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Novak Djokovic accuses Wimbledon fans of 'disrespect' in a withering on-court tirade after reaching his 60th Grand Slam quarterfinal and 15th at the All England Club **P 22**

Pakistan spy agency ISI receives carte blanche from Shehbaz Sharif govt to intercept phone calls and messages 'in the interest of national security' amid nationwide outrage over its allegedly unbridled powers **P 18**

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Far-left French leader Jean-Luc Mélenchon's party, France Unbowed, has won most seats among the leftist alliance that deprived the far right of the chance to take office. This gives him a credible claim to be France's next PM **P 18**

A Russian court orders Yulia Navalnaya, widow of late opposition politician Alexei Navalny, arrested in absentia for 2 months, on charges of alleged involvement with an extremist group **P 18**



Murder accused out on bail stabs youth to death

Shaikh Khusro, a murderer in his mid-20s out on bail, is accused of stabbing a neighbour multiple times over a petty dispute late on Monday in Jalandhar town. The youth was rushed to hospital, where he was accused of killing his brother with an axe. **P 6**

UP waives regn tax on hybrids

UP govt is waiving registration tax on hybrid cars, a move that showroom owners said will bring their cost almost on a par with those running on petrol. **P 9**

Mantralaya jump bid: Man held

A 55-year-old man threatened to jump off a 5th floor window ledge of the Mantralaya, triggering panic for a half-an-hour before he was detained by police. **P 5**

7 drown in UP's Terai belt floods

Seven people lost their lives in the Terai belt of UP as floods, caused by incessant rains in Uttarakhand, ravaged over 250 villages in various districts. **P 11**

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Full story | **P 13**

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Times Interact | **P 6, 8 & 10**

Heart bleeds when innocent kids die in war: Modi to Putin

Remarks After Outrage Over Hospital Attack

Sachin Parashar
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After his hug with Putin sparked outrage in the West, PM Narendra Modi rapped the Russian president publicly as he told him peace talks could not succeed.

► **EDIT PAGE: Searching for peace concerto in Vienna**

ce in the shadow of guns, underlining the need for an immediate ceasefire in Ukraine.

Modi also vented the global community's anger over a Russian missile strike on Ukraine's largest children hospital on the day he landed in Moscow for his first visit to Russia in five years.

► **'Way to peace', P 20**



President Putin confers Russia's highest civilian award, the Order of St Andrew the Apostle, on PM Modi in Moscow on Tuesday | **P 10**

Let's take war, any conflict or terrorist acts. Any person who believes in humanity feels pain when people die, and especially when innocent children die... the heart simply explodes, and I had the opportunity to talk about these issues with you yesterday," Modi told Putin in the

Kremlin, in the presence of reporters, just before official summit talks.

Ukrainian president Zelensky had called India's engagement with Putin a "huge disappointment and a devastating blow to peace efforts".

► **'Way to peace', P 20**

Post ₹96k cr sops, state seeks addl ₹95k cr for spend

Just over 10 days after shoring up sops worth Rs 96,000 cr in the budget, DCM Ajit Pawar tabled supplementary demands — meant for sudden, additional expenses that arise beyond the budget — of Rs 94,889 crore in the

► **MLA: Plan for 150-acre zoo in Thane okayed by CM, P 4**

assembly. This is the highest ever demand and add to the state's debt. "The state is fooling the public. It has shifted a massive chunk of its budget expenses into the supplementary demands," said Jayant Patil of NCP (SP). **P 5**

► **Failed to implement, P 20**

SC to govt: Appoint blind man who passed '08 CSE

IN THE COURTS

► **SC notice to Odisha on plea for early release by Staines killer**

► **Harni Lake tragedy: Gujarat HC finds 2 ex-municipal chiefs guilty of dereliction of duty**

► **'Harassed by Delhi cops', says NGO that moved SC on felling**

► **SC/ST court gives life term to 4 persons for burning a UP man to death over a land dispute**

► **Delhi HC junks plea for action under PoCo against Dalai Lama for kissing a child on his lips**

► **SC notice to Axis Bk over plea it refused to take demonetised notes worth ₹3.2 crore**

► **Deepak Lavania, Mohd Dilshad & Pathikrit Chakraborty**

Hathras/Lucknow: UP govt has suspended six officials — including Sikandra Rau (DSP/circle officer), SDM, tehsildar, and two sub-inspectors — for negligence and dereliction of duty in the aftermath of the stampede at a religious event led by Surajpal Singh, also known as Bhole Baba, in Hathras that resulted in 121 deaths on July 2.

The action was based on a report submitted by a two-member Special Investigating Team (SIT) formed to probe the incident. The report did not rule out the "pos-

A first: State council won't have a Muslim

► **For the first time in history, the state legislative council will not have a Muslim member when Congress's Wajahat Mirza and NCP (SP)'s Abdulla Durran and their terms on July 27. For the council polls on July 12, neither MVA nor Mahayati has fielded candidates from the community. Pointing out that Muslims comprise 12% of the state's population, SP MLA Rais Shahi, in a mail to MVA brass, has said it's a matter of concern that they will have no representation in the Upper House in a progressive state like Maharashtra. TNN P 5**



Soldiers, aided by copters and drones, look for the terrorists, likely numbering 3 or 4, a day after they ambushed an Army patrol in Kathua

Gunfight erupts in Doda amid manhunt for Kathua terrorists

Forces Corner 2-3 Ultras In 4th Doda Shootout in 1 Mth

Sanjay Khajuria | **TNN**

Jammu: Security forces and terrorists clashed in a remote forest in the upper reaches of Doda district in J&K Tuesday while helicopters, drones, dogs, snipers, and elite military commandos assisted search teams during a widespread manhunt for the suspected Pakistani gunmen involved in the trade imbalance.

► **EDIT PAGE: Why Jammu is Terror's New Kashmir**

While the agenda for the 22nd India-Russia summit was mostly economic, Modi also strongly sought from Putin the release of Indians serving in the Russian army. Foreign secretary Vinay Kwatra said there was a "sense of promise" from Russia on the early discharge of 30-40 Indians who are there after being "misled" into joining the army. **P 10**

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Hathras stampede: DSP, SDM among 6 officials suspended for negligence

SIT clean chit to Baba, says suspended official

While UP govt has suspended six officials, Surajpal Singh, who was delivering a sermon at the venue, has not been implicated by SIT. "The SIT report has certainly given a clean chit to Bhole Baba," one of the suspended officials said. **P 10**

► **'Did not follow', P 20**

sibility of a conspiracy" behind the incident.

Officials who faced action are DSP Anand Kumar, SDM Ravindra Kumar, Sikandra Rau SHO Ashish Kumar, Surajpal Singh, tehsildar Sushil Kumar, Kachora police outpost in-charge (SI) Manveer Singh, and Pora outpost in-charge (SI) Brijesh Pandey. The SIT held the event organisers responsible and criticised police & administration for failing to manage the event.



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VILE PARLE MUDSLIDE: FIR AGAINST SRA CONTRACTOR; 14 FAMILIES EVACUATED



Mumbai: Vile Parle police have registered an FIR for endangering lives against a contractor for a 15-foot-deep and 60-foot-wide mudslide that occurred right at the entrance of National India Block LIC Society on Nehru Road in Vile Parle (East) on Monday. The complaint was filed by architect and resident P.S. Deshpande (74) of the ground-plus-two-storey building. Police said the mudslide was caused by a 60-ft deep excavation being carried out by the contractor appointed by Manav Infrastructure Company for a neighbouring SRA project. The contractor, identified as Rajubhai, has not been arrested yet.

All 14 families who resided in the building have been evacuated. Heavy rain led to the collapse of the

piling foundation at the underconstruction site, which saw the society's compound wall crash into the excavated area along with three bikes and a car, causing an estimated Rs 3.5 lakh loss.

The contractor was booked under Bharatiya Nyaya Sahita for endangering lives, personal safety and causing mischiefs of DCP (Zone VIII) Dikshit Gedam confirmed the FIR and said an arrest would be made based on a report from the structural engineer and another from the concerned authorities overseeing the project.

In his complaint, Deshpande said, "The SRA project started at the site where earlier Vasant Chawl existed which was in a dilapidated and dangerous state. In 2022, work began at the site and a 60-ft-de-

ep excavation was carried out. At 3am on Monday, due to heavy rain, suddenly the mudslide occurred and I heard a loud thunder. The building compound and vehicles parked close to the wall fell into it. The incident occurred due to the piling work with sub-standard material."

Manish Walunj, assistant municipal commissioner of K-East ward, had said earlier that the mudslide occurred during shore-piling work at the SRA site.

Congress MP Varsha Gaikwad visited the site on Tuesday and interacted with residents. She has alleged that the incident took place due to unminful digging and excavation being carried out by the builder of the neighbouring SRA project. —V.Narayan & Richa Pinto

Lung cancer hits non-smoking Indians earlier than Westerners

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: A lung cancer patient in India is likely to be 10 years younger than a patient in the West and possibly someone who avoids smoking, a lifestyle factor associated with it.

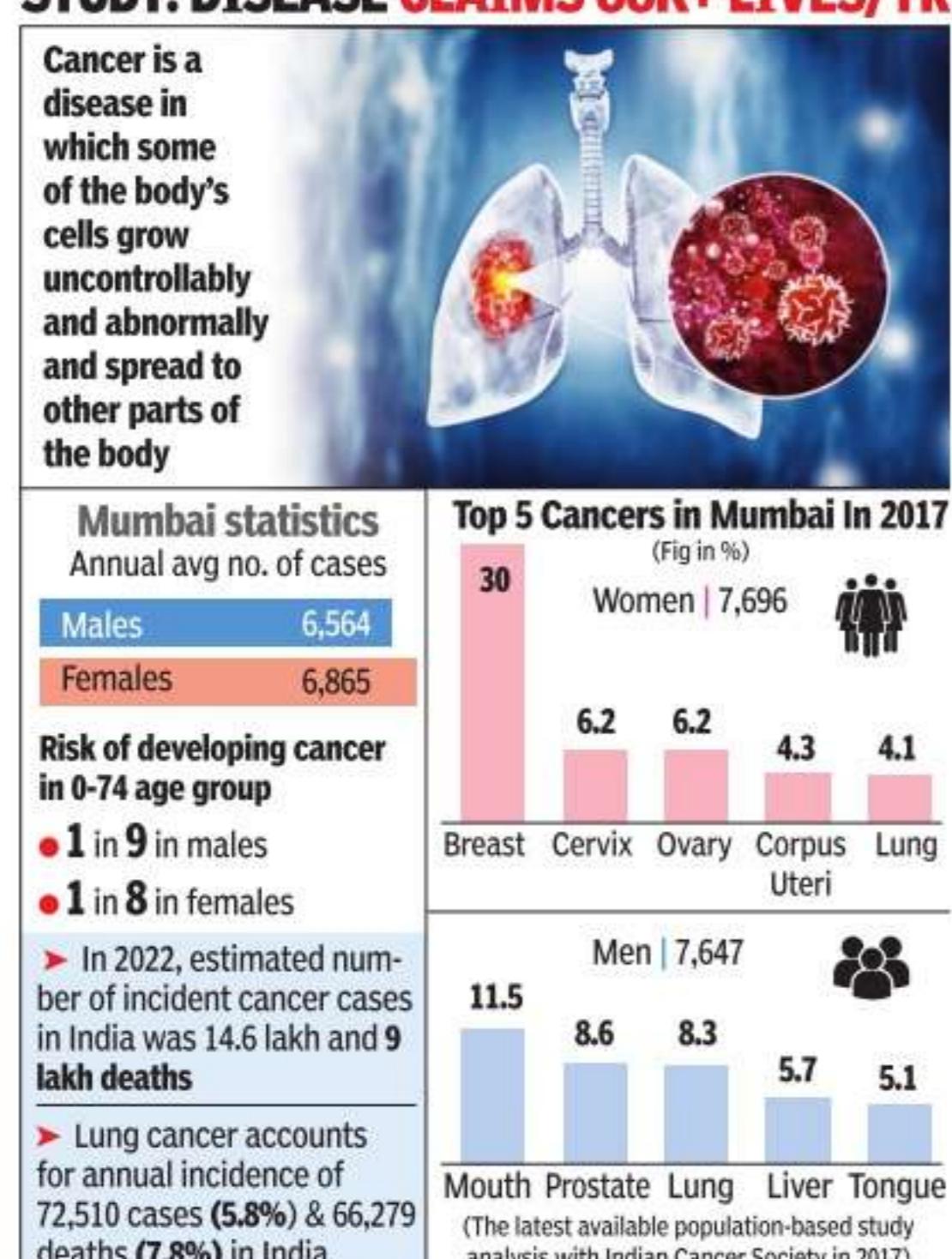
This typical, though unique, profile of an Indian patient has emerged in a special review of lung cancer cases in Asia in The Lancet, one of the most widely read medical journals in the world. Studies have shown that lung cancer presents approximately a decade earlier in India as compared to Western countries, with a mean age at diagnosis of 54.7 years.

Written by a team of doctors, mainly from Tata Memorial Centre in Mumbai, the article, titled 'Uniqueness of lung cancer in Southeast Asia', said lung cancer was the third most commonly diagnosed cancer (18.5 lakh new cases or 7.8%) in this region in 2020, but it is the commonest cause of cancer mortality, causing 16.6 lakh or 10.9% deaths. The corresponding global figures are 22 lakh new cases (11.6%), causing 17 lakh deaths (18%). In India, lung cancer accounts for an annual incidence of 72,510 cases (5.8%) and 66,279 deaths (7.8%).

Highlighting the "uniqueness" of Indian patients, one of the authors, Dr Kumar Prabash from Tata Medical Centre's medical oncology department, on Tuesday told TOI that "over 50% of our lung cancer patients are non-smokers".

The study said the important risk factors for lung cancer in non-smokers included air pollution (especially particulate matter PM2.5), occupational exposure to asbestos, chromium, cadmium, arsenic and coal as well as second-

STUDY: DISEASE CLAIMS 66K+ LIVES/YR



hand smoke at home. Factors like genetic susceptibility, hormonal status, and pre-existing lung disease could also play a role in the rising lung cancer incidence in never-smokers. Dr Prabash further said the proportion of cases here is lower than in the West. "The incidence rate of lung cancer in the US is 30 per 1,000, but it's 6 per 1,000 in India. Given our huge population, however, even the 6% works out to a huge number of patients."

Another uniqueness about India's lung cancer problem, he

said, is the high incidence of TB. "Diagnosis often gets delayed because of TB as both conditions mimic each other." In this regard, the authors said it's not easy to get access to newer treatment modalities and molecules. "Most treatments are developed abroad, and importing them adds to the cost." The biggest challenge is early identification and start of treatment. "Barely 5% of lung cancer patients seek help in time for surgical help. We need to increase this number to at least 20% like in the West," Dr Prabash said.

Another uniqueness about India's lung cancer problem, he

Boulder falls on Mumbra Bypass Road

Thane: Traffic on Mumbra Bypass Road was disrupted on Tuesday morning after a massive boulder from Parsik Hills dislodged and fell on the primary carriageway towards Thane, said the authorities. No injuries were reported, they added.

The incident was reported around 10am, minutes after a municipal team operating in the vicinity to clear a waterlogged segment departed. An excavator was deployed to remove debris off a portion of the foothills, said a civic official. Right after the team vacated the spot, a boulder embedded in the mud got dislodged, perhaps due to the vibrations of the excavator. —TNN

18-yr-old slips into nullah at Vasai, dies

Mumbai: An 18-year-old drowned in a nullah in Vasai (East) on Monday evening. Eyewitnesses told the police the deceased, Aryan Mahadik, was standing near the nullah when he accidentally slipped and fell into the water-filled channel during heavy rainfall.

The tragedy occurred around 7pm in Vasant Nagar. Locals said the municipality had constructed the retaining wall of the nullah earlier this year. They had requested the authorities to raise its height though, as people, especially children, often venture near the nullah. Mahadik, who resided in Nalasopara, was visiting Vasant Nagar with his friends. —TNN

to the burial of the major intertidal water inlet to the lake and the other three inlets along the bund on the eastern side were mysteriously choked, he added.

Activists had also lodged several complaints with the ministry of environment, forest and climate change and chief minister against the "violation" of the environmental clearance conditions for diversion of 0.46 hectares of mangroves for the jetty project in the Nerul coast. One of the conditions was that Cidco would not interfere with the tidal water flow. The jetty itself did not have the state's environmental clearance, information obtained using the RTI Act had showed.

Rekha Khankhala of Save Flamingos & Mangroves forum welcomed govt's decision. Supporting the activists' campaign, Airoli MLA Ganesh Naik directed the civic body to clear all choke points and restore the DPS Flamingo Lake.

Win for greens as state govt sets up panel to protect Nerul's flamingo lake

Vijay.Singh@timesofindia.com

Navi Mumbai: In a major victory for environmentalists, state govt has decided to conserve the 30-acre DPS Flamingo Lake in Nerul, which recently witnessed deaths of several pink birds.

A govt resolution issued by the revenue and forest department stated that a high-level committee, headed by the principal secretary of forest department, will study on how to protect the lake as a natural flamingo abode. Principal secretaries of environment and urban development departments, Cidco managing director, Navi Mumbai municipal commissioner, Maharashtra Maritime Board CEO, Thane district collector and BNHS chairman Pravin Pardeshi are members of the committee, while additional principal chief conservator of forest of the mangrove cell is the member-secretary.



Activists had recently organised a human chain to save the DPS Flamingo Lake in Nerul

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Bridge work led to flooding of Bhandup tracks, cancellation of 200 services: CR

Manthan K Mehta & Richa Pinto | TNN

Mumbai: Central Railway's (CR) investigation into Monday's flooding of tracks on the Bhandup-Nahur stretch has identified construction work for two bridges, one over a nullah, as the primary reason for it. The construction slowed the flow of water, leading to submergence of the tracks.

More than 200 services were cancelled on the Main line because of nine inches of water on the tracks between Bhandup and Nahur on Monday.

As Bhandup and Nahur

are not prone to flooding, no heavy-duty water pumps had been stationed on the stretch. A CR source said, "The construction of two new BMC bridges behind Menon School and Usha Nagar Nullah created an afflux, slowing down drainage of stormwater."

The first disruption occurred between 5:15am and 6am after heavy rainfall submerged the tracks between Bhandup and Nahur.

Although services resumed at 6am, a second disruption affected only the fast corridor tracks between 7:15am and 9am, halting fast services

between CSMT and Thane.

CR has informed BMC about the issue, and both agencies are expected to meet to prevent a recurrence of Monday's flooding incident. Civic officials confirmed that the railways requested immediate assistance following the waterlogging at Bhandup. Civic teams were deployed to assess the situation and facilitate re-opening of the tracks.

"While our final conclusion is pending, our initial study indicates that the under-construction bridges downstream obstructed the smooth flow of water from the

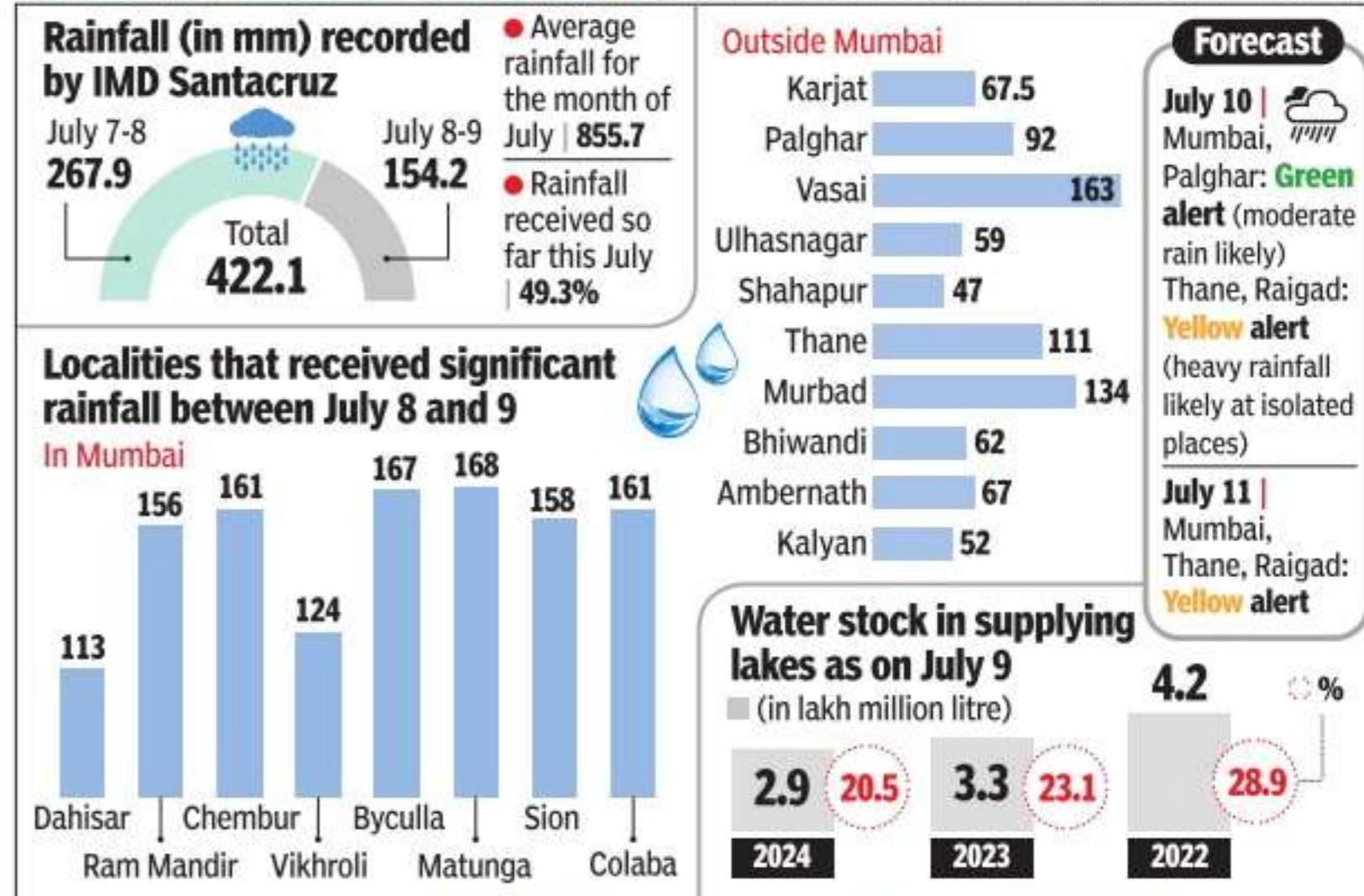
tracks. The reduced width for water flow likely contributed to the problem," said an official. Both the stormwater drain and the bridges department are working to address the issue and prevent a recurrence.

The bridge construction at Bhandup's Usha Nagar Nullah began after Oct 1, 2023. The nullah flows across the tracks downstream from the current construction site. A CR official said, "This incident was disheartening as we have cleared 1.5 lakh cubic metre of muck and garbage in May to June 2024 in comparison to 1.3 lakh cubic metre last year."

Cloud patch over city brought triple-digit rainfall in two days

Sanjay Hadkar

GREEN ALERT TODAY, YELLOW FOR TOMORROW



Up marginally, water stock in lakes crosses 20% mark

Mumbai: Water stocks in the lakes that supply to Mumbai rose by a mere 1.75% in the 24 hours between July 8 and 9 when the city received significant rainfall. The total water stocks increased to 2.9 lakh million litre or 20.5% of the total requirement on Tuesday compared with 2.7 lakh million litre (18.7%) a day earlier. Major lakes that supply water to the city are located in areas that received little rainfall during the period.

Bhatsa lake situated in Shahapur, for instance, received 69mm rainfall between July 7 and 9 when Mumbai recorded 422mm rainfall. Bhatsa is the largest lake from where Mumbai gets almost 50% of its daily water supply.

By contrast, the massive rainfall in Mumbai benefited the two lakes situated in the city. Tulsia received 214mm rain and Vihar 196mm. Both these lakes are in Sanjay Gandhi National Park. These, though, are two of the smallest lakes which supply a mere 1.2% of the water required for the city.

Meanwhile, the total water stock in the lakes are still lower compared with the past two years as on the same date. In 2023, the total water stocks on July 9 stood at 3.3 lakh million litre or 23.1% of the requirement and in 2022 at 4.2 lakh million litres or 28.9%. A 10 lakh water cut has been imposed in the city from June 10. The water cut will remain in force till satisfactory rainfall is received and the useful stock in the waterbodies improves, said the civic body. The lakes need 14.5 lakh million litre of water till Sept 30 this year for the city to go without a water cut till the next monsoon season arrives. The BMC also made an appeal to citizens to conserve water as much as possible. —Richa Pinto

Parts of nullah wall crash at Gazdar Bandh

Mumbai: Portions of a 130-metre retaining wall along the Main Avenue nullah in Gazdar Bandh in Santacruz crashed at two locations on Monday and Tuesday.

