: As expected, India secured both men's and women's team quota places in archery for the Paris Olympics based on the updated world rankings on Monday.

India topped the rankings among the non-qualified nations after the World Cup Stage III, the last international event before the Games, in both sections to seal their team quotas of three places each.

India will, thus, be eligible to compete in all the five medal events in Paris—men's and women's team, individual and mixed categories.



Dhiraj Bommadevara and Bhajan Kaur

previously earned individual quota places but India failed to win team quota places in the qualifier events.

In the men's section, India and China made the cut, while in the women's section Indonesia was the second nation to secure the team quotas through rankings.

The team events will have 12 sides in each section, while five teams will compete in the mixed competitions.

Forty-year-old Army veteran Tarundeep Rai, who made his Olympic debut at Athens 2004, will make his fourth Games appearance.

The same is for former world No. 1 Deepika Kumari who will compete in her fourth Olympics on the trot, having made her maiden Games appearance in London 2012.

Dhiraj Bommadevara, Anika Bhakat and Bhajan Kaur will make their Olympic debuts, while for Pravin Jadhav it will be his second successive Games after Tokyo.

India squad: Men: Tarundeep Rai, Dhiraj Bommadevara and Pravin Jadhav. **Women:** Deepika Kumari, Bhajan Kaur and Anika Bhakat.



I NEED TO KNOW WHY THAT'S NOT A PENALTY KICK. THE REFEREE IS FROM ARGENTINA. WHY IS IT NOT A EUROPEAN REFEREE? I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY HE'S HERE AND NOT IN HIS OWN COUNTRY REFEREEING A GAME. IT'S JUST MY OPINION."

—STEVE CLARKE
SCOTLAND COACH, ON BEING DENIED A PENALTY VS HUNGARY

'Southgate's England not being brave'

Michael Owen, ex-England star striker, tells TOI the team's strength is in the attack but the manager is relying too much on a defensive set-up...

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Whenever Michael Owen closes his eyes, and dreams of himself in an England shirt, he sees an 18-year-old boy wonder jinking through the Argentine defenders in Saint-Etienne at the 1998 World Cup and scoring that goal. A goal iconic enough to draw comparisons with a Maradona moment. "I think that's the one that people remember me for," the 44-year-old tells TOI.

A member of England's Golden Generation, Owen best understands the pressure that the current lineup feels as it struggles at the Euros in Germany. Owen knows pressure is unavoidable but points out that there is more to England's malady than just this. Excerpts from a chat...

England started off as favourites, but they are not playing well. What do you think is going wrong?

It's been quite difficult to watch so far. I think Gareth Southgate's probably going to change his team a bit against Slovenia to try to find that missing ingredient. We're going to be all right. We still have time to build.

It's not all doom and gloom. We've got four points and we'll be in the knockouts. Looking at the positives, I don't think many teams that win tournaments start the tournament winning 5-0 and keep going in that vein. If England had won five-nil in the first two games, we'd all be saying, England are going to win the tournament. And maybe that's not the mindset that we want our players and supporters to have. Two matches down, what do you think is not working for the team?

I knew I was going to be frustrated. I think Southgate is an amazing manager in terms of man-management. He creates a great environment. He has great attention to detail. He's been there before as a player. He knows what works.

He's an exceptional manager in a lot of ways. But I knew coming in that I would be disagreeing with his team. Southgate has always played with two holding midfielders, and I've never believed that you need two. Look at the most successful teams

— they all play with one. Rodri plays for Manchester City, probably the best team in the world at the moment. Liverpool, Arsenal, Chelsea, Man United all play the same. I just think it's too defensive to play with two.

Here, Declan Rice has been joined by Trent Alexander-Arnold. Maybe in the next game, it might be a Kobbie Mainoo or Adam Wharton, but I don't think we should be playing that. I think our strength is our attack and how many players we can have (in attack) that affect games.

Declan Rice as the No. 6 is more than enough. We can play our back four. We can play Rice and then we can play two ahead, two wide players and Harry Kane up front. So, I would be trying to get a more attacking team. I'd be trying to get one more player that's more of an advanced player, a Cole Palmer, who's had an amazing season for Chelsea.

I would be trying to get him into our team, but with Southgate, I knew he would be playing with two holding midfielders. We didn't know who he would be playing with Rice. I have a feeling he's going to stick with the same system, which is frustrating, but he might change one or two players. You think England are not being brave?

Absolutely. I think our strength is in our attacking players. We have players like Bukayo Saka, Phil Foden, Palmer, obviously Harry Kane as a striker. Anthony Gordon has had a great season at Newcastle. I'd love to see him play. And then we got players

ENGLAND VS SLOVENIA

Cologne Stadium

HEAD TO HEAD (6 games)

ENGLAND WON 5 | DRAWS 1



FORM GUIDE

SLOVENIA



ENGLAND



(most recent first)



FRUSTRATING: England coach Gareth Southgate needs to let go of the idea of using two holding midfielders, feels Owen

like Jude Bellingham. There are so many good attacking players that we need to squeeze into the team.

What is the best way to involve Trent Alexander-Arnold?

I've always seen him as a right back. He is very dangerous when he comes into the midfield for Liverpool. But coming in from a right back position when nobody is marking you, and then coming in and being on your own is very, very different than just being a player that stays in midfield and has to receive the ball from a right back. (Because) then you've got people behind you, it's a 360 degree position, whereas playing at right back everything's in front of you. You've really only got 180 degrees to look at. So, I think it's a very different role. And even though he ends up in that position playing for Liverpool, it's so different to actually staying in that position to start with.

Southgate probably won't play him as a right back. I would like to see Rice being the No. 6 and playing Foden and Bellingham ahead in midfield. And I would play Saka or Palmer and Gordon or Palmer. Just try to get an extra attacking midfielder player instead of the No. 6.

You made a case for Cole Palmer...

Anybody that's watched the Premier League last season would see that even in a struggling team like Chelsea, Palmer was just outstanding, he can take the ball, he's very

brave; he's young and he's confident; he's creative, he scores goals. I find it difficult looking at England's bench and seeing his name, knowing what he could contribute. If I were Southgate, I'd be trying to desperately find a role on the pitch for him.

Do you think Southgate is confused about his starting 11 that way?

I don't think he is. Well... in some ways he is. He's always played in this way and the criticism has always been the same. You know, in the last two tournaments, everybody has said, why do we play so defensive? Why are we playing two 'Sixes' or midfield players? He has always done this, which is why I knew I'd be frustrated that some of our best players were going to have to be on the bench. Maybe what he's confused with now is who to play as the other No. 6 because we always had Calvin Phillips and Rice in previous tournaments.

Phillips is not there now. Jordan Henderson is not there either. And trying to find that replacement is what he's a bit confused about. But if it was me, I wouldn't be trying to find a replacement. I'd just be leaving Rice there on his own and getting one of the other players into the team. What I'm debating and what I'm arguing with is not the players necessarily he's selecting, it's more the system. And if he's going to play that system, of course he can't

play Cole. He can't play a lot of players that I would love him to play. He's not done that for a long time. I don't think he's going to change now.

Do you think players should take more responsibility for their performances?

