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THE WORLD

TOP OF THE WORLD



Former President Rodrigo Duterte. File

PHILIPPINES

Duterte, Marcos brace for Senate poll showdown

Manila: The Philippines' dominant Marcos and Duterte political dynasties, uneasy allies for two years, are gearing up for an election showdown that could upset policy stability in the Southeast Asian nation in the coming years. Vice President Sara Duterte's resignation from President Ferdinand Marcos Jr's cabinet was followed Tuesday by her announcement that her father, ex-President Rodrigo Duterte would run for the Senate next year. "It is a message to the Marcoses as it is a message to the Filipino people that 'we are alive and kicking,'" said Jean Encinas-Franco, a University of the Philippines political science professor. **REUTERS**

EUROPEAN UNION

Hungary takes EU presidency echoing Trump

Brussels: Hungary's nationalist government launches its presidency of the European Union on Monday with a Trump-like call to "Make Europe Great Again" after EU lawmakers questioned whether it should be allowed to take on the role. Their concerns are based on Prime Minister Viktor Orban's many clashes with Brussels over democratic norms. Hungarian diplomats say they will be honest brokers, while analysts say Budapest's actions at the forefront of EU policy-making are likely to be restricted given Brussels's post-poll shift. **REUTERS**

SOUTH AFRICA

Cabinet of unity govt final, says Ramaphosa

Johannesburg: South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa announced on Sunday a cabinet of the country's government of national unity following weeks of protracted and at times acrimonious negotiations. Ramaphosa retained the African National Congress' Enoch Godongwana as finance minister and appointed former opposition leader John Steenhuisen as minister of agriculture, bringing the Democratic Alliance and others to the new cabinet. **REUTERS**

HUNTER BIDEN WANTS TO REPLACE WEAK IMAGE WITH 'THE FATHER HE KNOWS'

Keep fighting, Biden's family tells him as they gather at Camp David

One of President's grandchildren to get more involved in social media campaign

KATIE ROGERS & PETER BAKER
JULY 1

PRESIDENT BIDEN'S family is urging him to stay in the race and keep fighting despite last week's disastrous debate performance, even as some members of his clan privately expressed exasperation at how he was prepared for the event by his staff, people close to the situation said on Sunday.

Biden huddled with his wife, children and grandchildren at Camp David while he tried to figure out how to tamp down Democratic anxiety. While his relatives were acutely aware of how poorly he did against former President Donald Trump, they argued that he could still show the country that he remains capable of serving for another four years.

Biden has been soliciting ideas from advisers about how to proceed, and his staff has been discussing whether he should hold a news conference or sit for inter-



US President Joe Biden and first lady Jill Biden with their granddaughters Finnegan and Natalie Biden in New York

views to defend himself and change the narrative, but nothing has been decided yet. The campaign scheduled what could be a critical call with its national finance com-



mittee for Monday to calm nerves and take temperatures. One of the strongest voices exploring Biden to resist pressure to drop out was his son Hunter Biden,

whom the president has long leaned on for advice, said one of the sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, to share internal deliberations. Hunter Biden wants Americans to see the version of his father that he knows — in command of the facts — rather than the stumbling, aging president Americans saw Thursday.

Other family members were trying to figure out how they could be helpful. At least one of the president's grandchildren has expressed interest in getting more involved with the campaign, by talking with influencers on social media, according to a source. One of the sources said "the entire family is united" and added flatly that the president was not getting out of the race and had not discussed doing so. "You get up and keep fighting," the source said.

A new poll by CBS News found strong Democrat sentiment for Biden to cede way to a younger nominee. Forty-five percent of Democrats wanted a different candidate to take on Trump. **NYT**

Pak anti-terrorism court issues warrants against KPK Province CM

Islamabad: A Pakistan anti-terrorism court Monday issued non-bailable arrest warrants against Ali Amin Gandapur, the chief minister of Pakistan's Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province. Gandapur is named in two cases of violence registered in Islamabad.

Judge Tahir Abbas Supra of the Islamabad-based court conducted hearings of the two cases where Gandapur and another leader Amir Mughal were absent. The court rejected Gandapur's exemption plea, expressed dissatisfaction with his repeated absences, and issued arrest warrants. It also issued similar non-bailable arrest warrants against Mughal.

"The situation has become a spectacle as one defendant appears while two do not. We are issuing arrest warrants for all absent defendants," Judge Supra said, adding that the defendants absent on July 8 would be declared fugitives. **PTI**

Director of Gaza hospital released by Israel alleges abuse in custody

ASSOCIATED PRESS
KHAN YOUNIS, JULY 1

ISRAEL RELEASED the director of Gaza's main hospital on Monday after holding him for seven months without charge or trial over allegations the facility had been used as a Hamas command center. He said he and other detainees were held under harsh conditions and tortured.

The decision to release Mohammed Abu Selmia, apparently taken in order to free up space in overcrowded detention centers, sparked uproar from across the political spectrum, with government ministers and opposition leaders saying he should have remained behind bars.

Abu Selmia was released back into Gaza along with 54 other Palestinian detainees, many of whom also alleged abuse. The allegations matched other accounts of Palestinians who have been



Mohammed Abu Selmia, the director of Gaza's main hospital, with his family after being released by Israel on Monday. AP

held in Israeli custody. "Our detainees have been subjected to all kinds of torture behind bars," Abu Selmia said at a news conference after his release. "There was almost daily torture." He said guards broke his finger and caused his head to bleed during beatings, in which they used batons and dogs. He said the med-

ical staff at different facilities where he was held had also taken part in the abuse "in violation of all laws." He said some detainees had limbs amputated because of poor medical care.

There was no immediate response from the prison service, which has previously denied similar accusations.

Grandparents to get paid parental leave in Sweden

Copenhagen: Sweden launched a groundbreaking new law on Monday, allowing grandparents to step in and get paid parental leave while taking care of their grandchildren for up to three months of a child's first year.

The development comes after the Swedish parliament, the 349-seat Riksdag, approved last December the government's proposal on transfer of parental allowance. Under the law, parents can transfer some of their generous parental leave allowance to the child's grandparents. A parent couple can transfer a maximum of 45 days to others while a single parent can transfer 90 days. This comes 50 years after the country became the first in the world to introduce paid parental leave for fathers and not just mothers. **AP**



Shandong aircraft carrier docked in south China's Hainan. File

also prepare it for a potential far sea voyage into the West Pacific, it said. Shandong's deployment comes after the People's Liberation Army deployed major

surface combat ships, including large and medium destroyers and the main amphibious landing ship in South China Sea as territorial clash with Manila escalated.

China deploys aircraft carrier off Philippines amid clash in SCS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BEIJING, JULY 1

CHINA HAS deployed its second aircraft carrier 'Shandong' which was spotted patrolling waters off the Philippine coast as Manila stepped up efforts to assert its claims over a shoal in the disputed South China Sea firmly opposing Beijing's counterclaims.

Shandong, an aircraft carrier with a displacement of about 70,000 tonnes, was seen patrolling the waters of the Philippines which serves as a deterrent against "continuous Philippine provocations," state-run *Global Times* reported Monday.

The aircraft carrier is likely on a scheduled exercise that could

DEMANDS INCLUDE ELIMINATING CORRUPTION, RUTO'S RESIGNATION KENYAN ACTIVISTS CALL FOR MORE PROTESTS

Kenyan activists called for protesters to take to the streets again on Tuesday, with many rejecting appeals from President William Ruto for dialogue following his decision to withdraw proposed tax hikes. The demands of many protesters have escalated over past two weeks including calls to root out corruption and for Ruto to step down, presenting the most serious crisis of his two-year-old presidency. **REUTERS**

MACRON'S CENTRISTS COME THIRD

French parties rush to build anti-far right front ahead of polls round 2

Centrists, left bloc suggest cooperation to bring down RN

ASSOCIATED PRESS
PARIS, JULY 1

FRANCE'S NATIONAL Rally surged into the lead in the first round of legislative elections, according to results released early Monday, bringing the far-right party to the brink of power and dealing a major blow to President Emmanuel Macron's centrists in an election that could set the country, and Europe, on a starkly different course.

The results confirmed polling that showed the party — with a history of racism and xenophobia and once shunned by the mainstream — is no longer taboo, confined to the fringes of French politics. There remains another torrid week of campaigning before the decisive final voting Sunday, and whether the National Rally will be able to form France's first far-right government since World War II remains uncertain.

Marked by high turnout of nearly 68 per cent that reflected the high stakes, voters handed the Marine Le Pen's National Rally a strong lead, with about 33 per cent of the vote. The number includes the votes from a group



Protesters demonstrate against the far-right RN party after partial results in the first round of elections on Monday. Reuters

of conservative candidates of The Republicans party who had allied with the far-right party in the first round. The New Popular Front, a leftist alliance, finished second with about 28 per cent. The president's centrist group came third with around 20 per cent, according to figures released by the Interior Ministry.

Macron and his allies, as well as politicians on the left, are still hoping they can head off an outright win by the National Rally, and horse-trading began Monday,

with some efforts to block far-right candidates taking shape. The leftist coalition said it would withdraw its candidates in districts where they arrived in third position in order to support other politicians opposed to the far right. Macron's centrist alliance also said some of its candidates would step down before the runoff.

Meanwhile underlining her triumph, Le Pen said NR lawmakers would meet at the parliament on Monday and symbolically claim their seats.

'UNCHECKED LABOUR GOVT A DISASTER'

Only Tories can form strong Opp to Labour, Sunak says days ahead of polls

KATE HOLTON
LONDON, JULY 1

BRITISH PRIME Minister Rishi Sunak will on Monday say only his Conservatives can counter a Labour-led government and that a vote for Nigel Farage's right-wing Reform UK would hamper any chance of his party forming a strong opposition.

Appearing to all but concede defeat before Thursday's election, Sunak will appeal to those voters on the political right who are considering voting for Farage's party in protest at his Conservative government.

The Conservatives look set to be kicked out of office after 14 turbulent years, marked by Britain's vote to leave the European Union in 2016 and the cost of living crisis that followed the COVID-19 pandemic and Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Opinion polls have consistently given Keir Starmer's centre-left Labour Party an around 20 point lead, with support for Reform potentially splitting the centre-right-vote and the centrist Liberal Democrats further draining Conservative support.

Sunak will say at a rally that Reform "just won't win enough seats to oppose Labour", saying



Prime Minister Rishi Sunak at a campaign in Midlands on Monday. Reuters

the party had previously said it would be good to get a handful of members of parliament elected. "Just imagine that: Hundreds and hundreds of Labour MPs opposed by just 'one, two, three, four, five elected MPs,'" Sunak will say, according to extracts of his speech. "A Labour government would be bad for our country, and an unchecked Labour government would be a disaster from which it would take decades to recover."

Farage is one of Britain's most recognisable and divisive politicians. He has spent decades railing against the establishment and the European Union, and has in recent years campaigned for Donald Trump in the US. **REUTERS**

Disruptions, delays as South Koreans surge to sign online plea to impeach Yoon



South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol

JU-MIN PARK
SEOUL, JULY 1

AN ONLINE petition calling for South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol to be impeached experienced delays and disruptions due to the large number of people trying to sign it, the speaker of the parliament said, promising to fix the issue as soon as possible.

More than 811,000 people have so far signed the petition, hosted on the National Assembly's website, since it went live on June 20. The petition calls on parliament to introduce a bill to impeach Yoon on the grounds that he is unfit for the job.

In a statement late on Sunday, National Assembly Speaker Woo Won-shik apologised for the disruption, and said parliament would take action to uphold the public's constitutional right.

People trying to access the petition on Monday faced delays that lasted up to four hours. At one point, an error message showed more than 30,000 people were waiting to access the site.

There was no immediate comment from South Korea's presidential office. **REUTERS**

COMPARED TO ORWELL AND KAFKA, KADARE WALKED A POLITICAL TIGHTROPE WITH WORKS OF VEILED CRITICISM FOR HIS TOTALITARIAN STATE

Ismail Kadare, whose novels brought Albania's plight to world, dies at 88

RUSHA HALJUCI
JULY 1

ISMAIL KADARE, the Albanian novelist and poet who single-handedly wrote his isolated Balkan homeland onto the map of world literature, creating often dark, allegorical works that obliquely criticized the country's totalitarian state, died on Monday in Tirana, Albania. He was 88.

His death was confirmed by Bujar Hudhri, the head of the Onufri Publishing House, his editor and publisher in Albania, who said that he went into cardiac arrest at his home and died at a hospital in Tirana, the Albanian capital. In a literary career that spanned half a century, Kadare

wrote scores of books, including novels and collections of poems, short stories and essays. He shot to international fame in 1970 when his first novel, "The General of the Dead Army," was translated into French. European critics hailed it as a masterpiece.

Kadare's name was floated several times for the Nobel Prize, but the honor eluded him. In 2005, he received the inaugural Man Booker International Prize. The finalists included such literary titans as Gabriel Garcia Marquez and Philip Roth. In awarding the prize, John Carey, a British critic and the panel's chairman, called Kadare "a universal writer in a tradition of storytelling that goes back to Homer."

Critics often compared Kadare

to Kafka, Kundera and Orwell, among others. During the first three decades of his career, he lived to international fame in Albania, at the time under the grip of one of the eastern bloc's most brutal and idiosyncratic dictators, Enver Hoxha.

To escape persecution in a country where more than 6,000 dissidents were executed and some 168,000 Albanians were sent to prison or labor camps, Kadare walked a political tightrope. He served for 12 years as a deputy in Albania's People's Assembly, and was a member of the regime's Writers Union. One of Kadare's novels, "The Great Winter," was a favorable portrayal of the dictator. Kadare later said he had written it to curry favor.

In contrast, several of his most



Ismail Kadare at the Elysee Palace to receive France's Legion of Honour from President Francois Hollande in 2016. File

brilliant works, including "The Palace of Dreams" (1981), subversively attacked the dictatorship, skirting censorship through allegory, satire, myth and legend.

Ismail Kadare was born on January 28, 1936, in the southern Albanian town of Gjirokaster. His father, Halit Kadare, was a civil servant; his mother, Hatixhe Dobi, was a homemaker from a wealthy family. When Hoxha's communists seized control of Albania in 1944, Ismail was 8 years old and already immersing himself in world literature.

As an adolescent, he was attracted to communism. "There was an idealistic side to it," he said. After studies at Tirana University, in the Albanian capital, Mr Kadare was sent for postgraduate study

to the Gorky Institute for World Literature in Moscow.

In 1963, about two years after his return from Moscow, "The General of the Dead Army" was published in Albania. In the novel, an Italian general returns to the mountains of Albania 20 years after World War II to disinter and repatriate the bodies of his soldiers; it is a tale of the advanced West intruding into a strange land, ruled by an ancient code of blood feuds.

Critics that were pro-government condemned the novel as being too cosmopolitan and for not expressing sufficient hatred for the Italian general, but it made Kadare a national celebrity. In 1965, the authorities banned his second novel,

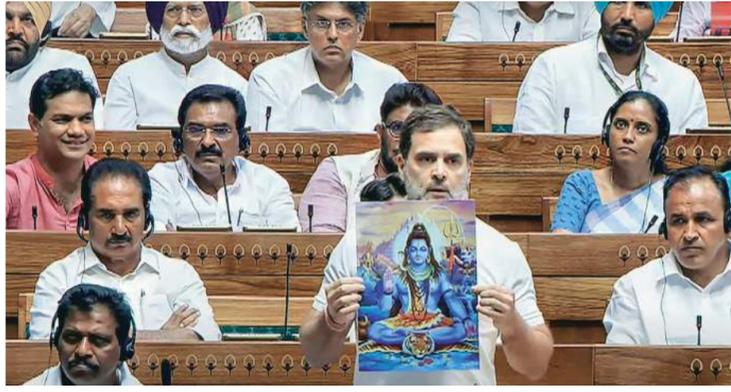
"The Monster," immediately after its publication in a magazine. In 1970, when "The General of the Dead Army" was published in a French translation, it took "literary Paris by storm," *The Paris Review* wrote.

Kadare's success abroad afforded him some security at home. Still, he said, he lived with the fear that the regime might "kill me and say that it was a suicide."

After the collapse of communism, Kadare continued to set his novels amid the suspicion and terror of the Hoxha regime. His best-known works include "Chronicle in Stone" (1971); "The Three-Arched Bridge" (1978); "Agamemnon's Daughter" (1985); its sequel, "The Successor" (2003); and "The Accident" (2010). **NYT**

PM TO REPLY IN LOK SABHA TODAY ON MOTION OF THANKS TO PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Opposition gets an address



Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi; Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Ministers Rajnath Singh and Amit Shah in Lok Sabha on Monday. PTI



IN PARLIAMENT, PAGE 6

NEW CRIMINAL LAWS COME INTO FORCE

Maximum police custody still 15 days, can be spread over two months: Shah

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

AS THE new criminal laws — the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) to replace the Indian Penal Code, 1860, the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, respectively — came into effect Monday, Union Home Minister Amit Shah clarified that the maximum period of police custody under the BNS would remain 15 days, with provision to be spread over a maximum of two months.

There were concerns that the BNSS extends the period of police custody of an accused. Addressing a press conference, Shah said the maximum police custody under the BNS, too, would remain 15 days, like the IPC. "I want to clarify that in BNS

also, the remand period is 15 days. Earlier, if an accused was sent to police remand and he got himself admitted in a hospital for 15 days, there was no interrogation as his remand period would expire. In BNS, there will be remand for a maximum 15 days, but it can be taken in parts within an upper limit of 60 days," he said. Shah said the new laws would ensure "justice instead of punishment" and "speedy trial instead of delays". Justice would be delivered "up to the level of Supreme Court" within three years of an FIR being registered, he said. Shah also said that the first case registered under the BNS was related to a motorcycle theft in Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior at 10 minutes past midnight. "The case was for a value of Rs 1,80,000... The case against a street vendor in Delhi was not

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

MORE REPORTS, PAGE 7

'SOREN OR KEJRIWAL IN JAIL... SHOULD DISTURB ME'

Rahul debuts as LoP: Hatred in name of Hinduism to fear to let's work together

HARIKISHAN SHARMA & MANOJ G G
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

REFLECTING AN Opposition with its highest tally in 10 years and presenting a united front, in his first speech as Leader of Opposition, Rahul Gandhi picked up the threads of his election campaign to counter the Government on several

fronts: from accusing it of having created an atmosphere of fear to alleging that it had spread violence and hatred in the name of Hinduism; from the crisis in Manipur to how demonetisation had wrecked employment. At the same time, Gandhi wrapped up his nearly two-hour speech by dialing down to say that the Opposition was ready to work together with the

Narendra Modi government in the national interest. Participating in the debate on Motion of Thanks to the President's Address, Gandhi began his speech — the first by a recognised LoP in Lok Sabha in a decade — on a fractious note. Pointing to the Treasury Benches, he said that "those who call themselves Hindus... are engaged in violence and hate."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

MINISTERS MAKE INTERVENTIONS TO COUNTER REMARKS

PM rebuts Rahul: Calling Hindu society violent a serious issue; Shah seeks apology

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

LEADER OF Opposition Rahul Gandhi's maiden speech in Lok Sabha that lasted almost 100 minutes Monday saw Prime Minister Narendra Modi and senior Cabinet ministers intervening to counter remarks. There was uproar in the House when Gandhi, while at-

tacking the BJP, said "those who call themselves Hindus talk violence... hatred... untruth 24 hours". Modi rose from his seat and said, "This is a very serious issue. Calling the entire Hindu society violent is a serious issue (poore Hindu samaj ko hinsak kehna yeh gambhir vishay hai)." Union Home Minister Amit Shah sought an apology from the Congress leader. As the treasury benches

protested, Gandhi said "the BJP and the RSS are not the entire Hindu society... Aap Hindu ho hi nahi (You are not Hindus)." And when he took him on directly, asking "why is the PM always serious?", Modi, who sat through the address, rose from his seat again and said, "Democracy and the Constitution have taught me that I need to take the Leader of Opposition seriously."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

On FIRs & hearing of accused, BNSS sections fly in face of SC rulings

APURVA VISHWANATH
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

A 14-DAY timeline for the police to register an FIR in cognizable cases; the right of the accused to be heard even before a case is made out against him — at least two key changes in procedural laws in the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) fly in the face of landmark Supreme Court judgments on these issues. The BNSS has replaced the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPc), 1973. On registration of an FIR immediately, the BNSS, under Section 173(3), states that for cognizable offences, where the

punishment is more than three years but less than seven years, a police officer is allowed 14 days to conduct a preliminary enquiry before registering an FIR and then proceed with investigation in the case. "...Police, considering the nature and gravity of the offence, — (i) proceed to conduct preliminary enquiry to ascertain whether there exists a prima facie case for proceeding in the matter within a period of fourteen days; or (ii) proceed with investigation when there exists a prima facie case," the law states. This change goes against the landmark 2013 Supreme Court ruling in Lalita Kumari vs State of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

EXPRESS NETWORK

FACING UNIQUE OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES, SAYS ARMY CHIEF P 11

PM SET TO VISIT RUSSIA JULY 8-9, VIENNA JULY 9-10 P 7

A fishing expedition, Lankan Navy officer's death, and 10 Indians who await their fate

ARUN JANARDHANAN
CHENNAI, JULY 1

THE EARLY hours of June 25 turned into a nightmare for ten Indian fishermen from Nagapattinam, Tamil Nadu, when a routine fishing expedition spiralled into chaos, ending in the death of a Sri Lankan Navy officer. The Sri Lankan authorities allege the officer died due to the "aggressive manoeuvres" of the trawler of Indian fishermen resisting seizure, but the fishermen, now in Sri Lankan custody and reportedly set to be charged with death, deny these allegations and insist they are innocent. According to a top Sri Lankan government source involved in the case proceedings in Jaffna, the Indian trawler was allegedly speeding when the Sri Lankan Navy attempted to intercept it

around 1.30 am on June 25. The postmortem report of the Navy officer suggests the officer possibly died due to an accidental fall during the tense moments leading up to the interception, sources said. The boat driver, Madhi (40), provided a statement to Sri Lankan authorities, explaining that his trawler was heading back to Indian waters, turning from south to north, when the incident took place. He claimed the Navy boat, with its lights off, rammed into the trawler. At that moment, the rest of the crew was asleep. Madhi, who was awake at the steering wheel, reported seeing two Navy men with guns who announced their arrest. The fishermen were handcuffed and moved to the back of the boat, which was then taken to Kankesanthurai Harbour near

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

GOVERNOR, NHRC SEEK REPORTS ON UTTAR DINAJPUR INCIDENT

Bengal flogging: Murder attempt charge invoked; notice to state

RAVIK BHATTACHARYA
KOLKATA, JULY 1

POLICE HAVE invoked sections related to attempt to murder and molestation against a TMC functionary, who was arrested on Sunday for publicly flogging a man and a woman in Chopra block of Uttar Dinajpur district, West Bengal, over an alleged extramarital affair. The accused, Tajimul Hossain alias JCB, was produced before the Islampur sub-divisional

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

SYNDICATE vs LAW

Uttar Dinajpur incident stems from culture of impunity. CM Mamata Banerjee must ensure law takes its course

PAGE 8

court, which sent him to police custody for five days. Meanwhile, Governor C V Ananda Bose has sought a report on the incident from Chief

Minister Mamata Banerjee. "The Governor was shocked by the incident, which was caught in a video, and called it barbarous... He condemned the incident and has sought an immediate report from the Chief Minister," a Raj Bhavan official said. In a video statement, Bose said he would visit the area on Tuesday and meet the couple. "The series of ghastly violence in Chopra, Cooch Behar and Kolkata are revolting, disgusting, shocking and shattering... what

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Chital stock dwindling in Kuno, plan to move out excess cheetahs

Leopards behind loss of prey base, so tigers as check an option

JAY MAZOOMDAAR
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

THE PROJECT Cheetah authorities have reached an in-principle decision to shift surplus cheetahs from Kuno national park to Gandhi Sagar wildlife sanctuary after the monsoon. At present, Kuno has 26 cheetahs, including 13 cubs and sub-adults. This follows a reassessment of Kuno's cheetah carrying capacity — pegged at 21 in the Project Action Plan — necessitated by a staggering loss of over 25 per cent since 2022 of Kuno's



An estimated 2,250 chital were lost in a year at Kuno

prime cheetah prey base: the chital population. The loss of an estimated 2,250 chital within a year has confounded the project team as the

seven cheetahs that managed to hunt in the wild outside the enclosures during that period took down only around 50 chital. Since authorities have ruled out largescale poaching of chital for bushmeat due to the presence of too many boots and cameras on the ground, in the dock is Kuno's 90-strong leopard population. Ironically, leopards are also frustrating the efforts to stock and breed a cheetah prey base in Gandhi Sagar wildlife sanctuary by sneaking into a 60 sq km enclosure to feed on chital brought

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Captain Rohit told us, he can't climb this mountain alone... he will need everyone's oxygen: Suryakumar

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

DEVENDRA PANDEY
MUMBAI, JULY 1

IT HAS not even been 24 hours since India's much-awaited T20 World Cup win and Suryakumar Yadav is amused by the contrast in the curfew-like view of the street below his team hotel at Barbados and the videos of mass celebrations that he has been getting from back home. Suryakumar had returned

from a post-win party, where the entire team danced till the wee hours, to find 1,014 Whatsapp congratulatory messages on his phone. But ask him about the game and his sleep-deprived mind comes alive as he recalls the riveting speech captain Rohit Sharma gave at the team huddle, minutes before the final against the South Africans. Talking to *The Indian Express* from Barbados, Surya, whose spell-binding catch on the ropes to dismiss David Miller turned the match on its head, says, "He told us to keep it simple but said, 'I can't climb this mountain



Indian batsman Suryakumar Yadav with captain Rohit Sharma. AP/PTI

alone. If I have to reach the peak, I will need everyone's oxygen'. He also said, 'Joh bhi hai, paan mein, dimag mein, dil mein (Whatever you have in your legs, mind and heart), just bring everything to the game. If that happens, we will not regret the night'. We all were moved." If Rohit moved with his action and words, coach Rahul Dravid, Suryakumar recalls, set the mood with a simple slide presentation that made them realise that they would have to rise to the occasion. "He showed a graph of the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY

It is the 18th Lok Sabha. 18-year-old voters could be watching.

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Lankan Navy officer's death

Jaffna, arriving around 5 am, a sail that took longer than expected due to heavy winds and rough weather.

Anandan, the trawler's owner, expressed hope that the murder charges would not hold.

He said that the fishermen were usually paid a collection amount, which varies from Rs 3,000 to 10,000, or about 22 to 25% of the total profit, depending on the catch after a usually five-day fishing expedition.

The Sri Lankan Navy insists the Indian trawler was well within Sri Lankan waters when intercepted, more than 43 nautical miles from the Indian coast, which is Nagapattinam.

"It is a fact that we venture into Sri Lankan waters for fishing in desperate times. But variation of 2-3 nautical miles should not have been a reason for the Navy's action.

The arrested fishermen, including seven from Nagapattinam, one from Cuddalore in Tamil Nadu, and two from Andhra Pradesh, were taken to the

Kankesanthurai Naval base, and their trawler was seized. In an official statement, the Sri Lankan Navy described the operation as an effort to "chase away Indian poaching trawlers from Sri Lankan waters".

While the Sri Lankan Navy claims that they frequently encounter aggressive manoeuvres by Indian trawlers, leading to injuries to naval personnel and damage to their ships, the Indian fishermen's version tells a story of unexpected confrontation and arrest.

The incident occurred a day after Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin wrote to Union Minister for External Affairs S Jaishankar, urging him to secure the release of 47 fishermen and their boats currently in Sri Lankan custody.

The fishermen issue remains a contentious point in India-Sri Lanka relations, marked by incidents where Lankan Navy personnel have fired at Indian fishermen in the Palk Strait and seized their boats for allegedly entering Sri Lankan territorial waters.

The Sri Lankan Navy reported that they have arrested over 200 Indian fishermen and seized 27 trawlers for illegal fishing in Sri Lankan waters this year alone.

In 2023, the Navy apprehended 240 Indian fishermen and confiscated 35 trawlers on similar charges.

FROM PAGE ONE FULL REPORTS ON WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM Rahul debuts as Leader of Opposition

This prompted a rare intervention and rebuttal by Prime Minister Narendra Modi who said it was a matter of concern that Hinduism was being equated with hate and violence.

Several senior ministers, including Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh, Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Bhupender Yadav, got up to counter Gandhi's charges and claims on multiple occasions.

Gandhi invoked one of his earlier themes of framing Hinduism in opposition to Hindutva. Holding a picture of Shiva, he invoked the "abhaya mudra" to say Shiva's message is all about fearlessness and non-violence.

From the rise in prices to Manipur, unemployment, demonetisation, Agniveer and paper leaks, Gandhi used each to criticise the Modi Government.

"I am more than happy, all of us are more than happy, to discuss anything you want without being nasty, without being aggressive... So please let us work together to take this country forward.

He accused the BJP of not following the essential tenets of Hinduism and charged it with spreading hate and violence against minorities.

Earlier, Gandhi invoked Lord Shiva and "Abhaya mudra" and said those who call themselves Hindus are spreading violence and hatred round the clock.

and affection." "When I became LoP, I realised something that I had not realised before... After becoming LoP, all my personal dreams, my personal aspirations, my personal fears have to be put aside.

And his message to the government: "This country has a government and you are the government... elected by the people... but I would say to you that as individual members of the Cabinet, you do not spread fear, that you do not spread hatred in this country... Do not be fearful... Even the Cabinet members, do not be fearful.

The first to rise was Modi, who accused Rahul of calling "the entire Hindu society violent". When Rahul said that Modi or the BJP didn't stand in for "entire Hindu society", other BJP leaders including Shah recorded their objection.

Earlier, Gandhi invoked Lord Shiva and "Abhaya mudra" and said those who call themselves Hindus are spreading violence and hatred round the clock.

darao mat, aur abhay mudra dikhate hain. Ahimsa ki baat karte hain aur trishool ko zamin me gaahr dete hain aur jo log apne ap ko Hindu kahte hain woh 24 ghanta hinsa, hinsa, hinsa, nafrat, nafrat, asatya, asatya, asatya. Aap Hindu ho hi nahin.

"Our symbol is Abhaya Mudra (fearlessness)," Gandhi said, showing his right hand and asking his party members to show the symbol. As Gandhi made his remarks, BJP members protested and sought an apology from him.

The first to rise was Modi, who accused Rahul of calling "the entire Hindu society violent". When Rahul said that Modi or the BJP didn't stand in for "entire Hindu society", other BJP leaders including Shah recorded their objection.

He then said that even Ayodhya — the birthplace of Lord Ram — had sent a message to the BJP, going on to shake hands with Samajwadi Party MP Awadhesh Prasad, who defeated BJP's Lallu Singh in the Faizabad seat which covers Ayodhya.

have spread fear, I will give you an example of Ayodhya." Gandhi said, alleging that people of Ayodhya whose land was acquired for the airport have not received compensation till date.

"Ayodhya ki janata ko daraya, poore desh ko dara diya (The people of Ayodhya were intimidated, the entire country was intimidated...)" he said. Gandhi took swipes at the PM for his statement made in an interview during the poll campaign of his perception that he may be on a mission, divinely ordained.

Rahul also referred to another claim by Modi that it took a film for people to "get to know about Mahatma Gandhi". "Can you understand the ignorance... that a movie has revived the Father of the Nation?" he said.

Rahul tried to draw a difference between Modi and his ministers. "When I came in the morning, Rajnath Singh greeted me with a smile. Now Modi is sitting. No smile... serious. Namaste bhi nahin karte... kahin Modi ji na dekh le (He doesn't even greet, afraid that Modi ji might notice)... The same story is of Nitin Gadkari... Arre Ayodhya ki janata ko chodo, yeh toh BJP walon ko darate hain (Leave aside Ayodhya people, Modi even has BJP people scared)."

Again, Modi stood up this time to counter: "Loktantra ne aur samvidhan ne mujhe sikhaya hai ki mujhe vipakshi ke neto ko gambheerता से lena chahiye (Democracy and the Constitution have taught me to take the Leader of the Opposition with all seriousness)."

Police custody still 15 days: Shah

the first case registered under the BNS; police have disposed of the Delhi case by using the provision of review," he said.

"After 77 years of independence, this is the first time that the country's criminal justice system is turning 'swadeshi' and will function completely on the basis of Indian ethos. These laws will be implemented at every police station. Replacing the British-era criminal system, the laws passed by the Indian Parliament... will allow justice instead of punishment and speedy trial instead of delays.

Responding to questions on objections raised by some, including MPs from Tamil Nadu, to the new laws being named in Hindi, Shah said the laws would be available in all regional languages. "I want to say one thing, that the entire law will be made available in Tamil and the proceedings will also be in Tamil," he said.

"I am ready to meet anyone who wants. We will meet and also review. But please do not do politics," he said, responding to questions about protests from Opposition leaders.

Shah said these laws were discussed in Lok Sabha for a total of 9 hours and 29 minutes, and in Rajya Sabha for 6 hours 17 minutes. Suggestions were sought from all MPs, Chief Ministers, Supreme Court and High Court Judges, IPS officers and Collectors in 2020, he said. "I have attended 158 consultative meetings for preparing a Bill... The Bill was sent to the Home Ministry committee, which discussed it for about three months. Most of the suggestions for reforms in criminal laws were incorporated, except four of a political nature. Giving political colour to this change is not good, there are many other issues for

politics," he said. With the implementation of the new laws, India would have the most modern criminal justice system in the world, Shah said. "Justice can be received up to the level of the Supreme Court within three years of the registration of the FIR," he said. "The new laws bring in a modern justice system, incorporating provisions such as Zero FIR, online registration of police complaints, summons through electronic modes such as SMS, and mandatory videography of crime scenes for all heinous crimes," he said.