Both the portions measured around 5m in width. Thereafter, BMC shifted residents of homes situated along the two stretches to temporary shelters.

BMC officials said the retaining wall is old and had deteriorated over the years. BMC's storm water department is carrying out temporary measures to prevent any landslides. The department will rebuild the entire 130m wall. BMC has told residents of all structures along the wall to move out. Officials said many of the structures will have to be vacated once work on reconstructing the wall is taken up. —TNN

200 TONNES OF GARBAGE CLEARED FROM JUHU BEACH



The city's popular Juhu beach saw close to 200MT being dumped along the shoreline. As many as 138 labourers had to be put on the job to clear the trash. Currently, there is no contractor in place for cleaning the beach and instead the cleaning duty is undertaken by civic labourers.

Officials from the solid waste management department said that the civic

body appointed labourers were put in shifts to ensure that the garbage was lifted at all times. "It is regular phenomenon that during monsoons larger quantum of garbage comes to the shore as compared to other times of the year. This is also garbage from the outfalls thrown back by the sea. We therefore ensure that there are enough labourers available to clean the beach," said an official. Local residents in the area are alert and are known to immediately raise an issue with the BMC in case of the beach being unclean. On June 10, Andheri MLA Ameet Satam, in a letter sent to the BMC, had criticised the civic administration for not appointing an agency on a timely basis for the cleaning of Juhu beach. —TNN

Hubby prioritises friends, woman kills baby, self

Mumbai: A 23-year-old tribal woman allegedly strangled her four-month-old daughter before taking her own life by hanging herself in their home in Dahantu on Monday. Initial probe indicated the woman, Manisha Shisne, was upset with her husband Jayesh for not taking her for an outing.

The incident was discovered when Jayesh, who had been out with friends, returned home to find Manisha hanging from the ceiling and their daughter Anushree lying motionless on the floor. Jayesh, who works as a labourer on a fishing boat, is out at sea for extended periods but is currently at home due to the ban on fishing during monsoon.

Kasa police said the couple had argued on Sunday about Jayesh's intention to spend time with friends. It is believed that on Monday, when Jayesh left again to meet his friends despite Manisha dissuading him, she killed the infant and herself. **TNN**

Resident docs of BMC hosps threaten stir

Mumbai: Thousands of resident doctors working in BMC-run hospitals will go on mass leave from July 22 if their demands for adequate hostel accommodation and a hike in stipend and dearness allowance are not met.

This was announced by BMC MARD (Maharashtra Association of Resident Doctors) in a letter addressed to the BMC director of medical education, Dr Neelam Andrade, on Tuesday. BMC MARD represents residents from BMC-run medical schools at KEM, Sion, Nair, and Cooper Hospitals. The doctors said there is an acute shortage of hostel accommodation due to the incoming batch of residents in Aug 2024. "The BMC has not yet implemented a cabinet-approved stipend increase of Rs 10,000 from March 2024 or updated the Dearness Allowance from 412% to 427% as per the GR issued on Nov 23, 2023," said the MARD representatives. **TNN**

Real estate co owner held for ₹67.5 cr fraud

Mumbai: The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of the police has arrested the owner of Kamla Mills compound Ramesh Gowani for defrauding a businessman of Rs 67.5 crore.

Gowani, who has a real estate company called Amirkupa Land Developers, had bought a 2,204 square metre plot in Santacruz (West) from the complainant and promised to give Rs 20 crore, 10-flats and a shop in return. According to the allotment letter given to the complainant, seven flats were sold to third parties and two flats were mortgaged to a finance company.

The police filed an FIR of cheating and misappropriation of funds against Gowani and his wife, Nidharshana. Gowani will be produced in court on Wednesday. **TNN**

Three injured in floor collapse

Mumbai: Three persons were injured after a portion of the flooring of their fourth-floor flat, in Sky apartment, on Satya Nagar Road in Borivali (West), collapsed onto the flat below it in the wee hours on Tuesday. The injured, including a 16-year-old girl, were sleeping at the time of the incident. The BMC has asked the society to conduct a structural audit and made the residents vacate the building. **TNN**

BMW hit-and-run: Aides' phones give away Mihir & kin's locations

Mateen Hafeez & S Ahmed Ali | **TNN**

Mumbai Mihir Shah, the 24-year-old accused in the BMW hit-and-run case, will be produced before metropolitan magistrate's court in Sewri on Wednesday. Police said he was to be sent for a medical test Tuesday night.

Police had on Sunday arrested Mihir's father Rajesh Shah, a Shiv Sena functionary, and the family driver, Rishiraj Bidawat (30), who was in the car at the time of the accident. While Shah was granted bail on Monday, a court in Sewri on Tuesday extended Bidawat's police custody by two days.

Chilling details of the hit-and-run had come to light on Monday when the public prosecutor revealed how the victim, Kaveri Nakhwa, was first dragged for 1.5 km and then run over when the driver took over from Mihir at the steering wheel and momentarily reversed the vehicle.

Police sources said after Mihir Shah ran away from the accident spot near the Worli end of the sea link, his car got stalled at Kala Nagar in Bandra. While Bidawat then stayed back near the car, Mihir took an autorickshaw and went to his girlfriend's house in Goregaon, the police said.

A police officer said, "Mihir's eyes were swollen, and he told his girlfriend about the accident. She then called up Mihir's sister, who arrived there and took Mihir with her to the Borivali residence."

From there, Mihir along with his two sisters, mother and a male friend, left home. They travelled in two vehicles, including their family car, said the officer. The family had switched off their phones and their house was also locked. At this point, police checked mobile phones of some of Mihir's friends but those too had been switched off. During investigation, the police said, they found that after leaving the city, Mihir, his family and a friend stayed at a resort in Shahapur. On Monday night, Mihir and his friend left Shahapur and went to a hotel in Virar.

Initially, police got a tip-off that Rajesh Shah's other driver, Mohammed Hassan, was accompanying the family members on the run. "Technical analysis of Hassan's mobile helped police trace them to a resort in Shahapur-Murbad Road. When we searched the rooms, the resort owner denied anyone going by those names had stayed there as he had not made any entry in the records," a police officer said.

On Tuesday morning, Mihir's friend came out of the Virar hotel, walked some distance and switched on his phone.

'ALCOHOL CAN BE DETECTED IN 24 HOURS'

► Mihir Shah along with his friends visited a pub in Juhu at around 11 pm on Saturday and left from there at around 1.15 am
► Worli police have got CCTV footage from the pub and said it looks like Mihir had consumed alcohol

► Police have questioned three of Mihir's friends who told police Mihir had consumed alcohol, said a police officer

► The effect of alcohol in a consumer's blood can generally be detected within 24 hrs, said an officer
► So is it late to determine if Mihir

was drunk at the time of the accident?

► Former IPS officer Y P Singh said, "If oral evidence is clear and strong and if that is supported by documents such as the liquor bill, which is further supported by scientific evidences such as CCTV footage at the restaurant and on the roadside locations, and cell phone locations at various



Police on Tuesday sealed the Juhu bar where liquor was served to 'underaged' (less than 25 years old) Mihir Shah and his friends

points of time, in that case, lack of alcohol in blood sample because of belated testing would not materially affect the case.

► Even the subsequent conduct of the accused will go against him, because under the new law, he is legally obliged to have taken victim for medical treatment and instead he absconded after dragging and crushing victim. By all accounts there is a foolproof case"

► Husband and daughter of the victim

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Cart operator at airport held for smuggling gold

Mumbai: The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) probing a gold smuggling racket, on Monday arrested a cart operator at the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Terminus Mumbai. The accused was absconding after his name cropped up in the 7.5 kg gold smuggling case. The DRI arrested Nitesh Suresh Devkar (28), a resident of Vile Parle, a key accused who used to help a gold smuggling syndicate extract the hidden gold from the aircraft and handed it over to the syndicate. TNN

Flyer arrested with gold dust & bars worth ₹1cr

Mumbai: Customs officials arrested a 28-year-old man from Karwar for allegedly smuggling in 1.7 kg of gold worth ₹1.1 crore from Dubai. The Air Intelligence Unit (AIU) of Customs intercepted the passenger, Mohammed Suhail, at Mumbai airport after he arrived from Sharjah.

A search of his baggage resulted in recovery of gold dust. The officials also recovered eight gold bars weighing around 116 gm worth ₹7.31 lakh from him. Suhail said he received ₹30,000 to smuggle in the gold. TNN

Minor, 2 aides attack BMC employee; held

Thane: Railway police have nabbed a minor boy who along with his two aides allegedly assaulted a BMC employee with a sharp object in a packed suburban train, officials informed. "There was some quarrel between the accused and the victim over standing space in the crowded fast local near Ghatkopar. The two parties got into a scuffle with one of the minors brandishing a sharp weapon and tried to stab the victim. Luckily, the victim managed to ward off the attempt," said an officer. TNN



ON THE JOB: An artisan works on Ganesh idols in Lower Parel on Tuesday. Ganesh Chaturthi is on Sept 7

VoGo e-bikes withdrawn from BEST bus stops

Mumbai: BEST on Tuesday said that nearly 1,000 VoGo electric bikes that were introduced two years back for last-mile connectivity from bus stops, were recently withdrawn by the private company providing the service. BEST spokesperson Sunit Vaidya said: "We have not been provided any specific reason from VoGo EV bike operator." He said that BEST had not asked the company to withdraw their services.

A PR official from Chalo Mobility, which provided the e-bikes, refused to comment on the reason for withdrawal. "We have informed BEST officially about the withdrawal," she said. The e-bikes had maintenance issues while there were cases of people taking joyrides. But some people benefited from riding short distances and on feeder routes outside stations or near bus stops. Vaidya said there was no financial burden on BEST due to the bikes being withdrawn. TNN

₹3L for locksmith punched by cop, orders rights body

Vijay.V.Singh@timesofindia.com

Mumbai: The Maharashtra State Human Rights Commission (MSHRC) has directed the government authority to compensate a locksmith with ₹3 lakh for police atrocity. The locksmith was punched by a sub-inspector at Manikup police station in Vasai for not accepting ₹60 instead of the ₹80 that he had charged for making a duplicate key for a railway police official.

The order, passed by MSHRC chairperson Justice K K Tated and member M A Sayeed, stated, "We have no hesitation to hold that the police machinery miserably failed to discharge their lawful duties and, in fact, maligned the very credit and reputation of the entire machinery by terrorising and humiliating an ordinary citizen. This citizen had the courage to demand payment for work done by him in the due course of his business and, very unfortunately, had to suffer grievous injuries over a meagre amount of ₹80, which for him meant a lot as it is a source of feeding himself and his family members."

The MSHRC took suo motu action when the incident came to its attention in May and requested details from the state director general of police and Mira-Bhayandar-Vasai-Virar police commissioner.

After the incident, a deputy commissioner of police conducted an inquiry against the sub-inspector, Rajeshwar Salgare, and later a case of voluntarily causing grievous harm was registered against him.

Subsequently, police suspended Salgare. Police informed the MSHRC about these details and after going through their report, the commission passed the order to compensate the locksmith.

2 dupe merchant navy officer with 'currency card' con, held

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Two men were arrested for scamming a merchant navy officer while pretending to exchange his foreign currency for a 'currency card' at Mumbai Central Terminus recently.

The prime accused, Nazrul Shaikh, 32, was nabbed from his hometown in West Bengal. He admitted to his involvement in a string of similar offences across the country. Police said Shaikh would leave the city after committing a crime. In Mumbai, he was assisted by Iqbal Khan, 34, who has been arrested from his home in Khandivali, Thane.

The incident at Mumbai Central Terminus occurred on May 16. The merchant navy officer



who works in Egypt flew down to Mumbai International Airport. There he arrived at Mumbai Central Terminus to take the Golden Temple Express at 2 pm. While he was waiting at the ticket counter, the accused duo befriended him.

On finding out that he had foreign currency, they inquired whether he had declared it to the Railways. Convinced that the Railways followed a process similar to airport Customs and nervous that he would get into unnecessary legal trouble, the officer asked them for a solution. The accused offered to get him a 'currency card' instead of foreign currency so that he would have no trouble with the police. They took his foreign currency and left to get the 'currency card' made. When they never returned, the officer realised he had been taken for a ride.

After a police complaint was registered, GRP crime branch went through CCTV footage and gathered that the

same accused were involved in three other cheating offences at Dadar GRP, Kurla GRP and CSMT GRP. Through technical surveillance, they traced the locations of Shaikh and Khan and arrested them. Police recovered Indian and foreign currency and cellphones, collectively worth ₹3 lakh, from them.

Shaikh used a somewhat similar modus operandi at various bus stations and railway termini after scouting for well-off targets. He has committed offences in several cities besides Mumbai. In some instances, victims have entrusted him with their ATM cards and UPI login/passwords," said GRP crime branch senior inspector Arshuddin S.

56-yr-old man gets 20 yrs' RI for sex assault of minor in '17

Thane: The Thane court has sentenced a 56-year-old man from Ahmednagar to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment for sexually assaulting a 16-year-old girl in 2017.

The prosecutor, Rekha Hiwrale, informed the court that the girl's mother had abandoned her when she was 10 years old. Her father, employed as a cook at a hospital, resided with her in a chawl tenement.

In 2017, the girl's foster paternal uncle came to visit and subsequently started living with them.

In Sept 2017, while the girl's father was inebriated and asleep, the convict seized the opportunity and initially molested the girl as she slept.

The girl was sexually assaulted on multiple occasions, and when she resisted, the perpetrator threatened to kill her if she divulged the abuse to anyone.

Eventually, the incident was reported to the police, leading to the arrest of the accused. TNN

CM okays plan for 150-acre zoo in Thane: MLA

Manoj.Badgeri
@timesofindia.com

Thane: The Thane city could soon get a botanical garden and zoo spread over 150 acres on the lines of similar facilities operational in Singapore and closer home in Bypur and Nagpur. Shiv Sena MLA Pratap Sarnaik said on Tuesday.

He announced the development after his proposal was okayed by chief minister Eknath Shinde during a meeting held in Mumbai to discuss several developmental works in his constituency of Ovala Majiwada.

As per plans, the project would be constructed abutting the Sanjay Gandhi National Park in Owale along the Ghodbunder Road. Sarnaik said. A joint survey will soon be done by the Thane corporation and the forest department following which the demarcation of the zoo will be done. While the land will be under the ownership

of the forest department, the state will bear the construction cost while the Thane municipal corporation will bear the operational and maintenance cost.

Sarnaik said majority area of the zoo will have bamboo forest and except for minimal safety enclosures required for animals and birds, emphasis will be on using timber for all type of constructions within the area as per forest department norms.

An expert will be hired to decide the theme of the zoo along with details like type of animals to be brought in, plants to be grown here, among others.

The CM has okayed my proposal for the zoo which can be turned into a one-day picnic and tourist spot for visitors from all cities in the MMR, largely benefit Thane city. The CM has asked principal secretary, forest dept and his team to start work at the earliest," Sarnaik said.

TNPL TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED

Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist. Tamil Nadu.

Ph.: 04324-277001 (10 Lines). E-mail: purchase.fuel@tnpl.co.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No. Material Description Due date

242513 Steaming (Non-cooking) Coal in Bulk (Imported) with 4200 GAR of Indonesian origin. 23.07.2024

Submission of E-tender at: <https://tnpl.gov.in/ncigep/app>

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website & NIC Portal only.

Detailed Terms & conditions, Quantity, Tender Fee, EMD etc., are available in the tender document at our websites : www.tnpl.com / <https://tnpl.gov.in/ncigep/app>

DIPR/2233/Tender/2024 TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

(Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala - 147001)

Corporate Identity Number : U40109PB2010SGC033813

Website : www.pspcl.in Mobile No. 96461-55525

Short Term E-Tender Enq. No. 541/P-3/EMPW-12714 dated 05.07.24

Dy. Chief Engineer/Headquarter (Procurement Cell-3) GGSSTP, Roopnagar invites E-Tender ID No. 2024 POWER_123528_1 for Overhauling of Boiler Auxiliaries like ID fans, FD fans & their auxiliaries, ESP, Ducting Dampers & Gates for 01 units of 210 MW BHEL make units of 4x210 MW capacity at GGSSTP Ropar.

For detailed NIT & tender Specification please refer to

<https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from dated 08.07.24/05:00 PM onwards.

Note : Corrigendum & addendum, if any, will be published online at

<https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

RTP/024, DPR/Pb.:76155/12/3079/2023/35481

Tender Enquiry No. 322/HPS/ED/JS-421 Dated 08.07.2024

Dy. CE/Hydel Projects, PSPCL, Shed A-3, Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala Invites E-Tender for Design, engineering, manufacturing, supply, installation, testing and commissioning of Early Warning System and Automatic Weather Station System comprises of radar based level sensor, velocity sensors & automatic weather station sensors for Early Warning System at 2 Nos. Location upstream of Barrage Gates and Alarm System consisting of motorized sirens/hoofers for downstream of barrage gates at Barot complete with data acquisition, telemetry system, power supply system and allied accessories with 02 year warranty along with service rendering during warranty at Shanan Power House PSPCL Jodginder Nagar, Distt. Mandi HP.

For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to

<https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

NOTE : Corrigendum and Addendum, if any will be published online at

<https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

C-415/24, DPR/Pb.:76155/12/3085/2023/35492

महाराष्ट्र आरोग्य विज्ञान विद्यापीठ, नाशिक

वर्षा दिवांगी रोड, महाराष्ट्र, नाशिक - ४२२००४

जाहिरात क्र. ०९/२०२४

थेट मुलाखात (Walk in Interview)

महाराष्ट्र आरोग्य विज्ञान विद्यापीठ, नाशिक येथे खालील पदावर नियमानुसार करण्याच्या अनुच्छेदाने थेट मुलाखातीचे आरोग्यान करायल आते आहे.

पदावाराम, आवश्यक पदसंख्या, कायाचे स्वरूप, विहीन नमून्यातील वर्जन, दरमाना निश्चित वेतन इ. माहिती विद्यापीठाच्या www.muhs.ac.in या संकेतस्थळावर उपलब्ध आहे.

दि.१०/०७/२०२४

कलमसंचिव, नाशिक

LIC LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA

Engineering Dept., South Central Zonal Office, "Jeevan Bhagya", Safalab, Hyderabad-500063. Phone Nos. 040-23202528, 23230322-29, E-mail: scz.engineering@licindia.com

COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR CONSTRUCTION WORK

Life Insurance Corporation of India invites e-bids for the following works in Three Bid System from eligible bidders:

1. Construction of Branch Office Building including modernization at Ramagundam in Telangana State with Percentage Rate Tender

Estimated Cost - Rs.446.32 lakh (Bid No: LIC/SCZ/ENGG/2024/25/15)

2. Construction of CAB & Officers' Quarters Building at Kalaburagi (Gulbarga) in Karnataka State under EPC mode

Estimated Cost - Rs.57.60 lakh (Bid No: LIC/SCZ/ENGG/2024/25/16)

Bid Availability Period 10-07-2024 to 30-07-2024 upto 15.00 hours (IST)

Bid Meeting at Hyderabad 19-07-2024 at 11:30 hours (IST)

Bid Submission Closing Date & Time 30-07-2024 upto 17.00 hours (IST)

Opening of BID-I & BID-II 31-07-2024 at 12:00 hours (IST)

Note: All relevant details including any addendum/corrigendum/sale date extension shall be available in the e-mail website <http://tenderwizard.com/LIC>

Date: 10-07-2024 Chief Engineer

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Tender No.: JHS-ENGG-C-2024-141 Date: 05.07.2024

E-TENDERING TENDER NOTICE

Divisional Railway Manager (Works) N.C. Railway, Jhansi and for behalf of President of India invites sealed "Open Tender" through on Line (E-Tendering) for the following work.

Description of Work: VGLJ-CNB Section: Provision of limited height pedestrian subway at various trespassing locations. (15 No. subway in PRN-CNB Section).

Approx. Cost : ₹ 32795585.15, Earnest Money: ₹ 1789800.00, Date of Closing

Tender: 05.08.2024 at 15:00 hrs., Date of completion / period from issue acceptance letter: 12 Months.

Note:



TIMES NATION

* THE TIMES OF INDIA, MUMBAI | WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2024

SOUMYA SWAMINATHAN APPOINTED PRINCIPAL
ADVISER FOR TB ELIMINATION PROGRAMME

SP VETERAN AZAM KHAN'S RESORT PARTIALLY
DEMOLISHED OVER LAND DISPUTE IN RAMPUR



MP ashram: Post 6 deaths, boy missing

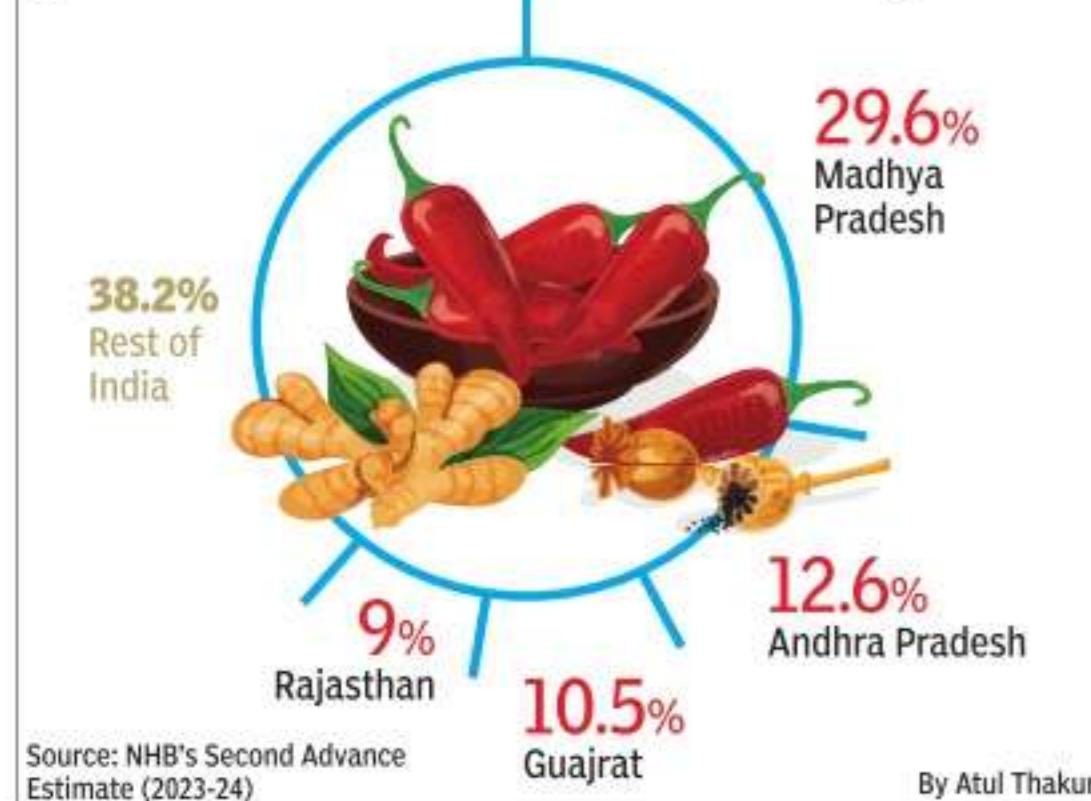
After six deaths, a mysterious disappearance. A 16-year-old boy of the Indore ashram, where six children died last week, went missing on Monday while being shifted to another shelter. Police have registered a case of kidnapping. The boy, identified as Anand from Harda district, suffers from a mental disability, heightening the urgency that he is found quickly. TNN

Covid-hit flyers to get ₹2.5cr refund

Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) has ordered online travel agency, Yatra, to refund Rs 2.5 crore to consumers for flight cancellations during lockdown. In a recent order, CCPA directed the agency to set up five dedicated seats at the national consumer helpline (NCH) to contact passengers whose refunds are pending. TNN

STATISTICS A slice of life in numbers

Madhya Pradesh alone produces about 30% of spices



Source: NHB's Second Advance Estimate (2023-24)

By Atul Thakur

29.6%
Madhya
Pradesh
12.6%
Andhra Pradesh
10.5%
Gujarat
9%
Rajasthan
38.2%
Rest of
India

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TIMES Personal

NOVENA PRAYERS

THANKYOU Jesus and St Jude Thaddeus for prayers answered. Sacred Heart of Jesus pray for us, St Jude pray for us.