I think players, at the end of the day, do take responsibility. They're the ones that are out on the pitch and they're the ones that get criticized. So, I totally understand Harry Kane saying what he said (reacting to Gary Lineker's comments). I thought his words were very well measured and very responsible and on behalf of the team, as the captain, I thought it was very good.

You're never going to change pundits. If it's not Lineker, it's some-



body else. But then, it's very accurate for Kane to say, hang on a minute, some of you have played before, you know how difficult it is to represent England with all the expectations.

The longer England go without winning a tournament, the more pressure grows, the more difficult it is to be able to cope with it. Then your confidence is being drained by people that are criticizing you all the time and the pressure mounts and you don't play well. It's just very difficult being an England player. It has been very difficult being an England player for a long time now. But I don't really know the solution.

What about your generation?

The pressure was probably on me and my teammates more than any player in the last few decades. We were classed as a golden generation that everybody thought would go and win competitions. It's something that you've got to be able to manage as an England player. Not every player can do it. One of the big criticisms over the years is, why don't our players play as good for England as they do at club level? You can only put it down to the pressure.

(Watch UEFA Euro 2024 on Sony LIV in six language options)

THAT MOMENT: Owen, 18, holds off Argentina's Jose Chamot on his way to scoring an iconic goal in the 1998 World Cup

STANDINGS

GROUP A

TEAMS	P	W	D	L	GD	Pt
Ger*	3	2	1	0	6	7
Swi*	3	1	2	0	2	5
Hun	3	1	0	2	-3	3
Scot	3	0	1	2	-5	1

GROUP B

TEAMS	P	W	D	L	GD	Pt
Spain*	2	2	0	0	6	6
Italy	2	1	0	1	0	3
Alb	2	0	1	1	-1	1
Cro	2	0	1	1	-3	1

GROUP C

TEAMS	P	W	D	L	GD	Pt
Eng	2	1	1	0	1	4
Den	2	0	2	0	0	2
Slo*nia	2	0	2	0	0	2
Serbia	2	0	1	1	-1	1

GROUP D

TEAMS	P	W	D	L	GD	Pt
Fra	2	1	1	0	1	4
Ned	2	1	1	0	1	4
Aut	2	1	0	1	1	3
Pol	2	0	0	2	-3	0

GROUP E

TEAMS	P	W	D	L	GD	Pt
Rom	2	1	0	1	1	3
Bel	2	1	0	1	1	3
Svk	2	1	0	1	0	3
Ukr	2	1	0	1	-2	3

GROUP F

TEAMS	P	W	D	L	GD	Pt
Port*	2	2	0	0	4	6
Tur	2	1	0	1	-1	3
Cze	2	0	1	1	-1	1
Geo	2	0	1	1	-2	1

* Qualified for Last 16; Table updated till Sunday night matches

TONIGHT'S TUSSELES

Group D	Time
France vs Poland	9.30pm
Netherlands vs Austria	9.30pm
Group C	Time
Denmark vs Serbia	12.30am
England vs Slovenia	12.30am

Live on Sony Sports Network



GOING TO THE TOP: Germany's Fuellkrug celebrates after scoring the equalizer in added time against Switzerland

Khaka hails Swiss after reaching knockouts

Fuellkrug's Late Equaliser Helps Germany Top Group

Frankfurt: Germany survived a scare to finish top of Group A as Niclas Fuellkrug's stoppage-time goal rescued a 1-1 draw against Switzerland on Sunday. Their well-drilled opponents demonstrated an effective means of nullifying the host nation's talented side.

Switzerland sat deep to frustrate Germany's attacking players and, though Jamal Musiala showed glimpses of his ability to break the lines, the Swiss succeeded until substitute Niclas Fuellkrug's 92nd-minute equaliser.

Kai Havertz spurned a number of half chances and defender Antonio Rudiger should have done better with a first-half header but Germany, who had a goal disal-

lowed at 0-0, had few clear opportunities until late on.

Germany dominated possession completed more than double the number of passes Switzerland managed and had 18 shots on goal — though only three of those were on target. The Swiss, meanwhile, were clinical: Dan Ndoye's acrobatic volley put away either side's best chance in the first half. "When you see how the Germans celebrated their goal that says everything," said Switzerland captain Granit Xhaka, named player of the match. "This team is hungry, this team has a completely new mentality, will, passion," he said. "And we want to show that again in the round of 16." AGENCIES



MOMENT OF IMPACT: Hungary's Barnabas (on ground), Scotland's Gunn (yellow) collide on Sunday

Varga horror injury mars Hungary's win

Szoboszlai Livid At In-Stadia Medical Response

Dusseldorf: Kevin Csoboth scored in the 10th minute of added time after a frightening injury to Barnabas Varga as Hungary snatched a 1-0 win over Scotland to stay in the hunt for a place in the last 16.

Hungary captain Dominik Szoboszlai has criticised medical staff for what he saw as a slow response to Barnabas Varga's nasty collision. Szoboszlai was among Hungarian players waving frantically for help as Varga, who fractured several bones in his face, lay motionless on the ground after a collision with Scottish keeper Angus Gunn 68 minutes into the game.

"I don't understand this kind of protocol, why the medical staff don't rush in at this time?" Szoboszlai said. Coach Marco Rossi confirmed Varga regained consciousness before leaving the field and was taken to hospital where his condition was stable. Hungary must wait for the outcome of other group matches to see if they will advance to the next round as one of four best third-place finishers.

Szoboszlai celebrated the victory by wearing Varga's spare shirt turned back to front. It was a bitter end to Scotland's bid to reach the knockout phase for the first time. AGENCIES

France wait for Mbappe return and goals to flow

Dortmund: France appear almost certain to reach the last 16 but they are hoping to have Kylian Mbappe back, and rediscover their goal-scoring touch, when they face Poland in their final Group D game on Tuesday. France have four points from two matches but have only scored one goal, off Austrian Woeber's own goal.

That gave France a 1-0 win against Austria in their opening match, before they drew 0-0 with the Netherlands in the absence of Mbappe.

Mbappe played no part against the Dutch as he recovers from the broken nose he suffered in a collision late on against Austria. He will need to wear a protective mask over his nose when he returns to action, and has been training wearing one.

"I think everyone knows he is really eager to play in the next match. That won't surprise anyone," teammate Aurelien Tchouameni said. AFP

VAN DIJK UNDERSTANDS CRITICISM OF ORANJE

Wolfsburg: Netherlands captain Virgil van Dijk said he understands the criticism of his team despite the Dutch picking up four points out of a possible six in Group D. The Netherlands are hoping to pinch top spot in Group D ahead of France but on Tuesday face a confident Austria side who may need a positive result to reach the last 16.

"Against France we were more compact as a team. Keeping a clean sheet against the World Cup runners-up is good. But in possession of the ball, we were very poor," Van Dijk said. The Dutch team came under fire from TV pundits and newspaper columnists following the game but Van Dijk was unfrustrated by the criticism.

