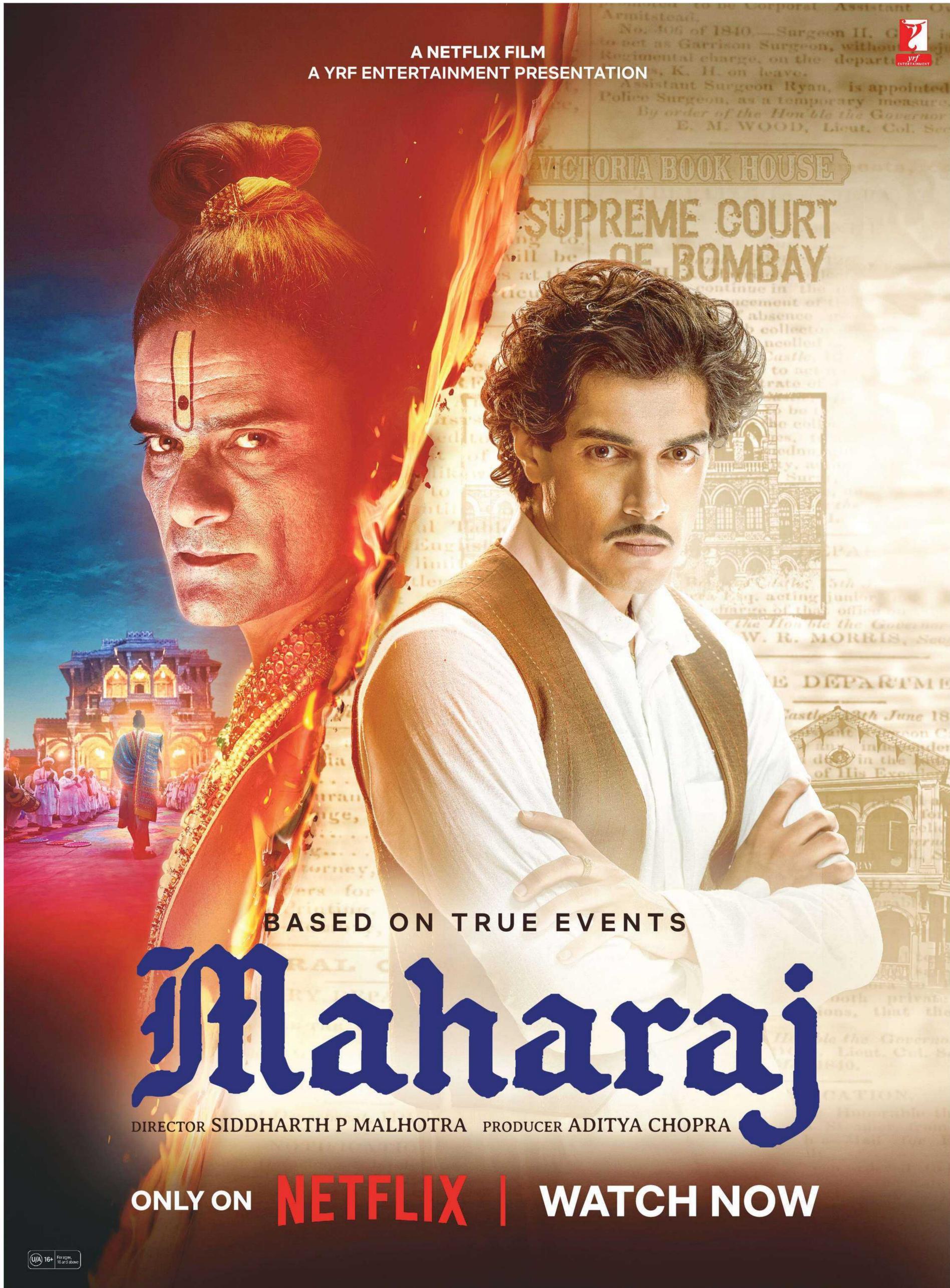




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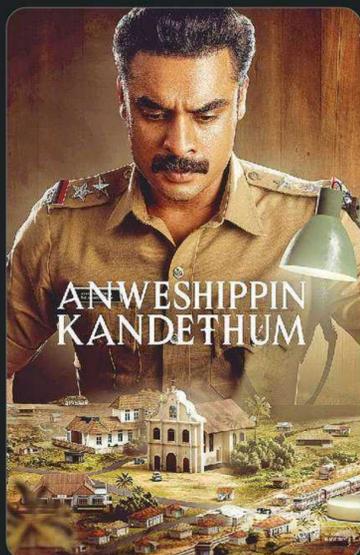
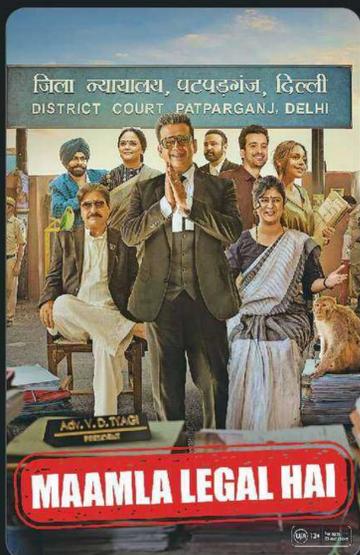
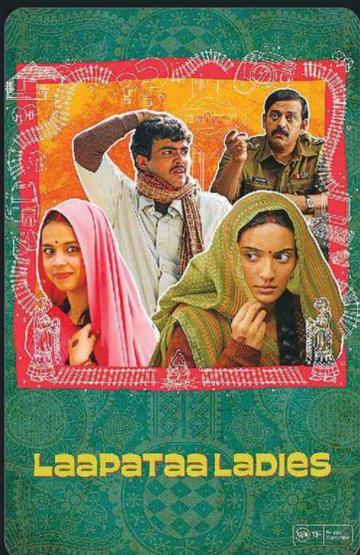
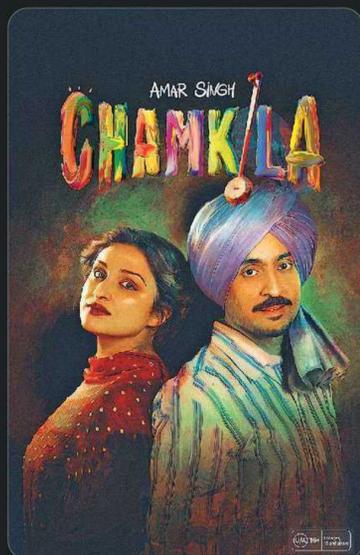
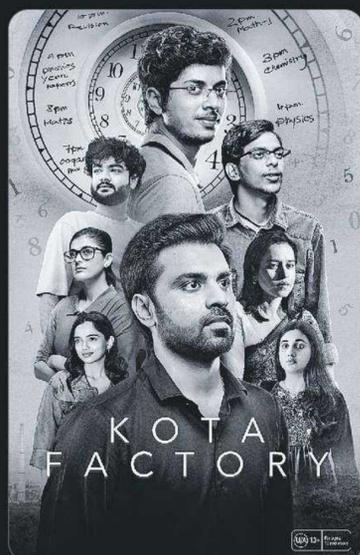
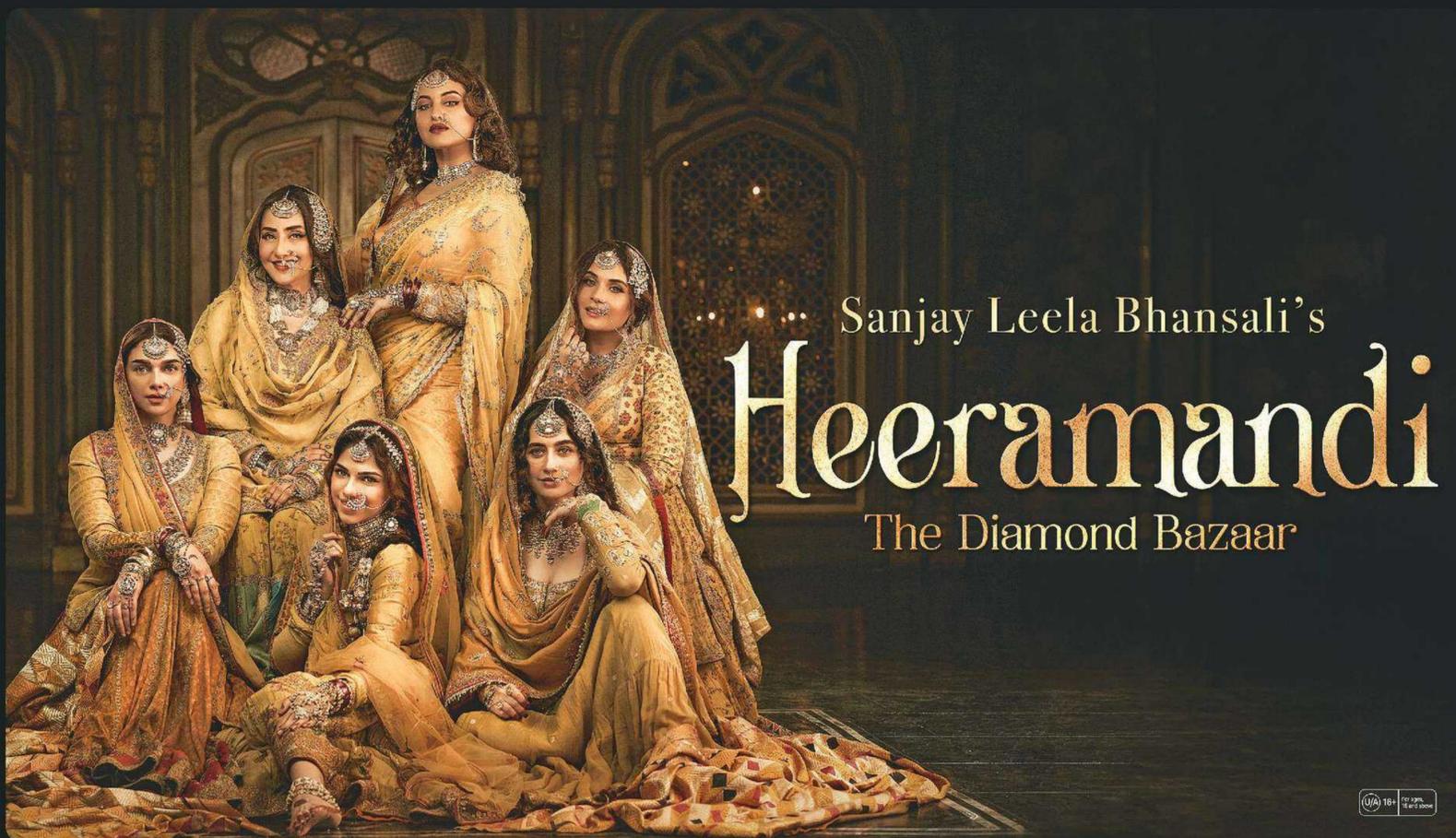
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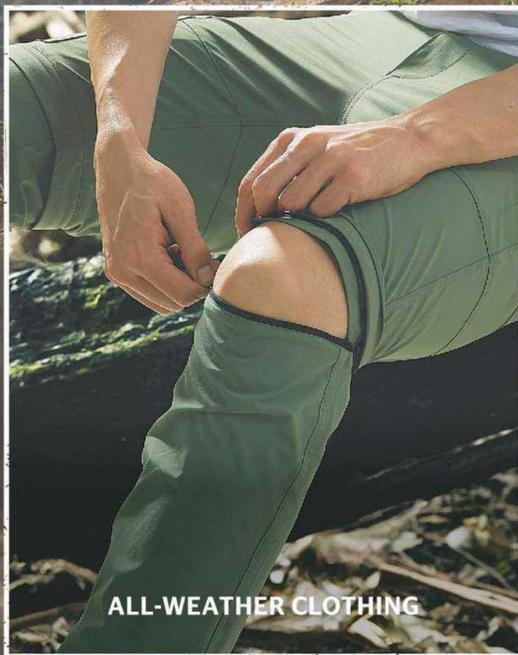
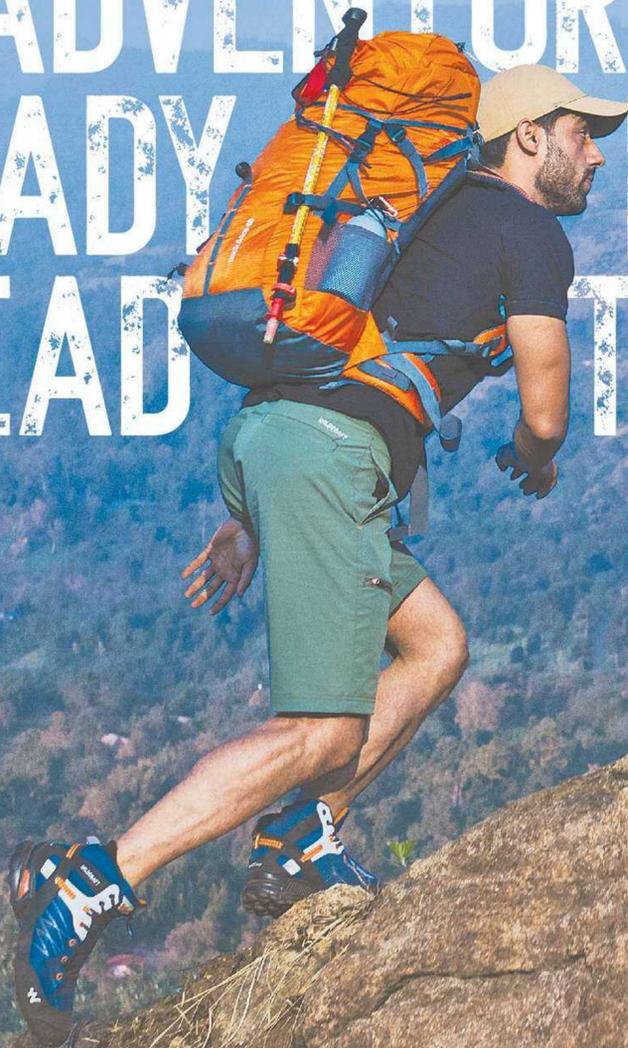


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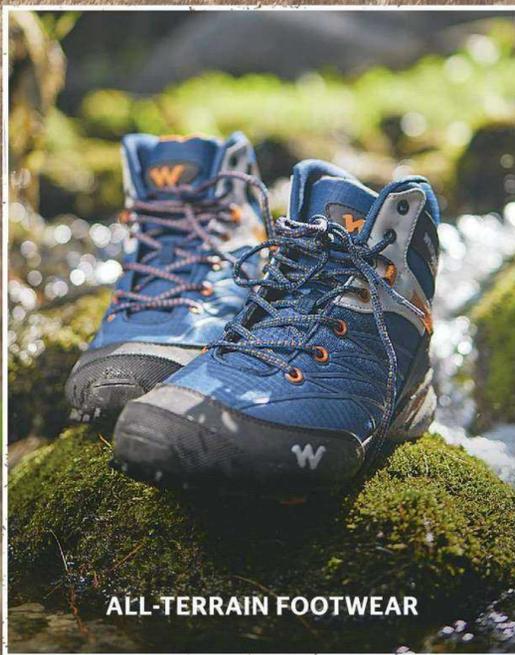
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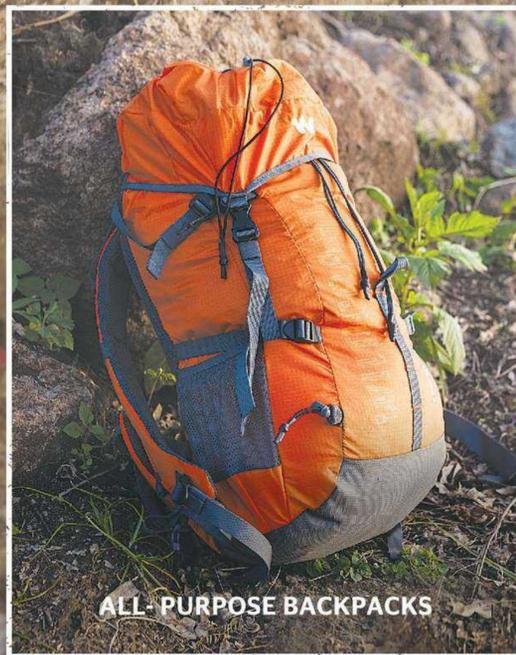
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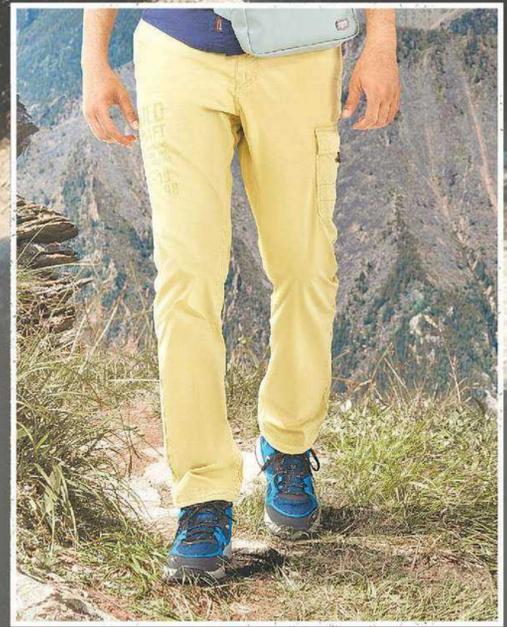
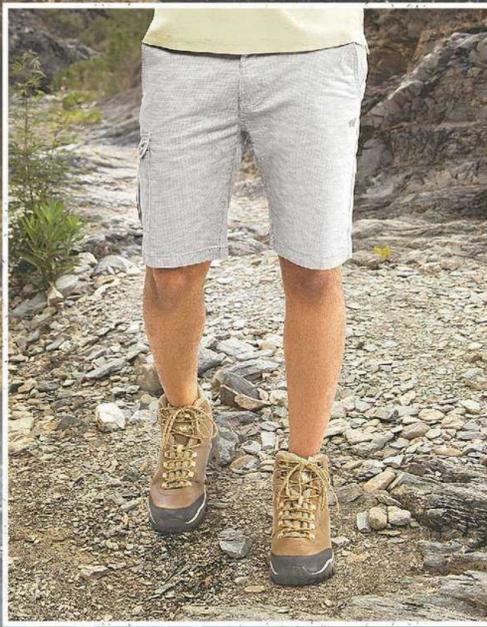
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Hindustan Times

FIRST VOICE. LAST WORD.

Rare showdown for Speaker as NDA picks Om Birla again

Smriti Kak Ramachandran and Saubhadra Chatterji
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: India is set to witness the first election for the Lok Sabha speaker's position in nearly half a century after talks between the government and Opposition broke down on Tuesday over the deputy speaker's post, setting the stage for the first major showdown in the 18th Lok Sabha.

The ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA) picked 17th Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla who will likely become only the fourth man to get a second term helming the Lower House. The Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) fielded its most-experienced lawmaker, Kodikunil Suresh, who filed his nomination just minutes before the 12pm deadline.

The INDIA bloc said it was ready to support Birla and wanted the deputy speaker's post as per parliamentary convention, but the BJP leadership remained non-committal, forcing the 236 member-strong Opposition delegation to fight for the top post of the Lok Sabha as a form of protest.

"The entire Opposition said we would support the speaker, but the convention is that the deputy speaker post should be given to the Opposition," said Congress leader Rahul Gandhi. The NDA hit back, accusing the Opposition of putting preconditions. "The speaker does not belong to any one party...but is chosen unanimously for running the House. It is said that the

continued on →14

Lack of consensus

Voting for the post is expected to be held at 11am on Wednesday



Following rift over post of deputy Speaker

● A rift emerged after the government refused to guarantee a deputy Speaker from the Opposition as a precondition for its support for BJP's **Om Birla**. Lok Sabha rules say the Speaker has to be chosen unanimously.

● As the numbers stand, the BJP-led NDA has 293 votes in the 543-member House against the INDIA bloc's 236.

● Elections for the Speaker's post have only been held three times before: 1952, 1967 and 1976.

Second term for Birla?

The BJP-led NDA, backed by key allies such as the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and Janata Dal-United (JD-U), is expected to win the election on Wednesday, which would make Birla the only Speaker after Balram Jakhar in 1985 to get two full terms in the House.

KOTA MP WHO STEERED HOUSE FOR 5 YEARS SET FOR ANOTHER GO

NEW DELHI: Five days ago, BJP lawmaker Om Birla inspected the construction work in the Parliament complex and told officials to finish by July 3. For officials close to Birla, his display of authority and the timeline he set was the first signal that he might continue as Lok Sabha Speaker. On Tuesday, that hint solidified into fact. After the Congress's Balram Jakhar in 1985, Kota parliamentarian Birla is set to be the first speaker in 39 years to get re-elected to the Lok Sabha's highest office. →P8



INDIA bloc picks K Suresh

The INDIA bloc fielded its most-experienced lawmaker, eight-term MP **Kodikunil Suresh**. But alliance member TMC registered its objection over what it said was a "unilateral decision" taken by Congress.

K SURESH NAMED WITHOUT TALKS, TMC COMPLAINS OVER I.N.D.I.A. PICK

NEW DELHI: The TMC on Tuesday said the party was not consulted on the Opposition's decision to field Congress MP K Suresh as the INDIA bloc's joint nominee for the post of Lok Sabha Speaker. As Suresh filed his nomination for the election of Speaker on Tuesday morning, the TMC was not among the INDIA bloc parties that signed his paper. When TMC MP Abhishek Banerjee was asked about his party's stand on the issue, he said, "No one contacted us... unfortunately this has been a unilateral decision." →P8

Rahul Gandhi chosen as leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha

Saubhadra Chatterji
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NEW DELHI: Rahul Gandhi will be the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, the Congress party said on Tuesday after a meeting with key INDIA bloc leaders, marking the first time in a decade that the Lower House will fill the position.

"Congress parliamentary party chairperson (Sonia Gandhi)

wrote to pro-tem speaker Bhartruhari Mahtab, informing him of the decision to appoint Rahul Gandhi as the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha," party general secretary KC Venugopal announced after the meeting with allies, in which Gandhi was also present.

The development came ahead of a showdown between the government and the Opposition over the election of

the Speaker.

A large section of the Opposition anticipated that Gandhi, who won the Lok Sabha seats in Rae Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh, and Wayanad, Kerala, would take up the responsibilities of the LoP after the Congress became eligible for the post for the first time in 10 years.

In the 16th and 17th Lok Sabha, there was no Leader of Opposition as the Congress didn't have the 56 seats required to fill the position. →P8

No release for Kejriwal as HC stays bail verdict

Shruti Kakkar

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NEW DELHI: The Delhi high court on Tuesday stayed a lower court's order granting bail to Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal in a money laundering case, calling the decision "perverse" and criticising the trial court for inadequately considering evidence presented by the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

Justice Sudhir Kumar Jain, in a 34-page ruling, said the trial court failed to properly evaluate thousands of pages of documents submitted by ED, which alleged Kejriwal's vicarious liability — as the convener of the party — for money laundering offenses committed by the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP).

"The perusal of the impugned order is reflecting that the vacation judge has passed the order without going through and appreciating the entire material brought on record by the rival parties which reflects perversity in the impugned order," justice

Trial court order rejected

'Submitted material not appreciated'
"The vacation judge has passed the impugned order without going through and appreciating the entire material brought on record by the rival parties which reflects perversity (in the order)..."

'Observations out of context, unwarranted'
"The observations... in impugned order is uncalled for, unwarranted and out of context. The vacation judge should refrain from making such observations."

'ED not given chance to argue'
"ED ought to have been given adequate opportunity to advance arguments on bail application by the vacation judge."

Jain wrote.

The high court noted that the lower court firstly expressed its inability to consider the documents running into thousands of pages and later mentioned in the ruling it has dealt with the arguments and contentions. The court also noted that the trial court further did not "sufficiently" and "adequately" deal

with federal agency's contentions on the aspect of recovering the proceeds of crime qua the CM.

Kejriwal has been in custody since March 21, except for a brief period of interim bail granted by the Supreme Court for election campaigning. The case stems from alleged irregularities in the

continued on →14

Pune teen walks out as HC ends custody in hit-and-run case

Sahyaja MS

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MUMBAI: The Bombay high court on Tuesday ordered the release of the minor involved in the May 19 high-speed Porsche accident in which two people lost their lives, ruling that through the accident was unfortunate, his continued incarceration was unlawful.

The court, hearing a habeas corpus petition filed by the boy's paternal aunt, ruled that the minor be placed under her care. "We allow the habeas corpus petition and order his release. We are bound by law. The aims and objectives of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act must treat him as any child in conflict with the law separately from adults, despite the seriousness of the crime," a bench of justice Bharati Dangre and justice Manjusha Deshpande ruled.

"Although the accident was unfortunate, the detention was illegal," it added.



The mangled remains of the Porsche.

The minor, allegedly driving the sports car at high speed while intoxicated, crashed into a bike, killing two software engineers. Aneesh Awadhiya and Ashwini Koshta, in Kalyani Nagar area of Pune.

The boy's father, mother and grandfather are all in judicial custody over a slew of charges.

The case, and the subsequent expeditious bail granted to the minor under provisions of the JJ Act drew sharp criticism and a flurry of protests. Under the bail conditions, the minor was

continued on →6

MINISTER ENDS INDEFINITE FAST AFTER HEALTH DETERIORATES

Paras Singh

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NEW DELHI: Delhi water minister Atishi was hospitalised on Tuesday, the fourth day of her indefinite fast seeking water for the Capital, due to deterioration of her health, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) said. The party said that the hunger strike has been halted and it will now raise the issue in the Parliament jointly with other opposition parties. →P4



SC ON JAIN'S BAIL: DON'T ADJOURN PLEAS NEEDLESSLY

Abraham Thomas

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NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Tuesday said that petitions seeking bail are not to be unnecessarily adjourned as it dealt with a plea filed by former Delhi minister and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Satyendra Jain challenging an order of the Delhi high court adjourning his bail plea by six weeks to July 9. →P3

Panel to meet parents, review NTA protocols

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NEW DELHI: A seven-member committee formed by the Centre to review the operations of the National Test Agency (NTA) will on priority engage with students and parents over their concerns and challenges, and seek suggestions to build a robust and tamper-proof system for entrance examinations, former Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) chairman and panel chief K Radhakrishnan has said, amid a raging row over allegations of paper leak and other irregularities that have sparked sweeping protests across the country.

The committee, which also comprises the Indian Institute of

Technology-Kanpur's board of governors (BoG), also headed by Radhakrishnan, will further make recommendations on reforms in the examination process, improvement in data security protocols and structure and functioning of NTA, and submit a report to the Union education ministry in this regard within two months.

The decision was taken during the first meeting of the panel at the Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi on Monday, as NTA continues to be at the centre of a storm after a slew of crucial national examinations, including the National Eligibility Entrance Test-Undergraduate (NEET-UG), involving the fate of millions of candidates were botched. →P2



Assange at Bangkok Don Mueang International Airport, Thailand, on Tuesday. He will travel to Saipan on the Northern Mariana Islands, where he was due in court on Wednesday.

1,901 days later, Assange is free after plea deal with US

BANGKOK: WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange is to be a "free man", his wife said on Tuesday, once a judge signs off on a landmark plea deal with US authorities to bring his years-long legal drama to a close.

Assange was released on Monday from a high-security British prison where he had been held for five years while he fought extradition to the US, which sought to prosecute him for

revealing military secrets.

He flew out of London to travel to the Northern Mariana Islands, a US territory in the Pacific where he will plead guilty to a single count of conspiracy to obtain and disseminate national defence information, according to a court document. A private jet carrying the 52-year-old stopped to refuel in Bangkok on Tuesday, taking off again around 9:25 pm (local time) to fly to Saipan, capital of the US

territory where Assange is due in court on Wednesday morning.

He is expected to be sentenced to five years and two months in prison, with credit for the same amount of time he spent behind bars in Britain.

Assange was wanted by Washington for releasing hundreds of thousands of secret US documents from 2010 as head of the whistleblowing website WikiLeaks. →P7

Modi likely to visit Russia next month

Rezaul H Laskar

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NEW DELHI: India and Russia are eyeing the possibility of a visit to Moscow by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in early July for talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin, people familiar with the matter said on Tuesday.

If the visit goes ahead, it will be Modi's first trip to Russia since 2019, the first since the start of the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 and also the prime minister's

first bilateral visit in his third term. Putin last visited India in 2021 for the annual India-Russia Summit, which hasn't been held in the past two years.

Though there was no formal announcement by the Indian and Russian sides, people familiar with preparations for the visit in New Delhi and Moscow said on condition of anonymity that Modi is expected to make a brief day-long visit to Russia in early July. Some reports suggested July 8 will be the date of the visit, but there was no official confirmation. →P7



MAN MADE BOMB THREAT TO AIRLINE AS IT REFUSED TO RESCHEDULE FLIGHT

KOCHI: A 30-year-old man from Kerala was booked on Tuesday for issuing a bomb threat to a Kochi-London Gatwick Air India flight, which later turned out to be a hoax, allegedly after his request to reschedule his departure citing his daughter's ill health was turned down by the airline's call centre, a police officer said.

Police said the accused, Shuhaib (30) was scheduled to take the flight to London with his wife and daughter on Tuesday. However, his daughter fell ill, and the airline denied his requests to reschedule his ticket, which angered the man and prompted him to make the hoax call, said police. →P11

Couple, 2 sons die as fire engulfs house

HT Correspondent

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NEW DELHI: A couple and their two sons suffocated to death from smoke that engulfed their first-floor house due to an inverter fire in Chhawla, south-west Delhi, early on Tuesday, fire department officials said.

Officials said the main door of the house was locked, leaving victims unable to locate the keys to the door amid heavy smoke and causing their deaths due to suffocation.

Atul Garg, chief of the Delhi Fire Services (DFS), said the fire broke out around 3am and the

family called them around 3.30am, following which two fire tenders were sent to the spot. "We found that the fire started from the inverter in the house and spread to the sofa on the first floor. The four persons on the first floor had inhaled a lot of smoke. We pulled them out and sent them to RTR Hospital," Garg said.

Officials said all four were declared dead at the hospital.

They were identified as Heera Singh, 48, his wife Neetu Singh, 46, and their sons Chirag Singh, 23, and Lakshay Singh, 21. →P5

SURAJ ACCUSED OF ANOTHER SEXUAL ASSAULT BY HIS FORMER AIDE

Arun Dev

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BENGALURU: The Karnataka police have registered another case of sexual assault against arrested JD(S) leader Suraj Revanna after an aide of the MLC filed a complaint against him, police officers said on Tuesday. The complainant had earlier filed an extortion case against the JD(S) worker, who initially accused Suraj — the brother of suspended MP Prajwal Revanna — of sexual assault.

The man said he was coerced by Suraj into filing the case against the JD(S) worker. →P11

{ LINE-UP DECIDED } INDIA TO FACE ENGLAND

Fairytale run gets another magical chapter as Afghanistan storm into T20 World Cup semis



Afghanistan players celebrate their ICC Men's T20 World Cup match win against Bangladesh on Monday.

Rasesh Mandani

letters@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: Afghanistan sent a tremor through the ranks of established cricket nations on Tuesday by pulling off a thrilling win over Bangladesh to qualify for their first ever semi-final in an ICC tournament at the T20 World Cup in Kings-town, St Vincent.

The final Group 1 Super 8 game began with India having qualified as toppers after their 24-run win earlier in the day over Australia, whose slim hopes hinged on a Bangladesh

win but not by a substantial margin. In the end, with rain forcing many stoppages, Afghanistan, restricted to a modest total of 115/5, bowled out Bangladesh — their target was 114 in 19 overs under the rain rule (DLS method) — for 105 in 17.5 overs under floodlights.

The result sent Afghanistan into Wednesday's first semi-final against South Africa in Trinidad with India having already sealed a repeat of the 2022 T20 World Cup clash against England in Providence, Guyana. Afghanistan's talismanic

continued on →14

WORLD KENYA PROTESTS

Obama's half-sister hit by tear gas, 5 dead



At least five people were shot dead and dozens wounded in Kenya on Tuesday in mounting anti-tax hike protests. NGOs said, after police clashed with demonstrators who stormed the parliament compound in Nairobi. The military has been deployed to support police, who earlier fired tear gas, water cannon, rubber bullets and — according to a rights group — live ammunition against protesters, as tensions sharply escalated in protests that have caught the government off guard. Kenyan activist Auma Obama, the half-sister of former US President Barack Obama, was among protesters tear-gassed, a CNN interview showed. Over 10 Western nations said they were "especially shocked by the scenes witnessed outside the Kenyan Parliament". →P17

MY INDIA MILITARY STANDOFF

Jaishankar, Chinese envoy discuss ties



External affairs minister S Jaishankar on Tuesday highlighted the need for "stabilisation and progress" in India-China relations during a meeting with Chinese ambassador Xu Feihong. It was the first meeting between Jaishankar and Xu, who arrived in New Delhi last month, and was held against the backdrop of the dragging military standoff on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) that is now into its fifth year. "Discussed our bilateral relationship and our common interest in its stabilization and progress," Jaishankar said on X. Jaishankar has maintained that ties with China cannot be normalised without peace and tranquillity on the border. →P7

SPORT EURO 2024

Austria trump Netherlands 3-2 in shake-up for Group D



A rocket from Marcel Sabitzer gave Austria a thrilling 3-2 win over the Netherlands that sent them into the last 16 at Euro 2024 as Group D winners, with the Dutch also progressing as one of the best third-placed teams. Austria topped the group on six points, with France second on five after a 1-1 draw with Poland and the Netherlands third on four. Already eliminated Poland finished with one point. Austria took the lead in the sixth minute through an own goal by Donyell Malen but Cody Gakpo levelled two minutes after the break before a header from Romano Schmid put the Austrians back in front. Memphis Depay equalised again for the Netherlands in the 75th but Sabitzer's thumping finish five minutes later secured the win and top spot for Austria. →P20

MY INDIA MUMBAI ACCIDENT

Govt suspends ADGP in hoarding collapse



Six weeks after an illegally erected outsized hoarding crashed on a petrol pump at Ghatkopar killing 17 persons and injuring 74, Maharashtra government suspended additional director general of police Quaiser Khalid who was commissioner, Government Railway Police, when permission was given to erect the billboard. Khalid's suspension follows two adverse reports by the state director general of police Rashmi Shukla and DG, GRP, Dr Pradnya Sarvade. The two reports blamed him for sanctioning the hoardings and petrol pump despite objections from Maharashtra State Police Housing and Welfare Corporation. →P12

WORLD REGIONAL WAR FEARS

US warns Israel over offensive in Lebanon



The United States warned Israel on Tuesday that a conflict with Hezbollah could spark a regional war, as UN agencies said 10 children a day are losing one or both legs and half a million Palestinians suffer "catastrophic" hunger in Gaza. US defence secretary Lloyd Austin met his Israeli counterpart Yoav Gallant at the Pentagon, saying diplomacy is the best option as fears of a major war against Iran-backed militant group Hezbollah in Lebanon have grown after months of cross-border fire. "Another war between Israel and Hezbollah could easily become a regional war, with terrible consequences for the Middle East," Austin said. Israel's military said last week plans for an offensive in Lebanon were "approved and validated" amid escalating cross-border clashes. →P17

FAR BELOW W.H.O RECOMMENDATION

'Indians failing to meet standard of physical activity'

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NEW DELHI: One in two Indian adults did not meet recommended level of physical activity in 2022, according to new data published in medical journal The Lancet Global Health on Tuesday, with the consequence being greater risk of cardiovascular diseases such as heart attacks and strokes, type 2 diabetes, dementia and breast and colon cancers, said experts.

The proportion of such adults worldwide was 31%, but it was 49.4% in India, followed by 45.7% in Pakistan. The corresponding proportion was only 9.9% in Bhutan and 8.2% in Nepal. It is estimated that on the current trajectory, the proportion of adults who do not meet the recommended level of physical activity will reach 59.9% by 2030 in India.

The highest rates of physical inactivity were observed in the high-income Asia Pacific region (48%) and South Asia (45%), with levels of inactivity in other regions ranging from 28% in high-income Western countries to 14% in Oceania.

According to experts, the findings point to a worrying trend of physical inactivity among adults, which has increased by about 5 percentage points between 2010 and 2022.

"If the trend continues, levels of inactivity are projected to further rise to 35% by 2030, and the world is currently off track from meeting the global target to reduce physical inactivity by 2030," said the researchers.

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends that adults have 150 minutes of moderate-intensity, or 75 minutes of vigorous-intensity physical activity, or equivalent, per week. Physical activity refers to all movement. Popular ways to be active include walking, cycling, wheeling, sports, active recreation and play, and can be done at any level of skill and for enjoyment by everybody. Work such as household chores or jobs requiring physical labour is another way to be physically active, said WHO experts.

WHO researchers together with academic colleagues undertook the study.

"These new findings highlight a lost opportunity to reduce cancer, heart disease and improve mental well-being through increased physical activity," said Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General, in a statement.

"We must renew our commitments to increasing levels of physical activity and prioritize bold action, including strength-

ened policies and increased funding, to reverse this worrying trend."

Disparities remain between gender and age, said experts. Physical inactivity is still more common among women globally compared with men, with inactivity rates of 34% compared to 29%. In some countries, this difference is as much as 20 percentage points. Additionally, people over 60 are less active than other adults, underscoring the importance of promoting physical activity for older adults.

"Physical inactivity is a silent threat to global health, contributing significantly to the burden of chronic diseases," said Dr Rüdiger Krech, director of health promotion at WHO, in a statement.

"We need to find innovative ways to motivate people to be more active, considering factors like age, environment, and cultural background. By making physical activity accessible, affordable, and enjoyable for all, we can significantly reduce the risk of non-communicable diseases and create a population that is healthier and more productive," he said.

According to WHO, regular physical activity reduces risk of many types of cancer by 8-28%; heart disease and stroke by 19%; diabetes by 17%; depression and dementia by 28-32%. It is estimated that 4-5 million deaths per year could be averted if the global population was more active.

Despite the worrying results, there is a silver lining in the form of some signs of improvement in some countries. The study showed that almost half of the world's countries have made some improvements over the past decade, and 22 countries were identified to be on track to reach the global target of reducing inactivity by 15% by 2030, if their trend continues at the same pace.

In light of these findings, WHO said that it is calling on countries to strengthen their policy implementation to promote and enable physical activity through grassroots and community sport and active recreation and transport (walking, cycling and use of public transport), among other measures.

"Promoting physical activity goes beyond promoting individual lifestyle choice — it will require a whole-of-society approach and creating environments that make it easier and safer for everyone to be more active in ways they enjoy to reap the many health benefits of regular physical activity," said Dr Fiona Bull, head of the WHO Unit for Physical Activity.

SUCCESSFUL MISSION

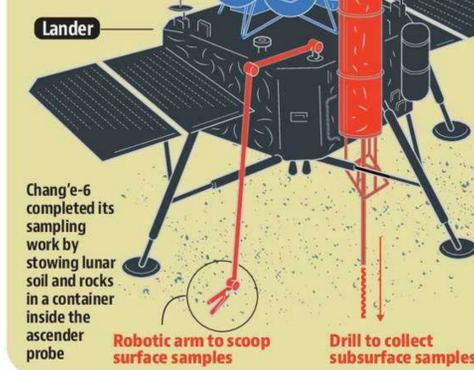
Chang'e returns after tryst with destination Moon

China's Chang'e 6 probe returned with rock and soil samples from the far side of the moon in a global first

53 days Time Chang'e 6 spent in outer space. It left earth on May 3.

A look at the lunar lander

China's lunar ascender successfully took off from the far side of the Moon on June 4 carrying samples to be taken back to Earth



Chang'e-6 completed its sampling work by stowing lunar soil and rocks in a container inside the ascender probe

52% of the 18th Lok Sabha comprises first-time members spanning political ideologies, parties and regions. HT traces some of their journeys

A long, hard journey with roots in tribal agitation

Debabrata Mohanty
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BHUBANESWAR: From the small village of Mahuldiha, Naba Charan Majhi's first tryst with politics had little to do with Odisha. In fact, the first slogans a young Majhi shouted, in his twenties in a college in Rairangpur, were for "Greater Jharkhand." Four decades later, he is now sitting in Parliament, having won his first election from Odisha's Mayurbhanj, one of the five seats in the state reserved for scheduled tribes, and of them, the most well known. For, Mayurbhanj is also home to Droupadi

Murmu, the first tribal woman to ascend the steps of Rashtrapati Bhavan and become President of India. His victory by 219,000 votes was also representative of the BJP's fierce inroads into the eastern state where it once struggled to find a foothold and its strengthening grip on the tribal communities.

The son of a marginal farmer, the 1980s were a heady time in Mayurbhanj. The region was part of Odisha, but had historically been underdeveloped, had little connectivity or road networks, and a deep sense of alienation from the rest of the state. This was also the time when Shibu Soren, a Santali tribal like Majhi, was leading the call for a Greater Jharkhand, where the tribal identity would find greater resonance. While the stir for a separate state largely centred around Bihar, there were protests in Odisha's bordering districts such as Mayurbhanj that wanted in.

"We were in college in the mid 80s and found the call for Greater Jharkhand very appealing. The district was extremely underde-

veloped, had no irrigation, and we felt cut off from the rest of the world. We always felt that successive central and state governments had a step-motherly attitude towards Mayurbhanj in matters of health, education, employment, electrification and water supply. When Suraj Singh Besra started the All Jharkhand Students Union in 1986, I along with Sudam Marandi and others joined the movement fired by the imagination of a Greater Jharkhand," said Majhi, who took oath as MP in Santali language on Monday.

In many ways, in 2024, his political life came full circle — for the man he defeated to become an MP for the first time, was Sudam Marandi of the Biju Janata Dal.

Roots in a tribal agitation
As the call for a Greater Jharkhand took root, particularly among the Santals who form around 60% of the tribal population in the district, Majhi and other tribal students formed the Mayurbhanj Adivasi Students Association in 1990. He was gaining popularity by the day, and in 1990, as a young 29-year-old, he contested the assembly elections from Rairangpur as an independent candidate supported by the All Jharkhand Students Union. He lost, but by a slim margin of less than 5,000 votes to Janata Dal strongman Chaitanya Prasad Majhi.