THANKSGIVING

IF YOU ARE IN ANY DIFFICULTY, SAY THIS PRAYER. HOLY SPIRIT, you who make me see everything and who has shown me the way to reach my ideals; you who give me the divine gift to forgive and forget all that is done to me and you who are in all instances of my life with me. I, in this short dialog want to THANK YOU for everything and affirm once more that I never want to be separated from you, no matter how great the material desire may be. I want to be with you and my loved ones in their perpetual glory. To this end and submitting to God's Holy Will, I ask you: (MENTION YOUR REQUEST!). This prayer should be said for 3 consecutive days. After the 3rd day, the request will be granted no matter how difficult it may be. While making the request one must either: 1. Promises to publish this prayer on granting of the request or, 2. Promise to circulate copies of it to as many people as possible. THIS IS TO SPREAD THE WONDER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU.

Delhi cops harassing, says NGO that moved court over tree felling

New Delhi: NGO 'New Delhi Nature Society', on whose plea the Supreme Court took cognisance of illegal cutting of hundreds of trees in the Ridge area in south Delhi and passed various directions including issuing contempt notice to the DDA vice-chairman, on Tuesday approached the apex court to allege that the organisation and its founder were being harassed by Delhi Police for pursuing the case, reports Amit Anand Choudhary.

Appearing for the NGO, advocate Manan Verma mentioned the issue before a bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Augustine George Masih and sought an urgent hearing on the application. The bench agreed to hear the plea on Wednesday.

When contacted, the NGO's lawyer refused to divulge details of the alleged police harassment as mentioned in the application.

The NGO had brought to the court's notice illegal felling of trees which resulted in the DDA VC being slapped with a contempt notice.

HC junks PIL against Dalai Lama over boy's 'molestation'

New Delhi: Delhi high court on Tuesday dismissed a PIL seeking prosecution of **Dalai Lama** for allegedly molesting a boy, as claimed to have been shown in a video clip that went viral last year. HC remarked that the religious leader was "being playful" and has already apologised for the incident.

In the video clip, the Dalai Lama was seen kissing the boy on the lips, which sparked a row on social media.

The petitioner, Confederation of NGOs, urged the court to pass directions to authorities to take cognisance of the alleged incident under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and ensure the identity of the child is retracted from news portals. A bench of Acting Chief Justice Manmohan and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela said it was not a public interest matter and refused to entertain the plea. TNN

Delhi cop running int'l narco cartel flees to SA, warrant issued

New Delhi: A Delhi court is learned to have issued a non-bailable warrant against an officer of Delhi Police's crime branch who was running an international narcotics cartel from the capital.

The cop has been on the run for the past few months and has reportedly fled abroad. The accused cop, Naresh Kumar, has escaped to South Africa via Nepal and Syria, cops suspect. A lookout circular has been issued against him. Interestingly, the cop has been filing bail applications while on the run.

"His bail application was recently dismissed by court and he is now learned to have filed a fresh plea," said a crime branch officer.

The accused cop is now believed to be running his drug-related operations from abroad, an intelligence officer said. He is also alleged to be in touch with a few officers of the crime branch through encrypted chat applications and virtual private network. TNN

SC reverses WB min's order to cancel 10-year-old ad contract

Warns Govt Bodies Against Wriggling Out Of Obligations

Dhananjay.Mahapatra
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Supreme Court on Tuesday quashed West Bengal urban development minister Firhad Hakim's "arbitrary and capricious" decision to cancel a 10-year-long advertising contract to a firm and cautioned public authorities at large against wriggling out of contractual obligations casually and whimsically.

A bench of Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra said in a classic case of arbitrary and capricious exercise of power, Kolkata Metropolitan Development Authority (KMDA), at the behest of the minister, cancelled the contract awarded to a firm for maintenance and advertising rights at Bellaghata and Swabhumi underpasses on Eastern Metropolitan Bypass, for which the firm had spent substantial amounts.

Writing the 84-page judgment,



Bengal urban development minister Firhad Hakim personally instructed the officials to cancel the contract

Justice Pardiwala said, "None of the officials of KMDA suggested that the tender be cancelled, rather it was the concerned minister who did so... KMDA was reluctant to immediately cancel the tender for work and continued to insist on obtaining the opinion from its legal cell. Even though the opinion of the legal cell was yet to be obtained, KMDA, despite its initial reluctance, undertook immediate steps to cancel the tender after the concerned minister personally instructed the officials to do so."

Accepting senior advocate Shyam Divan's submissions, the bench said, "We are of the considered opinion that the litigation at hand is nothing but a classic textbook case of an

arbitrary exercise of powers by KMDA in cancelling the tender that was issued in favour of the firm and that too at the behest of none other than the concerned minister-in-charge and thereby rendering the Feb 7, 2023 notice of cancellation illegal."

Laying down norms for public-private contracts, the bench said, "The courts are duty bound to zealously protect the sanctity of any tender that has been duly conducted and concluded by ensuring that the larger public interest of upholding bindingness of contracts are not sidelined by a capricious or arbitrary exercise of power by the State. It is the duty of the courts to interfere in contractual matters that have fallen prey to an arbitrary action of the authorities in the guise of technical faults, policy change or public interest etc."

"We caution the public authorities to be circumspect in disturbing or wriggling out of its contractual obligations through means beyond the terms of the contract in exercise of their executive powers," the bench said, though it accepted that govt has power to cancel a tender only in bona fide public interest.

4, including 3 bros, get life for burning man to death

Deepak.Lavania
@timesofindia.com

Agra: A local court in Maipuri district in Uttar Pradesh sentenced four persons, including three brothers, to life imprisonment for burning a man to death over a land dispute four years ago, the prosecution said.

After investigation, police filed a detailed chargesheet in court.

The prosecution presented 10 witnesses, including the complainant, investigator, and a doctor, who testified in the case.

Based on the testimony and evidence compiled by police, the four accused were found guilty, the ADGC added.

Bail revoked for cop who 'aided' bootlegger

Rajkot: A Gujarat sessions court has cancelled the bail of a woman constable accused of accompanying a notorious bootlegger in an SUV as they tried to run over cops who tried to nab them last month.

A magisterial court had granted suspended head constable Neeta Chaudhary (34) bail on July 3. The following day, the police challenged the bail order in the sessions court. She was arrested on June 30 along with bootlegger Yuvraj Singh Jadeja. The duo was booked for attempted murder, bootlegging and other offences. TNN

SC notice to Axis Bank for not accepting demonetised notes

Dhananjay.Mahapatra
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: One-and-a-half years after validating the Union govt's Nov 8, 2016, decision to demonetise Rs 1,000 and Rs 500 currency notes, Supreme Court has entertained a petition by a company which complained that Axis Bank had refused to accept demonetised notes worth Rs 3.2 crore in breach of RBI guidelines.

Appearing for the company, advocate Nalin Kohli argued before a bench of Justices B R Gavai and K V Viswanathan that it was not challenging the decision to demonetise certain currency notes but was aggrieved by the bank's arbitrary decision not to accept the deposit of Rs 3.2 crore in violation of RBI orders relating to demonetisation and despite the company being KYC-compliant.



Rs 1,000 and Rs 500 notes were demonetised on Nov 8, 2016

ant company, it was also obligatory for RBI to ensure that the company received the amount in exchange of valid currency notes as each demonetised note contained a written promise by the RBI governor to pay the bearer an amount specified on the currency note.

The bench issued fresh notice to Axis Bank and asked it to respond within three weeks after the RBI counsel said the court would have to hear the bank and find out whether it had a valid reason not to accept demonetised notes.

A bench of Justices S Abdul Nazeer, Gavai, A S Bopanna, V Ramasubramanian and B V Nagarathna had by four to one majority on Jan 2, 2023, validated the Nov 8, 2016, demonetisation decision carried out through an ordinance. Justice Nagarathna had dissented.

Kohli said apart from the bank being obliged to receive demonetised currency notes presented before it by the KYC-compliant

Malegaon accused's plea to admit docus as evidence junked

Rebecca.Samervel
@timesofindia.com

Mumbai: Observing that the documents were only photocopies and some were different from those submitted by the army's court of inquiry, a special court rejected Malegaon 2008 blasts accused Lt Col Prasad Purohit's plea to admit them as evidence. The judge said that the copies were collected from various army headquarters across the country.

Last month, the court had allowed Purohit to examine witnesses.

Opposing Purohit's plea, special public prosecutor Avinash Rasal said, "Original documents have not been produced for comparison. The copies have not been certified by the custodian of the documents. All of them are supposed to be photocopies."

Latohi said.

The judge further said that as per the directions of an earlier judge, ministry of defence had submitted the court of inquiry papers, and some of the documents cited by Purohit do not match those. "The documents filed are incomplete as they aren't copies of the entire pages," the judge said.

Last month, the court had allowed Purohit to examine witnesses.

Opposing Purohit's plea, special public prosecutor Avinash Rasal said, "Original documents have not been produced for comparison. The copies have not been certified by the custodian of the documents. All of them are supposed to be photocopies."

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HC: 2 ex-civic chiefs misused position in awarding contracts

TIMES NEWS NETWORK



The Gujarat HC accused the duo of not fulfilling their duties

Ahmedabad: Terming it a 'tentative opinion', Gujarat high court on Tuesday said that two former municipal commissioners of Vadodara were guilty of dereliction of duty and misuse of their position in awarding contract of the redevelopment project of the Harni

HARNI TRAGEDY

Moatn Lake, where 14 people—including 12 school kids—died following a boat capsizing on January 18 this year.

The order reads, "In our tentative opinion, both the municipal commissioners posted at relevant point of time are guilty of dereliction of duty and misuse of their position. In any eventuality, M/s Kotia Projects cannot be said to be a qualified bidder in the process and, as such, there was no question of its selection."

Odisha govt's reply sought on release plea of Staines' killer

Bhubaneswar: The Supreme Court issued notice on Tuesday to the Odisha govt on a petition seeking premature release of Dara Singh (62), who has been serving a life term for the 1999 murder of Australian missionary Graham Staines and his two sons in Keonjhar district.

"Today I approached the Hon'ble SC on behalf of Dara Singh and requested for his premature release. He is under incarceration for the past 24 years and 5 months," Dara's advocate Vishnu Shankar Jain posted on social media, reports Ashok Pradhan. A group led by Dara had set fire to a vehicle in Keonjhar on Jan 22, 1999, killing Staines (58) and his two sons, Philip (10) and Timothy (6).

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2 women killed in 2 hit-&-run cases in Nashik; 1 driver nabbed

Nashik: Two pedestrians have lost their lives in separate hit-and-run cases in Nashik since Sunday. The accused in one case has been apprehended. A woman, identified as Archana Kishore Shinde (31), died after being hit by a speeding car on Tuesday evening in Bardan Phata area of the city. The accident took place in front of a restaurant. Archana suffered serious injuries and died before she could be taken to hospital.

Gangapur police rushed to the spot after receiving information. Although the driver, Devchand Tidme, had fled the scene, he was tracked on the basis of the vehicle's registration number and arrested.

On Sunday, a 45-year-old woman was mowed down by a truck on the road linking Gangapur Road and College Road. Police said the deceased, Nidhi Ware, had stepped out to purchase vegetables around 6.15pm when she was hit. Based on a complaint by her relative, police have filed a case against an unidentified trucker under section 106(1)(2) of BNS for causing death due to negligence and rash driving. Police said they had the registration number of the truck and the driver would be arrested soon. TNN

UP govt offers 100% road tax exemption for hybrid vehicles

Noida: UP govt has decided to waive registration tax on hybrid cars—a concession in line with what it has already offered to fully electric vehicles, reports Shafaque Alam. The move—owners of showrooms said—will bring the cost of hybrid cars almost on a par with those running on petrol.

Officials said the exemption had come into effect from July 1. "The govt has decided to offer a 100% tax exemption for hybrid vehicle registration. However, the waiver is yet to reflect on Vahan portal," read a June 28 letter by chief secretary Manoj Kumar Singh to Peeyush Srivastava, the director of IT at National Informatics Centre, which handles the portal.

The exemption, it said, would apply to "hybrid electric vehicles, strong hybrid vehicles, plug-in hybrid electric vehicles, series hybrid electric vehicles and series-parallel hybrid electric vehicles". PK Singh, regional transport officer in Ghaziabad, said the state govt was striving to promote eco-friendly transport.

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Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority invites e-Tenders "ONLINE" in two bid system from 10.07.2024 to 30.07.2024 from experienced, reputed consultant fulfilling the Minimum Qualifying Criteria (MOC) as stipulated in the Tender for "Appointment of Project Management Consultancy (PMC) for Construction of Entrance Gate Building and Development of Surrounding Area at Landing Jetty in JN Port". Detailed Notice Inviting Tender and Tender Document is available on JNPA website "www.jnport.gov.in" and [https://eproc.gov.in](http://eproc.gov.in) (CPP Portal).
Chief General Manager (P&D)

Open court hearing sought for same-sex marriage review plea

Such Petitions Decided In Chamber

Dhananjay.Mahapatra
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Senior advocates, well-versed with rules regulating adjudication of review petitions, took CJI DY Chandrachud by surprise on Tuesday with their 'cart-before-the-horse' requests for open court hearing of petitions seeking reconsideration of SC's Oct 17, 2023, ruling unanimously denying legalisation of same-sex marriages.

Review petitions are decided in chamber without the presence of counsel. The bench, which had delivered the ruling, on being satisfied that the petitioners have pointed out "errors apparent on the face of the judgement", may allow open court hearing for review.

A number of senior advocates—A M Singhvi, N K Kaul, Mukul Rohatgi and Menaka Guruswamy—requested the CJI to place the pleas in open court. However, solicitor general Tushar Mehta said since a five-judge bench had rejected legalising same-sex marriages, it was the prerogative of the reconstituted bench to decide in chamber.



The CJI said, "The Constitution bench is seized of the petitions, which will be heard in chamber on Wednesday. Everyone is aware of the rules governing chamber hearing of petitions. I hope you all are not arguing the pleas in open court even before the bench takes up the matter in chamber tomorrow [Wednesday]."

A bench of CJI Chandrachud and Justices S K Kaul, S R Bhat, Hima Kohli and P S Narasimha had declined LGBTQ members' pleas to legalise same-sex marriages. However, the CJI and Justice Kaul, in their minority view, had said queer couples should enjoy certain social rights. Justices Kaul and Bhat have since retired and the CJI has replaced them with Justices Sanjiv Khanna and B V Nagarkrathna on the bench.

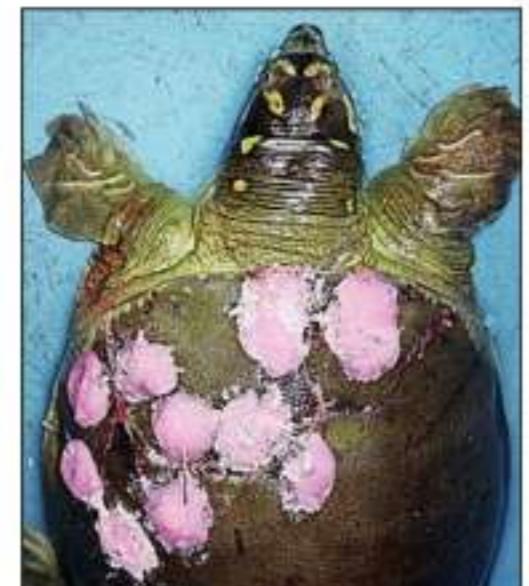
Superglue, hooks to the rescue of battered turtle

Kanwardeep.Singh
@timesofindia.com

Bareilly: In a quick-fix solution, experts at Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI) in Bareilly used Fevikwik and blouse clasp (hook) to join the shattered shell of an endangered turtle that was run over by a car. The turtle is under observation at a centre in Budana.

The procedure was performed by Dr Abhijeet Pawde along with Dr Kamlesh Kumar and other members of IVRI. The Indian Flapshell turtle is listed as vulnerable in the IUCN red list of wildlife species. This particular one was rescued by activist Vokendra Sharma in Budana and brought to Bareilly on Monday.

A veterinarian said, "The female turtle with seven eggs in her womb was brought to our facility on Monday. We needed adhesive used by orthopa-



The endangered Indian Flapshell turtle, which had seven eggs in her womb, was run over by a car

dic surgeons, which was not available here. As time was running out, we used the superglue as an alternative." The veterinarian added: "We used blouse clasps and fixed these on either side of the cracked shell. Then these clasps were fastened with orthopaedic wires to join the cracks..."

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU PORT AUTHORITY (PORT PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT)
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TENDER NOTICE No. PPD/DGM-II/PMC-FTBT/15/2024 Dated: 04.07.2024

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Note : Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at [https://eproc.punjab.gov.in](http://eproc.punjab.gov.in).

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Website : www.pspcl.in (Contact number 96461 47777)

TENDER ENQUIRY No TSQ-1154/TD-II/2024-25

By CE/TL (Design), B-1 Shakti Vihar, Patiala invites E-tenders for Manufacture, Testing, Supply & Delivery of 60 MT HTGS Earth Wire of size 7/2.24MM as per PSPCL Specification No. TSQ-1154/TD-II/2024-25. For detailed NIT and Tender Specification please refer to [https://eproc.punjab.gov.in](http://eproc.punjab.gov.in) from 10.07.2024 from 11.00 AM onwards.

Note : Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at [https://eproc.punjab.gov.in](http://eproc.punjab.gov.in).

C 412/24, DPR/Pb : 76155/12/3082/2023/35465

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER
e-Tender Notice No. 4509-GRC-CE-C-II-48-2024. For & on behalf of President of India, Chief Engineer (CON) II/GRC invites e-tender for the following work : Following tender has been uploaded on website www.reps.gov.in The tender will be closed at 12:00 hrs. on due date. **Brief Description of Works :** Execution of Daily Maintenance work between Jharsuguda (Km 0.00) to Sardega (Km. 50.30) of newly made double line under Chakradharpur Division of S.E. Railway. **Approx. Cost :** ₹ 3.14 Crore. **Bid Security :** ₹ 3,07,300/- **Completion Period :** 12 months. **Closing Date :** 30.07.2024. Interested tenders may visit website www.reps.gov.in for full details/description/specification of the tenders and submit their bids online. In no case manual tenders for these items will be accepted. **NB :** "Prospective Bidders may regularly visit www.reps.gov.in to participate in all other tenders." (PR-358)

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU PORT AUTHORITY (PORT PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT)
ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015, ISO 27001:2013, ISO 45001:2018 CERTIFIED
SHORT E-TENDER NOTICE
TENDER NOTICE No. PPD/DGM-II/PMC-FTBT/15/2024 Dated: 04.07.2024

By CE/TL (Design), B-1 Shakti Vihar, Patiala invites E-tenders for Manufacture, Testing, Supply & Delivery of 60 MT HTGS Earth Wire of size 7/2.24MM as per PSPCL Specification No. TSQ-1154/TD-II/2024-25. For detailed NIT and Tender Specification please refer to [https://eproc.punjab.gov.in](http://eproc.punjab.gov.in) from 10.07.2024 from 11.00 AM onwards.

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C 412/24, DPR/Pb : 76155/12/3082/2023/35465

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
(Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001
Corporate Identity Number : U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website : www.pspcl.in (Contact number 96461 47777)

TENDER ENQUIRY No TSQ-1154/TD-II/2024-25

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By CE/TL (Design), B-1 Shakti Vihar, Patiala invites E-tenders for Manufacture, Testing

real estate

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Reserve Price: Rs. 23.40 Crores

Mr. Luke Fernandez - 9167661140 | Mr. Sanjay Patil - 9920982035

Liquidator - Mr. Rakesh Charedvi

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Take Notice that, our clients i.e. Dotom Ultima Realty LLP are in the process of acquiring development rights from Jumbo Darshan Co-operative Housing Society Limited. (Society) which is registered under the provisions of the Maharashtra Co-operative Societies Act, 1960 under registration no. BOMH/SCG/3268 of 1979 and having its registered office at Jumbo Darshan, D-1/012, Jiva Mahale Marg, Off Nityanand Marg, Andheri (E), Mumbai - 400069 in respect of their property described in the Schedule hereunder written and we are instructed by our clients, to investigate the Society's title to the said Property.

If any person or persons is/are having any claim to or any interest or disputes in respect of the said Property described in the Schedule hereunder written by way of sale, charge, mortgage, exchange, gift, lease, sub-lease, lien, tenancy, development agreement, joint venture, inheritance, easements or any boundary disputes or any other rights or otherwise whatsoever, should notify the same in writing to us with supporting documents, if any, at our office at 16, Rajabhadra Mansion (earlier known as Bansali Mansion), 1st Floor, 11, Horni Modi Street, Fort, Mumbai - 400001 within Fourteen (14) days from the date of publication hereof, failing which it shall be presumed that the said Society is absolutely entitled to the said Property described in the Schedule hereunder written and the said Property is free from all encumbrances and the matter of investigation of title in respect thereof shall be completed without having any reference to such claim, if any, and the same shall be considered as waived and our clients shall proceed to complete the process of acquiring development rights from the said Society.

THE SCHEDULE

HEREINABOVE REFERRED TO

(Description of the Property) All that piece or parcel of land admeasuring 3288.95 square metres bearing C.T.S. No. 323/B and admeasuring 197.72 bearing C.T.S. No. 327/A (as per their respective current P.R.Cards) and admeasuring in aggregate 3486.67 square metres approximately of village Gundavali, Taluka Andheri and lying, being and situated at Jiva Mahale Marg, Near Regency Hotel, Andheri (East), Mumbai - 400069 in the K (East) ward of Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation and in the Registration District of Mumbai and Mumbai Suburban together with the buildings standing thereon.

Dated this 10th day of July 2024

All persons having any claim against or in respect of Premises 1 or 2 or/and Premises 2 or/and of any other or any part thereof by way of sale, exchange, mortgage (equitable or otherwise), gift, trust, inheritance, family arrangement, partition, partnership, maintenance, bequest, possession, lease, tenancy, license, lien, charge, pre-emption rights, power of attorney, guarantee, easement, loans, advances, lis pendens, injunction or attachment, or under any decree, order or award passed by any Court of Law, Tribunal, Revenue or Statutory Authority or arbitration or otherwise however are hereby requested to notify the same in writing to us with supporting documentary evidence at the address mentioned hereinbelow also with a copy to email address mentioned hereinbelow within 14 (fourteen) days from the date hereof, failing which, the claim or claims, if any, of such persons shall be deemed to have been waived and / or abandoned and not binding in any manner whatsoever and our client shall proceed with the transaction.

THE FIRST SCHEDULE ABOVE REFERRED TO:

(Description of "Premises 1")

ALL THAT 5 (Five) fully paid up shares of ₹ 50/- each bearing distinctive numbers 001 to 005 (both inclusive) comprised in Share Certificate No. 001 dated 15th August, 1996 issued by "The Chembur Arhat Villa Co-operative Housing Society Limited" and Flat premises bearing No. A-1 admeasuring 600 Sq. Ft. (Built-up area) on the First Floor in the building known as "Arhat Villa" together with the right to use area under stilt terrace and land adjoining to the said Flat lying, being and situated on all that piece of land situated lying and being at Chembur in South Salsette Taluka of Bombay Suburban District now in the Registration Sub-District and District at Bombay City and Bombay Suburban bearing C.T.S. Nos. 1019, 1019/1 and 1019/2 admeasuring 1058 sq. yards equivalent to 999 Sq. Mtrs. or thereabouts being Plot No. 162 15th Road, of Village Chembur, Kuria Taluka of Suburban Scheme No. III Chembur, Mumbai-400 071.

The second Schedule Above referred to:

(Description of "Premises 2")

ALL THAT 5 (Five) fully paid up shares of ₹ 50/- each bearing distinctive numbers 006 to 0010 (both inclusive) comprised in Share Certificate No. 002 dated 15th August, 1996 issued by "The Chembur Arhat Villa Co-operative Housing Society Limited" and Flat premises bearing No. A-2 admeasuring 500 Sq. Ft. (Built-up area) on the Second Floor in the building known as "Arhat Villa" together with the right to use area under stilt terrace and land adjoining to the said Flat lying, being and situated on all that piece of land situated lying and being at Chembur in South Salsette Taluka of Bombay Suburban District now in the Registration Sub-District and District at Bombay City and Bombay Suburban bearing C.T.S. Nos. 1019, 1019/1 and 1019/2 admeasuring 1058 Sq. Yards equivalent to 999 Sq. Mtrs. or thereabouts being Plot No. 162 15th Road, of Village Chembur, Kuria Taluka of Suburban Scheme No. III Chembur, Mumbai-400 071.