"If it irritated me, I would have a very unpleasant life. Expectations are high. We have a good team. We want to show it in big matches." AGENCIES

FRANCE VS POLAND

BVB Stadion Dortmund

HEAD TO HEAD (17 games)

FRANCE WON 9 | DRAWS 5 | POLAND WON 3

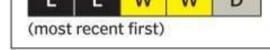


FORM GUIDE

FRANCE



POLAND



(most recent first)

N'LANDS VS AUSTRIA

Olympiastadion

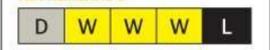
HEAD TO HEAD (20 games)

NETHERLANDS WON 10 | DRAWS 4 | AUS WON 6



FORM GUIDE

NETHERLANDS



AUSTRIA



(most recent first)

BACK-TO-THE-WALL SERBIA CONFIDENT, SAYS MIDFIELDER BIRMANCEVIC

Munich: Serbia have their backs against the wall but are confident of the win they require against Denmark to reach the last 16 at Euro 2024, midfielder Veljko Birmancevic said on Sunday.

Dragan Stojkovic's side have one point from two games to sit bottom of Group C and, while a draw could mathematically prove enough to stay in the tournament, they want to leave nothing to chance in Munich. "We have no options for comfort, we have reached the wall," Stojkovic said. "There is no going back and we can only go forward. If you want to move forward, you have to win."

They pushed England hard in their opening 1-0 loss and then grabbed a stoppage-time equaliser in the 1-1 draw with Slovenia but are in danger of an early exit. "Everyone is ready to give 100%. We learned a lot from these two games."

DENMARK VS SERBIA

Munich Football Arena

HEAD TO HEAD (10 games)

DEN WON 5 | DRAWS 0 | SER WON 5

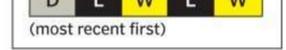


FORM GUIDE

DENMARK



SERBIA



(most recent first)

Uruguay's Bielsa sees room for improvement in 3-1 win

Miami Gardens: Uruguay opened their Copa America campaign with a 3-1 win over Panama on Sunday but head coach Marcelo Bielsa was quick to temper expectations and said they must continue to improve.

Maximiliano Araujo scored when he sent a long-range shot into the top far corner in the 16th minute, Darwin Nunez and Matias Vina added late goals and Uruguay beat Panama 3-1.

Bielsa took charge of Uruguay in May last year and steered them

through a transitional period in which veterans Edinson Cavani and Diego Godin both retired, with all-time leading goalscorer Luis Suarez looking set to follow suit soon.

The 15-times Copa America winners have been in excellent form over the last several months, beating both Argentina and Brazil in World Cup qualifiers.

Those results have sparked hope of a record 16th continental crown for "La Celeste" but Bielsa said they were taking it one game at a time.



ON FULL TILT: Uruguay's Federico Valverde (No.15) fights for the ball with Panama's goalkeeper Orlando Mosquera in Miami on Sunday

"When it comes to Uruguay's aspirations, we will see that and build it match by match," he said.

"My expectation is that each match will increasingly help us to improve on our level. Uruguay have players of a very good level and we need to see if I can build with those players." Uruguay dominated the opening 45 minutes as they pressed and harried Panama but their energy levels appeared to drop in the second half.

Panama looked likely to grab an equaliser after the break and Uruguay only regained control after Darwin Nunez's goal in the 85th minute. "The first half gave us the edge over our opponent. We should

have scored more," Bielsa said. "In the second half, there were 15 minutes where we performed very poorly. They dominated the ball during that time and they created opportunities where we were only leading by one goal and if they had scored, it would have been complicated for us."

"We missed five goals and we scored one in the first half and then we missed five and scored two in the second half."

Uruguay next face Bolivia in New Jersey on Thursday. Seeking a record 16th Copa America title, Uruguay dominated with 20 shots, including seven on target. Amir Murillo scored late into stoppage time for Panama.

PULISIC SCORES, ASSISTS TO LEAD USA TO VICTORY OVER BOLIVIA

Arlington: Christian Pulisic scored one goal and set up another as the United States launched their Copa America campaign with a clinical 2-0 Group C victory over Bolivia on Sunday.

US captain Pulisic curled in a superb early goal before teeing up a second for striker Folarin Balogun just before half-time at the AT&T Stadium in Arlington.

That two-goal salvo was enough to secure a vital three points for Gregg Berhalter's side.

Pulisic was clearly in no mood to let the South Americans improve that record of futility, firing the hosts into the lead after only three minutes. AGENCIES

GALLERY



Murshidabad Queens players celebrate after their win over Kolkata Tigers in a Bengal Pro T20 League match at Jadavpur University's Salt Lake campus ground on Monday. Murshidabad Queens thus finished at the top of the women's league. Medinipur Wizards also won their match. In the men's event, Howrah Warriors beat Rarh Tigers by one run, but were edged out of a semifinal spot by Kolkata Tigers on better run-rate. Smashers Malda beat Siliguri Strikers to seal the top spot

Jeev finishes tied eighth

Jeev Milkha Singh returned his best card for the week with a third and final round of 70 to pick up a top-10 finish at the OFX Legends on the Legends Tour of Europe. Jeev ended at 4-under 212 for a tied-8th place finish. Jyoti Randhawa (71-72-71) was 2-under and finished T-14th.

Tvesa ends at tied 25th spot: Tvesa Malik shot a bogey free final round of 5-under 67 to finish T-25 at the Tinsport Czech Ladies Open golf tournament. Among other Indians, amateur Avani Prashanth (69-70-72) an Anvi Kapoor (68-70-73) were both T-33rd while Diksha Dagar (71-72-70) and Pranavi Urs (71-69-73) were both T-43rd. Ridhima Dilawari (70-72-72) was T-54 as all six Indians made the cut.

Indian team for squash event in Pak: An 11-member squad will represent India at the 21st Asian Junior Individual Squash Championships in Islamabad beginning on Tuesday.

India squad (with seedings in brackets): Boys: U-17: Yusha Nafees (6); U-15: Shiven Agarwal (2), Lokesh Subramani; U-13: Dhruv Bopana. Girls: U-19: Nirupama Dubey (5), Shameena Riaz (8); U-17: Unnati Tripathi (6); U-15: Anika Dubey (8), Diva Shah (9); U-13: Aadya Budhia (2); Goushika M (4).

Age-group TT meet: The annual B.M. Chattoraj Memorial table tennis championship will be held at the Ballygunj Institute on July 13 and 14. The tournament will be held in under-11, U-13 and U-15 boys and girls age-groups. The last date of entry is July 8.

Badminton meet: Sidharta Venkataraman will face Divyansh Agarwal in the U-19 boys final of the Bengal Junior State Badminton Championship on Tuesday. Sukanya Choudhury will take on Kanishka Bijarnia in the girls' U-19 final. In the U-17 boys event, Ujan Biswas and Pranjal Das will vie for honours, while Srenakshi Mandal and Sampriti Pal will compete for the girls crown.

Lyles books Paris spot: Noah Lyles chased down his rivals to win the 100m final at the US Olympic trials in 9.83 seconds in Eugene, Oregon on Sunday to book a spot at the Paris Games.

Gill to lead young India

Riyan First Cricketer From NE To Get National Call-Up

New Delhi: Dashing Assam batter Riyan Parag on Monday became the first north-eastern cricketer to get an India call-up as a new-look T20 squad led by Shubman Gill was unveiled for next month's five-match series in Zimbabwe which will not feature any of the senior stars.