Just when it looked like his political star was on the ascent, there was a setback. He joined the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha in 1994, and fought the election from Rairangpur again in 1995, but came third.

In 1998, the five-decade long



BJP leader Naba Charan Majhi takes oath as a member of Lok Sabha on Tuesday.

movement for a Jharkhand state collapsed after the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government announced its intent to carve out a Vananchal state comprising 18 districts of southern Bihar. The BJP emerged as the strongest political force, winning 11 of the 14 Lok Sabha seats of Jharkhand in 1998 Lok Sabha elections; it amounted to rejection of the demand of Jharkhand state.

"Many leaders of Mayurbhanj including me who were in the JMM found the idea of districts from Odisha being part of the Greater Jharkhand politically infeasible. It did not make any sense to be in JMM," said Majhi.

That year marked his political nadir. But then, he got another lifeline. Majhi decided to leave the JMM and join the BJP, a party that was laying the foundations in Odisha; foundations that bore fruit on June 4, 2024 when the BJP swept both the assembly and Lok Sabha elections.

In Rairangpur, Majhi steadily grew close to the other prominent Santal leader in the region — a fiery politician called Droupadi Murmu, who had become vice-chairperson of the Rairang-

pur Notified Area Council in 1997. "She took a liking to the reticent Naba Charan and encouraged him in the party. Droupadi Murmu thought that he was a promising politician," said Rabin-dra Patnaik, a local Rairangpur resident.

Majhi, too, acknowledged his debt to Murmu and said she had played a "big role" in his career. "That a tribal woman from Mayurbhanj can become President was a huge honour. On top of that, she supported my candidature," he said.

Their homes were close-by, and Majhi became the political associate closest to her. In 2008, with Murmu's backing, Majhi became both councillor and chairperson of Rairangpur municipality. Eleven years later, with Murmu at the time the governor of Jharkhand, he was given the BJP ticket from Rairangpur assembly along with some support from Murmu. This time, he had a party backing him, and while the fight was tough, he prevailed over the BJD's Basanti Marandi by less than 3,000 votes.

In the middle of his term, Majhi's fortune was to shine again. In July 2022, Droupadi

Murmu became the President of India. In that one decision, Majhi's assembly constituency went from remote to important; and Rairangpur became a political fortress. Patnaik said that between 2019 and 2022, while Majhi was accessible, his development record was tardy.

"It was certainly not extraordinary enough to necessarily cement a second term. But when Murmu became President of India, Rairangpur changed overnight. There are now five passenger trains to Kolkata from the just one before, there is a skill development hub and a bypass has been sanctioned for the Ranchi-Vijaywada expressway," he said.

When the assembly elections came around, the Mayurbhanj Lok Sabha constituency was seen as one, to both leaders from both the BJP and the BJD, where the former had a clear edge. Majhi got the ticket ahead of incumbent MP and Union minister Biswaswar Tudu, and won comfortably.

Majhi's rise to Parliament was also aided by the BJP's campaign to wean away Odisha's tribal community from the BJD; a campaign that has seen rewarding results. Its first political success in the parliamentary seat was in 1998, when Salkhan Murmu, a trade union leader, won the elections and then followed it up with another win in 1999. For two decades after that though, the BJD and JMM won the seat, until Biswaswar Tudu broke through in 2019.

In Odisha, through most of the campaign, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the top brass consciously spoke of tribal assertiveness and attacked the Opposition for being lukewarm to their nomination of Droupadi Murmu as president. There were clear results. In the 2024 assembly elections, of the 33 seats reserved

for tribals, the BJP won 18. Of the five Lok Sabha seats that are reserved, the BJP won four. In Mayurbhanj, they won all nine assembly segments.

Crying out for reform
Majhi said that his priority over the next five years was three fold with a focus on increasing Rairangpur's connectivity. "I want to work on a plan to connect the Rupsa-Bangriposi rail line with the Tatanagar-Badampahar line. This will increase the connectivity to New Delhi. The second project is a rail link between Budhamara station in Mayurbhanj and Chakulia station in Jharkhand that will reduce the distance between Puri and Delhi by around 150km. The third thing Rairangpur must have is a super speciality hospital," Majhi said.

Jatindra Nath Besra, a professor at the North Odisha University in Mayurbhanj, said that Majhi's rise was down to two key factors — the BJP's push in Odisha and the backing of his mentor, Droupadi Murmu. "Murmu holding the high office was a matter of huge honour among the tribals of the constituency who saw her as an inspiring figure. Modi in Mayurbhanj harped on the fact that a tribal woman from Mayurbhanj was commanding three armed forces of the country and this clearly played on the sentiments of the tribals," he said.

Despite the spotlight, Besra says there is much to reform in Mayurbhanj still. There are issues of an acute lack of employment, a broken bridge over the river Budhamaranga, a lack of colleges, and continued poor irrigation. But despite the challenges, Mayurbhanj now has contributed two powerful voices to the corridors of Delhi. One is in Rashtrapati Bhavan. The other, Naba Charan Majhi, in Parliament.

{ VOLODYMYR ZELENSKY } UKRAINIAN PREZ

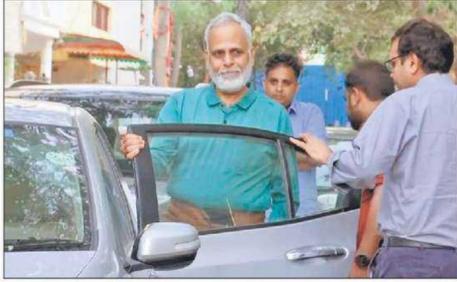
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Jain's case: SC caveat on delay in bail hearings

Abraham Thomas
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Tuesday said petitions seeking bail are not to be unnecessarily adjourned as it dealt with a plea filed by AAP leader Satyendar Jain challenging a Delhi high court order adjourning his bail plea by six weeks to July 9.



Satyendar Jain being taken to Tihar Jail on March 18.

Directing Jain to pursue his matter before the HC, a vacation bench of justices Manoj Misra and SVN Bhatti expressed their reservation on such a long adjournment granted by the HC while expressing "hope and trust" that the matter will be decided on the next date of hearing.

The bench said, "It goes without saying that bail prayers are not to be unnecessarily adjourned. We hope and trust that the HC shall take a call on the next date of hearing."

June 18 seeking default bail under Section 167(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) that allows an accused to seek default bail if the investigation is not concluded within 60 days of the arrest of the accused. He was arrested in May 2022 for allegedly misusing his position as a minister from February 2015 to

May 2017 to acquire disproportionate assets worth ₹1.47 crore. Based on the original case registered by CBI, ED began its probe tracing proceeds of crime to movable assets acquired by Jain in three firms allegedly linked to him.

Jain has denied all charges. Senior advocate Abhishek

Manu Singhvi, appearing for Jain, informed the court that the HC should not have adjourned the matter for six weeks as his client's liberty is at stake. He informed the court that the issue whether default bail can be denied to an accused beyond the stipulated 60-day period is pending consideration before a three-judge bench of the SC in the case of five petitions. In all these matters, interim bail has been granted.

The vacation bench told Singhvi, "This issue is before a three-judge bench and we are sitting in a combination of two judges" as it found no merit to entertain this request made by Singhvi. The bench further observed that the order of May 28 passed by the Delhi HC is an order of adjournment without dealing on merits.

"The HC has not considered the prayer on the facts of the case. At this stage it is just an

adjournment. Even we cannot enter into merits of the case. Let the HC decide your matter," the bench said. "We do not know what has transpired in the HC. Perhaps the HC was aware of the matter pending before the Supreme Court," it added. Singhvi requested that in case the matter is to be heard by the high court, the court may request for the matter to be decided on the next date.

"This court may observe that the HC may decide the matter when it is taken up or else I will be kept hanging," Singhvi said. He made an alternate submission to keep the matter pending to await an order on the law to be determined in the proceedings before the three-judge bench.

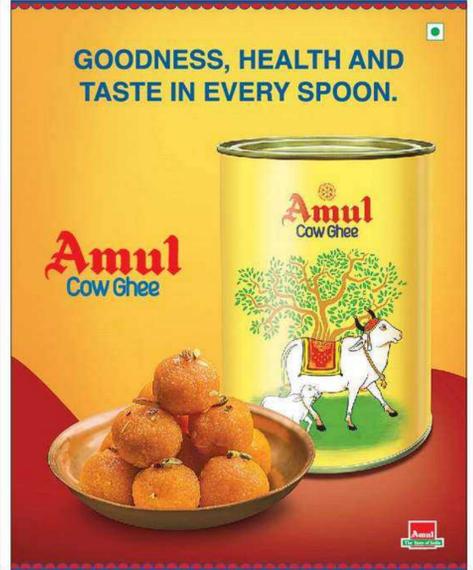
"Why should we defer the hearing in this case as the matter pending before us is arising under a different proceeding," the bench added. Further, the

bench added that a decision passed by the high court can be challenged in the top court.

Jain approached the HC after his plea for default bail got rejected by the trial court on May 15. In his plea before the top court filed through advocate Parmatma Singh, Jain said that ED which had filed prosecution complaint on completion of investigation did not include the aspect of seized cash or jewellery worth Rs 4.11 crore. On this basis, he claimed that even as the investigation was incomplete, the final investigation report was filed to deny him default bail.

Jain stated in his petition, "Non consideration of the prayer for grant of default bail has caused serious prejudice to the rights of the petitioner in as much as each day's custody of the petitioner without the authority of law is an illegality."

The AAP did not respond to requests for comment.



Report suggests 'unseemly haste' to cut Ridge trees



Inside the Asola Bhatti wildlife sanctuary in January.

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NEW DELHI: The felling of trees in the Delhi Ridge was carried out with "unseemly haste" by the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) and was totally unauthorised, according to a report by a Supreme Court-appointed three-member expert committee.

The panel, in its report submitted to the Supreme Court on June 19, has demanded explanation from the DDA vice chairman and other officials on how trees could be cut even when the land for an approved project was yet to be acquired. HT has seen a copy of the report.

The panel comprising environmental experts Ishwar Singh, Sunil Limaye and Pradip Kishen was set up on court orders on May 16. The experts were asked to conduct a site inspection of the affected Ridge land in south Delhi along with a team of Forest Survey of India (FSI).

The FSI has also submitted a separate preliminary report to the court, stating that it was still in the process of ascertaining the actual number of trees cut and indicated that the final report will be prepared only by August.

Both the reports will be taken up on Wednesday for passing interim directions for restoration of the Ridge land and fixing accountability on who ordered the cutting of nearly 11,00 trees without the top court's approval.

A Supreme Court bench of justices AS Oka and Ujjal Bhuyan on Monday warned it may issue a contempt notice to Delhi's lieutenant governor as it hauled up the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) over the culpability for the felling of 1,100 trees for the widening of a road in south Delhi, a move the judges described as "brazen damage to the environment".

The case stems from a contempt petition filed by Delhi resident Bindu Kapurea, who alleged

trees were cut despite a March 4 court order denying permission and the fact that the trees had been cut being suppressed from the judges.

According to the three-member expert committee, DDA failed to follow the law and committed two "wrongs" of felling the trees and widening or construction of road which can only be undone by asking the land owning authority to take immediate steps to remove the extension of the road falling in the Ridge area and compensate for the trees felled.

The committee informed the top court that even as trees were felled for expanding the road leading from Chhattarpur to SAARC University near Satbari (known as Gausshala Road), work on acquiring land belonging to private establishments and farmhouses within the project area was still pending, and in some cases, litigation before courts is pending.

To be sure, DDA had obtained clearance under Forest Conservation Act from central government in March 2024. An application was moved for felling trees for the project before the top court in February this year. On March 4, the SC rejected the application but by DDA's own admission, the trees had been felled in February itself.

A spokesperson for the authority did not respond to requests for comment on the report.

Meanwhile, Delhi minister Saubrah Bharadwaj on Tuesday doubled down on his claims that lieutenant governor VK Saxena was responsible for cutting of 1,100 trees by DDA in south Delhi. Saxena is the chairperson of DDA.

In a press conference on Tuesday, the minister cited emails dated February 7 and 14, 2024 from a DDA officer to several authority officials, and claimed that the emails confirmed the LG's involvement in tree felling.

Officials from the LG secretariat did not offer any comment on the minister's claims.

Cong begins prep for assembly polls

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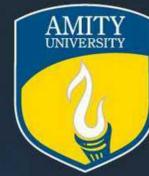
NEW DELHI: Delhi Pradesh Congress Committee (DPCC) chief Devender Yadav on Tuesday addressed executive committee meetings of Adarsh Nagar and Karawal Nagar district units as part of the party's bid to start preparations for the assembly polls in 2025.

Congress leaders said a resolution was passed to hold monthly block-level meetings, hoist party flags at all members' houses, and reach out to social organisations, residents' associations and NGOs to join or support the party.

for Congress workers that the party's vote share has gone up in the recent Lok Sabha polls. Delhi witnessed development when Congress was in power. Now, people have to struggle to get potable water, face frequent power cuts and face other issues of waterlogging, and air and water pollution," Yadav said in his address at Adarsh Nagar.

Congress contested the 2024 Lok Sabha polls in Delhi in alliance with the AAP, but the BJP won all seven seats. Both the AAP and Congress said their alliance was limited to Lok Sabha polls and there was no clarity on whether the two parties would contest the assembly elections separately or in alliance.

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City marks 100 new flooding spots, many along Ring Road

Snehl Sinha and Paras Singh
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Delhi has added 101 new sites to its list of waterlogging hot spots this year as the city is bracing to welcome monsoon, officials aware of the matter said on Tuesday.

Now, the total number of waterlogging prone areas in the city has reached 308, according to civic agencies.

Many road stretches in Lutyens' Delhi such as Kartavya Path (near Boat Club), Kautilya Marg, Kemal Attaturk Marg, Panchsheel Marg-San Martin Marg intersection, Rafi Marg (Sunehri Masjid) have been added as flooding-prone zones by the civic agencies, the officials added.

Apart from this, many areas along the arterial Ring Road have also been added to the new potential flooding zones.

The national Capital reports flooding of several key road stretches during monsoon every year with experts blaming factors such as inadequate cleaning of drains ahead of rains, multiplicity of authorities that maintain roads in the city and an archaic drainage for the annual problem.

Officials said the flooding "watchlist" has been compiled based on observation of waterlogging and complaints received by agencies concerned last monsoon.

The sites will be monitored by various road-owning agencies, according to a flood control order issued by the Public Works Department (PWD).

Of the 308 sites — 210 are on roads managed by PWD. Last year, the watchlist comprised 207 locations of which 131 were on roads managed by PWD.

A senior PWD official said the increase of 101 hot spots may be attributed to extreme weather events and multiple heavy to very heavy rainfall spells last year.

"Most of our new vulnerable spots are along the Outer Ring Road, Ring Road, Mathura Road, Rohtak Road, and Bhairon Marg, among others. These stretches pass through most of the areas

Preparing for monsoon

Inadequate cleaning of drains, multiplicity of authorities and an archaic drainage are blamed for waterlogging

Spots under scanner
101 more waterlogging hot spots added
308 total critical locations on watchlist for monsoon

AGENCY-WISE ROAD SHARE

210 (68.18%) PWD	39 (12.60%) NDMC	17 (5.50%) NHAI	16 (5.20%) DDA	26 MCD, DCB and other agencies
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that got flooded last year and water remained accumulated at these places for several days. We have made several arrangements at these sites," said the PWD official.

Of the remaining sites, 39 are in areas maintained by the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC), 17 are under the jurisdiction of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), and 16 are under the Delhi Development Authority (DDA), with the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), Delhi Cantonment, ITPO, and other agencies making up

the rest. **Vulnerable sites** Officials said that the critical locations are areas that see more than five days of waterlogging during the monsoon season and the list is compiled with the help of the Delhi traffic police and circulated to all departments every year.

Last year, Lutyens' Delhi saw large-scale waterlogging for the first time.

Last July, NDMC received hundreds of waterlogging complaints when the Yamuna

flooded leading to several drains facing backflow. Large parts of the New Delhi area — which is also the seat of power for the union government and hosts key ministries, residences of government functionaries, and important institutions — were inundated with images from waterlogged corridors of Connaught Place market, Kartavya Path lawns, and houses of senior bureaucrats going viral on social media websites.

Parts of the city roads along the Yamuna were also inundated as a historic flood saw Delhi's

water level touch a record high of 208.6mm on July 13. The watchlist has also earmarked several sites around the newly developed Pragati Maidan and its integrated tunnel corridor.

Preparations this year Civic agencies across Delhi are trying to finish desilting of drains, arrange pumps and finish other repair work by the end of the month before the onset of monsoon. The agencies managing drains in the city including DDA, MCD, New Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC) and Public Works Department have set June 30 as the deadline for completing the work.

According to PWD officials, 90% work on desilting of storm water drains along its roads is complete and the remaining work is expected to be completed by June 15. PWD maintains a 2,156km drains in Delhi. "Our existing control room and helpline number has been made functional for 24 hours from June 15. CCTV cameras at all critical locations have been made functional and special arrangements made for avoiding waterlogging during monsoon at all our vulnerable locations," said a senior PWD official.

Additionally, PWD has earmarked three critical locations that will be monitored 24 hours — Zakhira underpass, Loni roundabout, and Karala-Kanjhawala Road. "We have not been able to make permanent changes, but special temporary measures are in place at all three locations with sufficient pumps and manpower deployment," the official said.

DDA has planned to set up flood control rooms to be operated round-the-clock during the monsoon. Even though most other civic departments including PWD and MCD have monsoon helplines, DDA, which has a relatively small section of drains under it, is setting up the control rooms in view of increasing complaints from areas such as Narela and Dwarka. DDA manages 295km drains in Delhi.

Locals protest after part of mosque in Mangolpuri demolished by civic body

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NEW DELHI: Protests broke out in Y Block of Mangolpuri on Tuesday morning during an anti-encroachment drive by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), which started demolishing an illegally built portion of a mosque complex inside a municipal park on Kanjhawala Road. But the drive was halted midway as the situation escalated, with a large crowd gathering and forming a human chain to obstruct the entry of excavator machines, MCD said in a statement.

In the statement, MCD said the encroachment drive was part of its "ongoing efforts to address unauthorised religious encroachments and uphold the integrity of public spaces." With the support of the five police companies, MCD commenced the demolition of the illegally extended boundary wall.

"The operation removed 20 metres of the unauthorised structure. However, the situation escalated as a large mob gathered, forming a human chain to obstruct the entry of JCBs into the area... Additionally, the presence of female protesters sitting on the unauthorised structure complicated the law-and-order situation. Despite their diligent efforts, the authorities were unable to safely disperse the crowd," the MCD said.



The demolished portion of the complex on Tuesday. HTPHOTO

The statement said that in light of the development, the police advised MCD to halt the demolition drive temporarily, to maintain peace and order. "A status report regarding this issue has been filed with the high court of Delhi in WC (P) No 4867/2024," the civic body said.

Deputy commissioner of police (outer) Jimmy Chiram said: "We deployed the force as per MCD's plan to demolish part of the mosque, which is an encroachment on the land. The mosque is intact. However, there was a protest."

The DCP said: "There was no stone pelting. One or two people must have picked up stones. The

police controlled the situation and the demolition was carried out. We don't know how much they had planned to demolish... The team left after the protest. We are not lodging any case as of now. The situation is under control."

Police said more than 80 personnel, equipped with anti-riot gear, were deployed at the mosque. A second police officer said the MCD intended to remove the outer wall. "After three hours of efforts, the locals gathered and the drive had to be halted," the officer said.

MCD has said it was in the process of rescheduling the encroachment removal programme.

Atishi hospitalised; Will raise water crisis issue in Parl: AAP

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NEW DELHI: Delhi water minister Atishi was hospitalised on Tuesday, the fourth day of her indefinite fast seeking water for the Capital, due to deterioration of her health, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) said. The party said that the hunger strike has been halted and it will now raise the issue in the Parliament jointly with other opposition parties.

The party said that her blood sugar level dropped to 43 units (mg/dL) at midnight and 36 units around 3am, following which doctors advised immediate admission to a hospital. She was taken to LNJP hospital in an ambulance.

AAP's Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh, addressing a press meet, said: "Atishi is admitted to the ICU of LNJP Hospital... we pray to God that she recovers soon. She was on hunger strike. Now the fast has been stopped but there are other ways of protest. We are also writing a letter to the Prime Minister and will also raise this in Parliament."

Singh said the weather in Delhi improved over the past few days and water supply level also increased marginally. "There has been slight improvement in water supply over the last two to three days. The shortfall has reduced from 100 MGD to 90 MGD. We hope that



TMC MPs Mahua Moitra, Sagarika Ghose, and Pratima Mondal with Atishi during her hunger strike on Monday. ANI

it will further improve in coming days," Singh said. Suresh Kumar, the medical director of LNJP Hospital, said that Atishi's vital parameters were stable. "When Atishi was brought to the hospital, her blood sugar was low. She was drowsy and her sodium level was also low. She has been admitted to the emergency ICU. She is currently on IV fluids. Her vital parameters are stable right now. Some blood tests have been done, and the reports are awaited," he said.

Delhi water minister was sitting on an indefinite hunger strike from Friday demanding around 100 MGD from Haryana's Hathinikund barrage for Delhi to meet its water supply demand.

There has been marginal improvement in water supply

over the past four days, with a supply of 914 MGD recorded on Tuesday. The shortfall has translated to reduced supply timings, low supply pressure, contamination in some areas and shortages in tail-end areas.

Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva wished Atishi a speedy recovery, but said she should stop misleading the public.

"We have been saying since 21 June that the minister is not sitting on satyagraha as they have no relation with truth. Satyagrahis used to fast to expose the truth and not to hide their administrative failures," he said. AAP's Rajya Sabha MP Swati Maliwal posted on X in Hindi: "Satyagraha is always done with a true and pure heart. I fasted twice...I hope your health will improve soon."

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

See Section U/S 82 Cr. P.C.
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Firoj S/o Aalam R/o Vagabond, Jhuggi Patharwala Bagh, JJ Colony, Wazirpur, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 265/2023 U/s 380/411 IPC, P.S. Keshav Puram, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Firoj** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Firoj** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Firoj** of case **FIR No. 265/2023 U/s 380/411 IPC, P.S. Keshav Puram, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **14.08.2024**.
By Order
Ms. Divya Arora
Ld. Metropolitan Magistrate
Room No. 112, First Floor
Rohini Courts, Delhi
DP/7593/NW/2024(Court Matter)

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Naveen, S/o: Sh. Rama, R/o: H. No. A-641, J.J. Colony, Raghbir Nagar, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 550/2020 & Cr. Case No. 3284/2020, U/s 356/379/34 IPC, P.S.: Rajouri Garden, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Naveen** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Naveen** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Naveen** accused of case **FIR No. 550/2020 & Cr. Case No. 3284/2020, U/s 356/379/34 IPC, P.S.: Rajouri Garden, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **06.08.2024**.
By Order
Sh. Shashank Nandan Bhatt
Metropolitan Magistrate
Room No. 356, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi
DP/8063/WD/2024 (Court Matter)

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Sonu @ Kuldeep, S/o Sh. Ram Singh, R/o: B-304, Nehru Camp, Govind Puri, New Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 417/2020, U/s 392/34 IPC, P. S. Govind Puri, New Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Sonu @ Kuldeep** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Sonu @ Kuldeep** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Sonu @ Kuldeep** accused of **FIR No. 417/2020, U/s 392/34 IPC, P. S. Govind Puri, New Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **30.09.2024**.
By Order
Ms. Devanshi Janmeja
Metropolitan Magistrate-04
South-East District, Court No. 10
Saket Courts, New Delhi
DP/7907/SE/2024

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. P. C.
Whereas a complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Maksood S/o Khushhila R/o Village Jaugalka Naugala, PS: Barsana, Distt: Mathura, UP** have committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence under **FIR No. e-22000/18 U/s 411/471/482 IPC** has been registered at **P.S. Mukherjee Nagar, Distt. North-West, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said **Maksood** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the **Maksood** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused of **FIR No. e-22000/18 U/s 411/471/482 IPC** registered at **PS. Mukherjee Nagar, Distt. North-West, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **12.08.2024**.
By Order
Niharika Kumar Sharma,
ACMM North, Room No. 117,
Rohini Courts, Delhi
DP/7724/NW/2024

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

See Section U/S 82 Cr. P.C.
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Vijender S/o Nahar Singh R/o D-145/T, Shiv Vihar, Hastals, Uttam Nagar, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 456/2020 U/s 188 IPC, PS Rajouri Garden, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Vijender** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Vijender** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Vijender** of case **FIR No. 456/2020 U/s 188 IPC, PS Rajouri Garden, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **16.08.2024**.
By Order
Sh. Shashank Nandan Bhatt
Metropolitan Magistrate
Room No. 356, 3rd Floor,
Tis Hazari Court, Delhi
DP/7999/WD/2024(Court Matter)

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

The general public is hereby informed that an unidentified person about 50-55 years of age whose name: unknown, residence, and family is unknown has found dead at EP Hall Gate no.3 Old Delhi Railway station Delhi on 19/06/2024. In this regard, an information has been registered vide **DD No: 66A, dated: 19/06/2024 at PS Old Delhi Railway station, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to identify the deceased person, but no clue has come to light so far. The description of the UIDB is as under: **Sex: Male, Age: 50-55 Years, Height: 5'8", Built: Medium, Face: Round Wearing: Sky Blue T-shirt and navy-blue pant**. If anyone has any information about his relatives, kindly inform the SHO/PS Old Delhi Railway station, Delhi.
E-mail : c/c@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax : 011-24368639
DP/7924/RIV/2024
SHO
PS, Old Delhi Railway station, Delhi.
Ph.: 011-23961522, 8750871302

RAPPER FROM U.P. ARRESTED FOR ROBBERY IN DELHI

NEW DELHI: A 25-year-old engineer-turned-rapper was arrested from his home town of Ayodhya in Uttar Pradesh for allegedly robbing a 38-year-old cab driver of his cellphone by holding him hostage at gunpoint and shooting him in the hip when he tried to resist, at a petrol pump in Srinivaspuri, south Delhi, early Sunday, police said.

The accused, identified as **Aryan Rajvansh**, wanted to rob the cab driver, **Kulbushan Sharma**, as he was faced with a cash crunch. Deputy commissioner of police (southeast) **Rajesh Deo** said that the incident took place around 1.30am on Sunday. "The cabbie was admitted to AIIMS Trauma Centre for treatment," he said. hrc

UP approves extension of Metro from Botanical Garden to Sec 142

Vinod Rajput
vinod.rajput@htlive.com

NOIDA: The Noida authority on Tuesday said the Uttar Pradesh cabinet has approved the detailed project report (DPR) of an 11.56km Metro link that will branch out from existing Botanical Garden Metro station in Sector 38A and end at the Noida Metro's Aqua Line station in Noida's Sector 142 near Noida-Greater Noida Expressway.

Currently, Greater Noida and Noida are not directly connected to the Delhi Metro via Noida Metro's 29.7km Aqua Line corridor. Also, this connectivity to Delhi Metro's Blue Line, which enters via Mayur Vihar and ends at Sector 62's Electronic City Metro station, is not a seamless one.

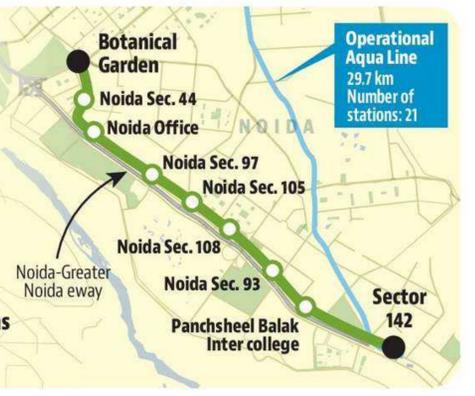
The new 11.56km link will make the connectivity seamless, taking the Metro closer to the greenfield Noida international airport in Jewar.

"This strategic approval marks a pivotal step in the development of the city's Metro infrastructure, promising to bring substantial benefits to the region. The new Metro corridor, extending from Botanical Garden to Sector 142, is designed to address the growing demand for efficient and reliable public

Boost to connectivity

The Uttar Pradesh government has approved a budget of **₹2,254.35 crore** for the project

EXTENSION PROJECT
11.56 km
8 Number of stations
NOIDA SEC. 142 TO BOTANICAL GARDEN



transportation. This project will not only enhance connectivity but also contribute to the overall development and prosperity of the region," said **Lokesh M.**, chief executive officer, Noida authority, and managing director, Noida Metro Rail Corporation (NMRC). The Uttar Pradesh government approved a budget of ₹2,254.35 crore for this line, which will have eight Metro stations, at Botanical Garden, Sector 44, Noida authority's new office in Sector 96, sectors 97, 105, 108, 93 and Panchsheel

Balak Inter College. Once this corridor is built, it will facilitate commuting with ease via Delhi Metro's Blue Line and Noida's Aqua Line, said NMRC officials.

The NMRC has also decided to develop a Botanical Garden bus stand in Sector 38A, where Aqua Line and Blue Line will seamlessly meet, thereby offering safe and smooth travel to thousands of commuters, said officials. "The passengers will be able to easily interchange between the Aqua Line and buses (intracity/intercity) from

Botanical Garden Metro station. This corridor will provide seamless connectivity to all the commuters travelling from Greater Noida towards Delhi and vice versa," said **Lokesh M.**

He said the line is expected to have a daily ridership of approximately 80,000 in the initial stages. "The Botanical Garden station will become a big interchange station. Following this approval, the next crucial step involves forwarding the DPR to the Centre for final approval and funding," said **Lokesh M.**



A gutted room belonging to the Singh family at Chhawla on Tuesday. SANJEEV VERMA/HT PHOTO

4 of family killed in Chhawla house fire

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: A couple and their two sons suffocated to death from smoke that engulfed their first-floor house due to an inverter fire in Chhawla, southwest Delhi, early Tuesday, officials of the fire department said. Officials said the main door of the house was locked, leaving victims unable to locate the keys to the door amid heavy smoke and causing their deaths due to suffocation. They also tried to break a window near the entrance with a hammer, but failed to do so. Atul Garg, chief of the Delhi Fire Services, said the fire broke out around 3am and the family called them around 3.30am, following which two fire tenders were sent to the spot. "We found that the fire started from the inverter in the house and spread to the sofa on the first floor. The four persons on the first floor had inhaled a lot of smoke. We pulled them out and sent them to RTR Hospital," Garg said. Officials said all four were declared dead at the hospital. They were identified as Heera

Singh, 48, his wife Neetu Singh, 46, and their sons Chirag Singh, 23, and Lakshay Singh, 21. A fire official, who was at the spot, said, "There was only one entrance to the house. The door was locked from inside. Heera's body was in the hall while his wife and sons were lying in the bathroom with buckets and towels. We think they were trying to douse the fire by pouring water around them to stave off the smoke." The official said the house has two floors, with Singh's elderly mother, Seeta Singh, living on the ground floor, Singh and his family living in the front section of the first floor, and his younger brother Gurmeet Singh and his family staying in the rear section of the first floor, the official said. "It was not a big fire but the family got trapped inside due to heavy smoke. We suspect they could not escape because they could not open the lock," the official said. Delhi Police said the main door of the house was locked from the inside and it had to be broken. Deputy commissioner of police (Dwarka) Ankit Singh said, "The four people were

injured due to suffocation by smoke. All four were rushed to RTR Hospital, where they were declared dead... It seems that fire broke out due to a short circuit in the inverter at the main entrance." Singh's family said they struggled for almost an hour to get the family out but could not locate the key. Singh's nephew, Harsh Chopra, who lives in the vicinity, said, "Heera Singh would put an additional lock on his main door because Chirag is specially abled. The family feared that he would flee the house at night or put himself in danger. So, the gate was always locked." "We found out about the fire around 3am because of the smoke coming from their house. Gurmeet and I rushed and tried to open the main door. We tried to call them but could not connect. We heard them scream that they could not find the key to the lock," Chopra said. The family said they tried to break the door with an axe but failed. Heera worked as a cameraman for a spiritual guru in Dwarka, Neetu was a homemaker, and Lakshay worked with a private firm in Noida.

Threats, sabotage: How water mafia is holding Ggm residents to ransom

Leena Dhankhar
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GURUGRAM: Around 200 residential societies located along the Dwarka Expressway are being forced to pay "protection money" to the water mafia, residents alleged, after the water pipeline leading to a high-rise in Sector 102 was damaged and supply disrupted as residents refused to pay ₹50,000 to a group that sought the money to ensure "safety of the pipeline". Residents of Emaar Imperial Garden society in Sector 102 were in for a shock on Tuesday morning, as there was no water in their taps. On enquiry, they found the Gurugram Metropolitan Development Authority's (GMDA) master pipeline was axed at multiple points in the wee hours of Tuesday.



One of the pipelines damaged by the water mafia, at Sector 102 in Gurugram on Tuesday. HT PHOTO

Residents immediately connected the damage to the pipeline with a demand for ₹50,000 made a few days ago by water suppliers, who were coercing residents to either pay up or purchase tankers from them for an exorbitant rate of ₹5,000 for a 5,000-litre tanker. They filed a complaint with the police, but a formal case was yet to be registered at the time of filing the report. Senior police officers said they inspected the spot of pipeline damage and decided to deploy a patrol team to prevent untoward incidents. Karan Goel, deputy commissioner of police (west), said: "The police team found that the water pipelines were damaged; this has not happened for the first time.

This is a regular practice by water tanker operators, who have been supplying water to residential societies for years." Goel said they have not received a complaint against any particular person, so far. "Residents have not mentioned anyone's name of filed a formal complaint to take action. We have deployed our team for patrol at night and to keep a check on the water pipelines. Also, we will keep a check on the people supplying water tankers in the sectors to ensure safety of residents," he said. Sunil Sareen, the deputy convener of Dwarka Expressway Gurugram Development Association (DXP-GDA) and a former RWA president of the Emaar Imperial Gardens society, said

that the pipeline is being damaged frequently. "This is happening frequently and a complaint was already lodged with the Dhankot police station, but to no effect. These miscreants or local goons have been demanding protection money from us, which we refused. The RWA has spent around ₹10 lakh in the past three months on pipeline (repairs) and buying potable water through tankers. On Tuesday morning, we engaged a contractor to put soil on the new pipelines to prevent sabotage," he said. Sources in the GMDA acknowledged that the water mafia was behind the crisis, damaging infrastructure and then charging residents exorbitant sums for water tankers and

packaged water. While residents of multiple societies said they wrote to the GMDA to file a police complaint into the issue, GMDA officials said that damage or sabotage to a society's pipeline was the responsibility of the developer and not the GMDA. "The developer is responsible for the maintenance of their own pipeline infrastructure laid by them. Any illegal connections, when detected on the water supply pipeline of GMDA, is disconnected by the GMDA team," Abhinav Verma, executive engineer, GMDA, said. Vinod Kumar, a resident of Imperial Garden, said that intentional sabotage of the society's water pipeline forced them to depend on water tankers. "This

poses a serious health hazard, apart from the economic penalty. Authorities concerned are requested to take necessary actions to stop this," he said. Siddharth Pahwa, president of the Imperial Garden's RWA said that they have followed all GMDA protocols. "We laid water pipeline from the master pipeline till our society, which is nearly 1.5 km away. Spending money repeatedly takes a toll on us. The RWA has been spending ₹50,000 per day for 15 days a month on water. We want support from Gurugram authorities," he said. Residents of other societies said they were also suffering due to the water mafia, but were scared to make a move against them as they engage musclemen to harm them or their families. A 42-year-old senior executive with a private firm, who lives in a society in Sector 102, alleged that the members of the water mafia patrol the sector and keeps a check on the movement of residents to the police station. "They have no mercy and can harm any of us," the resident said, requesting anonymity. Water suppliers in the area said that they are solely dependent on supplying water to earn a living. "Residents are ready to pay the contractor and buy pipelines, but they don't want to pay us, who are ready to take responsibility. We have been supplying water for over a decade, but now, people are trying to buy from other areas," said Bhima Singh, a 42-year-old water supplier from Babupur village.

Fire at Safdarjung hospital, none hurt



The fire broke out in the storeroom area on the ground floor. ARVIND YADAV/HT

NEW DELHI: At least three nurses were trapped and later safely rescued after a fire broke out in the old casualty building of Safdarjung hospital in south Delhi on Tuesday. All of them were trapped on the third floor of the building. No injury or casualty has been reported, fire officials and police officers said. Two nurses were brought down through the staircase, said DCP (southwest) Rohit Meena. The third nurse was brought

down from the third floor using an aerial ladder," said head constable Rajender Kumar from the Safdarjung hospital police post. Delhi Fire Services chief Atul Garg said, "Seven fire tenders were pressed into action. The fire broke out in the storeroom area on the ground floor." Fire division officer Manoj Kumar Sharma said the fire apparently originated due to a short-circuit in an electrical panel near the storeroom. HTC

माधव प्रौद्योगिकी एवं विज्ञान संस्थान, ग्वालियर
MADHAV INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY & SCIENCE, GWALIOR
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E-mail : vicechancellor@mitsgwalior.in, Website : www.mitsgwalior.in
Ref. No. Advt./Acad/2024/01
Ph.D. Admission Notice 2024-2025
Applications are invited from the eligible candidates for the admission to Ph.D. Programme in Engineering & Technology, Architecture & Planning, Computer Application, Management, Applied Science and Humanities as per MITS-DU ordinance. Candidates are required to submit the application in prescribed proforma available on Institute website along with application fee and testimonial on or before 04:00 PM on 22 July 2024 to the office of the Vice Chancellor, MITS-DU Gwalior. Please visit the MITS-DU website www.mitsgwalior.in for disciplines of Ph.D. Programmes, eligibility criteria, application & admission procedure, fee and other details.
Dr. R.K. Pandit
Vice Chancellor

Leopards kill 10 cattle in Ggm; seen on cam

Leena Dhankhar
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GURUGRAM: Two leopards allegedly killed 10 cattle and attacked other domestic animals in the early hours of Tuesday, triggering panic in Tikli village of Badshahpur. The CCTV footage that clearly shows movement of two leopards was widely shared by locals on social media platforms. The leopards can be seen jumping off the boundary wall and entering one of the houses and returning after attacking cattle, particularly in the local stables where they have reportedly killed five cows. This attack is the latest in a series of similar incidents in the region around the Aravalli hills, where several leopards have been sighted earlier. The regular sightings of leopards have led to fear among the villagers, prompting them to approach the wildlife department for help. Rajesh Chahal, Wildlife Inspector, Gurugram, said they got a call from the village sarpanch on Tuesday and a team was sent to the spot. "Many cat-



One of the two leopards caught on camera.

le were found injured. We scanned CCTV footage from different areas and two leopards were seen. We have issued an advisory on Tuesday to ensure the villagers' safety," he said. Wildlife officials have decided to fence the area around the cattle yard and install nets for the safety of the animals. "We have also advised villagers not to step out alone in the dark and to move in groups in case of an emergency," Chahal said. Brahmdev (who goes by his first name), the village sarpanch, said that they had spotted leopards more than 50 times in the last 10 days. "Due to acute water shortage, they are venturing into villages," he said.

Delhi zoo records first macaque birth

Jasjeev Gandhiok
jasjeev.gandhiok@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: A stump-tailed macaque brought to the Delhi zoo last year as part of an animal exchange gave birth late Sunday, marking the first successful breeding among the species that also showed that the simians have adjusted well to their new environment, officials aware of the development said. The Delhi zoo received eight macaques last year from the Alzawl zoo, in exchange for six silver pheasants. One of them died due to heatstroke this summer, leaving the population at seven — four male and three female — until the latest addition. Delhi zoo director Sanjeet Kumar said: "Before this exchange, our last stump-tailed macaque died in 2014 and the species was missing for nearly nine years. This birth is also a first, as we have no other record of a successful stump-tailed macaque breeding at the zoo." He said that the newborn was being provided intensive care by veterinarians at the zoo. Also known as bear



A stump-tailed macaque

macaques, these monkeys are part of an old-world species called *Macaca arctoides*. They are generally found south of the Brahmaputra, in northeast India, and are listed as "vulnerable" species globally, according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature. A second zoo official said that prior to the last year's exchange, the zoo had brought in macaques around 2005, but the pair was old and did not breed. "The hope this time is that we will have younger males and females, which can mate," the official said. The Delhi zoo, inaugurated in 1959, currently houses over 97 different animal species, including white tigers, Royal Bengal tigers and rhinoceroses.

Send only less-polluting buses to Delhi region, non-NCR states told

Jasjeev Gandhiok
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Buses from five states coming to Delhi and National Capital Region (NCR) will have to transition to electric, CNG or BS VI by the end of the year to reduce vehicular emissions in the region, the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) in NCR has said in an order. CAQM has asked Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jammu and Kashmir, the states from which inter-city buses come to Delhi-NCR, to facilitate transition to cleaner fuels by the end of 2024, fixing deadlines for each of the states and UTs. The apex pollution control body for NCR said that this will be applicable to buses operated by the state Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs)

THE DECISION WAS TAKEN DURING A MEETING WITH THE STATE GOVTS ON APRIL 5, SAID CAQM

as well as private entities, which make trips to Delhi-NCR and back. The decision was taken after deliberations with these state governments in a meeting held on April 5, CAQM said. "It emerged during the meeting with these five states and UTs that transition to only CNG or EV buses by these states will take much longer time. But it becomes necessary to prioritise replacing older BS-III or BS-IV inter-city diesel buses running from these states to Delhi-NCR with BS-VI diesel compliant

buses and action was initiated in this direction towards appropriate replacement of such buses," CAQM said in its order, dated June 14, a copy of which HT has seen. The document said the deadline to switch to cleaner fuels for inter-city buses from Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh is December 31, 2024, and for Jammu and Kashmir, it is September 30, 2024. For Uttarakhand, CAQM said that out of the 541 buses required to run to and from Delhi-NCR, 160 were currently complaint, and the remaining 379 is required to switch to clean fuels. For 190 buses, the deadline to transition is December 31, 2024, with the remaining required to be done by March 31, 2025. After Uttarakhand, the highest number of inter-city buses to Delhi-NCR comes from Himachal Pradesh (238), followed by Punjab (147). Himachal Pradesh already has 207 of its buses using clean fuels, and Punjab has 105 out of its 147 buses running on cleaner fuels, it said. "Apart from the bus services operated by the state government, inter-city bus services being operated by the state PSUs and private entities also have to switch to electric or CNG or BS VI complaint. Bus services operating under the Association of Independent Tour Operators licence regime are presently not to be covered in the ambit of these guidelines," it added. Anumita Roychowdhury, executive director, research and advocacy, Centre for Science and Environment, said, "This can provide cleaner public transport, and also ensure significantly lower emissions from tailpipes of these heavy-duty buses."

INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING
26th June, 2024

Say Yes to Life, No to Drugs

DP/9668/2024

Together, we can achieve the ultimate goal of a drug free society.

Take an e-pledge on the link given below

<https://pledge.mygov.in/fightagainstdrugabuse/>

#IndiaSaysNoToDrugs

E-mail to CP, Delhi at : cp.sanjayarora@delhipolice.gov.in | Write to CP, Delhi at P.O. Box No. 171, GPO, New Delhi

@DelhiPoliceOfficial | @DelhiPolice | @delhi.police_official | @DelhiPoliceOfficial | delhipolice.gov.in

FOR IMMEDIATE POLICE HELP CALL 112 **TO SHARE INFORMATION CALL 14547**

Mercury to stay below 40°C till July 1, light rain likely to persist

HT Correspondent letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The mercury dropped below 40 degrees Celsius (°C) in Delhi on Tuesday but there was no respite from the heat as high humidity levels made outdoors unbearable. Delhi recorded a maximum temperature of 39.7°C, three degrees above normal and down from 40.4°C on Monday, and the heat index (HI) or "real feel" temperature was recorded at 52°C, a drop from 53°C the day before.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a yellow alert for Delhi, forecasting rain across parts of the city for the next six days. IMD said the monsoon is likely to cover several parts of north-west India over the next three to four days, but did not specify when the south-west monsoon would likely hit the Capital. "Delhi will see light rain till the end of the month. The rain

TRACKING WET-BULB TEMPERATURE: DELHI

29.6°C WET-BULB TEMPERATURE

39.7°C MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE

52°C REAL-FEEL TEMPERATURE

The wet-bulb temperature measures the heat's impact on human health. The principle is simple: because we cool down by sweating, the more readily sweat evaporates, the less hot you feel. But evaporation becomes harder when the air is heavy with moisture. This is why we tend to feel warmer in a bathroom right after a shower (where the air is humid) than we do once we step out. Scientists measure this by wrapping the bulb of a thermometer in a wet cloth, hence, the term wet bulb.

When the wet-bulb temperature rises, there is so much moisture in the air that sweating stops working as a means to bring down the body's excess heat. This is why prolonged exposure to a wet-bulb temperature around 35°C can be fatal, even among healthy people.

intensity is expected to increase from June 28, when we will see the impact of a western disturbance and the monsoon advancing further into parts of north-west India," said an IMD official.

Delhi's maximum dropped below 40°C for the first time in 40 days on Saturday to 39.4°C. It was 39.8°C on Sunday before it rose to 40.4°C on Monday. In its monsoon bulletin on

Tuesday, IMD said conditions were currently favourable for the south-west monsoon to advance into "the remaining parts of the North Arabian Sea, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Jharkhand and Bihar, most of eastern Uttar Pradesh, parts of west Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu-Kashmir-Ladakh-Gilgit-Baltistan-Muzaffargarh, and northern Punjab and Haryana in the next three to four days."

Delhi's relative humidity on Tuesday oscillated between 48% and 92%, making sweating difficult outdoors — higher humidity makes it difficult for the human body to sweat and cool itself effectively. The wet bulb temperature was 29.6°C on Tuesday, marginally lower than the 29.7°C on Monday.

Meanwhile, Delhi's minimum temperature was 28.6°C on Tuesday, a degree above normal and a drop from 31.4°C a day earlier.

27 peacocks died due to heat at Palam air base since June 4, says forest dept

HT Correspondent letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The forest and wildlife department of Delhi carried out an inspection at the Palam air force station and reported three peacock deaths on Tuesday. The death toll of the national bird at the base since June 4 has now touched 27 — all suspected to be a result of heatstroke, officials said.

The inspection was carried out following reports of the deaths. The areas where deaths were reported were heavily concretised and had limited food or water, officials said and directed the base to create watering holes and provide sufficient food for the birds, wherever necessary.

The department said that each death was reported to the Delhi Police on its emergency number, 112, and the peacocks given a ceremonial burial, according to the national proto-

col, which also involves wrapping the bird in the tricolour.

The post-mortem examination of one of the birds that died on June 17 was carried out by the Sanjay Gandhi Animal Care Centre, which said that the cause of death was likely to be heatstroke. Four other carcasses have been sent to the Delhi Zoo for an autopsy. A forest department team, headed by deputy range officer (west) Rajesh Tandon, has also been deployed at the base, the department added.

"The team will stay in the area to ensure directions issued by the department are followed and no further fatalities are reported. The teams will also provide any medicines required for the wildlife to battle the heat," said a forest official.

An incident report prepared by the forest department showed that the peacock deaths were reported on June 4, June 6, June 11 and June 12. Two deaths each



Forest department officials collect the body of a peacock. HT

were reported between June 13 and June 15. On June 17, a single death was reported; two on June 18, four on June 19 and one on June 20. On June 22, two deaths were reported and four more took place on June 24.

"On June 25, we were informed of three more deaths," said Buxy, adding that six more peacocks were sent for treatment after they had other heat-

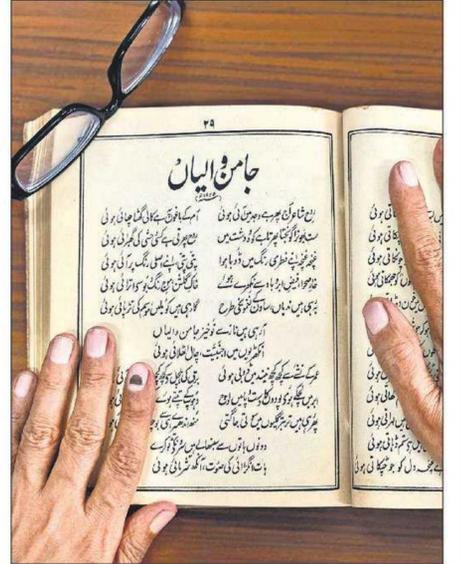
related problems, including dehydration.

Deputy commissioner of police (southwest) Rohit Meena said, "We have been getting calls about peacock deaths from the air force station almost every day now, since the summer has been quite harsh this year. We follow due procedure in all the cases. We also get calls from Army Cantt as there are many peacocks there. Earlier, we used to get one or two calls in 10 days. Now, it has increased due to the heat," he said.

Faiyaz Khudsar, scientist in-charge at DDA's Biodiversity Parks Programme, said peacocks and peafowls are known to survive in semi-arid to arid weather. "So, it is surprising to see such a high death count. We need to assess or study why the birds, in the absence of food and such high temperature, is then not flying away from the base," he added.

Delhiwale

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Joys of Jamun

On the street flavour this season

PUBLIC INTEREST Scene 1: He is carrying them in a straw basket, which is perched on his head.

Scene 2: He is hauling them on a cart (see left photo).

Scene 3: She has filled them in a plastic bucket and is sitting by the road.

This is peak mango season, but the three citizens are not hawking the sweet aam. Their offering is slightly sour and a bit "kasaila." It is the jamun.

Delhi has many jamun trees, and right now they are loaded with their little spherical offerings. The berry tends to detach itself from the branch, hitting the earth with a soft thud, the purple juice sometimes squirting out in a jerky shot.

On a Sewa Nagar pave, a street hawker's cart is heaped up with jamuns, topped with chunks of ice. Vendor Virender Shah gets the jamuns from a nearby subzi mandi, which gets its supply from Azadpur wholesale market, where the jamuns come from Punjab, he says.

The mound of jamuns that Gudiya Devi is hawking this afternoon near the India Gate circle are likely to be Delhi natives. These days, she claims, she gathers jamuns from the vicinity's avenue trees, and sells them to complement the earnings of her husband, an eatery cook.

On a Mathura Road bus shelter, the waiting commuters include an elderly woman sitting on the bench, a watery trickle of purple slowly streaming out of her lower lip. The culprit has to be the jamun. A small green polythene bag on her lap must be filled with the berries.

Sitting in front of an air-cooler inside Ghalib Academy's second-floor library, poetry critic Aqil Ahmad isn't a fan of the jamun. He confesses a preference for the mango, but is barred from enjoying it—"because I have sugar problem... actually jamuns are advised for people in my condition." 30 years ago, the scholar completed a PhD on poet Jash Malihabadi, whose oeuvre, he says, contains a reference to the jamun. After browsing through a handful of old books, aided by librarian Bushra Begum, he fishes out the couplet from Malihabadi's 1925 poem Jamun Waliyan (see other photo):

*Hai yeh bikhri hui zulfein ye kaale jamun hain
Hai yeh gulshan yeh sawan ki ghata chhayi hui*

[These scattered hair are black jamun
Like the rain clouds upon the orchard.]

PS: Librarian Bushra Begum insists that the best way to consume jamuns is to stuff them into an earthen kulhar, sprinkle over a bit of black salt, cover the top with a jamun leaf and vigorously shake the kulhar for a few moments. "The jamuns then become double softer and double tasty," she promises.



READ: For more stories by Mayank Austen Soofi, scan the QR code

HT Homage

कर्मण्येवाधिकारस्ते मा फलेषु कदाचन।
मा कर्मफलहेतुर्भूर्मा ते संगोऽस्त्वकर्मणि॥

In everlasting memory of
Lala Bansi Dhar
(March 7, 1930 to June 26, 2004)

A fountainhead of knowledge and always a source of inspiration, he has left behind a rich harvest of memories to cherish, honour and emulate.

In reverence & remembrance
All members of
DCM Shriram Industries Group

Fondly remembered on her first death Anniversary

Smt. Kavita Hemnani
11-AUG-1949 to 26-JUNE-2023

Your teachings of tolerance and patience are constant guiding force. We always deeply feel your warmth and affection.

You will always live in our hearts

Dr. Ajay Hemnani & All Family

Smt. Deepali Kamboj
1954 - 26th June 2023

We miss you every moment in our life, your presence continues to surround us in our hearts, you are always there besides us.

Deeply Loved & Missed by:
Husband: Anil Kamboj
Children: Payal, Goldie Dhama & Rishi, Shikha Kamboj
Grand Children: Jiya Dhama, Aarav & Alisha Kamboj

3rd Anniversary

1938-2021
Dr. Nandini P.C. Puri
(nee Nagarkatti)
(Retd AMC/C.G.H.S.)
Your life was a blessing, your memory a treasure, you are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure.

Lovingly Remembered by:
Husband: Wg. Cdr. P.C. Puri (Retd)
Children: Ritu & Sridhar Nupur & Seshashay Aditya & Preetha Puri
Grandchildren: Kartik & Malvika Kanchi & Aamani Dhruv & Tanvi
All Puri & Nagarkatti Family Members
99104-26762, 98111-26167

कार्यालय परियोजना प्रबन्धक, युनिट-31 कन्स्ट्रक्शन एण्ड डिजाइन सर्विसेज उत्तर प्रदेश जल निगम (नगरीय) एस.बी.-90, शास्त्री नगर, गाजियाबाद-201002
प्रधान कार्यालय: टीसी-38 वी, विभूति चण्ड, इण्डियन ऑयल के पास, गोमती नगर, लखनऊ-226010
ई-मेल: cdsprunit31@gmail.com
निविदा सूचना सं: 1245/Vividh-12/250 दिनांक: 25.06.2024

अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना

उत्तर प्रदेश जल निगम की ओर से अधीनस्थानों द्वारा जनपद बुलन्दशहर में डिस्टेंशन यार्ड/डम्पिंग यार्ड के निर्माण कार्य, अनुमानित लागत ₹ 95.93 लाख (जोएसओडी रहित एवं लेबर सेस सहित) हेतु सीओ एण्ड डीएसओ में यथोचित श्रेणी में भवन कार्य हेतु पंजीकृत टेकेंदारों से दिनांक 10.07.2024 के अग्ररत 16:00 बजे तक ई-निविदा आमन्त्रित की जाती है। उक्त कार्य हेतु ई-निविदा प्रपत्र दिनांक 26.06.2024 से दिनांक 10.07.2024 के मध्य उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार की e-procurement वेबसाइट <https://etender.up.nic.in> से उपलब्ध है। निविदा दिनांक 10.07.2024 को पूर्वाह्न 16:30 बजे सीओ एण्ड डीएसओ युनिट-31, उडपुल जल निगम, गाजियाबाद में निविदा खोली जायेगी। ई-निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य ₹ 5000.00+GST(18%) अतिरिक्त देय होगा। निविदा से सम्बन्धित विस्तृत विवरण विभाग की वेबसाइट www.cdspjn.org एवं प्रोक्वैरमेंट पोर्टल <https://etender.up.nic.in> पर उपलब्ध है। समस्त शुद्धि (Corrigendum) <https://etender.up.nic.in> पर ही उपलब्ध किये जायेंगे, इनका पृथक से कोई प्रकाशन नहीं किया जायेगा। निविदादाताओं को सलाह दी जाती है कि वे उक्त वेबसाइट का समय-समय पर अवलोकन करते रहें।



The collapsed portion of the building on Tuesday. HT

Part of old Delhi building collapses

HT Correspondent letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: A section of an old building in Walled City's Ballimaran ward at Charkhewala collapsed on Tuesday, after which calls for a survey of vulnerable buildings in the Old City got louder. There was no injury or casualty in the incident, officials said.

After the section of the building, located in property number 3842-43 in Gali Loh Wali collapsed, the executive engineer of the civic body issued an order to the owners and occupants of the building to demolish or repair the building in the next three days.

"Property number 3842-43 Gali Loh Wali Chawri Bazar has become dangerous for the peo-

ple living there as well the pedestrians passing on this street. I, the executive engineer of City Sadar Paharganj zone, direct that you must demolish or repair the building in three days," the order said.

It said that if no action is taken in this period, then the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) would take action under Section 348 of the DMC Act. According to norms, notices are issued to the owners of such structures under sections 348 and 349 of the DMC Act and they are provided time to repair or demolish the structure on their own, otherwise the corporation is expected to demolish it.

A spokesperson for MCD said: "The dangerous building survey is already underway. We hope to complete it as per the timeline."

TEEN WALKS OUT

required to work with Yerwada traffic police for 15 days and write an essay on the accident.

Pune police then filed a review petition before JJB, asking that the boy be tried as an adult and requesting a review of the May 19 order.

The court highlighted the minor's ongoing rehabilitation, including sessions with a psychologist, and suggested the state's action was an "immediate" reaction to the incident. The bench had reserved its order on June 21.

There was outrage soon after the incident as the Juvenile Justice Board (JJB) granted the 17-year-old bail the same day, ordering that he be placed under the care and supervision of his parents and grandfather, and instructing him to write a 300-word essay on road safety.

However, the bail order was amended amid public anger, and the juvenile was sent to an observation home in Pune, where he has been detained since. Pooja Jain, the juvenile's paternal aunt, approached the court on June 14, seeking his immediate release.

During Friday's hearing, senior advocate Aabid Ponda, representing Jain, argued that the remand orders were not only illegal but also passed without jurisdiction. He contended that the State should have applied for the cancellation of bail with an appropriate appellate authority rather than seeking an amendment of the bail order, which is not permissible under the Juvenile Justice Act.

"The bail is neither cancelled, nor altered, nor set aside by a superior court. It's not a case of

rearest either. How can the board resort to the amendment of the bail order under the Act, when he has not been sent to an observation home in the first place?" Ponda asked. "You cannot turn back the clock. Had bail been refused, he could have been sent to an observation home. But having been granted bail, how can he be sent back to an observation home?"

Ponda emphasised that the juvenile is 17 years and 8 months old and that a person released on bail under the Juvenile Justice Act cannot be sent to an observation home. He also said that the state's amendment application, which stated that they did not intend to cancel the bail while he was in the observation home, was absurd.

When the court asked the police why it did not move an application for cancellation of bail, public prosecutor Hiten Vengankar replied that the state never intended to cancel the bail, and that the confinement is not a remand as defined under the Criminal Procedure Code. He said that the boy was kept in the observation home for his safety, as there was no one fit to claim his custody, and no one had since applied for his release.

Vengankar further said that the initial order bail was "rightly or wrongly passed", and that the blood samples of the juvenile were tampered with.

The teen's parents were arrested for their suspected role in swapping of blood samples of the juvenile. The minor's mother on June 1 admitted to evidence-tampering, saying she switched his blood samples to conceal the fact that he was inebriated.

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PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON
See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Sukhbeer S/o Dharamveer & Kavita W/o Jagmohan R/o B-5/14, Nanak Wall Pyau, Dhansa marg, Najafgarh, ND** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 146/2024, U/s 307/452/34/147/148/149 IPC & 25/27 Arms Act P.S.: Maidan Garhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Sukhbeer & Kavita**, cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Sukhbeer & Kavita**, has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Sukhbeer & Kavita**, accused of **FIR No. 146/2024, U/s 307/452/34/147/148/149 IPC & 25/27 Arms Act P.S.: Maidan Garhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **30.07.2024**.

By Order
Sh. Sankalp Kapoor,
MM, Saket Court, Room No. 211, New Delhi

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED
See Section U/S 82 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Sazid Khan S/o Sh. Nadeem Khan R/o East Jungpura, Metro Gate No. 1, Sarai Kalen Khan, New Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 21849/2020 U/s 379/411/34 IPC, P.S. Timarpur, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Sazid Khan** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Sazid Khan** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Sazid Khan** of case **FIR No. 21849/2020 U/s 379/411/34 IPC, P.S. Timarpur, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint/case on or before **25.07.2024**.

By Order
Sh. Appurv Gupta
Metropolitan Magistrate-02
Central District, Room No. 26
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

Modi likely to visit Russia next month to hold talks with Putin

Rezaul H Laskar
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: India and Russia are eyeing the possibility of a visit to Moscow by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in early July for talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin, people familiar with the matter said on Tuesday.

If the visit goes ahead, it will be Modi's first trip to Russia since 2019, the first since the start of the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 and also the prime minister's first bilateral visit in his third term. Putin last visited India in 2021 for the annual India-Russia Summit, which hasn't been held in the past two years.

Though there was no formal announcement by the Indian and Russian sides, people familiar with preparations for the visit in New Delhi and Moscow said on condition of anonymity that Modi is expected to make a brief day-long visit to Russia in early July. Some reports suggested July 8 will be the date of the visit, but there was no official confirmation.

In Moscow, Yuri Ushakov, an assistant to the Russian presi-



Modi and Putin last met on the margins of the SCO Summit in Uzbekistan in 2022.

dent, told reporters that active preparations are underway for Modi's visit and both sides will announce the date in agreement. "I can confirm that we are preparing a visit by the prime minister of India. We cannot (give) the dates as yet, because the dates are announced by the parties in agreement. But we are actively preparing. I will emphasise once again, this visit will take place," Ushakov said in response to questions from reporters.

One of the people cited above said the trip will be an official visit and not a state visit, which

has more ceremonial elements. The focus will be on meetings and discussions, the person said. The people also pointed out that the Indian side has not sent an "advance security liaison" team to Russia as yet - a prerequisite for any foreign visits by the prime minister.

Modi and Putin last met on the margins of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit at Samarkand in Uzbekistan on September 16, 2022, when he urged the Russian leader to return to the path of dialogue and diplomacy to resolve the Ukraine conflict. "I

know that today's era is not of war and we have spoken to you many times on the phone that democracy, diplomacy and dialogue are such things that touch the world," Modi said at the time.

Since then, the two leaders have spoken on phone several times, most recently when Putin called Modi on June 5 to congratulate him on his election win. According to a Russian readout, Putin said Modi's victory was a recognition of the "strengthening of [India's] international authority".

The development comes close on the heels of Modi's decision to skip the SCO Summit in Kazakhstan during July 3-4, apparently due to the ongoing session of Parliament and the strained relations with China. India is expected to be represented at the SCO meet by external affairs minister S Jaishankar.

A visit to Kazakhstan would have brought Modi face to face with Putin, Chinese President Xi Jinping and Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif for the first time in his third term. The Indian side had sent an advance security liaison team to Kazakh-

stan to prepare for Modi's planned visit.

The proposed visit to Moscow will allow India to signal that there will be continuity in its policy of strategic autonomy and also convey its concerns about the growing ties between Russia and China, people familiar with the matter said.

Former ambassador Rajiv Bhatia, a distinguished fellow for foreign policy studies at Gateway House, said a visit by Modi to Russia would be significant for a number of reasons. "In terms of bilateral relations, several important measures for cooperation have been under consideration and they will inevitably get a push. The real significance will be in terms of the larger multilateral dynamics of great powers - after engaging with the G7 in Italy, Modi will be able to connect directly with the leader of Russia, an important strategic partner," he said.

In addition to such a visit being a "visible assertion of India's strategic autonomy in the multipolar context", Bhatia said it will be "very good optics-wise because of the growing Russia-China proximity".

MODI CONVEYS FULL SUPPORT TO KAZAKHSTAN PREZ FOR SCO SUMMIT

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday conveyed to Kazakhstan President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev India's full support for the success of the upcoming summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) in Astana.

Modi's support for the SCO summit during a phone conversation with Tokayev came against the backdrop of indication that the prime minister is not travelling to Kazakh capital Astana to attend the conclave on July 3 and 4.

"Had a good conversation with President of Kazakhstan H.E. Kassym-Jomart Tokayev. Thanked him for warm wishes on the success in the elections. Reiterated the commitment to advance our Strategic Partnership with Kazakhstan," Modi said on X. "Conveyed India's full support for the success of the upcoming SCO Summit," he said.

Though there is no official word yet on Modi's participation at the summit, sources said he is skipping it and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar is likely to represent India.

Officials said the Kazakh president initiated the call to Modi. An official readout said Tokayev warmly congratulated Modi on becoming the prime minister for the third consecutive term. PTI



EAM Jaishankar (R) with Chinese ambassador Xu Feihong. @DRSJAISHANKAR

India, China push for stabilisation, progress in ties

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: External affairs minister S Jaishankar highlighted the need for "stabilisation and progress" in India-China relations during a meeting with Chinese ambassador Xu Feihong on Tuesday.

This was the first meeting between Jaishankar and Xu, who arrived in New Delhi last month, and was held against the backdrop of the dragging military standoff on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) that is now into its fifth year.

"Discussed our bilateral relationship and our common interest in its stabilization and progress," Jaishankar said in a post on X after meeting Xu.

Jaishankar has maintained that the overall relationship with China cannot be normalised without peace and tranquillity on the border. The face-off in the Ladakh sector of the LAC has taken bilateral ties to a six-decade low.

On the other hand, China has contended that the border issue should be put in its "appropriate place" in the overall relationship while the two sides move forward in areas such as trade and investment.

Xu, in a separate post on X, said he and Jaishankar

exchanged views on bilateral relations and "other issues of common interest".

Without any reference to the standoff on the LAC, Xu added: "Look forward to working with the Indian side to push forward the development of China-India relations towards the right direction."

Since his arrival in New Delhi, Xu has said several times that he will work to improve the relationship with India.

Despite more than two dozen rounds of diplomatic and military talks since 2020, India and China have been unable to resolve several "friction points" on the LAC, including Depsang and Demchok. Both sides have arrayed more than 50,000 troops each in the Ladakh sector.

Jaishankar held a separate meeting with Kuwait ambassador Meshal Mustafa Jasim Alshemali and discussed bilateral relations, interests of the Indian community and the welfare of Indian workers in the West Asian country, he said on X.

A recent fire in a building housing foreign workers in Southern Kuwait had resulted in the death of 46 Indians.

Jaishankar also met Sri Lanka's high commissioner Kshenuka D Senewiratne and discussed recent developments in bilateral relations, including his visit to Colombo.

Land subsidence hits Srinagar, 6 houses develop cracks



A house which was damaged due to land subsidence in Rainawari area in Srinagar. WASEEM ANDRABI/HT

Ashiq Hussain
letters@hindustantimes.com

SRINAGAR: At least six houses in Srinagar in Jammu & Kashmir have developed cracks, with some structures like pillars tilting precariously, prompting the residents to move to a safer location and the administration to set up an expert committee to look into land subsidence in the area, officials said.

The six houses in Khwajapura Surteng, in old city's Rainawari area, began developing cracks on the walls and floors on June 17, with some structures also tilting,

after some portions of the land began to sink last week, the officials added.

Srinagar additional deputy commissioner Syed Ahmad Kataria said: "Some eight families living in these houses have either shifted to some other places or are putting up with neighbours after the houses developed cracks. A committee of experts and administration officials have also been formed to examine the cause of the land sinking."

He added: "The committee comprises experts from University (of Kashmir) and National Institute of Technology, Srina-

gar, besides those from geology and mining, roads and buildings and the district administration."

The committee will visit the site on Wednesday to probe and draft a report on the matter.

Local residents said the cracks began developing last week and have widened since then.

"We had informed the revenue department, following which the Patwari arrived and asked us to vacate the houses. However, the administration did not arrange any accommodation for us," one of the residents said.

Another resident, who also did not wish to be identified, also

sought government assistance. "Most of the families here live from hand to mouth. We need the government to tell us what we should do and where we should go," the resident said.

A research paper on "mining induced subsidence" in 2021 by a group led by Bikram Singh Bali, from the department of Earth Sciences at the University of Kashmir, said Surteng has a history of land subsidence. It said that the surface change phenomenon was restricted to a small area, which had a history of "extensive underground mining related to pottery industry".

WESTERN RAILWAY - RATLAM DIVISION
W/623/NIT/1 E-TENDERING NOTICE Date 21.06.2024

The Divisional Railway Manager (WA) RATLAM for and on behalf of the President of India invites "Open Tender" through e-tender on website www.ireps.gov.in in the details as under -

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1	RTM-2024-25-62 Ratlam-Khandwa section: Construction of Subway (RUB) in lieu of LC No. 240(Km: 482/14-15) by inserting relieving girder and laying the box(es) by pushing the box below the relieving girder. Approx. Quantity : As per tender schedule. Similar type of work: Construction of any type of rail bridge under a running railway line.	7,59,04,075.07	5,29,500.00	08 Months

Cost of Tender Form Rs. : Nil. Date of uploading on website : 21.06.2024. Date of opening & time at : 18.07.2024. Detailed tender notice, eligibility criteria and terms and conditions are available at Website www.ireps.gov.in
Divisional Railway Manager (WA) Ratlam Division, Western Railway
AK/5/1/108
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Online Applications are invited for the post of Senior Resident from Indian Citizens as per Govt. of India's Residency Scheme for the session July, 2024 for various Departments at AIIMS, Jodhpur. Application submission will start from 21st June, 2024 and the last date of application will be 18th July, 2024 till 1700 Hrs.

Detailed advertisement and application form is available on Institute website: <http://www.aiimsjodhpur.edu.in>

Dean (Academics)
AIIMS, Jodhpur

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a girl namely Nancy, D/o Ashish Mathur, R/o H.No. B-36, Krishan Vihar, Sultanpuri, Delhi has been missing since 02.06.2024 at 05:00 PM from her home. In this regard FIR No. 509/24, U/S 363 IPC, Dated 03.06.2024 has been lodged at Police Station Sultanpuri, Delhi. The description of missing girl is as under:

Name: Nancy, Age: 15 Years, Height: 5 feet, Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Long, Built: Thin, Wearing: Onion Colour T-shirt, Blue Color Jeans, Black Colour Stall and Black Colour Sports Shoes in Feet.

If anyone has any information about this missing girl please inform P.S. Sultanpuri, Delhi.

Web: <http://cbi.nic.in>, E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638/24368641, Fax: 011-24368639

SHO
Police Station Sultanpuri, Delhi
Ph: 7065036134
DP/6917/OD/2024

ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES BHOPAL
Saket Nagar, Bhopal (M.P.) 462020

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)
Dated: 25.06.2024

AIIMS Bhopal invites e-Tender from registered manufacturers/dealers/distributors/Contractors for below mentioned items:

E-Tender ID No.	Required Items/Services at AIIMS Bhopal	Est. Cost
01/NIT/SE/Project Cell/ABEU/AIIMS/BPL/2024-25	Providing and Fixing of Safety Aluminium Grill on Window Shutters Area in Hospital Building at AIIMS Bhopal.	2,23,54,941
01/NIT/EEC/ABEU/AIIMS/BPL/2024-25	Construction of MS Shed Above 6 NOS Badminton Court at Hostel Courtyard AIIMS Bhopal.	81,68,694
02/NIT/EEC/ABEU/AIIMS/BPL/2024-25	Providing and Fixing Aluminium Partitions in MOT-2 Ophthalmology OPD, Dermatology OPD, TEM Area and Other Locations in Hospital Building at AIIMS Bhopal.	22,54,642
AIIMS/BPL/HOSP/2022-23/003	Rate Contract for Procurement of IV Fluids at AIIMS, Saket Nagar Bhopal 462020 (MP)	3,24,82,963

For further details of the above e-Tenders, the prospective bidders may please visit email: www.aiimsbhopal.edu.in Email: seoffice@aiimsbhopal.edu.in and spso@aiimsbhopal.edu.in Tenders may be downloaded from the e-procurement portal <http://tenderwizard.com/AIIMSBHOPAL>, www.aiimsbhopal.edu.in and CPP Portal www.procure.gov.in. Any corrigendum/amendments related to this NIT shall be published in the same websites only.

Ic. Senior Procurement Cum Store officer
For & On behalf of Director, AIIMS Bhopal

No. A. 35021/01/2020-Admn.II
Union Public Service Commission
Dholpur House, Shahjahan Road
New Delhi-110069

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(K.N. Bhutia)
Under Secretary (Admn.II)
Union Public Service Commission
CBC 55103/11/0007/2425

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Director

International Day Against Drug Abuse and illicit Trafficking
June 26, 2024

Govt. of Haryana

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Rahul chosen as LoP in LS after INDIA meeting

Saubhadra Chatterji
letters@hindustantimes.com

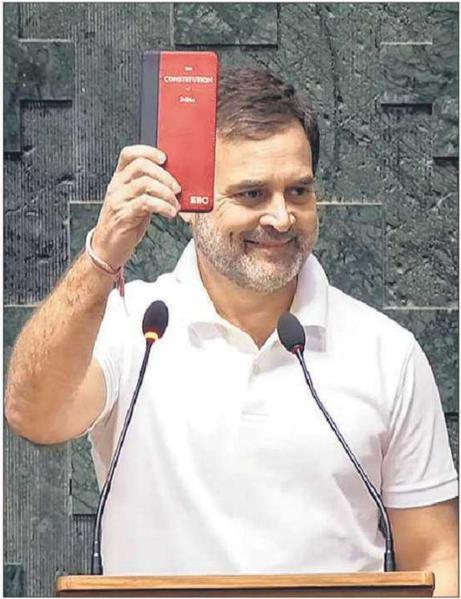
NEW DELHI: Congress lawmaker Rahul Gandhi will be the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, the party announced on Tuesday after a meeting with key INDIA bloc leaders, marking the first time in a decade that the Lower House will fill the position.

The development came hours ahead of a showdown between the government and the Opposition over the election of the Speaker. As LoP, Gandhi will lead a strong and diverse Opposition group against the Modi government.

"Congress parliamentary party chairperson (Sonia Gandhi) wrote to pro-tem speaker Bhartruhari Mahtab, informing him of the decision to appoint Rahul Gandhi as the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha," party general secretary KC Venugopal announced after the meeting with allies, in which Gandhi was also present.

A larger section of the Opposition anticipated that Gandhi would take the Leader of the Opposition's responsibilities after the Congress became eligible for the prestigious post for the first time in 10 years. In the 16th and 17th Lok Sabha, there was no Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha as the Congress didn't have the 56 seats required to claim LoP status. The LoP is equivalent to a cabinet minister in status and perks.

Gandhi has already indicated, in the context of the



Congress MP Rahul Gandhi shows a copy of the Constitution of India while taking oath as a member of the 18th Lok Sabha. ANI

National Eligibility cum Entrance Test controversy, that the Opposition would be much stronger this time.

Interacting with young aspirants last week, Gandhi said the government was "going to get such pressure from the Opposition, that we will make sure that this issue is resolved. We are not going to allow this

type of activities. Opposition is simply not going to allow this eyewash that is taking place."

Gandhi assuming the LoP post will also mean that he has to sit with Prime Minister Narendra Modi to select key functionaries such as election commissioners, Central Bureau of Investigation director, Central Vigilance Commission chair-

person, Chief Information Commissioner and the chairperson of National Human Rights Commission. All these posts are selected by a panel which includes the PM and the LoP. So far, Gandhi has never been in a panel with Modi.

Gandhi's appointment as LoP also comes amid heightened acrimony between the NDA and an emboldened Opposition, which has 236 MPs in the Lok Sabha.

Gandhi is likely to participate in the debate on the Speaker's election later this week.

Gandhi has been a member of the Lok Sabha since 2004 and in the recently concluded general elections, won Rae Bareilly in UP and Wayanad in Kerala. He then retained Rae Bareilly, the constituency long associated with the Gandhi family, and vacated Wayanad, where the Congress will field his sister and senior party leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra. If she wins, Priyanka Gandhi will join him in the Lok Sabha.

On June 8, the extended Congress Working Committee, the highest executive forum of the party, urged Gandhi to become the LoP in the Lok Sabha.

"In another resolution, the CWC unanimously requested Rahul Gandhi to take the LoP post in the Lok Sabha. All participants, in their view, were unanimous that Rahul Gandhi should become the LoP," Congress general secretary KC Venugopal had said after the CWC meeting.



Asaduddin Owaisi

OWAISI'S REMARK WHILE TAKING MP OATH FANS UPROAR

NEW DELHI: All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) chief Asaduddin Owaisi's remarks on Palestine while taking oath as a member of the 18th Lok Sabha were expunged from Parliament records on Tuesday amid uproar from the treasury benches.

Owaisi, who has been elected from the Hyderabad seat for his fifth term, hailed his state Telangana and BR Ambedkar while taking the oath in Urdu. However, his remarks on the conflict-torn west Asian region sparked protests from some members of the treasury benches. Radha Mohan Singh, who was in the Chair at the time, assured the members that anything apart from the oath would not go on record.

Pro-tem Speaker Bhartruhari Mahtab returned to the Chair soon after and said: "I have said earlier please avoid invoking anything other than oath or affirmation. That is only to be recorded..."

Talking to reporters later, Owaisi defended his remarks. "How is it wrong? Tell me the provision of Constitution?..."

Union minister G Kishan Reddy later termed Owaisi's slogan "absolutely wrong".

Soon after Owaisi, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP from Bareilly Chhatrapal Singh Gangwar, too, stoked a controversy by concluding his oath hailing "Hindu Rashtra and Bharat".

The remark drew sharp reaction from the Opposition leaders, who termed it "unconstitutional". HT

Lawmakers take oath



Clockwise from top, left: Samajwadi Party's Akhilesh Yadav; NCP (SP)'s Supriya Sule; DMK's Kanimozhi; BJP's Hema Malini; and Azad Samaj's Chandrashekhar Azad 'Ravan' take oath as members of the 18th Lok Sabha on Tuesday. PTI/ANI

Not consulted regarding INDIA bloc's Speaker nominee: TMC

Wrinda Tulsian

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Trinamool Congress (TMC) said on Tuesday that the Congress took a "unilateral decision" to field party MP Kodikunnil Suresh as the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) bloc's joint nominee for the post of Lok Sabha Speaker. The TMC leaders, however, were present at the meeting called by Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge to discuss Parliament strategy and the Speaker's election.

The ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA) picked 17th Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla who will likely become only the fourth man to get a second term helming the Lower House. The INDIA bloc has fielded its most-experienced lawmaker, Suresh, who filed his nomination just minutes before the 12pm deadline.

As Suresh filed his nomination...



Abhishek Banerjee

for the election of Speaker on Tuesday morning, the TMC was not among the INDIA bloc constituents that signed his paper. Two TMC leaders — Kalyan Banerjee and Derek O'Brien — were, however, present at the meeting called by Kharge to discuss Parliament's strategy and the Speaker's election, scheduled to be held on Wednesday.

Asked about his party's stand on the issue, TMC MP Abhishek Banerjee said they have not been contacted regarding it yet. "No one contacted us, there have

been no talks, unfortunately this has been a unilateral decision," he told reporters.

He added: "Our party leadership, Mamata ji will decide." The TMC, which is the fourth largest party in the Lok Sabha in terms of number of MPs, holds a significant role in the election of the Speaker — a historic event occurring after 48 years.

Later, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and Banerjee were seen having a discussion inside the Lok Sabha, following which Gandhi was asked by the media if he could reach an agreement with Banerjee over the Speaker issue. In a brief reply, the Congress leader said: "Jai Samvidhan (hail Constitution)".

The speaker row is the latest instance of skirmish between the Congress and the TMC. Earlier, the TMC opted to contest independently in West Bengal in the Lok Sabha elections after failing to finalise a seat-sharing agreement.

Veterans face off for LS Speaker's post

Since 1985, BJP MP Om Birla is set to be the first Speaker in 39 years to get re-elected to LS's highest office

Saubhadra Chatterji
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Five days ago, Bharatiya Janata Party lawmaker Om Birla inspected the ongoing construction work in the Parliament complex and told officials from the Central Public Works Department to finish by July 3. "I will review it again on July 3. I will not hear any excuse if it's not finished," he added. For many Lok Sabha officials close to Birla, his display of authority and the timeline he set was the first signal that he might continue as the LS Speaker.

On Tuesday, that hint solidified into fact. After the Congress's Balram Jakhar in 1985, Kota parliamentary Birla is set to be the first speaker in 39 years to get re-elected to the Lok Sabha's highest office. But the 61-year-old's tryst with history will be a bit more interesting: He will contest against Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance candidate Kodikunnil Suresh, an eight-time MP and Dalit leader of the Congress from Kerala who is likely to bag a sizeable number of votes.

After 1952, 1967 and 1976, this will be the fourth contest for the Speaker's post.

Birla, born in 1962, was a two-term MP when he was made the LS Speaker in 2019, a position usually reserved for senior leaders. His style of political communication, too, was different. One of his key outreach was to distribute blankets and slippers to the poor. "Once I was travelling in Kota and noticed a person walking barefoot in the peak of summer. I stopped my car to give him a pair of slippers. From that day, I keep pairs of slippers in my car to distribute during summer," Birla said.

Similarly, at a government hos-



Om Birla

pital, Birla noticed that a three-member family was trying to keep themselves warm under a single quilt as they didn't have the money to rent another. "Birla started a kambaal-nidhi programme to distribute blankets and quilts and set up blanket banks in government hospitals for the poor," said his aide, requesting anonymity.

During his tenure, the Lok Sabha's efficiency improved, Parliament withstood the waves of Covid-19, passed landmark legislation such as the women's reservation bill and scrapped Article 370. Twice, the Lower House sat beyond midnight to complete business with Birla in the chair and more than ever, women and first-time MPs participated.

But Opposition leaders also argued that in the 17th Lok Sabha, 35% of the laws were passed with less than an hour of discussion in the Lower House and only 16% bills were referred to House panels for review. (According to PRS Legislative Research, this is lower than corresponding figures for the previous three Lok Sabhas).

More than 100 MPs were suspended from the Lok Sabha, and 206 across both Houses. Opposition leaders also frequently complained that Sansad TV mostly focused on the treasury benches and microphones would be turned off during Opposition's important interventions.

The shifting of Parliament from the colonial-era building to the new building is perhaps the big-

gest highlight of Birla's first tenure.

His political career started as the district president of the BJP's youth wing in Kota in 1987. He won the Kota assembly seat for the first time in 2003 and remained a Rajasthan lawmaker till 2014 when he won his first Lok Sabha election from Kota-Bundi seat. Ten years later, into his third term, Birla filed his nomination on Tuesday for re-election to the top post of the Lower House.

On June 19, 2019 he was unanimously elected as the Speaker of the 17th Lok Sabha; this time, however, there will be a contest between Birla and INDIA bloc's K Suresh. During his tenure, the productivity of the Lok Sabha was 97%, the highest in 25 years.

"The productivity of the fourth session of the 17th Lok Sabha, held amid the Corona epidemic, was 167%, which is the highest in the history of the Lok Sabha. Rs 801 crore was saved by encouraging financial discipline in the operation of Parliament. During the previous Lok Sabha, 222 bills became law, which is the highest in the last three Lok Sabhas and a total of 440.54 hours were spent discussing the bills, which is the highest in the last four Lok Sabhas," said a Lok Sabha document.

In his tenure, a total of 2,910 members participated in the law-making process — the highest in the last four Lok Sabhas.

While many MPs complained about the curtailing of their speeches, Birla was the first Speaker to provide MPs clippings of their speeches to help them circulate it on social media — a key step to enhance the popularity of speeches.

Key bills passed during his tenure include the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Bill, 2019, the Citizenship Amendment Bill 2019, Muslim Women Marriage Rights Protection Bill 2019, Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021 and the three new codes to replace colonial-era laws. The country also got its first Digital Personal Data Protection Bill and the long-pending women's reservation bill.

"Even if their requests are not sometimes met, they go back with the feeling that the MP at least heard them and tried to get

8-term MP Suresh is set to fight the first election for the post of Lok Sabha Speaker in 48 years

Vishnu Varma

letters@hindustantimes.com

KOCHI: In 1989, the Adoor parliamentary constituency has seen a significant challenge for the Congress. Spread over parts of Pathanamthitta and Kollam in southern Kerala, the seat had seen the Left win four of five previous electoral contests. That year, the Congress candidate was the 27-year-old Kodikunnil Suresh, a young man who had already spent years working in the organisation, and criss-crossed the constituency with a youthful enthusiasm. He overcame the odds, winning by over 21,000 votes. Thirty-five years, and eight terms as member of parliament later, Suresh has become the opposition nominee for Lok Sabha speaker.