The third Schedule Above referred to:

(Description of "Premises 3")

ALL THAT 5 (Five) fully paid up shares of ₹ 50/- each bearing distinctive numbers 001 to 005 (both inclusive) comprised in Share Certificate No. 003 dated 15th August, 1996 issued by "The Chembur Arhat Villa Co-operative Housing Society Limited" and Flat premises bearing No. A-3 admeasuring 500 Sq. Ft. (Built-up area) on the Second Floor in the building known as "Arhat Villa" together with the right to use area under stilt terrace and land adjoining to the said Flat lying, being and situated on all that piece of land situated lying and being at Chembur in South Salsette Taluka of Bombay Suburban District now in the Registration Sub-District and District at Bombay City and Bombay Suburban bearing C.T.S. Nos. 1019, 1019/1 and 1019/2 admeasuring 1058 Sq. Yards equivalent to 999 Sq. Mtrs. or thereabouts being Plot No. 162 15th Road, of Village Chembur, Kuria Taluka of Suburban Scheme No. III Chembur, Mumbai-400 071.

The fourth Schedule Above referred to:

(Description of "Premises 4")

ALL THAT 5 (Five) fully paid up shares of ₹ 50/- each bearing distinctive numbers 006 to 0010 (both inclusive) comprised in Share Certificate No. 004 dated 15th August, 1996 issued by "The Chembur Arhat Villa Co-operative Housing Society Limited" and Flat premises bearing No. A-4 admeasuring 500 Sq. Ft. (Built-up area) on the Second Floor in the building known as "Arhat Villa" together with the right to use area under stilt terrace and land adjoining to the said Flat lying, being and situated on all that piece of land situated lying and being at Chembur in South Salsette Taluka of Bombay Suburban District now in the Registration Sub-District and District at Bombay City and Bombay Suburban bearing C.T.S. Nos. 1019, 1019/1 and 1019/2 admeasuring 1058 Sq. Yards equivalent to 999 Sq. Mtrs. or thereabouts being Plot No. 162 15th Road, of Village Chembur, Kuria Taluka of Suburban Scheme No. III Chembur, Mumbai-400 071.

The fifth Schedule Above referred to:

(Description of "Premises 5")

ALL THAT 5 (Five) fully paid up shares of ₹ 50/- each bearing distinctive numbers 001 to 005 (both inclusive) comprised in Share Certificate No. 005 dated 15th August, 1996 issued by "The Chembur Arhat Villa Co-operative Housing Society Limited" and Flat premises bearing No. A-5 admeasuring 500 Sq. Ft. (Built-up area) on the Second Floor in the building known as "Arhat Villa" together with the right to use area under stilt terrace and land adjoining to the said Flat lying, being and situated on all that piece of land situated lying and being at Chembur in South Salsette Taluka of Bombay Suburban District now in the Registration Sub-District and District at Bombay City and Bombay Suburban bearing C.T.S. Nos. 1019, 1019/1 and 1019/2 admeasuring 1058 Sq. Yards equivalent to 999 Sq. Mtrs. or thereabouts being Plot No. 162 15th Road, of Village Chembur, Kuria Taluka of Suburban Scheme No. III Chembur, Mumbai-400 071.

The sixth Schedule Above referred to:

(Description of "Premises 6")

ALL THAT 5 (Five) fully paid up shares of ₹ 50/- each bearing distinctive numbers 006 to 0010 (both inclusive) comprised in Share Certificate No. 006 dated 15th August, 1996 issued by "The Chembur Arhat Villa Co-operative Housing Society Limited" and Flat premises bearing No. A-6 admeasuring 500 Sq. Ft. (Built-up area) on the Second Floor in the building known as "Arhat Villa" together with the right to use area under stilt terrace and land adjoining to the said Flat lying, being and situated on all that piece of land situated lying and being at Chembur in South Salsette Taluka of Bombay Suburban District now in the Registration Sub-District and District at Bombay City and Bombay Suburban bearing C.T.S. Nos. 1019, 1019/1 and 1019/2 admeasuring 1058 Sq. Yards equivalent to 999 Sq. Mtrs. or thereabouts being Plot No. 162 15th Road, of Village Chembur, Kuria Taluka of Suburban Scheme No. III Chembur, Mumbai-400 071.

The seventh Schedule Above referred to:

(Description of "Premises 7")

ALL THAT 5 (Five) fully paid up shares of ₹ 50/- each bearing distinctive numbers 001 to 005 (both inclusive) comprised in Share Certificate No. 007 dated 15th August, 1996 issued by "The Chembur Arhat Villa Co-operative Housing Society Limited" and Flat premises bearing No. A-7 admeasuring 500 Sq. Ft. (Built-up area) on the Second Floor in the building known as "Arhat Villa" together with the right to use area under stilt terrace and land adjoining to the said Flat lying, being and situated on all that piece of land situated lying and being at Chembur in South Salsette Taluka of Bombay Suburban District now in the Registration Sub-District and District at Bombay City and Bombay Suburban bearing C.T.S. Nos. 1019, 1019/1 and 1019/2 admeasuring 1058 Sq. Yards equivalent to 999 Sq. Mtrs. or thereabouts being Plot No. 162 15th Road, of Village Chembur, Kuria Taluka of Suburban Scheme No. III Chembur, Mumbai-400 071.

The eighth Schedule Above referred to:

(Description of "Premises 8")

ALL THAT 5 (Five) fully paid up shares of ₹ 50/- each bearing distinctive numbers 006 to 0010 (both inclusive) comprised in Share Certificate No. 008 dated 15th August, 1996 issued by "The Chembur Arhat Villa Co-operative Housing Society Limited" and Flat premises bearing No. A-8 admeasuring 500 Sq. Ft. (Built-up area) on the Second Floor in the building known as "Arhat Villa" together with the right to use area under stilt terrace and land adjoining to the said Flat lying, being and situated on all that piece of land situated lying and being at Chembur in South Salsette Taluka of Bombay Suburban District now in the Registration Sub-District and District at Bombay City and Bombay Suburban bearing C.T.S. Nos. 1019, 1019/1 and 1019/2 admeasuring 1058 Sq. Yards equivalent to 999 Sq. Mtrs. or thereabouts being Plot No. 162 15th Road, of Village Chembur, Kuria Taluka of Suburban Scheme No. III Chembur, Mumbai-400 071.

The ninth Schedule Above referred to:

(Description of "Premises 9")

ALL THAT 5 (Five) fully paid up shares of ₹ 50/- each bearing distinctive numbers 001 to 005 (both inclusive) comprised in Share Certificate No. 009 dated 15th August, 1996 issued by "The Chembur Arhat Villa Co-operative Housing Society Limited" and Flat premises bearing No. A-9 admeasuring 500 Sq. Ft. (Built-up area) on the Second Floor in the building known as "Arhat Villa" together with the right to use area under stilt terrace and land adjoining to the said Flat lying, being and situated on all that piece of land situated lying and being at Chembur in South Salsette Taluka of Bombay Suburban District now in the Registration Sub-District and District at Bombay City and Bombay Suburban bearing C.T.S. Nos. 1019, 1019/1 and 1019/2 admeasuring 1058 Sq. Yards equivalent to 999 Sq. Mtrs. or thereabouts being Plot No. 162 15th Road, of Village Chembur, Kuria Taluka of Suburban Scheme No. III Chembur, Mumbai-400 071.

The tenth Schedule Above referred to:

(Description of "Premises 10")

ALL THAT 5 (Five) fully paid up shares of ₹ 50/- each bearing distinctive numbers 006 to 0010 (both inclusive) comprised in Share Certificate No. 010 dated 15th August, 1996 issued by "The Chembur Arhat Villa Co-operative Housing Society Limited" and Flat premises bearing No. A-10 admeasuring 500 Sq. Ft. (Built-up area) on the Second Floor in the building known as "Arhat Villa" together with the right to use area under stilt terrace and land adjoining to the said Flat lying, being and situated on all that piece of land situated lying and being at Chembur in South Salsette Taluka of Bombay Suburban District now in the Registration Sub-District and District at Bombay City and Bombay Suburban bearing C.T.S. Nos. 1019, 1019/1 and 1019/2 admeasuring 1058 Sq. Yards equivalent to 999 Sq. Mtrs. or thereabouts being Plot No. 162 15th Road, of Village Chembur, Kuria Taluka of Suburban Scheme No. III Chembur, Mumbai-400 071.

The eleventh Schedule Above referred to:

(Description of "Premises 11")

ALL THAT 5 (Five) fully paid up shares of ₹ 50/- each bearing distinctive numbers 001 to 005 (both inclusive) comprised in Share Certificate No. 011 dated 15th August, 1996 issued by "The Chembur Arhat Villa Co-operative Housing Society Limited" and Flat premises bearing No. A-11 admeasuring 500 Sq. Ft. (Built-up area) on the Second Floor in the building known as "Arhat Villa" together with the right to use area under stilt terrace and land adjoining to the said Flat lying, being and situated on all that piece of land situated lying and being at Chembur in South Salsette Taluka of Bombay Suburban District now in the Registration Sub-District and District at Bombay City and Bombay Suburban bearing C.T.S. Nos. 1019, 1019/1 and 1019/2 admeasuring 1058 Sq. Yards equivalent to 999 Sq. Mtrs. or thereabouts being Plot No. 162 15th Road, of Village Chembur, Kuria Taluka of Suburban Scheme No. III Chembur, Mumbai-400 071.

The twelfth Schedule Above referred to:

(Description of "Premises 12")

ALL THAT 5 (Five) fully paid up shares of ₹ 50/- each bearing distinctive numbers 006 to 0010 (both inclusive) comprised in Share Certificate No. 012 dated 15th August, 1996 issued by "The Chembur Arhat Villa Co-operative Housing Society Limited" and Flat premises bearing No. A-12 admeasuring 500 Sq. Ft. (Built-up area) on the Second Floor in the building known as "Arhat Villa" together with the right to use area under stilt terrace and land adjoining to the said Flat lying, being and situated on all that piece of land situated lying and being at Chembur in South Salsette Taluka of Bombay Suburban District now in the Registration Sub-District and District at Bombay City and Bombay Suburban bearing C.T.S. Nos. 1019, 1019/1 and 1019/2 admeasuring 1058 Sq. Yards equivalent to 999 Sq. Mtrs. or thereabouts being Plot No. 162 15th Road, of Village Chembur, Kuria Taluka of Suburban Scheme No. III Chembur, Mumbai-400 071.

The thirteenth Schedule Above referred to:

(Description of "Premises 13")

ALL THAT 5 (Five) fully paid up shares of ₹ 50/- each bearing distinctive numbers 001 to 005 (both inclusive) comprised in Share Certificate No. 013 dated 15th August, 1996 issued by "The Chembur Arhat Villa Co-operative Housing Society Limited" and Flat premises bearing No. A-13 admeasuring 500 Sq. Ft. (Built-up area) on the Second Floor in the building known as "Arhat Villa" together with the right to use area under stilt terrace and land adjoining to the said Flat lying, being and situated on all that piece of land situated lying and being at Chembur in South Salsette Taluka of Bombay Suburban District now in the Registration Sub-District and District at Bombay City and Bombay Suburban bearing C.T.S. Nos. 1019, 1019/1 and 1019/2 admeasuring 1058 Sq. Yards equivalent to 999 Sq. Mtrs. or thereabouts being Plot No. 162 15th Road, of Village Chembur, Kuria Taluka of Suburban Scheme No. III Chembur, Mumbai-400 071.

The fourteenth Schedule Above referred to:

(Description of "Premises 14")

ALL THAT 5 (Five) fully paid up shares of ₹ 50/- each bearing distinctive numbers 006 to 0010 (both inclusive) comprised in Share Certificate No. 014 dated 15th August, 1996 issued by "The Chembur Arhat Villa Co-operative Housing Society Limited" and Flat premises bearing No. A-14 admeasuring 500 Sq. Ft. (Built-up area) on the Second Floor in the building known as "Arhat Villa" together with the right to use area under stilt terrace and land adjoining to the said Flat lying, being and situated on all that piece of land situated lying and being at Chembur in South Salsette Taluka of Bombay Suburban District now in the Registration Sub-District and District at Bombay City and Bombay Suburban bearing C.T.S. Nos. 1019, 1019/1 and 1019/2 admeasuring 1058 Sq. Yards equivalent to 99



How Stories Shape Careers

Madame Curie & Albert Einstein have inspired generations to pursue science.

In recent years, Google CEO Sundar Pichai & Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella have encouraged youngsters... Can you too be a storyteller of your profession?

By Abhijit Bhaduri

Boxing was traditionally male-dominated until Mary Kom showed the route map from Manipur to the Olympics. Her story not only highlights an individual's triumph but also makes the sport appealing to many who previously never considered it.

Courtroom dramas inspired me to study law. After I spent time shadowing a lawyer in his chamber, I realised that a typical day in a lawyer's life was very different from what I had seen in movies. I did not have the eye for detail that makes a lawyer successful. Storytellers can challenge our biases and assumptions.

Every profession has a story waiting to be told. Whether you're a doctor, a chef, or an engineer, your experiences can inspire others. Share your journey, your challenges, and your triumphs. Take your audience behind the scenes to tell them

what it takes to spend 24 hours in your profession. People don't just want to see the glamour and success, they want to see the tears and disappointments too.

How & what to share: It is natural to worry that your storytelling might not resonate. But here's the trick: Your stories must be relevant and relatable. Tie them to real experiences and learnings that everyone can connect with. Every job has its unique stories and moments that can inspire others. It's all about how you tell it. Turn a routine job into an inspiring tale.

Find The Extraordinary In The Ordinary: Look for those little moments of success, humour, or learning that happen every day. Maybe it's solving a problem that's been bugging you for weeks or helping a coworker out in a pinch. These are the stories that make your job relatable and real.

Highlight The Impact: Even the most mundane tasks ha-



ve an impact. Show how what you do contributes to a bigger picture. Your work might be a small cog in a large machine, but without it, things wouldn't run as smoothly.

Share Your Growth: Talk about how you've grown or what you've learned in your role. Personal development is a journey many are on, and hearing about yours can motivate others.

Be Genuine: Authenticity is key. If you're honest about

the highs and lows, people will connect with your story more deeply. It's not about glamorising your job but sharing it in a way that's true to you.

Remember, inspiration doesn't require a thrilling job; it comes from a thrilling way of looking at any job. Your perspective can turn everyday into something extraordinary.

(The writer is former GM, global learning & development, Microsoft)

Indian Banks' Association
Recruitment of Senior Vice President
Indian Banks' Association (IBA) is inviting applications for recruitment of Senior Vice President.
For details, please refer to "What's new" section of IBA website: www.iba.org.in

Chief Executive
10.07.2024

Advt.No.- NEEPCO- 03/2024 Dt.08.07.2024
POWER FOR PROSPERITY
Notification

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2) Associate (TE-8 / TE-9) – E/M – 1 post
3) Associate (TE-7 / TE-8) – Civil – 1 post
4) Associate (FE-8 / FE-9) – Finance – 1 post
5) Associate (TE-5 / TE-6) – E/M – 2 posts

For complete details please visit our website www.neepco.co.in **Careers**

Any further agenda / corrigendum / update will be published on our website only.

DGM (HR) Recruitment,
NEEPCO Ltd

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Teen abducted, drugged & raped in UP, rescued after 10 days

Agra: Ten days after a 16-year-old girl was abducted and abused in captivity by three persons in Aligarh, police rescued her and apprehended four accused, including a minor and a woman, cops said on Tuesday, reports Deepak Lavania.

The perpetrators had allegedly held the teenager captive in their room, force-feeding her multiple sleeping pills every day to render her unconscious, and then raping her. During this period, they even called the girl's family and demanded a ransom. Subsequently, a team of 24 police personnel traced the mobile location and reached the accused on Monday.

4 ACCUSED, INCLUDING ONE MINOR, NABBED

The father of the survivor had filed a complaint on June 29, reporting the kidnapping of his minor daughter.

"Apart from the three accused boys, a 22-year-old woman was also involved in the crime. These individuals made multiple calls to the victim's family, demanding ransom. They threatened to kill the girl if the money was not paid and mentioned selling her. The police were monitoring all the calls and tracking their location. The accused were then arrested from a flat in the Sangwan city area," ACP Armit Jain said.

"All the accused adults have been sent to jail. The minor accused has been sent to the juvenile home of Agra. The accused are part of a criminal gang," the officer added.

Amid K'taka tribal corpn 'scam', DKS admits funds were misused

'Mantris, MLAs Not Involved, Spoke To Them'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK



D K Shivakumar said minister B Nagendra resigned voluntarily

Bengaluru: After the Karnataka govt was hit by allegations of a scam in the State Valmiki ST Development Corporation, deputy CM D K Shivakumar on Tuesday admitted that officials had misused and misappropriated corporation funds. He, however, gave MLAs and ministers involved with the corporation a clean chit.

"It is true that there was misuse and misappropriation of funds. We spoke to our ministers and corpora-

tion chairman, who is also an MLA. They clarified they are not involved," he said. He added ST welfare minister B Nagendra resigned voluntarily as it was "not good to face an investigation while being a minister."

He was speaking after an audio clip—allegedly of a conversation between the corporation's MD and seventh accused in the scam, Padmanabh, and account-

Panel seeks report on SC/ST fund 'diversion'

National Commission for Scheduled Castes has sought a detailed report within seven days from the Karnataka govt over the alleged diversion of SC/ST funds. It took suo motu cognisance of the issue based on a media report. In a letter to the Karnataka chief secretary, the commission said the state govt had reportedly decided to reallocate Rs 14,730 crore, originally earmarked under SCSP and TSP, to implement various welfare schemes known as the 'five guarantees'. TNN

tant Parashuram, the eighth accused—emerged. In the clip, Parashuram is heard saying should bring the matter to the notice of the chairman of the board, Congress MLA Basavaraja Daddal. Padmanabh purportedly asked Parashuram to stay mum. Padmanabh also claimed to be under pressure.

BJP has been demanding Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah's resignation, alleging he is directly involved in the scam and that Rs 18.7 crore of the board's money was used to fund elections in Telangana and other states.

The special investigation team (SIT) on Tuesday grilled B Nagendra for five hours. He resigned on June 6 after the corporation's accounts superintendent Chandrasekharan P died by suicide on May 26 and implicated him in a death note.

'Army's Para unit deployed to conduct surgical strikes'

Sanjay Khajuria | TNN

Jammu: In Kathua district, a concerted search operation is underway in Machedi-Bilawer area, where five soldiers, including a junior commissioned officer (JCO), were killed in an ambush on Monday. The fallen soldiers, all natives of Uttarakhand, were Naib Subedar Anand Singh Rawat from Rudraprayag, Naik Vinod Singh and Rifleman Adarsh Negi from Tehri, Havildar Kamal Singh and Rifleman Anuj Negi from Pauri. Five other soldiers are undergoing treatment at the military hospital in Pathankot. The slain soldiers' remains have been sent to their homes.

"Members of the Army's elite Para unit have been deployed to conduct surgical strikes against the terrorists in specific areas," an official source said. The search teams, backed by helicopters, drones, military dogs, snipers in ghillie suits, and metal detectors, are focusing on dense forest areas. There is concern about improvised explosive devices planted by fleeing terrorists.

The search has expanded to adjoining districts of Udhampur and Kathua, including Basantgarh, Seoj, and the upper reaches of Bani, Dagar, and Kindli. Sources believe three to four terrorists executed the ambush and are part of the same group that killed a village defence guard in Udhampur's Panara vil-



UNDER ATTACK: Jammu has seen a rise in terrorist activities

Govt not taking terror strikes seriously: Cong

With yet another terror attack and army casualties in J&K, Congress Tuesday blamed "lack of seriousness" of the part of the Modi govt for growing terror aggression in the UT,

underlining there have been five outrages in one month including the one which was carried out during PM's oath ceremony. Congress demanded a statement from the PMO or the govt. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi condemned the "cowardly attacks on our army" and called for "strong action". TNN

lage on April 28. J&K DGP RR Swain visited the Kathua site, where evidence of the attack and counteroffensive was visible—including bloodstains, helmets, bullet-riddled vehicles, and flattened tyres. The attack occurred around 3.30pm when terrorists ambushed the convoy when it was negotiating a bend on Machedi-Kindli-Mal-

NIA team sent to Kathua to probe attack

New Delhi: National Investigation Agency has joined the probe initiated by Jammu and Kashmir police into Monday's terror ambush on an Army convoy. An NIA team has been dispatched to Kathua to assist UT police as it probes the terror conspiracy behind the attack, sources said. NIA will also probe last year's terrorist attack on an Army convoy in Poonch that had left five personnel dead, officials said on Tuesday. The process to take over the investigation into the matter has started and a case will be registered soon, they said. The probe will ascertain any "common angle" in the April 20, 2023 attack—in which an Army vehicle caught fire, killing five personnel—and the terrorist strikes in J&K over past couple of years, including those in Dhangri village of Rajouri district in Jan 2023. TNN

har road. The terrorists, likely a group of three, took cover in thick foliage on a hill to surprise the troops with grenades and gunfire. On Tuesday, the two bullet-riddled trucks were found parked 300m apart. Jammu has seen an escalation in terrorist activities, attributed to "intruders" from Pakistan operating in groups of three and four.

BRS braces for legal battle against defections

Mohua Chatterjee
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Having lost several of its legislators to Congress following its defeat in assembly polls and after the parliamentary polls and failing to win a single Lok Sabha seat from Telangana, Bharat Rashtriya Samiti (BRS) is preparing for a legal battle against its legislators who have switched sides. Slamming Congress for the "unconstitutional" defections, BRS working presi-

dent K T Rama Rao (KTR) on Tuesday said that apart from approaching all constitutional authorities, his party was planning to file a petition in Supreme Court against the defectors.

Accusing Congress of "taking unconstitutional path while talking of saving the Constitution", KTR, son of party chief and former Telangana chief minister K Chandrasekhar Rao, said, "The way Cong-

ress is engineering defections from the BRS camp in Telangana, it goes against the anti-defection law."

He said a petition against the defected BRS members was pending in Telangana high court, while stressing that as per an SC order of 2020, the assembly speaker has three months to decide on the status of the defected party members. "If the speaker does not do justice, we will knock on the door of the

Supreme Court. We are here for the last two days consulting with legal experts," he added. Down to four MPs in Rajya Sabha, the BRS leadership plans to approach the President, the vice-president who is also chairman of Rajya Sabha, the Election Commission and finally the SC on the deflection issue. "We will meet all those who are custodians of the Constitution," KTR said.

BRS's aggressive move comes in response to a recent wave of defections.

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CAREER

KMRL invites applications for the post of Director(Finance)

For more details and for submission of the application log on to www.kochimetro.org/careers.

Last date of receipt of applications 06th August 2024

COCHIN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Cochin University P.O., Kochi - 682 022, KERALA.

No. Ad.A1/48/FO/2024 Dated 26.06.2024

NOTIFICATION

Applications in the prescribed format are invited from qualified candidates for appointment to the post of **Finance Officer** in the University in the Academic Level 14 (UGC Scheme)

Last Date:

a) For submission of online application through online : **23.07.2024**

b) For receipt of hard copy of the application : **30.07.2024**

For details please visit University website:

recruit.cusat.ac.in

(Sd/-) Dr. V. Sivanandan Achari
REGISTRAR



Engineering Staff College of India (ESCI)

Autonomous organ of The Institution of Engineers (India)

Engineering Staff College of India (ESCI) invites applications for the position :

Director-ESCI

Location : ESCI, Hyderabad

Detailed eligibility criteria with application form in prescribed format will be available on IEI website www.ieiindia.org and ESCI website www.escihyd.org



BRAHMAPUTRA CRACKER AND POLYMER LIMITED (BCPL)

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Lepetkata, Dibrugarh - 786006

Corporate Identification Number : U11101AS2007GOI008290

CANCELLATION OF RECRUITMENT PROCESS FOR THE POST OF OPERATOR (FIRE)

Advt. No. BCPL/NE/04/2018

It is notified for information of all concerned that the recruitment for the post of Operator (Fire), S3 grade notified vide Advertisement No. BCPL/NE/04/2018 has been cancelled due to administrative reason.

The application fee deposited by the candidates will be refunded on receiving their duly filled form. Last date of submission for refund of application fee is **31st July, 2024**. No refund claim will be accepted after the stipulated date. The details of the online claim form is available on BCPL website: www.bcpolymers.co.in under career section.

Recruitment Cell

Brahmaputra Cracker and Polymer Limited
Lepetkata, Dibrugarh, Assam

Advt.No.- NEEPCO- 02/2024 Dated 08.07.2024

POWER FOR PROSPERITY

Advertisement for engagement of Executives on Fixed Term Basis

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Name of Post :

- 1) Executive Medical, E4 Grade -UR- 1 (one) Post
- 2) Executive Security, E5 Grade -UR-3 (Three) Posts

For complete details please visit our website

www.neepco.co.in → Careers

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DGM (HR) Recruitment, NEEPCO Ltd

INDIA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE (IICC) LTD

ICC Ltd invites applications for the following posts:

1. Company Secretary
2. Manager- Legal
3. Manager- Asset Monetization
4. Manager- Civil
5. Assistant Manager- Asset Monetization
6. Assistant Manager- Electrical
7. Assistant Manager- Mechanical
8. Assistant Manager- Procurement
9. Assistant Manager- IT

Interested candidates are requested to visit our website i.e. www.iicc.dpiit.gov.in for details. Applications complete in all respects should be submitted online or in hard copy so as to reach on or before **09th August, 2024** by **18:00 HRS**.