"The new laws have made forensic investigation mandatory in offences punishable by seven years or more, which will help speed up justice and take the conviction rate up to 90 per cent. 99.9 per cent police stations across the country have been computerised and the process of generating e-record was already started in 2019... The new laws also set a deadline for the completion of all procedures, full implementation of the laws will end the endless wait for justice," he said.

Shah said the judicial process would now be time-bound, ending long delays. According to the new laws, judgment in criminal cases has to be delivered within 45 days of completion of trial and charges must be framed within 60 days of the first hearing. The new laws promote a justice-centric approach by providing community service for minor crimes, he said.

He said the new statutes were made more sensitive by adding a chapter on crimes against children and women, and the inquiry report in such cases have to be filed within seven days.

"For years, there has been a demand for a law for mob lynching. For the first time, mob lynching has been defined with punishment from seven years of imprisonment up to life imprisonment and even death penalty... Earlier, the British system had enacted laws that were meant to protect their own rule. This is the first time that these laws are being changed," Shah said.

The three laws were passed by Parliament in December through a voice vote in both Houses.

Chital stock dwindling in Kuno

from the state's prey-rich forests.

While Madhya Pradesh is in the process of bringing 1,500 chitals to replenish the dwindling stock at Kuno and looking to dispatch another lot to Gandhi Sagar, the project authorities have acknowledged the limitations of draining other habitats of prey without a strategy to reduce leopard predation.

"A few larger cats can dominate the space now densely

packed with leopards in Kuno and eventually impact their predation and breeding. If lions are not an option, a few tigers will have the same effect," said a project scientist, adding that Cheetah Project Steering Committee chairperson Rajesh Gopal proposed the remedy at a recent meeting.

When contacted, Rajesh Gopal said that bringing tigers would be a biological approach aimed at fostering ecological niches. "Kuno has one of India's highest density of leopards and they cannot be tossed around. Cheetahs and leopards co-exist with lions in Africa. In a land-

scape frequented by tigers, they are the natural choice in Kuno," he said.

Over the last 15 years, four male tigers reached Kuno from Rajasthan's Ranthambore tiger reserve. One of those tigers is believed to be still present in the larger Kuno landscape. The plan is to translocate a couple of females and expect males to show up on their own to establish a founder population in Kuno.

Larger cats, though, are not an option for Gandhi Sagar yet where the challenge at hand is to take leopards out of the prey enclosure. "Though easier said than done, we will divide the area and try to secure one compartment at a time like we did in Kuno in 2022," said a senior forest official.

A retired forest officer who served in Kuno, however, refused to buy the "leopard theory" behind the fall in chital numbers: "Look at the scale of the (chital) population slide. Are Kuno's leopards selectively preying on chitals? Or are we downplaying the impact of bushmeat poaching?" A few state forest officials also questioned the consistency of the estimation drives. Over the last two decades, project scientists reported per-sq-km chital density of 5 (2006), 36 (2011), 52 (2012) and 69 (2013) in Kuno. In 2021, they used two methods — camera trapping and distance sampling — to come up with two densities — 38 and 23 per sq km — of chitals.

Going by the lower density of 23 per sq km, the Cheetah Task Force estimated more than 8,000 chitals in Kuno wildlife sanctuary (345 sq km) in 2021. The state has released at least 750 chitals in Kuno since. Within a year of introducing the first batch of cheetahs in September 2022, the number of chitals fell to an estimated 6,500 in Kuno. The downward trend, it is learnt, has not reversed since.

PM, ministers rebut Rahul: Don't defame Hinduism

This itself was rare because members recalled later that the PM had done it only once earlier during a speech by Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury in the last Lok Sabha.

While Defence Minister Rajnath Singh accused Gandhi of "misleading" the House, Shah, who made four interventions during the speech, said Gandhi had made several remarks which "were not true and without facts" and he should "authenticate" them. At one point, Shah turned to Speaker Om Birla: "You are going beyond rules to give them a one-sided concession. We should be protected. This does not work like that."

Gandhi's attack on the government over the Agniveer scheme prompted Rajnath Singh to say that the Congress leader was attempting to mislead the House.

"He should not try to mislead

the House by making wrong statements. Financial assistance of Rs 1 crore is given to the family of the Agniveer who sacrifices his life while protecting our borders or during war," Singh said.

Countering Gandhi's allegation that it was a "scheme by the PM", Singh said there had been direct communication with many people and 158 organisations were consulted for suggestions on the scheme and that it was a "well thought-out scheme".

When Gandhi slammed the government over farmer-related issues including MSP for crops, Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan objected and accused him of "misleading" the House. Union Minister Jagendra Shekhar also rose to defend the government's policies in the agriculture sector.

Union Ministers Kiren Rijiju and Bhupender Yadav too intervened at different times during

Gandhi's speech.

While Rijiju, the Parliamentary Affairs Minister, repeatedly warned Gandhi to follow House rules, Yadav quoted rules multiple times to send warnings.

Later, Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, along with Rijiju and BJP leader Sudhanshu Trivedi, held a press conference to rebut Gandhi's allegations.

The ruling party benches remained silent on Gandhi's remarks on the issue of Manipur, irregularities in NEET and the BJP's electoral defeat in Ayodhya. BJP allies too remained calm.

On the other side, INDIA allies backed Gandhi. TMC's Kalyan Banerjee rose several times from his seat to back Gandhi's right to express his views and his colleague Saugata Roy read out from the rule books to counter the BJP. TMC, DMK and SP MPs lined up to greet Gandhi after his speech.

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Bengal flogging: Murder attempt charge invoked

we are seeing in different pockets of Bengal is ghastly murder. There is bloodbath on the streets of Bengal," he said.

"...Most disgusting and inhuman sight is a hapless woman being beaten in front of the people. Is there a police force here? People are asking who is a thief and who is a cop? That difference has blurred. Criminalisation has taken place. Even some IPS officers are playing to the gallery... Is there a police minister here? Is it not his/her job to see that violence ends here," he said. Saying that "goons have taken over", Bose promised action. "Those responsible for this, especially in the government, will have to answer for this. This is not a Jungle Raj. Jungle is better as no animal kills for thrill. This is the only place where you kill for thrill. This cannot go on. This has to stop," he said.

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has also issued notices to the state's Chief Secretary and Director General of Police, seeking a detailed report in one week. "It (the report) should include the status of the police investigation in the matter, health status of the victims and medical treatment, if any, provided to them. The Commission would also like to know about the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the state government to ensure that such incidents of violation of the human rights of the citizens, by politically protected goons, do not recur," the NHRC said.

The Commission stated that "given the gravity of the matter", it had decided to send its team to Uttar Dinajpur for a "spot enquiry". "The reported cruel and disgraceful act of the miscreants

in the instant incident without any fear of law indicates that the state authorities have not learnt any lessons, neither from the shameful incidents that occurred in the past nor from the concern raised by us," the NHRC observed. The incident is reported to have taken place at a "salishi sabha (kangaroo court)" on June 28. Police lodged a suo motu case after a purported video clip of the assault was circulated on social media. The man who appeared to be leading the assault was identified as Hossain.

"A case has been initiated under IPC Sections 323, 325, 354, 307, 34. The sections are related to attempt to murder, assault with the intent to outrage the modesty of woman, voluntarily causing grievous hurt and common intention," a senior police officer said on Monday.

Captain Rohit told us, he can't climb this mountain alone... he will need everyone's oxygen: Suryakumar

number of T20 games the entire Indian team had played — from Virat bhai to Yashasvi Jaiswal (the most junior member). That number was 800-plus," says Surya. "And then he showed a second slide that had the number of games that the entire coaching staff, including Rahul bhai, had played — that number was 1. He said to us, 'You are the best judge here to make the right call at the right time. So leave every other thing to us, go out there and enjoy your game'."

Suryakumar says the team had a motto that was followed all through the campaign. "Before the start, we decided that we won't talk about what lies ahead in the tournament. Nobody

BNSS sections

Uttar Pradesh that it is mandatory for the police to register an FIR. Registration of an FIR without delay is a direction reiterated by the Supreme Court in several cases since the Lalita Kumari guidelines.

"While the Lalita Kumari judgement mandates that FIRs must be registered if the information discloses a cognizable offence, and allows preliminary enquiries only to determine if a cognizable offence is revealed, the BNSS, 2023, expands this scope. Under BNSS, preliminary enquiries are conducted to ascertain if there is a prima facie case for offences punishable with three years or more but less than seven years of imprisonment. Unlike the Lalita Kumari guidelines, which specify categories like matrimonial disputes, commercial offences, and medical negligence, BNSS applies broadly to all relevant offences within the defined punishment range," states the Standard Operating Procedure for police by the Bureau of Police Research & Development.

On the right of the accused to be heard, the BNSS makes a key change in the provision. Section 200 of the CrPC prescribes the procedure relating to examination of a complainant by the magistrate while taking cognizance. It mandates that a magistrate taking cognizance can do so after examining the complainant on oath. Once cognizance is taken, the accused is then formally summoned.

The BNSS, in Section 223, retains the provision but adds a curio proviso or exception. "Provided that no cognizance of an offence shall be taken by the Magistrate without giving the accused an opportunity of being

heard," the exception states. This means that a magistrate cannot even take cognizance of an offence without hearing the accused. This is a new development since the settled law does not allow the accused to produce documents even after the cognizance stage.

"An accused also has the right to remain silent before a case is made out against him. There is a chance that the judge may refuse to take cognizance, so compelling the accused to speak may prejudice his rights," advocate Souvik Banerjee told The Indian Express.

The Supreme Court, in its 2004 decision in State of Orissa vs Debendranath Padhi, had said that the accused does not have a right to produce documents to prove their innocence during the Framing of Charges stage of a trial. The judge can only consider material produced by the prosecution to avoid a "roving and fishing inquiry" and a "mini-trial at the framing of charges stage."

The BNSS provision also restricts the scope for a judge to take cognizance in offences where the accused is a public servant and the offence is alleged to have been committed in the course of his discharge of official function.

The judge cannot take cognizance "unless" the accused public servant is given an opportunity to "make assertions as to the situation that led to the incident so alleged" and his superior officer submits a report containing the facts and circumstances of the incident.

The CrPC provision does not have this wide exemption — it only exempts examination of the complainant when the complainant is a public servant and is acting in discharge of his official duties.

Captain Rohit told us, he can't climb this mountain alone... he will need everyone's oxygen: Suryakumar

thought about Super 8 and the same was true for the finals in Barbados. Our mind has to be where our feet are — that was our motto," he says. On Rohit's leadership style, Suryakumar says, "He connects with the players. Off the field, be it in a hotel room, or on the beach, he connects with everyone. So when a crunch situation comes, players know that he (Rohit) will back us. One feels I have to deliver for this man for the confidence and respect he gives to everyone."

Suryakumar says the team had a motto that was followed all through the campaign. "Before the start, we decided that we won't talk about what lies ahead in the tournament. Nobody

final, when they rallied together to fight despite South Africa needing just 26 runs from 24 balls with six wickets intact — stems from a deep self-belief.

"Everyone, starting from the captain, was relaxed because we knew that one magical thing will happen and we will be back in the game. And the way Bumrah and Arshdeep bowled was remarkable."

He says he will remember the final not just for his catch, but for two moments, which, he says, will stay with him for years to come.

One of these is of the acutely self-conscious Dravid letting himself go when Kohli thrust the trophy into his hand. "That 30-sec-

ond clip, when he took the trophy in his hand and screamed... that moment when he expressed his happiness. I think I will save that clip for life," Suryakumar says.

The second imagery is that of Rohit Sharma down on his knees on the turf after the game was won. "The way he fell down, ate some grass off the ground and tasted some mud on the pitch. These moments will stay with me for a long time."

Dravid's guiding hand through the World Cup might not have materialised had it not been for an intervention from Rohit. "In the end, he (Dravid) came and thanked Rohit and said, 'Thank you, Rohit, for that phone call in November', be-

cause he didn't want to continue after (India's loss in) the 50-over World Cup but Rohit and Jay Sir (BCCI secretary Jay Shah) convinced him to stay."

Along with Dravid and Rohit, Kohli has also announced his retirement from international T20s, and Surya shares what he learnt from the Indian batting master of this era. "He is a powerhouse of energy on the ground, irrespective of his performance. If you see, till the final, things didn't go as he wanted to but the way he carried himself on the field... He was taking part in team get-togethers, practice sessions, everything. He was a leader in his own way."

And Kohli's fitness. "In 2022, when I made my debut, I did most of the batting with him during the bilateral series and then the World Cup. I realised then that if I have to bat with Virat Kohli, I have to match his fitness because he takes two quick runs by pushing a ball in the gaps and then he slams a four."

In the end, it's to that catch that Surya returns to. "The catch photo which many people are sending me, some have a ball picture, some have morphed the ball with the trophy. I will carry this with me for two years and will replicate it in the next World Cup! It was my fourth ICC event, and my first win. I will remember this for a long time. First is always special."

TREE FELLING IN RIDGE

Forest secy: Govt panel with ministers as its members flouts rules

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

ON THE day that a meeting of a panel formed to look into the allegations of illegal tree felling in the Ridge was to be held, the principal secretary of Environment and Forest department questioned the legality of the committee and its formation.

The principal secretary of Environment and Forest, in a letter to the Lt Governor VK Saxena, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and Environment Minister Gopal Rai, said that the committee comprising ministers Atishi, Saurabh Bharadwaj and Imran Hussain was formed on Saturday without the orders of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal. The committee had called senior officers of the government, including the principal secretary of Environment and Forest, AK Singh, for the meeting.

Last week, the Supreme Court had asked the DDA Vice Chairman to inform it whether the Lt Governor had visited the site and directed cutting of trees. The bench cited the report of an Enquiry Committee set up by DDA to investigate who ordered the tree felling. It said emails sent purportedly by the executive engineer to the contractor showed that the L-G had given the order but the engineer denied sending the emails.

Sources in the government said that the report for the department, sought by Rai has not been submitted yet.

In his letter, Singh wrote that the formation of the committee



The Supreme Court had last week quizzed the DDA over the felling of trees in the protected Ridge area. Archive

could be seen as contempt of court since the Supreme Court has already constituted an independent fact-finding committee for the purpose. "...constituting another committee (in the name of fact finding) when the apex court is already seized of the matter, is not only improper but may also invite contempt of the court for interfering in the judicial process of fact finding in this matter," he wrote.

He also claimed that the committee was formed in violation of provisions of the Transaction of Business of the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi Rules since he was being asked to report to the Urban Development minister (Bharadwaj) without any expressed orders from the Chief Minister. Kejriwal is currently in judicial custody in connection with the excise policy case.

"It may also be noted that the Environment and Forest minister is not even a member of the

committee... The committee is nothing but a 'Group of Ministers' which has not been constituted by the Cabinet (Council of Ministers)... The said fact-finding committee has been constituted under the signatures of Saurabh Bharadwaj, UD minister, without any due authority or sanction from the Council of Ministers," he wrote.

This is not the first time that the absence of the CM has been cited as an impediment in governance.

Earlier, the L-G had said that the Mayoral elections could not be held without consultation with Kejriwal.

Sources in the Delhi government, meanwhile, stated that the letter shows that there was "pressure" on officers to not appear before the committee. "Some higher ups do not want the truth to come out and someone at the top is scared of getting exposed," a government source said.

Court denies CM additional meetings with lawyers via video

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

FOR THE second time, Delhi's Rouse Avenue Court Monday dismissed an application moved by Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, who is currently in judicial custody in the money laundering and corruption cases linked to the excise policy "scam", seeking additional meetings with his lawyers via video conference.

Kejriwal had alleged that he had 30-35 cases pending against him due to which he required consultations and discussions with his lawyers. "The application under consideration discloses no new/fresh ground to take a view different from the earlier order dated 10.04.2024 (when Kejriwal's similar application was dismissed)," said Special Judge Kaveri Baweja in her order. Meanwhile, the Delhi High Court will hear on Tuesday the

CM's plea challenging his arrest by the CBI in the alleged corruption case related to the excise policy, and the trial court's June 26 order by which he was remanded to the agency's custody for three days. The matter is listed before a single-judge bench of Justice Neena Bansal Krishna. A Delhi court Saturday sent Kejriwal back to judicial custody till July 12 as his three-day CBI custody ended in the excise policy case. On Wednesday, he was

sent to CBI custody (the same day that he was formally arrested by the agency) for three days, a day after he was questioned by the central agency in Tihar Jail in the corruption case linked to the excise policy. The High Court Monday dismissed the bail pleas of BRS legislator K Kavitha, in two cases of corruption and money laundering linked to the excise case. A single-judge bench of Justice Swarana Kant Sharma said, "It is

heartening to note that the applicant, Smt K Kavitha, is a highly qualified and well-accomplished person, having made significant contributions to politics and social work as enlisted by her in her pleadings. The same were not disputed by investigating agencies... However, while deciding present bail applications, though this Court may appreciate these accomplishments, it cannot lose sight of serious allegations levelled by the prosecution..."

Mahila Samman scheme: Gahlot seeks to expedite proposal, WCD department says not so simple

GAYATHRIMANI
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

TO EXPEDITE work on the AAP Delhi government's flagship 'Mahila Samman Rashi' scheme, Women and Child Development (WCD) Minister Kailash Gahlot directed the department to "put up a draft cabinet note" within a week. The department is yet to do so, citing technicalities.

The scheme, which aims to provide every eligible woman over 18 years an honorarium of Rs 1,000 a month, was among the top announcements made during the 2024 Delhi Budget ahead of the Lok Sabha polls. Rs 2,000 crore was allocated to it.

In a note dated June 21 to the Secretary of the WCD department, Gahlot wrote, "In the budget speech for the financial year 2024-25, the Finance Minister, Government of NCT of Delhi, had announced a scheme, 'Mukhya Mantri Mahila Samman Yojana', for the year 2024-25. Under this scheme, every woman above the age of 18 years will be eligible to receive Rs 1000/- per month. The department has not so far put up any proposal/cabinet



Women & Child Development Minister Kailash Gahlot

note for implementation of the scheme."

"It is directed that a Draft Cabinet Note be put up within this week," said the minister further. The WCD department has yet to put up a proposal or a cabinet note, said sources.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Gahlot said, "The Mahila Samman Rashi scheme is a very progressive scheme for women empowerment. I have given directions to the department to expedite the work and put up a proposal so it can be circulated to different departments for comments. Once the Cabinet approves it, the process to implement the

can be started by the department." Asked why the proposal was not drafted, a senior WCD official said it is not an easy process: "... We need to create guidelines and criteria on who all are eligible to benefit from the scheme..."

This includes deciding if the scheme should be based on residence or domicile. "... It shouldn't be the case that anyone living in Noida or Ghaziabad comes to Delhi and gets the money..." said the official, adding, "We have requested the minister for a meeting on July 3 to discuss the scheme..."

The minister said that he would check if he had received any such request from the department.

Announcing the scheme in March, CM Arvind Kejriwal had said that all women aged above 18 years excluding taxpayers, beneficiaries of government pension schemes and government employees, will be eligible for the scheme. Senior government officials had earlier hinted that the AAP government's poll promise is likely to be stuck with the CM in jail. The CM is the head of the Cabinet.

Withdraw order on transfer of teachers: Atishi

New Delhi: Education Minister Atishi has instructed the education secretary to immediately withdraw the recent mandatory transfer orders for teachers who have served in the same school for over 10 years, a statement said on Monday.

According to the official statement, the directive follows the issuance of compulsory transfer orders by the Directorate of Education (DoE) without the minister's approval, prompting backlash from the teaching community. A delegation of teachers met Atishi Monday to submit a memorandum. Responding to this, Atishi emphasised the "detrimental impact" such transfers could have on the unique teacher-student relationships built over the years.

She underscored the importance of maintaining stable educational environments, noting that administrative decisions should not undermine morale of teachers, the statement said. PTI

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IN REMEMBRANCE

Corps of Signals salutes Signallers who left us for their heavenly abode during the month of Jun 2024.

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(c) 15745325Y	Naik	Satender Kumar
(d) 15709315K	Naik	P Ponraj
(e) 15717704Y	Lance Naik	Masilamani P
(f) 15757387L	Sigmn	Sathish Kumar S

On behalf of the Corps, we sincerely pray to Almighty for peace to the departed souls & strength to the bereaved families to bear this irreparable loss.

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Walk-in-Interview for Project Associate- I: 10, Project Associate- II: 12, Senior Project Associate- 05 & Principal Project Associate- 01

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For detailed advertisement, desirable qualifications/experience terms and conditions and application format, please visit our website <https://www.niscp.res.in>.

CBC 36210/11/0001/2425

आयुर्वेद शिक्षण एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान

राष्ट्रीय महत्व का संस्थान, आयुष मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार, जामनगर
स्वस्थवृत्त विभाग द्वारा विविध पाठ्यक्रम निम्नानुसार प्रारम्भ किए जा रहे हैं।
स्नातकोत्तर डिप्लोमा पाठ्यक्रम (एक वर्षीय)

क्र.	पाठ्यक्रम का नाम	योग्यता / अर्हता
1.	एकजीक्यूटिव डिप्लोमा इन योग थैरेपी (ई.डी.वाय.टी.)	किसी भी चिकित्सा संकाय से स्नातक या समकक्ष उपाधि अथवा एम.एससी. / एम.ए. इन योग थैरेपी
2.	एकजीक्यूटिव डिप्लोमा इन नेचर क्योर (ई.डी.एन.सी.)	किसी भी चिकित्सा संकाय से स्नातक या समकक्ष उपाधि
3.	एकजीक्यूटिव डिप्लोमा इन क्रिएटिव आर्ट्स थैरेपी (ई.डी.सी.ए.टी.)	किसी भी चिकित्सा संकाय से स्नातक के साथ क्रिएटिव आर्ट्स के किसी भी क्षेत्र में डिप्लोमा या डिग्री अथवा एम.एससी. / एम.ए. इन क्रिएटिव आर्ट्स थैरेपी
4.	पोस्ट ग्रेजुएट डिप्लोमा इन योग एजुकेशन (पी.जी.डी.वाय.एड.)	किसी भी संकाय से स्नातक अथवा समकक्ष उपाधि
5.	पोस्ट ग्रेजुएट डिप्लोमा इन नेचुरल थैरेप्युटिक्स (पी.जी.डी.एन.टी.)	किसी भी संकाय से स्नातक अथवा समकक्ष उपाधि

अल्पकालीन प्रमाणपत्र पाठ्यक्रम (200 घंटे)

6. फाउंडेशन कोर्स इन योग एजुकेशन एंड थैरेपी असिस्टेंट (एफ.सी.वाई.एड.टी.ए.)	7. फाउंडेशन कोर्स इन आयुर्वेद एंड लाइफस्टाइल मैनेजमेंट (एफ.सी.ए.ए.एम.)
8. फाउंडेशन कोर्स इन योग एंड मेंटल वेलनेस (एफ.सी.वाई.ए.एच.)	9. फाउंडेशन कोर्स ऑन क्रिएटिव आर्ट्स एंड हेल्थ (एफ.सी.सी.ए.एच.)

योग्यता / अर्हता : १०वीं पास/एस.एस.सी. अथवा समकक्ष
संपर्क : कमरा नं. 5, स्वस्थवृत्त विभाग, धन्वन्तरि मंदिर, आ.शि.अ.सं. परिसर, जामनगर
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★ ★ प्रवेशपत्र जमा करवाने की अंतिम तिथि : 31 जुलाई 2024 ★ ★

INSTITUTE OF BANKING PERSONNEL SELECTION

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Candidates intending to apply for CRP Clerks XIV should ensure that they fulfill the minimum eligibility criteria on the stipulated date as specified in the detailed notification issued and hosted on authorised website by IBPS.

Activity	Tentative Dates
Online registration including Edit/Modification of Application & Payment of Application Fees/Intimation Charges	01.07.2024 to 21.07.2024
Conduct of Pre-Exam Training	12.08.2024 to 17.08.2024
Online Examination - Preliminary	August, 2024
Result of Online exam - Preliminary	September, 2024
Online Examination - Main	October, 2024

● PET may be conducted either in Online Mode or Physical Mode
Candidates are advised to regularly visit the authorised IBPS website www.ibps.in for details and updates.
Before registering online, candidates are advised to read the detailed notification carefully and follow the instructions mentioned therein.

Mumbai
Date: 01.07.2024
DIRECTOR



INDIAN English Newspaper

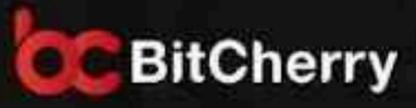
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NEW CRIMINAL LAWS COME INTO FORCE

Day 1 off to a smooth start at city police stations, 20 FIRs filed under new laws

PRAGYNESH & ARNABJIT SUR
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

A COUPLE of minutes before midnight on June 30, the Seelampur police station was relatively calm. At the entrance, the Investigation Officer (IO) and sub-inspector discussed the nitty gritty of a case — possibly Seelampur's last case under the old criminal codes — with a few people.

"We have just registered a case under the Indian Penal Code. And just after 15 minutes, everything will be registered under the BNS," said a police officer.

At 12 am on July 1, the three new criminal laws — Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), the Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam (BSA) — came into effect across the country, preceded by weeks of training and tests for the police force. These laws replace the Indian Penal Code (IPC), 1860, the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC), 1973, and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, respectively.

Back at the police station, at 8.30 am, officers received their first complaint under the new laws. The complainant was Rohtash, a 30-year-old labourer and a resident of a *jhuggi* in New Seelampur. He was shot in the arm at 60 Foota Road by two unknown persons.

The victim claimed the two accused were intoxicated and passed comments at him, leading to an altercation. Rohtash said the accused asked his partner whether he should kill him and took out a country pistol, firing at his arm.

At 8.47 am, the station's first FIR is registered under sections 109(1) and 3(5) of the BNS, 2023. These correspond to sections 25 and 27 of the Arms Act, 1959.

Twenty kilometres away, at Sagarpur police station, a police officer said it would take time to remember all sections under the



Police officers set up a hoarding informing the public about the new laws at Connaught Place police station. Praveen Khanna

new system. "We know the old ones. But now, we will have to get it checked by the IO to ensure everything is fine."

"Right now, there will be some problems. Like this CCTNS (Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems) website. Since it has been updated with the new set of laws, it has been misrepresenting the number of pending cases," she added.

The last case registered at Sagarpur under the old criminal laws was under IPC sections 380 and 457 which pertains to theft and trespassing. Under BNS, it would be sections 305 and 331(4) respectively.

At Palam police station, officers were still handling cases registered under the old criminal code. The last IPC case registered was under Section 375, which

defines rape. Its corresponding BNS section, 63, would have been applicable in case the offence was reported after June 30.

Officers at the police station said under the new set of laws, coordination will be the key. "Now, forensic experts will be involved in cases which have a punishment of over seven years. If there is an understanding between them and the police, it will work. It will be a more swift system. Else there will be issues," said an officer.

According to senior officers, around 20 FIRs under the new laws have been lodged across police stations.

Training continues

Meanwhile, police personnel across districts are still undergoing training sessions to adapt to

new techniques of lodging FIRs and recording evidence.

Said an officer, "Some officers are still not well-versed with the new laws and how to record videos during an incident. This is why last-minute training sessions are being conducted at different police stations."

An officer at RK Puram police station said police personnel are still being briefed on the implementation process. "The SHO and even the district DCP are out today for a session."

Are there any challenges? There are some, a few officers admitted.

Several IOs *The Indian Express* spoke to throughout the day said that recording videos on their phones, pertaining to seizures or of a crime scene, is a task due to lack of technologi-

cal know-how.

An investigating officer of Nihal Vihar Police Station said, "There was some confusion on whether we have to record the incident too apart from video-graphing the search and seizure process in a case... Inspector-level officers have been stationed at the Delhi Police Headquarters, and even at DCP offices, to troubleshoot any such query and I sought their aid."

"There won't be a problem with registering cases. We have the chart where corresponding sections of BNS and BNSS to IPC and CrPC are given. It is when we apply it on the ground that we will get to know the complications. Of course, making videos is not easy either," said an officer at Kapashera police station.

First FIR under BNS in Delhi against vendor, matter settled

ARNABJIT SUR
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

ALITTLE after midnight on Sunday, Pankaj Kumar, 23, was manning a stall selling mangoes under the foot over-bridge near New Delhi Railway Station. He was filling in for his brother Mithoon, who had gone back to their village in Patna for a few days. A Delhi Police officer started shooting a video of the shop, one among several others lining the road, asking them not to encroach on the public pathway, said Pankaj.

Within a few minutes, an FIR was filed against Pankaj, making him the first person in the Capital to face action under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, the new criminal law that came into effect on July 1.

According to police, the FIR was lodged against Kumar under Section 285 of BNS, which pertains to danger or obstruction in public way or line of navigation.

Later in the day, at a press briefing, Union Home Minister Amit Shah clarified the case was not the first to be lodged in the country under BNS, adding it was "quashed" by Delhi Police after due consideration. "... in the matter against the street vendor, the said provision has been used earlier too and it is not new... police has quashed the matter af-

OTHER FIRs LODGED

SHAHDARA: Case of mobile theft was lodged at GTB Enclave police station. The complainant said he came to Tahirpur in an auto rickshaw and when he got out, the driver asked for his mobile phone. The complainant gave his phone to the driver, who made off with it. A case

under Section 303 (2) of BNS was lodged **OUTER DELHI:** Accident case lodged at Nihal Vihar police station under sections 106 (1) pertaining to death of any person by rash or negligent act and 281 pertaining to rash and negligent driving of the BNS

ANOTHER one lodged in the district pertains to a case of encroachment at Mongolpuri, lodged under section 285 of BNS pertaining to causing danger or obstruction in public way or line of navigation

ter seeking the provision of review," he told reporters.

DCP (Central) Harsh Vardhan did not respond to requests for a comment.

Sub-Inspector Kartik Meena of Kamla Nagar Police Station, the investigating officer in the case, said he was patrolling on June 30 when he saw a person selling mangoes in a stall near the public bathroom. "He was selling mangoes after setting up his stall, apart from water, cigarette and other items, hence, creating encroachment to the path and blocking the public's way... He was told repeatedly to remove the stall on the said day. However, he did not abide by

the directions," the FIR said.

A senior officer said Pankaj was not arrested, adding he was called to the Kamla Market station to check his identity documents, after which he was let off.

Meanwhile, Mithoon Kumar Yadav, 30, Pankaj's elder brother, told *The Indian Express*, "I've been setting up the stall at the same place since 2007. There are several other stalls in the area, but no case was lodged against them..."

He further said, "The officer (who shot the video) did not tell him anything else and suddenly left... a little later, all stalls were cleared by police, citing encroachment on public path..."

Gang that fabricated bail documents, a theft case: First FIRs in GB Nagar and Ghaziabad

DHEERAJ MISHRA
NOIDA, JULY 1

FIVE MEN who allegedly fabricated documents to help people get bail were the first to be arrested and booked under the new Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) by Gautam Buddha Nagar police Monday.

The five men are Varun Sharma (29), Ejaz (25), Ismail (50), Birbal (47) and Naresh Chand (48). "The group used fabricated documents such as fake

Aadhaar cards and stamps to help the accused be released from jail after the court granted them bail. They used to provide surety or act as guarantors in these cases. In return, the accused used to give them money," said a police officer.

An FIR under BNS sections 318(4) [cheating], 338 (forgery of valuable security or will), 336(3) [forgery for purpose of cheating], 340(2) [using as genuine a forged document] and 3(5) [common intention] has been registered at Surajpur police station.

Similarly, the first FIR registered in Ghaziabad under BNS was against a man caught allegedly entering a house for theft and assaulting a person. Police arrested the accused, Mudsim, and an FIR under BNS sections 115(2) (causing hurt) and 305 (theft in dwelling house etc.) was filed.

Till 5 pm, Ghaziabad Police registered 8 FIRs under IPC as the crimes took place Sunday or earlier, when the old law was still in place, and 8 under BNS. In Gautam Buddha Nagar, one case under the new law was filed till 5 pm.

Ashoka univ students protest against tie-up with Tel Aviv varsity

Not our stand, says management

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

A GROUP of students at Ashoka University staged a protest during the convocation ceremony held recently, challenging the institution's partnership with Tel Aviv University amid the ongoing Israel-Palestine conflict.

Donning Arab attire and displaying pro-Palestinian placards on Saturday, the demonstrators voiced their discontent with "Ashoka's continued association with the Israeli institution".

Responding to the development, Ashoka University Monday said it does not believe in curtailing the freedom of its students even as it added that the act does not represent the views of the varsity.

The protest stemmed from a petition sent by the Student Government to the university administration in May, urging for the severance of ties with Tel Aviv University. The petition cited concerns over the situation in Gaza, stating, "We call upon... (to) immediately suspend all existing academic and research collaborations with Tel Aviv (and) refrain from entering into any new agreements."

However, the administration rejected the request, prompting the graduation day demonstration a month later.

A student, who graduated at



Ashoka University. Express

the ceremony and was among the protesters, said, "Approximately 10-15 students from the Young India Fellowship programme, Ashoka's postgraduate diploma course, participated in the protest. They displayed placards while wearing keffiyehs."

Another student said, "It was a moral imperative of me as a student to use whatever space is available for me (to protest)."

In a statement, Ashoka University said, "Ashoka University is committed to the principle of freedom of speech and expression, and does not believe in curtailing this freedom for any individual or group that is part of our community. However, the views of any individual or group within the Ashoka community do not represent the views of the University."

The statement further read: "Ashoka operates on the principle of institutional neutrality, in keeping with the best global conventions. Hence, the university does not take any political positions or apply these positions to existing relationships and partnerships."