In the years after his first electoral victory, the Dalit leader won from Adoor constituency on three more occasions — 1991, 1996 and 1999 — and four times from Mavelikkara after 2009, which was carved out of Adoor after a delimitation exercise in 2008. He only lost Lok Sabha elections twice, in 1998 and 2004, both from Adoor.

P Rajendra Prasad, Congress Kollam district president who has worked closely with Suresh, told HT, "The reason Suresh is able to win so many elections on the trot is because of how he treats his constituents. When people go to his office with memorandums, he does not ignore them. That has a big effect on voters."

"Even if their requests are not sometimes met, they go back with the feeling that the MP at least heard them and tried to get



Kodikunnil Suresh

it done. He is empathetic and that goes a long way with voters," he said.

In 2012, Suresh was made the union minister of state for labour and employment in the Manmohan Singh led government. Prasad said that Suresh gave an emotional speech in Kunnathur after his elevation, where he spoke of how his mother earned a meagre income as a daily wage worker in agricultural fields, putting together money to bring him up.

"He also talked about the caste discrimination he often faced in those days — how at weddings, he and his family would be among the last to eat food after everyone else had eaten. It is those circumstances in life that have shaped him as a person and politician, rising from a student worker to union minister and eight-time MP," Prasad said.

Before the 2024 elections, while Suresh had conveyed to the party leadership that he wanted to be excused from the elections in order to return to state politics, leaders said that the Congress convinced him to contest once more, worried that there was nobody else that could retain the seat. Suresh acquiesced, and on Wednesday, became the opposition candidate that fights the first election for Speaker in 48 years.

A first since 1976, stage set for contest for highest post in LS

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The stage is set for the fourth contest for the Lok Sabha Speaker's post on Wednesday after fights in 1952, 1967 and 1976.

The ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) on Tuesday criticised the Opposition for not extending unconditional support to Om Birla, the alliance's candidate for the post. The NDA claimed that by nominating their candidate K Suresh, the Opposition bloc, which is demanding the Deputy Speaker's post in exchange for support to Birla, had departed from the convention of not having a contest for the position.

If Birla wins, he will be the second Speaker after Balram Jakhar

(1980-89) set to get two full terms. The Lok Sabha's second speaker MA Ayyangar and Gurdial Singh Dhillon got the post twice but the second term of both leaders didn't last more than a year and a half.

To be sure, the NDA's claim is not borne out by facts. Elections to pick the speaker have been held in 1952 when there was a contest between first Lok Sabha Speaker GV Mavalankar and Shankar Shantaram More, then with the Peasants and Workers Party of India; and then in 1976 during the Emergency between Baligram Bhagat and Jagannath Rao.

In 1967, Congress's nominee Neelam Sanjeeva Reddy fought against Tanni Vishwanathan who was backed by stalwarts such as Madhu Limaye. Reddy was elected having polled 278 votes against Viswanatham's 207.



Elections to LS Speaker's post were held in 1952, 1967 and 1976. ANI

Reddy, the only speaker who was elected twice by two different parties, didn't have a full five-year term. He was also the first speaker to resign from the political party to which he belonged during 1967-1969. He got re-elected as speaker in 1977 but it lasted for just 109 days. "There have been three instances so far where voting had been held during the speaker's election. These being: 1. First Lok

Sabha 15.05.1952 - election of G V Mavalankar Ayes 394 Noes 55 2. Fourth Lok Sabha 17.3.1967 N Sanjeeva Reddy Ayes 278 Noes 207 and 3. Fifth Lok Sabha 5.1.1976 Bali Ram Bhagat Ayes 344 Noes 58," said Ravindra Garimela, a parliamentary affairs expert.

Both the BJP and the Congress have issued whips. "All NDA lawmakers will be briefed on Wednesday morning about the procedure

for electing the speaker," according to a party functionary. "Lawmakers from different states will meet in groups, where they will be familiarised with the process."

According to Lok Sabha records, in 1952 Mavalankar who had experience as speaker of the Bombay Legislative Assembly from 1937 to 1946 was nominated by the Congress Party for the presidency of the Sixth Central Legislative Assembly in January 1946.

"The nomination by the Opposition Congress Party in itself was not enough to ensure his election in an Assembly in which the majority of members was on the Government side which had put up its own candidate. However, after a keenly contested election, Mavalankar emerged victorious," Lok Sabha records said. After a voice vote,

Mavalankar was declared winner with 394 votes, while Shantaram received 55.

In 1976 there was a contest for the position between Baligram Bhagat and Jagannath Rao. The Congress and its allies had 360 seats in the 523-member House while the United Front included it had about 100 members. The Opposition, which was up in arms against the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi who had imposed the Emergency on June 25, 1975, nominated Joshi, who was then in prison for the post. Bhagat won the contest and went on to serve as the speaker of the 5th Lok Sabha from January 1, 1976 to March 25, 1977.

Bhagat, who won with 344 votes, against Rao's 58 votes, was elected against the vacancy caused by the resignation of speaker D GS Dhillon.

Amritpal, Rashid fail to take oath as MP

CHANDIGARH: Radical preacher and Khadoor Sahib MP-elect Amritpal Singh could not take oath as a member of Parliament as he is in jail in Assam, detained under the National Security Act. After the Congress's Gurjeet Singh Aujla took oath in Parliament, Singh's name was called out but he was not present.

Similarly, Engineer Rashid, who was elected to the Lok Sabha from Baramulla and is lodged in Delhi's Tihar jail in a case registered under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), could not take the oath on Monday.

Pappu Yadav wears 're-NEET' T-shirt in LS

NEW DELHI: MP Rajesh Ranjan, popularly known as Pappu Yadav, wore a T-shirt with "re-NEET" written on it when he came to the Lok Sabha to take oath on Tuesday. He began his oath by saying "Bihar zindabad" and concluded it with slogans demanding NEET-UG re-exam and special category status for Bihar. When members from the treasury benches objected, the MP from Bihar's Purnia hit out at them, saying he was a six-time MP and needed no lessons on what to say. Just before adjourning House, Pro-tem Speaker Bhartruhari Mahtab said members were still in "election fever".



“हमारा लक्ष्य है कि प्रदेश के हर वंचित और जरूरतमंद को घर जैसी मूलभूत सुविधा वरीयता के आधार पर उपलब्ध हो सके। इसी कड़ी में हरियाणा सरकार पात्र लाभार्थियों को प्लॉट वितरण कर सहायता प्रदान कर रही है।”

- नायब सिंह



Govt. of Haryana



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म.प्र. माध्यम/115060/2024

GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS
BLOCK NO. 4, 4th & 5th FLOOR, AP CIVIL SECRETARIAT
ITANAGAR - 791111
Website: <https://arungovard.nic.in> / Email: secy-part-arn@nic.in
Contact No. 9366568485/8832769925
Dated Itanagar, 21st June, 2024

ADVERTISEMENT

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh is pleased to invite applications from the citizens of India to fill up 1(one) anticipated vacancy of the post of Chief Information Commissioner, Arunachal Pradesh Information Commission (APIC) in terms of Right to Information Act, 2005 as amended in terms of the Right to Information (Amendment) Act, 2019 read with the Right to Information (Term of Office, Salaries, Allowances and Other Terms and Conditions of Service of Chief Information Commissioner, Information Commissioners in the Central Information Commission, State Chief Information Commissioner and State Information Commissioners in the State Information Commission) Rules, 2019.

The applicants must be person of eminence in public life with wide knowledge and experience in law, science and technology, social service, management, journalism, mass media or administration and governance. The detailed information regarding the terms and conditions of appointment and prescribed application format are available on the website (<https://arungovard.nic.in>) of Department of Administrative Reforms Government of Arunachal Pradesh. The interested candidates are advised to visit the above website and submit of legible application in the prescribed format along with enclosures in only in portable document format (pdf) and email at secy-part-arn@nic.in on or before 25th July, 2024 (Thursday) 5 PM.

Sd/-
Joint Secretary to the Government of Arunachal Pradesh
DIPR/ARN/465-70/2024

Uttar Pradesh Medical Supplies Corporation Limited
(CIN: U85310UP2018SGG102425) (A Government of U.P. Undertaking)
Address: SUDA Bhawan, 7/23, Sector-7, Gomti Nagar Extension, Lucknow
Tender Ref. No.: GEM/2024/B/5077387 Date: 21.06.2024

Tender Notice Invitation

Uttar Pradesh Medical Supplies Corporation Limited, Lucknow invites tenders on GeM Portal from eligible and qualified Manufacturer/ Importer/ Authorized Agent for supply of Ice Line Refrigerator. The schedules of Tendering activities are as here under:

Sr.No.	Activity	Date & Time
01	Tender Reference No.	GEM/2024/B/5077387
02	Commencement of Downloading of Tender Document	21.06.2024
03	Date & Time of Pre-Bid Meeting	28.06.2024 at 03:00 PM in Conference Hall of UPMSC, Lucknow.
04	Last Date & Submission of Online Bids	12.07.2024 upto 17:00 PM.
05	Date & Time of Opening of Technical Bids	12.07.2024 upto 17:30 PM.
06	Date of Completion of Examination of Technical Bid	To be declared on GeM Portal
07	Date & Time of Opening of Financial Bid	To be declared on GeM Portal
08	Date of Completion of Examination of Financial Bid	To be declared on GeM Portal

The details of tender notice are given on GeM Portal & UPMSC website www.upmsc.in. Kindly check GeM Portal & UPMSC website for any detail & updates.
Managing Director, UPMSC
Department of Medical Health & Family Welfare, Uttar Pradesh

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE

For and on behalf of the President of India, the Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer (ELPOH), Northern Railway Charbagh Workshop, Lucknow invites e-tender from reputed firms for works as given below:
Tender No.: W-CB-2-EL Transformer-24; **Name of Work:** Repair/Rehabilitation of Electric Locomotive Main transformer (Copper coil Wounded) of Capacity 3900 & 5400 KVA. **Estimated Cost of Work:** ₹ 1,46,28,870.04/-; **Earnest Money/Bid Security:** ₹ 2,23,200/- **Only Cost of Tender Form:** 0/- only; **Period of Contract:** 24 Months; **Date & Time for Submission of Tender:** from 04.07.2024 to 18.07.2024 up to 15:00 Hrs. **Date & Time for Opening of Tender:** after 15:15 Hrs. on 18.07.2024. • The tender form may be submitted on the website www.ireps.gov.in from 04.07.2024 to 18.07.2024 (up to 15:00 Hrs.). • Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, any such manual Offer received shall be ignored. • Contractors are allowed to make payment against this tender towards tender document cost and Earnest Money/Bid security only cash through e-payment gateway or submitted as Bank Guarantee bond from a scheduled commercial Bank of India or as mentioned in tender documents. • The tender will be opened on specified date and time as above. In case the above date is a holiday the tender opening will be conducted at the same time on the next working day. • No post tender correspondence for submission of additional documents shall be entertained after opening the technical & commercial offers. Even suo-moto post letter of the tender shall be treated as NULL & Void. No: NRCB/Workshop/June/Transformer/2024 Date: 25.06.2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 190124

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
L. No. JHS/Catg/e-Auction/2024 Date: 24.06.2024
E-Auction Notice

On Behalf of the President of India, The Divisional Railway Manager (Commercial), Jhansi invites e-auction as per categories given as under:-

Category	Asset Details
PMBJK	Maintenance & Operation of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendra (PMBJK) at Lalitpur Railway Station of Jhansi Division For PMBJK-LAR-01 A Period Of Three Years.

Auction Start: 08.07.2024 at 10:30 Hrs. **Auction End:** 08.07.2024 at 11:00 Hrs.
Note: Prospective bidders are requested to visit e-Auction Leasing module on IREPS website (www.ireps.gov.in). The Lot-wise details are available therein under the above mentioned Catalogue Number. 1098/24(K)

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH CHANDIGARH
Advertisement No. PGI/RC/2024/042-043/1976 Date: 25.06.2024

FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

The Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh invites applications on prescribed form from Indian Citizens for 121 vacant posts of Assistant Professors through direct recruitment on regular basis in different specialities for PGIMER, Chandigarh as per schedule below:-

Start date for generation of Challan form for fee deposit and online payment of fees	25.06.2024
Closing date for challan generation for fee deposit	10.07.2024
Last date of deposit of application fee in the Bank	12.07.2024
Last date for receipt of hard copy of application in the office of the Administrative Officer (Recruitment Cell), PGIMER, Sector-12, Chandigarh 160012	15.07.2024 till 04.00 PM

The interested candidates may Log on to the Institute website i.e. www.pgimer.edu.in (recruitment link at home page) for detailed information viz. application form, fee, age, pay-scale, eligibility, qualification and experience etc. The number of posts (including reserved vacancies) are subject to variation at the discretion of Competent Authority.
PGI RC Advt. 24 HR-000330 DIRECTOR

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
Tender No. : JHS-ELG-W-T-16-2024-25 Date: 22.06.2024
TENDER NOTICE

For and on behalf of President of India, the Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (Gen) North Central Railway, Jhansi invites open tenders through online (E-Tendering) for the following work:-

Tender value : Rs. 1,44,90,368/- only **Bid Security :** Rs. 2,22,500/- only

Description of work : Jhansi ELG : Provision of Power supply Augmentation over Jhansi division.

Completion period : 06 months. **Closing date of tender 15.07.2024 (upto 15:00 Hrs.).** Tenderer will submit the tender online upto 15.07.2024 (upto 15:00 Hrs.). Complete details & for submission of tenders can be seen in Indian Railway website <http://www.ireps.gov.in>. 1094/24 (AN)

CORRIGENDUM FOR TENDER NOTICE NO. 05/2024 DTD. 29-05-2024
Corrigendum for Tender Notice No. : 05/2024 Dated: 29-05-2024 against Tender No.: 01249107RC may please be read as under:-

ITEM	Existing	To be read as
Tender Title	Existing	2 Years Rate Contract for (1) Manufacturing & supply of Derailing Switch 60 kg as per RDSO Drg. No. RT- 6068 and conforming to standard specification IRS/TT- 10 including all fittings except Fish Plate, Fish Bolt & Nut, insulating liner including Metal Liner, ERC & GRSP Complete in all respect as per RDSO drawing. (2) Manufacturing & supply of Derailing Switch 52 kg as per RDSO Drg. No. RT- 5836 and conforming to standard specification IRS/TT- 10 including all fittings except Fish Plate, Fish Bolt with Nut, insulating liner including Metal Liner, ERC & GRSP Complete in all respect as per RDSO drawing.
PL Code 6015N001 & 6015N002	Existing	Manufacturing & supply of Derailing Switch 60 kg as per RDSO Drg. No. RT- 6068 and conforming to standard specification IRS/TT- 10 including all fittings except Fish Plate, Fish Bolt & Nut, insulating liner including Metal Liner, ERC & GRSP Complete in all respect as per RDSO drawing.
PL Code 6015N003	Existing	Manufacturing & supply of Derailing Switch 52 kg as per RDSO Drg. No. RT- 5836 and conforming to standard specification IRS/TT- 10 including all fittings except Fish Plate, Fish Bolt with Nut, insulating liner including Metal Liner, ERC & GRSP Complete in all respect as per RDSO drawing.

Note :- For full details of Tender Notice and Tender Documents, Tenderer may log on to the website (www.ireps.gov.in) prospective bidder who intend to participate in above tenders are required to log in themselves with the above website and submit their offer electronically, if they are already registered with IREPS. In case they are not registered with IREPS, they are advised to obtain class-III Digital Signature Certificate from the certifying agencies under Govt. of India IT Act 2000 and participate in the above tenders.
Pr. Chief Material Manager/CON, Maligaon
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Construction Organization
Serving Customers With A Smile

कार्यालय प्रमुख राजस्व आयुक्त, मध्य प्रदेश
220, राजस्व राहत भवन, अरेरा हिल्स, भोपाल (म.प्र.)
दूरभाष : 0755-2559537, EPABX - 2559345, 2559346, 2559347, 2559348 Fax - 2550972
Email : privecom@mp.gov.in, Website : www.prc.mp.gov.in

साईबर तहसील हेतु Highly Configured Laptop लैपटॉप क्रय किये जाने हेतु इस कार्यालय द्वारा GEM Portal पर BID No. : GEM/2024/B/5072518 निविदा आमंत्रित की जा रही है। विस्तृत जानकारी हेतु GEM Portal पर देखें।
उप राजस्व आयुक्त
मध्यप्रदेश
G-12376/24

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER,
JEYPORE (R&B) CIRCLE, JEYPORE
e-mail ID - supenger_rbyp@yahoo.co.in / Phone No - 06854 - 231528
INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB)
Bid Identification No. C.C.E.J.C (R&B) - 02/2024-25
No. 2274 Date. 21.06.2024

- Nature of the work: BUILDING WORK
- Total No. of Works: 01 (One) No
- Estimated cost: Rs. 5.96 Crs
- Period of completion: 12 (Twelve) Calendar Months
- Cost of Bid Document: Rs. 10,000/-
- Bid Security (EMD): Rs. 5.96 Lac.As per column no. 06 of IFB.
- Class of Contractor: A* Class as per cl no. 05 of TCN & according to Financial Eligibility.
- Date & time of availability of bid Document in the portal: from 11.00 hours of 27.06.2024 to 17.00 hours of 11.07.2024
- Last date / Time for receipt of bids in the Portal: 17.00 hours of 11.07.2024
- Opening date of Bid: 10.00 hours of 12.07.2024
- Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid: Chief Construction Engineer, Jeypore (R&B) Circle, Jeypore

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal <https://tendersodisha.gov.in>
Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website only.
Chief Construction Engineer,
Jeypore (R&B) Circle, Jeypore
OIPR - 34108110005/2425

राष्ट्रीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान रायपुर
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY RAIPUR
(An Institute of National Importance)
Under Ministry of Education, Govt. of India

No. / NITRR/S&P/AdvT/2024/466 Raipur, Dated: 14/06/2024
INVITATION OF E-TENDER

NIT, Raipur is inviting tender which details are as follows:-

Sr. No.	Name of the Department	Tender Enquiry No.	Last Date & Time of Submission of Tender	Date & Time for Opening of Tender
1.	National Institute of Technology Raipur	NITRR/S&P/Furnit ure/OT/2024/438	03/07/2024 upto 06:00PM	05/07/2024 at 16:00PM

Forms & Details can be downloaded from the website i.e. www.nitrr.ac.in, www.eprocure.gov.in and portal www.tenderwizard.com/NITRR -sd- Registrar

Centre For Railway Information Systems
Chandigarh, New Delhi-110021
Tender No. 01245199

Subject: Rate contract for a period of 03 years for supply, transportation to the Site, Preliminary testing, Installation & Integration, Acceptance Testing, Commissioning, 01 year comprehensive on-site Warranty and 05 year Comprehensive AMC support for RTIS devices with M2M mobile data services.
Date of Closing - 19.07.2024 (Thursday) at 11.00 hrs at CRIS HQ Chankyapuri, New Delhi-110021. Tender Documents can be downloaded from Website www.ireps.gov.in For future modification /extensions pl. see www.ireps.gov.in

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE

SUPPLY OF STORES ITEMS "THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT TENDERS"
TENDER NOTICE No: S/2024/63 Date: 24-06-2024
The Principal Chief Material Manager, North Western Railway, headquarter 3rd floor, Near Jawahar circle, Malviya Nagar, Jaipur-302017 for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-tenders on www.ireps.gov.in site as follows. All the E-tenders will be closed at 14.25 hrs.

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Qty	Unit	Due Date
1	36244823	set of Glasse	06	Set	08-07-2024
2	82241266B	Canagliflozin 100mg.Tab./Cap	80820	Nos	15-07-2024
3	30243346	KIT FOR BRAKE CYLINDER	74	Nos	15-07-2024
4	82243047	Eltrombopag 25mg (Like Revolade) Tab/cap	5000	Nos	15-07-2024
5	82242422	Nilotinib 200mg.Tab./Cap	1940	Nos	15-07-2024
6	36244838	AEROSOL Generator -500 gms	145	Nos	16-07-2024
7	10244296	VALVE SPRING ASSEMBLY	7710	Nos	17-07-2024
8	82243718	Ruxolitinib 20mg Tab./Cap	1350	Nos	18-07-2024
9	30243070	SWK/IG 20 SINGLE SPEED SENSOR.	579	Nos	22-07-2024
10	10244289	CYLINDER HIGH PRESSURE.	26	Nos	22-07-2024
11	30243071	N2 Board for WSP system of LHB type Coaches	20	Nos	22-07-2024
12	36241454	Air brake cylinder 203 mm.	271	Nos	22-07-2024
13	40241769	Supply air bellow connection with frame	868	Nos	22-07-2024
14	30243330	MUST CHANGE ITEM FOR BRAKE CALIPER	986	Nos	29-07-2024
15	30242195	FLEX BALL CABLE	134	Nos	29-07-2024
16	30243211	MV BOARD FOR WSP SYSTEM OF LHB COACHES	38	Nos	30-07-2024
17	30243069	Speed Sensor G16.	372	Nos	05-08-2024
18	30243392	BRAKE CYLINDER LHAND RH FOR LHB COACHES	43	Set	05-08-2024
19	30243180	OVERHAULING KIT FOR BRAKE CYLINDER	684	Set	12-08-2024
20	30242184	Flex ball cable short length	223	Nos	12-08-2024
21	30242190	Primary vertical damper	4069	Nos	19-08-2024
22	81231041A	Soap Toilet in Cakes of 100 gram when packed approximately, confirming to IS:2888/2004, amndt. No. 3, Grade-II i.e. minimum Total Fatty matter (TFM) more than 70%, toilet soap be purchased as a standard weight of 100 grams with +/- 10 % tolerance in weight.	221708	Nos	20-08-2024

Note (1) Interested tenderers may visit the website www.ireps.gov.in for Full details/description/specification/EMD & tender cost etc. All tenderers are requested to obtain digital signatures and get them registered on above site and quote electronically only. **(2)** For viewing and participating in other tenders such as open tender costing below Rs. 25 Lakhs, limited tenders, special limited tenders and low value tenders, please visit www.ireps.gov.in.
724-AJ/24

Follow us on : [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/NWRRailways) [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/NWRRailways) [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/NWRRailways) [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/NWRRailways)

Ending pulses import by '27 a key target of agriculture min

Zia Haq

zia.haq@htlive.com

NEW DELHI: A key target handed down to agriculture minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan is to end India's dependence on imports to meet local pulses demand by 2027 for which a major programme is being prepared, officials with knowledge of the matter said.

On January 4, during the central government's previous term, home and cooperation minister Amit Shah had declared India will stop importing pulses by 2027, setting an ambitious goal.

"By December 2027, the country should become self-reliant in pulses. We will not import even one kilo of pulses from January 2028," Shah had said while launching a programme to procure tur (pigeon pea) by the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (Nafed).

An El Nino weather pattern last year has stoked prices of pulses, a common source of protein for most Indians, despite a 37% jump in overall domestic production since 2015-16, which has helped India cut down on imports.

Yet, the goal of self-sufficiency in pulses has been elusive, keeping prices high.



The goal of self-sufficiency in pulses has been elusive, keeping prices high. MINT ARCHIVE

ciency in pulses has been elusive, keeping prices high. Rising protein-led prices can be a significant driver of inflation and household expenses.

Inflation in pulses rose nearly 17% in May from a year ago, primarily because of lower production for two consecutive years due to extreme weather and a patchy monsoon. This drove food inflation for the month to 8.7%.

To ramp up output of key deficit pulses, such as tur, urad (black matpe) and chana (chickpea), the government will need to ensure remunerative prices to farmers, experts said. Last week, Chouhan chaired a virtual

meeting of state agriculture ministers, in which he said the Centre would procure 100% of the three varieties at minimum support prices, according to an official who declined to be named. The minister urged state ministers to get farmers to register on a portal called e-samridhi in large numbers to sell their produce.

Nearly 45% of cultivators of pulses said they got lower than market prices for urad, tur and moong (green gram), according to the Situation Assessment Survey of agriculture (2018-19). In the financial year ended March, imports went up 84% year-on-year to 4.65 million

tonne, the most in six years. In value terms, the country's spending on imports rose 93% to \$3.75 billion. India largely imports from Canada, Australia, Myanmar, Mozambique, Tanzania, Sudan and Malawi.

According to the farm ministry's plan to achieve self-sufficiency, model pulses villages will be set up from the current summer cropping season. The ministry is also working with states to bring fallow land for cultivation of lentils. It is set to create 150 hubs to distribute high-yielding seeds. Alongside, the farm department will collaborate with the department of agricultural research to promote climate-resilient varieties.

Shortly after the federal government assumed office during its first term in 2014, it focused farm and trade policies to raise pulses output to cut down on imports.

"Pulses are group of crops. They are not single crop. The government will have to ensure crop diversification and incentivise farmers sufficiently across varieties to stop imports. At times, shortage of one variety increases demand for other varieties," said Avishkek Agrawal, an analyst with Comtrade, a commodities trader.

U'KHAND OFFICER MOWS DOWN 3 WHILE DRIVING DRUNK, BOOKED

DEHRADUN: A 52-year-old Uttarakhand government official has been arrested and booked for culpable homicide after he allegedly mowed down a woman and her two nieces while speeding in his car in an inebriated state in Tehri Garhwal district on Monday evening, police said, adding his blood test report confirmed he was drunk while driving.

The accused, identified as Devi Prasad Chamoli (52), a resident of Baurari area in New Tehri town and posted as an assistant block development officer (ABDO) in Jakhnidhar block of Tehri Garhwal, was caught and handed over to the police by passers-by after he tried to flee after the incident.

The incident occurred in Baurari when the speeding Wagon R car being driven by Chamoli hit local residents Reena Negi (34), her daughter Aradhya (10) and niece Agrima (10) and Anvita (7) from the front while they were walking on the roadside.

"All injured were taken to the district hospital, where Reena Negi and her two nieces were declared brought dead by the doctors. Reena's daughter Aradhya, who also suffered minor injuries, was discharged from the hospital after treatment," New Tehri police station in-charge Yogendra Gusain said.

The accused was arrested and based on a complaint from Negi's husband Ravindra Singh Negi, an FIR has been registered, Gusain said. "We have registered the FIR against the accused under sections 304 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder), 279 (rash driving or riding on a public way), and 337 (causing hurt by endangering life or personal safety of others) of IPC," the officer added.

Chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhama expressed his grief over the incident and ordered the suspension of Chamoli from the post of ABDO. **AMIT BATHLA**

THE ACCUSED WAS POSTED AS AN ASSISTANT BLOCK DEVELOPMENT OFFICER (ABDO) IN JAKHNIDHAR BLOCK OF TEHRI GARHWAL DIST

'Dark days': Modi leads BJP's attack on Cong over Emergency

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) continued its attack against the Congress on Tuesday over the Emergency imposed in 1975 by then-prime minister Indira Gandhi, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi referring to the period as "dark days" and alleging that the party "subverted basic freedoms and trampled over the Constitution".

"Today is a day to pay homage to all those great men and women who resisted the Emergency. The #DarkDaysOfEmergency remind us of how the Congress Party subverted basic freedoms and trampled over the Constitution of India which every Indian respects greatly," Modi said on X.

He added: "Just to cling on to power, the then Congress government disregarded every democratic principle and made the nation into a jail. Any person who disagreed with Congress was tortured and harassed. Socially regressive policies were unleashed to target the weakest

Emergency remind us of how the Congress Party subverted basic freedoms and trampled over the Constitution of India.

NARENDRA MODI,
Prime Minister

sections." Senior BJP leader and Union home minister Amit Shah, too, came out strongly against the Congress. "The Congress crushed the spirit of our Constitution several times for the sake of maintaining a certain family in power," he posted on X.

Union minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said that the "voice of 80 crore people was stifled to save the chair of select people". "Today is remembered as the black day as

those elements had throttled the voice of 80 crore people to save their chair," he told reporters in Guna, adding that "the NDA (National Democratic Alliance) worships this 'granth' (Constitution)".

Party president JP Nadda, while addressing the cadre at the party headquarters, said democracy is standing strong today because of the sacrifices made at the time of Emergency. "I request all of you to meet those who have seen the Emergency and try to know what the situation was... Because of the sacrifices made at that time, democracy is standing strongly today..." he said.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, however, hit back at the ruling party. "Narendra Modi ji, the country is looking forward to the future but you keep scratching the past to hide your failures. In the last 10 years, you made 140 crore Indians realise what 'undeclared emergency' is, which caused a deep trauma to democracy and the Constitution," he posted in Hindi on X.

{ AIR INDIA AIRCRAFT }

Kerala man issues bomb threat after airline refuses to reschedule flight

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

KOCHI: A 30-year-old Kerala man was booked on Tuesday for issuing a bomb threat to a Kochi-London Gatwick Air India flight, which later turned out to be a hoax, allegedly after his request to reschedule his departure by two days citing his daughter's ill health was turned down by the airline's call centre, a police officer said.

An officer of the Nedumbassery police in Kochi said the accused, Shuhaib (30), a resident of Kondotty in Malappuram, was scheduled to take the AI 149 flight to London with his wife and daughter on Tuesday.

"We found that he had made the bomb threat during a call to the Air India customer care

COPS SAY THE 30-YR-OLD ACCUSED WANTED HIS TICKET TO BE RESCHEDULED AS HIS DAUGHTER WAS UNWELL

centre in Mumbai late Monday night. From what we understood, his daughter had suffered food poisoning and was unwell. So, he had asked the airline to reschedule the ticket for another day which was denied. So perhaps due to frustration, he alleged that a bomb was planted on the aircraft," the police officer said, requesting anonymity.

The threat was relayed to officials at Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL) following which a Bomb Threat Assessment Committee (BTAC) was immediately convened. Upon investigation by the airline, it turned out that the caller was a passenger on the same flight.

"The aircraft was moved to an isolated parking point and comprehensive security measures were undertaken. The aircraft was thoroughly checked and subsequently cleared for takeoff," the airport said.

The accused was booked under Section 506 (criminal intimidation) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Section 118(b) (Knowingly spreads rumours or gives false alarms to mislead police, fire brigade or any essential service) of the Kerala Police Act, the officer said, adding he was granted bail by a court.

Suraj Revanna booked in 2nd sexual assault case

Arun Dev

letters@hindustantimes.com

BENGALURU: The Karnataka police have registered another case of sexual assault against arrested Janata Dal (Secular) leader Suraj Revanna after a close aide of the MLC filed a complaint against him, police officers familiar with the matter said on Tuesday.

The complainant had earlier filed an extortion case against the JD(S) worker, who initially accused Suraj—the brother of suspended MP Prajwal Revanna—of sexual assault. In his complaint, the man said that he was coerced by Suraj into filing the case against the JD(S) worker, officers aware of the matter said. "On Tuesday night, the Hollen-



Suraj Revanna

arsipura rural police registered an FIR against Suraj Revanna under the Indian Penal Code Sections 377 (unnatural offences), 342 (wrongful confinement), and 506 (criminal intimidation)," a police officer familiar with the matter said on condition of anonymity.

Suraj was arrested on Sunday

for allegedly sexually assaulting a party worker, days after his brother Prajwal was arrested over multiple charges of sexual abuse. He is currently in police custody. The case against Suraj was handed over to the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) for a detailed probe.

Suraj had rejected the initial accusation against him, calling it a part of "political conspiracy".

"I absolutely reject these allegations. They are part of a political conspiracy. An FIR has also been lodged against the complainant. Let the truth come out. I have faith in the law of the land," he said on Saturday

Police file fourth FIR against Prajwal
The SIT probing allegations of

sexual abuse against Prajwal Revanna has filed a fourth First Information Report (FIR) against him on the charges of sexual harassment, stalking and criminal intimidation, people aware of the matter said.

Along with Prajwal, three others, including former BJP MLA from Hassan Preetham Gowda has also been named in the FIR, they said.

"The case has been registered under sections 355 A (sexual harassment), 354 B (assault or use of criminal force to woman with intent to disrobe), 354 D (stalking), 506 (criminal intimidation) of the Indian Penal Code and 66 E (punishment for violation of privacy) of the Information Technology Act, according to the police officers.

Oil Industry Development Board (OIDB)
(Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas)
OIDB Bhawan, Plot No-2, Sector-73, Noida-201301
Tel: 0120 2594602/13, Fax: 0120 2594630

Office space available for lease/rent
No. ES/30/2023-PS-OIDB

Oil Industry Development Board (OIDB) desires to lease/rent out an office space measuring 15000 sq.ft. approx. situated at OIDB Bhawan, Plot No. 02, Sector-73, Noida to the Central Government, CPSUs, Central Statutory/autonomous organizations, Public Sector Banks (for their Headquarter/Regional Offices), etc.

For detailed terms & conditions, you may visit OIDB's website www.oidb.gov.in.

Manager (P&A)
Tel.: 0120-2594613

CBC 33113/12/0001/2425

Advertisement No. 57/2024
Government of India
Public Enterprises Selection Board
invites applications for the post of
Director (Technical)
in
Central Coalfields Limited (CCL)
Last date of submission of application
by the applicant is by 15.00 hours on
19/07/2024
Last date of forwarding of applications by
the Nodal officers to PESB is by 15.00 hours on
29/07/2024
For details login to website
<https://pesb.gov.in>

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON
See Section 82 Cr. P. C.

Whereas a complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Bhushan Kumar Yadav s/o Sone Lal Yadav R/o S-18, E School Block Laxmi Nagar, Shakarpur Delhi.** have committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence under **FIR No. 571/22 U/S 279/338 IPC and 146/196/3/181 M.V Act.** has been registered at **P.S. Madhu Vihar Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said, **Bhushan Kumar Yadav** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said, **Bhushan Kumar Yadav** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused, **Bhushan Kumar Yadav** of under **FIR No. 571/22 U.S. 279/338 IPC and 146/196/3/181 M.V Act.** registered at **P.S. Madhu Vihar, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **14.10.2024**

By Order
Sh.Udbhav Kumar Jain,MM-04,
Room No.13 Shahdara
Karkardooma Courts Delhi

DP/7565/ED/2024-Court matter

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पत्र सं० 531
दिनांक : 24 / 06 / 2024

e-Tender Notice

Office of Executive Engineer (E&M-I), Lakhwar Project, Dakpathar, invites online bids from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:
Tender No: 06/EE(E&M-I)/LP/2024-25
Name of the Work: SITC of Video Conferencing System at Conference Room of Kandriyan Field Hostel, Lakhwar MPP, Dakpathar".
Estimated Cost: Rs.31,12,380.00 (taxes extra)
Date of availability of bid document on website : 25/06/2024
Last Date for submission of bid on website: 18/07/2024 upto 17:00 hrs.
For fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal "<http://uktenders.gov.in>"

Executive Engineer (E&M-I)
Lakhwar Project, Dakpathar

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

TENDER NOTICE
FOR SALE OF OLD & USED PRINTING MACHINERY
AT, C - 164-165 INDUSTRIAL FOCAL POINT PHASE VIII B, MOHALI

SEALED RATE TENDERS are invited for sale of old & used Machinery.

S. No.	Description	Qty	Rates reqd
1	Printing M/c Folder - NL 30 (Manugraph 2001)	1 No	Per Pc
2	Printing M/c Folder - Orient (Orient 2011)	1 No	Per Pc
3	Printing M/c City line tower 4+4 (Manugraph 2003)	2 No	Per Pc
4	Printing M/c City line Auto Paster (Manugraph 2003)	2 No	Per Pc
5	Printing M/c Console NL 30 (Manugraph 2001)	2 No	Per Pc
6	Reel Loading Trolley	1 No	Per Pc
7	DG Set 500 KVA CG 2010	1 No	Per Pc
8	Reel Rewinding Machine 2011	1 No	Per Pc
9	Platform accessories (Iron) of Printing M/c	Lot	Per Kg

*For inspection please call - 9814818148 or 01725050680.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

- For inspection of above items, please contact HT Media Ltd., C-164-165 Industrial Focal Point Phase VIII B Mohali.
- Tenders should reach latest by **4th July 2024**.
- The rates will be exclusive of Tax, GST & other taxes will be charges extra.
- The tender should be addressed to "Disposal Committee, H T Media Ltd. C-164-165 Industrial Focal Point, Phase VIII B Mohali (Punjab)".
- The envelope should be superscribed - **Tender for the sale of old Machinery.**
- The Tenders should be accompanied with a draft in favor of "H T MEDIA LTD" Payable at Chandigarh for security deposit of Rs.100000/- (As interest free Earnest Money).
- In case of any dispute, the matter will be subject to the jurisdiction of Mohali (Punjab).
- Items to be lifted against advance payment in bank transfer or DD payable at Chandigarh.
- HT Media Ltd has the right to reject one or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.
- The tenderer will have to accept available quantities and will not have any claim due to the quality involved and lift all the material at the same rate quoted in the tender.
- The tenderer shall remove the goods within one week of confirmation from the place of storage at his own cost and shall employ his own staff. Stock will be disposed on "As is where is basis".

HT Media Limited Mohali

OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR
JILA NIRMAN SAMITI
JAGDALPUR, DISTT.- BASTAR (C.G.)

Memo No : 3525/JNS/2024/Jagdapur Date : 20.06.2024

e-Procurement Tender Notice
Portal : <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>

NIT No. - 01 Dated 20.06.2024
Last date Submission of Bid Documents - 02.07.2024

Tender No.	Name of Work	PAC (in lakh)	EMD	Calls
155175	CONSTRUCTION OF NALANDA PARISAR (PART A) MAIN LIBRARY BUILDING AT JAGDALPUR I/C ELECTRIFICATION WORK.	590.89	296000/-	1st Call
155176	CONSTRUCTION OF NALANDA PARISAR (PART B) AT JAGDALPUR I/C ELECTRIFICATION WORK.	215.11	108000/-	1st Call
155177	CONSTRUCTION OF NALANDA PARISAR (PART C) MAIN LIBRARY BUILDING AT JAGDALPUR I/C ELECTRIFICATION WORK.	146.00	110000/-	1st Call
155178	Development Work of Heritage Ground at Jagdalpur I/c Electrification Wrok.	268.76	135000/-	1st Call

(Nodal Officer)
Jila Nirman Samiti,
E.E. P.W.D. (B/R)
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Govt's NTA panel to reach out to teachers, students

Fareeha Iftikhar
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: A seven-member committee formed by the Centre to review the operations of the National Test Agency (NTA) will on priority engage with students and parents over their concerns and challenges, and seek suggestions to build a robust and tamper-proof system for entrance examinations, former Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) chairman and panel chief K Radhakrishnan has said, amid a raging row over allegations of paper leak and other irregularities that have sparked sweeping protests across the country.

The committee, which also comprises the Indian Institute of Technology-Kanpur's board of governors (BoG), also headed by Radhakrishnan, will further make recommendations on reforms in the examination process, improvement in data security protocols and structure and functioning of NTA, and submit a report to the Union education ministry in this regard within two months.

The decision was taken during the first meeting of the panel at the Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi on Monday, as NTA continued to be at the centre of a storm after a slew of crucial national examinations, including the National Eligibility Entrance Test-Undergradu-



Samajwadi Party workers protest against alleged paper leak in NEET-UG in Lucknow on Tuesday.

ate (NEET-UG), involving the fate of millions of candidates were botched up.

In a video shared by the Union education ministry on Tuesday, Radhakrishnan said: "The first meeting of the high level committee of experts that is set up by the government of India, Ministry of Education, for looking at the entire gamut of entrance tests in the country met and the first priority for us is to elicit from the students and parents of this country their concerns and their suggestions."

Radhakrishnan said the committee will reach out to parents and students as far as possible in person or through electronic

media over the next two weeks to seek their inputs.

"The next priority for us is to quickly build a robust system for starting the tests. We are also looking at the future especially to develop in this country a robust system, a tamper proof system. A system with zero error and system that lessens difficulties and stress for the students with adequate flexibility built in range," he said.

According to people aware of the details, the committee was apprised of the current process followed by NTA in the conduct of entrance examinations, technical expertise of the agency, and recent incidents of irregularities during the NEET-UG,

and University Grants Commission (UGC) National Eligibility Test (NET) or UGC-NET during the meeting.

Allegations of paper leak, malpractice, manipulation of examination centres, and discrepancies in declaration of results have marred NEET-UG - India's premier medical entrance examination - this year, resulting in protests by candidates and opposition parties, which are demanding a probe monitored by the Supreme Court.

Days later, the UGC-NET, which is conducted by NTA twice a year, was cancelled due to a paper leak on the darknet. The Joint Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and University Grants Commission (UGC) National Eligibility Test (NET) June edition was also deferred due to "unavoidable circumstances as well as logistic issues".

Last week, Union education minister Dharmendra Pradhan rejected the allegations of paper leak and reiterated the government's commitment to safeguard the interest of students. On Saturday, the Centre removed NTA director general Subodh Kumar Singh and appointed IAS officer Pradeep Singh Kharola for the post.

The Central Bureau of Investigation is probing alleged irregularities in both NEET-UG and UGC-NET.

LIFE TERM, FINE OF UP TO ₹1 CR AS U.P. CLEARS ORDINANCE ON PAPER LEAKS

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

LUCKNOW: The Uttar Pradesh cabinet on Tuesday approved an ordinance that mandates a maximum punishment of life imprisonment and penalty of up to ₹1 crore for those involved in unfair practices and paper leaks in public examinations.

The ordinance, which criminalises distribution of fake question papers and creation of fake employment websites, was approved during a meeting held under the chairmanship of chief minister Yogi Adityanath. Forty-three out of 44 proposals were approved at the meeting.

The cabinet approved the state government's proposal to implement the Prevention of Unfair Means and Paper Leaks in Public Examinations Ordinance, 2024, state finance minister Suresh Khanna said. It mandates severe penalties for those involved in paper leaks, including institutions and associated individuals.

"If an examination is compromised, the financial burden will be recovered from the solver gang, the involved institutes and service providers will be permanently blacklisted," Khanna said. "The ordinance also includes provisions for property attachment in case of a crime. All offences under this ordinance are classified as cognisable, non-bailable and triable by a sessions court and are non-compoundable. Stringent conditions for bail have also been established," he said.