The series starting July 6 will be held entirely in Harare.

The national selection committee didn't pick any of the first team players, who are currently playing the T20 World Cup in the West Indies.

T20IS VS ZIMBABWE

All the seniors like Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli, Jasprit Bumrah, Suryakumar Yadav and Ravindra Jadeja have been rested after a gruelling three-half months, including the hectic IPL. Even the likes of Shivam Dube, Arshdeep Singh, and Kuldeep Yadav have been given a break. It is believed that the selectors want to broaden the pool of players looking at the 2026 T20 World Cup in India.

The announced squad marks a landmark for 21-year-old Parag, who had a stellar IPL season for the Rajasthan Royals with 573 runs which put him in the reckoning.



New responsibility for Gill. Picture right: Parag rewarded for consistency



THE SQUAD

Shubman Gill (Captain), Yashasvi Jaiswal, Ruturaj Gaikwad, Abhishek Sharma, Rinku Singh, Sanju Samson (WK), Dhruv Jurel (WK), Nitish Reddy, Riyan Parag, Washington Sundar, Ravi Bishnoi, Avesh Khan, Khaleel Ahmed, Mukesh Kumar, Tushar Deshpande.

playing this series.

In case of Yuzvendra Chahal, he is a senior enough bowler and it is believed that playing him in Zimbabwe won't serve any purpose considering that he made his debut against the same opposition nearly a decade back.

Ravi Bishnoi, the third choice leg-spinner, who has always done well for India with 36 wickets from 24 T20Is, makes a comeback. However, there are no specialist left-arm spinners save part-timer Abhishek in the squad.

Lifeline for Sundar: One of the most laudable moves by the selection committee is the left-field selection of Tamil Nadu all-rounder Washington Sundar, who was denied his fair share of opportunities in the wake of the Impact Player rule. He couldn't make the playing XI of SRH during most of the season.

He became the first player from his state and region to get a call-up in a senior national team. Joining him from the RR camp were his franchise captain Sanju Samson and Dhruv Jurel as the two wicket-keepers in the side.

Punjab skipper Abhishek Sharma, who had a mind-blowing IPL opening with Travis Head for the Sunrisers Hyderabad and his franchise teammate Nitish Reddy from Andhra Pradesh are among the 2026 T20 World Cup in India.

The average age of the squad is roughly around 25.

Reddy, a seam-bowling all-rounder is someone who the national selectors have been keeping an eye on for some time. His solid IPL performances and need to have some back-up plan for Hardik Pandya has led to his selection.

Gill, who led Gujarat Titans this IPL season, was unlucky to miss out on a final squad berth for the T20 World Cup.

But for the Zimbabwe tour, the selectors have included all the World Cup stand-bys - Gill, pacers Avesh Khan, Khaleel Ahmed and finisher Rinku Singh along with Samson and Yashasvi Jaiswal.

It is understood that the committee was not keen on seniors like Pandya and Suryakumar, both contenders for captaincy.

BCCI to review domestic revamp after one year

Gaurav.Gupta@timesgroup.com



Mumbai: The BCCI will review certain changes, like removing the zonal system in the Duleep Trophy, and doing away with toss in the Col CK Nayudu Trophy (for under-23), introduced for the 2024-25 season, next year. BCCI secretary Jay Shah assured this to state association representatives at an informal meeting at the BCCI HQ on Monday.

"Honorary Secretary of the BCCI Jay Shah extended his congratulations to the state associations for their exceptional work during this packed season. He sought feedback on the new domestic structure

expressed reservations about this format and want the zonal system back for the red-ball tournament. "A few state units pointed out that their selectors have a better idea about the talent of a cricketer from their region, rather than a national selector. It was emphasized that state unit selectors should be involved in at least the Duleep Trophy selection," a source told this paper.

It's learnt that the BCCI urged the state units to provide more remuneration to their players, along the lines of the Mumbai Cricket Association, which has decided to give Mumbai's players as much match fees as BCCI gives to them for the Ranji Trophy.

Aditi ends T-35

R.Satya@timesgroup.com

Sammamish (USA): Despite getting off to a dismal start — five bogeys in seven holes — on the final day, Aditi Ashok limited the damage with a fine rearguard action on the back nine to finish a creditable tied 35th at the KPMG Women's PGA Championship here on Sunday. The 26-year-old Indian ace shot a closing two-over 74 on a blustery day that saw just 10 golfers manage sub-par scores. Amy Yang was one of them. The South Korean shot a gritty one-under 71 under testing conditions to capture her first Major crown.

Yang, 34, finished with a four-day total of seven-under 281 for a three-shot victory over Lilia Vu (71), Korea's Jin Young Ko (71) and Miyu Yamashita (73) of Japan. Aditi was happy with the splendid recovery on the back nine. "I played well overall. It was not a great week, but it was not a bad week either," Asian Games silver medalist told TOI.



CFL PREMIER DIV STARTS TODAY

The Premier Division of Calcutta Football League 2024 kicks off on Tuesday with defending champions Mohammedan Sporting taking on Wari AC at the Kishore Bharati stadium. Twenty-six teams have been divided into two groups and three top finishers from each group will make it to the Super Six stage or the championship round. While Mohammedan Sporting are in Group A, last year's runners-up East Bengal FC and Mohun Bagan SG have been placed in Group B.

EAST BENGAL-BAGAN DERBY ON JULY 13:

East Bengal will launch their campaign against Tollygunge Agragami on June 30 while Mohun Bagan will take on Bhawanipore

Club in their first match two days later.

The season's first derby is set to take place on July 13, although the venue and kick-off time of the high-voltage fixture is yet to be decided.

CFL'S MOMENTOUS YEARS

1948 | Md Sporting became first team to win the league after independence.

1954 | Wearing boots were made mandatory.

1966 | Duration of matches were increased to 70 mins from 50 mins.

1972 | East Bengal won the CFL without conceding a goal, a feat they repeated in 1991.

1975 | East Bengal won the league winning all matches — a feat they repeated in 1977 and 2016.

1978 | First derby held

under lights at Mohun Bagan ground. Bagan won thanks to Shyam Thapa's back volley.

1992 | Duration of matches were increased to 90 mins from 70 mins.

1996 | CFL kicked off with the derby clash (EB vs MB) for the first time.

2012 | Longest duration of CFL from 16. 08. 2012 to 23. 05. 2013

2015 | Shortest duration of CFL from 04. 08. 2015 - 16. 09. 2015

Stats: Gautam Roy

Players unhappy with Stimac's style: AIFF

Marcus.Mergulhao @timesgroup.com

Panaji: Last week, when the All India Football Federation (AIFF) terminated Igor Stimac's services, the head coach asked team manager Velu Dhalayamani to form a WhatsApp group, comprising all players who had represented the country under the Croatia during the last five years.

About 100-odd footballers were part of the group. Stimac first posted a farewell message and then the players responded. "I don't want to read out the messages because I'll start crying," the coach told reporters during his last media interaction.

Turns out not every player meant what they said on the group. According to the AIFF, several players had brought their concern regarding Stimac's "coaching style and tactics" to the atten-

tion of the federation on multiple occasions, before he was eventually sacked.