A few days. He said the central government plans to make it mandatory for the helpline to be run by the Department of Women and Child Development.

The post of the DCW chief has been lying vacant since Swati Maliwal was nominated to Rajya Sabha by the AAP. PTI

Broken graves, dislodged headstones: Centuries-old cemetery is inundated

SAMAN HUSAIN
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

GREENISH WATER is spread as far as the eye can see, lapping against sandstone headstones; a bright-pink *chadar*, probably placed by someone on the gravestone of a revered soul, floats about; a number of graves are damaged: This is the scene at the Panj Peeran cemetery Monday evening, four days after record-breaking rainfall submerged several parts of the Capital.

Among the places that was inundated in the floodwater was this graveyard in Nizamuddin area, situated next to the Barapullah drain. The premises are said to be 700 years old.

Syed Kashif Nizami, one of the caretakers (*peer*) of the graveyard, who has been working here for the last 40 years, said he has never seen such water-logging before.

"This was the first time that we have had to encounter something like this. The water will still take many days to empty out... there are countless graves here. Graves of generations of people have been destroyed due to the floods," said Nizami, who belongs to the *silsila* (order) of Sufi saint Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya.

"I have been making attempts to remove the water for the past two days now. I somehow managed to deploy two pumps that are periodically being used for the last 24 hours with a break of one hour in between for the machine to cool down... I have members of my own family buried over here... everyone who lives near this place has someone they love buried here," says Farhad Suri, former MCD Mayor, who was seen wading through the murky water.

The onslaught of floodwater did not spare the trees at the graveyard either with their roots being waterlogged; broken branches could be seen floating in the water.

A number of gravestones too have shifted from their place. The boundary fence of the graveyard,



which faces the Barapullah drain, is damp and bears marks from the flooding. The entry gate is encrusted with debris. Paths that once guided visitors through the cemetery are invisible.

Among the people buried at the graveyard are several from foreign countries who came to Delhi for medical treatment.

"People come here from Somalia, Afghanistan and Uzbekistan, apart from other parts of the country such as Kashmir and Bihar, for treatment at AllMS. Once their loved ones pass away, they bury them here. Since the family members live far away, there is no one to take care of their graves now," says Mohammad Taha, another caretaker from the Nizamuddin *silsila*.

RRTS waste being dumped in Barapullah drain: Mayor Oberoi

Delhi Mayor Shelly Oberoi on Monday attributed the water-logging in Central and South Delhi to blocked drains. She said debris from construction of Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) was being dumped in the Barapullah drain.

"I visited (several places) to investigate the waterlogging issue and it turns out that it's due to a blockage in the drain caused by debris dumped in the drain," Oberoi stated on X.

"I wrote to the Union Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs, requesting urgent removal of the huge amount of debris/*malba* in Barapullah drain

Scenes at Panj Peeran graveyard in Nizamuddin, situated next to the Barapullah drain. Saman Husain

due to the construction of RRTS nearby."

Besides, in a letter to Manohar Lal Khattar, Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs, Oberoi wrote, "Due to this construction work, a lot of debris/*malba* and construction material goes to Barapullah drain, making it filthy and thereby creating obstruction in the drain."

Meanwhile, Puneet Vats, spokesperson of the National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC), which is executing the RRTS project, said, "RRTS construction at Sarai Kale Khan is in advanced stages. C&D (construction and demolition) waste is disposed of regularly in a systematic manner during RRTS construction. Subsequent to the recent unprecedented rainfall, NCRTC took proactive action to clear the drain in close coordination with the civic agencies and is providing all sorts of assistance wherever necessary. Site engineers have been advised to work in tandem with these agencies for cleaning of drain."

IMD CLARIFIES

'Delhi downpour not due to a cloudburst but was close to one'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

THE UNPRECEDENTED torrential rainfall in Delhi last Friday was not due to a cloudburst, clarified the India Meteorological Department (IMD) Monday.

In a statement, the IMD said on June 28, the Safdarjung Observatory saw rainfall of 148.5 mm between 2.30 am and 5.30 am and 74.4 mm between 5.30 am and 8.30 am, out of a total of 228.1 mm. This was the highest daily rainfall in 88 years for June, as per the department's 1901-2023 records.

The Palam station reported a total of 106.6 mm of rainfall out of which 75.4 mm was between 2.30 and 5.30 am and 13.6 mm was between 5.30 and 8.30 am. Both stations recorded more than half the day's rainfall in just three hours.

IMD chief Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said, "These do not warrant to be declared as cloudbursts, but it was very close to a cloudburst."

The IMD defines a cloudburst as an extreme amount of precipitation in a short period (rainfall of 100 mm or more in

an hour) which is rare as it occurs mainly because of orographic lift. In simple words, it refers to situations when moist air ascends over elevated terrain resulting in sudden condensation and precipitation.

Mohapatra also referred to observations at the Lodhi Road station as well as it logged 64 mm of rainfall between 5 am and 6 am and 89 mm between 6 am and 7 am.

In its statement, the IMD also said the impact of the heatwave was very high in the second half of May and in June. There were 10 to 18 above-normal heatwave days observed across Northwest India, including Delhi-NCR, and adjoining Central and East India. The Southwest monsoon advanced entirely into Delhi on June 28. Regarding the active monsoon conditions, IMD officials said it will likely persist over Northwest India during the next four-five days.

There has been no significant rainfall observed in the Capital since last week, except for scattered showers in a few places, as per the weather bulletin.

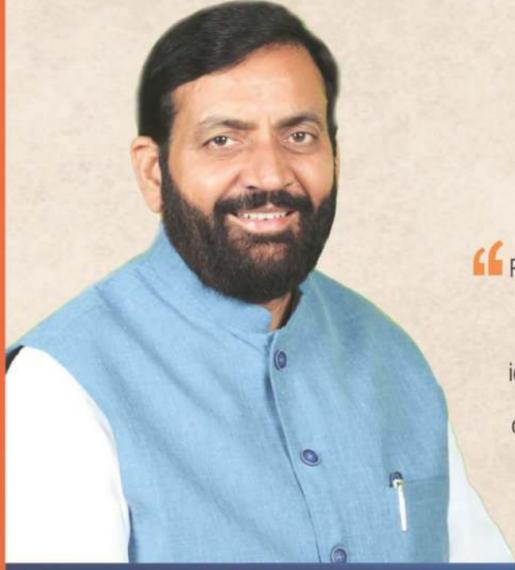
The city remains on orange alert for Tuesday and Wednesday.



On Friday, Delhi saw its highest daily rainfall in 88 years for June. Praveen Khanna



Govt. of Haryana



“Panchayats play an important role in all the works related to the development of villages. Empowered Panchayats are the identity of our prosperous villages. Our aim is to make them more capable by increasing their rights.”

- Nayab Singh



“Our Government will continue to work to strengthen Panchayati Raj institutions and give wings to people's dreams.”

- Narendra Modi



Decentralization of Powers Strengthening Panchayats

State Level Panchayati Raj & Sarpanch Sammelan

Chief Guest

Sh. Nayab Singh

Chief Minister, Haryana

Presided Over By

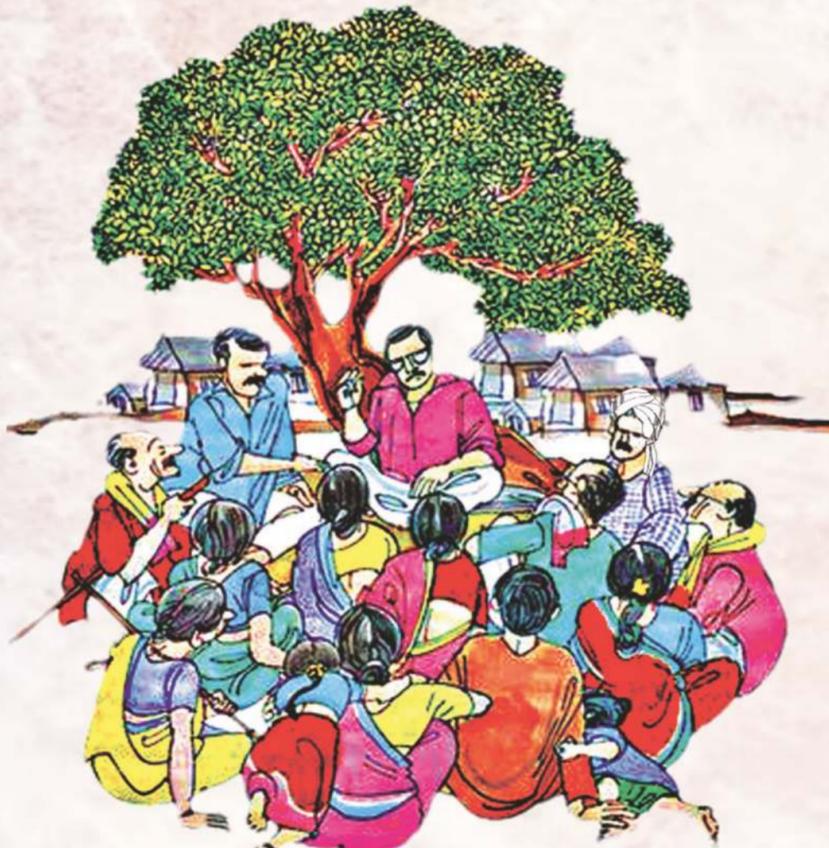
Sh. Mahipal Dhandra

Minister of State, Development and Panchayats (I.C.),
Haryana

Date
July 2, 2024

Time
1:00 PM

Venue
**Auditorium,
Kurukshetra University
Kurukshetra**



Scan QR Code
to Join
the Program



All Sarpanches across the State are Cordially Invited to the Sammelan

Development and Panchayats Department, Haryana



Information, Public Relations & Languages Department, Haryana

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6 IN PARLIAMENT 18TH LOK SABHA

BRIEFLY



Engineer Rashid

NIA gives nod, Rashid to take oath on July 5

New Delhi: The NIA on Monday gave its consent to jailed Kashmir leader Sheikh Abdul Rashid, also known as Engineer Rashid, to take oath as MP on July 5. Additional Sessions Judge Chanderjit Singh will pass an order on the interim bail plea of Rashid, who is lodged in Tihar Jail in Delhi in a 2017 terror funding case, on Tuesday. He won the Lok Sabha elections as an Independent from J&K's Baramulla constituency by a margin of over 2 lakh votes against his nearest rival, National Conference leader Omar Abdullah. The NIA counsel did not oppose Rashid's plea to take oath but said he should be subject to certain restrictions such as not speaking to the media. **ENS**

Don't utter extra words before or after oath: Birla

New Delhi: As Lok Sabha MPs across party lines raised slogans after taking oath, Speaker Om Birla on Monday requested all members not to, in future, utter any additional words before or after the oath as prescribed in the Third Schedule of the Constitution. "Taking the oath is a Constitutional duty of MPs. There is a sanctity and dignity of the oath in our Constitution. If MPs use any additional words or sentences before or after the oath, it lowers the dignity of our Constitution," he said. He added that a Parliamentary committee will also be set up in this regard, which would include members from all major parties. **ENS**

VAISHNAW, RIJJU, TRIVEDI LEAD PARTY'S CHARGE ON CONGRESS LEADER

BJP calls Rahul remarks irresponsible, Union Ministers meet LS Speaker Birla

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JULY 1

SOON AFTER Rahul Gandhi's maiden speech in Lok Sabha as Leader of the Opposition (LoP) — where he launched a no-holds barred attack on the BJP — Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Environment Minister Bhupendra Yadav and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju met Speaker Om Birla to discuss certain contentious issues in the Congress leader's speech, it is learnt. This was followed by the BJP fielding Rijiju, Railways and Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and Rajya Sabha MP Sudhanshu Trivedi to rebut Gandhi's allegations against the Government. Together, at a press conference, the three leaders took on Gandhi, raising the issues flagged at the meeting with Birla. Accusing Gandhi of "enjoying power but not taking responsibility", Vaishnaw said Gandhi, as his first time as LoP, had behaved in "a shallow and dramatic man-

ner" and "made extremely irresponsible statements". "Rahul ji said that under the Agniveer scheme the martyrs are not given any compensation. There is no bigger lie than this. Today the Defence Minister made it clear in the House itself that under the scheme, martyrs get Rs 1 crore compensation," said Vaishnaw, adding this was not the first time that Congress had raised questions over the Army. On Gandhi's remarks — that "those who call themselves Hindus... are engaged in violence and hate" — Vaishnaw said the Congress leader had humiliated the "entire community". "Today Rahul Gandhi has called the entire Hindu society violent and untruthful. He has humiliated the community. Even this is not new. In 2010, then Home Minister P Chidambaram had called Hindus terrorists. In 2013, then Home Minister Sushil Kumar Shinde had called Hindus terrorists. In 2021, Rahul ji had said that Hindutva-vadis should be thrown out of the country," Vaishnaw said.



Kiren Rijiju, Ashwini Vaishnaw at Parliamentary Library. ANI

Meanwhile, the RSS, too, slammed Gandhi's statement. "Association of violence with Hindutva by those holding important posts in Parliament is very unfortunate. Be it the Hindutva of Vivekananda or that of (Mahatma) Gandhi, it has always been identified with harmony and brotherhood. Such comments on Hindutva are not good," RSS publicity in-charge Sunil Ambekar said in a statement. At the press conference, targeting Gandhi, Vaishnaw said the Congress leader had not made

any constructive suggestion in the House. "He did not speak about how NEET can be improved. He spoke about Dalits, but 54 Dalits died in a liquor tragedy (in Tamil Nadu), did he speak about them?" the Minister said. But Vaishnaw reserved his harshest criticism for Gandhi's comments about Speaker Birla for "bowing down" before PM Narendra Modi. "The way Rahul ji commented on a Constitutional post... is very sad. Even this is not new. Let's remember how he tore the ordinance of his own

Government... Let's also remember how the Constitutional system of the Prime Minister was run through the non-Constitutional system of the National Advisory Council ((under UPA). To weaken Constitutional systems is nature of Congress," Vaishnaw said. He also accused Gandhi of trying to make a misleading statement on Ayodhya. "A compensation of Rs 1,253 crore has been given to 4,215 affected shopkeepers. Shops have even been relocated," he said. Rijiju said Birla has been requested to ask Gandhi to authenticate the statements he made. "If he (Gandhi) is unable to authenticate, he will have to apologise," Rijiju said. Trivedi also suggested Gandhi express regret. "On January, 20, then Home Minister Sushil Kumar Shinde said in Jaipur that RSS and BJP are indulging in violent activities and running training camps. When he was questioned in Parliament, he expressed regret. I think learning from Shinde ji, Rahul Gandhi ji should express regret," he said.



RS Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar reacts as Leader of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge (right) speaks in the House. PTI

Kharge attacks PM, RSS in Rajya Sabha, remarks expunged

'Disappointed nothing in President's speech for poor, Dalits and minorities'

ASAD REHMAN NEW DELHI, JULY 1

LEADER OF Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge hit out at Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday for his poll speeches and also levelled allegations against the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh but most of his remarks were expunged by Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar. The Chairman also defended the RSS, calling it an organisation engaged in working for the nation. During his speech in the Upper House on the Motion of Thanks to the President's address, Kharge was also engaged in an exchange with the leader of the House J P Nadda, who said the Congress leader had no knowledge about the RSS and whatever he was saying about the organisation was regrettable. Kharge also demanded the Agniveer Scheme be scrapped. He said the morale of the youth has been destroyed by bringing an "unplanned scheme". At the beginning of his speech, Kharge said the speech of the President's address was written by the government. "The government had to make it a vision document. It was important to tell how challenges will be overcome. But, there was no such content."

Kharge said the PM who used to target coalition governments in the past is now forced to run one because of the people's will. "What should we call you now that you have formed a coalition government?" asked Kharge. Kharge said in the last decade, Parliamentary institutions and rules "have been weakened" and the Opposition has been ignored. "In their (BJP's) thinking, they had a Parliament with no Opposition... If they didn't have the thinking, the post of Deputy Speaker wouldn't have been vacant in the 17th Lok Sabha..." "In this Rajya Sabha the PM had said, thumping his chest, that 'ek akela sab pe bhari' (one is dominant against all)... The election results have shown that the people and the Constitution are dominant on all. In democracy, there is no place for arrogant slogans," said Kharge to which slogans of "Modi, Modi" were raised by the ruling party members. The Congress leader said the PM has said that people don't want slogans, but substance. The ongoing violence in Manipur also featured in Kharge's speech. "Houses are being ruined, women and people are being targeted. You should have gone at least for one day to Manipur... Why didn't you go to Manipur?" "Sabka saath, sabka vikas? You stood by a few, and developed a few. You ruined the poor. All these slogans. What is the reality? The country knows," said Kharge. He said that the Lok Sabha polls "were in the words of the common people an election for breaking the arrogance".

Nehru finished off soul of Constitution, Indira murdered it, says Anurag

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JULY 1

ASKING THE Opposition what it wanted to achieve by waving copies of the Constitution, BJP Hamirpur MP Anurag Thakur Monday said, "Jawaharlal Nehru had finished off the soul of the Constitution with the first amendment in 1951 and Indira Gandhi had murdered it with the imposition of Emergency in 1975." Last week during oath taking, Opposition members were seen waving copies of the Constitution. Initiating the discussion on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address in Lok Sabha, Thakur hit out at the Congress, saying the party had failed to win even 100 seats, while the BJP alone had more seats than the entire INDIA alliance. He said the



Hamirpur MP Anurag Thakur

mandate of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections was against the Opposition's "politics of fear and corruption". Seconding the motion, BJP MP from New Delhi Bansuri Swaraj, in her maiden address in the Lok Sabha, hit out at the Opposition for creating a "Constitutional crisis" in Delhi as Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal was running the government from jail. "First, Delhi was struggling for water and now, with water... there is a dearth of competence and talent... there is a policy paralysis and lack of governance..." Swaraj said.



PROTEST AT HOUSE

Opposition INDIA bloc MPs protest at Parliament House against what they called misuse of investigative agencies by the Central Government. PTI

Awadhesh in panel of nine to assist Speaker

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JULY 1

AMIDST SPECULATION that he may be the Opposition's candidate for the post of Deputy Speaker, Samajwadi Party MP from Faizabad Awadhesh Prasad was on Monday named as one of the nine members of the panel of chairpersons to help Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla. Addressing the House on Monday, Birla said he had selected Jagdambika Pal (BJP), P.C. Mohan (BJP), Sandhya Ray (BJP), Dilip Saikia (BJP), Kumari Selja (Congress), A Raja (DMK), Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar (TMC), Krishna Prasad Tenneti (TDP) and

Awadhesh Prasad (SP) as members of the panel of chairpersons. As per Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, "At the commencement of the House or from time to time... the Speaker shall nominate from amongst the members a panel of not more than 10 chairpersons, any one of whom may preside over the House in the absence of the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker when so requested by the Speaker or, in the absence of the Speaker, by the Deputy Speaker." Awadhesh Prasad defeated the BJP candidate from Faizabad, the constituency that is home to the Ayodhya Ram Temple. This is his first time as a Lok Sabha MP.

Back in House, Mahua hits out: 'BJP paid a heavy price for throttling voice of one MP, lost 63 seats'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JULY 1

TRINAMOOL CONGRESS MP Mahua Moitra hit out at the BJP for expelling her in the last Lok Sabha session, saying the party "paid a very heavy price" in the general elections for throttling her voice in the House. Speaking during a discussion on the Motion of Thanks to the President's address to a joint sitting of Parliament, she accused the government's speech writers of "embarrassing" President Droupadi Murmu with a speech that stated that the mandate was for a "stable government with a clear majority" even though the



TMC MP Mahua Moitra speaks in Lok Sabha. ANI

ruling party had fallen well short of the majority mark in Lok Sabha. Condemning the installation of the Sengol in Parliament, Moitra called it a "symbol of monarchy". "Parliament this time saw an unprecedented scene of marshals welcoming the President with

Sengol in hand. The Sengol is a symbol of the supreme authority of a monarch... The BJP has not yet understood that their 303 brute majority (in 2019 elections) has been reduced to a minority of 240 by loktantra (democracy)... This new reality is yet to sink in for the treasury benches, specially for the speech writers of the Honourable President's address," Moitra said. "This is not a stable government. It depends on multiple allies with a history of U-turns. The BJP is 32 short of 272. It is going to be a very hard landing for the treasury benches, as was obvious today. There are 234 warriors this time, firmly united, and we have walked through fire to walk through these doors. So, you will

not be able to shut us up this time," she said. Referring to her expulsion from 17th Lok Sabha over "cash-for-query" allegations, she said: "The last time I got up to speak here, I was not allowed to speak. The ruling party (BJP) has paid a very heavy price for throttling the voice of one MP. Mujhe baithane ke chakkar mein janata ne aapke 63 sadasyon ko permanently baitha diya (You tried to put me down, the people put down 63 of your MPs permanently)." The TMC MP said most members of the Ethics Committee who voted to expel her had not returned to the House this time, but the people of Krishnanagar "protected her the way Lord Krishna protected Draupadi".

Why did Speaker bow before PM, asks Rahul; Birla says: 'My culture, my values tell me to'

HARIKISHAN SHARMA NEW DELHI, JULY 1

LEADER OF the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi started his maiden speech in the House on Monday with a verbal exchange with Speaker Om Birla. Speaking on the motion of thanks to the Presidential address, the Congress leader asked Birla why he bowed before Prime Minister Narendra Modi when the latter shook hands with him on his election as the presiding officer. "Speaker sir, there are two people sitting in that chair. There is the Speaker of Lok Sabha, the Speaker of Indian Union, and there is Mr Om Birla. When Modi ji went and shook your hand and I went to shake your hand, I noticed something. When I shook your hand, you stood straight and when Modi ji shook your hand you bowed down," Rahul said. To this, Birla said his culture and values have taught him to respect elders. "The Prime Minister is the leader of this House and my culture, my values tell me this in personal life, in public life and even on this seat — bow down and salute those who are elder to you... And behave respectfully with those who are of equal status... I am saying this from the Chair that bow down to elders and if necessary, touch their feet and respect those who are younger than you. This is our culture and values and I follow it," the Speaker said. Repeating, Rahul said, "I accept your point respectfully but I want to say that the Speaker is the tallest



Speaker Om Birla in the Lok Sabha on Monday. ANI

figure in this House and we all should bow down in front of the Speaker. "This is democracy, and you are the leader of this House. You should not bow down in front of anyone," he said, adding that the Speaker is the custodian of the House. During his speech, Rahul held up an image of Lord Shiva, seeking the Speaker's permission to speak on it. Birla stopped him, saying, "You said that the House should run by rules. As per the rules of procedure, no placard or symbol can be displayed in the House." When the Speaker asked Rahul not to display placards in the House, the Congress MP asked whether he was allowed to show the image of Lord Shiva to the House or not. "There, pictures of other things can be displayed but not Lord Shiva's picture," Rahul said, pointing towards the Treasury Benches. "This picture is in the heart of everyone in the country," Rahul said. "Please worship them, please don't put them on the table like that," the Speaker said.

Not a clear majority Govt, shed arrogance: Opp targets BJP in RS

NIKHILA HENRY NEW DELHI, JULY 1

THE OPPOSITION and the government traded words over the motion of thanks on the President's address with the Opposition tearing into the government telling the BJP that it is no longer in majority and should shed its "arrogance". The ruling coalition members, meanwhile, said that the Opposition should not indulge in "destructive" debates and cast aspersions on the Constitution. Tiruchi Siva of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) said that it is not a government of clear majority but of "clear verdict" against the BJP. It is a government which has got a "clear message" that "economic issues are more important and that people have lost confidence in the BJP". Even religious peo-

ple have discarded the BJP's tactics of mixing religion and politics, Siva said. Addressing the coalition partners of the BJP, Siva said that he hopes Nitish Kumar, who is a crusader of social justice, would press for a caste census in India and N Chandrababu Naidu would remind the BJP of the importance of federal structure of the Constitution. Sanjay Singh of Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), who returned to the House after months-long suspension over breach of parliamentary privileges, said that BJP has been targeting leaders of the Opposition, including Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, by using Central investigation agencies. He also said that the BJP has been depriving the states ruled by Opposition parties of their due share of funds and support. Every scheme launched by AAP in Delhi had been opposed by the previous BJP government.



Inside the Rajya Sabha on Monday. ANI

"Are you a government meant to stop (schemes), he asked. Manoj Kumar Jha of the Rashtriya Janata Dal said that the government had turned the country into an Orwellian state or a police state. Referring to the presidential address, Jawhar Sircar of the Trinamool Congress reminded the House that while India has

the fifth largest GDP in the world, India's ranking in per-capita GDP is at 120 in the global order with each person earning just 2,400 USD. Sircar said that only a few industrialists have gained wealth during the past ten years of the BJP rule. "Inequality has reached insane proportions," he said. Sircar accused the BJP of "especially targeting" West Bengal by

depriving the state of Rs 1.71-lakh crore funds. He also said new criminal laws which came into effect on July 1 have many draconian provisions. Bharat Nyay Sanhita (BNS) can make any form of writing and speech an act of terrorism, he said, adding, any form of political opposition including fasting has been criminalised under the new criminal laws. Communist Party of India's MP Binoy Viswam said the BJP had failed to honour the President on two occasions — during the inauguration of the new Parliament building and the Pran Pratishtha at the Ram Temple in Ayodhya. "Where was the President during these occasions?" Viswam asked. "Was she denied entry because she was a tribal woman, woman or widow?" Viswam asked, soon after accusing the BJP of following only one "Veda" — the

Manusmriti which denies freedom for women. John Brittas of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), meanwhile, said that the BJP government has dismantled the media in the country. "Bulldozer has become the symbol of BJP. It is better if they replace the 'kamal' symbol with bulldozer," Brittas said. Meanwhile, supporting the government, Praful Patel of Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) said that the Opposition was only bent on casting aspersions that the Constitution is under threat. "The Constitution is not under any threat. It is the Constitution which has enabled members of this House to be present here," Patel said, adding, during the 2024 election campaign, efforts were made to misguide the SCs, STs and OBCs that the Constitution will be amended.

7 EXPRESS NETWORK



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



FAMILY PHOTO

RAHUL GANDHI's maiden speech as the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha was closely watched by his mother Sonia Gandhi and sister Priyanka Gandhi Vadra from the visitor's gallery. Both Sonia, who is now a Rajya Sabha MP, and Priyanka, who is all set to contest the Lok Sabha bypoll from Waryanaad, took their seats in the gallery minutes before the Lower House met at 2.10 pm after lunch. They left soon after Rahul's speech was over. Rahul made a quick visit to the new office allocated to him as the Leader of the Opposition before leaving the Parliament House. At the Makar Dwar, he met Sonia and Priyanka and hugged them, their photos eagerly captured by photographers waiting outside.

FRIENDLY BANTER

DAYS AFTER their heated exchange in the Rajya Sabha, Leader of the Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge and Chairperson Jagdeep Dhankhar shared light moments during Kharge's 90-minute-long speech on the Motion of Thanks on the President's address. Before starting his speech, Kharge informed the Chair he could not stand for long as his legs were hurting. To this, Dhankhar said he could address the House while sitting. Kharge didn't agree to the idea and said delivering a speech while sitting is not that impactful. Dhankhar agreed with Kharge and said, "Haan, utna jazba nahi hai (yes, it's not as fiery)." Kharge went on to deliver his speech while standing, but raised the issue of pain in his legs several times when he was interrupted during the speech by ruling party members. Once, he even complained that it seemed like he was being made to do "uthak baithak (sit-ups)".

FRESH DIRECTIVE

The Army recently sent a message to its personnel that despite having a policy, laying down the rules for "wearing trinkets and religious symbols in uniform", many personnel have been found not adhering to the rules. It said that Army personnel have been seen wearing religious markings and chains, rings and other accessories, which are against the rules. It reiterated in a new directive that only one signet ring can be worn on the left hand, kadas are only allowed for Sikh personnel and those posted with Sikh troops, no chains or sacred threads should be worn around the neck and no marking or symbol should be applied while in uniform.

From Moscow next week, Modi to visit Vienna, a first by PM since Indira in 1983

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi is set to visit Russia on July 8-9, followed by Austria on July 9-10, *The Indian Express* has learnt. An official announcement is expected to be made this week.



This will be PM Narendra Modi's first visit to Russia since the war in Feb 2022

Modi's visits to Moscow and Vienna will be the first set of bilateral visits in the third term of his government. Usually, the first foreign visit by the Indian PM is to the neighbouring countries. While this will be Modi's first visit to Russia since the war started in February 2022, it will be the first visit by an Indian PM to Austria in 41 years, after Indira Gandhi in 1983.

ties between the two countries are expected to get a boost with the bilateral visit.

Meanwhile, this will be Modi's first visit to Moscow since the Russia-Ukraine war started in February 2022. He last visited Russia in 2019, when he had gone to Vladivostok. This will be a standalone visit, on the lines of the annual bilateral summit between Indian and Russian leaders that have been going on since 2000.

Through diplomatic relations between India and Austria were established on November 10, 1949, Indira visited Austria in 1983, and the then Austrian Chancellor, Fred Sinowatz, reciprocated with a visit to India in 1984. In November 1999, then President KR Narayanan made India's first state visit to Austria. The then Austrian President, Heinz Fischer, reciprocated with a state visit in February 2005. Then President Pratibha Patil also made a state visit to Austria in October 4-7, 2011. In his first term, Modi held a bilateral meeting with then Austrian Chancellor Christian Kern in St Petersburg on June 2, 2017, on the sidelines of St Petersburg International Economic Forum. In his second term, Modi met then Austrian Chancellor, Alexander Schallenberg, on October 30, 2021, on sidelines of COP-26 in Glasgow. He also had a telephone conversation with President Alexander Van der Bellen on May 26, 2020. To foster innovation and entrepreneurship between the countries, the 'India-Austria Startup Bridge' was launched in February this year. Officials said

the last in-person bilateral meeting between Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin took place in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, on the sidelines of the SCO Summit in September 2022. That was when Modi told Putin that "this is not the era of war"—a line used in the formulation at the G20 summit in Bali in November 2022 later, and by other western leaders and interlocutors to press on Russia to end the war.

In the two-and-a-half years since their last annual summit in December 2021, Modi and Putin have maintained regular contact through at least 10 telephone conversations. Modi's visit to Russia comes just after his visit to Italy for the outreach session at the G7 leaders' summit on June 13-14. However, he did not go for the peace summit on Ukraine which was held in Switzerland. India was represented by Secretary (West) in MEA, Pavan Kapoor. Russia did not attend the Swiss summit, calling it "waste of time".

BHARATIYA NYAYA SANHITA REPLACES INDIAN PENAL CODE

From murder to rash driving, first BNS cases

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD, LUCKNOW, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, RANCHI, GOA, DEHRADUN, BHOPAL, PANJIM, JAIPUR, GANDHINAGAR, JULY 1

FROM A constable in Karnataka being booked for murdering his wife to the kidnapping of a month-old baby in Uttar Pradesh, there were a wide array of cases that were filed on the first day of the new Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), the criminal law that replaced the IPC Monday.

A look at the first cases from across India.

In Madhya Pradesh, an FIR was registered under BNS Section 296 (obscene acts and songs) at 12:16 am at Bhopal's Hanuman-ganj police station. In his complaint, Praful Chauhan claimed that the suspect — identified as one Raja alias Harbhajan — waylaid him while he was on his way home late in the night and began swearing at him. "When I asked him not to abuse me, he hurled even louder abuses and ran home. Local residents also witnessed the incident," the FIR read.

In Delhi's Kamla Market Police Station, where a vendor was booked under Section 285 (danger or obstruction in public way or line of navigation) for selling his wares under a foot bridge near the New Delhi Railway Station.

Similar FIRs were also registered in Goa and Gujarat.

According to reports, the first FIR under BNS in Gujarat was



A poster of the new criminal laws being put up in New Delhi, Monday. PTI

lodged around 1 am at Chiloda police station in Gandhinagar against a person named Nikul Bihola (19) under Section 285, for parking his motorcycle that obstructed public movement.

Likewise, in Goa's Margao, a street vendor was booked for "selling plastic on the road".

In both cases, vendors were booked under Section 285 of BNS (danger or obstruction in public way or line of navigation).

Telangana's first FIR under the new criminal code was filed at Rajendranagar Police Station under Cyberabad Police Commissionerate Monday morning.

The FIR, filed under BNS Section 104 (causing death due

to negligence), pertained to the death of a driver who crashed his car into the median on PVNR Expressway around 2 am. Police said that the driver, Sai Ganesh, was speeding towards the airport and the car skidded and overturned, causing his death.

Uttar Pradesh's first two FIRs came from Amroha and Bareilly. In Amroha, a 48-year-old farmer, Jagpal Singh, was electrocuted, leading to a case of negligence (Section 106) against his neighbour Rajveer alias Rajju (48), and his son Bhup Singh alias Bholu (29). The state's second FIR pertained to the disappearance of a month-old baby from a Bareilly hospital. A case of kidnapping

(Section 97) was registered at Bareilly's Baradari police station on the back of a complaint from the baby's father Sushil Kumar.

Kerala's first FIR was at Malappuram's Kondotty police station, where a 24-year-old youth, Mahammed Shafi, was booked for rash driving (Section 281). According to the police, Shafi was caught speeding at midnight.

He was also booked under The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

In Chhattisgarh's Kabirdham district, the first case to be registered was under Section 296 (obscenity) and 351 (2) (criminal intimidation).

The case pertained to a tractor salesman, Itwari Sahdev

Pancheshwar, who claimed that a customer hurled abuses and threatened him over a sale.