Communication Office: Assistant Manager-HR & Administration, IICC Ltd, Tower-1, 8th Floor, Jeevan Bharati Building, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001 Ph:-011-23317884-8. E-mail: jobs.iicc@nicd.in, Website: www.iicc.dpiit.gov.in

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Your opportunity to shine!

Recruitment of Officers in Scale II, III, IV, V and VI ~ Project 2024-25

BANK OF MAHARASHTRA is one of the leading and top performing Bank in the industry in several growth and profitability parameters. The Bank is now in expansion mode and requires motivated professionals to support its growth trajectory and strengthen governance, compliance and technology structure. The Bank invites offline applications from candidates for recruitment of Officers in Scale II, III, IV, V and VI to be posted at various Verticals, Offices and Branches.

Details of Vacancies:

1 INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT

Post Deputy General Manager | Assistant General Manager | Chief Manager | Senior Manager | Manager

2 FOREX and TREASURY

Post Assistant General Manager | Chief Manager | Senior Manager | Manager

3 IT/ DIGITAL BANKING/CISO/CDO

Post Assistant General Manager | Chief Manager | Manager

4 CREDIT, BOARD SECRETARY, ECONOMIST AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Post Assistant General Manager | Chief Manager | Senior Manager | Manager



INDIAN RAILWAY FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)
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Phone: 011-24361480 Email: Recruitment_Recruit@ircfc.in

Future on Track
Indian Railway Finance Corporation Limited invites applications for the posts given below on fixed tenure basis

S. No.	Post	No. of Vacancies	Age Limit
1	Chief Risk Officer	01	Maximum 63
2	Chief Information Security Officer	01	Minimum 40 Maximum 63

For further details of qualification, experience, age limit and other criteria please visit our website www.ircfc.co.in - career section. Updates will only be available on the website of the company.

The last date for submitting the application is **30.07.2024**.

HR & Administration



Topiwala Marg, Off. Station Road, Goregaon (West), Mumbai - 400104.

MINORITY

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR THE FOLLOWING POSTS
FROM THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-25
UN-AIDED

Sr. No.	Cadre	Subject	Total No. of Posts	Category
1	Assistant Professor	Accountancy & Finance	06	06-OPEN
2	Assistant Professor	Management	06	06-OPEN
3	Assistant Professor	Commerce to Teach Foundation Course	03	03-OPEN
4	Assistant Professor	Mathematics / Statistics	07	07-OPEN
5	Assistant Professor	Business Communication (English)	03	03-OPEN
6	Assistant Professor	Economics	02	02-OPEN
7	Assistant Professor	Business Law	01	01-OPEN
8	Assistant Professor	Computer Science / IT	15	15-OPEN
9	Assistant Professor	Chemistry	01	01-OPEN
10	Assistant Professor	Zoology	01	01-OPEN
11	Assistant Professor	Microbiology	05	05-OPEN
12	Assistant Professor	BMM / BAMC	04	04-OPEN
13	Sports Director	-----	01	01-OPEN

The above posts are open to all, however candidates from any category can apply for the post. Reservation for women will be as per University Circular No. BCC/16/74/1998 dated 10th March, 1998. 4% reservation shall be for the persons with disability as per University Circular No. Special Cell/ICC/2019-20/05 dated 05th July, 2019.

Candidates having knowledge of Marathi will be preferred.

"Qualification, Pay Scales and other requirements are as prescribed by the UGC Notification dated 18th July, 2018, Government of Maharashtra Resolution No. Misc-2018/C.R.56/18/UNI-1, dated 8th March, 2019 and University circular No. TAAS/CTC/CD/2018-19/1241, dated 26th March, 2019 and revised from time to time".

The Government Resolution & Circular are available on the website mu.ac.in.

Applicants who are already employed must send their application through proper channel. Applicants are required to account for breaks, if any, in their academic career.

Application with full details should reach **The Principal, Vidyas Vikas Education Trust's, LORDS UNIVERSAL COLLEGE, Topiwala Marg, Off. Station Road, Goregaon (West), Mumbai - 400 104** within 15 days from the date of publication of this advertisement. This is a University approved advertisement.

Sd/-
PRINCIPAL

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Requires qualified professionals in the following position(s)/ discipline through Walk-in Interviews at RITES Office- Navi Mumbai, Ahmedabad & Gurugram from 22.07.2024 to 26.07.2024

VC No.	Post	No. of vacancies
107-R1/24	Project Leader (Civil)	01
108-R1/24	Team Leader (Civil)	04
109-R1/24	Design Expert (Civil)	06
110-R1/24	Resident Engineer (Bridge)	01
111-R1/24	Resident Engineer (Track)	03
112-R1/24	Resident Engineer (Civil)	04
113-R1/24	Resident Engineer (S&T)	03
114-R1/24	Resident Engineer (Electrical)	04
115-R1/24	Engineer (Design)	01
116-R1/24	Site Engineer (Bridge)	04
117-R1/24	Site Engineer (Track)	08
118-R1/24	Site Engineer (Civil)	05
119-R1/24	Site Engineer (Bridge/Civil/ Track)	03
120-R1/24	Section Engineer (Works)	03
121-R1/24	Design Engineer (Civil)	01
122-R1/24	Quality Assurance / Control Manager (Civil)	02
123-R1/24	Technical Assistant (Civil)	03
124-R1/24	Site Surveyor (Civil)	05
125-R1/24	Site Engineer (S&T)	06
126-R1/24	Section Engineer (Electrical)	10
127-R1/24	Design Engineer (Electrical)	01
128-R1/24	Site Engineer (OHE/Power)	06
129-R1/24	Assistant Section Officer (Finance)	03
130-R1/24	Site Engineer (Power)	03
168/24	Site surveyor/Estimator/ Designer (Electrical)	01
169/24	Railway operation and safety expert	02

For details regarding how to Apply, Position, remuneration, qualification, age, date & venue, selection process etc., candidates may see the detailed advertisement posted on RITES website www.rites.com under Career Section.

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE

5, Mahapalika Marg, Mumbai – 400 001

(Minority College)

Applications are invited for the following posts from the academic year 2024-2025

Sr. No.	Cadre	Subject	Total No. of Posts	Posts Reserved for
AIDED				
1.	Assistant Professor	Ancient Indian Culture	01	01-Open
2.	Assistant Professor	Chemistry	02	02-Open
3.	Assistant Professor	Geology	01	01-Open
4.	Assistant Professor	History	01	01-Open
5.	Assistant Professor	Life Science	02	02-Open
6.	Assistant Professor	Microbiology	02	02-Open
7.	Assistant Professor	Sociology	01	01-Open
8.	Assistant Professor	Statistics	01	01-Open
9.	Assistant Professor	Zoology	01	01-Open

The advertisement is approved subject to the final decision in the Writ Petition no. 12051/2015.

The above posts are open to all, however, candidates from any category can apply for the post.

Reservation for women will be as per University Circular No. BCC/16/74/1998 dated 10th March 1998. 4% reservation shall be for the persons with disability will be as per University Circular No. Special Cell/ICC/2019-20/05 dated 05th July 2019.

Candidates having knowledge of Marathi will be preferred.

"Qualification, Pay Scales and other requirement are as prescribed by the UGC Notification dated 18th July, 2018, Government of Maharashtra Resolution No. Misc-2018/C.R.56/18/UNI-1, dated 8th March, 2019 and University circular No. TAAS/CTC/CD/2018-19/1241, dated 26th March, 2019 and revised from time to time". The Government Resolution and Circular are available on the website mu.ac.in.

Applicants who are already employed must send their application through proper channel. Applicants are required to account for breaks, if any, in their academic career.

Application (Form available on the College Website on the following link [https://xaviers.ac.in/more/careers](http://xaviers.ac.in/more/careers)) with full details should reach THE PRINCIPAL, ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, (Empowered Autonomous Institute), 5, Mahapalika Marg, Mumbai – 400 001, within 15 days from the date of publication of this advertisement.

This is University approved Advertisement.

Maharashtra Samaj Ghatkopar's MSG-SGKM COLLEGE OF ARTS, SCIENCE & COMMERCE

Plot No. 17, Tilak Road, Ghatkopar (E), Mumbai - 400 077.

MINORITY

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR THE FOLLOWING POSTS
FROM THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-2025
UN-AIDED

Sr. No.	Cadre	Subject	Total No. of Posts	Category
1	Principal	-----	01	01-OPEN
2	Assistant Professor	Accounting & Finance	03	03-OPEN
3	Assistant Professor	Management	02	02-OPEN
4	Assistant Professor	Mathematics & Statistics	01	01-OPEN
5	Assistant Professor	Business Law	01	01-OPEN
6	Assistant Professor	Commerce Teach to Foundation Course	01	01-OPEN
7	Assistant Professor	B.Sc (Information Technology)	05	05-OPEN
8	Assistant Professor	B.Sc (Computer Science)	05	05-OPEN
9	Assistant Professor	Economics	01	01-OPEN
10	Sports Director	Physical Education	01	01-OPEN

The above posts are open to all, however candidates from any category can apply for the post. Reservation for women will be as per University Circular No. BCC/16/74/1998 dated 10th March, 1998. 4% reservation shall be for the persons with disability as per University Circular No. Special Cell/ICC/2019-20/05 dated 05th July, 2019.

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Application with full details should reach **The CHAIRMAN, Maharashtra Samaj Ghatkopar's, MSG-SGKM COLLEGE OF ARTS, SCIENCE & COMMERCE Plot No.17, Tilak Road, Ghatkopar (E), Mumbai - 400 077** within 15 days from the date of publication of this advertisement. This is a University approved advertisement.

Sd/-
Chairman

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CONTRAPUNTO

Students undergo a conversion in the third year of medical school – not pre-clinical to clinical, but pre-cynical to cynical

—ABRAHAM VERGHESE

Mess Gets Neeter

Official, judicial conversations on NEET are missing the main point, which is not retest but wholesale reform

The way ahead for 2.4 mn medical aspirants looks rocky. Deliberations on entrance test NEET's question paper leak are slipping into a maze. SC said a retest is an "extreme last resort" – only in play if leaks were "systemic", compromised the entire test, and if it was not possible to identify how many, and who, benefitted from the breach. Nodal test agency NTA says breach isn't systemic, didn't compromise the test at the all-India level, and was limited to centres of Godhra and Patna. Its claims are curious. In today's always-online world, it's naive to imagine that question papers would be confined to geographical origins of said leak. The scary part is that weeks after revelations of the breach, the only "solution" on the table is a retest, which is a non-starter. Everyone agrees with this, yet the idea lingers.

Students left hanging | Measures taken so far have been drops in the ocean of overhaul required. Ninety-three candidates have been debarred, and an SC-directed re-test was conducted to correct NTA's very own grace-marks fiddle. In the uncertainty, counselling, the next step of allotting colleges, has been indefinitely delayed. That means 1.3 mn candidates who qualified have been left high and dry. The academic calendar indefinitely delayed, it's clear that NEET, introduced as a reform, has plunged medical education into chaos.

Logistics one part | SC requires NTA to establish the extent of the breach. CBI will need months to do that, and it should not limit itself to investigating only the paper leak, for it will stumble upon more anomalies. What till then? It's been long suggested NEET-UG follow the JEE system of computer-based offline exams, with less outsourcing of examiners. NTA's overhaul too will not be overnight. A committee largely of technocrats headed by a space scientist is reviewing its functioning. The limitation is that both are really dealing with *logistics* and *security* of exams.

Reboot both NTA & NEET | Faults at NTA are not about conduct of exams alone. It is equally about govt's approach to assessment for professional and higher education. What is unfolding this year with NEET-UG – there's no end in sight for students' anxiety – is making it more than evident that centralisation of tests can derail an entire academic year, and future of students. That is the conversation that must also be renewed.

Let Them Bid

Fancy number plates are fun. More seriously, auctions are best way to allocate scarce national resources

Delhi's transport department is raking it in. Its auction for the coveted 0001 vehicle licence plate in March fetched a staggering ₹23.4L. Figures for other fancy registration numbers are almost as impressive. It's time Trai took the cue and sought its pound of flesh from telcos for vanity numbers they have been auctioning.

Auctions make things fair | But auctions do far more than just feed vanities of the rich. They have emerged as the best form of allocation of precious resources for the state. Efficiency and probity are not characteristics we regularly associate with govt. Remember 2G scam? The flawed manner in which telecom licences were handed out by UPA govt led to SC mandating in 2012 auctions for spectrum allocation.

By providing a level playing field, auction of scarce resources maximises revenue for the state, ensures profits for winners and benefits consumers, who gain from private investment and tech upgrade.

Process all-important | But they must be done right. Auction theory has fetched several individuals Nobel prizes. What the 2020 laureates, Paul Milgrom and Robert Wilson, said is most important. How auctions are designed is critical to bidding outcomes. Symmetry of info among bidders is another pre-requisite for a fair process. For, there is always the danger of "winner's curse", or a successful bidder overpaying, which can hurt the sector.

Besides telecom, sectors like mineral and oil & gas have seen auctions in India, with some notable results. To take one example, the biggest gas find in India, KG-D6, happened after bidding was introduced under NELP in 1999.

It's true every public good cannot and should not be auctioned. But even for those that can, the state can keep social considerations in mind while hammering out terms and conditions for successful bidders. It is the owner of the resource, after all.

Polls apart

Elections show that Britain and India are separated by a common democracy

Jug Suraiya

I happened to be in London during the British elections in which Labour Party scored a landslide victory over Rishi Sunak's Conservative govt.

A day before the polls I went to my local pub as usual. On leaving, I told the publican I'd see him the day after tomorrow.

Oh, going to some other pub tomorrow, then? he asked. No, I replied, adding that the next day his, like all the other pubs in the country, would be closed.

He looked horrified at the thought of all the pubs in the country being closed for a day. It was the end of civilisation the way he knew it. Why would all the pubs be closed? he wondered.

I explained that during elections all places serving alcohol were shut in India. He looked puzzled, and said that in Britain during polls pubs were even more open than usual. Those whose party was winning would celebrate with a drink, and those whose party was losing, would drown their sorrows in the same.

Will there be a lot of security bandobast? I asked. Security Bandobast? he said. Is that the name of a new pop band? I don't think I've heard of it, he added.

How about booth-capturing? I ventured. He looked bemused. Booth-capturing? he queried.

Why on earth would anyone want to capture a public phone booth when we all have our cell phones? he asked. Anyway, all the phone booths have long been vandalised and no one's going to bother to capture one, he added.

How about EVM tampering, then? Is there a lot of that? I asked. Is EVM a new food-delivery app? he responded. Why would anyone tamper with a food-delivery app?

What about horse trading? I wanted to know. Will there be a lot of horse trading after the polls? He frowned in deep thought. Well, Ascot's already over, where we do have horse racing, but I dunno about any horse trading. And why would anyone want to trade horses, anyway? he said.

I realised that while Britain and India both have democracy, the two are polls apart. Or polls apart.

secondopinion

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Why Jammu Is Terror's New Kashmir

One small ambush is no Uri or Pulwama, but a series of small attacks can build fear as effectively as a large one. India must strengthen Jammu's counter-terror grid. It's currently less effective than Kashmir's

Syed Ata Hasnain



A series of terrorist attacks have occurred in recent months in the Jammu division of J&K. Monday saw yet another attack on an army convoy in the densely forested tracts north of Kathua and well south of Doda (where Tuesday saw a new encounter), with five soldiers killed in action. This adds to the substantial casualties suffered over the last year or so. The question is why such terror attacks are escalating now. Hadn't the back of Pak sponsored terror groups been broken after 2019?

Why have terrorist attacks increased in Jammu?

Terrorism is like water. It flows wherever there is less resistance. For many years Pakistan concentrated on Kashmir because that is where its focus always has been. But after Indian security forces (SF) and intelligence agencies effectively neutralised the terror networks in Kashmir after 2019, Pakistan began losing its relevance as a stakeholder here.

Lack of high-profile terrorist activity, low levels of violence and absence of even street demonstrations meant a shrinking Pak ability to demonstrate its hold over J&K.

It has invested too much over 35 years to become irrelevant. If it does not demonstrate an intent of continuing to sponsor separatism now, it would be extremely difficult to revive any kind of resistance in later years.

Pakistan can see an asymmetry emerging in almost all domains with India's undoubted rise.

This means that with time, India's economic development will inevitably lead to the integration of J&K. Pakistan aims to offset this ambition by upsetting the apple cart.

Is there a specific calculation behind the timing?

Absolutely, yes. It is becoming almost impossible for the deep state sponsors from Pakistan to execute large-scale terror attacks such as Pulwama. The recent killing of six terrorists in the Kulgam area of Kashmir represents how attempts to hit large targets such as the ongoing Sri Amarnathji Yatra, are no longer succeeding.

SF domination of the Valley has ensured timely neutralisation of bigger terrorist actions. Pakistan is thus left to execute smaller acts. Of course, these terrorist actions are also timed to create obstacles in the path of upcoming assembly elections in the UT.

Why are the attacks being executed at such high frequency?

Smaller events executed frequently have the near impact of a large one.

One small ambush of a convoy with even a few fatalities inflicted does not measure up to an Uri or Pulwama. However, a series of such events in a given geographical area is a demonstration that the deep state has effective control over the initiation of violence.

It gives the planners a high in their scheme of things and emboldens them. Beyond this, the intent is definitely to make India defensive, force deployment of more troops on protection duties, tire out all SF and project Pak's abiding relevance.

there in 1989 and only for some years did Doda, Udhampur, Rajori and Poonch from Jammu division become very active. Thus, Kashmir has had a near permanent counter-terrorism (CT) grid, reinforced from time to time.

Jammu division's grid was reinforced by formations from Eastern Command and Northern Command reserves, which moved back once the area became relatively quiet by 2008-9. In 2020 a light division worth of troops was detached from Reasi and redeployed to Ladakh in view of the renewed Chinese threat.

Lower footprint and density of boots on the ground means the area is perceived as more 'doable' for terrorists. Infiltration here results in easy access to the National Highway Jammu-Patankot. It also allows a quicker melt into the Pir Panjal tracts where jungle hideouts abound.

Are there any operational lacunae?

Frequency of casualties is sometimes indicative of some lacunae in drills, and CT operations have a lot to do with effective drills. This is not to say that the army has been found wanting but that the earlier inactivity of active operations in Jammu in comparison to the very active grid in Kashmir may have taken a toll.

Movement of single vehicles, inadequately equipped quick reaction teams, and a poorly oriented intelligence grid can result in negative trends. This happens to the best of CT grids but full efficiency can also be quickly regained. Adequate resources to reinforce the grid have already been deployed. It should take just one major success of the CT grid for a positive trend to automatically commence.

What do we do about it?

We have faced such situations before. We cannot have troops guarding every inch of territory. That is wasteful. Precautions have to be taken especially in the remote areas of Jammu division. Of course, intelligence has to be sharpened. Local population has to be taken on board. Village defence committees have to be revived. Success will come with perseverance, but it will be a hard grind.

Pakistan and separatists want to push back the assembly elections. To thwart them, to neutralise the fear psychosis, assembly elections must be held with full determination.

The writer is former commander of Indian army's 15 Corps in J&K



Uday Deb

In what way is Kashmir better defended than Jammu?

Kashmir has been Pakistan's centre of gravity. The terrorist campaign commenced

Searching For The Peace Concerto In Vienna

As an EU but non-Nato nation, Austria is the perfect destination for Modi after his Moscow visit. He will get an idea of what a moderate European state thinks of his relationship with Putin

TP Sreenivasan



Much thought must have gone into the selection of Austria for Modi's visit after a potentially controversial visit to Moscow and the wide-ranging agreements signed there. Austria, together with Ireland, Cyprus and Malta, is a member of EU but not of Nato, which is likely to take a dim view of the warm reception that Modi got in Moscow. Modi may reiterate the call for peace and not war, but Nato countries would want him to condemn Putin for his aggression in Ukraine.

Old friends | Austria, on the other hand, has memories of India-Soviet relations proving beneficial to it during the difficult days of the occupation of Vienna after WW II. Following the 'Khrushchev Thaw' in Europe, Nehru intervened during negotiations in June 1953 on the Austrian State Treaty, which ended the Allied occupation of Austria and restored its sovereignty. India's good relations with the Soviet Union were a factor in the new arrangement, which entailed the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Vienna. It is customary on bilateral ceremonial occasions for Austrian leaders to thank India for the role it played in the liberation of Vienna.

Trouble-free ties | Even otherwise, India has enjoyed excellent relations with Austria ever since diplomatic relations were established in 1949. During my time in Vienna, there were hardly any

bilateral issues between us and I could spend much of my time dealing with our complex relations with IAEA as a non-NPT signatory, together with Pakistan and Israel. Several countries have multiple ambassadors, one for bilateral matters and another for Opec.

Some differences | On international political issues, India and Austria were on the same page, except on the universality of self-determination for all peoples. Austria was unenthusiastic about nuclear power for peaceful uses because of the dangers involved, even though the IAEA is located in Vienna. Austria had built a nuclear power plant despite its rich hydro-electric resources, but never commissioned it because of popular opposition to nuclear power. Austria was not positive about an expansion

of the permanent membership of UN Security Council. They would only say that India and other countries should play a greater role in UNSC. India had also supported Austria at the time of UN-Tyrol conventions.

Steady bilateral growth | Austria-India bilateral relations have been on the upswing with regular high-level visits and Foreign Office Consultations. Trade has been increasing steadily in a balanced manner. Austria believes in expanding traditional partnerships rather than jumping into new projects. As of now, there are more than 200 collaboration programmes, half of them technical like railways and heavy machinery. Austrian exports to India amount to 2bn euros and Indian exports are worth about 1bn euros. Austrian direct investments in India amount to about 532mn euros and

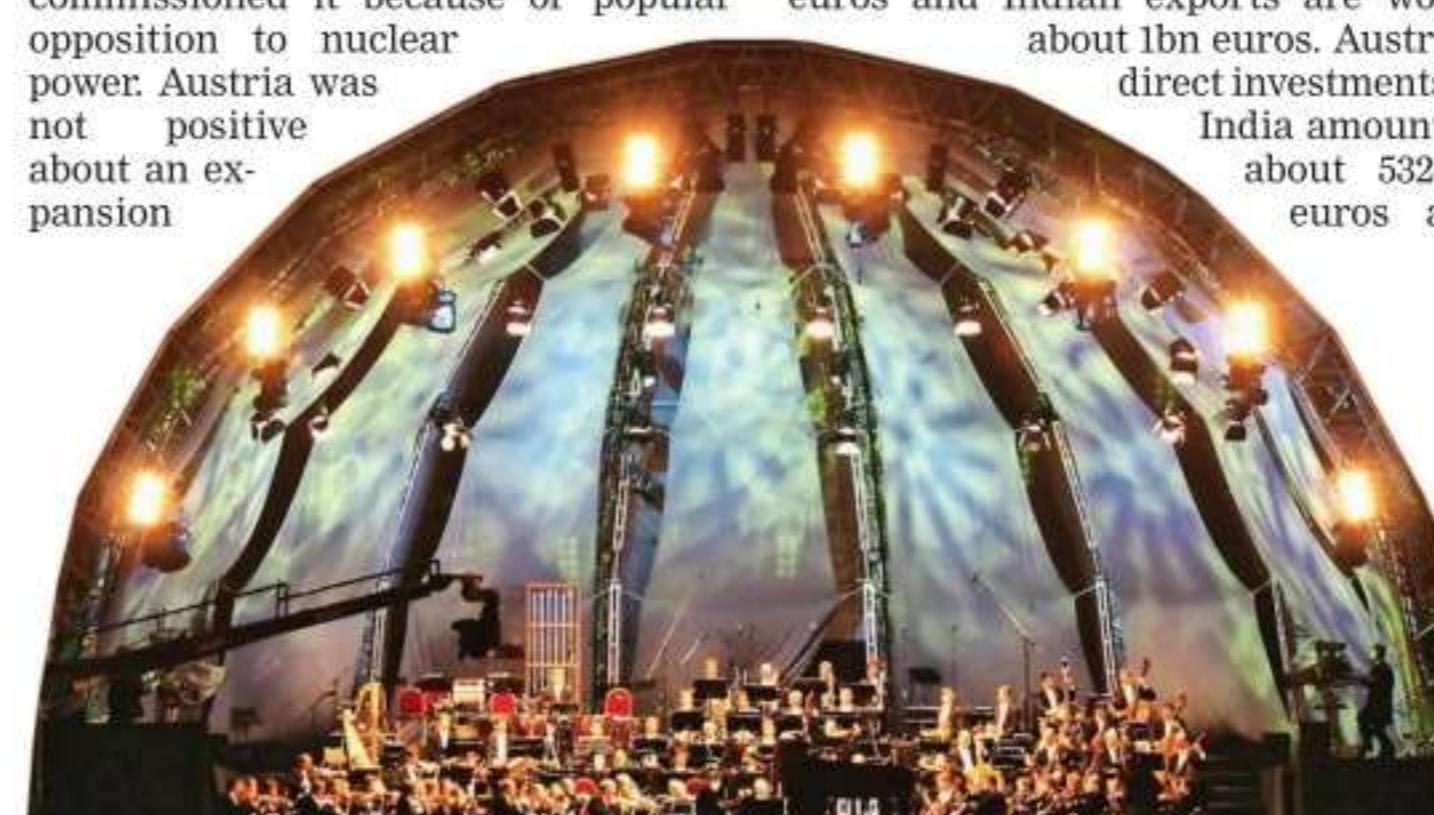
Indian investments add up to about 128mn euros.