{ MUMBAI } ILLEGAL HOARDING COLLAPSE KILLS 17

IPS officer suspended as report cites lapses

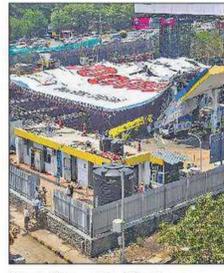
Yogesh Naik and Manish Kumar Pathak
letters@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: Six weeks after an illegally-erected oversized hoarding crashed on a petrol pump at Ghatkopar in Mumbai, killing 17 people and injuring 74, the Maharashtra government suspended additional director general of police Quaiser Khalid, who was commissioner of Government Railway Police, when permission was given to install the billboard.

Khalid's suspension follows two adverse reports by the state director general of police Rashmi Shukla and DG, GRP, Dr Pradnya Sarvade. The two reports blamed him for sanctioning the hoardings and petrol pump despite objections from Maharashtra State Police Housing and Welfare Corporation.

The police investigation into the crash also revealed that the business partner of Khalid's wife Summana received at least ₹55 lakh from Ego Media Private Limited, which erected the hoarding in violation of the BMC norms. This business partner allegedly used the accounts of a dozen people to deposit the ₹55 lakh, which he later withdrew. On Tuesday, an investigating officer told HT that they have recorded the statement of Govandi resident Mohd. Arshad Khan, who is Quaiser Khalid's wife Summana's business partner in a company called Mahpara Garments, which specialises in chikan kari work.

Khan's name came up during the questioning of Ego Media's former director Jahanvi Marathe, who revealed in her statement that Ego Media had issued several blank cheques to Arshad Khan in 2021 and 2022 when Quaiser Khalid gave them the approval to install the hoardings along the



The billboard in Ghatkopar crashed on May 13.

Eastern Express Highway at Ghatkopar without calling for tenders, said the investigating officer. Khan, who has no ostensible connection with Ego Media or the hoarding business, then convinced a dozen people in Govandi to allow him to use their bank accounts to deposit cheques which amounted to a total of ₹55 lakh and which he subsequently withdrew over time. Investigators say they have information that more money changed hands later and that they are looking for a second chain of transactions.

The SIT team has so far arrested four people in connection with the crash. They are Bhavesh Bhanje who owns Ego Media, Manoj Ramkrishna Sanghu, a BMC-approved civil engineer who had issued a stability certificate for the 140 feet x 120 feet hoardings, well knowing that it exceeded permissible limits. The other two, former director in the company Jahanvi Marathe and Sagar Kumbhar, the contractor who erected the hoarding, were arrested from Goa on June 8. All four are at present in judicial custody.

During their investigation, the police found that Marathe did not

draft any agreement while awarding the contract to Kumbhar to erect the hoarding but her company paid him a total around ₹1 crore for constructing the foundation and the piling work for all the four hoardings erected by Ego Media at Ghatkopar.

Ego Media had applied for permission to erect three more hoardings on the same plot in Ghatkopar in 2020. The permission was granted by the GRP, which owns the land, with the size of the hoardings stipulated at 40x40 feet. In July 2022, Bhide allegedly approached GRP commissioner Quaiser Khalid to increase the size of the hoardings to 80x80 feet and the length of the tenure from 10 to 30 years. Bhide also sought permission for a fourth hoarding for which a tender was not issued. Khalid allegedly approved the application in December 2022 before handing over the charge to his successor, Ravindra Shive.

Khalid, an IPS officer of 1997 batch, is at present posted as ADG (protection of civil rights). He did not respond to calls and messages about his suspension.

The suspension order said the state has decided to suspend Quaiser Khalid for administrative lapses and irregularities in sanctioning the hoarding without approval of the DGP office, and by deviating from the approved size norms.

In the past, Khalid had departmental inquiries during his tenure as deputy commissioner of police (ports) of Mumbai, for alleged irregularities in purchases in Nagpur, recruitment in Wardha and for taking possession of residential quarters when it was not allocated to him. Last year, all these departmental probes were closed and he was promoted as ADGP.

Bihar cops blame NTA for delay in NEET probe

Arun Kumar
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PATNA: The probe into irregularities in this year's NEET-UG would have been concluded by now had the National Testing Agency (NTA) provided on time question paper samples to match with a burnt booklet recovered a day before the May 5 exam from Patna, a senior officer from Bihar police's Economic Offence Unit (EOU) alleged on Tuesday.

The officer, requesting anonymity, added it was for the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), which has now taken over the cases registered in Bihar as well as in Gujarat and Rajasthan in connection with NEET-UG irregularities, to take the probe to its conclusion.

Giving details of the investigation conducted thus far by the



Police taking the accused to court in Patna on Sunday.

EOU, the officer blamed the NTA, which conducted the medical entrance exam, for delay in providing question paper samples to the Bihar police.

"It was not sent and we could get it only on June 20 when the EOU was called to Delhi and the issue was raised as to why the

samples were not sent despite three reminders. Soon after we got the sample there, we discovered the (burnt) booklet belonged to a centre at Oasis School in Hazaribagh," the EOU officer told HT. "We were able to match 68 questions (in the NTA samples from those in the burnt

booklet) right there."

After the Hazaribagh link was established, a Bihar police team under an additional superintendent of police (ASP)-rank officer was sent to examine the two boxes in which questions were transported to the exam centre, the officer said, adding both boxes had been tampered with. The superintendent at the exam centre told the police that the digital locks on the boxes could not be opened due to some technical issue and they broke them open on the NTA's direction, the officer added.

"There were two boxes and both had their seals tampered with from the rear side, while the front portion was intact. The boxes had two locks each—one manual and one digital. The suspicion grew after officials found that the latches and hinges had been tampered with and the seal over them

was also affected," the EOU officer said. "The envelopes inside the boxes had also been tampered with from the rear side, while the upper portion was intact. We have sent all these evidences to the Central Forensic Science Laboratory."

The officer said the probe had reached an advanced stage, with the EOU establishing that the boxes carrying question papers were tampered with to compromise the sanctity of the questions. "The digital locks can get automatically locked if any attempt is made to open them with wrong quotes. We don't know if similar situation arose at other centres as well," he added.

NH Khan, additional director general of police, EOU, said the matter is now with CBI and the EOU will hand over whatever credible evidences it has collected to the federal agency.

{ OVER VARIOUS DEMANDS }

Farmers say ready to restart talks with govt

Karam Prakash
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PATIALA: Farmers protesting at Shambhu border in Patiala district of Punjab on Tuesday said they are ready to restart talks with the Union government over various demands, even though they are yet to get any fresh formal invitation from concerned officials to resolve the ongoing deadlock.

"We have always been open for talks with the Centre. We did not run away from table talks. We have not been invited so far but if invited, we will definitely hold talks," said Sarwan Singh Pandher, convener of Kisan Mazdoor Morcha (KMM), a splinter group of the Samyukta Kisan Morcha or SKM (non-political) that is spearheading the protest.

The SKM (non-political) said it was hopeful of a resolution with a change in leadership in the agriculture ministry. Shivraj Singh Chouhan was recently appointed as the Union agriculture minister under the new Narendra Modi-led government. Earlier, the portfolio was held by Arjun Munda.

"There is a change of guard in the agriculture ministry. Let's see what they have to offer and if they invite us for talks in the coming days," SKM (non-political) convener Jagjeet Singh Dhallwale said.

HT reached out to the agriculture ministry for a comment but did not get one immediately.



The stir at Shambhu border.

A farmers' uprising has gripped the Punjab-Haryana border since February 13, with the cultivators seeking legal guarantees for higher crop prices, relaxation of strict environmental regulations, pensions and withdrawal of police cases filed against them during the 2020-21 farmers' protests against the now-repealed three agricultural laws.

The farmers tried to ram through dense layers of police barricading and head towards Delhi but were kept at bay by police and security officials, who resorted to tear gas shells, water cannons and baton-charging.

The farmers are being led by two groups - SKM (non-political) and Kisan Mazdoor Sangh Committee - and have already made efforts to march towards Delhi, after multiple rounds of talks with the government failed to yield desired results. The previous round of talks between the Centre and protesting farmers were held on February 18, 15, 12 and 8 but all ended in deadlocks.

INDIA COMMITTED TO BIOFUELS FOR A SUSTAINABLE PLANET, SAYS JOSHI

HT Correspondent
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NEW DELHI: India is committed to promoting biofuels for a "sustainable planet" and will soon achieve its 20% blending target, Union food and consumer affairs minister Pralhad Joshi said on Tuesday, as he inaugurated the 64th council meeting of the International Sugar Association (ISA), which India is chairing.

Experts from over 30 countries are participating in the meeting to discuss and deliberate on the future possibilities, challenges, and strategies in sugar and allied sectors. India had last hosted the 41st session of the council meeting of the ISA in 2012.

"The government of India under the leadership of honourable prime minister accords top priority to the welfare of farmers and safeguarding interest of consumers as well as the industry, thereby ensuring collaborative efforts to improve agricultural practices," Joshi said.

He said India was proud to host the ISO conference and reiterated its commitment to advancing technology and skills in the sugar and biofuel sectors. India is culturally and economically reliant on sugar, the minister said, adding that the country was the world's largest sugar consumer and a significant biofuel producer, achieving over 12% ethanol blending with petrol and aiming for 20% soon.

Bandh in Rajkot to mark 1 month of game zone fire

RAJKOT: Main markets in Gujarat's Rajkot city were a deserted look and various other establishments remained closed on Tuesday as a bandh was observed to mark one month of the fire tragedy at a game zone which claimed 27 lives. Schools, colleges and businesses remained shut to support the 'Rajkot bandh' called by the Congress. Police was deployed at different places and patrolling was stepped up as part of the security arrangements.

Rao moves HC over probe into BRS gov't decisions

HYDERABAD: Former Telangana CM K Chandrasekar Rao has approached the high court, seeking a direction to stay all further proceedings of the commission of inquiry, set up by the Congress government, to probe decisions taken in the power sector during the previous BRS regime. In a writ petition, he also challenged an order constituting a panel to conduct a judicial enquiry in the case.

Was manhandled by traffic cops in J&K: NC leader

SRINAGAR: NC leader Sameer Kaul alleged on Tuesday that he was manhandled by traffic policemen, a charge denied by the police, which said he violated the law and "assaulted" cops. The NC called for a swift and fair investigation to address the "misconduct".

{ AFTER 15 POLL DEBACLE } DISSENT IN PARTY

Akali leaders seek Sukhbir's resignation

Gurpreet Singh Nibber and Navrajdeep Singh
letters@hindustantimes.com

CHANDIGARH: Weeks after facing a debacle in the Lok Sabha elections in Punjab, a section of senior Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) leaders on Tuesday revolted against party president Sukhbir Singh Badal and demanded his resignation. The party chief, in turn, labelled the rebels as "frustrated elements sponsored by the BJP".

Talking to reporters after chairing a five-hour-long meeting of senior SAD leaders in Jalandhar, former lawmaker Prem Singh Chandumajra said that a "Shiromani Akali Dal bachao" movement will be launched on July 1.



Sukhbir Singh Badal

"The party president (Sukhbir Singh Badal) should adopt the path of tyag (sacrifice) and resign from the top post for the betterment of the party," Chandumajra said, adding the people of Punjab were dejected over the working of the SAD. "In my opinion, he should work for the party as a true soldier of panth (community)."

Former SGPC chief Jagir Kaur, former ministers Sikander Singh Maluka, Surjit Singh Rakhra, Parminder Singh Dhindsa, Sarwan Singh Phullaur and Sucha Singh Chhotepur and former legislator Gurpartap Singh Wadala also attended the meeting.

Chandumajra said they have decided to seek forgiveness for the "past mistakes and shortcomings" by party leadership at the Akal Takht - the highest temporal authority of the Sikhs - on July 1. He also announced that the "Akali Bachao Lehar" movement will be launched on the same day.

The SAD faced a drubbing in the Lok Sabha polls as it managed to win only one of the 13 seats in Punjab. Badal's wife and former

Union minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal retained the Bathinda seat. The party also faced defeats in back-to-back assembly polls in 2017 and 2022.

Sukhbir Badal, who held a meeting with party's district unit chiefs and assembly in-charges at party headquarters in Chandigarh, said the "frustrated elements sponsored by the BJP" were trying to weaken the party.

Citing the split in Shiv Sena in Maharashtra, Badal said: "BJP broke regional party (Shiv Sena) but people rejected the dummy creation." Those present in the meeting lauded Badal for not stitching an alliance with the BJP as a "principled decision for the sake of the panth".

{ CAPTIVE ELEPHANTS TRANSFER }

Jairam writes to Centre over 'loopholes' in rules

Jayashree Nandi
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: New rules to transfer captive elephants from one area of the country to another that were notified by the Centre in March leaves loopholes that could potentially be misused, Congress MP and former environment minister Jairam Ramesh said on Tuesday.

The Captive Elephant (Transfer and Transport) Rules 2024 notified on March 14 do not address the issue of both wild capture and commercial trade of captive elephants, especially from the northeast to the rest of the country, Ramesh said in a letter to environment minister Bhupendra Yadav. Ramesh had earlier objected to the broad exception being introduced to the non-commercial transfer of elephants created by the Wildlife Protection (Amendment) Bill 2022 under the clause "for any other purpose". "This was contrary to the recommendation of the standing committee (of which Ramesh was chairman) that had examined the bill in

detail," Ramesh wrote in the letter. "I had supported the exception for religious purpose, although the Rules should have specified this exception further," he said.

"You had assured the House that 'any other purpose' will be clarified in the Rules. Unfortunately, the Rules do NOT still clarify what 'any other purpose' means. This leaves wide gaps for misuse," he wrote.

Animal welfare organisations and conservationists have criticised the rules and recommended that the environment ministry publish a finite list of elephants that are eligible for transfer with valid permits. The ministry did not immediately respond to the letter.

Extreme weather, erratic rain hurt marginal farmers: Report

Jayashree Nandi
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Smallholder farmers in India are reporting crop losses due to erratic and extreme rainfall induced partly by climate change, according to a report by Forum of Enterprises for Equitable Development, an independent non-profit.

Nearly 50% of rice and wheat farmers surveyed for the analysis reported crop loss due to the last extreme weather event to hit them. Of them, 50% lost at least half their standing rice crop during the event, while 42% lost at least half of their standing wheat crop, the report found. On an average, each marginal farmer faced a loss of ₹8,400 for rice and ₹9,200 for winter wheat, said the report released on Tuesday.

The researchers surveyed 6,615 farmers across 20 states in India, providing a granular view of how climate change is impacting them. Around 41% of respondents said extreme weather events were related to drought or seasons with scanty rainfall, while close to one



A marginal farmer cultivates up to one hectare of land.

in three reported excessive or unseasonal rain.

In India, a marginal farmer cultivates up to one hectare of land. Farming households owning less than two hectares of land was as much as 89.4% of total agricultural households in India, according to a 2019 survey by the National Sample Survey Office.

A little less than a quarter of the respondents cited early withdrawal or late arrival of the monsoon, which adversely impact their cropping cycle, the FEED report said. Excessive rainfall leading to floods was reported by over 17% of the survey participants. Only less than 10% of the farmers reported no crop loss due to extreme

weather, the report said.

"Farmers have seemingly adapted well to extreme temperature events. Over 40% of them reported either no crop loss or only a small proportion of their crops were affected by prolonged summer, an excessive number of hot days," the report said. "The most significant impact has been due to excessive or non-seasonal rains, prolonged winter conditions, droughts and floods, with over 50% of farmers reporting that half or more of their standing crops have been lost."

Rice, vegetables and pulses are significantly affected by the uneven rainfall distribution.

"There are two things we are seeing across the country. In June and July, monsoon breaks are becoming longer, which is delaying sowing. Then there is extremely heavy rain episodes in September and October, which is like a double impact. Surviving these two are becoming difficult for farmers in most regions," Ramanjaneyulu GV, executive director, Centre for Sustainable Agriculture said.

MLA's kin booked for holding official 'hostage'

Yogendra Lumba
letters@hindustantimes.com

BHOPAL/GUNA: An FIR was registered on Tuesday against Anirudh Meena, brother-in-law of Chachaura MLA Priyanka Meena and MLA representative Anirudh Meena held me hostage for an hour and demanded ₹50 lakh, he wrote. "He abused me."

The deputy director, Ashok Kumar Upadhyay, wrote a letter to Guna SP Sanjeev Kumar Sinha to this effect. "Chachaura BJP MLA Priyanka Meena's brother-in-law and MLA representative Anirudh Meena held me hostage for an hour and demanded ₹50 lakh," he wrote. "He abused me."

"A case has been registered against Anirudh Meena and an unidentified man under various sections of the Indian Penal Code. A probe is underway," said Divya Rajawat Chanchoda, subdivisional officer of police.

"Anirudh called me on June 20 and said MLA Madam has called me to Pechhi office. Since I was on duty for School Chalo Abhiyan, I didn't go," Upadhyay said in his complaint. "I was asked to come

on June 21. I reached her office along with department official and a driver. I met Anirudh Meena there. He inquired about the availability of fertiliser. I sent him the information on WhatsApp."

"Later, I told him that I had to go to the collector's office for a meeting regarding fertilisers from 12 noon. He made me sit in another room next to him. Meena and another man came and closed the door. They said... you are earning a lot of money. Give ₹50 lakh as crores have been spent in the elections," he said. "They threatened to implicate me in a false case, or kill me, if I shared this..."

Reacting to the incident, Union telecom minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said: "I read it in the paper today. I have clearly said that in Guna, Shivpuri and Ashoknagar, whether it is the chairman, MLA, my relative, colleague, partner, whoever it is, no one will be spared," he said. "Right is right, wrong is wrong."

Anirudh Meena refuted the allegations, saying: "We were receiving complaints related to fertiliser, so we just discussed it with deputy director Upadhyaya."

1100+ LPU students get ₹10L-₹64L packages; top students average at ₹12.3 LPA

LPU student Yasir got a package of ₹3 crore from an IT company

Lovely Professional University is achieving new heights every year by breaking its own boundaries in the field of placements. This year's LPU batch of 2022-23 achieved record success in the placement season. More than 1100 students of the university secured packages ranging from ₹10 lakh to ₹64 lakh. According to placement records, the average package of the top 10 percent of LPU students is ₹12.3 lakh. This number is higher than the average of many top IITs. This is strengthening LPU's reputation as a university leading in talent development.

2018 batch LPU student Yasir M secured a package of ₹3 crore in an IT company. At the same time, another student Pawan Kunchala has received a package of ₹1 crore from IT company TC Central.

Among the students of 2023-24 batch, Yashasvi Yaduvanshi and Harsh Vardhan of B.Tech Computer Science and Engineering have recently secured a handsome package of ₹52.08 lakh at Microsoft.



PHOTO: HTED

Apart from this, a student of Mechanical Engineering of 2022-23 batch secured the highest CTC of ₹54.9 lakh. On the other hand, Architecture and MBA students have received packages of ₹31.69 and ₹29.3 lakh respectively.

Hundreds of LPU graduates are currently working in prestigious positions with over 1 Crore packages at renowned companies like Microsoft, Apple, Google, Amazon and many more. LPU students have received more than 5500 placement offers from Amazon, TCS, Bosch, Trident, Federal Bank, Bank of America, Flipkart, Cipla, LG Electronics, Qatar Airways, P&O Cruises, Torrent Pharmaceutical, IndiGo and many other prestigious Fortune 500 companies. This offer is related to the field of

Engineering Management, Hotel and Tourism, Medical, Agriculture, Social Science etc. More than 350 companies that place students from IITs, NITs and IIMs, also recruit students from LPU. Participation of multinational companies in campus recruitment and selection of students on the best package also reflects LPU's commitment to educate the students as well as make them skilled according to the changes coming in the industry.

LPU Chancellor and Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) Dr. Ashok Kumar Mittal said that LPU is always committed to promote intellectual and interpersonal growth among its students for their better future and progress. LPU's Career Services Division and mentors play a very important

role in fulfilling the dreams of the students. LPU's engineering program has achieved its best rank among educational institutions across the world.

The admission process for the 2024 batch at LPU has already started and the last date for submission of application form is closing soon. Admission to LPU is highly competitive. To get admission into the university, students have to clear the entrance exam, "LPUNEST 2024" and interview in selected programs. To learn more about the examination and admission process, interested students can visit the website www.lpu.in



Scan to apply now or visit www.lpu.in

JOINT CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN SUSTAINABILITY

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

CHENNAI: The University of Leeds, UK and the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to set up a joint virtual centre of excellence on Sustainable Development (VCoE-SD).

The MoU facilitates the development of collaborative research projects and the organisation of joint academic activities, including courses, conferences, seminars, symposia, and lectures. Additionally, it aims to promote the exchange of research and teaching personnel, student placements and exchanges, and the sharing of publications and other materials of mutual interest.

British Deputy High Commissioner to Chennai, Oliver Ballhatch said, "It was an honour to witness the signing of the MoU between IIT Madras and the University of Leeds. This partnership showcases how academic and research partnerships between the UK and India can address global challenges and create sustainable solutions. As the University of Leeds celebrates 25 years of engagement in India, this MoU highlights the enduring commitment to fostering academic excellence and driving progress that benefits both our nations and the world at large." Vasilis Sarhosis, chair in resilient structures and infrastructure at the School of Civil Engineering, University of Leeds, expressed enthusiasm about the partnership, stating, "We are delighted to join forces with IIT Madras, a leader in technological and scientific research".

HT Education

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NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement
Invitation for Bid (IFB) Dtd. 21.06.2024

Sl. No	Name of Work	Bid Identification No.	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lakh)	Class of Contractor	Period of Completion	Availability of Bid Document for Online Bidding
1	"Utility shifting of water supply pipe line and tube wells from the ROW of 4-lane road of Binika NAC."	SE PH BGR 02 / 2024-25 Dt. 21.06.2024	185.92	'B' & 'A' Class	08 Months	01.07.2024 - 15.07.2024

Name & Address of Officer Inviting Bid: The Superintending Engineer, Office of The Superintending Engineer, Public Health Division, Balangir At-Tulasinagar, Po:Dist-Balangir Pin-767001, Odisha, Phone-06652-234647, E-mail-eehbgr@yahoo.co.in

* Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement portal " <https://www.tenderodisha.gov.in/>."
* All amendments, time extension, clarifications etc. will be uploaded in the website only. Bidders should regularly visit the above website to keep themselves updates.

Superintending Engineer, P.H. Division, Balangir
OIPR - 13005/11/0008/2425

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 - B.A./B.A. Hons. (Veda/Sanskrit/Philosophy/History/Hindi/English/Music/ Psychology)
- M.Sc. (Physics/Environmental Science/Chemistry/Mathematics/Microbiology)/M.C.A./M.Pharm./B.Pharm./B.Pharm.II Year (Lateral Entry)/D.Pharm./M.P.Ed./B.P.Ed./B.J. (Hindi)
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- P.G. Diploma (Yogic Sci./Industrial Health, Safety and Environment)
- M.B.A/M.B.A. (B.E)
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भारत का राजपत्र
The Gazette of India
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EXTRAORDINARY
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PART II-Section 3-Sub-section (ii)
प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं. 2216] नई दिल्ली, शुक्रवार, जून 14, 2024 / ज्येष्ठ 24, 1946
No. 2216] NEW DELHI, FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2024/JYAISHTHA 24, 1946

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
NOTIFICATION
New Delhi, the 14th June 2024

S.O. 2334(E).—Whereas by the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, 2968(E) Dated: 05/07/2023, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii) issued under sub-section (1) of section 3A of the National Highway Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government declared its intention to acquire the land specified in the Schedule annexed to the said notification for construction and widening of NH123(507) from single / intermediate lane to two lane in the stretch from Km. 75 to Km. 101 (Rikhau to Muradi) in the district of UTTARAKASHI in the state of UTTARAKHAND

And whereas the substance of the said notification has been published in "Amar Ujala" and "Times of India" both dated 11/07/2023; under sub-section (3) of section 3A of the said Act;

And whereas the Competent Authority has received objections filed under Section 3-C, considered and settled the same appropriately;

And whereas, in pursuance of sub-section (1) of section 3D of the said Act, the Competent Authority has submitted its report to the Central Government;

Now, therefore, upon receipt of the said report of the Competent Authority and in exercise of the powers conferred by the sub-section (1) of section 3D of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that the land specified in the said Schedule should be acquired for the aforesaid purpose;

And further, in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3D of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that on publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, the land specified in the said Schedule shall vest absolutely in the Central Government, free from all encumbrances.

SCHEDULE
Brief description of the land to be acquired, with or without structure, falling within the NH123(507) in the stretch of land from Km. 75 to Km. 101 (Rikhau to Muradi) in the district of UTTARAKASHI in the state of UTTARAKHAND
3580 GI/2024

District: UTTARAKASHI
<https://egazette.gov.in>
Publication Date: 14/06/2024
<https://egazette.gov.in>
<https://bhoomirashi.gov.in>
Note : The physical copy of this notification is also available at the office of CALA/PIU/PMU/RO/ED and Landowners may also see the notification there.

File Number: NH-123-UR-2017-18-535(LA)
ABHAY JAIN, Dy. Secy.

Municipal Corporation Kanpur

NIT No. 133/C.E/2023-24 **E-Procurement Tender Notice** Date : 25-06-24

Municipal Corporation Kanpur invites percentage-rate bids on <http://etender.up.nic.in> from eligible bidders for the following package under the CM-GRID Scheme.

Sl. No.	Nagar Nigam	Package No.	Included Roads	Length of Road (Km)	Estimated Cost Excluding GST (Rs. Lakh)		Total Estimated Cost of Work (Rs. In Lakh)	Earnest Money Deposit (Rs. in Lakh)	Duration of Construction Work (in Months)	Tender Fee Including GST in Rs
					Construction	Maintenance For 5 Years				
1	Municipal Corporation Kanpur	KMC /CM G-01	work of widening and strengthening of the stretch from NH 19 via Rajaram intersection to Hamirpur main road (4.30 km) in front of Namak Factory intersection, under Zone-02.	4.3	3934.24	49.83	3984.07	50.00	15 Month	49372
2	Municipal Corporation Kanpur	KMC /CM G-02	work of widening and strengthening of the stretch from NH 19 via Rajaram intersection to Hamirpur main road (4.30 km) in front of Namak Factory intersection, under Zone-03.	6.05	6084.15	67.39	6151.54	61.51	15 Month	74949
3	Municipal Corporation Kanpur	KMC /CM G-03	work of widening and strengthening of the stretch from Baba Kuti intersection to Alankar Guest House (length 2.34 km) via Sote Baba Mandir is being carried out, under Zone-03	2.34	2026.17	19.80	2045.97	30.69	15 Month	26503
4	Municipal Corporation Kanpur	KMC /CM G-04	work of widening and strengthening of the stretch (1.15 km) from Bagiya Crossing Kalyanpur to Kesa Office under Zone-06	1.15	1069.2	15.03	1084.23	21.68	15 Month	15154

Tender sell and open date and time

Sr.no.	Detail	Date and Time
1	Date and Time of E-Tender Download/Start	29/06/2024, 12:00PM
2	Last date and Time for Raising Queries	08/07/2024 3.00 PM
2	Date and Time for E-Tender Pre-bid meeting	12/07/2024 3:00 PM URIDA Head Quarter, Directorate urban local Bodies Lucknow/Online Email:-chiefengineernagarnigam@gmail.com
3	Last Date and Time of tender Submission	06/08/2024, 03:00 PM
4	Date and Time for Tender opening	06/08/2024, 04:00 PM

The details can be seen on <http://etender.nic.in> w.e.f. 29.06.2024.

Chief Engineer
Nagar Nigam Kanpur

FORMER J&K HC BAR ASSOCIATION HEAD ARRESTED FOR LAWYER'S MURDER IN 2020, SAY COPS

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

SRINAGAR: Former president of Jammu & Kashmir High Court Bar Association, Mian Qayoom, was arrested on Tuesday for his alleged involvement in the murder of fellow advocate Babar Qadri in Srinagar in 2020, the J&K police said.

Qayoom was taken into custody by the J&K police's State Investigation Agency (SIA), which took over the case in July 2023.

"The former high court bar association president was arrested from Srinagar," a senior police officer said, adding the arrest was in connection with the murder of advocate Qadri.

The officer refused to divulge further details. Qadri was shot dead outside his residence in Hawal area of Old City on September 24, 2020. The advocate had narrowly survived an assassination attempt in 2018.

Hours before his murder, Qadri, in a Facebook live session, alleged he was receiving threat messages after he had written against then bar body's chief Qayoom over wrongdoings in the association's elections. He had earlier alleged that Qayoom used militant threats and forced his rivals to withdraw from bar association polls.

In January, the high court transferred the case to a Jammu court from Srinagar on a petition filed by the SIA.

"For a fair and impartial trial of a criminal case, it is imperative that the witnesses are in a position to depose in an atmosphere, which is free and not hostile," the court had said.

QADRI ALLEGED HE WAS RECEIVING THREAT MESSAGES SINCE HE HAD WRITTEN AGAINST QAYOOM OVER IRREGULARITIES IN THE ASSOCIATION'S ELECTIONS

LOK SABHA SPEAKER

Congress has nominated its candidate for the Speaker's post, parliamentary affairs minister Kiren Rijju said.

As the numbers stand, the BJP-led NDA, backed by key allies such as the Telugu Desam Party and Janata Dal United, has 293 votes in the 543-member House, and is likely to be backed by others such as the YSR Congress Party. The INDIA bloc has 236 members and might get the support of some smaller outfits and independents.

Major parties have issued three-line whips for the speaker's election on Wednesday at 11am. If the numbers hold, Birla is set to be the only speaker after Balram Jakhar in 1985 to get two full terms.

The second day of the 18th Lok Sabha began on a dramatic note.

On Thursday evening, defence minister Rajnath Singh called Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge to build consensus on Birla's candidature. Kharge, according to Congress leaders, told Singh that the Opposition will support Birla if the deputy speaker's post is given to a member from the Opposition.

However, as BJP leaders claimed Singh was in touch with Kharge, Rahul Gandhi announced at 11.25am that the Opposition didn't receive any confirmation of their demand. At 11.30am, with just half an hour left for the nominations to close, Congress leader KC Venugopal and DMK's TR Balaalu met Union home minister Amit Shah.

According to Suresh, "Shah told our leaders to support the speaker and sign the nomination paper, and that we'll discuss the deputy speaker post after the election. This was not accepted."

At 11.40am, Venugopal asked Suresh to file his nomination. "I rushed to the Lok Sabha to get signatures of the INDIA bloc leaders," Suresh said.

He got signatures from the NCP (SP), Samajwadi Party and DMK, but Trinamool Congress leader Sudip Bandopadhyay maintained that West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee would have to be asked. Finally, three sets of nomination forms were filed for Suresh, as against more than 12 seats for Birla.

The government returned the fire, it said conditions cannot be

imposed for the selection of the custodian of the House. In the last Lok Sabha, the deputy speaker's position was vacant.

Rijju criticised the Congress for nominating Suresh. "We have been speaking to the floor leaders of the opposition parties since yesterday. Till date there has not been an election for the Speaker's post," he said.

Responding to the Opposition's allegation that the government dithered on agreeing to their demand for the deputy speaker's post, Rijju said, "When Union ministers Rajnath Singh, Amit Shah and other NDA leaders were present for the discussion on the speaker's post, Congress leaders put a condition that they will support the speaker, if they get the deputy speaker's post... this cannot be done. Both have a separate electoral procedure and cannot be linked."

Elections for the speaker's post have been held thrice before — the first time in 1952, when there was a contest between GV Mavalankar and Shankar Shantaram, then in 1967 between Neelam Sanjeeva Reddy and Opposition candidate Shankar Shantaram More, Tannir Vishwanathan, Jagannath Rao Joshi, and then in 1976, during the Emergency between Baliram Bhagat and Jagannath Rao. In all three cases, the ruling party's nominees, Mavalankar, Bhagat and Reddy, emerged victorious.

NDA constituents such as the TDP and the JD(U) also criticised the Congress and other Opposition parties for not lending unconditional support for the speaker's election. "The government reached out to the opposition for building consensus, but it seems they want to politicise the issue," said TDP leader and Union minister Ram Mohan Naidu.

The Opposition said Kharge had clearly told Rajnath Singh that Opposition support in the speaker's election hinged on getting the deputy speaker's post.

"Rajnath Singh said that he would call back Mallikarjun Kharge but he has not done that yet... PM Modi is asking for cooperation from the Opposition, but our leader is getting insulted...," Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said in the afternoon.

There was some initial discomfiture within the Opposition on the nomination of Suresh,

when the Trinamool Congress pointed out that it had not been consulted by the Congress ahead of announcing the name. According to people aware of the details, Rahul Gandhi then spoke to TMC leader Abhishek Banerjee to build consensus and iron out differences.

Samajwadi Party's Arkhilesh Yadav also concurred with the Congress on the deputy speaker's post being given to the Opposition. "The demand of the Opposition was that the deputy speaker should be of the Opposition... Our party's opinion is also the same," he said.

Suresh said the government was dispensing with conventions. "Earlier everybody unanimously agreed on the speaker's name. Now the government appears adamant... they don't want to support the opposition and cooperate. First, they denied the pro-tem Speaker's post (to the opposition) and now they are not giving the deputy speaker's post," he said.

The government chose BJP member Bhartruhari Mahtab as the pro-tem speaker, which was challenged by the Opposition that backed Suresh, an eight-term MP. The government later argued that it chose Mahtab since he had seven consecutive terms, a requisite as per convention.

Shiv Sena (UBT) lawmaker Arvind Sawant also criticised the government for overlooking the Opposition's demand. He said in 2014, when the BJP's Sumitra Mahajan was elected as speaker, AIADMK's M Thambi Durai was the deputy speaker. "This was the convention and the tradition... but in the last term the government was high-handed and there was no deputy speaker. This time the Opposition is powerful and when they asked for our support for the speaker, we said we will give, but give us the deputy speaker's post. To that the government said it will be discussed subsequently..." he said.

Birla, who is a lawmaker from Kota in Rajasthan, was unanimously elected as Lok Sabha Speaker in 2019. Prior to this, three speakers of the Lok Sabha have had more than one term. MA Iyengar held the post for 6 years and 22 days, Gurdial Singh Dhillon for 6 years and 110 days, and Balram Jakhar, who was elected to the position for two consecutive terms, was in the chair for 9 years and 329 days.

{ FROM PAGE 1 }

KEJRIWAL ORDER

larities in Delhi's now-scrapped 2021-22 excise policy.

The AAP leader's legal team, led by senior advocates Abhishek Singhvi and Vikram Chaudhary, argued that the lower court had suggested that the judge dealt with all arguments and contentions. The HC said that portion of the ruling did not "inspire any confidence" that the judge had taken into account "entire material brought on record" against Kejriwal.

The lower court, while ruling in favour of Kejriwal, had held that there was a lack of direct evidence implicating the CM and a potential bias in the ED's approach, listing out what it said were several missing aspects in its contention.

The HC took a strong view of the lower court order. "The observation made by the vacation judge is uncalled for, unwarranted and out of context. The vacation judge should refrain from making such observations in the order. The vacation judge was required to consider every important and relevant document at time of passing of order."

Kejriwal's legal team has challenged in the Supreme Court the HC's interim stay ordered on Friday, which prevented his release following the lower court's bail decision. On Tuesday, AAP leaders said they disagreed with the HC ruling and will now challenge that too. "I think the high court bench was prejudiced. We will approach the higher court. Our legal team will decide the strategy and the time when we approach the higher court," said party leader Saurabh Bharadwaj.

Additional solicitor general SV Raju, representing the ED argued that the trial court failed to consider the stringent condition required under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) for granting bail: the trial court, under Section 45 of the law, must come to a prima facie conclusion that Kejriwal was not guilty of the offence alleged.

The high court also said the ED should have been given "adequate opportunity to advance arguments on bail application by the vacation judge", and flagged the lower court's apparent silence in dealing with the requirements of section 45 of the PMLA. This

"The trial court should have at least recorded its satisfaction about fulfillment of twin conditions of section 45 of PMLA before passing the impugned order", the HC order added.

Singhvi had rebutted the prosecution's contention that it did not get enough time to argue in the trial court and said that Kejriwal did not misuse the interim bail granted to his client by the Supreme Court, which, he pointed out, took into account all objections and contentions raised by the federal agency. Justice Jain said that "at this stage" it could not be said that Kejriwal's arrest and the remand was not in accordance with law and his personal liberty was curtailed without following the procedure established by law.

The HC noted that the interim bail by the Supreme Court was on merits but against the backdrop of the 18th Lok Sabha general elections.

The case against the CM stems from allegations of irregularities in Delhi's now-scrapped excise policy of 2021-22, which the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) began probing following a recommendation by Delhi's lieutenant governor in July 2022.

Late on Tuesday, AAP leaders said that the second federal agency, CBI, was planning to arrest the CM. "At a time when there is a cent per cent possibility that Arvind Kejriwal will get bail from the Supreme Court, the Centre is conspiring to register a fake CBI case against the Delhi CM and get him arrested by the CBI. The entire nation can see this and is standing in solidarity with Arvind Kejriwal," said AAP Rajya Sabha member Sanjay Singh.

THE LOWER COURT, RULING IN FAVOUR OF KEJRIWAL, HELD THAT THERE WAS A LACK OF DIRECT EVIDENCE IMPLICATING HIM

AFG T20 WORLD CUP

skipper Rashid Khan was the biggest hero as his troubled nation and fans elsewhere erupted in celebration. Rashid's 19 not out was the second-highest score after opener Rahman-

ullah Gurbaz's top-score of 43 and the leg-spinner then captured 4/23 to dazzle with the ball alongside pacer Naveen-ul-Haq (4/26), who was the player-of-the-match.

Bangladesh had to achieve their target in 12.1 overs to edge out their two rivals, but Afghan bowlers picked wickets to prevent that before Naveen-ul-Haq sealed victory with two scalps off successive balls in the 18th over.

In a sense it wasn't a huge upset by Afghanistan because of their rise in the shortest format and their defeat of Australia earlier in the Super 8s. The squad members and fans in the stadium were overcome with emotion after last man Mustafizur Rahman was trapped leg before.

By the time the last Bangladesh wicket fell, their English head coach Jonathan Trott, who had merrily agreed to the team barber shaving his bald head for a dressing room bonding exercise, was in a tight huddle with the players. Cricket-mad Kabul erupted in celebration of their heroes.

Thousands of Afghan fans were on the streets celebrating. Roohullah Bawari, a sports presenter, had turned a hero too. "It's because I interview cricketers who they love so much, they want to meet me. Imagine how popular Rashid and his team are here," Roohullah said over a call from Kabul.

Roohullah, who once bowled to Rashid at an academy now named after the player, presents cricket for Ariana TV, rights holders of the tournament in Afghanistan. "The coverage is free, whether on TV or digital, and there has been huge viewership. We also have an audience among Afghan people in Pakistan and Iran."

Afghanistan cricket's rise though has been a turbulent voyage over the decades. Their current squad members have honed their skills and tactical sense playing in T20 leagues across the globe year around with the war-affected country yet to play an international game at home due to security concerns.

Afghanistan made a statement at last year's ODI World Cup in India when they upset Pakistan. "I've experienced what wins and losses meant to our dressing room after facing Pakistan. *Uss din maine dressing room main bin peeye sharaabi*

dekhe (that day I saw players on a high without having had a drink)," Ajay Jadeja, who was Afghanistan's mentor at that World Cup, told the 'Caught Behind' YouTube channel.

"I am delighted for them. When I took over in 2016, Rashid had just started out; they were all raw," Laichand Rajput, former Afghanistan coach, said. "To give an example, we had an ODI in Bangladesh where we needed 13 runs to win in the final over and the batters could only think of hitting hard and long. We lost. It was Naveen-ul-Haq's debut."

An emotional Naveen said at the post-match presentation: "We have worked so hard. We were dreaming and working for this day. To see it happen is a surreal experience."

Minutes after the win, Rashid spoke of Afghanistan erupting in joy. Jalalabad, Nangarhar, Khost, Paktya, everywhere there were fan parks and giant screens. Even where there weren't, streets were flooded with people rejoicing.

"It's a big achievement for the people of Afghanistan and our cricket board. Thousands have been on the roads," said Sayed Naseem Saddat, Afghanistan Cricket Board spokesman. "People have been coming in big numbers outside the main gate of ACB headquarters in Kabul. Cricket is the greatest source of happiness and pleasure in Afghanistan."

At last year's ODI World Cup, Afghanistan were the giant-killers, beating England, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. They may have some distance to travel in 50-over cricket, but T20 cricket is their format of choice. Wins against Australia and New Zealand in this tournament show that they have arrived.

"Brian Lara was the only person who mentioned Afghanistan would be in the semis. We will tell him when we meet him in the welcome party that we made sure to prove him right," Rashid said.

THE SQUAD HAS HONED THEIR SKILLS PLAYING IN T20 LEAGUES AROUND THE YEAR WITH THE WAR-TORN COUNTRY

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Tender ID: 2024_PDD_250857_1

e-NIT No. CE/JKPL/CA/02 of 2024-25 Dt. 21.06.2024

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

S. No.	Name of work	Tender fee	EMD	e-bid submission start date	e-bid submission end date
1.	Hiring of Chartered Accountant for Providing Accounting, & Tax related services for JKPL for FY 2021-22, 2022-2023 & 2023-24.	Rs. 500/-	Rs. 10,000/-	25.06.2024	06.07.2024

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JKPL, Jammu

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GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION NAGBHID
NOTICE FOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT ENGINEER FOR HYBRID ANNUITY PROJECTS
E-TENDER NOTICE NO. 04 FOR 2024-2025

The Principal secretary, Public Works Department, Government of Maharashtra through the Executive Engineer Public Works Division Nagbhid invited Proposal for Engaging an Independent Engineer (I.E.) on the basis of Competitive Bidding for the following Contract HAM Packages in the State of Maharashtra under the Maharashtra Road Improvement Programme (MRIP) under Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) Projects.

Invitation of Request for Proposals (RFP) to appoint a consultant to act as an INDEPENDENT ENGINEER for implementation of Widening to Two Lane with Paved Shoulders for Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) Packages of Chandrapur District Separately in the State of Maharashtra.