Uttarakhand's first case was registered at Jwalapur Police Station in Haridwar. In his complaint, the complainant, Bhara-dwaj, claimed he was sitting at Ravidas Ghat along the Ganga at around 1:45 am when two unidentified people robbed him of his phone and cash of Rs 1,400 at knifepoint and shoved him towards the river before fleeing. According to police, a case of robbery under Section 309 (4) (robbery) was lodged within 30 minutes of receiving the complaint.

Himachal Pradesh's first FIR pertained to an alleged assault case and was registered at the Dhanotu Police Station in Mandi. According to the police, the complainant discovered "illegal mining" near his house at around 12:15 am and when he objected, he was attacked.

A case was registered under Sections 126 (2) (wrongful restraining hurt), 352 (insult with intent to provoke breach of peace), and 351 (2) (punishment for criminal intimidation) of the BNS.

"So far, five FIRs have been registered under the BNS in the state," a police officer said.

Rajasthan's first case under BNS pertained to assault and damaging public property. According to DGP (State Crime Records Bureau) Hemant Priyadarshi, a case under sections 115(2) (punishment for voluntarily causing hurt), 126(2)

(wrongful restraint), 324 (4) (punishment for mischief leading to loss or damage to the amount of Rs 20,000 to 1 lakh and section 324(5) (punishment for mischief leading to loss or damage of an amount over 1 lakh) was registered at Pali's Sadri Police Station Monday morning. The incident allegedly took place at 7:30 am, and the FIR was lodged at 10:22 am, the officer said.

In Jammu and Kashmir, police registered five cases in different districts. While the first case deals with sections 281 (rash driving) and 125 (endangering life or personal safety of others) and was registered in Anantnag, the second one pertained to illegal mining and was registered under sections 303 (theft) and 329 (criminal trespass).

Theft cases were also registered in Srinagar and Sopore while the fifth case was registered in Kulgam for criminal force and assault against woman (Section 74) and hurt (Section 115).

Karnataka's first FIR was over the death of a 60-year-old woman in a road accident in Hassan district Monday morning. The woman, a resident of Halebeedu, was returning from a pilgrimage to Kashi and Ayodhya with her friends when the accident occurred.

A case was also registered against a police constable, arrested for the murder of his wife in Hassan district. This is the first such case in the state under the new criminal law.

Teething troubles: Confusion over status of metropolitan magistrates

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

ON THE first day of their implementation, the three new criminal law codes ran into some teething troubles.

Confusion prevailed over the status of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (CMM) and Metropolitan Magistrate (MM) Courts since the the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), which replaced the CrPc, has omitted references to MM and only includes the Judicial Magistrate of First Class and Judicial Magistrate Second Class.

Section 17 of the CrPc states that "the High Court shall, in relation to every metropolitan area within its local jurisdiction, ap-

point a Metropolitan Magistrate to be the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate for such metropolitan area. As per the CrPc, towns and cities which have a population exceeding one million are notified as metropolitan areas. Although there is no difference in powers, CMM and MMs are appointed by state government by notification for a period of one year and MMs are usually assigned.

In the afternoon, the Delhi HC issued a notification designating MM Courts as Judicial Magistrates. "In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of Section 9 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 and all other powers enabling them in this behalf, Hon'ble the Acting Chief Justice and Hon'ble Judges of this Court have been pleased to

re-designate the existing Magisterial Courts of Chief Metropolitan Magistrates, Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrates, Metropolitan Magistrates, etc. of all Metropolitan Areas (erstwhile)/Judicial Districts of National Capital Territory of Delhi," read the order.

There was some confusion on what happens if the now-replaced criminal codes are invoked after July 1, unintentionally or otherwise. For example, PMLA lists scheduled offences under the IPC and the BNS has not yet been included. However, sources in government clarified that the Repeal and Savings provision in BNS states that "anything done or any action taken under said Code (IPC) shall be deemed to have been done or taken under corresponding provisions of the Sanhita."

ABHISHEK ANGAD
RANCHI, JULY 1

THE JHARKHAND High Court Monday took suo motu cognizance of an error in Universal LexisNexis edition of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) bare act.

A bench of Justices Ananda Sen and Subhash Chand of the Jharkhand High Court pointed out that in one of the editions the provision for lynching — BNS section 103(2) — had been wrongly reproduced.

The BNS has come into effect from Monday.

Section 103 (2) of the new law reads: "When a group of five or more persons acting in concert commits murder on the ground of race, caste or commu-

nity, sex, place of birth, language, personal belief or any other similar ground each member of such group shall be punished with death or with imprisonment for life, and shall also be liable to fine."

However, the LexisNexis version uses the words "any other ground" instead of "any other similar ground".

Observing that the error could have "serious consequences", the bench directed the publisher to publish a corrigendum in the national and the regional newspapers.

Ritu Kumar, president of the Jharkhand High Court Advocates' Association, told *The Indian Express*: "We were called in the court to deliberate on the issue. The bench has issued a no-

tice to the publisher on the error where a word is missing. The notice will be served to the publishers for action."

Jharkhand High Court lawyer Mohammad Shabad Ansari, who had previously represented lynching victims in various cases, told *The Indian Express* that the words "any other grounds" could mean anything, even property disputes.

"While in lynching, (the 2018 Supreme Court) Tehseen Poonawalla judgment will have a bearing. For example, BNS's corresponding provisions of IPC 153A (promoting enmity between different groups) will be added in the FIR, compensation will be given, and (the case) has to be tried in fast-track courts," he said.

MP nod for Bill to seize vehicles transporting cows for slaughter

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BHOPAL, JULY 1

THE MADHYA Pradesh Cabinet Monday approved a draft legislation to empower district collectors to confiscate any vehicles used to transport cows for slaughter.

Under existing provisions of the Madhya Pradesh Cow Slaughter Prohibition Act, 2004, the magistrate used to decide whether a cow was being transported for slaughter or illegal trade. The cabinet has approved a Bill to amend this.

"Until now, in the case of

transportation of cattle, there was a provision to seize the cattle, but the vehicles used for transportation were not confiscated because the collector had no authority under the rules. Today, this authority has also been given to the collector. Just as the district magistrate has the power to confiscate in excise cases, similarly, the collector has now been given the authority to confiscate vehicles used for cattle transportation," said Urban Administration Minister Kailash Vijayvargiya.

The Cabinet also approved a Bill to take action against landowners for abandoned

open borewells. "We often see that borewells are left open and children fall into them. Until now, there was no fixed responsibility for this. Today, the Cabinet has decided to fix responsibility. The person who drills the borewell will be responsible for closing it after drilling," Vijayvargiya said.

He said "if the landowner who had the boring done does not close the borewell, action will be taken against them as well".

"If neither closes it, the state government will close it and recover the cost with a penalty from them," he said.

ODISHA CM AT PEOPLE'S DURBAR

Odisha CM Mohan Charan Majhi at the grievance redress cell meeting in Bhubaneswar, Monday. This was the first time in 16 years that a CM was present at the meeting. ANI



SAD rebels blame Sukhbir for decisions that harmed party

KAMALDEEP SINGH BRAR
AMRITSAR, JULY 1

A REBEL group of SAD on Monday sought forgiveness at Akal Takht Sahib in Amritsar, the highest temporal seat of the Sikhs, for several incidents that led to people's disillusionment with the party when it was in power in Punjab from 2007 to 2017.

The rebel group, comprising former MP Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa, former Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) president Jagir Kaur, former MP Prem Singh Chandumajra, senior leaders Gurpratap Wadala and Surjit Singh Rakhra, submitted a letter to Akal Takht Sahib Jathedar Giani Raghuraj Singh in which it blamed president Sukhbir Singh Badal for decisions that harmed the party. The rebel group mentioned

some of these incidents, including the pardoning of Dera Sacha Sauda chief Gurmeet Ram Rahim for wearing attire similar to that worn by Guru Gobind Singh, the 2015 Sri Guru Granth Sahib sacrifice issue, the 2015 Behbal Kalan firing, and the appointments of police officers.

The rebel leaders stated they were ready to face any punishment that the Akal Takht Sahib deemed appropriate since they were also part of the government but failed to stop the leadership's wrong decisions.

"During the government of Shiromani Akali Dal from 2007 to 2017, several incidents occurred that led to a large section of the Sikh Panth and the people of Punjab becoming disillusioned with the leadership... Consequently, SAD has faced failures in the religious sphere and also experienced political alienation,"



SAD rebel leaders offer prayers at the Akal Takht, in Amritsar, Monday. Rana Simranjit Singh

the letter said. It said, "In 2007, at Salabattura, the chief of Dera Sacha Sauda, Gurmeet Ram Rahim, mimicked the Tenth Guru, Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji, by dressing similarly and performing a ceremony. This led

to a police case, but the Shiromani Akali Dal government later withdrew the case. In response to this incident, the Akal Takht Sahib had excommunicated the Dera chief. However, Sukhbir Singh Badal used his influence to get the Dera

chief pardoned." The SGPC spent around Rs 90 lakh on advertisements to defend its decision, but due to strong opposition from the Sikh Panth, the leadership of the SAD and the SGPC ultimately had to reverse it, the rebels said.

"Then home minister Sukhbir Singh Badal was neither able to conduct a timely and proper investigation nor could successfully punish the culprits in 2015 sacrilege cases. This led to painful incidents in Kotkapura and Behbal Kalan," said the rebels. "The SAD government made another major mistake by appointing an officer who was notorious for fake police encounters resulting in martyrdom of Sikh youths as Punjab Police chief, giving a ticket to wife of another such officer who had formed Alam Sena to carry out killings, and making her a chief parliamentary secretary," it said.

EXPLAINED
What led to revolt against Sukhbir?

In the Lok Sabha polls in Punjab, the Akali Dal, contesting separately from its erstwhile ally BJP, faced another rout as it managed to win just one seat out of 13; 10 of its candidates lost security deposits. Expressing concern that the SAD's core base has drifted away during Sukhbir Badal's presidency, some party rebels held a meeting in Jalandhar, which passed a resolution demanding that Sukhbir should step down.



The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

For Democrats, Plan B

With four months to go to America's election, can they elevate a new candidate to take on Donald Trump?



BHASKAR CHAKRAVORTI

SYNDICATE VS LAW

Uttar Dinajpur incident stems from culture of impunity. CM Mamata Banerjee must ensure law takes its course

A VIDEO OF a Trinamool Congress functionary, Tajimul Islam, assaulting a couple for their alleged extramarital affair at a *salishi sabha* — a sort of a kangaroo court — in West Bengal's Uttar Dinajpur has rightly evoked widespread outrage and condemnation. The incident in the Chopra block of the Lakhipur gram panchayat on June 28, that made a morbid public spectacle of what was a personal matter, speaks of an impunity that comes from the creation of a parallel syndicate of strongarm justice. In West Bengal, such a syndicate apparently overrides constitutional mechanisms without fear of repercussion or reprisal. At its core, it is no different from the persecution of young people in inter-religious relationships on the grounds of "love jihad", or the use of bulldozers to selectively punish for crimes that extend beyond illegal construction. All of these amount to violations of due process. All point to state abdication and failure to protect and uphold the fundamental rights of citizens. Given the BJP's reliance on it in states in which it is in power, its accusations of "JCB justice" (Islam is known as JCB) against Banerjee in Bengal may reek of double standards. But CM Banerjee and her colleagues can take recourse to the dead-ends of whataboutery only at their own peril. Mired in accusations of becoming an arrogant party-state, the TMC government must take note of the warning bells and course-correct.

After the video surfaced, Islam was approached and taken into police custody. But the incident, so soon after Sandeshkhali — where another party functionary Shahjahan Sheikh was accused of sexual exploitation and intimidation, leading to a protracted tussle between the Centre and the state before his arrest — points to a festering crisis. Women form the core of the political support for Banerjee in the state. From Rupashree, which provides assistance for wedding expenses, to Lakshmi Bhandar, her flagship financial-assistance scheme for female household heads from economically weaker sections of society, to Kanyashree, that offers assistance for education, the range of cash-transfer schemes that Banerjee's government offers are both a response to the support and a reason for it. With outreach programmes such as "Duare Sarkar" (government at the doorstep), "Didike Bolo" (Tell Didi), Swasthya Sathi (healthcare scheme) and by visibly increasing women's representation across the party's ranks, Banerjee has sought to project her party's commitment to women's welfare. While party leaders such as Santanu Sen have come out in condemnation of the incident in Uttar Dinajpur, it is not enough. The Chief Minister, too, must hold out the assurance that the law will take its rightful course, regardless of the alleged involvement of members of her own party.

The Uttar Dinajpur incident is also an indication of the structural issues that have continued to plague the state through successive regimes: The formation of a government-political party-business nexus that all-too-often rides roughshod over the law of the land. This system now appears to be undermining the most fundamental role of the state — what Max Weber called its "monopoly over violence". The ballooning party-state did not end well for TMC's predecessor, the CPM. It is a warning that Banerjee cannot fail to read. She must uphold the rule of law and act against those within the TMC who seek to flout it.

THE BEST THING about the American presidential debate last Thursday was that it happened with over four months to go before the elections. If held later, Joe Biden would have appeared even more feeble and Donald Trump would have been just as aggressive — with the "morals of an alley cat", to quote the President of the United States speaking of a former president of the United States.

Americans don't deserve this. A troubled world, still desperately dependent on American leadership despite premature declarations of its demise, doesn't deserve this either.

Trump's sentencing for falsifying hush money payment records is not till July 11, and a string of appeals will, inevitably, ensue. Even when the appeals are done, jail time is not usual in Manhattan for this type of crime by a first-time offender.

Biden firmly believes he is the best person to save the world from Trump. The irony is that he might be right — unless the Democrats move from Plan Biden to a specific Plan B and make the case for them. In a digital age, four months is more than enough time to produce a star.

Let's review the Plan B options.

The presumptive candidate a heartbeat away, Vice President Kamala Harris, polls poorly. Whether it is because of plain old-fashioned misogyny laced with racism, or constant sidelining by the Biden inner-circle, or her own uninspiring track record, together with endless "cheapfake" videos — done by simply editing out context — of her laughing, a turnaround of her poor standing in this short time will be hard and she'll be savaged by Trump and the Trumpists.

Looking past Harris is politically hazardous — it makes the Democratic party look like it doesn't trust its own leadership while alienating voters who might be upset that a woman of colour is being sidelined. But, given the urgency, other options must be considered.

The most obvious ones are those with executive governing experience in the states.

The presumptive candidate a heartbeat away, Vice President Kamala Harris, polls poorly. Whether it is because of plain old-fashioned misogyny laced with racism, or constant sidelining by the Biden inner-circle, or her own uninspiring track record, together with endless "cheapfake" videos — done by simply editing out context — of her laughing, a turnaround of her poor standing in this short time will be hard and she'll be savaged by Trump and the Trumpists.

ON THE UPSWING

RBI report frames a banking system in good health. But some areas require supervision

THE INDIAN BANKING system has continued to register a robust performance across various metrics. As per the Reserve Bank of India's latest financial stability report, not only have banks seen a sustained improvement in their asset quality, but their profitability has remained high, and their capital position also remains healthy. This improvement is being observed across both public and private sector banks. This has, in turn, improved their attractiveness — the Nifty Bank index is up more than 16 per cent over the past year, with PSU banks registering handsome gains.

According to the report, the gross non-performing loans of the Indian banking system have declined to a 12-year low of 2.8 per cent in March, with declines observed across public, private and foreign banks. Sector wise data shows that bad loans have fallen across agriculture, industry, services and the personal loans category, though within industry, they remain high in gems and jewellery and construction segments, and within personal loans in the credit card segment. This broad decline in bad loans has been driven by a combination of write-offs and fall in fresh bad loans — the half-yearly slippages have fallen across all bank groups. Alongside, banks have improved their provision coverage ratios, their net interest income has risen, and their capital position remains healthy. The stress tests conducted to gauge the strength of bank balance sheets do indicate that they are well placed to absorb macroeconomic shocks. And even in the severe stress case scenario, their capital position would remain above the minimum requirements. Further, banks may well see bad loans fall further to 2.5 per cent by March 2025 under usual business conditions.

However, there are some areas that require a closer look. Even as the asset quality of retail loans has improved — bad loans have fallen from 2.1 per cent in June 2022 to 1.2 per cent in March 2024 — in the case of private sector banks, slippages from retail loans accounted for 40 per cent of fresh addition to bad loans. In consumer credit, in the case of personal loans below Rs 50,000, the delinquency levels are high. And, a sizable section of borrowers has multiple loans. While the central bank has been cognisant of the risks in this segment, this requires continuous supervision.

LUCY'S BURDEN

Fifty years later, the 'mother of humanity' must continue to support her metaphorical offspring

SEVEN YEARS AFTER The Beatles released "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds", and 40 years before she featured as part of a mind-expanding drug-fuelled sequence in *Lucy* (2014), a four-foot female — who would have been too "small brained" for Charles Darwin to consider as an ancestor of the Homo Sapien — changed the story of human history. Even what it means to be human. In 1974, the discovery of the skeletal remains of a female hominin in Ethiopia, changed the way early human evolution was conceived. Named Lucy, she became the embodiment of the "mother of humanity".

Biologically speaking, human beings — and now extinct related species, like Neanderthals — are defined by three features: Large brains, tool use and walking upright. Darwin thought that all three developed at the same time. Lucy, at just four feet tall as an adult, could walk — but her brain was not commensurately large. Her bones led to a revolution in human paleontology, with many other hominins — some even largely arboreal — becoming part of the complicated origins of the species that built skyscrapers and artificial intelligence.

Soon after Lucy's discovery, scientists began to speak of Mitochondrial Eve — the first common female ancestor of all living humans. But Eve is a shifting being, a hypothetical one based on mothers and daughters today. Lucy was real — and likely a person. Somehow, that makes her more relatable. Of course, like many mothers today, both the concept of Mitochondrial Eve and bones of Lucy have had to bear too much — creationists objecting to their very existence, scientific siblings taking out their conceptual hang-ups on the long-dead maters. Then there's the fact that she is resurrected by sci-fi and pop culture at regular intervals. But perhaps the "mother of humanity" carries the same burdens as her prosaic, small-scale counterparts — bickering, ungrateful children who won't let her rest.



SHIKHA MUKERJEE

CALL HIM "JCB" or any other name, Tajimul Islam, who has now been arrested in West Bengal's North Dinajpur district, was captured on video as he meted out punishment to a couple accused of being involved in an extramarital affair. The strongman is among the politically protected enforcers who have, over time, acquired enough power to usurp the authority of the police, administration and judiciary and hold summary trials followed by beatings that are attended by hundreds of villagers-turned-spectators.

The North Dinajpur incident is not an exception. In the second half of June, several incidents in which the mob took the law into its own hands, were reported across the state. In some instances, including one in Pandua in Hooghly district and one in Jhargram, people died.

The North Dinajpur, Pandua and Jhargram incidents reveal that there is a parallel authority that operates outside the system of law and the government, which is not accountable and has no responsibility except to ensure the dominance of the Trinamool Congress in every aspect of life.

In North Dinajpur, two people decided to live together, even though they were legally married to other people. Appointing themselves as the moral police, the people of Dighalgaon village in the Lakhipur gram panchayat gathered at a primary school where an entirely illegal *salishi sabha*, or kangaroo court, decided to punish the couple. A private matter turned into a public issue.

BENGAL'S KANGAROO COURTS

It is getting harder for Mamata Banerjee to distance herself from strongmen linked to TMC

By taking the law into their own hands, the people of Dighalgaon and the Lakhipur gram panchayat are complicit in breaking the rule of law. The power of community-approved, politically-protected and, therefore, armoured-with-immunity enforcers to carry out illegal acts threatens the power of the government on the one hand and the rule of law on the other. If Tajimul Islam is accountable for his crimes, so are those who turned up for the "hearing".

The incident points to the reduction of the police and the administration into ineffectual clean-up services, mostly powerless and, therefore, irrelevant. The coercive authority of the state, which is controlled by the government headed by Mamata Banerjee, appears to have been usurped by a league of enforcers who seem to enjoy political protection.

The issue is not how or even when Tajimul Islam or the now notorious Shahjahan Sheikh of Sandeshkhali, accused of land grab and sexual exploitation of women, acquired the sort of immunity that protected them from being apprehended for wrongdoing. The issue is whether the Mamata Banerjee government has the capacity to deal with the problem.

Strangely enough, the June incidents coincided with a televised meeting where Mamata Banerjee named, shamed and blamed ministers, municipal bosses, bureaucrats and the police for being part of a nexus that managed illegalities — in other words,

for being corrupt. She read them the riot act for running a parallel administration, the purpose of which was to ensure that encroachments by hawkers and vendors of pavements and streets, unauthorised parking of cars and other vehicles, appropriation of government property and public spaces, even ponds and water bodies, was normalised, so long as the negotiated fee reached the people in power. The dangerous erosion of the rule of law is now a threat to her power as the chief minister and the boss of the Trinamool Congress.

Corruption is a spectre that is going to haunt Mamata Banerjee. She has been working to distance herself from scams and clean up her government and her party before the next elections in 2026, when she will be held to account by voters. Her problem is that there is a link between the perpetrators and the Trinamool Congress and its functionaries in too many instances of wrongdoing.

Mamata Banerjee's mystique has helped salvage her from the consequences of the rampant abuse of power by people who appear to have immunity from being prosecuted because of their association with the Trinamool Congress. She knows that it cannot last forever and her luck seems to be running out as she challenges the vested interests in her party.

The writer is a senior journalist based in Kolkata



JULY 2, 1984, FORTY YEARS AGO

ARMY IN PUNJAB

IN A TELEVISION BROADCAST, Chief of Army staff, AS Vaidya, said that the Army's role in Punjab wasn't over and warned against believing rumours which undermine confidence in the nation's security apparatus. He added that those who acted in a "mutinous manner" were to be punished severely.

SMUGGLERS RAIDED

170 PREMISES WERE raided and 127 people were arrested across Delhi, Kerala, Gujarat, and Maharashtra on June 1.

Information regarding the operations was relayed by Union Finance Minister, Pranab Mukherjee who denied allegations that they were being carried out due to proximity to the Lok Sabha elections. The detainees were held under the Contravention of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act and the Foreign Exchange Regulations Act.

PM ON TAMIL ISSUE

INDIRA GANDHI AND Sri Lankan President JR Jayewardene met on July 1. Accompanied by the Minister of External Affairs and Sri Lanka's national security minister, the at-

mosphere of the meeting was "cordial". Paths to solve the Tamil question have not been ruled out.

MOSCOW-DELHI TALKS

A HIGH-LEVEL DEFENCE delegation has gone to Moscow to negotiate the indigenous manufacture of a wide range of sophisticated military equipment and components, including the licence production of a modern fighter aircraft, with the Soviet Union. The Indian delegation would also discuss measures to expedite the process of setting up MiG-27 fighter aircraft production.



C R Sasikumar

Writer & the tree of tongues

UAPA case against her attests to the value of the writer — for being relevant, for healing the past, repairing the present, creating a better future



K R MEERA

IT WAS AT the Wayanad Literary Festival that I could finally spend some time with Arundhati Roy. She was waiting for her session after that of the renowned poet K Satchidanandan and we fell into conversation. I have always envied people who can speak for long stretches. I often tend to get distracted, and once my thoughts stray, my mind begins to drift. So when she told me she can't speak for more than 15 or 20 minutes, I felt relieved — and also excited — about having something in common with Arundhati. I have been under her spell since I first came across an excerpt from *The God of Small Things* (1997). I still identify myself and my sister Thara with Estha and Rahel and believe that their childhood was ours too. The book and its author remain an integral part of my life as a reader as well as a writer.

At Wayanad, we were interrupted by some readers for book signing. She signed the books, but after returning them, called the readers back as if to check something in the books. "What happened?" I asked her once the readers had left. "They are pirated copies," she said with a smile. "Oh really? That's sad!" I remarked. "Oh, I don't care," Arundhati said. "It doesn't matter as long as someone reads them."

Later, in her session, she said something that struck me even more. She said that she would like to travel around the world without any money and wherever she went, if she introduced herself and asked, "Will you please buy me lunch?", there would be some reader who would gladly do so.

A year later, in December 2023, I met her

again, although we didn't get any time together. She was in Thiruvananthapuram to receive the third P Govinda Pillai Memorial National Award, instituted by the P Govinda Pillai Sanskriti Kendra, from N Ram. Alongside M A Baby and Shabnam Hashmi, I, too, was on the jury. She concluded her acceptance speech by stating that the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and the siege of Gaza are a crime against humanity. Afterwards, as she was thronged by fans and the press, I couldn't speak to her again. I wanted to wish her, "Wherever you go in the world, let there be plenty of readers to host you at lunch and not governments to book you."

To be honest, the reports that the Delhi LG V K Saxena has granted sanction to prosecute her under UAPA for a speech she made in 2010 haven't shocked me, just as her PEN Pinter Prize win this year hasn't surprised me. Arundhati had clarified her stand years ago. She had explained that her words came from wanting to live in a society that strives to be a just one. Instead of ending the matter there, after 14 years, the government feels it warrants prosecution under the UAPA. The shocking part is that most of the mainstream media are not worried about the legal flaws or procedural mistakes. They reported it briefly and vaguely. A few who discussed it are intrigued by the question of "why now?", meaning, perhaps, that she could have been booked much earlier. They are interested in the reasons, too. Some say that it is an attempt to divert attention from the ruling party's disappointment with the election outcome. Others say that it is a well-thought-out plan to convince the nation that nothing has changed after all, that the government in its third term, too, will have zero tolerance for dissent.

But I think that there is much more to it if we look at the chronology. The first Modi government was more worried about human-rights activists and NGO workers. The second Modi government focused on high-

The current scenario boosts my pride as an author. At the least, it proves that writers in this country are still relevant. After the Emergency, no other government has taken writers and artistes as seriously as the Modi government. This government still believes in the writers' power to transform the nation, exceeding their own. Isn't that what all authors — living, dead, exiled, and murdered — all over the world wrote for?

profile politicians and academics. Now comes the turn of artistes and writers, and it is always better to start with the best-known first. The time is ripe for Arundhati Roy — as recently as March this year, she has challenged all mighty nations on the issue of the Gaza war with passages like "...US money and Indian poverty combine to oil Israel's genocidal war machine. What a terrible, unthinkable shame."

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All sublime literature has blossomed out of the collective trauma of society. Whenever democracy is in danger, new ideas incarnate in the guise of stories and assume different forms of art to restore humanity and justice. Just like a new avatar in mythology, writers' ideas, too, adopt a superior reality. Our freedom struggle, the Partition and the Emergency — all have proven this true. The poem "The Tree of Tongues" (Naavu Maram, in Malayalam) by K Satchidanandan, which alludes to the Emergency, best encapsulates this: The goddess who ruled the land chopped off a tongue tree. But, instead of withering, from the blood of the tree sprouted a thousand leaves, all tongues, putting forth the truths the goddess wanted to hide.

"The tree of tongues spread out far and wide" even during the Emergency. It should not wither now.

Meera is the author, most recently of *Assassin* (2023)



SANJAY KUMAR AND SHANKAR MARUWADA

The magic box

NCERT's Jaadui Pitara illustrates importance of play as an aspect of learning

WHEN THE JAADUI Pitara (magic box) was launched on February 20, 2023, by the Minister of Education, a few children were invited on stage to unveil it. Having opened the box, the children looked through the books and flashcards. As they spotted the toys lying underneath, their eyes lit up and they thronged the box like children around a birthday cake. They picked up their favourite toy from the box — a doll, puppet, tambourine — beaming from ear to ear and became engrossed in their world, with the stage and ceremony fading into the background. The toys elicited wonder, curiosity, and joy. The audience of over five hundred administrators, academicians, and teachers, remembered their childhood and broke into spontaneous applause and beaming smiles.

With bright eyes, laughter — and an occasional wail — children will make their way to classrooms across India at the start of the new school year. Let us celebrate the new learning year by making it welcoming, joyful, and playful for every child. Play is natural for children and a powerful tool for holistic development — physical, socio-emotional, language, cognitive, and cultural. It allows children to be curious, and explore and experiment in a safe, fun, and non-judgemental space.

Recently, India and the world observed the International Day of Play on June 11 (as declared by the United Nations), recognising the importance of play for children to thrive and achieve their full potential. India has also stressed on play and has been a pioneer in institutionalising it.

The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020, and the National Curriculum Framework for the Foundational Stage (NCF-FS), 2022 for the first time envisaged and crafted a curriculum framework for the foundational stage (covering ages 3-8). The core transformative aspect of NCF-FS is "learn through play", giving legitimacy to what is known instinctively: When children play, they learn. Learning does not just happen through writing or reading and it's imperative not to force a particular style of learning. There are as many pathways to learning as there are learners. Play includes conversation, storytelling, toys, songs and rhymes, music and movement, arts and crafts, and indoor and outdoor games. This interaction creates an indelible bond among students, teachers, parents and the community.

A symbol of the transformative nature of NCF-FS is NCERT's Jaadui Pitara, which exemplifies the content needed in any

school for the foundational stage. It is diverse and demonstrates the sensibilities (age-appropriate, local, with sensory experience) to be kept in mind while developing such content. The Pitara has toys, games, puzzles, puppets, posters, flashcards, storybooks, playbooks and teacher handbooks. Each toy and play is mapped to a definite learning outcome. Stakeholders across the country have appreciated the transformative teaching-learning materials found in the Jaadui Pitara. Efforts are ongoing by states to customise the box's contents for their local context and milieu.

Recognising that we now live in the digital era and that technology-enabled channels can accelerate and amplify the reach and impact of the Jaadui Pitara, the Ministry of Education launched the e-Jaadui Pitara in February to complement the physical box and democratise access through multiple channels: Computers, smart- and feature-phones, television and radio. Caregivers can now interact with virtual assistants, leveraging generative AI through chat and voice features, to tell stories and ask questions on engaging children in play-learn activities.

Several studies on child development and the brain too indicate that play is essential

for: One, brain development, especially stimulation of the prefrontal cortex, which is responsible for attention, problem-solving and regulating social behaviour; two, neuroplasticity or ability to form new neural connections, fundamental for learning and adapting throughout life; three, intuitive knowledge, essential for problem-solving and decision-making in complex and uncertain conditions.

The importance of play as a fundamental aspect of parenting in building the foundation for children's growth and development, right from infancy, is underscored by international agencies like UNICEF.

During play, children are continuously making choices. They are full of wonder and joy. Play fosters holistic development, creativity, and resilience among children. For adults, play enhances mental health, cognition and creativity. When parents and caregivers engage children in play, they celebrate play. Let's celebrate play and help children learn and develop. *Bachpan mana, badhte jao.*

Kumar is Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy, Government of India and Maruwada is CEO and Co-Founder, EkStep Foundation, Bengaluru

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"The new balance of seats in Northern Ireland is likely to renew speculation about an eventual referendum on unification with the Republic. Such a referendum will not happen any time soon. But such a set of results will heighten unionist uncertainties even so."

— THE GUARDIAN

Drawing borders in the air

Presence of China's stealth fighters on Tibet air base is a signal. India must firm up its partnership with France for joint production of Rafales



DIPTENDU CHOUDHURY

THE RECENT SATELLITE image of China's fifth generation stealth fighters, the J20 Mighty Dragon, parked on the main tarmac of Shigatse air base in Tibet, along with J10 Vigorous Dragon fighters at an altitude of 12,408 feet, has set off a flurry of speculation and raised concerns. This has led to comparisons between the J20 and the 4.5 generation Indian Rafale and triggered a bean count of platforms as a measure of the two Air Forces. Number crunching, however, does not reflect the true military measure of air power, which includes weapons capability and roles, employment tactics and concepts of operation, and most importantly, skill sets, experience and combat readiness status of the aircrew.

The J20 is touted as the stealth counter to the US F22, with its internal carriage capability of long-range air-to-air missiles and precision-guided munitions. Their presence showcases the People's Liberation Army Air Force's (PLAAF) high-end platforms, its ability to use its high-altitude air bases for fighter operations, and its growing ability to project air power in the region to counter the Indian Air Force's forward deployment of Sukhoi and Rafales. It is also a political signal that the border dispute with India is no longer a territorial issue, but one of sovereign airspace. More regular activation of its bases in the future will see increased air activity across our borders close to disputed spaces, and more frequent air violations to test India's response.

What is also clear is that all the aircraft are lined up on the open tarmac, with the absence of any blast-protected airfield infrastructure and dispersed hardened aircraft shelters and no efforts at camouflage. The visible absence of supporting ground equipment necessary for extended fighter operations, on and around the tarmac, indicates the high probability of a temporary deployment. The mix of platforms and the presence of the KJ500 underscores PLAAF's increasing conduct of complex large missions and growing capabilities in projecting air power over long distances.

Beijing has steadily built a robust border infrastructure to sustain its mobility and logistics support, increased its army deployments to improve the force ratios, and has continued to sustain its political stand with military presence, despite 29 sessions of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on the India-China Border. Ceding to the strident demands for the creation of buffer zones in disputed areas, ostensibly as a precursor to disengagement, could set a dangerous precedent for demands of aerial buffer zones in future — this suits the Chinese to strategically restrict the IAF presence and operations in the region. Forward airstrips close to the border and sovereign air spaces over the disputed areas could become "no-

fly zones", inaccessible to the IAF aircraft for intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance missions, AD combat air patrols, as well as air mobility and air logistics, if the current situation is not carefully addressed.

For now, the IAF's mainstay fleet of fourth-gen fighters comprising Su30s, MiG29, and M2000, supplemented by two squadrons of the 4.5 Gen Rafale provides an asymmetric advantage, which China is working to neutralise on priority. The government is seized of the declining combat air power inventory of the IAF, but it is the absence of urgency to address this strategic criticality in India's continental threat that is of serious concern. Two squadrons of 4.5 generation Rafales are nowhere near enough to meet our current and future security requirements, given the over 7,000 km of hostile borders, and the immense volume of sovereign air spaces to be defended. To keep China at bay militarily, the urgent fulfilment of the Multi-Role Fighter Aircraft (MRFA) gap to bolster the 4.5-generation inventory, is not just an IAF requirement but a national security imperative for several reasons.