"Despite all the support, the coach always sought to deflect blame and according to him everything and everyone else was wrong and responsible for any given situation, except himself," the AIFF said in a statement on Monday, refuting several points that Stimac had made during his press conference last week. "This sentiment was also shared by various players who had brought their concerns regarding Stimac's coaching style and tactics to the attention of the AIFF on multiple occasions. His selection of support staff had also gone unquestioned and was the subject of disquiet among many players."

The AIFF also said they were shocked to note Stimac's dependence on an astrologer to determine player's call ups and team selections.

Government of Maharashtra The World Bank Funded

Hon. Balasaheb Thackeray Agribusiness & Rural Transformation (SMART) Project

Tender Ref No: SMART/PCMU/EXTERNAL/CS/83/2024-25

Selection of Chartered Accountancy firm for External Audit

The SMART Project invites proposals from the eligible Chartered Accountancy firms for External Audit of SMART project. The RFP document is available on <https://mahtenders.gov.in> and the project website www.smart-mh.org. Interested Chartered Accountancy firms need to submit their "Proposal" through online at <https://mahtenders.gov.in> latest by 16/07/2024 up to 3.00 PM. If there is any change in the RFP document or any other scheduled date, it will be published only on the aforesaid website.

Dr. Hemant Vasekar I.A.S
Project Director

DGIPR 2024-25/398

RAJASTHAN SAMWAD

DPR Complex, Government Secretariat, Jaipur-302005
(Telephone & Fax No. 0141-2227057, Email Id: raj.samwad@gmail.com, dpr.rajasthan@gmail.com)

NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NIB No. 55 Date : 24/06/2024
INVITATION OF BIDS FOR THE PROVIDING SERVICES FOR MAN POWER invited from interested bidders up to 03:00 PM 15/07/2024. 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 <https://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in>. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 2 Crore. UBN : IPR2425SLRC00008
Managing Director
Raj.Samwad/C/24/1229

central mine planning and design institute limited
(A Subsidiary of Coal India Limited)
Gondwana Place, Kanke Road, Ranchi - 834031, Jharkhand, India

NOTICE

"All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on websites of Coal India Ltd. www.coalindia.in / respective Subsidiary Company (CMPDI), www.cmpdi.co.in, CIL e-procurement portal <https://coalindiatenders.nic.in> and Central Public Procurement Portal <https://eprocure.gov.in>. In addition, procurement is also done through GeM Portal <https://gem.gov.in>."

DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION GOVERNMENT OF NAGALAND

Request for Proposal/Bid for World Bank Aided - Nagaland Education Project - The Lighthouse (NECTAR) for eligible firms with requisite experience and capabilities for the following activity:

1. Designing and implementing Lighthouse School Complex (LSC) Transformation Approach
 2. Infrastructural Development of Lighthouse School Complex (LSC) - Government High School (GHS) Angiangy under Mon District
- For more details kindly visit nagalandeduproject.com or nagalandtenders.gov.in

Malda Town-Digha-Malda Town Special trains to run for four trips more

For the convenience of commuters, 03465/03466 Malda Town-Digha-Malda Town Special trains will continue to run for another 04 (four) trips as per its existing path, timings, stoppages and composition on the dates mentioned below: • 03465 Malda Town-Digha Special will run on 06.07, 13.07, 20.07 & 27.07.2024 (on Saturdays) and • 03466 Digha-Malda Town Special will run on 07.07, 14.07, 21.07 & 28.07.2024 (on Sundays). All other instructions will remain same.

Chief Passenger Transportation Manager

EASTERN RAILWAY

Follow us at: [@EasternRailway](https://twitter.com/EasternRailway) [@easternrailwayheadquarter](https://facebook.com/easternrailwayheadquarter)

HDFC BANK HDFC Bank Ltd. Head Office: HDFC Bank House, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai - 400 013 Branch Office: HDFC Bank Ltd., Dept. Of Special Operations, Jardine House, 1st Floor, 4 Clive Row, Kolkata-700001.

E-AUCTION NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY/IES

E-Auction Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower M/s. BRH Wealth Creators Ltd, Mr. Anubhav Bhattar, Mr. Raj Kumar Bhattar, M/s. BMA Properties Pvt Ltd, M/s. Parton Commercial Pvt Ltd and M/s. Polo Setco Tie Up Pvt Ltd [Guarantors / Mortgagees] that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the HDFC Bank Limited as Secured Creditor, the Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of HDFC Bank Ltd., will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS", and "WHATEVER THERE IS" basis on 12th July, 2024, for recovery of Rs.41,24,43,587.54 as on 10.03.2020 as per Demand Notice dated 16.03.2020, due to the HDFC Bank Ltd. as Secured Creditor for realization of Bank's dues plus interest till realization, from Borrower.

Sl No	Description of immovable property	Inspection Date and Time	Reserve Price		Date / Time of E-Auction	Encumbrances
			EMD	Bid Increase Amount		
1	All that piece and parcel of Leasehold Commercial property at Unit No. T-2-8B, on a portion on Level - VIII of Tower-II, in a building named and styled as "Millennium City", at the premises being Plot No. 62, in Block DN of Sector V of Bidhannagar in the district of North 24 parganas, containing Carpet Area of 2985 sq. ft. and comprising of plinth/covered area being 2428 sq. ft. (common portions - 557 sq. ft. approx.), P.S. Bidhannagar, Kolkata - 700091, standing in the name of BRH Wealth Creators Ltd. (earlier known as BMA Stock Broking Private Limited), and bounded as under: North: Plot No. DN-53; South: Type II Road; East: Electronic Regional Test Laboratory; West: Plot No. DN-54 & Plot No. DN-61.	03.07.2024 11 A.M to 1 P.M	Rs.2,00,00,000/-	Rs.20,00,000/- Rs.50,000/-	12.07.2024 at 11 A.M - 12 Noon	Encumbrance relating to the property which includes society dues, maintenance dues etc.

TERMS & CONDITIONS:

1. To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorised Officer, there is encumbrance relating to the property which includes society dues, maintenance dues etc. However, the intending bidders should also make their own independent inquiries regarding all encumbrances, title of property/ies put on auction and claims/rights/dues/ effecting the property, prior to submitting their bid. The E-Auction advertisement does not constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any commitment or any representation of the Bank. The property is being sold with all the existing and future encumbrances whether known or unknown to the bank. The Authorised Officer/ Secured Creditor shall not be responsible in any way for any third party claims/ rights/ dues. To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorised Officer, there is encumbrance relating to the property which includes society dues, maintenance dues etc. The Bank however shall not be responsible for any outstanding statutory dues/encumbrances/tax arrears, if any. The intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property/ies & to inspect & satisfy themselves. Property can be inspected strictly on the above mentioned dates and time. 2. The interested bidders shall submit their EMD details and documents through Web Portal: <https://www.bankauctions.com> (the user ID & Password can be obtained free of cost by registering name with <https://www.bankauctions.com>) through Login ID & Password. The EMD shall be payable through Pay Order/ Demand Draft of Nationalized/ Scheduled Bank drawn in favor of HDFC Bank Limited payable at Kolkata. It should reach the office of the HDFC BANK LTD. At 1st Floor, Jardine House, 4 Clive Row, Kolkata-700001 latest by 5:00 p.m. on or before 11.07.2024. Offers below the Reserve Price / without EMD / qualified / conditional shall be disqualified. 3. The intended bidders who have deposited the EMD and require assistance in creating Login ID & Password, uploading data, submitting bid, training on e-bidding process etc., may contact M/s. C1 India Pvt. Ltd., Plot No 301, Gulf Petro Chem Building, Udyog Vihar, Phase 2, Gurgaon. Helpline Nos: 0124-4302020/21/22/23/24. Mr. Mithelesh Kumar Mobile: 7080804466. Help Line e-mail ID: support@bankauctions.com, kolkata@1india.com and for any property related query may contact the concerned Authorised Officer Mr. Debojit Mukherjee (Mobile-9674713082), E Mail-debojit.mukherjee@hdfcbank.com or at address as mentioned above in office hours during the working days. (10 AM to 2:00 PM). 4. The highest bid shall be subject to approval of HDFC Bank Limited. Authorised Officer reserves the right to accept/ reject all or any of the offers/ bids so received without assigning any reasons whatsoever. His decision shall be final & binding.