Strong cultural connect | India-Austria cultural relations are strong and growing. Indian maestro Zubin Mehta performed regularly in Austria, while an Austrian, Radha Anjali, popularised Indian classical dances in Austria and also performed in India. More than 30,000 Indians live in Austria and 25,000 Indian tourists visit Austria every year.

As a UN Centre, Vienna hosts many international conferences, which attract Indian experts in many fields such as atomic energy, space, fight against terrorism and drugs. Modi's visit will strengthen ties between India and Austria and also demonstrate a model relationship between countries in Europe and Asia. India's ability to serve as a bridge between continents will be highlighted and India-Austria relations may also be seen as beneficial to the world.

Bridging continents | Modi will have a patient hearing in Austria about his meetings in Moscow as Austria is not anti-Russia in its policies, though it is weary of the war in Ukraine. Any hint of any progress on a ceasefire will be warmly welcomed and conveyed to EU and others. The stop in Austria after his Russia visit will enable Modi to measure the reaction in a moderate EU country. Once the ice is broken, India may eventually be able to become a true emissary of peace.

The writer is a former ambassador to Austria



CLASSICAL FLASHBACK: Zubin Mehta conducts the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra

Calvin & Hobbes



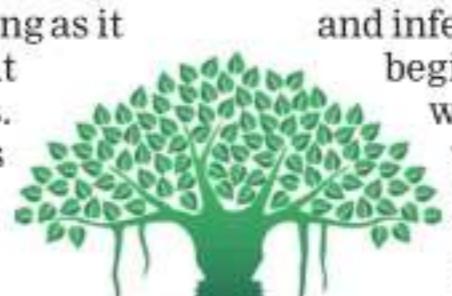
Narayani Ganesh

Something good happens to you – you cleared an examination, your blood test results are great, you just got that long-awaited promotion at work – and you feel overjoyed. You radiate that happiness to all around you and life is generally on a roll. The moment all that's listed above happens to someone else – and you have failed the exam, your cholesterol is high, and you did not get the raise or promotion you expected at work – you start burning with jealousy, you are angry, and you radiate all these negative feelings, making yourself and those around you miserable. Why is it so difficult to feel happy for your colleague or friend who managed to achieve those things?

When you take delight in the happiness of others, the Buddhists call it mudita. It means sympathetic joy. Physician turned mindfulness and

dharma teacher Christiane Wolf writes of the Buddha's exposition of the four brahmaviharas, the highest qualities of the heart. They are, metta, loving-kindness; karuna, compassion; upaksha, equanimity and mudita, sympathetic joy. Of these, mudita is perhaps the most challenging as it requires you to feel happy at the achievements of others. Jealousy among colleagues and even strangers is somewhat comprehensible but to resent the success of one's own sibling or parent, or even child, is something that is really gross. Instead of feeling joy and love, you feel violated, that how come this is not happening to you, and why is it happening to them? Why not me, why them?

The first step towards cultivating the quality of mudita, to feel joy at the

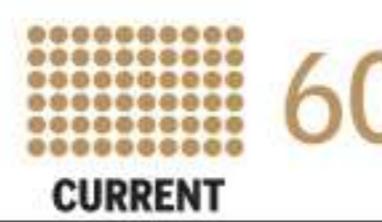


THE SPEAKING TREE

happiness of others, is to learn to look at your own self more sympathetically. Appreciate your good qualities, your plus points and maintain a decent degree



As India aims to be a developed nation by 2047, where will the country be placed in terms of healthy life expectancy compared to global benchmarks



60



64



74

Source: Ministries



74

JAPAN, AUSTRALIA, NORWAY

Global banks are biggest bulls in India's bond mkt

Foreign banks have emerged as the largest investors in India's trillion dollar sovereign bond market in recent weeks, attracted by the nation's economic prospects and a stable currency. They've bought more than Rs 50,000 crore (\$6 billion) of debt since June 1, according to data from the Clearing Corp of India. That far exceeds about Rs 20,000 crore of net inflows into index-eligible bonds in the period, and suggests global banks that typically buy as clients' custodians have also been snapping them up for their own accounts. BLOOMBERG



Khadi sales rise 9.3% to ₹6,496cr in FY24

Khadi sales rose 9.3% to a record Rs 6,496 crore during the last fiscal year, with khadi and village industries adding over 10 lakh jobs during the financial year, KVIC chairman Manoj Kumar said. KVIC sales are estimated to have crossed Rs 1.5 lakh crore. TNN

Fin Comm sets up advisory panel

The 16th Finance Commission has set up a five-member advisory council comprising economists D K Srivastava, Neelkanth Mishra, Poonam Gupta, Pranjal Bhandari and Rahul Bajaria. Gupta will be the convenor of the panel that will assist the Finance Commission headed by Arvind Panagariya. TNN

Ashwin Sheth group plans public issue

Mumbai: Luxury real estate developer Ashwin Sheth Group is looking to launch a public issue over the next 18-24 months and foray into new markets. The group, which reported revenue of Rs 1,486 crore in the last financial year, plans to expand its business in the MMR region and is foraying into Bangalore, Delhi (NCR), apart from Hyderabad, Chennai and Goa. It announced a new brand identity on Tuesday. TNN



E-pay flavour but cash is king for offline buys

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Digital payments may have made inroads into every nook and corner of the country but cash is still the king when it comes to offline purchases.

About 60% of the 'aspiring' class (annual income up to Rs 5 lakh) and 52% of the middle class (Rs 5 lakh to Rs 10 lakh) use cash to make offline transactions, finds a survey. This compares with about 37% and 41% of affluent and upper middle class income segments respectively paying cash for offline purchases, says the report by Amazon Pay and management consulting firm Kearney.

"For offline purchases, the preference of digital modes of payment increases with higher income levels."

Govt may offer guarantee under NPS to allay fears

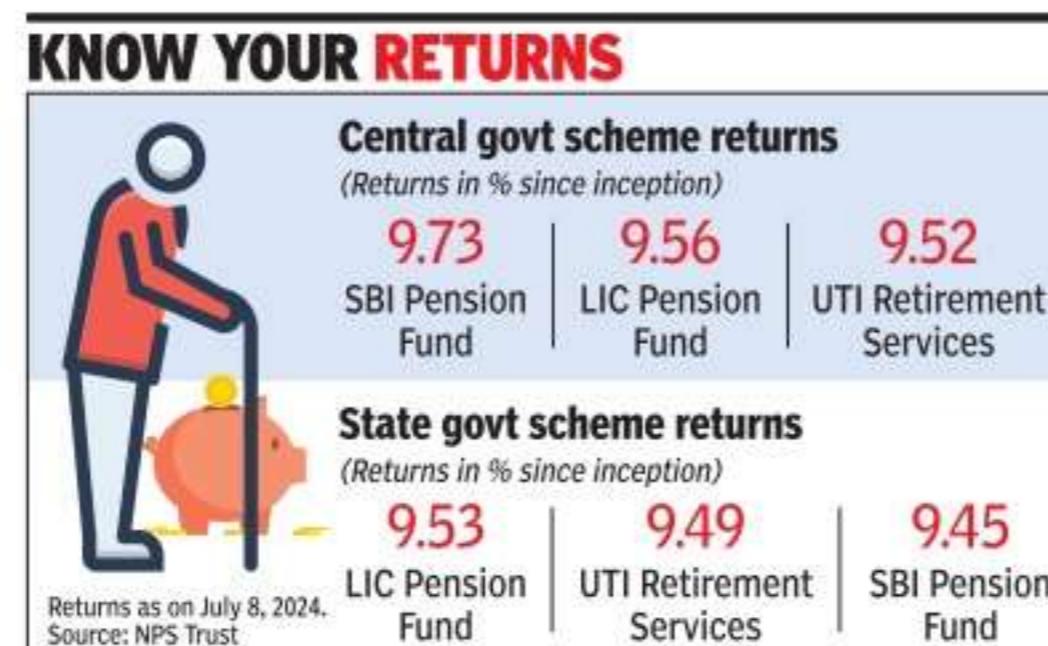
Employees Likely To Get 50% Of Last Pay Drawn As Pension

Siddhartha@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Govt is looking to assure central govt employees who are part of the National Pension System of 50% of the last pay drawn as pension as it seeks to address their concerns over the payout. This is despite the scheme for those recruited from 2004 currently offering high returns for those who stay invested for 25-30 years.

RUN-UP TO THE BUDGET

A committee headed by finance secretary T V Somanathan had been set up after an announcement by finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman. While the Centre has ruled out a return to the Old Pension Scheme (OPS), it kept the window open to provide a certain level of comfort at a time when Congress was announcing a reversal



of a decision taken by the Manmohan Singh govt.

OPS is a defined benefit scheme, offering half the last salary drawn as pension for life and subject to adjustments in line with pay commission recommendations. In contrast, NPS is a defined contribution scheme where a govt employee provides 10% of the basic salary as his/her contribution and the Centre provides 14%.

While the Somanathan

committee has looked at the global experience, as well as the results of the tweak undertaken by the Andhra Pradesh govt, it has also carried out extensive calculations to gauge the impact of providing an assured return. Although it is possible for the Centre to offer 40-45% guarantee, politically, it does not address the concern of employees who work for 25-30 years. As a result, there is growing ack-

nowledgement within the govt of offering a 50% guarantee. Which means in case of a shortfall, the govt will fill the gap.

This means that an annual estimation will also need to be undertaken as several committee members are of the view that unlike the govt pension system, which is unfunded as the Centre does not have a retirement fund. It is likely that the Centre will this time also create a fund that will set aside money, as is the case with companies that have retirement benefits for their employees.

Officials have maintained that those who stay employed for 25-30 years are seeing adequate returns to match the pension payment of those under OPS and the complaints of low payouts was only coming from those who have exited the scheme so far, having completed 20 years or less.

Banks' 'internal' a/cs being used for frauds: RBI

Central Bank's Dy Guv Urges Closure Of Unnecessary A/cs

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

unauthorised overdrafts.

"Internal accounts are high risk in nature on account of its potential for misuse. I therefore request the CFOs to have them rationalised completely, bring them down to the essential minimum and exercise greater control through periodical reconciliation and a proper reporting to the audit committee of the board," said Swaminathan. The deputy

Sensex hits life high of 80,397 pts on auto, FMCG

Mumbai: The sensex and Nifty rebounded on Tuesday, hitting their fresh record closing levels on the back of gains in auto & FMCG shares and foreign fund inflows.

The sensex climbed 391 points to settle at a new closing peak of 80,352. During the day, it jumped 437 points to hit a new lifetime high of 80,397.

Nifty went up by 113 points to 24,433 — its record closing high. During the day, it surged 123 points to hit a new record peak of 24,444.

"Both domestic and global factors continue to drive the market momentum. Currently, consumption sectors like FMCG and auto are leading the gains, buoyed by progress in the monsoon and kharif sowing," said Vinod Nair of Geojit Financial Services.

Among sensex shares, Maruti Suzuki jumped over 6% amid reports that UP govt waived registration taxes on hybrid cars as part of its initiative to promote environmentally friendly vehicles in the state. Mahindra, Titan, Sun Pharma, ITC, Nestle and Tata Motors were the other big gainers.

The market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms on Tuesday hit a fresh lifetime high of Rs 451.3 lakh crore (about \$5.4 trillion). In Asian markets, Seoul, Tokyo and Shanghai settled higher while Hong Kong ended lower. European markets were trading mostly lower. US markets ended mostly higher on Monday. Foreign investors bought equities worth Rs 61 crore on Monday, according to exchange data. AGENCIES

Cognizant, Wipro settle dispute over CFO exit

Shilpa.Phadnis
@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: Cognizant has agreed to a Rs 4-crore settlement deal in a move to resolve all pending disputes between its CFO **Jatin Dalal** & his former employer Wipro.

Wipro had sought Rs 25 crore from Dalal for breach of contract after he joined Cognizant as CFO immediately after leaving Wipro in Nov 2023. Cognizant paid Rs 4 crore to Dalal towards the settlement deal, though it was not named in an order from a Bengaluru court in Jan, where he invoked his rights to an arbitral tribunal. Cognizant wasn't named in the arbitration proceedings either.

Cognizant said that the terms of the settlement, which was reached without any admission of liability by either party, are confidential. It also mentioned that the settlement resolves all pending disputes between Dalal and Wipro. "The settlement was reached without admission of liability by either party. The company

Wipro Gets ₹4Cr

Wipro's payment covers Dalal's settlement payment to Wipro as well as reimbursement of his legal fees," Cognizant said in a filing with the SEC on Tuesday.

Some proxy advisory experts have said that this settlement has raised questions about whether it has set a certain precedent in the industry regarding non-compete contractual obligations.

The Rs 25-crore claim was based on the value of RSUs and PSUs granted to Dalal since he became CFO in 2015. The company had said in the court filing that everyone of the grants came with the condition that for a period of 12 months after his last date of employment, Dalal could not directly or indirectly engage with a competitor, could not solicit a Wipro customer to move the existing business to another party, and could not solicit a Wipro employee to be associated with a competitor, supplier, or customer.

Saurabh Govil, president and CHRO at Wipro, said, "We are glad this issue has been resolved, safeguarding our contractual rights." When TOI asked Wipro whether a compromise between Dalal and Wipro was reached, given that the settlement amount is much smaller compared to what Wipro had sought, the company didn't respond to TOI's queries.

Veena.Mani@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: Tech Mahindra has significantly increased its internal hiring to fill vacant positions, with the company's annual report showing that 70.2% of the total vacancies in the 2023-24 financial year were filled internally, up from 60% in the corresponding period last year. This was despite a decrease in the average training hours per employee to 48.9 in the 2023-24 financial year compared to 56.6 in the corresponding period last year.

Since CEO Mohit Joshi took charge in June last year, Tech Mahindra has prioritised internal hiring as part of its cost optimisation strategy. Its CHRO Richard Lobo, said, "We aim to harness the capabilities of our internal talent through targeted skilling, proactive placements, and strategic planning. We believe that a combination of internal talent and selective external hiring best meets our ongoing requirements, and our employees are responding positively to this approach." Industry experts suggest that the increase in internal hiring reflects Tech Mahindra's emphasis on profitability rather than filling vacancies.

Sebi mandates new AIF norms

New Delhi: Sebi on Tuesday outlined the filing requirements for alternative investment funds (AIFs) schemes that opt for a dissolution period to deal with their unliquidated investments. The move aims to provide flexibility to AIFs and their investors in managing such investments that are not sold due to lack of liquidity. Sebi said AIF schemes entering into dissolution period must file an information memorandum with it through a merchant banker before expiry of the liquidation period or additional liquidation period of the scheme. AGENCIES

president at Kotak Mahindra Asset Management. However, valuation excesses have been more in small- and mid-caps over large-caps, which is now forcing investors to diversify their allocations to large- and multi-cap funds, Upadhyaya added.

Multi-cap or diversified equity funds, which invest across different stocks to minimise risk of exposure to few stocks, saw inflows worth Rs 4,709 crore, a 27-month high. Sectoral or thematic funds saw the most inflows among the equity mutual fund schemes for the second straight month at Rs 22,352 crore.

Nifty and the sensex rose about 7% each in June, logging their best month this year so far. reuters

earnings and the fastest macroeconomic growth among large economies.

Inflows into India's equity mutual funds rose 17% sequentially to a record high of Rs 40,608 crore (about \$5 billion) in June, data from the Association of Mutual Funds in India (Amfi) showed on Tuesday.

Contributions to SIPs touched a record high of Rs 21,262 crore in June, hitting an all-time high for the 12th consecutive month.

Equity mutual funds have seen net inflows aggregating to Rs 5.9 lakh crore from domestic investors since Feb 2021, well above net foreign inflows of Rs 33,360 crore over the same period. The benchmark Nifty has risen about 65% over these last 40 months, helped by sustained mutual fund inflows, steady

with smaller cities still

with cashbacks, rewards and loyalty points, which incentivise consumers to use them for higher value transactions... the affluent segment leads the adoption of BNPL with about half of respondents indicating that they use this mode of payment, closely followed by the upper middle class," analysts at Kearney said. In contrast, about 18% of respondents in the aspiring segment are unaware of BNPL, while 36% who are aware are not very keen on using it.

In all, affluent consumers lead the digital payments space using online modes for 80% of transactions. The aspiring segment, though lagging, is fast catching up.

The segment uses digital payments for about 67% of the transactions currently.

With smaller cities still

'Unfair' job cuts: Labour ministry notice to Paytm

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

tions of all our employees and remain humbled by their dedication. The decision to transition some employees has been a difficult one for all parties involved, and was made only after careful consideration of all available options. As an organisation committed to providing the best for our teams, we have strived to provide the best possible support to our transitioning employees and ensure fairness and transparency throughout the process," a Paytm spokesperson said in a statement, adding that the company will attempt to resolve any issues expressed by those affected and are actively listening to their feedback.

The labour ministry has asked representatives of the company's management and the complainants to appear before the department with relevant records. Earlier this year, RBI imposed severe restrictions on Paytm Payments Bank (PPBL) due to persistent non-compliance.

"We value the contributions of all our employees and remain humbled by their dedication. The decision to transition some employees has been a difficult one for all parties involved, and was made only after careful consideration of all available options. As an organisation committed to providing the best for our teams, we have strived to provide the best possible support to our transitioning employees and ensure fairness and transparency throughout the process," a Paytm spokesperson said in a statement, adding that the company will attempt to resolve any issues expressed by those affected and are actively listening to their feedback.

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Analysts said that the next wave of digital payments growth is expected to come from small towns and cities. Consumers in cities like Bhopal, Jaipur, Indore and Lucknow are open to experimenting with new methods — these cities demonstrate higher payment modes like credit card — accounting for only 5-6% of transactions in these regions and BNPL, the report said. The report said that the potential for higher digital adoption in these towns.

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TIMES GLOBAL

THE TIMES OF INDIA, MUMBAI | WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2024

HE WHO OBTAINS HAS LITTLE. HE WHO SCATTERS HAS MUCH – LAO TZU

'THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA' SEQUEL IN WORKS, TO FOLLOW MIRANDA PRIESTLY BATTLING DECLINING PRINT MAG BIZ

CARA DELEVINGNE REVEALS SHE FIRST GOT DRUNK AT AGE 8: 'I THOUGHT DRUGS & ALCOHOL HELPED ME COPE' WITH SADNESS

All Eyes On Biden As Nato Summit Opens

Prez Re-Run In Doubt On Growing Perception He's Aging Rapidly; At 81, He's Older Than 75-Yr-Old Bloc

Chidanand Rajghatta | TNN

Washington: The world's most formidable military alliance began a three-day meeting in Washington DC on Tuesday, ostensibly to strengthen partnership on its 75th anniversary and pledge greater support to Ukraine in its war with Russia.

At the same time, all eyes are on the host, US Prez Joe Biden, whose re-election bid is in jeopardy on the growing perception that he is infirm and aging rapidly, and the looming shadow behind him of his Republican rival Donald Trump, who has often threatened to dismantle Nato and is seen in many quarters as unhinged.

The global geo-strategic gathering against the backdrop of domestic US political drama came even as PM Modi's visit to Moscow attracted adverse notice. A US state department spokesman said Washington has "made quite clear directly with India our concerns about their relationship with Russia". But a sharper reaction came from Ukraine's prez Zelensky, who posted photos of a children's hospital in Kyiv that was struck by a Russian missile on Monday. "It is a huge disappointment.



'PASS THE TORCH': A Democrat volunteer holds a sign that reads 'Pass the torch Joe' during a July 5 event in Wisconsin. Following the incident, the volunteer was asked to part ways with the election campaign

and a devastating blow to peace efforts to see the leader of the world's largest democracy hug the world's most bloody criminal in Moscow on such a day."

For the moment though, Nato leaders are more concerned with outcome of the struggle the US prez is waging to salvage his re-election bid against critics in his own party and liberal elites beyond. That ongoing tussle witnessed further drama on Monday when it was disclosed that a neurologist specializing in Parkinson's disease had visited the White House eight times in the last eight months.

The White House eventually

explained that the neurological specialist, Dr Kevin Cannard, had indeed examined Biden during each of his annual physicals, but not beyond that. Many of his visits related to regular neurology clinics at the White House Medical Unit (WHMU) in support of other personnel, president's physician Dr Kevin O'Connor said. "Many military personnel experience neurological issues related to their service, and Dr Cannard regularly visits WHMU as part of this," he said.

O'Connor stressed that Biden's last physical found no signs of Parkinson's, which he

Shouting match at WH briefing over prez health

The White House briefing room devolved into shouting Monday as the press secretary, Karine Jean-Pierre, repeatedly dodged and refused to answer questions about the prez's health, and whether visits to the White House by a Parkinson's doctor were about the prez. Jean-Pierre cited unexplained "security reasons" and at other times said that the doctor deserved a "measure of privacy", even though the White House had already released his name and made the visits public in visitor logs. "You're not answering a very basic, direct question," Ed O'Keefe of CBS News shouted. "I am telling you he has seen a neurologist three times," Jean-Pierre insisted. "Every time he has a physical, he has had to see a neurologist. So, that is answering that question." "No, it's not," O'Keefe replied. "No, it is," Jean-Pierre said as the two talked over each other. After the exchange, Jean-Pierre said she took offence at the way she was being questioned. "Personal attacks were not OK. I just want to be very, very clear here."

NTY

detailed in a Feb 28 letter, and that the prez "has not seen a neurologist outside of his annual physical". The clarification did little to assuage concerns of Biden critics in the Democratic ecosystem who are convinced that the 81-year prez will cede White House, and possibly the Senate and House too, to a more physically vigorous Trump.

TV networks on Tuesday wheeled out doctors specializing in Parkinson's. One physician told NBC News that Biden was showing "classic features of neurological degeneration", including word-finding difficulties; rigidity, including loss of

arm swing; standing up robotically; and low, hypotonic monotone voice. There will be minute scrutiny for any of those symptoms over the next three days during which Biden — older than the Nato alliance itself — will appear in public several times. Even Biden supporters are wishing for a more forceful and energetic leader to lead them, but it is not certain the 81-year-old prez can pull it off even if he wants to. Any verbal and physical misstep will be magnified by TV cameras, potentially leading to the end of Biden's re-election bid — and possibly of Nato too if his rival wins in Nov.

NTY

Russian court orders arrest of Alexei Navalny's wife in absentia

London: A court in Moscow on Tuesday ordered **Yulia Navalnaya**, the widow of late Russian opposition politician Alexei Navalny, arrested in absentia for two months. The court accused Navalnaya, who lives outside Russia, of participating in an "extremist" group. The decision means she would face certain arrest if she set foot in the country.

Navalnaya has stepped into the spotlight following her husband's death in an Arctic penal colony in Feb and said she will continue the fight for what Navalny called the "beautiful Russia of the future".

Writing on X on Tuesday, Navalnaya told her supporters to focus not on the court order against her, but on the battle against Russian Prez Putin. "When you write about this, please don't forget to write the main thing: Vladimir Putin is a murderer and a war criminal," she wrote. "His place is in prison, and not somewhere in The Hague, in a cozy cell with a TV, but in Russia — in the same (penal) colony and the same 2 by 3 metre cell in which he killed Alexei." The Kremlin has denied ordering Navalny killed. **REUTERS**

Far-left firebrand eyes PM post. Is France ready for the other extreme?

Paris: Emphatic, pugnacious and demanding: The style met the moment in far-left leader Jean-Luc Melenchon's speech to a fired-up crowd of thousands celebrating victory in Sunday's French legislative elections. Standing before supporters in the working-class 20th arrondissement of Paris, Melenchon addressed himself to Prez Macron, and not politely. "The president should either resign or name one of us PM," he declared.