Bids are invited by the Public Works Department, Government of Maharashtra (The "Authority") for following packages under separate Request for Proposal (RFP) for INDEPENDENT ENGINEER SERVICES in the State of Maharashtra under the Maharashtra Road Improvement Programme under Hybrid Annuity Model and Bidder May Submit Bid under various request for proposals under the Maharashtra Road Improvement Programme in accordance with the Terms and conditions for the requests for proposals as issued. The evaluation of bid would be carried out by the Evaluation Committee constituted for purposes as issued by the Chief Engineer, Public Works Region Nagpur.

Brief particulars of the Project are as follows:

Sr. No.	Hybrid Annuity Model Package No.	Name of Project	Project length in km	Total Project cost (Rs. in Crores)	Assignment Period in Months	Cost of Tender Form (RFP) Document
1	NAG-179	Construction of 2-Laning of Roads in District Chandrapur in the State of Maharashtra under Hybrid Annuity Model for the following roads: A. Road-1: Improvement to NH-353 E to Kanpa-Kolari-Sathga-Hiwara-Wakarla-Gadpipri Road (MDR-67) from km 10+100 to km 26+340, Length- 16.240 Kms B. Road-2: Improvement to NH-353D (MSH-09) to Walni Nanded Kachepar Kajalsar Road (MDR-60) from km 0+000 to 14+ 750, Length- 14.750 kms. IN THE STATE OF MAHARASHTRA UNDER MAHARASHTRA ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME (MRIP) ON HYBRID ANNUITY MODEL.	30.990 Kms	72.70	24 (Months)	2360/- Online payment through NEFT/ RTGS

Sr. No.	Even Description	Date
1	Invitation of RFP (NIT) (Download Period of online tender)	As per Online Schedule
2	Last date for receiving queries for pre-bid	As per Online Schedule
3	Pre-Bid meeting	As per Online Schedule
4	Authority response to queries for pre-bid meeting	As per Online Schedule
5	Bid Due Date (Technical & Financial Bid Last date & time)	As per Online Schedule
6	Physical submission of Bid Security / POA etc (as per clause 2.11.2 of RFP)	As per Online Schedule
7	Opening of Technical Bids	As per Online Schedule
8	Declaration of Eligible / Qualified Bidders	As per Online Schedule
9	Opening of Financial Bids	As per Online Schedule

Note:-
1. All the payment towards EMD and cost of Tender forms will be done online only through RTGS/NEFT. It should be noted that one should complete these activities at least one day in advance.
2. All eligible/interested consultants who want to participate in tendering process should compulsory get enrolled on e-tendering portal "<https://mahatenders.gov.in>" and further need to empanel online on sub portal "<https://mahatenders.gov.in>" in the appropriate category applicable to them.
3. Other terms and conditions are detailed in online e-tender form. Right to reject any or all online bid of work, without assigning any reasons there of, is reserved with department.
4. Above Tender Notice is displayed on P.W.D. website www.mahapwd.gov.in.
5. Online Schedule will be applicable & Final.

Outward No.469 /C/pur/Tender/2024 Dated 24.06.2024

Office of the Executive Engineer,
Public Works Division,
Nagbhid
DGIPR/2024-25/RC 452

Sd/-
(Jaya Thakre)
Executive Engineer,
Public Works Division,
Nagbhid

WESTERN RAILWAY - VADODARA DIVISION
VARIOUS TRACK RENEWAL WORKS
E-TENDER NOTICE NO. : DRM-BRC 058
OF 2024-25 Sealed Tenders for and on behalf of the President of India are invited by Divisional Railway Manager (WA/C), Western Railway for the following works
Tender No. : DRM BRC 058 of 2024-25
Name of Work : Supply and execution of in Situ 60kg/90UTS & R-260 Rail joints 1 with Contractor's own welding materials, labour etc for various track renewal works under jurisdiction of Sr.DEN (South) BRC/(Re-invited) (R-2) **Approximate cost of the work (in Rs.) :** ₹2,74,69,037.06 **Bid Security to be deposited (in Rs.) :** ₹2,87,400.00 **Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender :** Tender is to be submitted on 11.07.2024 before 15.00 hrs, and is to be opened on same date at 15.30 Hrs **Web site particulars and notice for location where complete details can be seen & Address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased :** Web site @ www.reps.gov.in Divisional Railway Manager (WA/C) Western Railway, Pratapnagar, Vadodara-4. 87
Like us on : [facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly)

S. E. RAILWAY - TENDER
For and on behalf of the President of India, the Chief Engineer (CON/JO), South Eastern Railway, Garden Reach, Kolkata-700043 invites E-tender for the following work. Following tender has been uploaded on website www.reps.gov.in. The tender will be closed at 12.00 hrs. on due date. **e-Tender Notice No. : 4425-GR-CE-01-49-2024, Date: 25.06.2024.** **Brief Description of works:** Construction of Fire fighting system in newly constructed 151 units Type-II & 08 units Type-III (G+8) staff quarters at Ranchi & Hatia in Ranchi Division of South Eastern Railway. **Approx. Cost: ₹ 0.81 Crore.** **Bid Security: ₹ 1,63,000.** **Completion Period: 6 months.** **Closing Date: 16.07.2024.** Interested tenderers may visit website www.reps.gov.in for full details/description/specification of the tenders and submit their bids online. In no case manual tenders for this item will be accepted. **N.B.:** Prospective bidders may regularly visit www.reps.gov.in to participate in all other tenders. (PR-305)

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE
DRM / Electrical, North Western Railway, Jodhpur for & on behalf of the president of India, invites E-tender for the following work.1. **Complete details of tenders can be seen on Website No: <http://www.reps.gov.in> Date & time of closing of e-tender :- 17.07.2024 up to 15.00 hrs. 3. Date & time of opening of e-tender:- After 15.00 hrs. on 17.07.2024 **Tender No.:** 07/2024-25 **Name of Work:** Provision of 1 MWp Grid connected roof top solar power plant, on Railway Stadiums, Railway Clubs, institutes, community centres, residential quarters and other locations over JU Division. **Approx. Cost of the work (Rs.):** Rs. 4,29,12,840.00 **Tender No.:** 08/2024-25 **Name of Work:** Electrical General work i/c with Development of coaching maintenance facility and remodeling yard at JSM Station. **Approx. Cost of the work (Rs.):** Rs. 2,34,76,614.34 **For detailed information visit <http://www.reps.gov.in> [727-AJ24]**
Follow us at : [f](https://www.facebook.com/NWRailways) [i](https://www.instagram.com/NWRailways) [in](https://www.linkedin.com/company/NWRailways) [yt](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNWRailways)**

CANTONMENT BOARD AGRA
114, Fatehpur Sikri Road, near Sadar Bazar, Agra Cantt

APPEAL / PUBLIC NOTICE

Agra Cantonment Board informs the public that citizens residing in any area of Agra Cantonment covered under Manual Scavengers/Insanitary Latrines Survey by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India are appealed that if any case is left out in this regard, then the information should be made available in this office within 10 days of publication of the same on any working day so that no one is left out from being included in the Manual Scavengers/Insanitary Latrines List.

(Harish Verma P, I.D.E.S.)
Chief Executive Officer,
Cantonment Board Agra

No.41/CSS/Publication/CBA2024 /1147 Date:25.06.2024

SEARCH FOR KIDNAPPED

General public is here by informed that one girl **Namely: Munni, D/o Bootu Khan, R/o Gali No. 22, Nehru Nagar, Anand Parbat, Delhi, Sex: Girl, Age: 13 years, Height: 4'5", Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Long, Build: Normal, Wearing: Pink Colour Top and Salwar** has been kidnapped from F-215, A/17, Gali No. 3, Gulshan Chowk, Anand Parbat, Delhi since 11.06.2024. In this regard a FIR No. 275/2024, U/s 363 IPC, Dated 21.06.2024 has been registered at P.S. Anand Parbat, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this kidnapped girl kindly inform to the following. **SHO P.S.: Anand Parbat, Delhi**
Ph. 011-28762468, 8750870435
& 9313619088
DP/8056/CD/2024

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

GOVERNMENT OF GUJARAT
NARMADA WATER RESOURCES WATER SUPPLY & KALPSAR DEPARTMENT
'E'-TENDER NOTICE NO.5 OF 2024-25

In the Name and behalf of Governor of Gujarat state, The Executive Engineer, Ukai Division No.1, Tapi Jal Bhavan, 2nd Floor, Ukai Ta.Songadh Dist.Tapi-394680 (Phone No.02624-233221) invites online tender for Work as Under.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	1) Bid Security	2) Tender Fee
1	Gabion work Near T.R.C. left side protection bund of Ukai dam ta.songadh dist. tapi	1)Rs.2,58,396/-	2)Rs.5,000/-

E-Tendering Schedule

Sl. No.	Date and Time	Date: 28/06/2024 to Date: 18/07/2024 up to 18.00 Hrs
1.	Tender Downloading and Uploading	Tender Documents, E.M.D. and tender fee in original shall be submitted to the Executive Engineer, Ukai Division No.1,2nd Floor,Ukai Ta.Songadh Dist.Tapi or before Date:29/07/2024, 18.00 hrs. by R.P.A.D./Speed Post/Courier.
2.	Physical Submission of Tender Documents date and time	Date: 19/07/2024, 12.00 hrs. Superintending Engineer, Ukai Circle (Civil), Conference Hall, 2nd Floor, Tapi Jal Bhavan, Ta.Songadh Dist.Tapi.
3.	Date of Opening of P.Q. Bid.	No.1,2nd Floor, Ukai Ta.Songadh Dist.Tapi-394680 Phone No.02624-233221
4.	Inquiry /Contact Office Address	The Executive Engineer, Ukai Division No.1,2nd Floor, Ukai Ta.Songadh Dist.Tapi-394680 Phone No.02624-233221

Any Kind of amendments will be published only on online and will be final and binding to all for further details contact to this office during office hours. Detailed Tender Notice can also be seen on www.statetenders.gujarat.gov.in and www.nprocure.com.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Ukai Division No.1 Ukai

No.:Mahiti-Surat/174/2024

Annexure
No. 47/6/2023-R&R
Government of India
Ministry of Power

Vacancy for the post of Member, JERC for UT of J&K and UT of Ladakh

It is proposed to fill up the post of Member, Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission (JERC) for UT of J&K and UT of Ladakh, a statutory organization under provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003. The above post will fall vacant on 30.06.2024.

2. The detailed Vacancy Circular may be seen at the websites of Ministry of Power i.e. https://powermin.gov.in/sites/default/files/webform/notices/Vacancy_Circular_for_the_post_of_Member_JERC_for_UT_of_J%26K_and_UT_of_Ladakh.pdf and that of DoPT i.e. www.dopt.gov.in.

3. Applications are invited in the proforma enclosed at Annexure to the Vacancy Circular, from suitable persons having qualification and experience as mentioned for appointment to the post of Member, JERC for UT of J&K and UT of Ladakh, so as to reach the Ministry latest by 3rd July, 2024. The application may be addressed to the Deputy Secretary (R&R- 2), Ministry of Power, New Delhi-110001. The application must be sent through email only on debranjan.chattopadhyay@nic.in and PBS.dinker@gov.in.

(D. Chattopadhyay)
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India
CBC 34101/11/0002/2425
Telefax: 011-23715250

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority
Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida-201301 (U.P.)
Website : www.noidaauthorityonline.in

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tender are invited from eligible firms/contractors for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened/downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website: www.noidaauthorityonline.in & <https://tender.up.nic.in>. Please ensure to see these websites for any changes/amendments & corrigendum etc.



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OPINION

The
Hindustan Times
ESTABLISHED IN 1924

OUR TAKE

Friends turn foes in the new House

The BJD has reset its relations with the BJP. Its predicament is not exceptional

Naveen Patnaik's call to the MPs of his party, the Biju Janata Dal (BJD), to act as an effective Opposition in the Rajya Sabha marks a moment of reckoning. In the recently concluded general and state elections in Odisha, the BJD lost office in Bhubaneswar to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and failed to win a single Lok Sabha constituency. The BJD, though not a constituent of the NDA, backed many of the BJP's contentious laws in Parliament during 2014-24, and recently, facilitated the re-election of the railway minister, Ashwini Vaishnaw, to the Rajya Sabha from Odisha. This closeness seems to have undermined the BJD's independent standing as a political outfit and hurt its prospects in what was mostly a direct contest with the BJP. That anti-incumbency over a quarter century pulled down the BJD and the electorate chose to back the BJP directly rather than route support through the regional outfit. It will not be easy for the BJD to now establish its credentials as an Opposition voice.

The BJD's predicament is not unique. Many regional parties that aligned with the BJP have seen their bases eroded or lost electoral primacy to the latter in their strongholds. The experiences of the Shiv Sena, Asom Gana Parishad (AGP), Janata Dal (Secular), Akali Dal, and AIADMK illustrate this trajectory. The AGP, for instance, has lost not just its electoral base but also its plank of Assamese exceptionalism to the BJP, once its junior ally. Similarly, the regionalist BJD could not offer a counter to the BJP's campaign over Odia *asmita* (pride) that focussed on the Tamil origins of VK Pandian, the bureaucrat-turned-advisor to Patnaik. The Sena faced the threat of its base being subsumed within the larger rubric of Hindutva, once its ethnic identity plank lost traction. The AIADMK and the Akali Dal broke ranks with the BJP after they realised that the alliance benefited the latter and cost them their social base, but both remain in political wilderness.

This, interestingly, is in contrast to the parties that have allied with the Congress: The Congress's allies tend to retain their base or expand under the umbrella provided by the former. This may well be because the political character of the BJP and the Congress are very different: The former is a unitarian outfit with a powerful ideological core whereas the latter's federalist character allowed multiple groups and voices to flourish. More importantly, the BJP has been on the ascent whereas the 140-year-old Grand Old Party is past its peak. However, the fractured verdict of the 2024 general elections may force many parties to reset their political preferences. The BJD decision may well be a harbinger of things to come.

Learning to live with new monsoon cycles

The monsoon this year has been deceptive — after arriving two days early on May 30 in Kerala, it progressed slowly to reach Maharashtra on June 11, about nine days late. Since then, it has picked up momentum, but remains seven days behind schedule. So far, its performance is in keeping with the trend of below-normal rainfall in June, proper onset only in July, and prolonged, heavy rainfall in September. While the exact causes remain unclear, one explanation for the shift in monsoon patterns is delayed western disturbances and Arctic Sea Ice melting as a result of the climate crisis. What is clear is that the country should prepare for the new character of the weather system, which brings with it erratic rainfall distribution, an increasing number of dry days, and abnormally high night temperatures.

A dry June hurts the kharif crop, heavy rainfall days in July hurt vegetable output, and the season continuing well beyond September means a delay in the rabi crop. What may act as a double whammy for Indian farmers, are some key reservoirs running dry after an exceptionally dry winter. The situation, though far from a drought, calls for both mitigation measures for farmers to stave off economic losses, and adaptation for how India manages its water, particularly reservoirs that cater to drinking water needs for most of the plains in the summer months. HT reported on Tuesday that nine years since 2008 have seen below-normal rain in June.

The climate crisis calls for focus on devising policies that can deal with these threats adequately and puts the onus on even local governments to ensure proper implementation.

Pulpit offers Biden his comeback opportunity

Donald Trump has the clear edge but the presidential debate offers Joe Biden a big chance to address an image deficit. Like in India, the final lap of the campaign will shape the outcome in the US

In January, this column suggested that there was a *hawa* in favour of Donald Trump in the American presidential election. Since then, Trump has swept aside all his rivals in the Republican presidential primaries and become the unchallenged leader of the party that had come close to disowning him after the January 6 attack on the United States (US) Capitol. Trump's daughter-in-law, Lara Trump, is the co-chair of the Republican National Committee. Mike Johnson, the House Speaker, owes his job to Trump. Mitch McConnell, the last remaining pillar of the old anti-Trump Republican establishment, has decided to retire. And Nikki Haley, the last woman standing against Trump, will now vote for him.

Having consolidated his own position, Trump has maintained an edge over Joe Biden in the polls, including in swing states and made inroads among Black and Hispanic voters. Despite being a convicted felon — Trump was held guilty in a New York

business fraud-campaign finance case and will be sentenced four days before the Republican convention; he also faces three other criminal cases — his approval ratings haven't been affected. In fact, the charges have allowed him to play the victim of an establishment widely viewed with suspicion.

Till last month, Biden was raising more money than Trump. But the criminal conviction helped Trump race ahead even on that metric. There is a discernible shift of American capital towards Trump, with both the Wall Street finance types and Silicon Valley tech types lining up to applaud him. *The Economist's* polling model now suggests that Trump has a two-thirds chance of winning the November elections.

Five factors are helping him. One, there is a surge in illegal immigration, which Trump has, often in racist terms, depicted as an invasion. But the issue resonates widely, including among legal migrants and in blue cities that have seen an increase in migrant presence. Two, inflation persists. And America's robust job creation record, which Biden takes credit for, doesn't take away from the lived reality of voters experiencing this gap between wages and expenses every day in grocery stores.

Three, voters are exasperated with America's entanglement with wars. Biden withdrew from Afghanistan. Those who wanted the US to get out rightly slammed Biden for doing so badly; those who didn't want the US

to withdraw never forgave him for it. Biden backed Ukraine against Russia. Those who wanted US involvement believe Biden didn't do enough, early on, to support Kyiv and that's why Russia has an advantage; those who didn't want US involvement blame Biden for doing anything at all, see it as a waste of resources, and believe the partition of Ukraine is worth the price of peace with Russia. Biden backed Israel's invasion of Gaza after Hamas's terror attacks. Israel's champions in the US think Biden isn't backing Benjamin Netanyahu enough; those who are horrified at Israel's crimes in Gaza hold Biden complicit. And then there are voters who see both Ukraine and Israel as proof that Biden is too externally involved at a time of internal distress.

Four, a strong White, Christian, ultra-conservative agenda finds home in Trump's rhetoric and policy world on abortion, rights of sexual minorities, pedagogy around race and sexuality and immigration. And finally, there are those who believe that Biden is too frail, including within his own support base that's low on morale even as Trump's team is emotionally charged.

And yet, at a juncture when the Trump *hawa* is arguably stronger than it has ever been, while Biden's base appears fragmented, here is a proposition: This election isn't over. It remains competitive and close. And Biden will defy expectations at the first presidential debate on Thursday. Here is why.



Prashant Jha



This election isn't over. It remains competitive and close

Biden is old. But, contrary to what edited clips of occasional physical fumbles, repetitions and tangents during his speeches suggest, he is mentally sharp. All those who have interacted with him, including Indian interlocutors, have come back with the impression of a clear and coherent leader capable of exercising sober judgment. He has deep political experience and an unerring instinct which first made him a Senator back in 1973 and has ensured he hasn't lost a national election since. Biden wanted this debate early in the race. On style, he is prone to repetitions and gaffes, but he will aim to project sharpness; on substance, he will aim to expose Trump's hollowness and showcase his reasonably good record. But Biden's primary aim is to show he knows what he is doing, an admittedly low bar but that's a result of the Republican messaging around his age. If he succeeds, Biden will kick off campaign season addressing a big perceptual disadvantage.

Then there is the actual agenda. Biden's message is three-fold.

One, Trump is a threat to democracy and he will be worse in term two than he was the first time around. In a close election, where a very limited set of voters in six to seven states will determine the outcome, this message can be persuasive. Trump's personal

conduct and political behaviour appeal to some, but not to many others.

Two, Biden will point out that Trump's judicial appointees took away national protection to abortion and his return will lead to more control over women's bodies, assault on personal and sexual freedom, and an even more conservative judiciary that may attack minority rights. Don't underestimate the power of the women's vote or the fear among people of colour about what's at stake.

And finally, Biden will showcase an impressive set of accomplishments on infrastructure, health care costs, jobs, domestic manufacturing, climate, and personal freedoms. He will tailor it for the Democratic base and moderate Republicans. And over the next few months, he will relentlessly focus on Arizona, Nevada, Michigan, Wisconsin, Georgia, North Carolina and Pennsylvania, with a well-oiled campaign machinery down to the grassroots.

None of this means one or the other candidate will win. It only means that like the elections in India, the final three to four months, and the final lap of the political campaign, will determine the outcome. Watch the debate, but don't bet on a winner just yet.

The views expressed are personal

BJP's performance reveals Dalit anxiety on reservation

The 2024 general election results point to the significant erosion of Dalit support for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). According to the recently published CSDS-Lokniti post-poll survey data, the BJP's vote share among Dalits has slipped to 31% from 34% in 2019 and that of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) allies to 5% from 7%.

This loss of support for the BJP is attributed to its slogan, "Ab ki baar, 400 paar" (this time, more than 400 seats). This slogan, many posit, created apprehension among the Dalits about the BJP's intention to abolish reservation through major constitutional changes. This fear, as per various ground reports, has hurt the party immensely in Uttar Pradesh (UP). But how far has this fear resonated in other parts of the country? In Bihar, which has historically been a fertile laboratory for Mandal politics quite like UP, the BJP-led NDA grabbed five out of six Scheduled Caste (SC) constituencies. One reason for the different outcomes in UP and Bihar could be the deft social engineering strategy of the Samajwadi Party (SP), the BJP's main rival in UP. Going beyond its traditional Yadav-Muslim combine, the SP stitched together a more inclusive social coalition that accommodated more candidates belonging to non-Yadav, Other Backward Classes, and other social groups. In contrast, in Bihar, the NDA's main rival, the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) stuck to its Yadav constituency while fielding candidates.

Another pertinent question arises in this context: Did the fear of abolition of reservation also impact the Scheduled Tribes (STs)? While the BJP's tally of ST seats fell to 25 from 31 in 2019, its Adivasi vote share has increased from 43% in 2019 to 48% according to the CSDS-Lokniti survey. This apparently suggests an absence of anxiety among the STs on the abolition of reservation. Then, why has this fear impacted only the Dalits? The results shed some insights.

Based on the performance of the BJP and its allies, it is possible to group the states into three categories: a) where the BJP has suffered major losses compared to its 2019 per-

formance, b) where the BJP and its allies more or less held on to the 2019 tally, and c) where the BJP and its allies have greatly improved their 2019 performance. A closer look at the results data suggests that the Dalits voted differently in each of these three categories of states.

The first category comprises six major states: Maharashtra, Haryana, UP, Rajasthan, West Bengal and Karnataka with BJP's seat loss percentage being as high as 60.87%, 50%, 46.77%, 41.67%, 33.33% and 32% respectively. In almost all these states, the BJP seems to have lost substantial Dalit votes. Compared to 2019, this time, its tally of SC constituencies has dropped to one from four in Rajasthan, to zero from two in Maharashtra, to zero from two in Haryana, to eight from 14 in UP, and to two from five in Karnataka. In West Bengal, the loss of Dalit support seems to be minimal as the party has been able to retain four out of five SC seats it won in 2019, though the winning margin in all these seats has come down significantly.

The second category includes Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. The BJP's combined tally of SC seats in all these states together stands at 12, down from 13 in 2019. Hence, in these states, its Dalit support base seems intact.

Among the third category states of Odisha, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh, the party's tally has gone up from eight to 20 in Odisha, from four to eight in Telangana, and zero to 21 in Andhra Pradesh (for the NDA, where the BJP is the junior partner in the alliance with the Telugu Desam Party, or TDP). Significantly, in these states, the Dalit support for the party seems to have also gone up. In Odisha, where the BJP failed to win any SC constituency in 2019, it has managed to win all three such seats this time. In Andhra Pradesh, too, the TDP has managed to win three out of four SC seats. Only Telangana seems an outlier to this pattern, as the Congress has managed to win all three SC seats.

Therefore, the Dalit anxiety about the abolition of reservation seems to have impacted electoral outcomes in those states where the BJP has suffered major losses. In other states, such concerns have not received similar traction. The BJP's declining popularity in states like UP, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Haryana, and Karnataka may be because of a host of other state-specific reasons, which also may have amplified such apprehension. In 2019, the BJP won a total of eight ST constituencies in Rajasthan, Maharashtra, and Karnataka combined (UP and Haryana do not have any ST seats). This time, it has lost six of these seats. Therefore, it might be reasonable to presume that in these states, the Opposition's narrative of "Constitution in danger" did have some impact, both on the SCs and STs. But, in all likelihood, in other parts of the country, it did not raise much alarm. This also suggests that the electoral behaviour of the Dalits was far from being uniform across the country.

Ayan Guha is a British Academy international fellow at the School of Global Studies, University of Sussex, UK.

The views expressed are personal

[ANTHONY ALBANESE] AUSTRALIAN PRIME MINISTER

Regardless of the views that people have about Assange's activities, the case has dragged on for too long... we want him brought home to Australia

Why New Delhi needs a national security strategy

Every organisation of repute has a macro plan to guide and synchronise the activities of its sub-elements to achieve organisational goals. There are two parts to this endeavour — the determination of the organisational aim and guidance for each sub-group to work in unison to achieve it. This becomes an inescapable imperative when considering something as vital as a nation's security, with each element of national power — economy, industry, commerce, taxation, justice, foreign policy, internal security, and defence — working in unison for ensuring an inviolate security cocoon. To ensure the required unison from each element, a National Security Strategy (NSS) is necessary to guide policy- and strategy-making. Unfortunately, India lacks one and a recent statement of the chief of defence staff suggests that New Delhi doesn't require one. The new government needs to urgently address this issue.

How do nations that wield power of consequence plan their security? The American NSS states that, "We will... galvanise collective action on global challenges, and shape the rules of the road for technology, cybersecurity, and trade and economics... Our approach encompasses all elements of national power — diplomacy, development cooperation, industrial strategy, economic statecraft, intelligence, and defence". The road map is, thus, clearly spelt out for all arms of the government.

The French NSS lists out 10 priority areas that include Euro-Atlantic relationship and capacity to defend and act in hybrid fields. The NSS of the United Kingdom states that, "the stability and resilience of our economy and society is a precondition of our security... we must preserve the huge benefits that stem from our openness while ensuring that we are protected from the worst effects of global disruption, transnational challenges, or to hostile interference. That means improving our economic, health and energy security". The Russian NSS, similarly, reinforces the common theme of every NSS that, "the strategy is founded on the inseparable interconnection and mutual dependence of the national security of the Russian Federation and the socio-economic development of the country".

All NSSs are signed by the executive heads of government, ensuring that all arms of the government are, by law, on the same page on national security. The rationale behind the endorsement at the highest level is pertinent:

National security is just not about defence but is a whole-of-government approach that needs orchestration by the political executive head, not by the defence minister.

What has been happening in India? "The defence minister's op directive conveys the government's intention, and that suffices", goes a refrain. "We have won four wars without a written NSS, so what's the need for one," goes another. One has lately heard that "Israel doesn't have one, despite its challenging security environment," missing the point that Israeli society and institutions are militarised whereas all Indian institutions, other than the armed forces, are civilianised.

A decade ago, I was looking after procurement plans in HQ Integrated Defence Staff. The 15-year tri-services long-term integrated perspective plan (LTIPP) for the acquisition of capital equipment, duly passed by the Defence Acquisition Council (headed by the defence minister), was forwarded to the finance ministry; it also carried an estimated costing, and hence the budgeting that was required. The LTIPP, however, lacked a macro-level government policy statement to support it and hence was just a defence ministry wish list flying on hope. One wonders whether this has changed for the better with some surety of the defence acquisition plan having "government" acceptance. However, the despatch of empowered teams abroad for emergency armament purchases after recent border crises makes one wonder whether a duly published NSS would have avoided the haphazard costly purchases — as the output of other relevant government arms would have been synchronised with the duties of the defence ministry.

So, while there is a huge furore about the delay in establishing theatre commands, the Agnipath scheme and whether the Navy needs another aircraft carrier, what's holding New Delhi back from promulgating an NSS that would streamline such decision-making and help its *aatmanirbharta* campaign in defence? Is it that, being a formal written commitment of resources and political will to national security, the executive would be held accountable? Is it time the new government grabs the proverbial bull by the horns and promulgates its NSS.

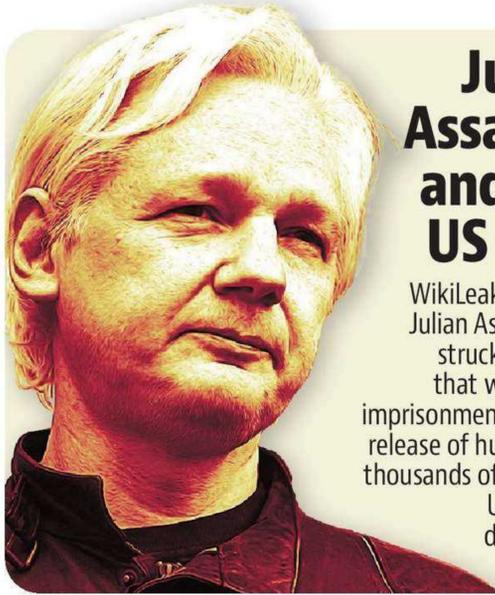
Air Vice Marshal Manmohan Bahadur (retd) is the former addl director general, Centre for Air Power Studies. The views expressed are personal



The "Ab ki baar, 400 paar" slogan, many posit, created apprehension among the Dalits about the BJP's intention to abolish reservation

HT PHOTO

WORLD



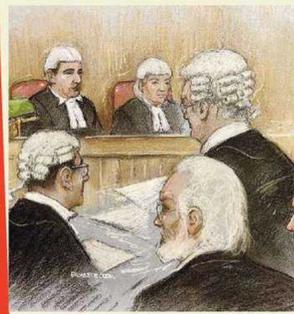
Julian Assange and the US case

WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange has struck plea deal that will end his imprisonment over the release of hundreds of thousands of classified US military documents

WHAT IS WIKILEAKS?

The website rose to prominence in April 2010 when it published a classified video showing a 2007 US helicopter attack that killed a dozen people in the Iraqi capital, Baghdad.

During 2010 it released more than 90,000 classified US military documents on the war in Afghanistan, and about 400,000 secret US files on the Iraq war. It also released 250,000 secret diplomatic cables from US embassies around the world in 2011.



ARREST AND START OF LEGAL BATTLE

A Swedish court ordered Assange's detention in November 2010 as a result of an investigation into allegations of sex crimes made by two female Swedish WikiLeaks volunteers. He was arrested by British police in December 2010 on a European Arrest Warrant issued by Sweden.

In June 2012, shortly after the UK Supreme Court rejected his final challenge against extradition to Sweden, he entered the Ecuadorian embassy in London seeking asylum.



ARREST AND EXTRADITION HEARINGS

APRIL 11, 2019
Assange was carried out of the embassy and arrested after Ecuador revoked his asylum.

JUNE 2019
The US Department of Justice formally asked Britain to extradite him to face 18 charges that he conspired to hack US government computers and violated espionage laws.

SEPTEMBER 2019
Assange completed his sentence in September 2019 but remained in Belmarsh maximum security prison pending extradition hearings.



An airplane that carried Julian Assange at Bangkok airport on Tuesday. AFP

FLIES TO U.S. TERRITORY

Julian Assange is en route to a courtroom on the Pacific island of Saipan where he is expected to plead guilty. Saipan is the capital of the Northern Mariana Islands (NMI), a US territory.

US prosecutors said Assange wanted to go to a court close to his home of Australia but not on the continental US. Saipan has the advantage of being relatively close to Assange's home of Australia, roughly 3,000km south.

WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange to be 'free man' after plea deal with US

US-UK-Oz diplomatic manoeuvres helped unlock Assange deal

He was released from a British prison where he had been held for five years

Agence France-Presse

letters@hindustantimes.com

BANGKOK: WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange was on his way to face a final US court hearing on Wednesday under a plea deal that is expected to bring his years-long legal drama to a close and allow him to return to his native Australia as a "free man".

Assange was released on Monday from a high-security British prison where he had been held for five years while he fought extradition to the United States, which sought to prosecute him for revealing military secrets.

He flew out of London to travel to the Northern Mariana Islands, a US territory in the Pacific where he will plead guilty to a single count of conspiracy to obtain and disseminate national defence information, according to a court document.

A private jet carrying the 52-year-old stopped to refuel in Bangkok on Tuesday, taking off again around 9:25pm (local time) to fly to Saipan, capital of the US territory where Assange is due in court on Wednesday morning.

He is expected to be sentenced to five years and two

months in prison, with credit for the same amount of time he spent behind bars in Britain.

Assange's wife thanks supporters for campaign

Assange's wife Stella said he would be a "free man" after the judge signed off on the plea deal, thanking supporters who have campaigned for his release for years. "I'm just elated. Frankly, it's just incredible," she told BBC radio.

"We weren't really sure until the last 24 hours that it was actually happening."

She urged supporters to monitor her husband's flight on plane-tracking websites and to follow the "AssangeJet" hashtag, saying in a post on social media platform X "we need all eyes on his flight in case something goes wrong".

The court in the Northern Mariana Islands was chosen because of Assange's unwillingness to go to the continental United States and because of the territory's proximity to his native Australia, a court filing said.

Under the deal, Assange is due to return to Australia, where the government said his case had "dragged on for too long" and there was "nothing to be gained by his continued incarceration".

Stella Assange said on X that her husband would have to repay the Australian government the \$520,000 cost of the charter flight and urged supporters to donate cash.

End of an ordeal

Assange was wanted by Washington for releasing hundreds of thousands of secret US documents from 2010 as head of the whistleblowing website WikiLeaks.

Since then he has become a hero to free speech campaigners and a villain to those who thought he had endangered US security and intelligence sources.

US authorities wanted to put Assange on trial for divulging military secrets about the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

He was indicted by a US federal grand jury in 2019 on 18 counts stemming from WikiLeaks' publication of a trove of national security documents.

The United Nations hailed Assange's release, saying the case had raised "a series of human rights concerns".

Assange's mother Christine Assange said in a statement carried by Australian media that she was "grateful that my son's ordeal is finally coming to an end".

But former US vice-president Mike Pence slammed the plea deal on X as a "miscarriage of justice" that "dishonours the service and sacrifice of the men and women of our Armed Forces".

The announcement of the deal came two weeks before Assange was scheduled to appear in court in Britain to appeal against a ruling that approved his extradition to the United States.



A giant billboard calls for the release of Julian Assange in Melbourne, Australia, on Sept 5, 2023. AFP

I can only say that I am very happy that this case, which was discussed very emotionally all over the world and moved many people, has finally found a solution.
— ANNALENA BAERBOCK, German foreign minister

Today the world is a little better and less unfair. Julian Assange is free after 1,901 days in prison. His release and return home, albeit belatedly, represent a victory for democracy and the fight for press freedom.
— INACIO LULA DA SILVA, Brazilian president



Sergei Shoigu (right) and Valery Gerasimov

{ UKRAINE } ACCUSED OF WAR CRIMES

ICC issues arrest warrants for army chief of Russia, former defence minister

Agence France-Presse

letters@hindustantimes.com

THE HAGUE: The International Criminal Court (ICC) on Tuesday said it had issued arrest warrants for Russia's top army chief and ex-defence minister over strikes on Ukrainian infrastructure that constituted alleged war crimes. The ICC warrants are the latest in a series of actions by the court over the Ukraine war, including an arrest warrant for Russian President Vladimir Putin.

The warrants, issued on Monday but made public on Tuesday, concerned the Chief of the General Staff Valery Gerasimov, and former defence minister Sergei Shoigu.

The pair are accused of the war crimes of directing attacks at civilian targets and causing excessive incidental harm to civilians, as well as the crime against humanity of "inhumane

EU kicks off talks with Ukraine on membership

LUXEMBOURG: The European Union on Tuesday kicked off accession negotiations with Ukraine, setting the war-torn country on a long path towards membership that Russia has tried to block.

acts" in Ukraine, the ICC said in a statement.

ICC judges said there were "reasonable grounds to believe that the two suspects bear responsibility for missile strikes carried out by the Russian armed forces against the Ukrainian electric infrastructure from at least October 10, 2022 until at least March 9, 2023".

ULTRA-ORTHODOX MEN MUST SERVE IN ARMY, RULES ISRAELI TOP COURT

Agencies

letters@hindustantimes.com

JERUSALEM/GAZA STRIP: Israel's top court ruled unanimously on Tuesday that the state must draft ultra-Orthodox Jewish men into military service, potentially destabilising Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's ruling coalition.

The High Court of Justice's decision on the politically charged issue comes as calls grow for ultra-Orthodox men, historically exempt from mandatory service, to enlist as Israel wages war on Hamas in Gaza and prepares for potential fighting in Lebanon.

Meanwhile, Israeli forces on Tuesday bombarded besieged Gaza where Palestinian officials said one strike killed 10 family members of Hamas' Qatar-based political chief Ismail Haniyeh, including his sister.

Cops fire on protesters trying to storm Kenya parl; several dead

Reuters

letters@hindustantimes.com

NAIROBI: Police opened fire on demonstrators trying to storm Kenya's legislature on Tuesday, with at least five protesters killed, dozens wounded and sections of the parliament building set ablaze as lawmakers inside passed legislation to raise taxes.

In chaotic scenes, protesters overwhelmed police and chased them away in an attempt to storm the parliament compound. Flames could be seen coming from inside. Police opened fire after tear gas and water cannon failed to disperse the crowds. A Reuters journalist counted the bodies of at least five protesters outside parliament.

A paramedic, Vivian Achista, said at least 10 had been shot dead. Another paramedic, Richard Ngumo, said more than 50



Protesters carry a man shot during a protest over proposed tax hikes in a finance bill in Nairobi, Kenya, on Tuesday. AFP

people had been wounded by gunfire. He was lifting two injured protesters into an ambulance outside parliament.

"We want to shut down parliament and every MP should go

down and resign," protestor Davis Tafari, who was trying to enter parliament, told Reuters. "We will have a new government." Protests and clashes also took place in several other cities

and towns across the country.

Parliament approved the finance bill, moving it through to a third reading by lawmakers. The next step is for the legislation to be sent to the president for signing.

He can send it back to parliament if he has any objections. The protesters oppose tax rises in a country already reeling from a cost-of-living crisis, and many are also calling for President William Ruto to step down.

Ruto won an election nearly two years ago, promising to champion Kenya's working poor, but is caught between lenders like the International Monetary Fund, urging deficit cuts for more funding, and a struggling population. Kenyans have been struggling with economic shocks from Covid-19, the war in Ukraine, two years of drought, and currency depreciation.

{ MUSIC-GENERATING A.I. SYSTEMS } LABELS ASK COURTS TO AWARD DAMAGES OF UP TO \$150,000 PER SONG

Music labels sue AI firms for US copyright infringement



Mariah Carey

WASHINGTON: Major record labels Sony Music, Universal Music Group and Warner Records sued artificial intelligence companies Suno and Udio on Monday, accusing them of committing mass copyright infringement by using the labels' recordings to train music-generating AI systems.

The companies copied music without permission to teach their systems to create music that will "directly compete with, cheapen, and ultimately drown out" human artists' work,

according to federal lawsuits filed against Udio in New York and Suno in Massachusetts.

"Our technology is transformative; it is designed to generate completely new outputs, not to memorise and regurgitate pre-existing content," Suno CEO Mikey Shulman said in a statement. Spokespeople for Udio did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the complaints.

The complaints said Suno and Udio users have been able to recreate elements of songs

including The Temptations' "My Girl", Mariah Carey's "All I Want for Christmas Is You" and James Brown's "I Got You (I Feel Good)", and could generate vocals that are "indistinguishable" from musicians such as Michael Jackson, Bruce Springsteen and ABBA.

The labels asked the courts to award statutory damages of up to \$150,000 per song the defendants allegedly copied. They accused Suno of copying 662 songs and Udio of copying 1,670. AI has been a heated topic of

conversation in the music industry, with debates ranging from the creative possibilities of the new technology to concerns around its legality.

The lawsuits are the first to target music-generating AI following several cases brought by authors, news outlets and others over the alleged misuse of their work to train text-based AI models powering chatbots like OpenAI's ChatGPT. AI companies have argued that their systems make fair use of copyrighted material.



Sri Lanka to sign key debt deals with lenders

COLOMBO: Sri Lanka has finalised long-delayed debt deals with its bilateral lenders including China to meet a key condition of an IMF bailout, the government said on Tuesday. A treasury delegation is heading to France to sign agreements with creditors on Wednesday, said government spokesman Bandula Gunawardana. Sri Lanka defaulted on its foreign debt in April 2022, leading to an economic crisis that forced President Gotabaya Rajapaksa to step down.

Nepal convicts 'Buddha boy' of child sex abuse

KATHMANDU: A Nepali man whose followers believe him to be a reincarnation of Buddha has been convicted of child sexual abuse, a court official said on Tuesday. The man identifies as Ram Bahadur Bomjan, also known as "Buddha Boy", rose to fame during his teenage when his followers claimed he could meditate motionless for months without food, water, or sleep. Bomjan, whom the district court found guilty of child sex abuse, on Monday, will be sentenced next month.

**E-Procurement Notice
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**

The Executive Engineer HPPWD Arki Distt. Solan H.P on behalf of Governor of H.P invites the online bids on item rate, in electronic tendering system in 2 cover System for the under mentioned work from the eligible and approved contractors/Firms registered with HPPWD Department

Sr no.	Name of Work	Estimated cost	EMD	Cost of tender	Eligible class of contract	Time
1.	Annual Repair and Maintenance of Cheod Khud Jaghoon road km. 0/0 to 18/0 (SH- Providing renewal 25mm thick ix seal surfacing in km. 0/0 to 18/0)	3,25,37,740/-	6,50,800/-	5000/-	Class B	9 Months

2. Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission: The bid document is available online and bid should be submitted online on website <http://hptenders.gov.in>.

Bidder should be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA). "Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in HPPWD may obtain the same from the website: <http://hptenders.gov.in>. Digital signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering. Bidders already possessing the digital signature issued from authorized CAs can use the same in this tender.