STATUTORY SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8(6) OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002

The Borrower/Guarantors/Mortgagees in the account M/s. BRH Wealth Creators Ltd, Mr. Anubhav Bhattar, Mr.Raj Kumar Bhattar, M/s. BMA Properties Pvt Ltd, M/s. Parton Commercial Pvt Ltd and M/s. Polo Setco Tie Up Pvt Ltd are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned above along with upto dated interest and ancillary expenses before the date of E-Auction, failing which the property will be auctioned/ sold and balance dues, if any, will be recovered with interest and cost.

Note:- SA No. 212 of 2021 pending adjudication before DRT-III Kolkata.

Date: 25.06.2024

Place: Kolkata

Sd/- Authorised Officer,
HDFC Bank Ltd.

HDFC BANK HDFC Bank Ltd. Head Office: HDFC Bank House, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai - 400 013 Branch Office: HDFC Bank Ltd., Dept. Of Special Operations, Jardine House, 1st Floor, 4 Clive Row, Kolkata-700001.

E-AUCTION NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY/IES

E-Auction Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower M/s. BRH Commodities Pvt Ltd and Mr. Anubhav Bhattar [Guarantors / Mortgagees] that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the HDFC Bank Limited as Secured Creditor, the Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of HDFC Bank Ltd., will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS", and "WHATEVER THERE IS" basis on 12th July, 2024, for recovery of Rs.18,46,83,455.66 as on 10.03.2020 as per Demand Notice dated 16.03.2020, due to the HDFC Bank Ltd. as Secured Creditor for realization of Bank's dues plus interest till realization, from Borrower.

Sl No	Description of immovable property	Inspection Date and Time	Reserve Price		Date / Time of E-Auction	Encumbrances
			EMD	Bid Increase Amount		
1	All that the piece and parcel of the Cemented Office Space, having a super built-up area of about 22,951 sq. ft. on the Second floor of the Crystal - II Building at "Globsyn", Premises No. XI-11 & 12, together with the parking space being 18 spaces for parking medium sized cars lying and situated at Block EP, Sector V, Salt Lake Electronics Complex, P.S. Bidhannagar (E), Kolkata 700 091, within the jurisdiction of Nabadiganta Industrial Township Authority, together with the undivided proportionate share of land, standing in the name of BMA Commodities Pvt. Ltd., which is bounded as under: On the North: Plot No. XI-10; On the East: Road; On the South: Road; On the West: Plot No. XI-15 & XI-16.	03.07.2024 11 A.M to 1 P.M	Rs.10,60,00,000/-	Rs.1,06,00,000/- Rs.50,000/-	12.07.2024 at 11 A.M. - 12 Noon	Encumbrance relating to the property which includes society dues, maintenance dues etc.
2	All that the piece and parcel of the built-up space containing an area of 20,873 sq. ft. and carpet area measuring about 15863 Sq. Ft. with the facility to park 19 motors cars in 11 covered and 8 open slots, on Level VI of Tower - II, in a building named and styled as "Millennium City - Information Technology Park" lying and situate at Premises No. 62, Block-DN, Sector-V of Bidhannagar, P.S. - Bidhannagar, District- North 24 Parganas. Kolkata 700 091, standing in the name of BMA Commodities Pvt. Ltd., which is bounded as under: On the North: Plot No. DN-53; On the South: By Type II Road; On the East: By Electronic Regional Test Laboratory; On the West: By Plot No. DN-54 & Plot No. DN-61.	03.07.2024 11 A.M to 1 P.M	Rs.9,40,00,000/-	Rs.94,00,000/- Rs.50,000/-	12.07.2024 at 11 A.M. - 12 Noon	Encumbrance relating to the property which includes society dues, maintenance dues etc.

TERMS & CONDITIONS:

1. To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorised Officer, there is encumbrance relating to the property which includes society dues, maintenance dues etc. However, the intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property/ies put on auction and claims/rights/dues/ effecting the property, prior to submitting their bid. The E-Auction advertisement does not constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any commitment or any representation of the Bank. The property is being sold with all the existing and future encumbrances whether known or unknown to the bank. The Authorised Officer/ Secured Creditor shall not be responsible in any way for any third party claims/ rights/ dues. To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorised Officer, there is encumbrance relating to the property which includes society dues, maintenance dues etc. The Bank however shall not be responsible for any outstanding statutory dues/encumbrances/tax arrears, if any. The intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property/ies & to inspect & satisfy themselves. Property can be inspected strictly on the above mentioned dates and time. 2. The interested bidders shall submit their EMD details and documents through Web Portal: <https://www.bankauctions.com> (the user ID & Password can be obtained free of cost by registering name with <https://www.bankauctions.com>) through Login ID & Password. The EMD shall be payable through Pay Order/ Demand Draft of Nationalized/ Scheduled Bank drawn in favor of HDFC Bank Limited payable at Kolkata. It should reach the office of the HDFC BANK LTD. At 1st Floor, Jardine House, 4 Clive Row, Kolkata-700001 latest by 5:00 p.m. on or before 11.07.2024. Offers below the Reserve Price / without EMD / qualified / conditional shall be disqualified. 3. The intended bidders who have deposited the EMD and require assistance in creating Login ID & Password, uploading data, submitting bid, training on e-bidding process etc., may contact M/s. C1 India Pvt. Ltd., Plot No 301, Gulf Petro Chem Building, Udyog Vihar, Phase 2, Gurgaon. Helpline Nos: 0124-4302020/21/22/23/24. Mr. Mithelesh Kumar Mobile: 7080804466. Help Line e-mail ID: support@bankauctions.com, kolkata@1india.com and for any property related query may contact the concerned Authorised Officer Mr. Debojit Mukherjee (Mobile-9674713082), E Mail-debojit.mukherjee@hdfcbank.com or at address as mentioned above in office hours during the working days. (10 AM to 2:00 PM). 4. The highest bid shall be subject to approval of HDFC Bank Limited. Authorised Officer reserves the right to accept/ reject all or any of the offers/ bids so received without assigning any reasons whatsoever. His decision shall be final & binding.