India's already delayed fifth-generation multirole fighter jet, the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), is expected to take a decade before it can be inducted into service. By then, China would have already developed its sixth-gen fighter to keep pace with the US. The next problem is that the upgraded MiG29, Mirage 2000 and Jaguar fleets would reach obsolescence before the AMCA squadrons become operational. This will deplete the high-end platform inventory of the IAF and skew the force ratio further, both in quantum and quality. Finally, even with the optimal bolstering of the indigenous production capacity which will take over a decade, it will be too late to arrest the further decline in India's combat air power. By the time the Tejas Mk 1A, the Mk 2 and the AMCA go into full-scale production over the coming years, China would have altered the air power and military balance in the region irretrievably in its favour. Thus, the urgent fulfilment of the long-pending 114 medium multi-role fighter aircraft requirement is a critical national security requirement.

Given the large numbers, a bilateral partnership with France for additional jointly-produced Rafales in India, with an attendant long-term agreement for joint upgrades and technology transfer access on future 4.5 generation-plus variants of the platform and its weapons suite, makes strategic sense. It will enable a steady and stable induction from a reliable partner, ensure greater platform commonality, assure future platform and weapons upgrades, and future engine development for the AMCA. It will also balance the inventory, reduce dependence on Russia and prevent the reliance on a temperamental US military industry, while fostering indigenous defence production.

As China seeks to offset or at the least balance the IAF's air power advantage, its greatest adverse impact will be on India's deterrence posture and military capability. It will be a mistake to cede India's current advantage.

The writer is a retired air marshal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WHY NEW CODES?

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'The new compact' (IE, July 1). The greatest irony of the BJP's decolonisation narrative is that even though the three new criminal laws have replaced the colonial laws, those who are entrusted with their implementation are governed by the Police Act, 1861. One must not overlook the fact that there was no popular demand from society or polity for the wholesale replacement of these old laws. On the other hand, there were strong recommendations for police reforms from many bodies. Sadly, governments have not shown initiative for such reforms.

LR Murmu, New Delhi

HISTORIC WIN

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Tortoise and hare in Barbados' (IE, July 1). The pressure on the Indian players was starkly evident in the Kensington Oval stadium in Barbados. With 30 needed from 30 balls, six wickets in hand and Heinrich Klaasen leading the charge, the Proteas looked all set for their first ever World Cup triumph. The stunning catch by Surya Kumar Yadav deserves special mention, especially since it came at a time when the situation was tense. We have to settle that India won this time. South Africa did not lose since it was anyone's game till the last moment.

SS Paul, Nadia

A FEAT ON FIELD

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'T20 Champions' (IE, July 1). The feeling of lifting the World Cup trophy after 13 years and the ICC Trophy after 11 years must be unmatched. Under Rohit Sharma's captaincy, the team's unbeaten run throughout the tournament led to their coronation as the new shortest-format world champions. The men in blue showcased their sporting prowess on the global stage. With explosive batting methodology, meticulous bowling strategies and agile fielding, the players exhibited a perfect blend of talent and grit.

Rohan Mahajan, Jammu

EQUALITY OF JUSTICE

THIS REFERS TO the report, 'CJI listening, Mamata calls for judiciary free of political bias' (IE, June 30). West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's appeal to the Supreme Court to ensure that the country's jurisprudence is devoid of political bias is timely. We have seen how the Karnataka High Court granted bail to former CM Yediyurappa in a POCSCO case. On the other hand, the Delhi HC recently stayed an order of a lower court granting bail to CM Arvind Kejriwal under the rigorous PMLA, even before reading the order copy. Justice will continue to elude us until there is accountability.

Kamal Laddha, Bengaluru

GRSE signs deal with Bangladesh for 800-tonne ocean-going tug

AMRITA NAYAK DUTTA
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

THE BANGLADESH Navy has signed a deal with the Indian Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) for an 800-tonne ocean-going tug—a major contract to be signed under a \$500-million line of credit that was extended to Bangladesh by India for purchase of defence equipment.

The deal was inked in Dhaka Sunday in the presence of representatives of GRSE and the Bangladesh Navy's directorate general of defence purchases. It coincided with a four-day visit to Bangladesh by Indian Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi, aimed at strengthening bilateral defence relations.

As per GRSE, the ship worth approximately USD 21 million will be delivered to Bangladesh within 24 months. As per officials, the platform would help tow ships at sea, and will also be capable of rescue operations.

The development comes amid an increasing Chinese footprint in Bangladesh's defence market. Currently, the Bangladesh Navy has several warships of Chinese origin. It also bought two submarines from China in 2016.

A senior defence official said the deal is critical as it helps expand India-Bangladesh maritime engagement beyond joint exercises and training between the two navies.

A senior defence official told *The Indian Express* that India has been encouraging Bangladesh to send its naval assets to Indian shipyards for repair and refit.

Army facing unique operational challenges, says Gen Dwivedi

Synergy among Army, Air Force and Navy among my priorities: Army Chief

AMRITA NAYAK DUTTA
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

THE INDIAN Army is ready and capable to face all current and future security challenges facing India, Army Chief General Uppendra Dwivedi said on Monday amid an increase in terror incidents in the Jammu belt and the ongoing border standoff with China in eastern Ladakh.

In his initial remarks to the media a day after taking over as the Army Chief, Gen Dwivedi said working towards ensuring synergy among the Army, Air Force and the Navy would be one of his priorities. He added the Army is facing "unique operational challenges" and to remain prepared for such threats, it is crucial to continue equipping soldiers with the latest weapons. "I am fully conscious of the responsibility assigned to me and I assure the country and fellow citizens that the Indian Army is fully capable and ready to face all current and future challenges," he said.

Gen Dwivedi said the geo-political landscape is changing rapidly and technology is evolving at a very fast pace. "The Indian Army faces unique operational challenges and to remain prepared for such threats and distinctive requirements, it is crucial that we continuously equip our soldiers with state-of-the-art weapons and technology and continue to evolve our war-fighting strategies," he said.

Gen Dwivedi said the Army



Chief of Army Staff General Uppendra Dwivedi inspects a Guard of Honour at South Block. PTI

is on the path to transformation and it aspires to be "Atmanirbhar" in defence and to achieve this, indigenous initiatives will be encouraged and maximum war systems and equipment that are manufactured in India will be inducted. He added that he would focus on ensuring that the Army is ready to operate in the full spectrum of conflict.

"It will be my endeavour to ensure that the Indian Army is always ready to operate in the full spectrum of conflict, maintaining complete synergy with the Indian Navy, Indian Air Force and other stakeholders," he said.

adding that it will ensure that India's interests are secured and we become a major pillar of nation building to achieve the vision of Viksit Bharat-2047.

Paying his tributes to bravehearts who made supreme sacrifice in the line of duty, he said he was fully committed to protect the interests of all the personnel in the force and to extend full support to ex-servicemen and their families. "It will be my priority to ensure that the interests and welfare of all ranks and defence civilians of the Army are looked after," he said. "My responsibility towards veterans, 'veer naris' and their families is a

sacred commitment and I assure this extended family my full support," he said.

Gen Dwivedi will bring with him 40 years of operational experience which includes several command and staff appointments across northern, eastern, and western theatres.

Aside from bringing in jointness among the three services and tackling the various operational challenges along the frontiers with Pakistan and China, a fresh look at the Agnipath recruitment scheme and continuing with the modernisation of the Army are likely to be among his key priorities.

India, Pak share lists of civilian prisoners, fishermen in each other's custody: MEA

Centre calls for early release of those who have completed their sentence

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

INDIA AND Pakistan exchanged the lists of civilian prisoners and fishermen in each other's custody, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said Monday, adding that Pakistan has shared the names of 43 civilian prisoners and 211 fishermen in its custody who are Indian or believed-to-be-Indian.

India has shared the names of 366 civilian prisoners and 86 fishermen in its custody who are Pakistani or are believed-to-be-Pakistani, the MEA said in a statement. Under the provisions of the bilateral agreement on Consular Access 2008, such lists are exchanged every year on January 1 and July 1, the statement said. The lists were exchanged "through diplomatic channels simultaneously at New Delhi and Islamabad", it added.

According to the MEA, the Government of India has called for "early release and repatriation" of civilian prisoners, fishermen along with their boats and missing Indian defence personnel from Pakistan's custody.

"Pakistan has been asked to expedite the release and repatriation of 185 Indian fishermen and civilian prisoners, who have completed their sentence. In addition, Pakistan has been asked to provide immediate consular access to the 47 civilian prisoners and fishermen in Pakistan's custody, who are believed-to-be-Indian and have not been provided consular access so far," the statement said.

Pakistan has been requested to ensure the safety, security and welfare of all Indian and believed-to-be-Indian civilian prisoners and fishermen, pending their release and repatriation to India, it added.

The MEA said India remains committed to addressing, on priority, all humanitarian matters, including those pertaining to prisoners and fishermen in each other's custody.

"In this context, India has urged Pakistan to expedite the nationality verification process of 75 believed-to-be-Pakistani civilian prisoners and fishermen in India's custody, whose repatriation is pending for want of nationality confirmation from Pakistan," the statement said.

"As a result of sustained efforts by the government, 2,639 Indian fishermen and 71 Indian civilian prisoners have been repatriated from Pakistan since 2014. This includes 478 Indian fishermen and 13 Indian civilian prisoners who have been repatriated from Pakistan since 2023 till date," it added.

RSS CHIEF VISITS 1965 WAR HERO'S VILLAGE

'Despite differences, India is one': Bhagwat releases book on Hamid

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, JULY 1

DESPITE ITS differences, India has functioned as one nation for thousands of years and this unity was apparent whenever it faced attacks from Pakistan or China, Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh chief Mohan Bhagwat said Monday.

Bhagwat was speaking in Ghazipur during the launch of a book on 1965 war hero Abdul Hamid, who was posthumously awarded the Param Vir Chakra. Bhagwat on Monday visited the native village of Hamid, Dhamupur, where he released a book on Hamid titled 'Mere Papa Paramvir' and another book titled 'Bharat ka Musalman'.

During his address at the event, Bhagwat said, "Despite diversities, India is one nation and



RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat in Ghazipur on Monday. PTI

one society. We have different religions, castes, communities and states in our country and we speak different languages, but we all are one in the name of the nation and the country. During war with enemy countries, people from all castes, religions and states unite for the nation."

Earlier, Bhagwat offered tributes at the statues of Hamid and Rasoolan Bibi, Hamid's wife. The book 'Mere Papa Paramvir' is written by Ramachandran Srinivasan while the book 'Bharat Ka Musalman' is authored by Captain (retired) Maqsood Ghazipuri. WITHPTIINPUT

Australia doubles visa fee for foreign students

DIVYAA
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

IN A move that could impact prospective Indian students, Australia has announced the doubling of student visa fees for international students from \$473 (AUD 710) to \$1,068 (AUD 1,600) with effect from Monday and also barred various categories of temporary visa holders to apply for a student visa from within Australia.

"The changes will help restore integrity to our international education system, and create a mi-

gration system which is fairer, smaller and better able to deliver for Australia," said Clare O'Neil, Australia's Minister for Home Affairs and Cyber Security Monday. Australia has also made changes to the savings requirement for students, by increasing the minimum savings needed for a student visa from AUD 24,505 (\$16,146) to AUD 29,710 (\$19,576).

Those on Temporary Graduate, Visitor, and Maritime Crew visas, will no longer be eligible to apply for a student visa while they are in Australia, a decision which is expected to hit

Indian students, the second-largest community among international students in the country. Official data released in March by the Australian Bureau of Statistics showed net overseas migration was at 548,800 during the year ending September 30, 2023. Australia recorded more than a lakh Indian students in 2022, while in this year, between January and September, the number has already crossed 1.2 lakh.

Australia has traditionally been among the top five destinations for Indian students seeking to study abroad, besides the

NHRC seeks reports from Centre, TN over Foxconn's 'jobs bar on married women'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

TAKING INTO account media reports that Foxconn India, a major manufacturer of Apple products, is excluding married women from jobs at its iPhone assembly plant in Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Monday issued notices to the Centre and the state government.

"The Commission has observed that the contents of the media reports, if true, raise a serious issue of discrimination against married women causing the violation of the right to equality and equal opportunity. Therefore, the Commission has issued notices to the Secretary, Union Ministry of Labour and Employment and the Chief Secretary, Government of Tamil

Nadu calling for a detailed report in the matter within one week," the NHRC said in a press release.

The NHRC said the state must ensure that all companies follow norms, regulations and related labour laws, including the right(s) to health, dignity and equality. It added that besides the Constitution, several international covenants and treaties like the International Covenant Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), and the International Covenant of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) provide for non-discrimination on the basis of gender in all forms of employment.

Highlighting the accusations, made by the company's former employees, that Foxconn India had given hiring agencies verbal directions to this effect, the NHRC also took note of the allegation that the company does not hire married women due to cultural issues and societal pres-

sure. The NHRC's action comes after media reports last week disclosed that jobseekers in the company were contacted between January 2023 and May this year, leading to the revelation that only unmarried women were eligible for assembly jobs, despite no mention of any such policy in the company advertisements.

"A WhatsApp chat between a married candidate and the hiring agency of the company was also quoted in the news report stating that when the candidate asked about the salary and childcare facility offered by the company, the response was 'married not allowed'," the NHRC said in its press release.

The company has denied all allegations of discrimination in employment based on marital status, gender, religion or any other form.

Chouhan begins state-wise talks, meets Assam, Chhattisgarh ministers

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

AGRICULTURE MINISTER Shivraj Singh Chouhan Monday kicked off consultations with states on the farm sector, with holding meetings with agriculture ministers of two states—Chhattisgarh and Assam.

In a statement, the Agriculture Ministry said that Chouhan has initiated "state-wise discussions", under which the Union Minister held a meeting with a high-level delegation including Chhattisgarh Agriculture Minister Ramvihar Netam at Krishi Bhavan in New Delhi.

"During the discussion along with promoting pulses, oilseeds, horticulture etc. in Chhattisgarh, many other topics related to agriculture and farmers welfare were discussed," it said, adding that the Centre will continue to provide all possible assistance to Chhattisgarh. "The Union Minister said there will be adequate availability of inputs like fertilizers, seeds in the Kharif season and he gave instructions to the concerned officials," the statement said.

Chouhan also held discussions with Assam Agriculture Minister Atul Bora. "During the discussion along with promoting soil health, PMFBY, increasing storage capacity, horticulture etc. in Assam many other topics related to agriculture and farmers welfare were discussed," the Agriculture Ministry said in a separate statement.

Services of 4 staffers yet to be restored: TISS teachers' body

PALLAVISMART
MUMBAI, JULY 1

AMID THE controversy at Tata Institute of Social Science (TISS) over sudden termination of 55 teachers and over 60 non-teaching staff across its four campuses and then its prompt withdrawal, a new issue has been highlighted by the TISS Teachers Association (TISSTA). Termination of contracts of as many as four faculty members from Advanced Centre for Women Studies (ACWS) located on its Mumbai campus have still not been retracted.

TISSTA on Monday sought "a holistic roadmap from TISS administration for regularisation and absorption of TET faculty and staff with mapping and filling of vacant backlog positions and new UGC posts."

Teachers have pointed out that the ACWS is funded by UGC under short-term programmes which are renewed every year or two. And unlike the situation of 55 teaching and 60 non-teaching employees of TISS whose salaries are sourced from the Tata Education Trust; salary of these four faculty members and one non-teaching staff, comes from the UGC.

According to the statement, "When notices of termination of services were issued for staff from TET-funded centres, similar notices were issued to four staff members from the ACWS too, which have still not been retracted." Meanwhile, Progressive Students Forum (PSF), an independent students organisation from the TISS, also issued a statement on Monday stating that the mass termination issue remains unresolved until students are assured that there are adequate number of teaching and non-teaching staff to run academics.

Stating that the terminations have been withdrawn after the TET assured funding, the PSF points out that the institute has not clarified the period of extended funding, causing uncertainty, which "could demotivate employees and may force many to leave the institute," reads the statement.

Stating that the institute administration is positively working toward chalking out a detailed plan to ensure that such a situation is not repeated; about faculty members from Advanced Centre for Women Studies, an official said, "As soon as grants are received from the UGC, their services too shall be restored."

Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation

Additional City Engineer Department
(5th Extension Notice)

Tender Notice No.:- NMMC/ACE/ 01 /2023-24

Name of work- Work For Collection & Transportation Of Municipal Solid Waste And Related Allied Works In Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation

Estimated Cost :- B2 Type Tender

All the tenderer shall take note of that, details tender of above work is available at website <https://mahatenders.gov.in>

Tender submission would be online only through website <https://mahatenders.gov.in> in the following manner.

Time Schedule for E-Tender

Date of submission	Dt.04/07/2024, 13.00 hrs.
Date of Opening	Dt.05/07/2024, 16.00 hrs. (If possible)

sign/-
(Shirish Arwad)
Additional City Engineer
NMMC PR Adv no./26/2024 Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation

KOHINOOR PULP & PAPER PRIVATE LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATION)
CIN : U74999WB2008PTC126964
LIQUIDATOR - CVR Krishnaswami
(Reg. No. IBBI/PA-001/IP-P01302/2018-19/12217)

Notice is given to the public in general that the following Asset Lot of KOHINOOR PULP & PAPER PRIVATE LIMITED (in Liquidation) ("Corporate Debtor") (in liquidation vide order of Hon'ble NCLT dated 01.07.2019) is proposed to be sold in accordance with clause (c) of regulation 32, sub-regulation (1) of regulation 33 and Schedule I of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Liquidation Process) Regulations, 2016 through e-auction platform. The interested applicants may refer to the detailed Sale Process Memorandum by writing to liquidation.kohinoorpulp@gmail.com with a copy to rcpvkrishnaswami@gmail.com

Date and time of e-Auction	26th July 2024 from 11:00 Hrs. IST
Last Date for Submission of Bid Documents	July 14th 2024
Last Date for Submission of Earnest Money Deposit	July 24, 2024 17:00 hrs

Particulars of The Asset	Reserve Price	Refundable Earnest Money Deposit
Machinery purported to be Cooking plant and fireline	4,00,00,000.00 (Rupees Four Crore Only)	40,00,000.00 (Rupees Forty lacs only)

I. E-Auction will be held for sale of the Asset Lot of the Corporate Debtor on an "AS IS WHERE BASIS", "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS", "WHATSOEVER THERE IS BASIS" and "NO RECOURSE BASIS" without any representation, warranty or indemnity and will be conducted "online".

II. This Notice shall be read in conjunction with the Sale Process Memorandum dated 26th July 2024 containing details of the Assets, online E-Auction Bid Form, Declaration and Undertaking Form, General Terms and Conditions of the E-Auction which are available on the site <https://www.eauctions.co.in> or send an e-mail to liquidation.kohinoorpulp@gmail.com / rcpvkrishnaswami@gmail.com

III. "Disclaimer": The Advertisement purports to ascertain the interest of Bidders and does not create any kind of binding obligation on the part of the Liquidator. The Liquidator reserves the right to amend and/or annul this invitation including any timelines or the process involved herein, without giving reasons, at any time, and in any respect. Any such amendment in the invitation, including the aforementioned timelines, shall be notified.

Place : Kolkata
Date : July 02 2024
Reg. No. IBBI/PA-001/IP-P01302/2018-19/12217
Liquidator for KOHINOOR PULP & PAPER PRIVATE LIMITED
Address : C/O Nareish Nath Mookherjee shipping private Limited 12/1, Lindsay Street, Kolkata - 700083
E-mail : liquidation.kohinoorpulp@gmail.com

NTA RELEASES RESULT OF 1,563 CANDIDATES

No perfect scorer in NEET-UG retest, toppers tally down to 61

DEEKSHA TERI
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

THE NATIONAL Testing Agency (NTA) Monday released the result for NEET-UG 2024 retest that was conducted for 1,563 candidates on June 23.

With the revised results, the topper tally has come down from 67 to 61, as six of the candidates - whose score jumped to perfect 720/720 after they were awarded grace marks due to loss of exam time - failed to get a perfect score in the retest.

However, they repeated high scores upwards of 680. This time, five out of six of those top candidates had appeared for the retest, and the one remaining

student will be the original score, i.e. score without grace marks.

In this exam, as many as 813 of the 1,563 candidates had appeared for the retest, officials said. While the retest was conducted in the same six cities, the agency had selected six new exam centres this time. As per data, none of the two candidates from Chandigarh appeared for the exam. A total of 291 students out of 602 appeared from Chhattisgarh, 1 student from Gujarat, 287 out of 494 appeared from Haryana, and 234 appeared from Meghalaya's Tura.

On Supreme Court's and a high-powered committee's order, NTA had conducted a retest on June 23 for 1,563 candidates, who were initially awarded grace marks after they had claimed

they suffered loss of exam time.

The affected students were given a choice to either retain their original scores, i.e. without grace marks, or appear for the retest. The students who appeared for the retest will be issued a revised score. However, the students who have skipped the retest will now be awarded their old original score, which is the score without the grace marks.

Meanwhile, there are several other petitions regarding NEET-UG 2024 result in the Supreme Court, majority of which will now be heard on July 8.

Additionally, the Centre is now considering the possibility of holding NEET-UG online from next year, senior officials have told *The Indian Express*.

MP may bring stringent Bill to prevent paper leak

Bhopal: The Madhya Pradesh government is preparing to introduce a new Bill to curb paper leaks with provision of up to 10-year prison sentence and fine that can go up to Rs 1 crore.

As per officials, the new Bill may be introduced in the ongoing Monsoon Session of the Assembly or at a later stage in the form of an ordinance. The government plans to cover the examination centre officials and other service providers in case of a paper leak under the new Bill. Officials are also planning on whether the properties of accused persons may also be attached in such cases. "Chief Minister Mohan Yadav discussed this with his council of ministers today. There will be other stringent provisions in the new law," said an official Monday. ENS

Public flogging: Law and order collapsed, Mamata should resign, says BJP

New Delhi: Condemning the flogging incident in Uttar Dinajpur district of West Bengal in which a TMC functionary has been arrested, the BJP on Monday demanded the resignation of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

Addressing a press conference in Delhi, BJP spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia said there was a "severe deterioration" in the law and order situation in West Bengal, and questioned the CM's commitment to justice and governance.

Calling the whipping of a woman publicly over an alleged extramarital affair with a salishi sabha (kangaroo court) "a grave violation of dignity and fundamental rights", Bhatia said: "It is a shame that she (CM Banerjee) has not spoken a word on this. As a

woman and a chief minister, she should be the first to come out and condemn this incident."

"What makes the matter worse is the fact that the accused happens to be a TMC leader. This is a blatant miscarriage of justice," the BJP leader claimed. Accusing the CM "of failing to maintain law and order", he said, "Law and order have completely collapsed in West Bengal. Mamata Banerjee should resign as she can't ensure the safety and security of citizens."

Reading out a purported statement of TMC MLA Hamdulillah, Bhatia said: "He justified it by saying this kind of justice prevails in Islamic nations. Thus endorsing a Talibani style of dispensing justice in a country that believes in the Constitution of India." ENS



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If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to explained@indianexpress.com

Why TISS dismissed over 100 employees, why decision was reversed

PALLAVI SMART
MUMBAI, JULY 1

THE DISMISSAL of over 100 employees at the Tata Institute of Social Science (TISS) campuses, and the subsequent withdrawal of that order, has raised concerns about the health of one of India's premier higher educational institutes.

What was the controversy at TISS?

On June 28, TISS dismissed close to 55 teachers and 60 non-teaching staff members across its four campuses in Mumbai, Tuljapur, Hyderabad, and Guwahati. It cited the non-release of funds for salary expenditure by the Tata Education Trust (TET), its sponsoring body, for the dismissal.

All terminated staff members were contractual employees appointed under projects funded by the Tata Trust. With their contracts set to expire at the end of May, TISS administration said it had been pursuing matters of fund

release and extension of the grant period.

"Apart from correspondence from the institute, a dedicated committee was formed encompassing senior faculty members to pursue the matter with the Tata Trust. But there was no response, which led to the decision to dismiss the employees," said an official from the administration.

The notices of dismissal of contracts stated that "in the event of non-receipt of approval/grant from Tata Education Trust", the employees' services would end with effect from June 30.

TISS withdrew the notices on June 30 after TET assured resources to the institute. "TET has committed to releasing funds for the salaries of TET project/programme faculty and non-teaching staff," a statement said. TISS administration confirmed that the trust has sanctioned Rs 4.79 crore.

What led to the delay in funding?

Some faculty members linked the delay

to recent changes in the institute's organisational structure, where certain decision-making powers were shifted from the Tata Trust to the Union Ministry of Education, around six months ago.

Founded in 1936 by the Sir Dorabji Tata Trust (SDTT), TISS was declared a "deemed university" by the Government of India in 1964, under section 3 of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act of 1956. A deemed university is a higher learning institute other than a university, which is declared as such by notification in the Official Gazette.

Prior to the changes, the TISS Governing Board was chaired by a nominee from Sir Ratan Tata Trust, and included two nominees from SDTT. The Central government had one nominated member from the education ministry.

However, UGC regulations in 2022 for deemed universities stated that those receiving more than 50 per cent of their funding

from the Centre were to be brought under the purview of the Central government.

Therefore, the TISS Governing Board was replaced by the TISS Society chaired by the Union Education Minister. It has one nominated Tata Trust representative, apart from other nominations from the chairman. The TISS Society also facilitates the institute's Executive Council, chaired by the Vice-Chancellor. Apart from other government representatives, the council has four members nominated by the Education Minister.

Appointments to major posts such as the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor are now also under the education ministry. Accordingly, Professor Dharendra Pal Singh was appointed as the Chancellor of TISS by the ministry in April this year.

The TISS administration has dismissed any connection between the recent events and its new regulations.

Is the issue resolved now?

The recently-cleared funding is likely to only sustain projects temporarily. A TISS official said around Rs 75 lakh is required per month to cover salaries for Tata Trust projects. "Even the Tata Trust is demanding that the institute finds self-sustainable ways to continue the projects hereafter," the official said.

Some students say the uncertainty could have a detrimental impact. Progressive Students Forum, a TISS students' organisation, issued a statement on Monday saying the situation "could demotivate employees and may force many to leave the institute".

What is the plan of action?

To discuss the issue with TET, a committee of senior faculty members and administration representatives has been formed. It is expected to arrive at a plan and roll it out before the latest round of funding is used up.

This will include identifying and creating necessary teaching and non-teaching posi-

tions that are approved by the UGC, so that appointments can be made through advertisement of posts according to UGC norms.

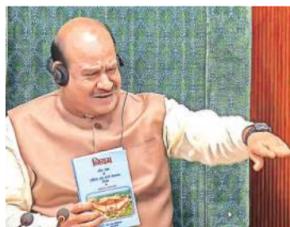
According to TISS's 2022-23 annual report, there are 181 UGC-sanctioned positions at TISS, of which 164 are filled. Of the 252 administrative positions, 162 are filled. Faculty members claim that close to 30 UGC-approved positions are currently vacant.

"The irony here is that we have vacant approved positions and qualified individuals for the job, but posts remain vacant and contractual employees are dismissed instead of absorbing them on these positions," a senior faculty member told *The Indian Express*.

Stakeholders are also concerned about potential delays. "The institute currently does not have a full-time Vice-Chancellor to chair the Executive Council as per the new structure. In the absence of a full-time VC, the recruitment process, including identification of posts and their approval from the UGC is likely to be delayed," said a faculty member.

EXPLAINED PARLIAMENT

RAHUL GANDHI, OM BIRLA FACE-OFF: WHO CONTROLS LOK SABHA MICS?



Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla (left) and Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi in Lok Sabha on Monday. PTI

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

IN HIS first address as the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha on Monday, Rahul Gandhi claimed that his microphone had been repeatedly switched off in the House.

In response, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla objected to members "casting aspersions on the Chair". Birla said, "The Chair only gives ruling/directives. The member whose name is called gets to speak in the House. The mic is controlled as per the directives of the Chair. The person sitting in the Chair does not have a remote control or a switch for the microphones".

Rahul had raised the issue last week as well. He had claimed his microphone was switched off when he tried raising the issue of irregularities in the NEET examination.

Who administers mics in Lok Sabha?

According to a 2014 manual from the Lok Sabha Secretariat, each MP is provided with a microphone and a switch set at their desks in the House. The system is linked to the division/seat number allotted to the members. All the desks are numbered in this way.

Each switchboard contains switches in different colours. A grey switch can be pressed for a request to speak. When a member wants to speak, they raise their hand to indicate the same to the Speaker, while pressing the grey button. The mic is "activated from the control room only

when the member has been permitted by the Speaker to speak", the manual says.

This is indicated in two ways: with the LED ring around the button lighting up in red and the LED on top of the microphone also going red.

Does turning off the mic constitute breach of privilege?

In July 2023, the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha and Congress national president Mallikarjun Kharge said his mic was turned off while he was speaking in the House. He described it as a "breach of my privilege", referring to the concept of parliamentary privilege.

The powers, privileges and immunities of either House of Parliament and of its Members and committees are laid down in Article 105 of the Indian Constitution. Article 194 deals with the powers, privileges and immunities of the State Legislatures, their Members and their committees.

While the Constitution has accorded special privileges and powers to parliamentarians and legislators "to maintain the dignity and authority of the Houses", they are not codified. Thus, there are no clear, notified rules to decide what constitutes a breach of privilege, and the punishment it attracts.

It is a breach of privilege and contempt of the House to make speeches or to print or publish libel reflecting on the character or proceedings of the House, its committees, or on any member of the House for or relating to his character or conduct as a legislator.

SHINY VARGHESE
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

UNCHECKED AND ill-thought-out urban expansion is the principal reason behind chronic urban flooding in Delhi, and the larger National Capital Region (NCR).

Last week, a spell of heavy rain brought parts of Delhi to a standstill, inundating streets, causing hours-long traffic snarls, lengthy power cuts, property damage, and at least 11 deaths. While last week saw record rainfall, flooding and water-logging have now become a part and parcel of Delhi's monsoons. Factors such as inadequate desilting of drains by civic authorities play a part, but at the heart of it, lies a deeper problem.

A rapidly growing city

Delhi is undergoing one of the world's fastest urban expansions. According to NASA data, Delhi's geographic size almost doubled from 1991 to 2011. Most of this expansion has occurred on the peripheries of New Delhi, with erstwhile rural areas becoming engulfed in the capital's urban sprawl. Cities outside Delhi, but a part of the NCR — Bahadurgarh, Ghaziabad, Faridabad, Noida, and Gurugram — have also witnessed rapid urbanisation.

Topography and drainage

This urban expansion has paid little heed to Delhi's natural topography. "Topography determines drainage patterns," Manu Bhatnagar, principal director, Natural Heritage Division, INTACH, told *The Indian Express*. "If one looks at Delhi's historic cities — from Tughlakabad, Mehrauli, and Shahjahanabad to Civil Lines, New Delhi, and the Cantonment area — all were carefully selected, and built on higher ground. In Delhi's villages too, the centre of the village would always be five to six metres higher than the village periphery," he said.

This allowed rainwater to drain out. But as the city has expanded, the land's drainage capacities have not been kept in mind.

With high-intensity rain there is significant run-off (unconfined flow of water, when there is more water on the land's surface than it can absorb), and existing drainage systems have been inadequate, Bhatnagar explained.

Concrete everywhere

"The lay of the land slopes from the Ridge to the river... it is about a 100-metre drop," K T Ravindran, architect and urban designer, said. But due to urbanisation, water cannot flow down this gradient. "Today, much of the

EXPLAINED INFRASTRUCTURE

Floods & urbanisation in Delhi

The national capital is undergoing one of the world's fastest urban expansions, with little regard for the land's natural topography. This has left Delhi vulnerable to flooding during spells of intense rainfall

Low-lying areas around the Yamuna are flood prone



Areas on both sides of the Yamuna River are prone to flooding during the monsoon season.



Water-logging under the Minto Bridge in New Delhi on June 28. Praveen Khanna

MANY CITIES, SAME PROBLEM

BENGALURU

13 cm of rainfall in Bengaluru's Rainbow Drive Layout in 2022; one of the worst floods in 15 years

"We must not overlook the critical role of the storm water drain network in replenishing these (Bengaluru's lakes) water bodies. It is a network which is crucial to the health of the city and its lakes."

NARESH V NARASIMHAN, ARCHITECT, URBAN PLANNER

MUMBAI

94.4 cm rain on July 26, 2005; wettest 24 hours ever; city stopped entirely; more than 1,000 dead

"We need to make an assessment of our storm water drains and see if they are capable of handling excessive rain... We need to then improve early warning systems... An evacuation strategy is important."

SUBIMAL GHOSH, HEAD OF CLIMATE STUDIES, IIT BOMBAY

KOCHI & OTHER KERALA CITIES

Worst ever floods in mid-Aug 2018; 4 districts of Kerala submerged; Kochi inundated for days

"We need strong legal systems in place to ensure future structures follow the lay of the land, allow water to percolate, and don't narrow down streams."

MANOJ KINI, MD, KERALA TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE LTD.

SHIMLA & OTHER HILL TOWNS

Catastrophic rainfall in July-Aug 2023 wreaked havoc in Mandi, Kullu, Manali, Shimla

"There should be new paradigms of the architecture of governance. Communities should be made custodians and some kind of insurance model should be developed."

TIKENDER PANWAR, URBAN SPECIALIST

(The experts spoke to *The Indian Express* in 2023)

water gets channelised into concretised *nallahs* (drains), which have been turned into sewage dumps," Ravindran said.