In France, more people have a negative opinion of far-left leader Jean-Luc Melenchon of France Unbowed, than do of Marine Le Pen of far-right's National Rally. But he also attracts large crowds who hang on his every word

The others in the leftist coalition that almost immediately threatened to fracture despite its narrow victory Sunday. "He makes a real union of the left impossible. He's very provocative. The left is totally disunited," said Gerard Grunberg, a political scientist.

Melenchon fights with the media, targeting individual reporters, professes hate for the US and love for leftist Latin American dictators whose prolixity he shares. He has offered praise for authoritarian regimes in China, Cuba and Venezuela. He has refused to condemn Hamas as a terrorist organisation, has fought publicly with the leaders of Jewish organisations in France and is regularly accused of antisemitism, which he denies.

One of his longtime heroes is Maximilien Robespierre, the most bloodstained of the French revolutionaries, and during the campaign he shamed his own authoritarian side, purging five members of his France Unbowed party who had often disagreed with him. "Our democracy deserves better than you," Francois Ruffin, an independent-minded deputy and party member who was not one of those purged, posted on social media. **NYT**

He has said the person chosen to lead the govt should be himself. Unlike the others on the left, he has come close to the presidency, nearly making it to the runoff two years ago. He told France 5 television on June 22 that "very obviously" he was ready to be PM. "I intend to govern this country."

It is a prospect that even members of Melenchon's own coalition have vowed will never happen. "If he really wants to help the New Popular Front, he should put himself off to the side," said Francois Hollande, the mild-mannered ex-prez, a Socialist, two weeks ago. "He should just shut up."

He is not going to, and that is both a source of his support and his major problem with

Ukrainian fire hit Kyiv children's hospital: Kremlin

Moscow: Russia denied Tuesday that it had attacked a Kyiv children's hospital and said, without providing evidence, that Ukrainian anti-missile fire was to blame for Monday's strike. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov repeated Moscow's insistence that it does not hit civilian targets.

Ukrainian authorities say Russia struck the main children's hospital in Kyiv with a Russian Kh-101 cruise missile and rained missiles on other cities across Ukraine on Monday, killing at least 41 civilians in the deadliest wave of airstrikes for months. The Ukrainian Security Service has said fragments of the rear part of a Kh-101, with a serial number, were recovered at the site.

"The experts' conclusions are unequivocal — it was a direct strike," the Ukrainian State Security Service said.

The head of the UN human rights monitoring mission in Ukraine said its analysis was that the strike was likely caused by a direct hit from a Russian missile.

United Nations

Back in April, Pisano said she knew the pig kidney may not work but "I just took a chance". "Worst case scenario, if it didn't work for me, it might work for someone else."

Pisano was the second patient ever to get a kidney from a gene-edited pig. Richard Slaman died in May, nearly two months after the transplant. Doctors said he died of pre-existing heart disease. **AFP**

Woman who received pig kidney transplant plus heart pump dies

Washington: A woman who received a pig kidney transplant — along with an implanted device to keep her heart beating — has died, her surgeon announced Tuesday. Lisa Pisano, 54, was near death from kidney and heart failure when surgeons at NYU Langone Health performed the dramatic pair of surgeries in April. The New Jersey woman initially seemed to be recovering well but 47 days later, doctors had to remove the pig kidney and put Pisano back on dialysis after the organ was damaged by heart medications.

Despite the dialysis and implanted heart pump, Pisano eventually entered hospice care and died Sunday. NYU

AROUND THE WORLD



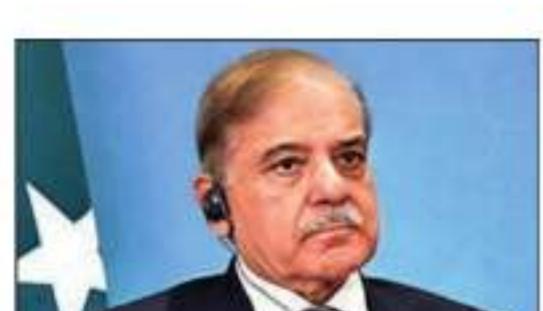
WEDDING FOR THE FRAME: Unable to get married legally in Japan, LGBTQ couples are celebrating their bond with elaborate 'photo weddings'. Studio Onestyle offers photo weddings for over 2,000 couples a year, and up to 5% of them are those identifying as LGBTQ

Beware sinners! S'pore hell theme park is dead serious about afterlife

Gory grottoes with demons impaling sinners on stakes and people drowning in a pool of blood are not part of your average theme park experience. But at Hell's Museum in Singapore, visitors are welcomed to a kitschy, air-conditioned hell on Earth. Inside a sprawling park complex with over 1,000 statues and dioramas showcasing Asian culture, faith and philosophy, Hell's Museum exhibits various religious views on the afterlife. Visitors are encouraged to learn about the 10 Courts of Hell through intense depictions of punishments for earthly sins. At court number two, for instance, corruption gets you frozen in ice while rapists are impaled on stakes. Impalement on stakes and people drowning in a pool of blood are not part of your average theme park experience. But at Hell's Museum in Singapore, visitors are welcomed to a kitschy, air-conditioned hell on Earth. Inside a sprawling park complex with over 1,000 statues and dioramas showcasing Asian culture, faith and philosophy, Hell's Museum exhibits various religious views on the afterlife. Visitors are encouraged to learn about the 10 Courts of Hell through intense depictions of punishments for earthly sins. At court number two, for instance, corruption gets you frozen in ice while rapists are impaled on stakes.

Pak govt authorises ISI to intercept calls and texts 'for national security'

Omer Farooq Khan | TNN



Islamabad: Pakistan's ISI has received a carte blanche from the Shehbaz Sharif govt to intercept phone calls and messages "in the interest of national security" amid nationwide outrage over the allegedly unbridled powers the spy agency already enjoys.

The authorisation to tap calls and messages was issued Monday by the ministry of information and telecommunication, citing multiple complaints about people mysteriously going missing in the troubled provinces of Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

"In exercise of the powers conferred under law, the federal government, in the interest of national security and in the apprehension of any offence, is pleased to authorise the officers not below the rank of

de 18, to be nominated from time to time by the ISI, to intercept calls and messages, or to trace calls through any telecommunication system as envisaged under the Pakistan Telecommunication (Re-organisation) Act," the order states.

The move comes in the wake of criticism by some Pakistani judges, journalists, opposition politicians and supporters of jailed former PM Imran Khan about the Shehbaz administration allowing ISI to breach citizens' rights in the name of national security.

In March, six HC judges ac-

Student from Andhra drowns in US waterfall

A 25-year-old student from Andhra Pradesh accidentally slipped into Barberville waterfall in Alabama, New York, and drowned, reports Samson Raj.

Gadde Sai Surya Avinash was from Chityala village in Andhra's East Godavari district. He left India about 18 months ago to pursue an MS degree in the US. On Saturday, Avinash was visiting his relative's place as he had a three-day holiday. Around 4pm (UST), he went to the waterfall with his friends. His friends said they were standing near the waterfall when Avinash slipped and fell. By the time he helped him, he was dead.

His father is a farmer while his mother is a homemaker. This is the second loss in the family in recent times. Three months ago, a relative from the same village died in the US after suffering seizures.

hern tip of the state, first discovered in 1992 and monitored intermittently since then.

But salt water intrusion caused by rising seas, soil erosion from storms and high tides

des, and herbivory by mammals placed significant pressure on the last population.

By 2021, a once-thriving group of roughly 150 stems in an isolated mangrove forest had dramatically declined to six fragile, struggling fragments, which researchers relocated to off-site cultivation in a bid to ensure their survival.

"Unfortunately, the Key

Largo tree cactus may be a bellwether for how other low-lying coastal plants will respond to climate change," said Jennifer Possley, the director of regional conservation at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden.

Key Largo tree cacti

continue to grow on a few scattered Caribbean islands, including northern Cuba and parts of the Bahamas. These plants

can reach heights exceeding 20

feet and feature cream-coloured flowers with a garlic scent

that gleam in moonlight. **AFP**

Singing about body image is a pop taboo. These stars are breaking it

Taken together, the first two song titles on Billie Eilish's third album, "Hit Me Hard and Soft", form a provocative pair: "Skinny" and "Lunch." "People say I look happy/Just because I got skinny," Eilish sings on the opener, her melancholic croon accompanied by a single, murky guitar. "But the old me is still me and maybe the real me," she adds, "and I think she's pretty."

That lyric is a gut punch. It's also indicative of a subtle shift among the current generation of female pop stars, who have been acknowledging — often in



NO MORE TH-INSPIRATION: Billie Eilish, Taylor Swift, Lorde, Lizzo & SZA are among those who are revealing, in their music, the pressure to look thin

in their weight had led her to stay out of the public eye.

For several years, conversations about weight in mainstream pop have centered around an artist bold enough to speak up about it and absorb the resulting backlash: Lizzo. In her lyrics, on social media, and in

her shapewear line, the singer and rapper has played up self-love, becoming a face of the body positivity movement. Earlier this year, however, she told NYL: "I'm not going to lie and say I love my body every day."

SZA, speaking to Elle about her plastic surgery to enhance buttocks (which she sang about on 2022 album, "SOS"), said, "I didn't succumb to industry pressure. I succumbed to my own eyes in the mirror." In "Homecoming: A Film by Beyoncé", she detailed how she restricted her diet to lose the weight she'd gained while pregnant with twins: "I'm hungry," she said.

These songs have been exceptions. A broader stigma around discussing disordered eating — and fears of discussing it in imperfect language — has led to a stifling culture of silence. On its face, this is a musical moment of unapologetic femininity power and shattered norms. But it is simultaneously a time of especially punishing beauty standards, heightened by the rise of image-forward social media platforms like Instagram and TikTok. Over the past two years, as diabetes drugs like Ozempic have become a powerful weight-loss tool, scores of celebrities have been looking noticeably slimmer. For the young singers now toeing up to one of pop music's last true taboos — singing about eating disorders and body dysmorphia — the pressure to be thin can be overwhelming. **NYT**

TECH I'D LIKE TO SEE

AI: OUR HEALTH SUPERHERO?

Imagine a world where AI acts like a superhero for our health. It sees the signs of sickness before we even feel them. Consider diabetes, a silent giant affecting millions globally. What if AI could raise a red flag early on, giving us a crucial head start to fight back? What if, using data from wearables and routine checkups, AI could predict its onset years in advance? This early warning system could revolutionise healthcare, allowing for preventive measures and potentially



Neeraj Khandelwal | CO-FOUNDER, COINDCX & OKTO

extending lifespans.

Yet, here lies the crux: AI's prowess hinges on our ability to share our health data. Regular internal body stats sharing with AI models is difficult work and that's a roadblock for this. But I believe it's not a distant future with smart devices and computer vision. That's the future I want to see – where technology isn't just for work or entertainment, but it's saving lives every day.

LIVE ON
FACEBOOK
ON
WEDNESDAY

July 10, 5pm to 6pm
Event page link:
<https://bit.ly/techieswebinar164>



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Nikil Jain
HEAD OF PRODUCT, AJAHEDA PERSAD, COUNTRY EXECUTIVE, NORTHERN TRUST CORPORATION

Almost Artificial

Sunil Agarwal & Ian Baker

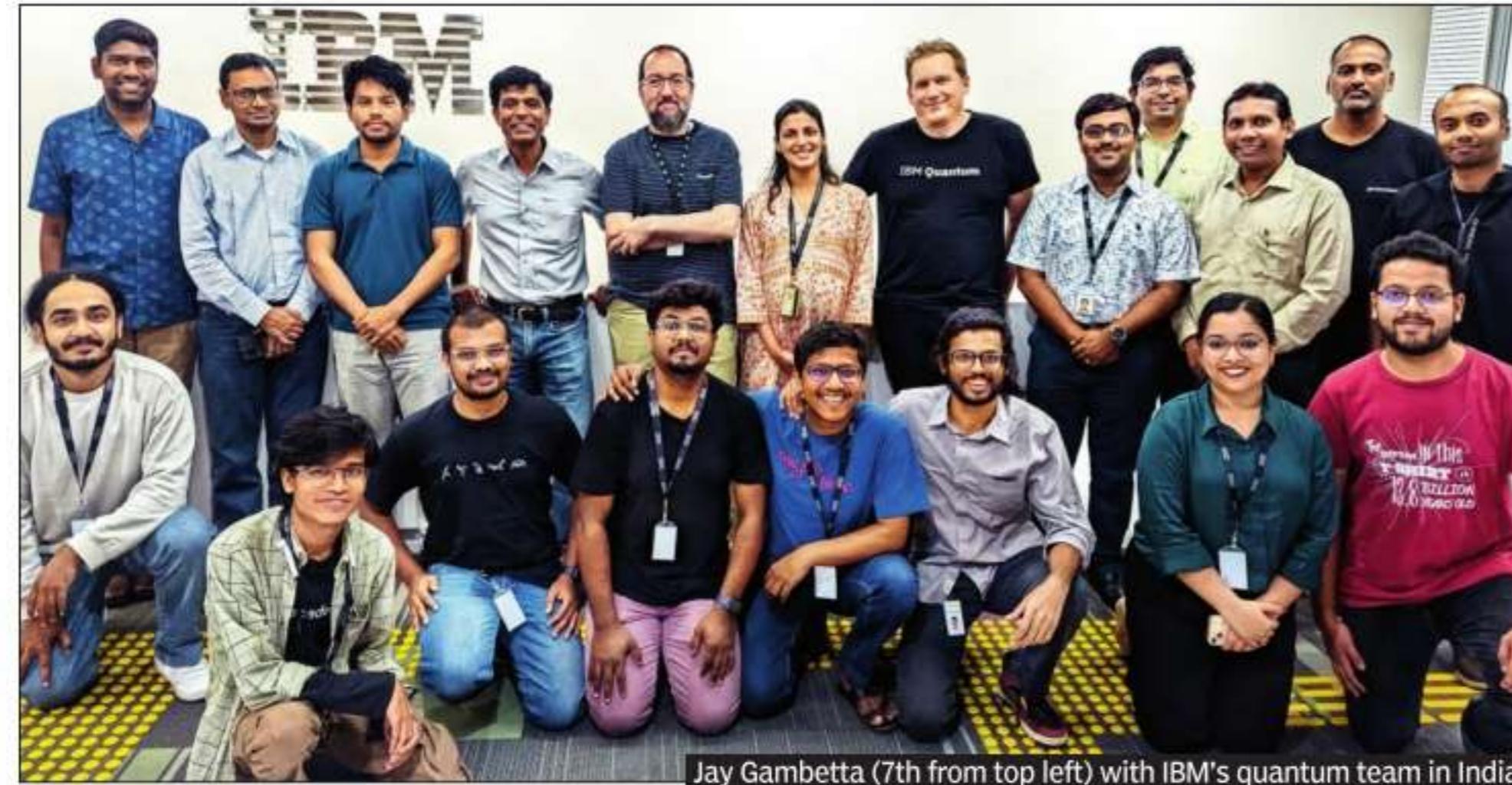
NO NEED FOR ABC,
WE WANT YOU TO
TEACH HIM AI.



IBM is at the forefront of quantum computing tech

The company has built over 70 quantum computers, with about 20 continuously available through cloud access

Akhil.George@timesofindia.com



“The future is going to be classical and quantum working together. Quantum is the first time the actual model of computation has changed. The math on a quantum computer is new math. Once you've created something that can scale a new type of mathematics, it's actually hard to come up with algorithms. That's why we love the field. We see a great future in quantum computing because a lot of interesting problems exponentially blow up when we try to map them to classical computers. Quantum gives us a way of looking at those problems with a new type of math. In my opinion, it's going to be just as hard to solve the algorithms as it is to build the hardware.

Jay Gambetta | IBM FELLOW & VP, IBM QUANTUM

machines that operate at temperatures "a thousand times colder than outer space." Their latest reliable quantum chip boasts around 100 qubits and can perform up to 15,000 gates – quantum operations that manipulate the qubits.

But the hardware is only part of the story. The real challenge, according to Gambetta, lies in making these powerful machines useful and accessible. "How do you actually make them easier to use? How do you create the software? How do

you create the mixing of classical and quantum together?"

The future, as Gambetta sees it, isn't about quantum replacing classical computing. Instead, he envisions a world where "bits, neurons, and qubits" work in concert, with CPUs, GPUs, and QPUs (quantum processing units) functioning as an integrated system.

This vision is already taking shape. IBM has built its first quantum data centre in the US, with a second underway in Europe. They've

also installed systems in local data centres in Japan, Canada, Spain, and at the Cleveland Clinic, a non-profit academic medical centre in the US, with plans for one in South Korea and a second installation in Japan.

However, the path to widespread adoption is fraught with challenges. "It's the first time the actual model of computation has changed," Gambetta notes. This paradigm shift means that even basic mathematical operations function differently in the quantum realm.

"How do you debug a quantum computer? Even answering that question is a really hard technical challenge because you can't just go in the middle of a quantum computation and stop it, because then you kill all the quantum coherences (the qubits are sensitive and can get scrambled easily)."

To bridge this gap, IBM created Qiskit, an open-source quantum computing framework. It's become a cornerstone for quantum educa-

tion and development, with India emerging as the second-largest user base globally.

As quantum computing inches closer to practical applications, the need for skilled professionals grows. Gambetta emphasises the importance of a blend of mathematical prowess and coding skills. "We're at the stage where we're actually rewriting how computing is done," he says, underscoring the unique opportunity this presents for aspiring quantum engineers.

Looking ahead, Gambetta says IBM's roadmap aims for quantum error correction machines by 2029, a milestone that would allow for quantum computations involving hundreds of qubits and billions of gates. Yet, Gambetta is quick to point out that the timeline for industry-wide adoption remains uncertain. "The uncertainty of when this is going to have a huge inflection in the industry depends on when the algorithms are discovered," he explains.

The people that discover the algorithms will end up creating their own companies, adds Gambetta. "That's what happened in the classical computing world."

In India, IBM's quantum team has been actively collaborating with academic institutions and government bodies, contributing to the national quantum mission. "The biggest thing is the ecosystem work we have done," Gambetta notes, highlighting the importance of bridging academia, industry, and government in advancing quantum technologies.

As the quantum computing landscape continues to evolve, one thing is clear: the race is on to harness this transformative technology. With IBM at the forefront, the quantum future may be closer than we think – a future where the once-impossible becomes routine, reshaping industries and pushing the boundaries of human knowledge.

INDIA'S QUANTUM COMPUTING RESEARCH NEEDS A BOOST

Vaiteeswaran.B@timesofindia.com

With the union government's ambitious Rs 6,000 crore National Quantum Mission to support the research and development of quantum technologies and applications, the state of quantum technology R&D in the country and how we compare with others has come to the fore.

A recent report by Itihaasa, a non-profit co-founded by Kris Golakrishnan, shows that India lags when it comes to publishing research papers on quantum technologies.

Data analysis shows leading educational institutions and national labs in India have published 1,711 research papers on various quantum technologies between 2000 and 2018, ranking 10th globally. This pales in comparison to the US which ranks 1st with 13,489 papers and China which ranks 2nd with 12,100 papers.

If only the top 10% most cited papers are considered, then the US ranks first, China third, and India twentieth.

On the patents front, Itihaasa's analysis, based on machine learning, shows India stands at 9th with 339 patents in quantum technologies. China leads the pack with 23,335 patents, and the US stands 2nd with 8,935 patents to its kitty.

N Dayasindhu, co-founder and chief executive of Itihaasa Research and Digital, said since the technology is in the developmental stage, and India has renewed its focus with the National Quantum Mission, it is possible for us to catch up.

But he said the country's quantum research should assess the local needs of the country and make sure the average citizen benefits from it. "Our focus should address the needs of the population – like finding treatment for a disease which may not be attractive for other countries," he said. Dayasindhu said the National Quantum Mission should prioritise building an ecosystem which includes constructing physical experimen-

HOW INDIA COMPARES WITH TOP PLAYERS

Estimated quantum investments of select countries (in bn \$)

China	15
UK	1.3
US	3.75
Germany	3.8
India	1



Publishing stats:

- Between 2000 & 2018 India published 1,711 papers (rank 10) in the quantum computing field, while China published 12,110 papers (rank 3), and the US published 13,489 papers (rank 1).
- If only the top 10% most cited papers are considered, the US ranks first, China third, and India twentieth.

Research talent in India:

Currently, India has 110 to 145 principal investigators working on quantum technologies in top institutions. These PIs support about 75 to 100 post docs & about 300 to 400 PhD students.

Source: Landscape of Indian R&D in Quantum Technologies by Itihaasa Research and Digital

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GAMBHIR ERA BEGINS IN INDIAN CRICKET

Ex-India Opener Is Perceived As The Ideal Choice By BCCI; Vikram Rathour Candidate To Succeed VVS Laxman At NCA

► From P 1

In the preceding two years, Gambhir had mentored Lucknow Super Giants into the IPL playoffs.

Ex-India opener WV Raman was the only other candidate interviewed by the BCCI's cricket advisory committee (CAC). It is understood that Gambhir will bring with him a support staff of his choice.

Names like Abhishek Nayar, LakshmiPath Balaji and Vinay Kumar are doing the rounds and BCCI will invite applications soon. It is also learnt that Rathour is seen as a potential candidate to succeed VVS Laxman at the National Cricket Academy.

"It is with immense pleasure that I welcome Gautam Gambhir as the new head coach of the Indian team. Modern-day cricket has evolved rapidly and Gautam has witnessed this changing landscape up close. Having endured the grind and excelled in various roles throughout his career, I am confident that Gautam is the ideal person to steer Indian cricket forward," BCCI secretary Jay Shah posted on X.

"His clear vision for Team India, coupled with his vast experience, positions him perfectly to take on this exciting and most sought-after coaching role. BCCI fully supports him as he embarks on this new journey," Shah added.

Gambhir, India's top scorer in both the 2007 T20 World Cup final and 2011 ODI World Cup final, said, "It is an absolute honour to serve my tricolour, my people, my country. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Rahul Dravid and his team of support staff for their exemplary run with the team. I am honoured and excited to take on the role of head coach."

"I have always taken pride while donning the Indian jersey during my playing days and it is going to be no different when I take up this new role. Cricket has been my passion and I look forward to working closely with the BCCI, head of cricket Mr VVS Laxman, the support staff, and, most importantly, the players, as we work towards achieving success in the upcoming tournaments," he added.

Known for his serious demeanour during matches, Gambhir recently addressed the issue by saying, "I am not here to entertain. I am here to win matches. That's my job as a professional."

Gambhir's leadership skills came to the fore in 2012 when he led KKR to their maiden IPL title before repeating the feat in 2014. It was during this phase that he also assumed captaincy of Delhi Ranji team after being dropped from the Indian setup. Gambhir's outlook was simple. He did not bemoan the axe from India selectors. He wanted to win titles, both with KKR and

Delhi. One of the major decisions he took was to play Delhi's home Ranji Trophy matches on lush green tracks at Roshanara Club instead of the Ferozeshah Kotla. He didn't care if he didn't score heavily. He wanted result-oriented games which could help Delhi move ahead in the competition which looked improbable on slow pitches at Kotla then. He isn't someone who is afraid of going against the grain.

Backed likes of Suryakumar, Saini

While the cricket world celebrates Suryakumar Yadav's T20 prowess, it was Gambhir who backed Surya's promise at KKR when he was going through uncertain times with Mumbai in 2013-2014.

"One needs to remember the pitch at Eden Gardens was very slow. It was more so for those who batted in the lower middle-order. Suryakumar consistently played those crucial knocks to take us over the line and that's why he caught the eye of people. You give players like him more responsibility. He was groomed as leader and he was announced as vice-captain of KKR for some matches in the following seasons," Vijay Dahiya, who has been Gambhir's trusted aid at KKR, LSG and Delhi as a support staff, told TOI.

It was in the winter of 2013 that Gambhir shook the Delhi and District Cricket Association (DDCA) when he handed Navdeep Saini a first-class debut. Saini hadn't played any formal cricket in Delhi and it sparked protests. Gambhir took a firm stand and went against voices like Bishan Singh Bedi and Chetan Chauhan. A season later, he took on DDCA again to drop Delhi stalwarts Mithun Manhas and Rajat Bhatia because he wanted to play youngsters like Nitish Rana.

No superstar culture'

When Gambhir first spoke to the owners at LSG, he clearly spelt out that he didn't want to build a team just for a couple of years. "He had said it was important to pick players who will serve the franchise for over a longer period of time," sources close to Gambhir told TOI.

People close to Gambhir would tell you that he felt let down when KKR decided to let him go. He believed he was coming into his own as a leader at the time and wanted to leave behind a team which could serve KKR for another five years.

For Gambhir, an Ayush Badoni will be as valuable as KL Rahul. He decided that every unheralded player will be judged through the same lens. He also backed his scouting team and decided to rope in pacers like Mayank Yadav and Mohsin Khan.