4 get 20 yrs' jail for human trafficking in 10-month trial

Dwaipayan Ghosh
@timesgroup.com

Kolkata: A Special Investigation Team (SIT) of the Jhargram police has secured a conviction in a human trafficking case within 10 months, marking one of the fastest trials and convictions in the state in recent memory.

All four arrested have been sentenced to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment on charges of human trafficking and child sexual assault, according to special public prosecutor Kunal Kanti Ghosh. The case was supervised by the SIT, led by SP Jhargram Arijit Sinha, with the Investigating Officer (IO) being Biplob Karmakar, the IC of Jhargram.

"The case was finally solved with the help of a photograph of one of the accused from the Swasthya Sathi database. Further links were developed using call tower dumping analysis and by consulting other govt databases containing photographs of beneficiaries. It emerged that the same gang was operating similar human trafficking activities in neighboring districts, leading to the busting of an inter-district human trafficking gang with the arrests," said Sinha.

The trial was completed, and the conviction of all accused was secured within 10 months of the FIR being registered. Ghosh claimed this was the fastest conviction in a human trafficking case registered in a Jhargram district since the state govt launched the "Swayamsiddha initiative" against human trafficking in 2016. "The protection given to the witnesses was appreciated by the trial judge. None of the vulnerable witnesses turned hostile in this case," claimed Ghosh.

No staffer will be asked to leave job: Hry CM on SC ruling

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chandigarh: Haryana chief minister Nayab Singh Saini said on Monday there was no threat to the jobs of Group C and D employees recruited by Haryana Service Selection Commission (HSSC) under socio-economic criteria after the apex court upheld a high court judgment quashing the Haryana policy.

About 23,000 employees were recruited to these posts in Haryana govt after implementation of the criteria since its notification in June 2019. "We respect the verdict of Supreme Court. Our socio-economic policy was based on 'Antyodaya'. We stand by our policy. No employee will be asked to leave their job on the basis of this verdict," CM Saini said.

"Our govt is fighting for the rights of the poor. If needed, we shall bring legislation in the assembly so that our government will continue to stand with the poor. Whether we are forced to go for a review petition or we have to take this to Vidhan Sabha, we shall do everything," added Saini.

Youth thrashed in Mdn over 'theft', handed over to cops: A young man, suspected to be a thief, was thrashed and handed over to the police by locals in West Midnapore's Chandrakona on Monday, reports **Sujoy Khanra**. Locals suspected that Garbete's Dulal Jamadar stole a motorcycle that belonged to a Chandrakona resident. Cops took Jamadar into custody.

Khaps want laws on love marriage, ban on live-in

Vijender Kumar | TNN

Jind: Haryana's khaps (social clans) are demanding that Parliament bring laws in the current session to make parental assent mandatory in love marriages and to end the live-in relationship system or face a state-wide agitation.

The khaps say they are moved to this by the rising number of so-called "honour killings". The khap leaders said that if the NDA-led central govt doesn't introduce bills on both issues, opposition parties should take a call in the LS by raising the voice of social clans. "We don't have any issue with a love marriage or court marriage but parental permission must be sought while solemnising marriages of young couples," Majra khap spokesperson Samundar Phour

AAI official found dead dressed as a woman

Aakash Ahuja
& Kalyan Das | TNN

Dehradun: A senior Airports Authority official was found dead under suspicious circumstances at his official accommodation at his official accommodation at the airport on Monday. (TOI is withholding his name).

The official was found hanging from a ceiling fan dressed in women's clothes, including a maxi, undergarments, bindi, lipstick and bangles. His wife, a teacher, was in Pithoragarh at the time of the incident.

SSP (Udham Singh Nagar) Manjunath TC told TOI: "Relatives and colleagues forced open the official's bedroom door to find him hanging. He was taken to a hospital where doctors declared him 'dead on arrival'. There was no sign of a forced entry in the room, which was locked from inside. There were no signs of physical as-

'STELLAR RECORD'

> The official was found hanging by a dupatta in bedroom, wearing a maxi, women's underclothes, bindi, bangles & lipstick

> Colleagues and seniors termed him an 'outstanding professional who was never involved in any misconduct'

> Police awaiting autopsy report to learn more about circumstances of death

sault either."

A police officer, who is part of the investigation, said, "The official was in his two-bedroom accommodation with two relatives. All three had dinner together on Sunday and went out at night before returning to the apartment. Preliminary investigation suggests that the two were in one room while the official was in the other. They had planned to visit a nearby mango orchard ar-

und 8am on Monday. However, when the AAI official didn't wake up in the morning despite several calls by the two, they informed his colleagues living in the same neighbourhood. They then broke open the door of his room to find him hanging from a noose made from a dupatta tied to the ceiling fan... We're probing why he was in women's attire."

SP (city) Manoj Katyal said police are questioning the two relatives and the colleagues of the deceased. He added: "We have also seized his mobile phone to examine his call details and other data to conduct a cyber forensic probe. His seniors and colleagues termed him an 'outstanding professional who was never involved in any misconduct'. Reasons behind his death would be ascertained after we receive postmortem report. We're not ruling out anything..."

Sena (UBT) wants 50% quota for Marathis in new buildings

Chaitya M. Marpakwar
@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: Months ahead of assembly elections, Shiv Sena (UBT) MLC Anil Parab submitted a private member's bill to the legislative council seeking 50% reservation for Marathi-speaking people in new residential buildings in Mumbai. The bill, awaiting the deputy chairperson's approval for tabling in the House, has pushed for a penalty of Rs 10 lakh and/or a jail term of up to six months on the developer for failing to provide such a quota.

Sena (UBT) has nine legislators in the 78-member council and 15 in the 288-seat assembly. MVA, the opposition bloc, has 75 members in the assembly and 29 in the council, while Mahayuti, the govt alliance, has 212 members in the former and 28 in the latter. The bill may be tabled during the course of the monsoon session of the legislature, which begins on Thursday.

Parab alleged that "multiple instances" of Marathi-speaking people being denied housing under pretext of

Legal experts say Marathi quota proposal against equality, will fail judicial scrutiny

Legal experts said the bill submitted by Shiv Sena (UBT) MLC Anil Parab proposing a 50% quota for Maharashtrians may not withstand judicial scrutiny and turn into an Act as it goes against the grain of the constitutional principle of equality, reports **Swati Deshpande**. R D Dhanuka, former chief justice of Bombay High Court, said such a quota "is impermissible in law". "So many societies in Mumbai seek to allow members of only a particular religion or community or bar certain categories. It has been held constitutionally invalid by our courts."

Senior counsel Milind Sathe said there has been no precedent in Maharashtra of a private member's bill being passed as a law. "Secondly, even if govt were to pass it, the bill may not pass the test of judicial scrutiny as such a classification is impermissible under the Constitution."