Construction in low-lying areas makes things worse. For instance, many *nallahs* from across South Delhi converge at Sarai Kale Khan, a low-lying area next to the Yamuna. This is why the bustling urban village sees intense flooding every year.

Construction in Delhi's flood plains began as early as the 1900s, when the British decided to build a railway line along the river bed. Much later, the Ring Road came up, again on the Yamuna flood plain.

Over the years, the floodplain has been used for building bridges, buildings, and much more. Delhi Metro built a maintenance shed on around 65 hectares of land near Kashmere Gate. During the 2010 Commonwealth Games, a bus maintenance facility was built over roughly 25 hectares, again on the floodplains.

The ITO-Pragati Maidan area, which is perennially flooded during monsoons, was once a low-lying wetland.

This concretisation leaves little room for rainwater to percolate into the soil, and leads to flooding. Environmentalist C R Babu, behind the ecological restoration of the Yamuna Biodiversity Park (YBP), said: "When storm drains are converted into sewers and land has been concretised, where will the water go?"

No 'water masterplan'

Ravindran said that urban planners need to come up with a "water masterplan".

"Today, land is seen as real estate. There has been a consistent neglect of water as a planning resource... In fact, water should be the primary driving factor behind any masterplanning," he said. No comprehensive planning accounting for the city's water flows has been carried out in the last 70 years.

This is why, for example, the Pragati Maidan Tunnel, inaugurated by the Prime Minister in 2022, is flooded each monsoon.

Water bodies which can help manage flooding have also been destroyed. "According to official records, Delhi has some 1,000 water bodies. But on the ground there are not more than 400. These 600 'missing' water bodies have been converted into valuable real estate," Bhatnagar said.

As Babu put it: "Unless we stop building in low-lying areas, de-concretise our lawns and pavements, and stop blocking the drains with solid waste, the floods won't stop. Understanding gradients and working with the lay of the land is crucial".

Ravindran suggested setting up proper filtration pits to carry the water to aquifers in low-lying areas. "We can't afford to pump out all of the water every time. We have to rely on gravitational flow," he said.

How the world's first brain implant to control epileptic seizures works

ANONNA DUTT
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

A UK-based teenager, Oran Knowlson, has become the first person in the world to be fitted with a brain implant to help bring his epileptic seizures under control. The deep brain stimulation (DBS) device, which sends electrical signals deep into the brain, has reduced Knowlson's daytime seizures by 80%.

What is epilepsy?

Epilepsy, a condition that leads to recurring seizures, sees a person experience jerking of arms and legs, temporary confusion, staring spells, or stiff muscles. It is caused by abnormal electrical activity in the brain.

The disease has no identifiable cause in

nearly 50% of the cases. However, head trauma, tumours in the brain, some infections like meningitis, or even genetics can lead to epilepsy. It can increase the risk of accidents, drownings, and falling.

In India, between 3 and 11.9 per 1,000 people suffer from epilepsy, according to a comment in a 2022 *Lancet* study. Although several anti-seizure medicines are available in the market, 30% of the patients remain resistant to treatment.

How does the device work?

The neurostimulator delivers constant electrical impulses to the brain to disrupt or block abnormal seizure-causing signals.

A 3.5 cm square, 0.6 cm in thickness, the device was surgically implanted in Knowlson's skull and anchored using screws, *The Guardian* reported. The doctor then in-

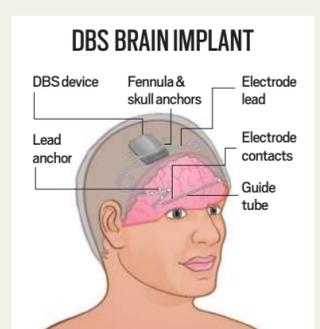
serted two electrodes deep into his brain until they reached the thalamus — a relay station for all the motor and sensory information. The ends of the electrodes were connected to the neurostimulator.

The device was switched on after Knowlson recovered from his surgery. It can be recharged by a wireless headphone.

What is DBS?

The device uses DBS, which is also utilised for movement disorders associated with Parkinson's, and other neurological conditions. Although DBS has been tried before for childhood epilepsy, until now neurostimulators were placed in the chest (instead of the brain), with wires running up to the brain where the leads were placed on the affected region, according to the *BBC*.

"Use of deep brain stimulation for the treatment of epilepsy is not new. We have



been doing it for nearly a decade. There are new devices entering the market, but it is important to understand that it is not a miracle cure," Dr Manjari Tripathi, head of the neu-

rology department at AIIMS, New Delhi, said.

It is not the first line of treatment for epilepsy. Doctors first use anti-seizure medicines and a ketogenic diet, which is high in fats and low in carbohydrates. Although the reasons are not well understood, a ketogenic diet is known to reduce seizures, even in children with treatment-resistant epilepsy. If that does not work, doctors can carry out brain surgery to remove a portion of the brain where the seizures originate.

Another surgery called corpus callosotomy may be suggested in some children. In this, doctors remove a part that connects both halves of the brain, which does not allow abnormal electrical signals to travel from one half of the brain to another.

"Surgery is still preferable to implanting a DBS device. Currently, the DBS devices available in the market reduce seizures by around 40%. In comparison, seizures drop

by nearly 90% if the patient undergoes surgery," Dr Tripathi said.

How expensive is DBS?

"Neurostimulators cost about Rs 12 lakh. There are additional surgical costs that one has to pay in private hospitals, increasing the cost to about Rs 17 lakh," Dr Tripathi said. In comparison, a brain surgery costs between Rs 20,000 and Rs 30,000, she added.

Keeping this in mind, Dr Tripathi said that such devices should be suggested only for those who have epilepsy which originates from different parts of the brain (instead of one focal point), making operations less viable. DBS can also be an option when drugs and diet have failed to control seizures.

Among the thousands of epilepsy patients that AIIMS is currently treating, only seven have undergone DBS therapy — around one per year, Dr Tripathi said.

13 ECONOMY

SENSEX: 79,476.19 ▲ 443.46 (0.56%) NIFTY: 24,141.95 ▲ 131.35 (0.55%) NIKKEI: 39,631.06 ▲ 4798 HANG SENG: 17,718.61 ▲ 2.14 FTSE: 8,194.32 ▲ 30.20 DAX: 18,336.52 ▲ 101.07

GOLD	USD RATE	OIL	SILVER
₹72,350	₹83.44	\$86.01	₹90,300

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) as of June 28

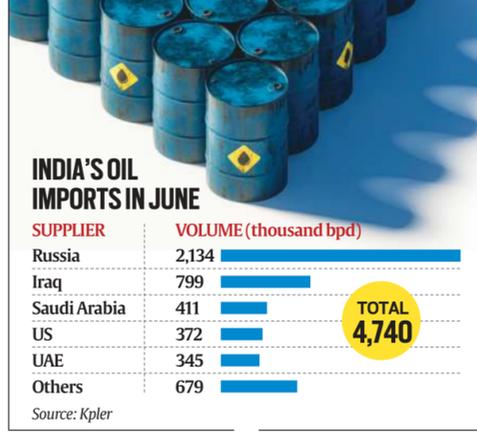
International market data till 1900 IST

INDIAN REFINERS IMPORT 2.13 MN BPD OF RUSSIAN CRUDE OIL IN JUNE

Russian oil imports surge to 13-month high, Saudi volumes crash to decade-low

SUKALP SHARMA
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

INDIA'S RUSSIAN oil imports rose to a near-peak level in June powered by the highest-ever import volumes of Moscow's key crude grade Urals, as per oil tanker tracking data and industry experts. Additional availability of Russian crude for export markets due to Ukrainian drone strikes on Russian refinery infrastructure and sizable price differential vis-à-vis competing Middle Eastern crude grades have led to higher flows of Russian oil to India in recent months.



as 45 per cent of India's total oil imports for the month.

Oil imports from Saudi Arabia—India's third-biggest source market for crude—declined over 25 per cent sequentially to 0.41 million bpd, the lowest in over 10 years. The primary reason for the decline is seen as the ample availability of Russian crude and its continued price advantage over Riyadh's oil.

"Confirming that the largest sufferer of higher Russian inflows have been Saudi term volumes, the June imports from Saudi Arabia came in at ... the lowest monthly figure since January 2014," said Viktor Katona, head of crude analysis at Kpler. According to industry watchers, Urals has a price advantage of \$6-7 per barrel over Saudi Arabian medium-sour grades.

Urals, a medium-sour crude, is seen as Russia's flagship crude grade, and is the mainstay of India's Russian oil imports. In June, Indian refiners cumulatively bought 1.61 million bpd of Urals crude, the highest ever. India's Urals import volumes in

June accounted for three-fourths of New Delhi's total oil imports from Moscow. Evidently, the price differential between Urals and competing crude grades from India's traditional West Asian suppliers was significant enough for Indian refiners to prefer the Russian grade.

"Even though 800,000 bpd imports from Iraq (in June) are nowhere near as weak as Saudi Arabian imports, and are the lowest since February 2024. While definitely not a record low, June inflows (of Iraqi oil) to India were nevertheless marked by a much lower interest in Iraq's medium sour grade, Basrah Medium. The heaviest Iraqi grade, Basrah Heavy, has been quite stable in terms of Indian interest. So, what ever competes with Urals seems to be losing out nowadays," Katona said. Iraq is India's second-biggest source of crude oil.

June also marked a 17-month high in India's oil imports from the United States (US), making Washington New Delhi's fourth-largest source of crude oil in June, up a spot from its usual fifth position. Indian refiners imported a total of 0.37 million bpd of crude from the US in June. The increase in import volumes from the US was evidently on account of light American crude—mainly shale oil—becoming relatively cheaper

than comparable grades from West Asia. India's oil imports from the US mostly are of light sweet grades that are routinely blended with heavier barrels from Russia, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia.

"As India imports increasingly more Russian barrels, refiners need some lighter grades, too, to counterbalance the density of heavier grades. For that, US shale oil has become the answer," Katona said. Prior to the war in Ukraine, Iraq and Saudi Arabia were the top two suppliers of crude oil to India. But as the West started weaning itself off Russian energy supplies following Moscow's February 2022 invasion of Ukraine, Russia started offering discounts on its crude and Indian refiners started snapping up the discounted barrels.

As the world's third-largest consumer of crude oil with a high import dependency level of over 85 per cent, India is extremely sensitive to oil prices. Although trade sources have indicated that discounts on Russian crude have shrunk considerably over the past months, Indian refiners have evidently remained keen on buying Russian oil as given the high import volumes, even lower discount levels lead to significant savings.

GST collection rises 7.7% to ₹1.74L cr in June; slowest rate of growth in 3 years

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

GROSS GOODS and Services Tax (GST) collections rose 7.7 per cent year-on-year to Rs 1.74 lakh crore in June (for sales in May), sources said on Monday. This is the slowest rate of growth in GST collections in three years, with the previous slower pace of growth recorded in June 2021.

With this release on Monday, which was also the seventh anniversary of the rollout of the indirect tax regime, the government stopped the official release of monthly gross GST collections that were usually announced on the first day of every month. Sources said the government will not be releasing any statement with regard to GST collections going ahead.

The usual release on GST collections used to include state-wise breakup of the revenue collected in each state, which would act as an indicator of the economic and consumption activities. It also used to include details such as breakup of Central GST (CGST), state GST (SGST) and compensation cess collected from imports and domestic sales during the month.

Sources said the gross GST col-

GROSS GST COLLECTION AT ₹5.57 LAKH CR SO FAR IN THIS FINANCIAL YEAR (APR-JUN)

SOURCES SAID the gross GST collection stood at Rs 5.57 lakh crore so far in this financial year (April-June) **WITH THIS** release on Monday, which was also the seventh anniversary of the rollout of the indirect tax regime, the government stopped the official release of monthly gross

GST collections that were usually announced on the first day of every month **THE USUAL** release on GST collections used to include state-wise breakup of the revenue collected in each state, which would act as an indicator of the economic and consumption activities

lection stood at Rs 5.57 lakh crore so far in this financial year (April-June). The government had collected Rs 1.73 lakh crore as gross GST in May 2024 and Rs 1.61 lakh crore in June 2023. The Integrated GST (IGST) worth Rs 39,586 crore was settled towards CGST and Rs 33,548 crore towards SGST, sources said. The GST mop-up had touched a record high of Rs 2.1 lakh crore in April.

In a separate series of posts on social media platform X, the Finance Ministry on the occasion of seven years of GST said the indirect tax regime has reduced taxes on household goods, and brought "happiness and relief to every

home". "With reduced tax rates on household goods after GST implementation, #7yearsOfGST has brought happiness and relief to every home through lower GST on household appliances and mobile phones," the Ministry said in a post on X.

The GST taxpayer base has increased to 1.46 crore in April 2024 from 1.05 crore as of April 2018, it said. Giving comparative charts of pre- and post-GST tax rates of household goods, the Ministry said GST has enhanced the ease of living with every household saving on expenditure on food items and items of mass consumption after GST implementation.

BRIEFLY

Sebi asks MIs to implement uniform charges

New Delhi: The Securities and Exchange Board of India on Monday directed stock exchanges and other market infrastructure institutions (MIs) to implement a uniform and equal charge structure for all members rather than varying charges based on their volume or activity. It instructed exchanges, clearing corporations, and depositories constituted as MIs to ensure that any charges recovered from the end client are 'True to Label'. PTI

India raises windfall tax on crude oil

New Delhi: The Centre has raised windfall tax on petroleum crude to Rs 6,000/metric tonne from Rs 3,250 from July 2. REUTERS

PFL to acquire PAL's personal, home care biz

New Delhi: Patanjali Foods Ltd (PFL) has said it will acquire Patanjali Ayurved's (PAL) home & personal care business for Rs 1,100 crore, as part of efforts to become a leading FMCG company. PTI

What is Project Nexus that RBI has signed up for?

HITESH VYAS
MUMBAI, JULY 1

THE RESERVE Bank of India (RBI) has joined Project Nexus, a multi-lateral international initiative to enable instant cross-border retail payments by interlinking domestic Fast Payments Systems (FPSs), India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and FPSs of Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand will be interlinked through Nexus. Going ahead, the platform can be extended to more countries.

What is Project Nexus?

Project Nexus is conceptualised by the Innovation Hub of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS). It seeks to enhance cross-border payments by connecting multiple domestic instant payment systems (IPS) globally. It is the first BIS Innovation Hub project in the payments area to move towards live implementation.

The Reserve Bank of India has been collaborating bilaterally with various countries to link India's Fast Payments System (FPS) - UPI, with their respective FPSs for cross-border Person to Person (P2P) and Person to Merchant (P2M) payments. While India and its partner countries can continue to benefit through such bilateral connectivity of FPS, a multilateral approach



will provide further impetus to the RBI's efforts in expanding the international reach of Indian payment systems.

In over 70 countries today domestic payments reach their destination in seconds at near-zero cost to the sender or recipient. This is thanks to the growing availability of instant payment systems. Connecting these IPS to each other can enable cross-border payments from sender to recipient within 60 seconds (in most cases), according to the BIS.

What are the benefits of the platform?

Project Nexus is designed to standardise the way IPS connect to each other. Rather than a payment system operator building custom connections for every new country that it connects to, the operator can make one connection to the Nexus platform. This single connection allows a

fast payments system to reach all other countries on the network. Nexus could significantly accelerate the growth of instant cross-border payments.

Which countries have joined the platform?

Project Nexus aims to connect the FPSs of four Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) - Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand; and India, who would be the founding members and first mover countries of this platform.

An agreement on this was signed by the BIS and the central banks of the founding countries i.e., Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM), Bank of Thailand (BOT), Banko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS), and Reserve Bank of India on June 30, 2024, in Basel, Switzerland. Indonesia will also join the platform in future.

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

'JOB CREATION AT 19-YEAR PEAK' Manufacturing PMI ticks higher in June, firms step up hiring

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JULY 1

FIRMS REPORTED a 19-year high upturn in employment in June which also saw the manufacturing sector recover some ground lost in May, aided by expansions in new orders, output and buying levels, as per a survey.

Rising from 57.5 in May to 58.3 in June, the seasonally adjusted HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) indicated a sharper improvement in business conditions with the PMI comfortably above its long-run average.

A reading above 50 indicates an overall increase.

Cost pressures receded from May, but were nevertheless among the highest over the past two years. As a result, companies lifted selling prices to the greatest extent since May 2022.

"Manufacturers were able to pass on higher costs to customers, as demand remained robust, resulting in improved

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice
Tender No: 10/2024-25/ KWA/PHC/TVLA (RT-1)
AMRUT- UWSS to Kaimalappara scheme in Adoor Municipality- Construction of SLL GWSR, Laying 200mm DI CWP, Mace of WTP, Strengthening and extension of Distribution works, Supply and Erection of Pump set and Providing 800 FHTCs including road restoration works. **EMD**: Rs. 200000 **Tender fee**: Rs. 13010 **Last Date for submitting Tender**: 18-07-2024 02:00pm **Phone**: 04692600162 **Website**: www.kwa.kerala.gov.in
www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
Superintending Engineer
PH Circle
Pathanamthitta
KWA-JB-GL-6-141-2024-25

AT 58.3 IN JUNE

■ Rising from 57.5 in May to 58.3 in June, the seasonally adjusted HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) indicated a sharper improvement in business conditions

margin," said Maitreyi Das, Global Economist at HSBC. "While the overall outlook for the manufacturing sector remains positive, the future output index receded to a three-month low, albeit it remains above the historical average."

The performance of the consumer goods industry was especially strong, although substantial increases were also noted in the intermediate and investment goods categories, according to the survey. As a consequence of ongoing increases in new order intakes, firms stepped up recruitment. FE

Unacademy lays off 600 employees

ANEES HUSSAIN
BENGALURU, JULY 1

GAURAV MUNJAL-LED edtech startup Unacademy has laid off around 600 employees, or 10 per cent of its employee base, in its latest round of business restructuring, sources said. Employees across technology, marketing, and sales teams have been impacted.

The process to identify surplus employees began on June 15 and ended on June 30, sources said. An Unacademy spokesperson declined to comment on the matter.

One employee who was let go said, "We were given an ultimatum to either resign or face termination." In April 2022, Unacademy

had laid off around 1,000 employees as part of a massive cost-cutting exercise. This was followed by another 350 jobs being cut in March 2023.

This latest round of layoffs come a little after a month when Unacademy Group's medical entrance test prep platform, PrepLadder, sacked around 145 employees as part of a change in sales strategy. This was the third round of layoffs at PrepLadder in the past three years. Unacademy had acquired PrepLadder in July 2020 for \$50 million. On a consolidated basis, Unacademy has managed to reduce its losses by 40 per cent to Rs 1,678.1 crore in FY23 from Rs 2,847.9 crore in the preceding year. FE

Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation Ltd
(A Government of India Enterprise-Mini Ratna Category-I)
CIN:L74899DL1999GO1101707

Notice Inviting open E-Tender

IRCTC-SOUTH CENTRAL ZONE invites the following Open E-Tenders:-

S. No.	Units	Particulars	Last Date of Submission
1	Jan Ahaars Rooms	Open e-tender cum e-auction for provision of catering services for a period of Five years through various Jan Ahaars/Refreshment Rooms	19.07.2024 @ 15.00 hrs
3	Refreshment Room/Vijayawada	Open e-tender cum e-auction for provision of catering services for a period of One year through Refreshment Room at Vijayawada railway station	19.07.2024 @ 15.00 hrs
4	Jan Ahaars at Bhubaneswar	Open e-tender cum e-auction for provision of catering services for a period of One year through Jan Ahaars at Bhubaneswar Railway Station	19.07.2024 @ 15.00 hrs
5	Fast Food units	E-tender cum auction for setting up, operation and management of Fast-Food units at railway stations for a period of Five years .	19.07.2024 @ 15.00 hrs
6	Food Plaza	E-tender cum auction for setting up, operation and management of Food Plaza at Cheralipalli railway station for a period of Nine years .	19.07.2024 @ 15.00 hrs

Tender document downloading & participation can be done on Website:- www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC

In case of any corrigendum/addendum issued on the above advertisement, it will be published only on website www.irctc.com and www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC.

Office Address: IRCTC Ltd., South Central Zone, #9-1-129/1/102, 1st Floor, Oxford Plaza, Sarojini Devi Road, Secunderabad - 500003

Passenger vehicle dispatches: M&M, Toyota defy muted June trend

SWARAJ BAGGONKAR
MUMBAI, JULY 1

MAHINDRA & Mahindra (M&M) and Toyota outpaced the rest of the auto pack in June, posting double-digit growth in June while their rivals saw volumes rise in low single-digits.

The passenger vehicle (PV) industry recorded wholesale volumes (company dispatches to dealers) of 340,784 units, as per estimates provided by Maruti Suzuki. This was a growth of just under 4 per cent year-on-year.

Without M&M and Toyota, the industry volumes are down 1 per cent. "The increase (in volumes in June) is coming from the launch of new models from the competition," Partho Banerjee, head of sales and marketing, Maruti Suzuki said.

Searing temperatures across the north of the country were blamed for the lacklustre per-

DEMAND SUBDUED DUE TO HEATWAVES

■ Searing temperatures across the north were blamed for the lacklustre performance, making automakers keep their showrooms open well past usual closing time

formance, making automotive companies keep their showrooms open well past their usual closing time. Maruti Suzuki's domestic volumes for June grew 3 per cent y-o-y to 137,160 units, driven by its utility vehicles such as Brezza and Ertiga. Its car division saw volume contraction of 8 per cent led by Alto and S-Presso.

M&M saw domestic sales growing 23 per cent y-o-y to 40,022 units in June, powered by demand for the newly launched

compact sport utility vehicle XUV3X0. Toyota Kirloskar recorded the biggest growth at 41 per cent, selling 25,752 units, one-third of which were made by Maruti. Hyundai and Tata Motors had a disappointing June. The Korean car brand, which is the second largest car-maker in India, recorded near-zero growth during the month, selling just 100 more units than the last June to 50,103 units.

Tata Motors, the country's third largest PV firm, posted an 8 per cent y-o-y drop in volumes to 43,524 units. This was largely due to a decline in electric vehicle volumes. Kia, the other Korean brand in the country, saw a 10 per cent y-o-y growth in volumes to 21,300 units on the back of demand for the recently launched Sonet SUV.

The PV industry is staring at a supply glut in coming weeks as channel inventory has begun to rise, leading to an unusual increase in discount levels. FE

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road
Bengaluru - 560 001. Phone No. 080-22265383 website : www.kiadb.in

No.IADB/ENGG/PMC/EPTND-EP-05/250/2024-25 Date: 01.07.2024

NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR PROVIDING PROJECT MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY SERVICES.
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

KIADB is inviting tender under Quality Based Consultancy System (QCBS) as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Consulting Firms under two cover system for the following works:

Name of the works : 1) Project Management Consultancy Services for the work of Establishment of Electronics Manufacturing Cluster at Kotur-Belur Industrial Area, Dharwad Taluk & District. 2) Project Management Consultancy Services for the work of Formation of sublayout no.5, Hassan Growth Centre Industrial Area, Hassan Taluk, Hassan District. 3) Project Management Consultancy Services for the work of Formation of industrial layout at Doothanur Kaval Dandinahalli Hobli, Channarayapatna Taluk, Hassan District.

The last date and time of receipt of tender is : **18.07.2024 upto 4.00 pm.**
Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/702/Zen/2024-25

MAHASAMRUDDHI RENEWABLE ENERGY LIMITED, SPV of MAHARASHTRA STATE ROAD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.
(A Govt. of Maharashtra undertaking)
Office - Plot No. A/792, Near Liawati Hospital, Opp. Bandra Reclamation Bus Depot, K. C. Marg, Bandra West, Mumbai - 400 050, Maharashtra State, INDIA.
Ph. No. - 022-265 17910/966 Email - eamsrdc@gmail.com & cgmenv@msrdc.in Website - www.msrdc.in
E-Tender Portal :- <https://mahatenders.gov.in>

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

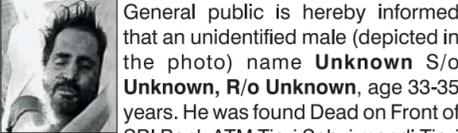
Date - 02.07.2024

The Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation ("MSRDC"), through its Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) named Mahasamruddhi Renewable Energy Limited invites online bids For Request for proposal for appointment of Renewable Energy consultant for carrying out peer review of existing Detailed Project Report (DPR), preparation of revised Detailed Project Report (DPR), Bid process management, carbon credit trading & Project Management Consultancy (PMC) work for the proposed solar energy projects along the HBTMSM as per details below:

- RFP document can be viewed/downloaded from e-tendering portal <https://mahatenders.gov.in> On 02.07.2024 from 1100 hrs. to 16.07.2024 (upto 1500 hrs. IST)
- Cost of RFP document is Rs. 25,000 + GST which can be paid through SBI payment gateway which can be accessed through <https://mahatenders.gov.in>.
- Last date of submission of RFP is 16.07.2024 (upto 1500 hours IST).
- Right to accept or reject any or all the RFP without assigning any reason whatsoever is reserved with MREL.

Director
Mahasamruddhi Renewable Energy Ltd., Mumbai

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified male (depicted in the photo) name Unknown S/o Unknown, R/o Unknown, age 33-35 years. He was found Dead on Front of SBI Bank ATM Tigr Sabzi mandi Tigr Road New Delhi. on 09.06.2024 at 03:47 PM DD No. 55A, Dt 09.06.2024, has been lodged at P.S. Tigr, New Delhi. His physical description is as under.

Sex: Male, Age: 33-35 years, Height: 5'5", Wearing: Blue T-Shirt and Black lower. Any person having information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address and telephone number:- S.H.O PS: Tigr, New Delhi DP/8190/SD/2024 Ph No.: 011-29100647, 8750870834

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

No. F.13(2)-Trans-2010(Vol-I)/ Dated, the 27-06-2024 The DEPUTY SECRETARY, Transport Department, Tripura on behalf of Governor of Tripura invites e-tender under TWO BID SYSTEM (Technical & Financial bids) from eligible commercial permit holders (Non-scheduled category) for WET LEASE OF ONE DOUBLE/TWIN ENGINE LIGHT / MEDIUM DUTY passenger helicopter of following specification for an initial period of 4 (four) years and extendable for another 1 (one) year on same rates, terms and conditions.

- 2. One Twin Engine Light/Medium Duty passenger helicopter having carrying capacity of Minimum six (6) passengers @ 85 Kg each including baggage at 10 Kgs per passenger for each passenger, excluding pilots, crew and ATF for official use of VIPs, senior officers and public. Annual utilization of helicopter is likely to be 480 hours approximately. 3. Other terms and conditions and technical parameters required for the helicopter are specified in the detail Tender Documents. 4. If you are in a position to quote for Wet Leasing of Helicopter in accordance with the requirement stated in the attached tender, all documents attached herewith should be fully filled in and submitted e-tender.

Sd/- Deputy Secretary Government of Tripura, Transport Department, Agartala ICA/C/623/24

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority

Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida-201301 (U.P.) Website : www.noidaauthorityonline.in E-TENDER NOTICE E-Tenders are invited from eligible contractors/firm 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.com & https://etender.up.nic.in. Please ensure to see these websites for any changes/amendments & corrigendum etc.

Table with 4 columns: Sl. No., Job No., Name of Work, Tender Amount (In Lacs.). Includes jobs for Annual Maintenance of High mast and Construction of Fountain in Sector-137.

The above tenders can be uploaded by dated 15.07.2024 up to 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/ downloaded on dated 16.07.2024 at 11.00 AM. B) Re Tender Work:-

Table with 4 columns: Sl. No., Job No., Name of Work, Tender Amount (In Lacs.). Includes job for Internal Electrification of newly constructed Community Center.

The above tenders can be uploaded by dated 08.07.2024 up to 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/ downloaded on dated 09.07.2024 at 11.00 AM. Office Sector - 39 Dy. General Manager (E&M) NOIDA CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

GOVERNMENT OF GUJARAT NARMADA WATER RESOURCES WATER SUPPLY & KALPSAR DEPARTMENT

E-TENDER NOTICE No.06 OF 2024-25 In the Name and on Behalf of Governor Gujarat State, The Executive Engineer, Ver-II Project Division, Vyara, Dist: Tapi Pincode No. 394650 (Phone no. 02626-222090) invites online tender from registered contractors in the class shown below for the Work as under.

Table with 4 columns: Sr. No., Name of Work, Estimate Cost, Class of Registration, Tender Fee D.D., Solvency, Time Limit. Includes Engineering Procurement and Construction Work of Air-filled Rubber Dam.

Detailed notice of these works can be found on the website https://tender.nprocure.com or more details regarding these works can be obtained by contacting this office during working days. No.INF-Surat/206/2024

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LIMITED

Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001 Corporate Identity Number: U40109PB2010SCG033813 Website: www.pspcl.in Contact No: 96461-17604-96461-17659 Tender Enquiry no.1672/PMC/O&M/PC-2488 Dated: 01-07-2024 Chief Engineer / O&M (P&P Cell-11), GIITP. Lehra Mohabbat, invites E-tender for the Procurement of Numerical Relays, Quantity as per NIT. For detailed NIT & tender Specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 01-07-2024 from 17:00 hrs. onwards.

Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in No.35166/PSPCL GHPT-46/24

District Programmed Officer, Women & Child Development, Rewari E-TENDER NOTICE E-Tender on the prescribed forms are hereby invited for Vehicle like Tata-407/ Pick-Up/Canter for supply of the food items and other items from DPO, Rewari/ Block Offices to Aaganwadi Centres are required vehicle with rates valid for FY-2024-25 for the date on which rates are approved by the committee. The E-Tender ID is 2024_HRY_384678_1 for District Rewari relevant document for E-tendering may be seen in the websites: https://etenders.hry.nic.in Invited tenders will be opened under the Chairmanship of Worthy Additional Deputy Commissioner, Rewari, at Conference Hall on dated-16-07-2024 at 10:00 Am.

Sd/- Distt. Programmed Officer Women & Child Development No.- 27324/HRY

कार्यालय जिला परिषद, पलामू आम सूचना इस कार्यालय के ज्ञापांक 458 / जि0प0, दिनांक 25.06.2024 के माध्यम से प्रकाशित अतिअल्पकालीन ई निविदा संख्या-DOPR/CEO/ZP/Palamu 11/2023-24 (Retender 2nd Call) जिसका PR No.- 327682 District(24-25)D को अपरिहार्य कारणों से रद्द किया जाता है।

ह0/-उप विकास आयुक्त-सह-मुख्य कार्यपालक पदाधिकारी, जिला परिषद, पलामू। PR.NO.328277 District(24-25):D

Short Term Public Notice

District Health and Family Welfare Society Rewari, Invites Applications for the recruitment of medical officers will be considered on a daily basis until July 07th, 2024. Candidates can apply in hard copy at the office of the Civil Surgeon or online on the NHM Haryana website, nhmharyana.gov.in, and thereafter from July 8th, 2024, on a weekly basis on every Thursday (next working day in case of a holiday). Important Instructions: For more details of the above posts for terms, conditions & NHM Selection Criteria you can visit on website: www.healthdepartmentrewari.com

Sd/- Civil Surgeon-cum-Chairman (E) D.H.&F.W.S.Rewari No.27326/HRY

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA POWER DEPARTMENT

Dated Shillong, the 28th June, 2024 ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE Applications are invited with necessary documents from the Retired Officers of Meghalaya Energy Corporation limited (MeECL) of the rank of Director or Chief Engineer for 1(one) post of Chief Technical Adviser (Generation) and 1(one) post of Chief Technical Adviser (Distribution & Transmission) in the Power Department on contractual basis initially for a period of 1(one) year. The term of appointment may be extended from time to time with the approval of the Competent Authority. The application should be submitted to the Under Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Power Department, Room No. 512, Additional Building, Meghalaya (Civil) Secretariat., Shillong latest by 15-07-2024.

Sd/- Commissioner & secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, MIPR No./378 Power Department.

State Registrar of Societies, Haryana Industries and Commerce Department, Haryana,

1st Floor, 30 Bays Building, Sector 17, Chandigarh-160017 PUBLIC NOTICE It is informed to the general public that Araya Residents Welfare Association having its registered office at Estate Office, Araya Group Housing Complex, Sector 62, Golf Course Extension Road, Gurugram was registered under the Haryana Registration and Regulation of Societies Act, 2012 vide Registration No.HR-018-2020-02511 dated 09.07.2020. Upon an enquiry, it has been decided to issue Public Notice under section 59(2) of the Haryana Registration and Regulation of Societies Act, 2012, inviting objections as to why the registration of Araya Residents Welfare Association, Gurugram, be not cancelled. Objections, if any, may be filed in writing, before the State Registrar of Societies, Haryana, within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice.

Sd/- Dated: 01.07.2024 State Registrar of Societies, Haryana Chandigarh No.- 27333/HRY

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE Table with 7 columns: Sr. No., Name of Board/Corp./Auth, Name of Work Notice Tender, Opening Date Closing Date (Times), Amount / EMD (Approx.) in Rupees, Website of the Board/Corp./Auth, Nodal Officer/Contact Details/Email. Includes Market Committee Faridabad.

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE Table with 7 columns: Sr. No., Name of Board/Corp./Auth, Name of Work Notice Tender, Opening Date Closing Date (Times), Amount / EMD (Approx.) in Rupees, Website of the Board/Corp./Auth, Nodal Officer/Contact Details/Email. Includes Special Repair of 6 Nos. Link Roads from Village Umra to Sultianpur.