Key Dates:

1.	Date of Online Publication	26.06.2024 1000 HRS
2.	Documents Download Start and End date	10.07.2024 1030 HRS upto 19.07.2024 1800 HRS
3.	Bid Submission Start and End Date	10.07.2024 1030 HRS upto 19.07.2024 1800 HRS
4.	Physical Submission of EMD and Cost of tender Documents	20.07.2024 up to 1100 HRS
5.	Date of Technical Bid opening, Evaluation of Technical Bid followed by Opening of Financial Bid	22.07.2024 1130 HRS

The tender documents shall be uploaded online in 2 cover:

- Cover 1 shall contain scanned copies of all "Technical Documents/Eligibility information"
- Cover 2 shall contain BOQ/Financial Bid where contractor will quote his offer for each item.

5. Submission of Original Documents: The bidders are required to submit (a) original demand draft towards the cost of bid documents and (b) original bid security/Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and other Technical Documents in o/o the Executive Engineer, HPPWD, Arki Divn. HP as specified in Key dates at Sr. No. 4 on Tender Opening Date, failing which the bids will be declared non responsive.

6. BID OPENING DETAILS The bids shall be opened on 22.07.2024 at 1130 HRS in the office of Executive Engineer, HPPWD, Arki Divn./Superintending Engineer, 3rd Circle, HPPWD, Solan HP by the authorized officer. In their interest the tenderer are advised to be present along with original documents at the time of opening of tenders. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

7. The bids for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than 20 days after the deadline date for bid submission.

8. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents. The officer inviting tender shall not be held liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidders responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the tender.

**Executive Engineer
HPPWD Division Arki
Distt. Solan H.P
on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh**

DPR HP-0373

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
CUTTACK (R&B) DIVISION NO.1: CUTTACK
E-Mail I.D. seppwrcuttack@gmail.com / Tel./ Fax No.(0671)-2304128
GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
Auction Sale Notice No.01 of 2024-25**

1. Name of the work : i) Demolition of existing Girdler Bridge over Taladanda Canal D/S) at Ch.3/550Km & Disposal of dismantled materials of Girdler Bridge over Taladanda Canal U/S) at Ch. 3/550Km.

2. Reserve Price : Rs. 17,60,000.00

3. EMD to be deposited : Rs 4,40,000.00

4. Period of completion : 15(Fifteen) days from the date of issue of work order.

5. Date and time of receipt of Quotation :- From 28.06.2024 Up to 5.00P.M of 11.07.2024

6. Date & time of Opening of Quotation :- 12.07.2024 at 11.00 A.M

7. Name and address of the Officer Inviting Quotation. :- Superintending Engineer, Cuttack (R&B) Division No.1, Cuttack

Further details can be seen from the State Govt. portal "www.odisha.gov.in"

**Er. P.K. Majhi
Superintending Engineer
Cuttack (R & B) Division No. 1
OIPR - 34091/11/0007/2425**

**Government of Uttarakhand
Office of the Director General, Information and Public
Relations Department, Uttarakhand
Suchna Bhawan, Ladpur, Ring Road, Near Rajya kar Bhawan, Dehradun
Email: infodg.uk@gmail.com, Telephone: 0135-2662971/ Fax: 2662334
<https://ukenders.gov.in>**

Letter No. : 578/AR&PRD(Publication) 06/2023 Dated: 25 June, 2024

e-Tender Process

The department invites e-tender proposals for printing of coffee table books related to government's developmental schemes/policies etc. from local firms having experience in printing of coffee table books under the following conditions.

S No.	Particular	Date
1.	Date of availability of Tender Documents on Website for download	27 June, 2024 01.00 PM
2.	Tender document is also available at	https://ukenders.gov.in 27 June, 2024, 3.00 PM
3.	Bid submission start date	28 June, 2024, 10.00 AM
4.	Last date of Bid submission	11 July, 2024, 05.00 PM
5.	Date of Opening of Technical Bid	12 July, 2024, 11.30 AM
6.	Date of Opening of Financial Bid will be intimated separately	-----
7.	Venue for all tender related work	Information & Public Relations Department, Suchna Bhawan, Ladpur, Ring Road, Dehradun
8.	Tender Document Cost	Rs. 3000/- + 18% G.S.T. Total= 3540/- only

Note: If any date mentioned above is declared as public Holiday, that date will be shifted to next working day without any change in other parameters such as Venue, etc.

Sd/-
(Banshidhar Tiwari)
Director General

Memo Dt.: 25.06.2024

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

SR. NO.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP./ AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/ EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	MC PUNDRI	(HEALTH) CONST. OF BLOCK PUBLIC HEALTH UNIT (BPHU) IN M.C PUNDRI + 6 WORKS	22.06.2024 29.06.2024	1.30 CRORES	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	8708309425 secy.pundri@ulbharyana.gov.in

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in
RO NO 13/2025/40/27134/1/19/7

बिहार पुलिस मुख्यालय, पटना
ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना सं-01 / 2024-25

- विज्ञापनदाता का पदनाम - पुलिस महानिरीक्षक के सहायक (क्यू), बिहार, पटना
- निविदा आमंत्रित करने की तिथि - 26.06.2024
- निविदा कागजात प्राप्ति (अपलॉड) की अवधि - 21 दिन
- निविदा कागजात जमा करने (अपलॉड) की अंतिम तिथि - 16.07.2024 अपरान्ह 5:00 बजे तक।
- RFP की विक्री का स्थान एवं निविदा प्राप्ति का स्थान - www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर।
- प्री-बीड मीटिंग की तिथि, समय एवं स्थान - दिनांक-02.07.2024 को 11:00 बजे पूर्वाह्न अपर पुलिस महानिदेशक (आधुनिकीकरण), बिहार पटना के कार्यालय कक्ष, कम नं-505, सीओ ब्लॉक, सरदार पटेल भवन, पटना
- निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय (तकनीकी बीड) - 16.07.2024 5:30 बजे अपराह्न में।
- निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय (वित्तीय बीड) - तकनीकी बीड निष्पादन के उपरान्त
- निविदा वैधता की अवधि - 120 दिन

क्र०	कार्य का नाम	RFP की राशि (रु०)	अग्रघन की राशि (रु०)	RFP की राशि (रु०)	बीड प्रोसेसिंग शुल्क	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि
1	Selection of an Agency for providing project management unit (PMU) services to the traffic division, Bihar Police Headquarters, Govt. of Bihar		4,00,000/-	5,000/-	As per website	365 दिन

निविदा के नियमों, शर्तों की जानकारी के लिए अधोहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय में, पुलिस महानिरीक्षक के सहायक (क्यू), बिहार, पटना के दूरभाष सं-0612-2294039 पर संपर्क किया जा सकता है, कार्यालय के सूचना पद तथा वेबसाइट www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar पर देखा जा सकता है।

**पुलिस महानिरीक्षक के सहायक (क्यू)
बिहार, पटना**

PR. No.002600(Police) 2024-25
उक्त सूचना www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar पर भी देखी जा सकती है।

नर्सों से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, वृद्ध संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।

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CHANGE OF NAME

WE, PRAVEEN Bhatia & Mansi Bhatia
R/o 402, Glory Tower - 07, Omaze
Hills-2, Surajkund Road, Sector-43,
Faridabad-121001 (Haryana) and at
254, Nilgiri Apartments Alaknanda,
New Delhi-110019, have changed our
minor sons name from Arjun Bhatia
to Arjun Jai Bhatia (D.O.B. 31.12.2011)
for all future purposes, vide Affidavit
nos. 384 dated 24.06.2024, sworn
before Notary, Delhi.

I, PRIANSHIKA D/o Mr. Kailash Chand
R/o 204 Block A Malviya Road Pvt
30, Jain park uttam nagar, Delhi,
110059 have changed my name to
Prianshika Lohra for all purposes

I, HITHERTO known as Monika Malik
alias Monika Anand D/o Shri Vijay
Anand, working as Healthcare
consultant (Self Employed), resident of
55-A, Old Dalnawala, Karanpur,
Dehradun-248001(UK), declare that
before marriage my maiden name
was Monika Anand in all my records.
After marriage, I wish to change my
name and shall hereafter known as
Monika Anand Agrawal. It is certified
that I have complied with other legal
requirement in this connection.
Monika Malik alias Monika Anand
(Signature in existing old name).

MONICA W/O Pawan Bhadana, R/o EA
-59, 2nd floor, Indrapuram, New Delhi-
110012, I have changed my name to
Monica Bhadana for all future
purposes as per vide Affidavit dated
24 June 2024 Affidavit No- 0723

RAVINDER Pal Singh Sidhu S/o
Santokh Singh Sidhu R/o 92, Shankar
Vihar Delhi-110092, I have changed
my name to Ravinder Pal Singh all
purposes.

OM Prakash S/o Sh. Manohar Lal
R/o Vill. Selohiti, Teh. & Distt. Palwal-
121102 declared that my name's
spelling was wrongly mentioned in
my 10th marksheet Om Prakash.
But my correct name is Om Prakash.
In future I will be known as Om
Prakash for all purposes.

RAMESH Baboo Rama Warrior, S/o
Rama Warrior Rama Warrior, holding
passport number K887223, aged 70,
R/o 7-E, Neethi Apartments Om
Prakash, Delhi, hereby change my
name as Ramesh Babu Rama
Warrior, as per Affidavit Number
IN-DL0594099445825W dated
19.06.2024.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, RAMESH alias Rameshwar S/o Shri
Rajm Dayal aged about 44 years R/o
216-A/2, Gautam Nagar, New Delhi-
110049 have changed my name to
Ramesh for all future purposes

I, MANOJ Kumar S/o Shri Uday Ram,
N-15-B-10, Indira Vikas Colony, Near
Sant Nirankari School, Dr. Mukherjee
Nagar, Delhi-110009, have changed
my name from Manoj Kumar to
Manoj Kumar for all future purposes.

I, MS. Madha Gulzar D/o Gulzar
Ahmed, R/o 60/212, Shahjahanabad
Apprts., Plot no.1, Sec-11, Dwarka,
New Delhi-110075 have changed my
name from Madha Bano to Madha
Gulzar for all future purposes.

I, AYUSH Singhal S/o Sh. Surender
Kumar R/o H.No.251, Sathari,
New Delhi-110074 have changed my
name from Ayush Singhal for all
future purposes.

PAWAN KUMAR S/o Jai Chand R/o 514,
Naya Gaon, Bhoindia (Gurgaon), Hary-
ana 122102, I have changed my name
to Pawan Bhadana for all future
purposes as per vide Affidavit dated
24 June 2024 Affidavit No-0724

I, BIMALI Rout M/o Saroj Kumar Rout
R/o Vill-Bhangama, PO-Sankarpur,
Teh & Distt-Dhenkanal, Odisha-
759013 have changed my name from
Bimali Rout to Bimala Rout for all
future purposes vide affidavit before
Public Notary Delhi dt-22-06-2024

I, ANIL Naudyal S/o Niranjan Prasad
Naudyal R/o Flat-1504, Casa Greens
1, Greater Noida West, Uttar Pradesh
-201318 have changed my name
from Anil Naudyal to Anil Kumar
Naudyal for all future purposes.

I, OM Prakash S/o Sh. Manohar Lal
R/o Vill. Selohiti, Teh. & Distt. Palwal-
121102 declared that my name's
spelling was wrongly mentioned in
my 10th marksheet Om Prakash.
But my correct name is Om Prakash.
In future I will be known as Om
Prakash for all purposes.

RAMESH Baboo Rama Warrior, S/o
Rama Warrior Rama Warrior, holding
passport number K887223, aged 70,
R/o 7-E, Neethi Apartments Om
Prakash, Delhi, hereby change my
name as Ramesh Babu Rama
Warrior, as per Affidavit Number
IN-DL0594099445825W dated
19.06.2024.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, HITHERTO known as Sarthak Gupta
S/o Nera Ram Gupta (R/O-A/210,
2nd Floor, Model Town, Phase-1,
Delhi-110009 have changed my
name and shall hereafter be known
as Sarthak Gupta.

I, UDIT Awasthi S/O Vijay Narayan
Awasthi R/O Ground Floor-1 Siddhi
Vinayak Apartment, Abhay Khand-3,
Indrapuram, Ghaziabad-201014
Have Changed My Name to Udit
Awasthi For All Future Purposes.

I, SURENDER Singh Tawar S/o Sh.
Rohtan Singh R/O H.No.1732, Sector-8
Faridabad, Haryana-121006 have
changed my name from Surender
Singh to Surender Singh Tawar
for all future purposes.

I, NEHA Dixit (W/O Sh. Vibhor Dixit)
permanent resident of 86, Indira
villas Iai kothi Naurabandi Grounds
Meerut 250002 have changed my
surname from Sharma to Dixit after
my marriage on 7 December 2010.

I, SATVIR W/O Tilak Raj Trehan R/O
Flat no-14002, tower-1B, Durlan
Mahagun Mywoods, Court City-2,
Greater Noida West Distt Gautam
Buddha Nagar U.P.-201306 have
changed my name to Satvir Trehan
DOB-04.04.1952 for all future
purposes

I, AAYUSH Verma (UID No. 2048 8822
8025) S/o Sujeet Kumar R/o 32/B-10,
Oriental Enclave, I.P. Extension,
Patparganj, Delhi-110092 declare
that the name of my Father and
Mother were wrongly written as
Sujeet Kumar Verma and Archana
Verma respectively in my
educational documents. The
correct and actual name of my
Father is Sujeet Kumar and Mother
is Archana, hence it may be
amended accordingly.

I, SARITA Singhal W/o Sh. Surender
Kumar R/o H.No.251, Sathari,
New Delhi-110074 have changed
from Sarita to Sarita Singhal for
all future purposes.

LOST & FOUND

THIS IS to inform that the Original
of Builder Buyer Sale Agreement
dated 10.03.2004 in respect of
Apartment No. 001 in Tower C-1,
Unworld City (West), Sector 30 &
4, Gurgaon, Executed between
M/s. Unitech Ltd. and Mrs. Chand
Bhasin and Mr. Om Parkash Bhasin
has been misplaced/lost in the
vicinity of said premises / locality.
If found, Please contact - 981053470.

I, RAJRATAN Gupta S/o R C Shastri
R/O 1815, Sector-28, Faridabad have
lost my Original allotment Letter/
Nomination Letter and Flat BBA
for Flat K 703, Park Elite Premium,
Sec.84, Faridabad. Finder may
contact: 9910009702

ORIGINAL FLAT Buyer Agreement
against unit No. E-1002 of Ansal
Heights Sec- 92 Gurgaon located at
Delhi. If found please contact
Ms. Dhriti Saxena R/O C-735/B,
Sushant Lok, Phase-1, Gurgaon,
Haryana, Mob: 9810009256

I, MARINDER Singh R/O 56A, Pocket C,
Sidharth Extension, New Delhi-14,
lost my original Power of Attorney
dated 17/12/86 of above said
property vide FIR No. 184192/2024,
finder pls contact - 9899375697

I, MADHU Jain R/o 54 Daryaganj Delhi
lost share certificate of property at
A406, The East west Coopousing
Society Ltd now known as Maliair
Appt IP, Ext Poraparganj, Delhi

WE, AKM Systems Pvt. Ltd., having
registered office at 1st Floor, The
Great Eastern Centre, Behind IFCI
Tower, 70 Nehru Place, New Delhi-
110019, owner of Flat No's B-0904
& B-1004 in the residential project
Gordrej Aria situated at Sector-79,
Gurgaon-12051, have lost original
ABA (Apartment Buyer Agreements)
both dated 16th August 2017 entered
into between Wonder City Builders
Pvt. Ltd. and Manpreet Singh which
later endorsed to AKM Systems
Pvt. Ltd. by the builder. Original
Allotment Letter and Endorsement
Letter of B-1004 is lost as well, if
found by the finder please contact
Mr. Umesh Malhotra at our registered
office address which is given above.

I, ASHISH Goel, S/O Mr. Rakesh Goel,
R/O flat no. R-14/B Rajnagar,
Ghaziabad, The original
Supplementary Builder Buyer
Agreement of C-733, River Heights,
Rajnagar Extension, Ghaziabad which
was issued on 15/5/2010 has been
lost. Information report in this
regard SO NO 430/2014 Delhi Police
LR No. 1930954/2024 has been
registered on 22/6/24. If anyone
finds the said document, please
contact at 9999114626.

LOST & FOUND

I, EKTA Arora W/o Sanjeev Arora R/O
No. 2A/46-A, NIT, Faridabad have
lost my original Belongment
deed no. 2908 dt. 12.06.2014.
Finder contact: id.06.2014.
For Mob. No. 9810639000.

PUBLIC NOTICES

**Caution to Public against
entering into any sort of
transaction / business /
dealing with the Present
Occupants of D-920, New
Friends Colony, New Delhi -
110025**

That on behalf of my client Ms.
Deepika Shrivastava ("Owner")
lawful owner of the property
bearing No. D - 920 situated at
New Friends Colony, New Delhi-
110025 ("Property") it is brought
to the notice of the public at large
that the Property was leased out
to Ms. Ashyma Paul ("Present
Occupant") vide lease
agreement dated September 20,
2019 & a Fixture - Fitting
Agreement dated September 23,
2019 ("Lease Agreement") for
using the Property for Bed &
Breakfast service/scheme.
That the Lease Agreement has
expired its natural life on October
31, 2023 and the Present
Occupant is illegally occupying
the Property and, in this regard,
the Present Occupant has also
been served with legal notice(s)
dated April 22, 2024 and June 08,
2024 for the rent dues; vacating
and handing over the Property to
the Owner.
That the Property is in deplorable
condition and demands major
repairs and maintenance, which
can only be undertaken after it is
vacated and handed over to the
Owner. Under such
circumstances it will be the sole
responsibility of the Present
Occupant for any consequential
hazard, loss, damage, accident,
injury, death, whatsoever
including but not limited to any
unforeseen and uncontrollable
event arising out of natural
disasters such as earthquakes,
floods, fires, pandemics, arising
out of the illegal usage of the
Property.
On behalf of the Owner of
Property, Ms. Deepika
Shrivastava
Sarthak Ritu Kapur Advocat

PUBLIC NOTICES

**It is informed to all the general
that I, Anil Kumar Khanna, son
of Late Shri Jagdish Kumar
Khanna, resident of House No. 2053,
Ground Floor, Block-A,
Green Field Colony, Faridabad
Haryana (1100 34), My
Mother Kanta Rani Khanna
(Death 07/05/2021) Wife of
Shri Jagdish Kumar Khanna.
The legal heirs of Kanta Rani
Khanna are Anil Kumar
Khanna (son), Ankush Khanna
(son) and Anjali Arora
(daughter). Apart from these,
she has no other heir. After her
death, Anil Kumar Khanna
(son) and Anjali Arora
(daughter) have applied for transfer of
the said property in their name. If
any person, legal heir or
institution etc. has any
objection then they can register
your objection in writing along
with relevant documents before
the Commissioner, Municipal
Corporation, Faridabad within
30 days of the publication of this
notice. If no objection is
received from anyone during
this period then the property
will be transferred to the name
of the applicant.**

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Sensex scales 78k-mark as banks, IT stocks surge

Sensex jumped 0.92% to 78,053, while Nifty rose 0.78% to settle at record 23,721 points

Dipti Sharma
dipti.sharma@livemint.com

MUMBAI: Banking and information technology stocks took the market indices to fresh peaks on Tuesday after a relatively quiet week, as investors looked forward to the Union budget in July.

The BSE Sensex crossed the 78,000-mark to touch a record 78,164.71 points, before settling 0.9% up at 78,053.52 points. The Nifty50 ended 0.8% higher at 23,721.30 points, after touching a record 23,754.15 points intraday.

In the broader markets, Nifty Midcap 100 and Nifty Smallcap 250 hit all-time highs of 55,922.95 and 17,219.05 points, respectively.

According to Dhiraj Relli, MD & CEO of HDFC Securities, the gradual rise of the market over the past few days has been fed by participants wary of high valuations. Relli said they also fear sharp profit-booking



The gains in the stock market were primarily driven by financial services and information technology stocks.

before or after the budget, which has not happened so far. Meanwhile, even June quarter earnings are not expected to be great given the election-related disruption, he added.

At the same time, Relli believes India still offers visible growth at a good pace over the next few years, unaffected by global developments. Besides, a decent monsoon could improve growth prospects further while bringing down inflation. And a rate cut by the US Fed over the next few months could make equity as an asset class even more attractive, benefiting Indian equities through more

inflows, he explained. Tuesday's gains were primarily driven by financial services and information technology (IT) stocks. HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, Axis Bank, Reliance Industries (RIL), Larsen & Toubro (L&T), and Infosys were the biggest contributors to the surge.

Nifty Bank index registered a fresh high on Tuesday, closing 1.7% higher. What acted as a sentiment booster for this sector was the better-than-expected current account numbers.

"India's current account deficit reduced to 0.7% of GDP in

FY24 from 2% in FY23 and recorded a surplus of 0.6% of the GDP in Q4 due to higher services exports," pointed out Ajay Menon, MD & CEO, broking & distribution, Motilal Oswal Financial Services.

The Nifty has been largely consolidating in a range of 1,000 points for the past couple of months, said Gaurav Dua, senior vice-president and head of capital market strategy, Shrekhya by BNP Paribas.

He pointed out that there is buying interest below 22,500 and some selling pressure beyond 23,500 on Nifty.

"We see it as a one-time correction, which is healthy for the sustenance of the rally," said Dua. He believes sectors such as private banks and IT, along with heavyweights RIL and HUL will have to take up the baton to break out of the range into higher levels.

"Banks have more catching-up on the up, as do IT services and fast-moving consumer goods," said Relli, adding that pre-budget buying could happen in defence, rail, agri-based and infrastructure stocks, whereas oil & gas and pharmaceuticals could underperform in the near term.

Sebi may tighten rules on derivatives, influencers

Ram Sahgal & Gopika Gopakumar
ram.sahgal@livemint.com

MUMBAI: In a setback to stock exchange BSE, India's capital markets regulator is holding firm on its stand of levying a regulatory fee on the notional turnover of options rather than on the premium turnover, said a person aware of the matter.

Since premium turnover is just a fraction of notional turnover, paying regulatory fees based on the former means less outgo for the exchange.

"They will have to pay the regulatory fees on annual turnover based on the notional turnover in case of options contracts," the person said on the condition of anonymity.

BSE, which has been paying the regulatory fees based on premium turnover, had requested the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) to reconsider its "advisory" to the exchange on 26 April.

This gains significance against the backdrop of BSE's derivatives business growing in a big way in the previous fiscal.

BSE had informed NSE (National Stock Exchange of India) about the letter from Sebi, according to an exchange filing on 26 April. BSE is listed on its rival stock exchange.



The Sebi advisory comes in the wake of BSE ramping up its derivative segment volumes since last May.

The unlisted NSE, the country's largest stock exchange, has been paying the regulatory fee on notional turnover of options contracts since 2006-07, "in keeping with Sebi's definition of annual turnover", another person said on the condition of anonymity. A query to NSE to confirm this went unanswered.

BSE said during the release of its March quarter results on 8 May that it had made a provision of ₹169.77 crore—including ₹44.3 crore for the April-December 2023 period and ₹73.47 crore for Q4—for the differential regulatory fee, pending Sebi's final decision on its request.

While BSE declined to comment on the matter, a query to Sebi went unanswered.

Notional turnover refers to the total value of an options contract while premium turnover refers to the actual traded value. For instance, the 78,100 strike Sensex call options contract expiring on 28 June is available at a premium of ₹340 a share (10 shares make one contract). The notional turnover for this contract will be ₹7.84 lakh (10 x (78,100 + 340)), while premium turnover will be ₹3,400 (premium of 340 x 10 shares).

BSE shares ended up 0.9% at ₹2,520.55 apiece on NSE on Tuesday. The share has lost 21.47% in value since Sebi's circular on 26 April. Against this, the Sensex is up 6% at 78,053.52 over the same period, and the Nifty is also up 6% at 23,721.3.

The regulatory advisory comes in the wake of BSE ramping up its derivative segment volumes since last May after decades of being unable to get traction on this front.

This was enabled with Sebi allowing it to launch weekly Sensex options expiring on Friday instead of Thursday, coinciding with the weekly Nifty option contracts expiry.

In FY24, BSE reported total derivatives turnover of ₹8,028.93 lakh crore, up a staggering 2.24% from ₹343.15 lakh crore in FY23. The corresponding NSE figures were ₹79,928 lakh crore and ₹38,223 lakh crore.

TENTH SPECTRUM AUCTION WORTH ₹96,238 CR BEGINS

Press Trust of India
feedback@livemint.com

NEW DELHI: Auction for ₹96,238 crore worth spectrum began on Tuesday that is expected to see firms like Airtel and Reliance Jio bidding to acquire airwaves that will help augment their 5G services.

It is the 10th spectrum auction since the process for sale of radio waves started through an online bidding process in 2010.

"The government begins the auction of Spectrum for Telecom Services today at 10:00 AM," an official statement said on Tuesday.

The last spectrum auction was held in August 2022, which, for the first time, included radio waves for 5G services.

"To augment existing telecom services and maintain continuity of services, the government will hold the spectrum auction on Tuesday, 25 June 2024. This is in line with the government's commitment to facilitate affordable, state-of-art high quality telecom services to all the citizens," the statement said.

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has initiated the spectrum Auction and notice inviting applications (NIA) was issued on March 8.

"The Ministry of Communications announced that the following spectrum bands will go up for bidding in the upcoming auction - 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz, 2500 MHz, 3300 MHz and 26 GHz. Total quantum of spectrum being auctioned is 10,522.35 MHz in various bands valuing ₹96,238.45 crores at reserve prices," the statement said. The 3300 MHz band and 26 Mhz band are seen as suitable bands for 5G services.

Reliance Jio has deposited the highest earnest money of ₹3,000 crore for the spectrum auction, which provides the company with the potential to bid for maximum radio waves.

According to pre-qualified bidder details released by the Department of Telecommunications, Bharti Airtel has submitted the earnest money deposit (EMD) of ₹1,050 crore and Vodafone Idea (VIL) of ₹300 crore.

Adani Group plans to double capex for FY25 to ₹1.3 lakh cr

Anirudh Laskar & Nehal Chaliwala
feedback@livemint.com

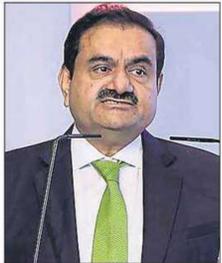
MUMBAI/NEW DELHI: The Adani group plans to nearly double its capital expenditure to ₹1.3 trillion in FY25, as the conglomerate sharpens its infrastructure and green energy focus in one of the most aggressive expansion plans in India Inc.

The capex will be funded through a mix of debt and equity, including internal accruals and capital from promoters, the group's chief financial officer Jugeshinder Singh said on Tuesday. The Gujarat-based conglomerate had outlined about ₹70,000 crore for capex in FY24.

The group will invest nearly 85% of the planned amount in infrastructure and utilities, including ₹34,000 crore in renewable energy. About ₹7,000 crore will go into the ports business, ₹4,200 crore in data centres business under unlisted AdaniConneX, and the rest in airports, roads and energy equipment manufacturing.

Adani will raise \$2.5-3 billion by selling shares in group companies this fiscal, Singh said. In May, the boards of group flagship Adani Enterprises and Adani Energy Solutions had passed enabling resolutions to raise ₹16,600 crore and ₹12,500 crore of equity. "Our average equity programme is going to be ₹2.5-3 lakh crore. We are in discussions with more than 116 potential investors," he added.

The Adani group's plans come at a time of renewed calls for the private sector to step up with capex. In the last few years, the government has done much of the capex heavy lifting in India, while the private capex stayed muted. In February, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman had urged corporates to "join in a big way" to push up India's growth trajectory, especially as the country aims to become a developed nation by 2047.



Gautam Adani, chairman, Adani Group.

In its latest May bulletin, the Reserve Bank of India said, "A strong revival in private investment has to become the most important factor driving growth in the years to come, especially as public finances consolidate." Earlier in February, too, the central bank had called upon India Inc. to lead the way in capex.

Adani group's capital requirement for the next 10 years is \$100 billion, Singh said, adding the group has secured the necessary funding. "68% of this is via own capital," Singh said. "The equity-debt funding gap will be further narrowed in FY25 in which our own capital will be 88%."

The Adani group has been reducing its leverage ratio since American short-seller Hindenburg Research last year accused it of stock price manipulation, leading to a rout in its stock prices and making it difficult for the group to raise debt. The group had denied all charges. The leverage ratio has come down from 3.3 times in FY23 to 2.2 times in FY24. The group wants to lower this ratio further, Singh said.

Adani houses its renewable energy business in listed Adani Green Energy and its ports business in Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone. Adani Green Energy plans to ramp up its renewable energy capacity to 50GW by 2030 from 10.9GW at present.

Microsoft risks EU fine over breaching antitrust rules

Bloomberg
feedback@livemint.com

Microsoft Corp. risks a hefty European Union fine after regulators accused the company of abusing its market power by bundling the Teams video-conferencing app to its other business software.

The European Commission said it fired off a so-called statement of objections alleging that Microsoft's practice of tying Teams to its Office 365 and Microsoft 365 packages fell foul of the bloc's competition rules. The EU regulator said that

since at least 2019, Microsoft's behavior protected its dominance on the market and gave Teams an advantage over rivals. This unfair advantage was also boosted by limited interoperability between Teams and competing software, watchdogs added.

"Preserving competition for remote communication and collaboration tools is essential as it also fosters innovation on these markets," the EU's competition commissioner Margrethe Vestager said on Tuesday.

Penalties for antitrust violations can be as high as 10% of a company's global revenue,

PENALTIES FOR ANITRUST VIOLATIONS CAN BE AS HIGH AS 10% OF A COMPANY'S GLOBAL REVENUE

although they seldom reach that level.

So far Microsoft's attempts to sidestep deeper scrutiny of its behaviour have failed to sway regulators. But the company promised to weigh further concessions that could may allow it to avoid punish-

ment. "Having unbundled Teams and taken initial interoperability steps, we appreciate the additional clarity provided today and will work to find solutions to address the commission's remaining concerns," Microsoft President Brad Smith said in a statement.

The EU's formal warning comes after messaging platform Slack made a complaint to the EU's antitrust watchdog 2019. Slack was acquired by Salesforce Inc., a leader in cloud-based customer management software, in a \$27.7 billion deal in 2021. Like many of

its peers, it's been hit by a slowdown in tech spending after the pandemic—announcing plans to cut about 10% of headcount after staffing nearly tripled in the past four years.

The use of Microsoft's Teams video app soared during the pandemic, when lockdowns across the globe forced millions into remote working and social distancing.

Within a short period of time, the application has grown from around 2 million worldwide daily users in its first year of operation in 2017, to 300 million in 2023, according to data from Statista.

IndiGo, Air India deploy AI to bolster customer service

Anu Sharma
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NEW DELHI: Two of India's largest airlines, IndiGo and Air India, are deploying artificial intelligence-based tools in their customer care operations to ensure that most customer queries are resolved at the virtual assistant level.

The airlines aim to minimise the time taken to address passenger queries and increase the efficiency of their customer care operations by leveraging AI tools.

For instance, India's largest domestic carrier IndiGo, which carries three out of five flyers in India, told *Mint* that following the implementation of its chatbot 6Eskai in November 2023, it has witnessed a 75% decline in



The airlines aim to minimise the time taken to address passenger queries and increase the efficiency of their customer care.

the workload of its customer service agents.

The low-cost carrier had developed 6Eskai in collaboration with Microsoft. The company's artificial intelligence chatbot is powered by OpenAI's large multimodal language model GPT-4, which is adept at generating text from textual and

visual input. "We have seen over 6,000 bookings made through 6Eskai over the website and mobile application. From March 2024 till date, over 39,000 boarding passes have been issued through the chatbot," an IndiGo spokesperson told *Mint*.

Also Read: IndiGo to receive

compensation from Pratt & Whitney for engine issues

"The 6Eskai application is currently transferring only 2-9% of chats to experts, as compared to Dottie (virtual chat assistant), which was transferring 14-19% chats, thereby boosting efficiency by about 5%."

"We also conduct daily scans of the customer chat interactions to improve the overall experience of our customers with regard to the AI chatbot," the spokesperson added.

Keeping up with competition The Tata group-owned Air India, the largest international operator in India, has also started seeing the impact of virtual assistants powered by generative artificial intelligence on its customer care operations.

Generative AI or GenAI is artificial intelligence that can

create original content, such as text, images and video, among others, from cues or prompts provided to it.

Air India had deployed a generative AI virtual agent 'Al.g' in 2023, which has handled more than two million customer queries so far. Normally, these queries would have required the assistance of a customer service agent in the absence of Al.g.

Following its deployment, Air India has managed to get a containment ratio of 93%, which means that only 7% of customer queries are escalated to a human agent.

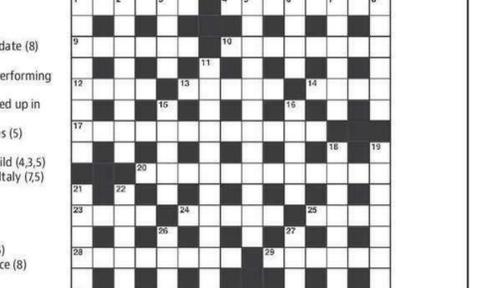
The airline's virtual agent handles over 1,300 topics and provides human-like responses and uses "general knowledge," which was absent in earlier versions of the AI-based tool, the airline said.

{ THE CROSSWORDS }

CRYPTIC CLUES

- ACROSS**
- Cash or credit? (6)
 - Partisan assembly produces a candidate (8)
 - Money for a horse (6)
 - Charm Tibetan leader with performing animals (8)
 - One expresses surprise being doubled up in laughter (2-2)
 - Distorts notes added after hostilities (5)
 - Is half a mile away from land (4)
 - Basic system goes crazy and runs wild (4,3,5)
 - It's inclined to attract sightseers in Italy (7,5)
 - Frank has nothing to write (4)
 - A grain seen only in oak (5)
 - Mineral in crystal-clear form (4)
 - The completely round (4,4)
 - It's worn by a woman for a dance (6)
 - Tender arrangement for Ted and Alice (8)
 - Is against using Latin (6)
- DOWN**
- They don't believe he requires foreign capital (8)
 - They open out for the novice (8)
 - Acquires, say, ornaments for the garden (4)
 - They should be carefully rounded inside and out (5,7)
 - I make an offer in place of a previous quotation (4)
 - Not quite out of St Malo (6)
 - Make an offer for a boat (6)
 - Pilot skill used to put down on shore (7,5)
 - She left under a cloud (5)
 - Declare the taste to be novel (5)
 - Those feeling the heat suit those feeling the cold (8)
 - Valuable - but too nice (8)
 - Clave for being drunk (6)
 - Give an account of prices to the public (6)
 - Elegant style in which ice cream is served (4)
 - Lift elbow to highest point (4)

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MONDAY'S SOLUTIONS (16895)

CRYPTIC

L I S T S T A L L I E S
A K G E E A A H
S K I U T T E R A N C E
O N I H C
A F F A B L E H A H A S
L L R E O
A L I G H T U S U R E R
N E O
I N T E R T R I N G L E T
O R N E O A
F A S C I N A T E G U T
E O S N D E E
R E S U M E D S H R E D

QUICK

P R O U D D E V I A T E
A U L U E R I N
S E T A L L T H U M B S
S O T C I U
I N F O R C E C H I M E
N T T L S
G R U M P Y F E E L E R
F A T O
S O N A R O P T I M U M
A T L O A A
U N C O N C E R N B I N
C U E D I A C
E M B A R G O C A D G E

QUICK CLUES

- ACROSS**
- Change course abruptly (6)
 - An unexpected gain (8)
 - Energetic activity (6)
 - Acute contagious disease (8)
 - Domesticated (4)
 - Frivolous (5)
 - Use bombastic language (4)
 - Progress effortlessly well (2,4,1,5)
 - Specifically (2,10)
 - Supporter (4)
 - Lesser (5)
 - Old (4)
 - Lumbersome (8)
 - Large non-venomous snake (6)
 - Expert shots (8)
 - Place of worship (6)
- DOWN**
- Deliberate damage (8)
 - Group of supporting dancers (8)
 - Depraved (4)
 - Without excess (2,10)
 - Boring (4)
 - Attractiveness (6)
 - Sickness (6)
 - In excellent health (3,2,1,6)
 - Malodorous American mammal (5)
 - Abstrud proceedings (5)
 - Pre-emptive component part (8)
 - Careful forethought (8)
 - Completely void space (6)
 - Bloom (6)
 - With deduction of (4)
 - Sort (4)

{ WEATHER }

TEMPERATURE HIGH + LOW

WEDNESDAY Thunderstorm with rain 38°C 28°C	THURSDAY Thunderstorm with rain 37°C 27°C	FRIDAY Thunderstorm with rain 37°C 25°C
-----------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------

{ SUDOKU }

DIFFICULTY LEVEL ★★★★★

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

Fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, column and each of the 9x9 squares contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

ALMANAC

Today is 26th June 2024

- 19 Dhul Hijah, 1445
- 05 Ashadha, Krishna Paksha, 05
- Sunrise: Wednesday at 07:22 p.m.
- Sunset: Thursday at 05:25 a.m.
- Moonset: Wednesday at 09:36 a.m.
- Moonrise: Wednesday at 11:04 p.m.

TEMPERATURE IN FOUR METROS

Delhi	38°C 28°C
Mumbai	32°C 25°C
Kolkata	35°C 28°C
Chennai	37°C 26°C



EURO 2024



Austria's Marko Arnautovic celebrates after his team scored against Netherlands in their Euro 2024 match in Berlin on Tuesday.

REUTERS

Irrepressible Austria beat Netherlands in a classic

A remarkable show sees Austria beat the former champions 3-2 and top Group D

Ashish Magotra
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NEW DELHI: Thirty-six years ago, on June 25, a Netherlands team that included Ruud Gullit and Marco Van Basten beat the Soviet Union 2-0 in the final of the European Championships to script one of the most famous days in Dutch history. Sadly enough, the 2024 anniversary of the day wasn't exactly a tribute to that one. There was the odd glimpse of magic but it remained an odd one as an exciting Austrian team managed to win 3-2 and come out on top in a classic. Over the years, Netherlands have matched up well against Austria. In the previous seven matches between the two sides, the Dutch had come out on top. In fact, the last time Austria beat them was in May 1990. Still, Tuesday was very much about the present. A great start for Austria saw them dominating possession in the early going while Netherlands simply seemed like a side that got off on the wrong side of the bed.

Netherlands manager Ronald Koeman was urging his team to go higher up the pitch, but before they could do that disaster struck in the form of another own goal in this championship. The passive Dutch team paying the ultimate price. A ball from Alexander Prass into a dangerous area got a desperate response as Donyell Malen (6' 0g) felt he needed to try and keep it out. He couldn't. Austria's counter-press is really good and if you want to match them, you have to do the same. As soon as they lose possession, they are quick to win it back. This isn't the game Netherlands usually play and it made things really difficult for them. In the 23rd minute, Malen sent one just wide. Tijjani Reijnders' clever reverse pass gave him the opportunity but a miskick saw it go just wide. He didn't look at the bench for Koeman was livid. A little composure and they would have drawn level. Strangely enough, for all their control, Austria had no attempts on the Dutch goal for the first 30 minutes while the Dutch, who had struggled, had managed to get at least two very decent chances. A sense of how dissatisfied Koeman was with the proceed-

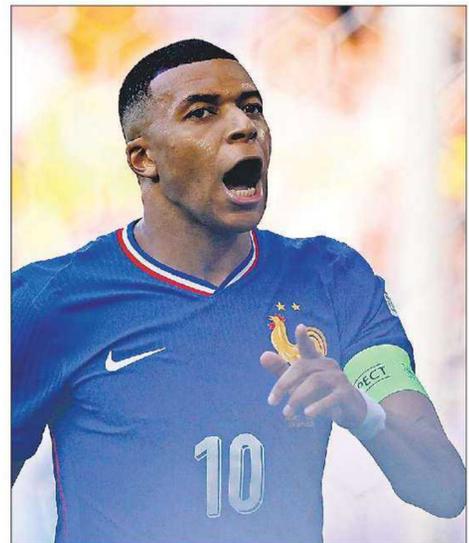
ings could be seen in his decision to make a substitution after just 35 minutes. Simons was brought in for Veerman. The Dutch play started becoming more dynamic but the Austrians were doing well to find the right balance. Around the 38th minute, Marko Arnautovic had an inviting opportunity to double Austria's lead, but he failed to connect properly after the ball dropped at his feet just eight yards out. At half-time, the Austrians would have certainly been the happier side. Prass, a left winger who now plays as left-back, had a particularly good half and seemed to be in the mix at both ends of the pitch. He helped Austria while going forward but Malen threw him a few defensive challenges as well. The challenge in the second half for Austria would be to somehow maintain their high intensity levels. But even before they could settle in, Netherlands got their equaliser. They did it in the most Austrian of ways -- they won the ball back quickly, launched a counter and then Cody Gakpo (47') showed incredible composure to slot it in. Koeman's half-time talk had an instant impact. The goal seemed to shake Austria a bit but just when you thought Netherlands were tak-

ing control, Austria scored with their first attack of the half. It was a wonderfully worked move that ended with a powerful header from Romano Schmid (59') which was deflected in by Stefan De Vrij. Things really heated up though when the Dutch found the net through Memphis Depay (75'). There was a VAR check for handball but nothing came off it and the match was all even again. **Bravehearts** But this wasn't a match for the faint-hearted and the Austrians didn't want to go home without a win. A fluid move in the 80th minute saw Marcel Sabitzer run on to a deft through ball before rifling it in. Austria, having won Group D, will now play the second-placed team from Group F in Leipzig on Tuesday. France, who finished second in Group D, will play the runners-up from Group E in Dusseldorf on Monday. The Netherlands have qualified for the knockout stages as a best third-placed side and, as it stands, will face England if the Three Lions top Group C. But more than anything else, this was the kind of game which showed why no one would like to play this Austrian side. They play hard, they put on a show and they always play to win.

Mbappe, Lewandowski spot kicks in stalemate

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MUMBAI: Although France had secured a spot in the round of 16, they were yet to hit top gear heading into their final Group D game on Tuesday. A scrappy 1-0 win over Austria and the stalemate with Netherlands didn't reflect their tag as tournament favourites. Against Poland at the BVB Stadion Dortmund, the Les Bleus were expected to banish all doubts, but couldn't as the match ended in a 1-1 draw after two second-half penalties.