Agreeing with both, former AG of Maharashtra SG Aney said, "It is an arbitrary proposal with no data to back the claim (on Marathi community's dwindling numbers in Mumbai)." Asserting that "the bill is not even worth the paper it is written on", Aney said it has not been submitted in the form that a private member's bill should be presented.

food preferences or religion had prompted him to submit the bill. "Any discrimination based on religion or food preferences is unconstitutional." Citing a case from Vile Parle, he said a builder refused to let Marathi people buy homes in a complex on their food preferences. "Marathi people protested, but govt didn't

take cognisance of issue. The developer apologised only after the media highlighted it," he said, adding that Marathi-speaking people in Mumbai are now outnumbered.

A private member's bill can be moved by any House member in their personal capacity seeking a new law or tweaks in an existing statute.

Wheat stock limits back to curb hoarding

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Govt re-imposed stock limit on wheat on Monday, barely after a gap of two-and-a-half months, to check hoarding and price rise of the commodity. This will remain in force till March next year. While this is aimed at bringing down prices, officials said the prices of green vegetables, potato and onion are also likely to cool down with heatwave subsiding in many parts of the country.

The food and public distribution department had last year imposed a stock limit on June 13 which lasted till March. As per the new norms, wholesalers can keep 3,000 tonne of wheat stock and stock with retailers has been capped at 10 tonne.

Big chain retailers can keep 10 tonne for each outlet and 3,000 tonne at all depots at any given point of time.

They have to disclose the stock every week as well.

Union food secretary Sanjeev Chopra said, "The decision has been taken to put a check on hoarders and black marketers who are trying to gain as sentiment around wheat prices (are) going up amid rumours of not having adequate wheat. We want prices of wheat to be stable." He said there is no shortfall of wheat as the overall production was 40-50 lakh tonne higher than last year. Chopra said the opening stock of wheat was 82 lakh tonne on April 1, 2023 while it was 75 lakh tonne on April 1, 2024.

On the prices of other essential commodities, Union consumer affairs secretary Nidhi Khare said they expect prices to fall soon. "The severe heatwave reduced the arrival of green vegetables and thereby putting pressure on potatoes and onions."

Kerala House wants state's name changed to Keralam

Thiruvananthapuram: The Kerala assembly unanimously adopted on Monday a resolution urging the Centre to officially change the state's name to "Keralam". The House was passing the resolution the second time as the Union home ministry, which had reviewed the first resolution, had suggested some technical changes.

In the First Schedule of the Constitution the state is listed as Kerala. CM Pinarayi Vijayan moved the resolution and it was accepted by both LDF and UDF. The assembly on Aug 9, 2023 passed a similar resolution seeking the change in the First as well as Eighth Schedules of the Constitution.

The Union home ministry had returned it saying that change needed to be made only in the First Schedule. The resolution passed on Monday incorporates the necessary changes. TNN

Councillor, aides raze UP graveyard, booked

Rahul Singh | timesgroup.com

Meerut: Four people, including a local municipal councillor, were charged under IPC sections for provocation with intent to cause riot and criminal intimidation after they allegedly razed a graveyard that complainants say was over a century old at Khurja in Bulandshahr district.

Police said the FIR came after Khurja resident Mohd Saleem accused municipal councillor Arsheel Baudh, his father Vijay Baudh and two others of desecrating the graveyard. Purported videos of a bulldozer razing the graves were widely circulated on social media, causing tension among local residents. In his complaint, Saleem said, "On Friday, the municipal councillor brought a bulldozer and started

destroying the graves. Our ancestors are buried here. The graveyard is more than a century old."

Khurja sub-divisional magistrate Durgesh Singh told TOI on Monday: "Teams from the district administration reached the spot and found that the land is notified as a graveyard. They told us that they were carrying out a cleanliness drive, which was unauthorised. Some graves were found damaged. A signboard has now been placed to identify the plot as a graveyard and proper fencing will be done to avoid a repeat of the incident."

Circle officer Varun Kumar Singh said, "An FIR was registered under IPC Sections 295 (deliberate and malicious acts to outrage religious feelings), 153 (intent to cause riot), 504 and 506 (criminal intimidation)."

Centre submits affidavit on Aadhaar deactivation in HC

Subrata Chatterjee | TNN

Kolkata: Centre, upon directions of Calcutta High Court, has filed an affidavit on the deactivation of Aadhaar cards of alleged foreigners overstaying in the country. A division bench led by Chief Justice T S Sivagnanam will hear the matter on July 4.

Debasis Chatterjee, the assistant foreigners regional registration officer (legal cell) in Kolkata, submitted the affidavit in response to a writ petition filed by Joint Forum Against NRC that brought up the confusion created by the deactivation of some Aadhaar cards in Bengal. In his affidavit, Chatterjee referred to Section 28A of the Foreigners Act, 1946 that provides that UIDAI may deactivate Aadhaar numbers of foreign nationals if they do not fulfil the requisites of entry into or stay in India.

Chatterjee also referred to Section 29A of the act, that any case reported for action may require field inquiry. "As the tracing of the overstaying foreigners is of utmost importance in the interest of national security, it is essen-

In its affidavit, Centre referred to its advisory on Feb 28, 2018, advising states to have law enforcement agencies take prompt steps to identify illegal migrants

tial that the matching records... are found in the Aadhaar database," the affidavit states. Chatterjee, however, clarified that any person belonging to Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Parsi or Christian communities from Afghanistan, Bangladesh or Pakistan on or before Dec 31, 2014, shall not be treated as an illegal migrant as provided under Citizenship Amendment Act. In its affidavit, Centre referred to its advisory on Feb 28, 2018, advising states to have law enforcement agencies take prompt steps to identify illegal migrants.

Additional solicitor general Ashoke Kumar Chakraborty had in March questioned the maintainability of the PIL.

PM: GST makes household goods cheaper

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said that his govt is committed to moving ahead on the reforms path to "transform people's lives" and pointed to the introduction of goods and services tax (GST) helping lower prices of commodities.

"For us, reforms are a means to improve the lives of 140 crore Indians. After the introduction of GST, goods for household use have become much cheaper. This has resulted in significant savings for the poor and common man," the PM tweeted. TNN

HC slams BMC over squatters on footpaths

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Observing that something drastic has to be done regarding the problem, Bombay High Court on Monday frowned at the state and BMC's inability to remove unlicensed hawkers encroaching on footpaths in the city.

"There can't be an abject surrender by any of the authorities. Otherwise, there will be lawlessness," said Justice Mahesh Sonak and Kamal Khata, hearing a suo motu PIL converted out of a petition regarding illegal hawkers obstructing access to a Borivali shop.



Eight-day custody for Suraj Revanna in sexual assault case

Bengaluru: Former PMHD Deve Gowda's son and JD(S) MLC Suraj Revanna, who was arrested on charges of sexually abusing a 27-year-old male party worker, was Monday remanded in police custody for eight days.

Suraj was produced before the 42nd additional chief metropolitan magistrate's court where CID officials investigating the case sought his custody for 14 days. The court, however, remanded Suraj in custody for eight days. Police sources

said Suraj has been kept in the same room in CID headquarters where his younger brother and former MP Prajwal Revanna was lodged till Monday afternoon. Prajwal, too, is in custody in a sexual assault case.

A senior police officer said deputy SP from the homicide and burglary wing, Umesh MH, has been appointed as the IO in the case. The probe is being supervised by Sudheer Kumar Reddy CH, deputy inspector general of police, CID. TNN



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