TAMIL NADU GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LTD

TENDER NOTICE : TANGEDCO/SWAP/ SW-01/2024 TANGEDCO invites offers from Utilities / Traders (Bidders) for banking of power on a short term basis for the supply of power by TANGEDCO from 15.07.2024 to 30.09.2024 and will accept the return of RTC / Peak Hour power by Utilities and Traders from 01.03.2025 to 31.05.2025. The offer should reach the office on or before 08.07.2024 at 13.00 Hrs and will be opened at 15.00 Hrs on the same day in the Office of Chief Engineer / Private Power Projects, TANGEDCO, 2nd Floor, MLD Building, 144, Anna Salai, Chennai-2. Specification is available in TANGEDCO Website Viz., www.tangedco.gov.in Chief Engineer / PPP TANGEDCO D/PR/2152/Tender/2024

"IMPORTANT"

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Government of Jharkhand JHARKHAND FLYING INSTITUTE

(A Society Registered under Dept. of Cabinet Secretariat and Vigilance (Civil Aviation Division), Jharkhand STATE HANGAR, BIRSA MUNDA AIRPORT ROAD, HINOO, RANCHI Email - jfi.govtly@gmail.com. Telephone: 0651-2250319, 2251090 Tender Ref. No. :- 05/2024-JFI_133/Ranchi, Date:- 27.06.2024 e-tenders under TWO BID SYSTEM are hereby invited by the Jharkhand Flying Institute, (JFI) Govt. of Jharkhand from Manufacturers/Authorized Distributor of Manufacturers/Authorized Vendors for purchase of X-Ray Baggage Inspection System (XBIS) and Explosive Trace Detector and on-site CAMC for Jharkhand Flying Institute.

As per the following schedule of events:-

Table with 3 columns: S. No., Tender Ref. No., Details. Includes Tender Ref. No. KR405/2024-JFI/133 Dated-27.06.2024, Name of Work, Tender Participation, EMD, etc.

For further details and applying online, please visit jharkhandtenders.gov.in Sd/- Managing Director Jharkhand Flying Institute PR 328346 (Civil Aviation) 24-25 (D) Jharkhand Flying Institute

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन प्रमण्डल, बेगूसराय

शुद्धि-पत्र (वर्ष-2024-25) एतद द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक-938, दिनांक-07.06.2024 द्वारा आमंत्रित ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना सं0-01/बेगूसराय/2024-25 जो दिनांक-10.06.2024 को दैनिक समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित हुआ है एवं जिसका पी0आर0 सं0-001374 (BCD) 2024-25 है के पूर्व में निर्धारित तिथियों में अपरिहार्य कारणवश संशोधन करते हुए अति विस्तार किया जाता है। कडिका-3, 4, 5, 6 एवं 7 में पूर्व में उल्लेखित तिथियों को निम्नवत संशोधित किया जाता है।

Table with 3 columns: कडिका, पूर्व निर्धारित तिथि एवं समय, संशोधित तिथि एवं समय. Includes details for bidding dates and times for various items.

कार्यपालक अभियंता, भवन प्रमण्डल, बेगूसराय नशे की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार। PR. No. 002961 (BCD) 2024-25

गोरखपुर औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण

सूचना गीला द्वारा दिनांक 15.06.2024 को आयोजित एवं व्यावसायिक भूखण्डों के आवंटन हेतु प्रकाशित विज्ञापन में, "ऑन-लाइन" आवेदन प्राप्त करने की अंतिम तिथि 01.07.2024 निर्धारित थी। आयोजित एवं व्यावसायिक भूखण्डों के आवेदन प्राप्त करने की अंतिम तिथि 01.07.2024 को आगे बढ़ाकर दिनांक 15.07.2024 किया जाता है। व्यावसायिक भूखण्डों के ई-आवेदन की तिथि दिनांक 19.07.2024 निर्धारित की जाती है। मुख्य कार्यपालक अधिकारी, गीला, गोरखपुर

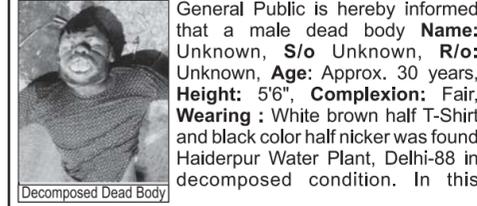
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS, NEW DELHI OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER NATIONAL HIGHWAYS DIVISION, DHANBAD.

(E-mail: eenhdivisiondhanbad@gmail.com) Notice Inviting Bid Bid/ Package no.- NH/Dhanbad/03/2023-24 (3rd Call) Dated :- 28.06.2024 RFP for Construction of ROB at existing LC-188/BG5 in Manpur at km-37.800 on NH-218 on EPC mode in the State of Jharkhand.

Table with 6 columns: State, NH No., ICB No., Name of Work, Estimated Cost (In Rs. Cr.), Completion Period, Maintenance period. Includes Construction of ROB at existing LC-188/BG5 in Manpur at km. 37.800 on NH-218 on EPC mode in the State of Jharkhand.

The complete BID document can be viewed / downloaded from official portal of the CPPP website: https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app from 09.07.2024 to 23.08.2024 (upto 17:00 Hrs. IST). Bidder must submit its Financial Bid and Technical Bid at https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app on or before 23.08.2024 (upto 17:00 Hrs). Bids received online shall be opened on 30.08.2024. (after 15:00 hours IST). Bid through any other mode shall not be entertained. However Bid Security in form of Insurance Surety Bond, Account Payee Demand Draft, Banker's Cheque or Electronic Bank Guarantee (e-Bank Guarantee), receipt of document fee, Power of Attorney and Joint Bidding Agreement etc. shall be submitted physically by the Bidder within 7 days from the bid due date. In case of Original BGs in confirmation of sealed copies are not submitted within this period by the bidder, the bidder will be debarred for one year from bidding for National Highways/other Centrally Sponsored works of Ministry of Road Transport & Highways and its implementing agencies. Please note that the Ministry/Authority/Executing Agency reserve the right to accept or reject all or any of the BIDs without assigning any reason whatsoever. Executive Engineer National Highway Division, Dhanbad PR 328254 Road(24-25)D

Appeal for Identification



General Public is hereby informed that a male dead body Name: Unknown, S/o Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: Approx. 30 years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Fair, Wearing : White brown half T-Shirt and black color half nicker was found Haiderpur Water Plant, Delhi-88 in decomposed condition. In this regard DD No.16A, dated 27.06.2024 has been lodged at PS KNK Marg, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far. Any, person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following. SHO P.S., K.N. Katju Marg, Delhi Ph. : 011-27571162, 9718881148, 8750870327 DP/8491/RD/2024

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, राँची (ग्रामीण)

शुद्धि पत्र PR 326523 Road(24-25).D में प्रकाशित निविदा सूचना सं0 RCD/Ranchi(Gramin)-299/2023-24 के शुद्धि पत्र में निम्न रूप से संशोधित की जाती है।

Table with 3 columns: क्र0, पूर्व में प्रकाशित, संशोधित. Includes details for bid opening dates and times.

कार्यपालक अभियंता, पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, राँची(ग्रामीण)। PR.NO.328305 Road(24-25):D

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन प्रमण्डल, बेगूसराय

शुद्धि-पत्र (वर्ष-2024-25) एतद द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक-938, दिनांक-07.06.2024 द्वारा आमंत्रित ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना सं0-01/बेगूसराय/2024-25 जो दिनांक-10.06.2024 को दैनिक समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित हुआ है एवं जिसका पी0आर0 सं0-001374 (BCD) 2024-25 है के पूर्व में निर्धारित तिथियों में अपरिहार्य कारणवश संशोधन करते हुए अति विस्तार किया जाता है। कडिका-3, 4, 5, 6 एवं 7 में पूर्व में उल्लेखित तिथियों को निम्नवत संशोधित किया जाता है।

Table with 3 columns: कडिका, पूर्व निर्धारित तिथि एवं समय, संशोधित तिथि एवं समय. Includes details for bidding dates and times for various items.

कार्यपालक अभियंता, भवन प्रमण्डल, बेगूसराय नशे की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार। PR. No. 002961 (BCD) 2024-25

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER WATER WAYS DIVISION, MEDININAGAR (WRD) 2nd Call

Very Short Notice Re- inviting e-quotation Notice No. -WRD-Water Ways Division, Medininagar- QNIT No.-01/2024-25 Date-01.07.2024 Government of Jharkhand through its Public Works Department (PWD) is engaged in framing/revision of Schedule of Rates and as part of this endeavor, quotations through e-tender are invited for Hire Charges of Plant & Machineries annexed as Annexure-I for Construction Works from Reputed Manufacturers/Owners/ Lessee for respective items. The Hire charges conforming to specifications for inclusion in the Schedule of Rates for Government of Jharkhand to be used in different Civil Construction/infrastructure works and repair works shall be submitted online in the website Http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in Details of plant and Machineries are available on the above e-tender portal. The quotationer may download the documents from the website and quote their rate for hire charges of plant and Machineries online from 04.07.2024 At 03:00 PM to 10.07.2024 At 05:00 PM. The quotation will be opened on 12.07.2024 at 04:00 PM.

The quotation is invited to ascertain and assess the Hire charges of plant and machineries at par with lowest market rate for framing of Schedule of Rate. Executive Engineer Water Ways Division, Medininagar PR 328342 Water Resource(24-25)D

15 CLASSIFIEDS & TENDERS

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, Krishan Lal S/o, Late Ram Ditta Mal Batra R/o, A-2, First-Floor, South-Ext. Part-1, Delhi-110049, have changed my name to Krishan Lal Batra.

0040736236-10

I, Kirti Kurichh W/o Ajay Kurichh R/o 75/2A Radhey Puri Extn. No 2 Street No. 6 Krishna Nagar Delhi-110051, (Adhar Card No.802601136418) have changed my name Millsee Arora to Kirti Kurichh for all future purposes.

0040736060-2

I, Imran Husain S/o Sardar Husain R/o-141, 2nd Floor Thakar no-6 Behind-1 Minaar, Abul Fazal Enclave Part-2, Jamia Nagar South Delhi-110025 Have Changed my name to Sayyed Imran Husain for all future purposes

0070910528-1

I, ISHAN S/O Pradeep Kumar R/o 340-341 3rd Floor, D-17, Sector-3, Rohini-110085 have changed my name to ISHANT for all purposes.

0040736218-1

I, Hawai Singh S/o Sughan Chand R/o A-78, Vijay Nagar, Mohan Garden, Uttam Nagar New Delhi-110059 have changed my minor Son's name from Gaurav Kumar to Gaurav for all future purposes

0070910527-1

I, Dr. Narang Panna Surjeet Narang,D/o Surjeet Narang,R/o B-7/11, Rajouri Garden New Delhi-110027, have changed my name to Dr. Panna Mangat.

0040736235-3

I, Desh Raj S/o Bhim Singh Yadav R/o Rzd-125, Partap Garden, Bindapur, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 have changed my name to Desh Raj Yadav for all future purposes

0070910526-1

I, Ashima W/o Ajay Grover, R/o C-33 Carlton-Estate IV, DLF Phase 5, Gurgaon Haryana-122009, Have Changed My Name To Ashima Chhabra.

0040736258-2

I, Anil Chandel S/o Ram Sohavan Singh R/o E-187, Gali-No-3, West Vinod Nagar, Delhi-110092 have changed my name to Anil Kumar for all future purposes

0070910532-1

I, ANIL KUMAR JAIN S/o Miter Sain Jain, R/o 4688, Umrao Singh Street, Pahari Dhiraj, Delhi-110006, have changed my name to ANIL JAIN for all purposes.

0040736161-1

I, Santosh Singh S/O, Ram Murat Singh R/o Wz-2b 3rd Flr Gali No.4 Krishna Park Tilak Nagar New Delhi 110018 have changed my name to Santosh Kumar Singh.

0040736218-6

IMADAN LAL AGARWAL S/O RAMESHWAR DAYAL R/O 417.6, NEHRU NAGAR, MEERUT CITY, UTTAR PRADESH HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO MADAN LAL FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES.

0070910544-1

I, Kumari Nishad alias Kumari Devi D/o Jagdev W/o Chandra Prakash R/o Juggi No. WZ-81, Ground Floor, Block-C, Mansarovar Garden, West Delhi, Delhi-110015 have changed my name to Kumari Devi for all purposes.

0040736148-1

I, K.K. Krishna Prabhu S/o Late K.P. Kuppoo Ganapathi R/o G-12, Second Floor, Pocket-Two, SFS DDA Flats, Nilgiri Apartments, Naraina Vihar, New Delhi-110028 have changed the name of my minor daughter from Juhita Raadha K P K to Juhita Prabhu for all purposes.

0040736236-5

I, Sandeep S/o Karam Veer Gahlot, H.No.90, near Choti Mata Mandir, Biswa, Gurgaon (Haryana)-122001, have changed my name to Sandeep Gahlot.

0040736236-7

I, SYED MOHD UMAR ALI S/O ANZARALI, ADDRESS-68B THIRD-FLOOR, KILOKARI MAHRANI BASH SUNLIGHT COLONY, JANGAURA, SOUTH DELHI-110014, have changed my name to UMAR ALI, for all, future purposes.

0040736224-3

I, SONAM GARG W/O SAURABH GUPTA R/O-2398, Dr Tuteja Gali, Narela, Delhi-110040, have changed my name to SONAM.

0040736230-7

I, SHAGUN BANSAL, D/O KRISHAN KUMAR BANSAL, C-25, SECOND-FLOOR (BACK SIDE), COTTAGE-ROAD, ADARSH NAGAR, DELHI-110033 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SHAGUN AGGARWAL.

0040736236-2

I, SANYA BHATIA, W/O, HARSHABAD DEEP SINGH, R/O A-53, SECTOR-31, NOIDA, GAUTAM BUDH NAGAR, UTTAR PRADESH-201301, have changed my name to SANYA KAUR.

0040736224-2

I, SANJIV S/O RAM CHANDER HOUSE NO-125 STREET NO-2 GOVINDPURI KALKAJI DELHI-110019, have changed my name to SANJEEV KUMAR permanently.

0040736230-2

I, Roopkanti Devi, W/o Triloki Nath Singh, R/o B-401, Manisha CGHS, Ltd. Plot No.-7B, Sector-23, Dwarka, Delhi, have changed my name to Rup Kanti Devi, for all purposes.

0040736218-9

I, Vandana D/o Anil Kumar R/o E-187, Gali-No-3, West Vinod Nagar, Delhi-110092 have changed my name to Vandana Chandel for all future purposes

0070910531-1

I, Sunil Kumar Shukla S/o Shree Hridya Nand Shukla R/o G-256, Gamma-2, Greater Noida U.P. have changed my son's name from Rudr Shukla to Rudra Shukla for all future purposes.

0070910540-1

It is for general information that I, SHIVAM KUMAR PASWAN, S/o Shiv Narayan Paswan, R/o H.No-E-423/9, Street, No-9 Near-Darshil Vatika Tukmirpur-Extn Karawal-Nagar North-East, Delhi-110094, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as Shivam in my 10th-class and 12th-class marksheet cum certificate educational documents. The actual name of mine is Shivam Kumar Paswan. Which may be amended accordingly.

0040736230-8

It is for general information that I, NOORANI KHAN, S/O Badrudhin Khan Maulana, R/O T-1430, ward-no-8 Gausiya-colony Mehrauli South, Delhi-110030, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as Noor Aali in my minor son namely Aadi Hussain aged-15-years in his 10th class marksheet and certificate educational documents. The actual name of mine is Noorani Khan. Which may be amended accordingly.

0040736235-10

It is for general information that I, GEETA DEVI, W/o-Naresh Kumar, R/o-3197 Maman, Street, Near-Badh waia Chowk Phari-Dhiraj Sadar-Bazar, North, Delhi-110006, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as Geeta in my minor son namely Varun Kumar aged-17-years in his 10th-class marksheet and certificate educational documents and birth-certificate No-MCDOLR0701557. The actual name of mine is Geeta Devi, which may be amended accordingly.

0040736233-7

I, hitherto known as ANMOL KUMAR, S/o-manoj kumar, R/o, B-1217, Gali No.17 Ipuasta-Sonia vihar-North-east-delhi-110094, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ANMOL KUMAR SHARMA.

0040736218-1

I, ZUHAIB AHMAD, S/O ANIS AHMED, residing, 6941/A, BERI WALA BAGH AZAD MARKET DELHI-110006, have changed my name to ZUHAIB AHMED, permanently.

0040736218-7

I, Surinder Kaur Sodhi, W/O Jagpreet Singh Sodhi, R/O B-8, Kh.No-27/25, U/S/F Shokeen Vihar Himgiri Enclave Nilothi-Extn Nangloi, Delhi-110041, have changed my name to Surinder Kaur.

0040736235-5

I, Soni Savita, w/o Karan R/o, House No.365, Gali.no.7, Sai Nagar, Meethapur Extn., Badarpur, Delhi-110044, have changed my minor Son's name, from Lucky to Ankit, for all purposes.

0040736218-6

I, Ram Arora S/O Somnath Arora R/O B-201 B-Block Jhilmil Delhi-110095 Have Changed My Name To Ram Kwatra Permanently.

0040736236-4

I, Sonam Verma D/o-Yashpaul Verma, Address-A/3/234, 2nd-floor paschim-vihar, Delhi-110063 I have changed my minor daughter name Harika Sachdeva to Harika Kanwa

0040736224-9

I, Shilpi Bhutani W/O Ram Kwatra R/O B-201 B-Block Jhilmil Delhi-110095, Have Changed My Name To Riya Kwatra Permanently.

0040736236-5

I, Sandeep S/o Karam Veer Gahlot, H.No.90, near Choti Mata Mandir, Biswa, Gurgaon (Haryana)-122001, have changed my name to Sandeep Gahlot.

0040736224-8

I, SYED MOHD UMAR ALI S/O ANZARALI, ADDRESS-68B THIRD-FLOOR, KILOKARI MAHRANI BASH SUNLIGHT COLONY, JANGAURA, SOUTH DELHI-110014, have changed my name to UMAR ALI, for all, future purposes.

0040736225-6

I, GAURAV KUMAR S/O Late Tek Chand R/O-H-1003, Great value sanam sec-107, Noida up, have change name to Gaurav arora, for all purposes.

0040736235-7

I, SONAM GARG W/O SAURABH GUPTA R/O-2398, Dr Tuteja Gali, Narela, Delhi-110040, have changed my name to SONAM.

0040736224-11

I, Divya D/o Shri. Dharmendra Singh, R/O-House No.2101, Gate.No.-6, Sector-4, Tehsil and District-Rewari, have changed my name from Divya to Divya Singh, for all, future purpose.

0040736235-9

I, Divakar s/o Harsh Bahadur, R/o 647, Surya-Nagar, Phase-2, Sec-91, Faridabad, Haryana-121003, have changed my name to Divakar Singh for all future purposes.

0040736236-6

I, Disha D/o Ravinder Pal Khanna R/O B-55, 08 Shalimar, Village near Saini, Dharamshala Shalimar, Bagh Delhi-110088, have changed my name to Disha Khanna

0040736230-6

I, DHANU PRASAD, S/O-Ramjans R/o-B-268, Sharda Vats Enclave, Prem Nagar-3, Kirari Suleman Nagar, Delhi-110086, have changed my name, from Dhanu Kumar to Dhanu Prasad, for all future purposes.

0040736235-1

I, Roopkanti Devi, W/o Triloki Nath Singh, R/o B-401, Manisha CGHS, Ltd. Plot No.-7B, Sector-23, Dwarka, Delhi, have changed my name to Rup Kanti Devi, for all purposes.

0040736218-9

I, Rajeev Khosla S/O Late P.N. Khosla R/O-163, 2nd Floor, AGCR-Enclave, Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Rajiv Khosla for all purposes.

0040736224-4

I, Bansri Lal S/o Ram Aadhar Shukla R/o Plot No-12, Type-A Pocket-15, Sector-22, Rohini Delhi 110086, have changed my name to Bansari Lal Shukla.

0040736230-5

I, LAKSHMI CHAUHAN, W/O RAJENDER SINGH, residing C-1/4 POLICE STATION MODEL TOWAN-1, KINGSWAY-CAMP MODEL TOWN-II DELHI-110009, have changed my name to LAKSHMI KAUR permanently.

0040736258-1

I, ASHUTOSH, S/O ASHOK KUMAR, R/O-314, TILAK PARK, MEERUT, UTTAR PRADESH-250001, have changed my name to ASHUTOSH MITTAL.

0040736235-2

I, RINKU, W/O SANJEEV KUMAR HOUSE NO-125 STREET NO-2 GOVINDPURI KALKAJI DELHI-110019, have changed my name to RINKU MAGGU permanently.

0040736230-3

I, PROMILA KUMARI alias Padma, D/O LATE GIRDHARI LAL, W/O-LATE BHARAT BHUSHAN MALHOTRA, R/O-24/31, G/F, B/P, WEST PATEL-NAGAR CENTRAL-DELHI 110008, HAVE CHANGED NAME TO PROMILA MALHOTRA.

0040736218-5

I, Manjeet W/O Manmeet Sodhi R/O H.No-A-70, Vikas-Vihar Chander-Vihar Nilothi Extn Nangloi Delhi-110041, have changed my name to Manjit.

0040736235-4

I, BABY TRANUM, W/O MD SAMIM HOUSE, NO-99, BLOCK, D GALLI, NO-4 SANGAM VIHAR, DELHI-110080, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO BABY TARANNUM FOR ALL PURPOSES

0040736233-3

I, ASHUTOSH ARVIND NAIK, S/O-ARVIND NAIK, RESIDENT OF, FLAT, NO-8, BUILDING NO-6, SARASWAT COLONY, ANUSAYA ROAD, PO, SANTACRUZ (WEST), MUMBAI, MAHARASHTRA 400054, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO ASHUTOSH NAIK.

0040736218-4

I, ASHA, W/O VIJAY KUMAR, R/O D-2/121-122, FIRST FLOOR NEAR-TITIKASHA SCHOOL, SECTOR-11, ROHINI, DELHI-110085, have changed my name to ASHA LALWANI, for all future purposes.

0040736218-2

I, Waqar S/O, Munna R/o House No 79 2nd Floor, Gali No 9, Khasra No 132, Wazirabad Village New Delhi-110084 have changed my name to Waqar Ahmad for all purposes.

00407362229-1

I, Vrudhula Srinivas Suryanarayana S/O Suryanarayana Murty R/O Flat No.-312, Gharonda Apartment, Sector-Alpha-1, Greater Noida, U.P have changed my name to Srinivas Vrudhula for all future purposes

0070910536-1

I, Vipin Bansal and Vipin Kumar S/o Virender Kumar R/o A-1/282, F.F. Paschim Vihar New Delhi-63, solemnly affirm both names belonging to same person i.e. myself.

0040736218-10

I, Sunita Devi W/o Hawai Singh R/O House no-A-78, Vijay Nagar, Mohan Garden, Uttam Nagar, West Delhi-110059 Declare That my name is Wrongly As Sunetea Devi in my Son Gaurav School Record the actual name of Sunita Devi for all future purposes.

0070910546-1

I, Shobhrani Srinivas Vrudhula W/o Srinivas Vrudhula R/O Flat No. 312, Gharonda Apartment, Sector-Alpha-1, Greater Noida U.P. have changed my name to Shobha Rani Vrudhula for all future purposes.

0070910535-1

I, Sayma Parveen, W/o Ramish Adeb D/o Mukhtar Ahmed, R/o, House No.510, Main Road Jafraabad, Delhi-110053, Have Changed My Name Sayma Parveen to Saima Mukhtar (Dob 07-02-1996) For All Purposes.

0040736236-3

I, STUTI SRIVASTAVA D/O JAI SHRIVASTAVA, H.NO-114-A, POKETA-1, MAYUR-VIHAR PHASE-1, CHILLA SARODA KHADAR, DELHI-110091, have changed my name to STUTI SRIVASTAV all future purposes.

0040736230-4

I, Preeti Ranjan S/O Sh. Vidyadhar R/O G/6220-21-22, Dev Nagar, Gali No-1, Block-6, Karol Bagh New Delhi-110005 have changed my name from PREETI RANJAN to ADITYA RANJAN for all future purposes.

0070910543-1

I, Naseema Khatoun W/o Sabir Khan R/O 21-A, Street-No.7, Sarojini-Park, Shastri-Nagar, Delhi-110031, have changed my name to Nasima Khatoun.

0040736236-9

I, Naresh Kumar S/o Kailash Chand Malhotra R/o 5080, Chaman Gali, Rohanara Road, Delhi-110007, has changed my name to Naresh Malhotra.

0040736218-3

I, Mustafa S/o Wajid Ali Khan R/O H.No.151, Tantan Upper Kotla, Bulandshahr, U.P.-203001, have changed my name to Mustafa Ali Khan.

0040736236-8

I, Mehnaaz Ansari R/O J-3/269, 3rd Floor, DDA Flats, Kalkaji, Delhi-110019 have changed my minor son's name from Zidane Ahmed Khan to Zidaan Ansaari

0070910534-1

I, Marium Indavar D/o Karma Indwar R/O-769, Sunlight Colony-2, Hari Nagar, Ashram, South Delhi, Delhi-110014, have changed my name from Marium Indavar to Mariam Indwar for all future purposes.

0040736232-1

We Alka Srivastava W/o Praveen Kumar Srivastava and Praveen Kumar Srivastava S/o Birendra Kumar Srivastava, R/o-T-9/9115 GHATERA Happy Trails Sector-10 Greater Noida Up -203207 have changed name of our minor son Subh Srivastava to Shubh Srivastava.

0040736218-11

I, Vikas Kashyap and Shalini Kashyap Have Lost my possession Letter And Allotment, Letter of my Flat, Flat.No.-002, Tower-2, The Palms, South City-1, Sector-41, Gurgaon, FINDER Please inform at: 9891179558.

0040736233-10

I, Gunjan Sharma S/O Late S.K Sharma, have Lost Two Documents i.e Last 3 pages of agreement to self (Builder & Buyer Agreement) and Possession Letter Related to My flat.No. 2-303 The Millennia 37D by Signature Global, Gurugram-122505

0070910529-1

I, Rashmi Bansal owner, flat-56 Sahyog Apartment BOB Officers Group Housing society Patimura Delhi-110034 have lost membership share certificate contact:9998828580

01300443203-1

I, Gulshan Banga S/o Late Sh. Roshan Lal, R/O-433, Bhai-Parmanand Colony, Delhi-110009, have lost my original Allotment Letter and Possession Letter. LR- No.1846457/2024

0040736169-1

PUBLIC NOTICE

"General public at large is hereby informed that my clients- **Sh. Arun Kumar S/O L. Desh Raj** and his wife- **Ms. Rekha Garg**, both R/o H.No.2046, Gali Basti, Anaj Mandi, Narela, Delhi-40, have severed all their relations with their son- **Mr. Ankit Garg**, his wife- **Ms. Apshali D/o Sh. Navenee Goeel** and his son- **Master A.** Temporarily staying at H.No.2046, Nai Basti, Anaj Mandi, Narela, Delhi-40 for their want of control and their extensive conducts and they also disowned their son from their movable and immovable properties. Any person dealing with aforesaid- **Mr. Ankit Garg** his wife- **Ms. Apshali** and his son shall be doing so at his/her own risk and the same shall not be binding on my client's clients in any manner, whatsoever.

Sd/-
ANAND BHARDWAJ
Advocate
Ch. No. 51, Civil Wing,
Tis-Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that **I, DIVYA PURI D/O LATE SH. NARESH KUMAR SAHNEY EX. WIFE OF SH. RAKESH PURI R/O 27 A/1, FIRST FLOOR, FRIENDS COLONY WEST, NEW DELHI-110065** declare that I got divorced from my husband **SH. RAKESH PURI** vide Court Decree HMA No. 3595/2023 dated 13.12.2023. Further I have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as **DIVYA SAHANEY**.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Madan Lal S/o Manak Chand R/o 4839, Gali Laddoo Ghati, Pahar Ganj, Swami Ram Tirth Nagar, Delhi-55.1 had Lost/ Misplaced Original Demand Letter of DDA MIG Flat No.324, 1st Floor, Jahangir Puri, Delhi, Vide DDA File No.-34(20)95/JH/ AAY And The LR. No. 185554/2024 Dated-29-06-2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Clients Govind Pandit S/o Jagdish Pandit and Manjira Devi W/o Govind pandit R/o H.No-167, First Floor, Gali No-3, Hardeo Nagar, Jhandra Majra Laldora, North Delhi-110084 have disowned their son Vishal Pandit and his wife Smt. Priya Sadan from their all movable and immovable properties and my Clients have also severed their all relations with him due to his mis-behavior & bad conduct. Anybody dealing with him in any manner whatsoever will be doing at his/her own cost, risk & responsibility. The son Vishal Pandit is already living alone for more than 3 years.

KAMAL SINGH (Advocate)
Enr. No. D/748(2014)

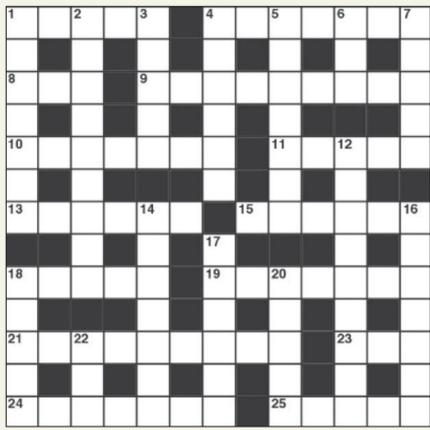
PUBLIC NOTICE

It is brought to the notice of general public at large in accordance with order dated May 03, 2024 passed by the Hon'ble Rohini Court in CS DJ No. 303/2023, titled as Gurgest Singh & Anr vs. Rachna Khanna & Anr, Rachna Khanna and its Directors/ Promoters/ agents/ employees/ Group and/or associate Companies is restrained from in any manner selling/ transferring/ alienating the first floor of the above said property. The Public at large is further made aware in that terms of the above mentioned order dated May 03, 2024 passed by the Hon'ble Rohini Court in CS DJ No. 303/2023, titled as Gurgest Singh & Anr vs. Rachna Khanna & Anr, Rachna Khanna & Anr. The original owner of said first floor has received information that certain individuals/entities are attempting to sell said property. The Public is therefore once again cautioned against buying/ dealing with such property wherein Rachna Khanna, or any of its associates/subordinates have any interest, directly or indirectly. The Public is further requested to rely only on the order which is available on the official website of the Hon'ble Rohini Court.

V.K. Puri & Puri (Advocates)
A-64, L.G.F., Gujranwala Town, Part-I, Delhi-110009

PUBLIC NOTICE

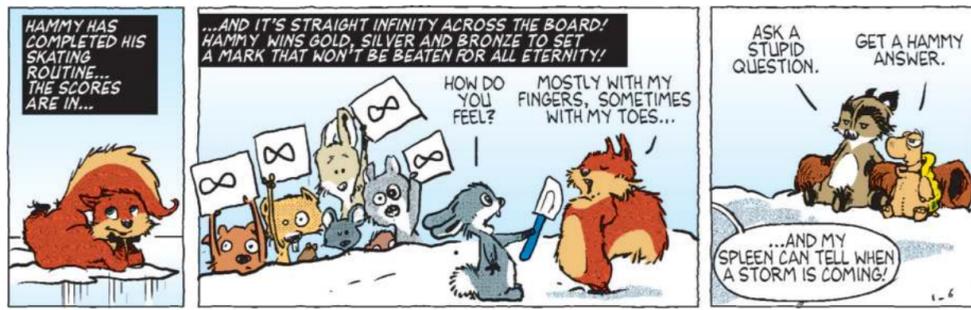
CROSSWORD 5405



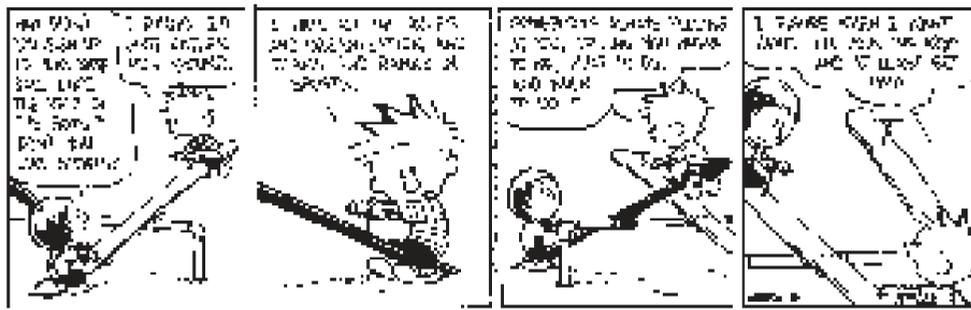
- ACROSS**
- Round gold coin (5)
 - He'd rob a distressed girl (7)
 - She can provide a form of aid (3)
 - Quoted about once, becomes big-headed (9)
 - Receives and deceives (5,2)
 - High fliers subject to ground control (5)
 - Do get accustomed to being put out (6)
 - A factor in becoming more impoverished (6)
 - The girl I love and court (5)
 - Comes up against a bill and what goes on it (7)
 - I should be in now he's in the chair (9)
 - Well-produced though initially crude (3)
 - Discounts are best taken advantage of (7)
 - Without a hitch his journey takes longer (5)
- DOWN**
- Timed to get around being left out (7)
 - Worn at funerals and clubs for example (5,4)
 - Temporarily secures a levy we hear (5)
 - Understand about the inn being exceptional for eating (6)
 - Wave of destruction? (7)
 - Brutus mislays the bus routine (3)
 - Heads for the underworld (5)
 - Review what dishonest warehousemen do (4,5)
 - He and I are inseparable (7)
 - 16 Thief who is boss around the street (7)
 - Bets a week's pay about being right (6)
 - His performance may set people reeling (5)
 - Take hold of and rub (5)
 - Marine backwater (3)

Solutions Crossword 5404 Across: 1 Square root, 8 Omits, 9 Fibroch, 10 Trooper, 11 Tutor, 12 Feebly, 14 Slacks, 17 Lyric, 19 Chicago, 21 Cabinet, 22 Showy, 23 Decrees in
Down: 2 Quixote, 3 Aesop, 4 Expire, 5 Orbital, 6 Trout, 7 Short story, 8 Out of place, 13 Laconic, 15 Crayons, 16 Scathe, 18 Rabid, 20 Ibsen

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.
Little said is soon amended. There is always time to ___ a word, never to ___ one. - Baltasar Gracian (3,_,8)

CSAAR **EIINDDH**

AMDIT **DINOWW**

SOLUTION: SACRA, ADMIT, HIDDEN, WINDOW
Answer: Little said is soon amended. There is always time to add a word, never to withdraw one. - Baltasar Gracian

SUDOKU 5609

Difficulty Level 2s
Instructions
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.