Kylian Mbappe took off his mask to celebrate his goal from a spot kick against Poland on Tuesday.

REUTERS

All eyes were on Kylian Mbappe. The talismanic French skipper didn't feature against the Dutch because of the broken nose sustained against Austria, but started with a protective mask on. With a struggling Antoine Griezmann relegated to the bench, Mbappe switched tactics and continued to drop down the field to lend creative spark to French attacks. He couldn't score from open play but Mbappe got his first ever Euros goal from the spot. It seemed at the point that France would run away with the contest. But the Whites and Reds showed incredible grit to earn a penalty that was converted, after a retake, by skipper Robert Lewandowski. The result meant France finished second in the group while Poland were knocked out. Poland had all to play for. They had lost to Netherlands (2-1) and Austria (3-1) but a win could have helped finish among the best third-placed teams. They were however up against a French side that had kept clean sheets in its last four international games. Returning to Dortmund, where he had spent four memorable seasons from 2010, Lewandowski was always expected to lead the charge for Poland. The 35-year-old striker had an opportunity in the 34th minute but couldn't get his header on target despite being clear. In the 72nd minute, he did well to steal the ball and launch a shot from 30 yards out. But his moment finally came deep in the second half after Karol Swiderski was tripped inside the box by Dayot Upamecano. The referee awarded a penalty after a VAR check and up. Lewandowski was initially denied by Mike Maignan, but was given a second

attempt as the goalkeeper had stepped ahead of his line. The Polish captain didn't make any mistake the second time with a precise shot to the bottom corner. For France, it was another evening of missed opportunities. The first real threat then came in the 11th minute when Ousmane Dembele found space down the right flank and sent the ball across the goal. Theo Hernandez got a shot away at the far post but it was blocked by goalkeeper Lukasz Skorupski, who went on to have an impressive outing. Soon after, N'Golo Kante made a surging run forward and set up a shot for Dembele from close range, but Skorupski did well again to make himself big and deny the French. Kante was perhaps guilty of not finding Mbappe in the box after collecting the rebound. The 33-year-old midfielder, who won the player of the match award against Netherlands for a typically lung-busting performance, wasn't at his best this time and struggled to find his passing range. France began to look a lot more threatening about 40 minutes into the contest when Mbappe decided to stick to his position on the left.

The 25-year-old, who is tough to catch once he turns on the after-burners, linked up nicely with Bradley Barcola and managed to get behind the Polish defence on multiple occasions before the break. But he was thwarted by Skorupski each time. The second half began in the same vein as France continued to attack in waves. They had faced criticism for not being clinical in front of goal and Deschamps would have been tempted to ring in some early changes. But their persistence was finally rewarded in the 56th minute after Dembele was fouled inside the box. The 27-year-old used his pace to skip past Arsenal defender Jakob Kwini, who had been disciplined until then but was guilty of putting in an unnecessary sliding tackle this time. Mbappe slotted home the penalty with confidence and it seemed that would open the floodgates. However, it ended up being a match to forget for France as Poland went on the offensive against the run of play. Even after getting back on level terms, they continued to match their opponents in terms of attacks but neither team could find a winner.

TODAY'S MATCHES	
GROUP E	Slovakia vs Romania Venue: Frankfurt
	Ukraine vs Belgium Venue: Stuttgart Time: 9:30AM (IST)
GROUP F	Georgia vs Portugal Venue: Gelsenkirchen
	Czech vs Turkey Venue: Hamburg Time: 12:30AM (THURSDAY)
RESULTS	
Albania	0
Spain (Ferran Torres 13')	1
Croatia (Modric 55')	1
Italy (Zaccagni 90'+8)	1
France (Mbappe 56' pen)	1
Poland (Lewandowski 79' pen)	1
Netherlands (Gakpo 47', Depay 75')	2
Austria (Malen 6' og, Schmid 59', Sabitzer 80')	3

GROUP A						
TEAM	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Germany (Q)	3	2	1	0	6	7
Switzerland (Q)	3	1	2	0	2	5
Hungary	3	1	0	2	-3	3
Scotland	3	0	1	2	-5	1

GROUP B						
TEAM	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Spain (Q)	3	3	0	0	5	9
Italy (Q)	3	1	1	1	0	4
Croatia	3	0	2	1	-3	2
Albania	3	0	1	2	-2	1

GROUP C						
TEAM	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
England (Q)	2	1	1	0	1	4
Denmark	2	0	2	0	0	2
Slovenia	2	0	2	0	0	2
Serbia	2	0	1	1	-1	1

GROUP D						
TEAM	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Austria (Q)	3	2	0	1	2	6
France (Q)	3	1	2	0	1	5
Netherlands (Q)	3	1	1	1	0	4
Poland	3	0	1	2	-3	1

GROUP E						
TEAM	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Romania	2	1	0	1	1	3
Belgium	2	1	0	1	1	3
Slovakia	2	1	0	1	0	3
Ukraine	2	1	0	1	-2	3

GROUP F						
TEAM	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Portugal (Q)	2	2	0	0	4	6
Turkey	2	1	0	1	-1	3
Czech	2	0	1	1	-1	1
Georgia	2	0	1	1	-2	1

KICKING AROUND

SCHICK INJURY DOUBT FOR CZECHS
HAMBURG: The Czech Republic may have to do without key striker Patrik Schick in their final group game against Turkey due to injury, coach Ivan Hasek said. Bayer Leverkusen forward Schick hobbled off in the second half of the 1-1 draw with Georgia just nine minutes after scoring the equaliser. "Schick was in the care of doctors, physios and masseurs for two days, the injury is getting better. We'll see tomorrow," Hasek said. "He is a key player, one of the top scorers in Europe, but if he's not ready, somebody will have to replace him and I believe they will be ready for that." The Czechs need to beat Turkey in Hamburg to be sure of progressing from Group F.

SYDORCHUK FOR UKRAINE DREAM
STUTTGART: Ukraine midfielder Serhiy Sydorchuk said he hopes the team can provide the country with another reminder of life before the Russian invasion by reaching the last 16. Serhiy Rebrov's Ukraine go into Wednesday's game against Belgium with all four teams level on three points. "I can say what it will mean for the team, that we have accomplished our main mission," said the 33-year-old. "What will it mean for the country? That we will go on with this fairytale for several days for the whole country because we have been at war for almost 900 days."

Hang on to the Luka Modric memories

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KOLKATA: The announcement hasn't come yet, maybe it will following a holiday after the heart-break. But after a match where he went from regret to revelry in 33 seconds, becoming the oldest scorer in the European championship in the process, and from hope to disappointment with almost the last kick in Leipzig, Luka Modric has acknowledged the inevitable. "There will probably come a time when I have to hang up my boots," he said, after a player-of-the-match performance he would happily swap with Croatia staying on in Germany. Unlikely after Matija Zaccagni's right-foot bender made it 1-1 taking Italy to the round of 16 when till the 98th minute it looked like Croatia, leading by Modric's 55th minute strike, would get there at the defending champions' expense. With two points from three games, Croatia will have to hope for a string of results to go their way to be among the best four third-placed teams. Like the man he wished for a glorious career that ended in Kolkata on June 6, Modric, 39 in September, will keep playing for his club. "Don't know for how much longer," he said. So, if this is the last match in a major competition for another LMIO with a scruffy ginger beard, one slightly older, slightly taller and slightly more wily, how would it be remembered? In no particular order it would be Modric's ability to find space, more on the right and centre of the pitch but there was also an attempt at winning a footrace on the left. A 30th minute



delivery from the right was intercepted by Gianluigi Donnarumma and from a corner-kick taken short, Modric nearly found Luka Sucić. As the referee blew for half-time, Modric cushioned a long ball and handed it over. Barring Sucić's shot saved by Donnarumma, Croatia's superior possession had not yielded much. Ante Budimir's introduction was a bid to change that but before he had a say in the proceedings, Croatia won a penalty when Andrej Kramaric's shot hit David Fratessi's hand. Modric's shot was saved by Donnarumma going

down in a flash to his left; the Italy goalkeeper reprising his Euro 2020 form and not Champions League knockout matches in between. In less than a minute, Josip Stanišić found Sucić whose long ball had Budimir getting a vital touch. Donnarumma saved that but couldn't get up when Modric, off-balance, blasted the rebound into the roof of the net. "He always sees the right option. He's got enviable technique," Croatia coach Zlatko Dalic had told World Soccer before Euro 2024. It is rare for Modric to score from a rebound

but even in his 178th international, it is not rare for him to be at the right place at the right time. Overwhelmingly of Argentine persuasion, Doha's Lusail Stadium acknowledged that in 2022 when Modric came off in the World Cup semi-final. At 38 years and 289 days, the goal made Modric the oldest scorer in the European championship beating Ivica Vastic's 2008 mark by 32 days. With Cristiano Ronaldo around, that record may not be his for long though. A challenge on Fratessi fetched a booking and Modric's last touch was a

swat with the outside of the right boot that sent Marcelo Brozovic scootering and essaying a cross for Budimir which was flicked away by Alessandro Bastoni. The Italy defender had two headers at the other end, one producing a stunning save from Dominik Livakovic, but this clearance kept Croatia from going 2-0 up in the 80th minute. As Modric walked away to applause, having handed over the armband to Ivan Perisic, Zaccagni entered. Modric spent the next few minutes holding the edge of the roof of the dugout, gnashing his

shirt when not doing that or cupping hands in front of his mouth. Yet, time didn't tick as fast as he wanted and when Zaccagni struck, like Alessandro del Piero did in the 2006 World Cup semi-final, Modric slumped in his seat. Not far away, Riccardo Calafiori wept with joy. When all seemed lost, when Croatia, having absorbed the pressure from Italy, were controlling the last few minutes, Calafiori had driven forward and after drawing defenders towards him, played on Zaccagni. Italy scored with their only shot on target in the second half. Goodbye despair, hello delirium. Not since 2004 have Italy not qualified for the knockout rounds in this competition. Conceding a goal in the 95th minute against Albania and even later on Monday ruined Croatia's campaign in a tournament they have never done well. "Football was merciless tonight," said Modric. Nearly as bad as Croatia scoring in the 119th minute but Turkey equalising in the 122nd in the quarter-finals of the 2008 Euros, he said. Modric was two years into international football then. In Doha, when Croatia had come back against Japan and Brazil — Modric initiating the 117th minute equaliser — before winning on penalties, he had been on the right side of late goals. As he has had been during Real's escape to victories in the Champions League, that outside-of-the-boot pass against Chelsea in 2022 being just one example of Modric's genius. "He is footballing perfection," Dalic has said. Modric has played better games for club and country but try arguing with that.

SPAIN COACH PLAYS DOWN FAVOURITES TAG AFTER PERFECT GROUP OUTINGS

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MUMBAI: Spain's coach Luis de la Fuente rang in 10 changes to his starting XI. La Roja, already assured of a round of 16 spot after beating Croatia and Italy, could afford that luxury when they took on Albania on Monday night. A 1-0 win completed a smooth run as they topped Group B with full points. Spain were in control after taking an early lead through Ferran Torres. For the first time, Spain finished the group stage at the Euro without conceding a goal. After their title winning run in 2008, it was the second time they have won all three of their group games. In fact, they've lost just one of their previous 15 games in the opening stage of this tournament. Such has been their dominance that in their last 11 competitive matches, they have 10 wins and a draw. "We have a route ahead of us and we're playing phenomenally," said Torres after winning the player of the match award. "We're a family, very tightly knit. The thing about this team is that everyone is ready to be in the first XI." On Spain being rated as the favourites, coach de la Fuente said: "The best 16 teams in Europe will be in the next round, so I give no importance to us being favourites. One day you can be at the top, the next you can be nothing. Let's not put extra pressure on these players."

SPORT

How Bumrah, Kuldeep are proving to be the difference

The pacer and wrist spinner have paired up to give India's bowling a miserly, lethal advantage

Ashish Magotra

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NEW DELHI: You think T20 cricket. You think sixes. You think heavy bats. You think of batters with a license to bash. You think of bowling machines (for that is what bowlers are usually).

But then put all that together and think about it as a captain. What is it that you need to win matches? One, you need batters ready to play the game the way it needs to be played. Two, you need players who buck the trend, go against the grain; players who will be your difference makers.

And that is what pacer Jasprit Bumrah and left-arm wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav are proving to be for India. Of Bumrah, there was never any doubt. He runs in and makes his play day after day, game after game, delivery after delivery, in every format, rarely if ever taking a false step. Oppositions, the ones that are smart at least, simply look to get through his overs without taking too much damage.

Bumrah's bowling figures through the tournament have reflected how he has attained a rare mastery in the most difficult of arts - bowling economically in a T20 game. His economy of 4.08 in the 2024 T20 World Cup shows how he has been almost unplayable.

But coming into the tournament, the big question for India was who other than Bumrah. The pacer's class isn't a secret, but if the rest of the bowlers didn't raise their game, India could suffer.

The conditions played into India's hands during the USA leg of the tournament with pacers get-



Kuldeep Yadav and Jasprit Bumrah have managed to keep batters reined in.

ting plenty of assistance from the pitch and the conditions. But the real tournament would only begin in the Caribbean, on pitches that would be slower and better for batting. In other words, not ideal for pacer bowlers.

The switch that the conditions demanded was not lost on the Indian team management. Out went Mohammed Siraj and in came Kuldeep Yadav. The spinner had been on drinks duty in the USA, but now he was being asked to assume the lead role.

Kuldeep wasn't fazed in the least, rather he relished the oppor-

tunity to shine. He has snared seven wickets in the three matches and done so at an economy rate of just 6.25.

More importantly, many opponents could make up their mind and play out Bumrah while trying to make up for it elsewhere, but with Kuldeep's variations clicking, the pressure is ramped up in the best way possible for India.

This was clear in the game, against Australia, on a good batting wicket in St Lucia on Monday. Travis Head gave them a rollicking start and at the end of the Power-

play, the Aussies had reached 65/1 - keeping the required run-rate well within reach.

That is when Kuldeep was introduced into the attack. The last four overs before his introduction in the attack had gone for 14, 14, 12 and 17 runs respectively. But the spinner put the brakes on the Australian innings right away with a four-run over.

Hardik's next over, the eighth of the innings, was carted for another 14 runs. But then, with a serious wind blowing across the ground, Kuldeep produced another tight over. The first five balls saw just four runs scored and then, off the last, Australian skipper Mitch Marsh felt the need to go for the release shot. He got the ball too - a nice long

GROUP 1					
TEAM	P	W	L	NRR	Pts
IND (Q)	3	3	0	2.017	6
AFG (Q)	3	2	1	-0.305	4
AUS	3	1	2	-0.331	2
BAN	3	0	3	-1.709	0

GROUP 2					
TEAM	P	W	L	NRR	Pts
SA (Q)	3	3	0	0.599	6
ENG (Q)	3	2	1	1.992	4
WI	3	1	2	0.963	2
USA	3	0	3	-3.906	0

FIXTURES
SEMI-FINAL 1
Afghanistan vs South Africa
Time: 6AM (Thursday)
Venue: Tarouba
SEMI-FINAL 2
England vs India
Time: 8PM (Thursday)
Venue: Providence

EFI recommends Anush for dressage at Olympics

Shantanu Srivastava

sportsdesk@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Asian Games medalist Anush Agarwalla will be India's entry in the Olympics dressage at next month's Paris Olympics, Equestrian Federation of India (EFI) announced on Tuesday. The 25-year-old was named ahead of the experienced Shruti Vora, 53, in a close contest to become the first Indian to represent the country in dressage, an event that judges the rider-horse movements over a series of routines.

Agarwalla, who is based in Borchern, Germany, aggregated four Minimum Eligibility Requirements (MERs) in the International Equestrian Federation's (FEI) qualification window that opened on January 1, 2023 and closed on June 24 this year. Three of Agarwalla's four MERs came last year between October-December while the most recent one was achieved on June 21 courtesy a 20th-place finish in Kronberg, Germany where he scored 67.022 points.

A day later, Vora, astride her 12-year-old gelding Magnanimous, finished second with a score of 68.174 at the Brno Grand Prix in Czech Republic to secure her second MER. It came just a fortnight after her historic win at the Grand Prix in Lipica, Slovenia, where her 67.761 points earned Vora her first MER, and underscored her sizzling form.

"Agarwalla has been consistent since the Qualification period began last year and achieved Minimum Eligibility Requirement four times while veteran Shruti Vora earned the required two MERs this month," EFI said in a statement on Tuesday.

As per EFI's selection guidelines released this February, in case of multiple contenders meeting the criterion, "the athlete with the highest average in Grand Prix out of the best 4 events in the past one year shall be chosen to participate." Agarwalla averaged just 0.532 points more than Vora, according to



Indian dressage rider Anush Agarwalla.

EFI. His four MERs are 67.936% (Wiesbaden, May 2024), 68.261% (December 2023 in Mechelen), 67.152% (December 2023 in Frankfurt), and 67.804% (October 2023 in Wroclaw).

"When an average was taken out of the contenders in the assessment, Anush emerged winner. He had an average score of 67.695% which was better than Shruti's 67.163%," EFI said.

The federation's reinstated Executive Committee recommended Agarwalla's name on Monday. The deadline to send the Certificate of Capability to FEI ended on Tuesday.

"It was a unanimous decision taken by EFI's Executive Committee. We went strictly by the book. Agarwalla's average scores were better and so the committee recommended his name," Colonel SS Ahlawat, a member of the EC, said.

Vora, however, was upset with EFI's call and is likely to approach the court on Wednesday.

"We are truly saddened by EFI's decision, but not dispirited by the Federation's flawed decision. An appropriate legal recourse will be resorted to," Vora's counsel Major Nirvikar Singh said.

Vora's coach, Major Jitendarjit Singh Ahluwalia, also denounced EFI's decision, calling it "arbitrary and incorrect."

"There are multiple discrepancies in EFI's decision. They claim to have taken recent performances into account, but if you look at that yardstick, Shruti has better scores than Anush in 2024. Overlooking current form for last year's performance is arbitrary and incorrect," Ahluwalia, the first Indian to win an Asian Games medal in dressage in 1986, said.

"Secondly, EFI released their selection criterion this February and decided to look at Anish's retrospective scores, which is not fair. The qualifying period should effectively begin after the declaration of criterion and not retrospectively," he added.

Paris 2024 will be India's second successive appearance in equestrian following Fouaad Mirza's representation in eventing at the 2020 Tokyo Games. Before him, Imtiaz Anees competed in the 2000 Sydney Games while Indrajit Lamba took the field in 1996 Atlanta Games. Vora's coach Ahluwalia, Hussain Singh, Mohammed Khan, and Darya Singh had all competed at the 1980 Moscow Games.

TAMIL NADU HANDICRAFTS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of Tamil Nadu Undertaking)
Head Office - 759, Anna Salai, Chennai-2.
No. 0047/M/123-24
E-TENDER NOTICE Dated: 26.06.2024
Applications are invited for allotment of handicrafts sales counters in selected Poompuhar Sales Showrooms of Tamil Nadu Handicrafts Development Corporation Limited for the period from 01.08.2024 to 31.07.2025. The tender documents shall be downloaded from the following websites between 26.06.2024 and 11.07.2024 (Thursday) www.tntenders.gov.in and www.poompuhar.com
Last date & time for downloading of tender document through on-line: 11.07.2024 upto 10.00 AM
Last date & time for submission of tender document through on-line: 11.07.2024 upto 11.00 AM
Date & time of opening of tender document: 11.07.2024 at 4.00 PM
DIPR/2075/TENDER/2024 Managing Director

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH CHANDIGARH
E-TENDER NOTICE 2024/A-2 ALLOTMENT OF SHOPS/SITES
Tenders are invited under two bid system for allotment of under mentioned shops/sites:-
1. Built up Shop No. 20, New Shopping Complex, PGIMER, Sector 12, Chandigarh.
2. Built up Shop No. 26, New Shopping Complex, PGIMER, Sector 12, Chandigarh.
3. Built up Shop No. 30, New Shopping Complex, PGIMER, Sector 12, Chandigarh.
4. Built up Chemist Shop No. 2, New Shopping Complex for sale of medicines, drugs and surgical items at PGIMER, Sector 12, Chandigarh.
5. Built up Chemist Shop No. 4, New Shopping Complex for sale of medicines, drugs and surgical items at PGIMER, Sector 12, Chandigarh.
6. Shop No. 8, New Shopping Complex at PGIMER, Sector 12, Chandigarh for opening a Restaurant (Non-Traditional).
Closing date & time: 15.07.2024 at 11.00 AM
The link for the e-Bidding portal is <http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>
Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at <http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>
Website: <http://pgimer.edu.in>
PGI RC Advt. 2024 HR-00028 DIRECTOR

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN, RAJASTHAN STATE HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY, JAIPUR
No. F.7 (22)/RSA/WB/T-I-e-PMS/2023-24/0-454 Date: 18.06.24
NIT No. 06/2024-25
Bids for Consultancy services for Development and Complete implementation of the e-PCMS application, along with Five-year Operation and Maintenance period are invited from the interested bidders upto 11.00 AM on 18.07.2024. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on website <https://eprocure.rajasthan.gov.in> / <https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in>
The approximate value of work is Rs. 2.31 Crores.
UBN No. (PWB/2425SL0801002) Sd/-
Member (W & O) RSHA, Jaipur
Dipr/4689/2024

30प्र0 लोक सेवा आयोग
विज्ञापित
एतद्वारा अभ्यर्थियों को सूचित किया जाता है कि 30प्र0 लोक सेवा आयोग, प्रयागराज द्वारा अद्यतन जारी समस्त विज्ञापनों में उल्लिखित पदों के सापेक्ष आयोजित की जाने वाली वस्तुनिष्ठ परीक्षाओं में माओ आयोग के निर्णय के क्रम में प्रयुक्त होने वाली उत्तर पत्रक तीन प्रतिवियों में होगी, जिसमें प्रथम प्रति मूल प्रति-गुलाबी, द्वितीया प्रति संरक्षित प्रति-हरी तथा तीसरी प्रति अभ्यर्थी प्रति-नीली होगी। परीक्षा समाप्त के पश्चात् OMR Answer Sheet की मूल प्रति तथा संरक्षित प्रति अंतरीक्षक जमा कर लेंगे एवं तीसरी प्रति (अभ्यर्थी प्रति-नीली) अभ्यर्थी अपने साथ ले जायेंगे।
संख्या- 1761/14/Misc./ई-1/2000-2001 T.C.I
दिनांक: प्रयागराज, 25 जून, 2024
अशोक कुमार (सचिव)

SHIMLA JAL PRABANDHAN NIGAM LIMITED
NOTICE INVITING E-PROCUREMENT TENDER
Online bids on Item Rate basis are invited by the Additional General Manager Water Distribution SJPWL, Shimla-171001, Himachal Pradesh on the behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh, in electronic tendering system in two covers for the under mentioned work from contractors/firms of appropriate class enlisted with any department/Government undertaking.

Sr. No.	Description of work	Estimated Cost	Earnest Money	Time	Cost of Form
1.	Name of Work:- Improvement of LWSS GRI (SH- Providing and Installation of Multi stage High Pressure HGB 4/6 Pump (Make KSB) with HT Motor 600KW/2P/11KV (Make:- Siemens/ABB/BHEL along with suitable Control Panel 11KV, 800A at First Stage Balyog & Second Stage Ukhalhdar).	Rs. 3,64,06,400/- Only	Rs. 396565/- Only	1 Year	5000/- Only

KEY DATES WILL BE AS UNDER:-
a) Date of online Publication: From 24.06.2024 5.00 pm
b) Downloading of e-tender documents: From 24.06.2024 5.00 pm up to 09.07.2024 11.00 am
c) Date of submission of e-tender: From 24.06.2024 5.00 pm up to 09.07.2024 11.00 am
d) Physical submission of EMD cost of tender form and eligibility documents: Up-To 09.07.2024 11.00 am
e) Date of opening of bids:- 09.07.2024 11.30 am
Cover-1 Eligibility Criteria: 09.07.2024 11.30 am
Cover-2 Financial Bid: Shall be intimated separately
f) Site Visit: -
The tender forms and other detailed conditions can be downloaded from the website <https://tntenders.gov.in>
Additional General Manager, Water Supply, Division, US Club, Shimla-171001
DPR HP-0097

ICFRE-Forest Research Institute
P.O. New Forest, Dehradun - 248 006, Uttarakhand
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
NIT No. 42-26/2024-25/HOD/Engineering/Civil
The Head, Engineering Cell, FRI, Dehradun invites on behalf of Director, FRI Dehradun online item rate bids from approved and eligible contractors of CPWD, MES, Railways, P & T, State PWD & other Govt. and Semi-Govt. Department including local bodies etc:

Sl. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost Rs.	Earnest Money Rs.	Tender fee including GST Rs.	Time of completion	Last date and time of online submission of the bid
1.	Making Additional toilet in first floor of office building of IRO, MoEF & CC. Tender ID 2024_ICFRE_813225_1	2,40,300/-	5,000/-	590/-	45 days	08.07.2024 up-to 3.00 P.M.

• The tender forms and other details can be obtained from the website <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>.
Head Engineering Cell, ICFRE-Forest Research Institute Dehradun

POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF UTTARAKHAND LTD.
(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Enterprise)
"Vidyut Bhawan" Near ISBT Crossing, Saharanpur Road, Majra, Dehradun-248002
Corporate ID U40101UR2004SGC02875 Tel. No. 0135-2642711
E-TENDER NOTICE
Power Transmission Corporation of Uttarakhand Limited invites E-Tender for "Augmentation of transformer capacity from 55 MVA (2x20 MVA + 3x5 MVA) to 85 MVA (2x20 MVA + 3x15 MVA) at 132 kV Substation Bhowali against tender specification No. PTCUL/E-Tender/C&P-I/SS-03/2024-25". The last date of submission of e-bid is 27.07.2024 upto 15:30 Hrs. For more details please visit e-tender website www.uktenders.gov.in (tender id no. 2024_PTCUL1_72591_1) and for e-tender notice our website www.ptcul.org.
For any assistance on E-Tendering, please contact +91-8999890000
Superintending Engineer (C&P-I)
RO No. 1059/HQPU/PTCUL Dated 24.06.2024
"Save Electricity in the Interest of Nation"

MPIDC MADHYA PRADESH INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
(Government of M.P. Undertaking)
SECRETARIAT FOR SINGLE WINDOW SYSTEM
21, Arera Hills, Bhopal-462011, M.P. (India), (CIN : U51102MP1977SGC001392)
Tel. : (91) 0755-2571830, 2575618, 3523555, 3523505
E-Mail: helpdesk@mpidc.co.in, Website: www.invest.mp.gov.in
(Ref. No.: MPIDC/SWS-RFP/2024/NIT 166, 167)
No. 52/MPIDC/LM/AII RO/NIT-166, 167 Date : 26.06.2024

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR ALLOTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL AND WAREHOUSING PLOTS THROUGH E-BIDDING

Department of Industrial Policy and Investment Promotion (DIPIP), Government of Madhya Pradesh through MP Industrial Development Corporation Limited (A Govt. of M.P. Undertaking) has invited Online Tender cum Auction (E-forward auction) for allotment of available industrial plots in industrial area at Bhopal, Sehore, Rajgarh, Ratlam, Khargone, Burhanpur, Mandla, Jabalpur, Gwalior, Bhind, Rewa, Dhar, Jhabua, Barwani, Katni, Satna, Panna, Shajapur, Singrauli and Mandasaur. The Process of which will start on the <https://www.mptenders.gov.in> from 01.07.2024.

The important conditions of E-bidding for the plot are as follows-

- The allotment of industrial plots will be governed by the provisions of "Madhya Pradesh State Industrial Land and Building Management Rules 2019 (as amended 2022)".
- The application fee for each plot will be Rs 5000/- and GST amount will be payable separately. Application fee is non-refundable (Rule 11(ii)).
- In addition to the application fee, 25% advance land premium amount of the prevailing rate on the date of application for the applied Plot will have to be deposited online, which will be adjustable at the time of allotment. (Rule 11(v)).
- The base price for e-bidding will be the sum of the Land Premium and Development Cost of the plot. Minimum bid amount over and above the base price Rs. Will be Rs 1,00,000/- (Rule 12(ii)(c)(4)).
- To participate in e-bidding, it is necessary to have Class 3 Digital Signature. Detailed information about rules, procedure and plots etc. can also be viewed on MPIDC website - <https://invest.mp.gov.in>.
- Corrigendum related to e-bidding process, if any, will not be published in the newspaper, it will be uploaded on <https://mptenders.gov.in/> portal.

M.P. Madhyam/115051/2024

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR MANAGING DIRECTOR

बिहार पुलिस अकादमी, राजगीर नालंदा
निविदा विज्ञापन संख्या : 04/2024
बिहार पुलिस अकादमी, राजगीर प्रशिक्षण संस्थान में स्थापित Small Arms Simulator (08 Lane), Zen Technology Ltd. Hyderabad द्वारा अधिष्ठापित है, जिसका उपयोग अकादमी में प्रशिक्षणार्थ प्रशिक्षु पुलिस पदाधिकारियों के प्रशिक्षण हेतु किया जाता है उक्त Simulator का वारंटी अवधि दिनांक-31.10.2023 को समाप्त हो रहा है, जिसका उचित रख-रखाव हेतु Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) कराया जाना है। उक्त Simulator के 12 माह के रख-रखाव के लिए AMC हेतु निविदा के माध्यम से इच्छुक निविदा दाताओं से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। जिन निविदादाताओं का सबसे कम रेट का कोटेशन प्राप्त होगा, उन्हें उक्त Simulator के रख-रखाव के लिए AMC हेतु अंतिम रूप से चयन किया जायेगा।

निविदा डालने की संक्षिप्त प्रक्रिया		
निविदा डालने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक 15/07/2024 अपराह्न 05.00 बजे तक	
निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक 16/07/2024 11.00 बजे पूर्वार्द्ध	

निविदा के लिए निर्धारित शर्तें
1. सभी निविदादाता अपनी-अपनी निविदा पुलिस अधीक्षक सह सहायक निदेशक (प्रशिक्षण), बिहार पुलिस अकादमी, राजगीर के नाम से दिनांक-15/07/2024 तक समय 17.00 बजे तक अपनी-अपनी निविदा बिहार पुलिस अकादमी, राजगीर में निर्धारित निविदा बॉक्स में जमा कर सकते हैं।
2. यह निविदा सूचना एवं नियमावली अकादमी के वेबसाइट www.bpa.bihar.gov.in से डाउनलोड कर सकते हैं।
आवेदन प्राप्त एवं विस्तृत विवरण state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar पर देखी जा सकती है।
सहायक निदेशक (प्रशिक्षण)
बिहार पुलिस अकादमी, राजगीर
PR-002462 (Police) 2024-25
नये से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार

BIHAR MEDICAL SERVICES & INFRASTRUCTURE CORPORATION LTD.
(A Govt. of Bihar Undertaking)
2nd & 3rd Floor, Swasthya Bhawan, Behind IGIMS, Sheikhpura, Patna-800014
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS
Re-tender for Empanelment of Agencies for supply of Stationary (Only through E-Tender on Website: <https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in>)
Re-tender No.-BMSIC/10035/04-2023/03

- Bihar Medical Services & Infrastructure Corporation Limited (BMSICL) intends to empanel agencies for supply of stationary items to its Patna Head Office.
- BMSICL invites e-bids in this regard from interested Agencies. Detailed tender document containing eligibility criteria, details of EMD, tender fees and other terms & conditions are available on the website <https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in>.
- To participate in E-Tender the bidder has to be registered with E-Tendering service provider. For this, help desk - mjunction services limited, RJ complex, 2nd Floor, Canara Bank Campus, Khajpura, Ashiana Road, P-5 Shastri Nagar, Patna-800014, Toll Free No-18005726571, Email-ID: https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in can be approached.
- Schedule of Tender:
Tender Reference No. BMSIC/10035/04-23/03
Bid Submission Start Date From 28.06.2024, 11:00 AM on <https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in>
Pre-Bid Meeting Date & Place On 02.07.2024, 03:00 PM in 3rd Floor Conference Hall of BMSICL, Swasthya Bhawan, Behind IGIMS, Sheikhpura, Patna.
Bid Submission Last Date Up to 22.07.2024, 05:00 PM on <https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in>
Last date and time for submission of EMD (Only in the form of BG) in hard copy (Offline mode) & tender document Up to 23.07.2024, 03:00 PM in the office of BMSICL, Patna (2nd & 3rd Floor, Swasthya Bhawan, Behind IGIMS, Sheikhpura, Patna.)
Opening of Technical Bid 23.07.2024, 03:30 PM on the e-proc2 Portal
Tender Fees (Including GST) Rs. 11800/- (Eleven Thousand Eight Hundred only)
Non-refundable (Only Online mode on eproc2 Bihar)
Bid Processing Fee Rs 590/- (Five hundred ninety only) Non-refundable (Only Online mode on eproc2 Bihar).

5. For any further clarification, regarding the contents of the tender document, bidders can call on 9471006251 during office hours.
6. All further, notifications/amendments/Corrigendum/Addendum (if any), shall be posted on <https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in> No separate communication shall be made to individual bidders.
For further details please visit : www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar GM(Admin) PR-002491 (B & C) 2024-25 BMSICL
नये से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार

A T20 batter who excelled in Tests, Warner exits stage

Sanjeev K Samyal
sanjeev.samyal@htlive.com

MUMBAI: If David Warner had to write his own script, how he would have loved to bow out of the game holding aloft the ICC T20 World Cup trophy in his hands. In his mind, the dashing Australian opener must have marked out Kensington Oval at Bridgetown, Barbados, on June 29, as the venue and date of his swansong.

Not all scripts, of course, go as plan. A blinder from Rohit Sharma to beat Australia and Afghanistan's subsequent win over Bangladesh dashed Warner's hopes of bowing out in a blaze of glory. He has already retired from Tests last year and ODIs at the start of this year. Warner's final innings now will be six off six balls in the defeat against India. He walked off the pitch, not knowing whether that was indeed his last game. There was no guard of honour or standing ovation.

Never mind the low-key end to his career, it's been a highly fulfilling 15-year international career. Warner had long signalled that this T20 World Cup would be his last and T20 cricket would be an apt way to sign off. He has been a product of the format, first making a name as a T20 specialist. He announced his arrival on the international stage with a spectacular 89/43 balls on T20 debut against South Africa in 2009, becoming the first man since 1877 to debut for Australia before playing first-class cricket. As his Delhi Daredevils captain Virender Sehwag had predicted, Warner went on to become a highly effective Test player as well.

Warner, who has 49 centuries across formats and close to 19,000 runs in international cricket, retires as Australia's highest scorer in T20s with 3,277 runs from 110 matches, at an average of 33.43 and strike rate of 142.47. From 112 Tests, he has scored 8,786 runs at an average of 44.59 with 26 hundreds and 37 fifties between 2011 and 2024. He also scored 6,932 runs from 161 ODIs at an average of 45.30 with the help of 22 centuries and 33 half-centuries. All-format players seldom come in greater quality.



David Warner. AFP

Ricky Ponting paid glowing tributes. "We know he retired in the summer from Tests, but you'll struggle to find a guy that's had as big an impact on all three forms in Australian cricket than Warner has," Ponting said during the ICC's Digital Daily show.

Teammate Josh Hazlewood acknowledged that Warner's absence in the dressing room would be hard to fill. "We'll definitely miss him around the group, out in the field and off-field. (An) amazing career," he said.

"It's sort of been a slow burn with Test cricket, and ODI cricket and now T20. So, life without him, we've sort of gotten used to it a little bit... it's always different when you lose a player that's been there for so long."

But for all his exploits on the pitch, Warner's career has also been dotted with controversies in equal measure. His batting feats will forever be overshadowed by his role as the chief protagonist of the Newlands ball-tampering scandal of 2018. He was charged as the man who instructed teammate Cameron Bancroft to use sandpaper on the ball. Suspended from cricket for a year, Warner was also banned for life from taking up any leadership role in Australia.

"I think it's going to be inevitable that when people talk about me in 20 or 30 years' time, there will always be that sandpaper scandal," he said last week.

Steely Rashid carves his name in Afghanistan's cricket history

Spinner's three sixes and a four-wicket haul central to epic win that booked first T20 World Cup semis spot for Afghanistan

Somshuvra Laha
somshuvra.laha@htlive.com

KOLKATA: Rashid Khan was furious. Scratch that. Livid. Karim Janat had just done an unthinkable—turn down a run Rashid felt could have been stolen. Stranded mid-pitch, Rashid sent the bat crashing at the ground in frustration, not even trying to hide his rage. Probably realising what he hadn't done, Janat couldn't look into Rashid's eyes while returning his bat. Rashid didn't care though. One-man army he was by then, looking to clobber as many as he could. A back of the hand slower ball from Tanzim Sakib made Rashid fluff his slog, but the next ball came clean off his bat for a 98m six.

Magnitude of that six—out of the three Rashid had hit in a 10-ball 19—won't be lost anytime soon in the aftermath of Bangladesh's eight-run defeat to Afghanistan in a nervous-energy sapping, stirring chase that only got more edgy with three rain interruptions. Only Bangladesh know how to make a match out of a simple task—score 116 in 12.4 overs to pip Afghanistan and Australia in the semi-finals race with the pitch becoming decidedly better with time. Bangladesh lost two wickets in two balls but Litton Das calmly stood guard through it all, shoring hopes of a likely comeback.

Rashid was calmer. Naveen-ul-haq struck those twin blows early but at the heart of this epic win was yet another classic spell from Rashid, working his way through the heart of Bangladesh's batting. Rishad Hossain didn't have the



Afghanistan in World Cups

The Rashid Khan-led team has made it to the semis of an ICC event for the first time. Their Cup record

IN ODI WORLD CUPS

Year	Stage	P	Won	Lost
2015	Group	6	1	5
2019	Group	9	9	0
2023	Group	9	4	5

Note: Did not qualify for 2007 and 2011 World Cups

IN T20 WORLD CUPS

Year	Stage	P	Won	Lost
2010	Group	2	2	0
2012	Group	2	2	0
2014	1st Rd	3	1	2
2016	Super 10	7	4	3
2021	Super 12	5	2	3
2024	SF*	7	5	2

Note: Did not qualify for 2007 and 2009 T20 World Cups *ONGOING

maturity to read that googly but each of the other three wickets were well-deserved. To fox Soumya Sarkar with a skidder on a pitch where the ball was coming on to the bat well was something only Rashid could have pulled off. Towhid Hridoy's dismissal was plotted superbly, asking him to go with the wind but Hridoy couldn't connect properly. Luring Mahmudullah—possibly Bangladesh's best player of spin—with a fuller ball was also something only Rashid could have achieved.

That most batters still can't read Rashid even after a decade is one of the biggest joys of watching him bowl. But that's just a part of the Rashid the world saw in the most important match of his career till date. Voice of reason, hope, inspiration, leader—

Rashid was everything and more while he slowly carved out a win that can potentially change Afghanistan's wheel of fortune.

Rashid can hit the ball long but that 19 will find its place in Afghan cricketing folklore purely because of the circumstances in which it came. A fifty-run opening stand is par for the course when Afghanistan bat these days but runs were coming excruciatingly slow, with Taskin Ahmed, Mustafizur Ahmed and Shakib Al Hasan conceding just 48 runs in 12 overs. Sixty six dots were bowled, the last of them coming against Rashid but he more than made up with those three sixes.

No one else could have bowled that 13th over as well, effectively eliminating Bangladesh. It was a risky move too, since it meant

bowling himself out with six overs still left in the chase. But Rashid took the gamble. It was a rollercoaster ride throughout. Rashid was animated, Dwayne Bravo wasn't able to watch as coach Jonathan Trott kept asking everyone to slow down the game because of impending rain.

Bangladesh lost wickets, but hung on to hope courtesy Das who survived a close leg-before review in the 16th over. Twelve from 12, and it couldn't have gotten closer, though completely gettable from Bangladesh's perspective since Das was still unbeaten. Another reprieve, this time Naveen failing to hold on to a return catch third ball of the 18th over, and Bangladesh would have probably heaved a sigh of relief. But in the commotion, Das had

taken a single to get to 54, bringing Taskin on strike. Naveen bowled a slower one, prompting Taskin to go at it but he only managed to chop the ball onto his stumps. Next ball, Naveen kept it straight and angling in, trapping Mustafizur plumb to seal Afghanistan's maiden entry into the World Cup semifinals, prompting delirious scenes in the Afghanistan dugout.

Naveen took off on a long, winding victory sprint. Gurbaz broke into tears. Gulbadin Naib, showing no trace of the cramps that made him drop to the ground during the 13th over, raced to get one of the stumps. Rashid was hugging everyone before he had been lifted on shoulders. This was his night; this was Afghanistan's moment under the sun.

ICC T20 WORLD CUP

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Duckworth dies at the age of 84

NEW DELHI: English statistician and one of the inventors of the Duckworth-Lewis-Stern (DLS) method, Frank Duckworth died at the age of 84, according to a report in ESPNcricinfo.com. The DLS method is based on a complex statistical analysis that considers many factors like wickets remaining and overs lost, among others, to set a revised target for the chasing team in white-ball cricket.

India to open vs Pak in T20 Asia Cup

NEW DELHI: Defending champions India Women will open their campaign against Pakistan on July 19 in the T20 Asia Cup to be held in Dambulla. The top eight teams of the continent will participate in the tournament from July 19 till July 28. India will take on UAE on July 21, Nepal on July 23. The top two teams from each group will qualify for the semifinals to be held on July 26 while the final is scheduled for July 28.

Delhi judoka Tulika secures Paris quota

NEW DELHI: CWG silver medalist Tulika Maan secured a Paris Olympics quota in judo in the 78kg category. The Delhi girl was ranked 36th with 1345 points. The qualification period was between June 22, 2022 and June 23, 2024.

Sai Sudharsan returns to Surrey

LONDON: Indian batter Sai Sudharsan will return to England to play for Surrey in the County Championship, the club announced. The 22-year-old had joined Surrey last season and played two matches, scoring 116 runs, including a half-century.

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