Difficulty Level
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius

SOLUTION SUDOKU 5608



APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

The general public is hereby informed that an unidentified person about 55 years of age whose name, unknown, residence, and family is unknown has found dead at Crown Plaza Mayur Vihar Ph -1, Delhi on 19/06/2024. In this regard, an information has been registered vide DD No: 35A, dated: 19/06/2024 at PS Mayur Vihar, 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:** 55 Years, **Height:** 5'6", **Complexion:** Shallow, **Built:** Normal, **Wearing:** Blue And White T-shirt, White Pant. If anyone has any information about his relatives, kindly inform the SHO/ PS Mayur Vihar, Delhi.



Unknown

E-mail : cbc@cbi.gov.in SHO
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 PS, Mayur Vihar, Delhi.
Fax : 011-24368639 Ph.: 011-22711048, 22710335
DP/8396/ED/2024

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

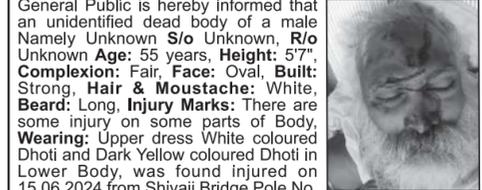
See Section 82 CrPC
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **SALMAN, S/o:** Sh. Fazlu Rehman, R/o: D-35/E-46, Jhuggi No. 627, Dilshad Colony, Seemapuri, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **Case FIR No. 035439/17 B.Pur, U/s 379/411/34 IPC, P.S. Begumpur, Distt. Rohini, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **SALMAN** cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **SALMAN** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant);
Proclamation is hereby made that the said **SALMAN** accused of **Case FIR No. 035439/17 B.Pur, U/s 379/411/34 IPC, P.S. Begumpur, Distt. Rohini, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **31.08.2024**.
By Order
Ms. Vasudhara Chhaunkar
Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate,
Room No. 101, Rohini Courts, Delhi

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(Section 82 Cr. P.C.)
Whereas complaint has been made before me that the accused person **Naresh @ Kalia S/o Late Raj kumar R/o H NO 9660 Gali no. 11 Motia Khan Paharganj, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **FIR No. 001402/2021, U/s 379/411/34 IPC PS Sadar Bazar, Delhi** and it has been returned to warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused person **Naresh @ Kalia** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Naresh @ Kalia**, has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the **Naresh @ Kalia FIR No.001402/2021, U/s 379/411/34 IPC PS Sadar Bazar, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **07.08.2024**.
By order
Shri Gaurav Goyal
Metropolitan Magistrate, Room No.247
Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

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 **Kamla Devi W/o Nanak Ram R/o Jhuggi No.370, Indra Camp, Madhu Vihar, Delhi.** have committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence under **FIR. No. 31/20 U/s 33 Exice Act.,** has been registered at **PS. Madhu Vihar Delhi** and It has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said, **Kamla Devi** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said, **Kamla Devi** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).
Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused, **Kamla Devi** under **FIR. No. 31/20 U/s 33 Exice Act.,** registered at **PS. Madhu Vihar, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **07.10.2024**.
By Order
Sh.Udbhav Kumar Jain, MM-04, Room No.13, Shadara Karkardooma Court, Delhi



DP/8036/ED/2024

HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRONICS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
1st & Ground Floor, I-1, Bhawan, Mehli, Shimla - 171 013
Tel. No. 0177-2623259
2623513, 2626320, 2623513
2623043, FAX: 0177-2626320
Website : www.hpsedc.in
Date: 29-06-2024
Tender No.: HPS/EDC/Electronic Tool Barrier/2K24-
E-TENDER NOTICE
E-Tenders are invited from eligible bidders for Request for Proposal for Selection of System Integrator across Toll Barriers in Himachal Pradesh. Pre-Bid meeting will be held on 06/07/2024 (11:30AM) through Video Conferencing.
Last date for online c-bid submission is 20/07/2024 (upto 03:00 PM) and shall be opened on 22/07/2024 at 4:00PM. Detailed Tender Document containing Technical Specifications and Terms & Conditions are available on HPS/EDC website www.hpsedc.in and https://hptenders.gov.in.
No.0124_2024-2025 **General Manager (Technical)**

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(See Section 82 Cr.PC)
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Surender Singh, S/o Shoba Ram R/o Village Biharipur, Delhi-94** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **Case FIR No.259/2007 u/s 323/341/427/ 429/436/147/148/186/34 IPC & 314 DPP Act, P.S. Khajuri Khas, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Surender Singh** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Surender Singh** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).
Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Surender Singh** of **FIR No.259/2007 u/s 323/341/427/ 429/436/147/ 148/186/34 IPC & 314 DPP Act, P.S. Khajuri Khas, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **02.08.2024**.
By Order,
Sh. Sukhjeet Singh
Metropolitan Magistrate-03, Room No.22,
North West Distt. Karkardooma, Court, Delhi

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSONS

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused persons (1) **Karan Taneja @ Vinay @ Vinny S/o Joginder Taneja R/o H. No. 100/48, Basant Nagar, Bagh Kade Khan, Kishan Garh, Delhi. Gang leader.** (2) **Tarun Mahajan @ Tarun S/o Shri Joginder R/o A-19, Hari Nagar, Delhi.** (3) **Sunny Chawla @ Sunny S/o Satpal R/o S-134/86, Harijan Camp, Lodhi Colony, New Delhi.** And (4) **Gurjeet Kaur W/o Sh. Inderjeet Singh (5) Preety Mittal W/o Praveen Mittal both R/o H. No. 547, Wazirabad Village, Sector-52, Gurgaon, Haryana** have committed the offence as transpired in investigation of case **FIR No. 130/20 u/s 409/419/420/467/ 468/471/120-B IPC dated 24.09.2020 P.S. Parliament Street (DIU), New Delhi** and it have been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued against above accused persons namely that these said (1) **Karan Taneja @ Vinay @ Vinny,** (2) **Tarun Mahajan @ Tarun (3) Sunny Chawla @ Sunny And (4) Gurjeet Kaur (5) Preety Mittal** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said (1) **Karan Taneja @ Vinay @ Vinny,** (2) **Tarun Mahajan @ Tarun (3) Sunny Chawla @ Sunny And (4) Gurjeet Kaur (5) Preety Mittal** have absconded (or are concealing themselves to avoid the service of the said warrant/s of above case). Process u/s 82 Cr.P.C. has been initiated in this case. Proclamation is hereby made that the said (1) **Karan Taneja @ Vinay @ Vinny,** (2) **Tarun Mahajan @ Tarun (3) Sunny Chawla @ Sunny And (4) Gurjeet Kaur (5) Preety Mittal** accused of **FIR No. 130/20 u/s 409/419/420/467/468/471/120-B IPC dated 24.09.2020 P.S. Parliament Street (DIU), New Delhi** are required to appear before this Court to answer the allegations as surfaced in investigation on or before **08.08.2024**.
By Order: **Ms. Anamika,**
Metropolitan Magistrate-06 (New Delhi),
Room No. 23, Main Building,
Patiala House Court, New Delhi

DP/8330/ND/2024

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Komal D/o Guddu R/o RZ-17 Sayed Village Nangloi, Delhi** has been missing/ kidnapped from her school since 02.07.2022 at 07:00 am. In this regard, a **FIR No. 601/2022, dtd 02.07.2022** has been registered at **PS.: Paschim Vihar West, Delhi.** The description of the missing girl as under.
Age: 17 years, **Height:** 4'8" **Complexion:** Fair, **Wearing:** Check red colour suit and light grey salwar and black colour shoes in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out her but no clue has come to light so far. Any person is having information or clue about this missing girl may kindly inform to the following.
Ph. No. 011-24368638, 24368641
Website: http://cbi.nic.in **S.H.O**
E-mail: cbc@cbi.gov.in **PS: Pashim Vihar West, Delhi**
Fax No. 011-24368639 **DP/7144/OD/2024** **Ph No. 011-25268394**



Komal

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. P.C.
Where a complaint has been made before me that accused **Anil Kumar S/o Sh. Dharam Pal, H. No. 315, near Him Vidya Niketan School, Tilpat, Amar Nagar, Faridabad 121003** has committed (or suspected to have committed) the offence in case registered vide **Ct Case No. 3443/2017 U/s 138 NI Act P.S. Kalkaji, Delhi** and it have been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused **Anil Kumar** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Anil Kumar** has absconded (or is concealing themselves to avoid the service of the said warrant).
Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Anil Kumar** of case **Ct Case No. 3443/2017 U/s 138 NI Act P.S. Kalkaji, Delhi** is required to appear before this court (or before me) to answer the complaint on or before the day of **21.08.2024**.
By Order,
Sh. Abhitesh Kumar
Metropolitan Magistrate-01 (NI Act)
Room No. 610, South East Distt.
Saket Court Complex, New Delhi

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

(See Section 82 Cr. PC)
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Sandeep Kumar S/O Ram Chander, R/O-H.No. 36/1, Vill - Ismaila-11 Biswa Teh.-Rohtak, Distt: Rohtak - 124001** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **CC No. 5817/2019 U/s 138 NI Act at PS: KNK Marg, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Sandeep Kumar** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Sandeep Kumar** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Sandeep Kumar** of **CC No. 5817/2019 U/s 138 NI Act of PS: KNK Marg, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **23.09.2024**.
By Order
Himanshu Selhot
Metropolitan Magistrate-03
North District, Room No.213
Rohini Court, Delhi

DP/8313/RD/2024

The ICC XI for the T20 World Cup features Rohit Sharma, Suryakumar Yadav, Hardik Pandya, Axar Patel and two pacers in Jasprit Bumrah & Arshdeep Singh. There was no place for star batter Virat Kohli, who played a match-winning knock in the final. PTI

INTERVIEW: SURYAKUMAR YADAV

'We were emotional, six months ago, trophy came near us and went away'

A once-in-a-lifetime catch, 1014 WhatsApp messages, and a long night. SKY's famous grab to dismiss David Miller in the last over ensured India ended the long ICC trophy drought. DEVENDRA PANDEY spoke to him the day after the final when he reflected on the achievement

Did you manage to get some sleep?

I couldn't actually, I'm still taking time to make sense of what happened yesterday, and how it happened. Obviously, it's a dream to win the World Cup, but to be part of a game in which our win predictor was around 4-5% and to win from there, it was one of the greatest finals.

But if you look outside the window, *neeche sab sannata hai* (it's all quiet down below), everyone has gone home after the game. There is no one here, probably, once we reach India, *kya mahoul hoga* (what will be the atmosphere), we will feel there only. I can see from here that the whole of India is celebrating, everyone is on the streets. When I saw the phone, it had 1014 WhatsApp messages. I have never got so many messages till date, even when we won any tournament. I'm even getting messages from random people. I was really touched by the video sent by Prime Minister Modi sir.

Who danced the most during the post-match party?

No one's feet stopped. Everyone danced, those who were fresh had to dance more but those who were tired were allowed to take some rest. We knew such moments don't come often. At the same time, we knew that we won't be seeing a few top players anymore playing for India in this format. We won't be sharing the dressing room anymore.

The pre-final atmosphere in the team was different than the ODI world cup final in India?

The way we were playing in India, a day before the final, we thought we just had to go to the ground and pick the trophy. It was a learning experience for us and we rectified the errors we committed. In 2023, we were thinking a lot which we didn't do this time. *Aur dekho kaam ho gaya* (we got the job done).

Before the start of this tournament, we decided that we won't talk about what lies ahead in the tournament. Nobody thought about Super 8 and the same was true for the finals in Barbados. Our mind has to be where our feet are — that was our motto.

Can you talk about those seven seconds of the famous catch which won the game?

Our fielding coach (T) Dilip sir has said that Surya, Virat (Kohli), Axar Patel and Ravindra Jadeja should always field at the hotspot areas, where there is the greatest chance of the ball going.

The catch I took, I have practised it at different grounds, depending on the wind. I was standing a bit wide yesterday because Hardik (Pandya) and Rohit (Sharma) bhai had put a field for the wide yorker, and (David) Miller had hit straight. My mind was clear that *kaise bhi karke pakad he lena hai* (come what may, have to catch it). Rohit bhai usually never stands at long-on but at that moment he was there. So when the ball was coming, for a second I looked at him and he looked at me. I ran and my aim was to catch the ball, had he (Rohit) been closer, I would have thrown the ball towards him. But he was nowhere close. In those 4-5 seconds, whatever happened, I can't explain. The amount of reaction I have been getting for that, people have been calling, messaging, there are more than 1,000 unread WhatsApp messages on my phone. The catch is all over social media. I'm grateful that I was there in those five seconds of play.

When I pushed the ball and took the catch, I knew I hadn't touched the rope. The only thing I was cautious about was that when I pushed the ball back inside, my feet don't touch the rope. I knew it was a fair catch. In hindsight, anything could have happened. If the ball had gone for six, the equation would have been 5 balls, 10 runs. We might have still won, but the margin would have been closer.

How much hard work goes into fielding sessions?

A day before the game, we do a quality fielding session where for 10-12 minutes, we have more than 10 high catches, flat catches, direct hits, slip catching. It's not a one-day exercise, I practise these kinds of catches during IPL, during bilateral series. Yesterday's catch was the reward of the hard work done over the years.

The introduction of the fielding medal has ensured that everyone wants to do something extra on the ground, be it saving one or two runs which make a difference. It is a good initiative. And the people giving the medals give us more motivation.

And your diet too came handy to maintain your balance on the ropes?!

Yes! I remember last August, I was at around 93 kg, maybe because I was having too much local food. I got injured and then had a hernia operation. I went to NCA (National Cricket Academy) Bengaluru from January 1 to April 1. Even during off days, I used to not go home because I knew Monday morning would be my session. I couldn't waste time. I ate proper food prepared by my chef. I used to sleep sharp at 10 pm and get up early in the morning. Even now, I have decided on my meals for the next week with the help of the chef and nutritionist; they de-

cide how much protein and fat I will have daily, how much water I need to take with my food. We have a group for it which also has my wife. They decide and I just follow. It helped me here.

Can you talk about your batting?

Even if my World Cup hadn't gone well, I still would have taken this (ICC medal). I remember at the start of the World Cup, Rohit bhai had said, "*mein tujhe nahi bataoonga, is tournament mein tujhe kaise khelna hai* (I will not tell you how to play in this tournament)." I will decide where the team needs my type of innings or when I just need to be there. He will not tell me anything. After the USA game, he said 'I just wanted you to be there at the crease'. I knew I would win the game if I was batting till the end. It was an unusual rare knock for me; a 49-ball 50. Sometimes one has to play such knocks for the team.

Can you tell us what Rohit talks during the team huddle?



Before the final, Rohit told us to keep it simple but said, 'I can't climb this mountain alone. If I have to reach the peak, I will need everyone's oxygen'. He also said, 'Joh bhi hai, paon mein, dimag mein, dil mein (Whatever you have in your legs, mind and heart), just bring everything to the game.

I realised then that if I have to bat with Virat Kohli, I have to match his fitness because he takes two quick runs by pushing a ball in the gaps and then he slams a four. I had told the strength and conditioning coach Soham Desai to keep my training time along with his.

Have you ever seen David so happy?

That 30-second clip, when he took the trophy in his hand and screamed... that moment when he expressed his

happiness. I think I will save that clip for life.

In the end, he came and thanked Rohit and said, "Thank you, Rohit, for that phone call in November", because he didn't want to continue after (India's loss in) the 50-over World Cup but Rohit and Jay sir (BCCI secretary Jay Shah) convinced him to stay.

What has Virat Kohli been for you?

He is a powerhouse of energy on the ground, irrespective of his performance. If you see, till the final, things didn't go as he wanted to but the way he carried himself on the field... He was taking part in team get-togethers, practice sessions, everything. He was a leader in his own way.

In 2022, when I made my debut, I did most of the batting with him during the bilateral series and then the World Cup. I realised then that if I have to bat with Virat Kohli, I have to match his fitness because he takes two quick runs by pushing a ball in the gaps and then he slams a four. I had told the strength and conditioning coach Soham Desai to keep my training time along with his. Because sometimes there are days when I don't feel like training or my body is tiring or mentally I'm not ready. So by watching him those 40 minutes will pass by in the gym.

Which game would you pick as the key in how this team played this tournament?

I think it all started from the Pakistan game where we were defending a low total. There was never a time when we gave up on the game. We pushed ourselves. In franchise cricket, we see close games that turn in a moment. The calmness on the ground during the final, starting from the captain, everyone was relaxed because we knew that something magical will happen and we will be back in the game. And (Jasprit) Bumrah-Arshdeep (Singh), the way they bowled was remarkable.

Who was the most emotional after the game?

Everyone was emotional, everyone ran towards the captain. Because six months ago, the trophy came in front of us and went away. Now, the way he fell down, ate some grass off the ground and tasted some mud on the pitch. These moments will stay with me for a long time.

One moment of yours that you will carry for a long time?

The catch photo which many people are sending me, some have a ball picture, some have morphed the ball with the trophy. I will carry this with me for two years and will replicate it in the next World Cup! It was my fourth ICC event, and my first win. I will remember this for a long time. First is always special.

Kuldeep (Yadav) mentioned how it will take time to sink in (looking at his medal) because players wait for a whole career to win an ICC trophy. Many don't get it. Those who do, cherish it for life. It will stay with me for a long time. Hopefully after two years, I can copy-paste this again.

Before the final, he told us to keep it simple but said, 'I can't climb this mountain alone. If I have to reach the peak, I will need everyone's oxygen'. He also said, '*Joh bhi hai, paon mein, dimag mein, dil mein* (Whatever you have in your legs, mind and heart), just bring everything to the game. If that happens, we will not regret the night'. We all were moved.

I have played so much cricket, be it in IPL or international cricket in the past four-five years. He connects with the players. Off the field, be it in a hotel room, or on the beach, he connects with everyone. So when a crunch situation comes, players know that he (Rohit) will back us. One feels I have to deliver for this man for the confidence and respect he gives to everyone."

What has been Rahul Dravid's contribution behind the scenes?

Wall *kabhi chhupta nahi hai* (wall doesn't hide) (laughs) and Indranagar *ke wall ko koi kabhi chhupa nahi sakta hai*. He has created



Suryakumar and wife Devisha Shetty with the trophy. Pics: BCCI and surya_14kumar

BRIEFLY

Singapore wins bid to host Chess World C'ship match

New Delhi: India's efforts to secure a home World Championship match for D Gukesh came to nought with Singapore pipping Delhi and Chennai to claim hosting rights for the premier chess contest which will pit the youngest Challenger in the history against defending champion Ding Liren from China. The Tamil Nadu government and All India Chess Federation (AICF) had submitted separate bids to FIDE, the world chess body. "After reviewing the bids and inspecting all potential host cities for their venues, amenities, event programs, and opportunities, the International Chess Federation has selected Singapore as the host," FIDE said in a release. PTI

Afridi praises Rohit's leadership in WC win

Karachi: Former Pakistan allrounder Shahid Afridi has praised the body language of Rohit Sharma during the team's title-winning run in the T20 World Cup while questioning Babar Azam's leadership during the recently-concluded cricket carnival in the Americas. "Now, look at his (Rohit's) game and his style of playing; the lower-order batsmen who come in are all confident because the captain likes to play aggressive and attacking cricket. So, I always believe that the role of the captain is very important," he said. PTI

Neeraj Chopra opts out of Paris DL

New Delhi: Olympic and world champion javelin throw star Neeraj Chopra has opted out of this Sunday's Paris Diamond League, citing the adductor niggle that has been troubling him for the past couple of months, according to a report. Speaking to 'ESPN', Chopra said he is focussing on training. "I need to strengthen my blocking leg when I throw because that's when my groin gets pulled. We're working on that to see how we can reduce the impact on the groin and control the pressure on it," he said. PTI

France find a way

Kolo Muani's deflected strike ends up in Belgium net as Mbappe & Co reach last 8

SCORELINE	
France	Belgium
1	0
Vertonghen 85' (OG)	

AGENCIES
JULY 1

SUBSTITUTE RANDAL Kolo Muani scored with a deflected shot five minutes from time to give France a nervy but deserved 1-0 Euro 2024 last 16 win over a disappointing Belgium on Monday.

France made most of the running in a cagey game but were reckless with their finishing, until a nice combination of passes, finished off by N'Golo Kante, finally created space for Kolo Muani to bundle his shot in off the leg of Jan Vertonghen.

France will now meet the winner of Monday's match between Portugal and Slovenia in the quarter-finals in Hamburg on Friday.

It was a fittingly scruffy decider for an underwhelming game, but France at least looked like they were trying to win it.

It was a meeting between officially the second (France) and third (Belgium) best teams in the world, but after both limped into the knockout stage via unimpressive final group-stage draws, managing only two goals apiece from their three games, they looked extremely cautious in attack.

Belgium clearly had a plan to take any speed out of the game, playing at less than walking pace at times, with Kevin de Bruyne often operating just in front of his back four.

The best chance of the first half came for France after 34 minutes when Jules Kounde whipped in a curling cross that recalled striker Marcus Thuram headed wide – and spent the next two minutes berating himself for.

Aurelien Tchouameni forced Koen Casteels into his first save of the day soon after the break, while ever-lively Kylian Mbappe miskicked a decent chance as France began to put some passes together.

A rare Belgian thrust was cut short by a brilliant Theo Hernandez tackle just as Yannick Carrasco was about to pull the trigger, and Romelu Lukaku and De Bruyne then



France's Randal Kolo Muani hit his shot goalwards but the ball took a deflection off Jan Vertonghen before going into the Belgium goal on Monday. Reuters

brought good saves from Mike Maignan.

France's poor finishing continued with William Saliba and Mbappe both blazing over before Kolo Muani struck late on to win it.

France coach Didier Deschamps said, "It's beautiful, we played a big game, it was tight but enjoyed possession and we had more opportunities."

"We had several chances but missed the target. We did a lot of good things. We have to savour it, it's quite an achievement. We're in the quarter finals, they're going home."

Randal Kolo Muani, who snuck the goal across Belgium lines for the hard-earned win also spoke about the number of French attempts and said, "We're enjoying this, we pushed hard, we had a lot of attempts but we were missing the target. I got lucky (on the goal), the coach had told me to bring my energy ... to bring danger with my speed. I tried to bring some freshness to the game."

Germany wary of Yamal

Spain winger Lamine Yamal may just be 16 years old, playing at his first major tourna-

ment, but call him a kid at your own peril, Germany fullback David Raum said on Monday ahead of their Euro 2024 quarter-final clash.

Germany, three-time European champions who have gone 10 years without a major international trophy, beat Denmark 2-0 to set up a mouth-watering last eight match against fellow title contenders Spain, where Yamal has quickly earned a starting spot.

The teenager's skills, creative play and speed down the wing have been impressive along with those of fellow winger Nico Williams, with the Spaniards beating Georgia 4-1 to cruise into the quarter-finals.

Yamal also set a record in the first group game against Croatia, becoming the youngest player to ever appear at the European Championship

"When you see what Yamal brings to football, age becomes no issue," Raum said. "The lad plays in first team at Barcelona and also in the national team so there is no point talking about him as a kid."

"He has brutal quality and we will have to find a way to defend against him."

Can England make use of their second life at Euro 2024?

SHASHANK NAIR
JULY 1

ENGLAND WERE down and out. Ninety minutes had passed and five minutes of laborious injury time had gone by. Few expected Slovakia to put Gareth Southgate's chosen few on the verge of a crushing yet deserved exit.

But just when the bell was about to toll, the question 'who could', was answered by 'who else'. Jude Bellingham has come up with four late goals for Real Madrid and two now for England – all of them being either equalisers or go-ahead goals, two of those winners coming in El Clasicos. On Sunday, the midfielder scored with an audacious bicycle kick to save England from an embarrassing exit. Harry Kane then spared them the blushes by scoring early in extra time to lead his team into the quarter-finals. But those goals don't change the reality of England at Euro 2024.

For 95 minutes, they deserved to go out of the tournament. Statistics prove that an amalgamation of such talent has somehow combined to be one of the biggest disappointments at Euro 2024.

Before the tournament even began, Southgate admitted that his team – which included the La Liga Player of the Year, the Bundesliga top scorer and the English Premier League Player of the Year – was simply not at the fitness level needed to play a high-press game for the duration of a game. His statement is backed by England statistically being the worst pressing team in the European Championships.

Passes per defensive action (PPDA) is a statistic that measures the pressing intensity of a team during a match. While Austria and Germany take an average of under nine passes before making a defensive action (tackles, interceptions), England shockingly allow 28.7 passes on average before a foot or head comes in the tournament when it comes to pressing high up the pitch.

The one positive statistic for England has been the control they have exerted. But inexplicably, even that metric points to a glaring issue for the Three Lions – their slowness in passing. It has been rare for England to find themselves with the ball and immediately pass it forward. They often veer towards keeping possession and a slower build-up rather than unleash runners like Bukayo Saka and Bellingham. In an era of transitional football, they have failed to fully utilise a squad that can play that style. Both Spain and France take in



Gareth Southgate is the highest-paid manager at the Euros. Reuters

around 30 passes before an attempt at goal materialises, according to TriggerThePress, a website that collects football data. For England, that number balloons to 61 passes before an attempt at goal.

To sum up their woes, England don't press high up the field well enough, choose to keep control with extra passes rather than take advantage of a team being out of position and trying to feed their runners. That control doesn't lead to goals, as is obvious in their four goals in four games at these Euros.

To top it all off, nothing has pushed England towards mediocrity more than Gareth Southgate's decision-making. His substitutions have baffled consistently across his reign as England manager – particularly his lack of reactive measures when England fall behind in a game. Bringing on striker Ivan Toney, with a minute of regulation time left; not playing an established left-winger against Slovakia's 37-year-old right-back Peter Pekarik; not playing Cole Palmer over a clearly-struggling Saka. It has been a litany of poor calls and inertia over substitutions that have made calls for Southgate's sacking grow louder.

Bellingham's audacity may have saved the 'worst best' team at this Euros from an early exit. But Switzerland, who are brightly coached and have excelled at this tournament, having knocked out the defending champions, loom ahead. The same question that followed England when they lost at the semi-final of the 2018 World Cup and the final of the 2021 Euros will be asked. Will Southgate stick with his control-based, possession-aplenty style that leads to a barrage of pressure? Or will he finally play a high-press, transitional game that matches the style most of these players are accustomed to with their clubs? Southgate will have to find answers soon or English conservatism is poised to suffer an exit at the hands of the Swiss.

Alcaraz keeps jitters in check to begin Wimbledon defence with win

REUTERS
LONDON, JULY 1

FOR THE last 50 weeks, Carlos Alcaraz knew the exact date and time he would walk back on Centre Court to open the defence of his Wimbledon title and the Spaniard kept his goosebumps in check on Monday to book his place in the second round.

While injury woes have plagued many of those who have also hoisted the Challenge Cup in recent years -- with question marks over the participation of Novak Djokovic and Andy Murray -- Alcaraz showed his was fighting fit despite a less than ideal build-up to the grasscourt major.

The third seed, who admitted he even gets nervous practising on the spiritual home of grasscourt tennis, beat Estonian qualifier Mark Lajal 7-6(3) 7-5 6-2 on an overcast day in south-west London.

"Stepping on this court, it's the most beautiful court I've played on. I still get nerves when I'm playing here," Alcaraz, whose Queen's Club title defence ended with an early exit last month, said court-side.

"I played for 45 minutes here on Thursday and it's the first time I get nervous practising. I'm glad and I'm a privileged guy to play on this court. Not everyone present at the All England Club on the opening day of the championships was sharing the recently crowned French Open champion's joie de vivre.

Belarusian pair Aryna Sabalenka and Victoria Azarenka, who between them own four Australian Open titles, were first-day injury casualties. Third seed Sabalenka, who had been drawn to face American Emma Bektas, and 16th seed Azarenka both pulled out shortly before their opening matches with shoulder injuries. Azarenka had been due to take on 2017 U.S. Open champion Sloane Stephens.

Fans flocking to the All England Club on Tuesday will be hoping that seven-times champion Djokovic and Murray, who ended Britain's 77-year wait for a men's Wimbledon champion when he won the first of his two titles in 2013, will both be fit enough to make their Centre Court dates.

While Djokovic had knee surgery last month, Murray is recovering from a procedure on his back just days ago and with this year's tournament expected to be his Wimbledon swansong, he is desperately hoping he can write the ending of his own script with one final rousing run on court rather than off it. Fifth seed Daniil Medvedev, beaten in the semi-finals last year by Alcaraz, produced an assured 6-3 6-4 6-2 win over American Aleksandar Kovacevic.

Not quite a walk at Chepauk but India get the job done

VENKATA KRISHNAB
CHENNAI, JULY 1

SOUTH AFRICA'S remarkable fightback continued well into the last session of the final day before India won the one-off Test by a 10-wicket margin on Monday. Like Day 3, where the visitors' dodged effort tested India's patience, it was yet another hard-fought day. Harmanpreet Kaur & Co had to send down 154.4 overs in the second innings to dismiss South Africa for 373. Chasing 37 for their win, India made it in 9.4 overs.

After Sune Luus, South Africa's captain Laura Wolvaardt reached her century early in the first session and looked strong to carry on. When Day 4 began in gloomy conditions, South Africa were in with a chance of at least drawing the game which looked improbable at the end of the first day when India scored more than 500 runs. Even when South Africa were bowled out for 266, it only looked a matter of time. But they showed they had the fight in him as they battled it out for four full sessions and stretched India to the limits. Of course, India had another commanding win to show in Tests, but that they were made to work hard for it in conditions that were not easy on them.

It was a day where India needed to be patient and keep showing the discipline to earn each wicket as this wasn't a pitch where one wicket led to another. "See, obviously, the pitch was favouring the batters more than the bowlers. Yes, it was a difficult condition," player of the match Sneha Rana said. But nowadays, we are getting pitches like this everywhere. So it's all about what consistency you have to work on. When you have to use variation on your ball. And at what time you have to use the stock ball more. I think these are all the learning from this game," the off-spinner, who had a match haul 10 wickets, added.

The sheer determination to make a match out of it, though, wasn't lost on Wolvaardt.

"I think firstly to lose is a bit disappointing. But I think just the character that the group has shown over the last two days was absolutely amazing to see. I think to concede 500-and-something runs on day one, I don't think many people thought it would get all the way to the last session on day four. I think just the absolute grit and determination that every single batter had going out there to see it through until the end was amazing, and I think it'll do a lot of good things for this group," Wolvaardt said.

With the pitch not breaking up as expected, Wolvaardt who got used to the bounce, was happy playing the spinners off the backfoot. When Marizanne Kapp and Delmi Tucker fell in the space of an over to Deepti Sharma and Sneha Rana, all things pointed out to another collapse. And when Wolvaardt too departed for 122 (314b, 393m) before lunch, India were smelling victory and came with the intent to close out the game in the afternoon session.

But Nadine de Klerk had other ideas. Right



Sneha Rana with the trophy after India beat South Africa on Monday. PTI

through the second session, she would use her loose hand grip to defend the Indian spinners, who toiled hard. Instead of looking for runs, SA borrowed a lesson or two from what Hashim Amla, Faf du Plessis and AB de Villiers did in Delhi during their tour here in 2015. De Klerk cut out the run-scoring shots and defended with aplomb. Though India managed to take three wickets in that session, South Africa scored 34 runs in 29 overs.

Though wickets fell around her, De Klerk was immovable during her stay where she scored 61 runs off 185 deliveries. Every now and then, whenever India's attack was beginning to seize control she would go for a big shot to release the pressure and force the hosts attack to do it all over again.

It meant, at times, India did look frustrated, with the energy levels dipping. Especially during the second session, one could hear wicketkeeper Richa Ghosh asking her teammates to "keep talking, keep talking."

"It is what Test matches are all about. There will be such phases when there will be other partnerships. But you have to keep your mind active and body active. These chirpings inside helps sometimes just to wake you up. Because on the third day of fielding... 200-plus overs is not an easy job. So you need ways to stay fresh. And we tried to be positive at all times and hang in there and get the wickets. We kept saying we would eventually win this and not to give up. Having that sort of belief was absolutely necessary," Rana added.

And shortly after the final session, India picked up the remaining two wickets with De Klerk, fittingly, being the final one to fall to mark the end of the Proteas resistance. The job would be eventually completed by Shubha Sathesh and Shafali Verma as India notched up their straight home Test win.

BRIEF SCORES: India 603/6 declared and 37/0 beat South Africa 266 and 373 (Laura Wolvaardt 122, Sune Luus 109, Nadine de Klerk 61) by 10 wickets

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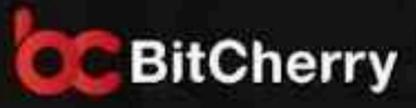
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