COACHING EXPERIENCE

► Was Lucknow Super Giants' mentor during 2022, 2023 IPL and in both seasons he helped them qualify for the playoffs.

► In 2024, under his mentorship, Kolkata Knight Riders went on to win the IPL title. He had also captained KKR to two IPL crowns (2012, 2014).

GAUTAM GAMBHIR'S STATS

Format	M	R	HS	Ave	SR	100s/50s
Tests	58	4154	206	41.95	51.49	9/22
ODIs	147	5238	150*	39.68	85.25	11/34
T20Is	37	932	75	27.41	119.02	0/7

—Stats: Rajesh Kumar

Rohit pens emotional note for 'work wife' Dravid

New Delhi: India's T20 World Cup-winning skipper Rohit Sharma has penned an emotional farewell note to the team's former head coach Rahul Dravid, expressing "gratitude" for his man-management skills and for leaving his baggage of stardom outside the dressing room.

"My wife (Ritika Sajdeh) refers to you as my work wife and I am lucky to get to call you that too," Rohit wrote about his first international captain on his Instagram page.

Rohit's tribute was also an indicator of how the player-coach equation works in the dressing room. "I have been trying to find the right words to properly express my feelings on this but I'm not sure I ever will," Rohit wrote.

"You are an absolute stalwart of this game but you left all of your accolades and achievements at the door and

walked in as our coach and came on a level where we all felt comfortable enough to say just about anything to you. That is your gift, your humility and your love for this game even after all this time," Rohit added.

The skipper was happy that they achieved the goal of winning a global trophy together. "This was the only thing missing from your arsenal and I'm so happy that we got to achieve it together," he concluded. PTI

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WE'VE GOT A LOT OF RESPECT FOR THEM. IF YOU LOOK AT THE HISTORY OF THE DUTCH, THE PLAYERS THEY'VE PRODUCED, THE MANAGERS ... THEY'VE ALWAYS BEEN THE TOP NATION. I'M NEVER GOING TO SIT HERE AND TALK THEM DOWN.

— ENGLAND MIDFIELDER DECLAN RICE

CONSERVATIVE OR LIBERAL?

Final Beckons: It's Either Restrictive England Or A Netherlands Finally Hitting Their Stride

Dortmund: England have a first ever major tournament final on foreign soil in their sights in Wednesday's Euro 2024 semifinal when they face a Netherlands side hitting their stride in Dortmund. The Three Lions are aiming to match their run to the Euro 2020 final, when they lost in heartbreaking fashion on penalties to Italy at Wembley.

England's only ever major tournament triumph also came on home soil at the 1966 World Cup. Gareth Southgate's men are out to end 58 years of hurt and have shown remarkable resilience, if not the quality expected of one of the pre-tournament favourites, in Germany.

Twice England have stared down a humiliating early exit to fight back against Slovakia and Switzerland to reach the last four. Individual moments of brilliance from Jude Bellingham and Bukayo Saka have kept them alive with late equalisers before beating Slovakia in extra-time and Switzerland on penalties.

Those were flickers of the individual talent at Southgate's disposal, even though his side had failed to hit top gear at the tournament so far. The 53-year-old was pelted with beer cups after a 0-0 draw against Slovenia in the group stages and has faced a backlash for his perceived negative tactics with a richly-talented squad. "I think we continue to give people fantastic memories. So we'll keep grinding," Southgate said.

Southgate is expected to stick by the 3-4-2-1 system used against Switzerland with Marc Guehi returning from suspension to replace Ezri Konsa.

The England boss has bristled at suggestions his side ended up on the kind side of the draw, away from France, Spain, Germany and Portugal. Yet, the Dutch can count themselves even more fortunate for their path to the final after finishing third in Group D behind France and Austria.

The Dutch team have produced nearly double the number of goals as England's, despite playing 60 minutes less. In Liverpool's Cody Gakpo and Burnley target man Wout Weghorst, Ronald Koeman's men have a variety of different tools to create havoc at the other end, leading to hope of a more entertaining, higher-calibre clash. Koeman's men produced their best display of the tournament in sweeping aside Romania 3-0 in the last 16 before battling back from a goal down to beat Turkey 2-1 in front of a hostile crowd in Berlin.

Coming up against a raft of Premier League stars will hold little fear for the Netherlands, who boast their own impressive crop of talent plying their trade in England's top flight. "If you see the quality of players from both teams, you can expect the rhythm and level of the game will be really high," said Tottenham defender Micky van de Ven.

The Dutch have had to wait 36 years since their only sole major tournament triumph, the last time the Euros were held in Germany. That is also the only time they have ever made a European Championship final.

But they will fancy their chances of being in Berlin on Sunday unless England suddenly click into gear. AFP

Dutch travel to Dortmund disrupted: The Netherlands had their travel to Dortmund on Tuesday for the semifinal disrupted and were forced to abandon their original plans to travel by train, the Dutch football association (KNVB) said. They will now fly to Dortmund from their base in Wolfsburg. "The train service was cancelled due to a blockage on the route," the KNVB said.



DID MESSI BAPTISE BABY YAMAL? PHOTOGRAPHER SHEDS LIGHT ON VIRAL PICS

Barcelona: When Joan Monfort took photos of Lionel Messi with a baby for a charity calendar almost 17 years ago, he knew the long-haired young man would make it big in football. He could not have imagined the little boy would as well.

The baby in the photos — which have gone viral — was none other than Lamine Yamal, the Spanish wunderkind, who at

SEMIFINAL 2 NED vs ENG



Pix: AFP, Getty Images



PREDICTED LINEUPS



NETHERLANDS: Verbruggen (1); Dumfries (22), De Vrij (6), Van Dijk (4), Ake (5); Schouten (24), Simons (7), Reijnders (14); Malen (18), Depay (10), Gakpo (11)

ENGLAND: Pickford (1); Walker (2), Stones (5), Guehi (6); Saka (7), Mainoo (26), Rice (4), Shaw (3); Bellingham (10), Foden (11); Kane (9)



THEY'VE GOT THEIR OWN TYPE OF PERSONALITY. HOW THEY PLAY DOESN'T AFFECT HOW WE PLAY, IT'S ABOUT US STEPPING UP TO THAT LEVEL AND BEING THE BEST ON THE NIGHT. WE'VE GOT A NEVER-SAY-DIE MENTALITY AND WE KEEP PUSHING, AND WE KEEP GETTING OVER THE LINE, AND THAT'S AN ART IN ITSELF.

— Jordan Pickford, ENGLAND GOALKEEPER

MAN TO MAN

Gakpo	Saka
5	5
435	456
8	1
3	3
1	3
46.24	50.44
32.8	33.5
76%	90%
6	8
16	11
16	9
6	8
174	280
4/7	1/2
9	12

(In this Euro)

3 Under Southgate, England are now in a third semifinal in four major tournaments — matching the three semifinals they had reached in their history prior to his appointment eight years ago.

SAKA 7

KEY BATTLES

DUTCH LEFT V ENG RIGHT

Liverpool winger Cody Gakpo, with three goals, is Netherlands' key attacking threat. Most of his dangerous moves rely on his involvement, but in England right-back Kyle Walker faces a tough defender to get the better of. Walker can match Gakpo for pace and Southgate will instruct Bukayo Saka to track back. At the other end Saka faces a familiar foe in City's Nathan Ake, who has fared well against him at club level.

BELLINGHAM V SCHOUTEN AND REIJNDERS

Jude Bellingham has played a decisive role at key moments for England. Netherlands will be looking to their deeper-lying midfield duo Tijjani Reijnders and Jerry Schouten to keep him under wraps. The Dutch pair have fared well together.

TRIPPIER V DUMFRIES

Southgate's decision to play with Kieran Trippier on the left of defence has drawn criticism for being too defensive. However if there is any match where his presence could prove vital it is against the Netherlands. Dutch right-back Denzel Dumfries leapt to fame for his buccaneering runs down the right in Euro 2020 and he has been a menace again.

KANE V VAN DIJK

Finishing the season with a back problem, Harry Kane clearly is nowhere close to his physical peak and now must tussle with Liverpool defender Virgil van Dijk. The Dutchman has not been at his best either but like his team, has improved in the knockout rounds.

NED'S EURO SEMIFINAL RECORD IS W1 L4

1976	L	1-3 v Czechoslovakia (aet)
1988	W	2-1 v West Germany
1992	L	2-2 v Denmark (aet, 4-5 pens)
2000	L	0-0 v Italy (aet, 1-3 pens)
2004	L	1-2 v Portugal

ENG'S EURO SEMIFINAL RECORD IS W1 L2

1968	L	0-1 v Yugoslavia
1996	L	1-1 v Germany (aet, 5-6 pens)
2020	W	2-1 v Denmark (aet)

CLASSIC CLASHES

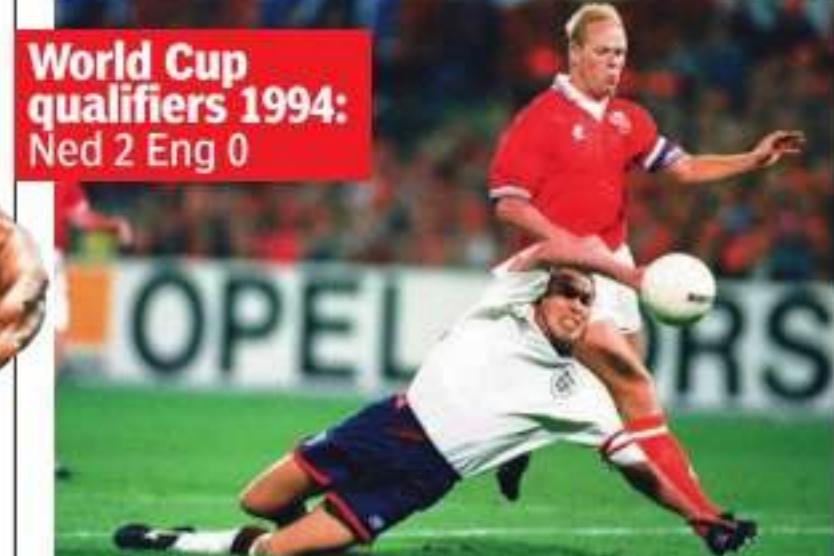
For the 23rd time in their long and illustrious history, the Netherlands and England will clash in a men's football match on Thursday. Only a few of their previous clashes have held as much significance as this one.



Euro 1988:
Eng 1 Ned 3

In the 1988 Euros, also held in Germany, the Netherlands emerged victorious with a 3-1 win over England in their second Group 2 match.

Marco van Basten's (above) hat-trick proved decisive, overshadowing Glenn Hoddle and Gary Lineker's efforts that struck the post. Despite Bryan Robson's equalizer, Van Basten's brilliance sealed the deal for the Dutch. This defeat remains one of England's heaviest international losses and one of the most famous performances of the Dutch.



World Cup qualifiers 1994:
Ned 2 Eng 0

England have failed to qualify for just one World Cup since the 1970s, and it was the Dutch who denied them a place at USA 94. Graham Taylor's England had a poor campaign, taking just one point from two games against Norway, who topped the group. They squandered a two-goal lead at home to the Dutch at Wembley, but when they went to Rotterdam for the return fixture, England still had qualification in their own hands as they were above the Dutch. With Paul Gascoigne suspended, England fell behind to a free-kick just after the hour mark by current Dutch coach, Ronald Koeman — who the visitors felt should have been sent off earlier on for a clear penalty area foul on David Platt (above) — before Dennis Bergkamp sealed a 2-0 win. England beat San Marino in their final game but a Dutch win in Poland ensured they qualified instead, and reached the quarter-finals in the US.

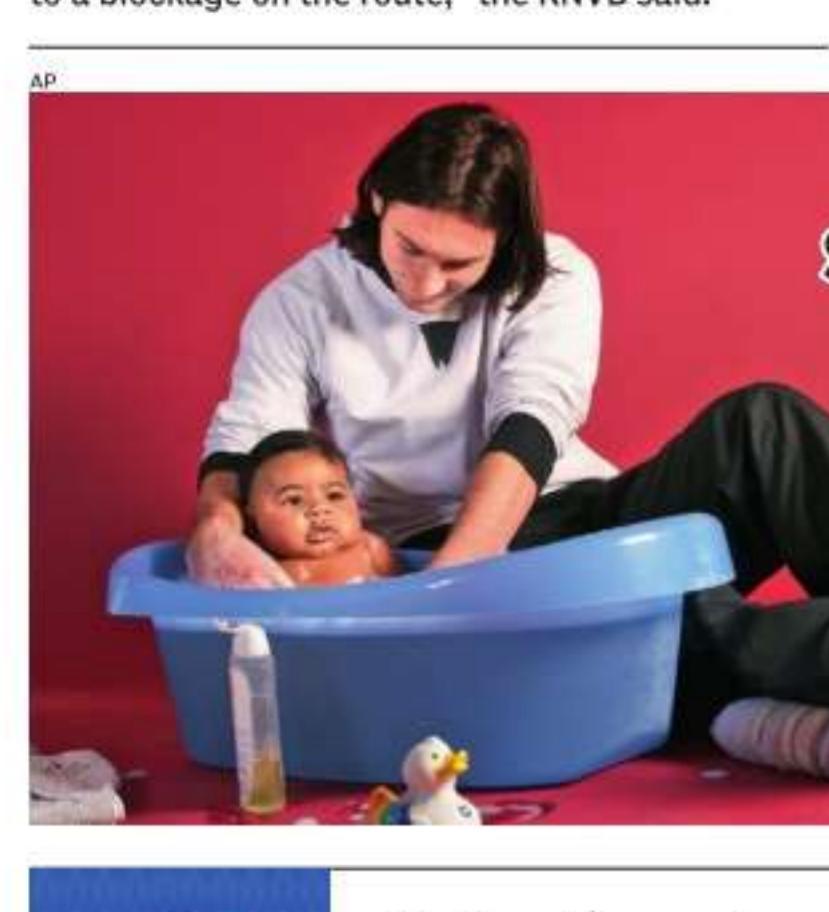


In one of their finest performances, England dismantled a star-studded Dutch side with a 4-1 victory at Euro 1996. In front of a passionate home crowd at Wembley, Alan Shearer and Teddy Sheringham both scored braces, showcasing England's fine movement and intelligence under Terry Venables. Current manager Gareth Southgate (above) impressed in defensive midfield. Patrick Kluivert got a late consolation goal, but home fans were over the moon.

Nations League 2019

Ned 3 Eng 1

The most recent encounter, with Southgate and Koeman both present on the touchline, was a story of redemption for a Dutch defender. Matthijs de Ligt, who had conceded a penalty in the first half, allowing Marcus Rashford to convert, rose above his opponents to head the Dutch level with 17 minutes remaining, forcing the game into extra-time. John Stones was responsible for a Kyle Walker own goal in the 97th minute. With just six minutes of extra time remaining, Stones exposed Ross Barkley with a back pass. Depay squared the ball for Promes to score. England went on to defeat Switzerland on penalties in the third-place playoff, while the Netherlands were beaten by Portugal in the final. AFP



Bielsa's stamp on new Uruguay

La Celeste confident against Colombia

Charlotte: Uruguay, who eliminated Brazil after a shoot-out on Saturday, will face Colombia, a team that is unbeaten in 27 matches and defeated Panama 5-0 in their quarterfinal.

Argentina and Uruguay, both currently holding 15 Copa America titles, are striving to break the tie and become the tournament's most successful nation in history. Colombia has a single title from 2001, while Canada are participating in the tournament for the first time.

Under Nestor Lorenzo's guidance, Colombia continue to make a strong impression, with James Rodriguez's late-career resurgence providing



WHO'S IN CHARGE? During the penalty shootout in the quarterfinal, Bielsa (L) dictated the Uruguayan proceedings while Brazil coach Dorival (R) was a peripheral figure ignored by the players

opening a lot match by match," Bielsa said. "Like Brazil, they have important strikers in every position, but we are confident," he added.

No team has scored more goals in the tournament than Uruguay, who netted nine times in the group stage. But three straight clean sheets have also helped Uruguay book a semifinal berth and Bielsa was quick to praise his squad's

mentality rather than take credit for their defensive record. "I am a bit more drawn to the offensive than the defensive game, but in a match that was as tight as this one, we created one more opportunity than our opponent and we defended well," Bielsa added. AGENCIES

Sao Paulo: When Brazil were knocked out of the Copa America quarterfinals by Uruguay on Saturday night in Las Vegas, Neymar wept for his distressed teammates while at a sauna concert in Brazil.

The squad and its all-time leading scorer weren't all that

focused on the Copa when it started, but they will desperately need each other in two years if they want a different outcome at the next World Cup.

Neymar was never going to the Copa after he ruptured the ACL in his left knee last October. Vinicius Junior, Brazil's top scorer in the Copa with two, missed the Uruguay quarterfinal because of a suspension. And teenage sensation

Endrick didn't find the net. Brazilian pundits, former footballers and analysts say the team can regroup, but wonder whether coach Dorival Junior — who has had the job only since January — is the right man to lead that process. They also regard Neymar as wasting his talent in Saudi Arabia and overly focused on his private life. They also point to Brazil wasting a full year under interim coach Fernando Diniz, allegedly because CBF executives were waiting for Carlo Ancelotti to quit Real Madrid.

"We need to speed it up because we are starting (World Cup preparations) now," said pundit Junior, who played for Brazil's 1982 World Cup team. Nostalgic fans point to 2001

to believe Brazil can turn things around quickly. That year, Brazil under new coach Luiz Felipe Scolari was dumped from the Copa quarterfinals by Honduras. That embarrassment made supporters believe Brazil had no hope for the 2002 World Cup in Japan and South Korea. Brazil's then-star Romaldo missed that Copa but recovered from his second ACL injury to lead the team to its fifth World Cup star.

In his recovery from the ACL injury, the 32-year-old Neymar has become an even more divisive figure at home. But following the team's poor showing at the Copa, Brazilian analysts say Neymar was the biggest Brazilian winner and remains key to the team's future. AP



'Lost' Brazil look to Neymar and history for fresh hope

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'CONCENTRATION WAS A GOD-GIVEN GIFT'

Gaurav.Gupta@timesofindia.com

Long before India became a cricketing superpower and long before Sachin Tendulkar and Virat Kohli arrived, the country's mood barometer fluctuated depending on the answer to the question: 'Gavaskar out hua, ya khel raha hai? Braving some of the most fearsome attacks in world cricket in the 70s and early and mid-80s, Sunil Gavaskar single-handedly gave Indian cricket the steel, spine and respect. Post retirement, he transitioned into a TV commentator, who called a spade a spade. Even as the country is still dealing with the hangover of India's T20 World Cup win, it also bows down to Sunil Gavaskar on his 75th birthday. The master batter was the first to score 10,000 Test runs (10,122), and the first to score 30 Test hundreds (34). In an exclusive interview with TOI, Gavaskar shares his thoughts on turning 75, his glorious career and issues that matter to cricket.

How does it feel to turn 75?

I was a new-ball bowler, so I didn't turn anything! Even the two international wickets I have were of straight deliveries which the batter thought would turn but didn't!

What keeps you so fit at this age? You travel around the world for commentary assignments, and are still heavily into broadcasting?

I don't know about being fit. I have a shoulder and a lower back issue, so can't say I am fit. I've had issues with shin splints since my playing days. I can't run and can only do brisk walking as exercise. Till last year, walking 10,000 steps every day was the aim, but now it's been brought down to 7500, though actually I end up doing more than that. I owe what I am to cricket and Indian cricket, so covering the games India plays is hardly a job.

Apparently, such were your powers of concentration that you could read a Jeffrey Archer novel even in a crowd. Were you always like that? What did you do to harness those powers?

Concentration was a God-given gift, and thankfully, it is still there. The only problem is that often, I am so engrossed in what I am reading or listening to music that I end up offending people who are trying to talk to me as I get totally wrapped up in reading or listening on my ear plugs.

What made you so fearless as a batter? You faced some of the best fast bowlers without a helmet.

Look, I have been vertically challenged all my life, so from school days, all the opposition new-ball bowlers tried to scare the beejammies off me. So, I got used to that, though I must confess that in my first series against West Indies in 1971, to see the ball being delivered from that height was a new experience!

You fought with BCCI in the 70s for cricketers to be paid better. How satisfying is it to see today's cricketers earn well?

It is terrific to see today's cricketers get duly rewarded for it is they who bring in the crowds and the sponsors. Thanks

for remembering and informing the 'Internet Generation' that way back in the 70s, we took up cudgels on behalf of the players for better match fees and allowing our wives to travel and stay with us. We did that at a risk to our spots in the team. The thing that I am proud of is a representation made by Chetan Chauhan (former India opener) and me to the then finance minister to consider not taxing match fees for playing for India. In fact, we asked for exemption for all sports, not just cricket. He responded by giving a standard deduction of 75% on Test fees of Rs 5000 then and zero tax on ODIs. We hardly played two or three ODIs in a year then and for a fee of Rs 1000. So, there was hardly any loss to the exchequer. That notification was valid till 1998, when India was playing around 30 ODIs and getting one lakh per game. So Rs 30 lakh was tax free!

Apart from commentary, what is it that keeps you busy?

I am also quite involved in a couple of foundations. One is the 'Heart2 heart' foundation which is creating awareness about the problem of congenital heart diseases in children and raising funds for their free surgeries. The other is the CHAMPS foundation, which is the acronym for Caring, Helping, Assisting, Motivating, Promoting Sportspersons. We just celebrated 25 years of the foundation, which has been sending monthly cheques since 1999 to those international sportspersons who gave everything for Indian sports and may not be in the best financial health now.

Your five favourite Test knocks?

117 not out at Barbados when we had to save the Test (fourth Test of the 1971 series against West Indies). The 220 in the last Test in Trinidad, where again we needed a draw to win that series. I got a 57 at Old Trafford, on a fast, grassy bouncy pitch in wet, freezing cold conditions (against England in 1971). India drew that match and famously won that series 1-0 and I didn't wear a sweater because of superstition, so felt the cold a fair bit. This is my best innings in Test cricket. In 1974, at Old Trafford again, in similarly cold conditions, I scored 101. It restored my self-belief as that was the first ton after 1971.

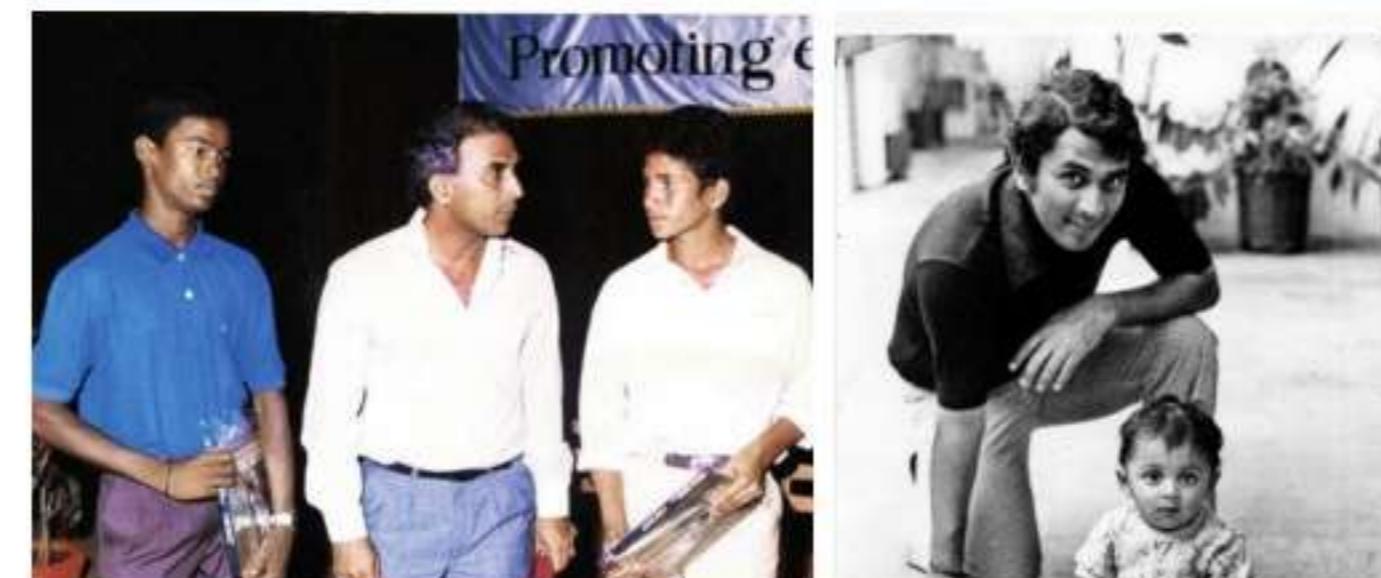
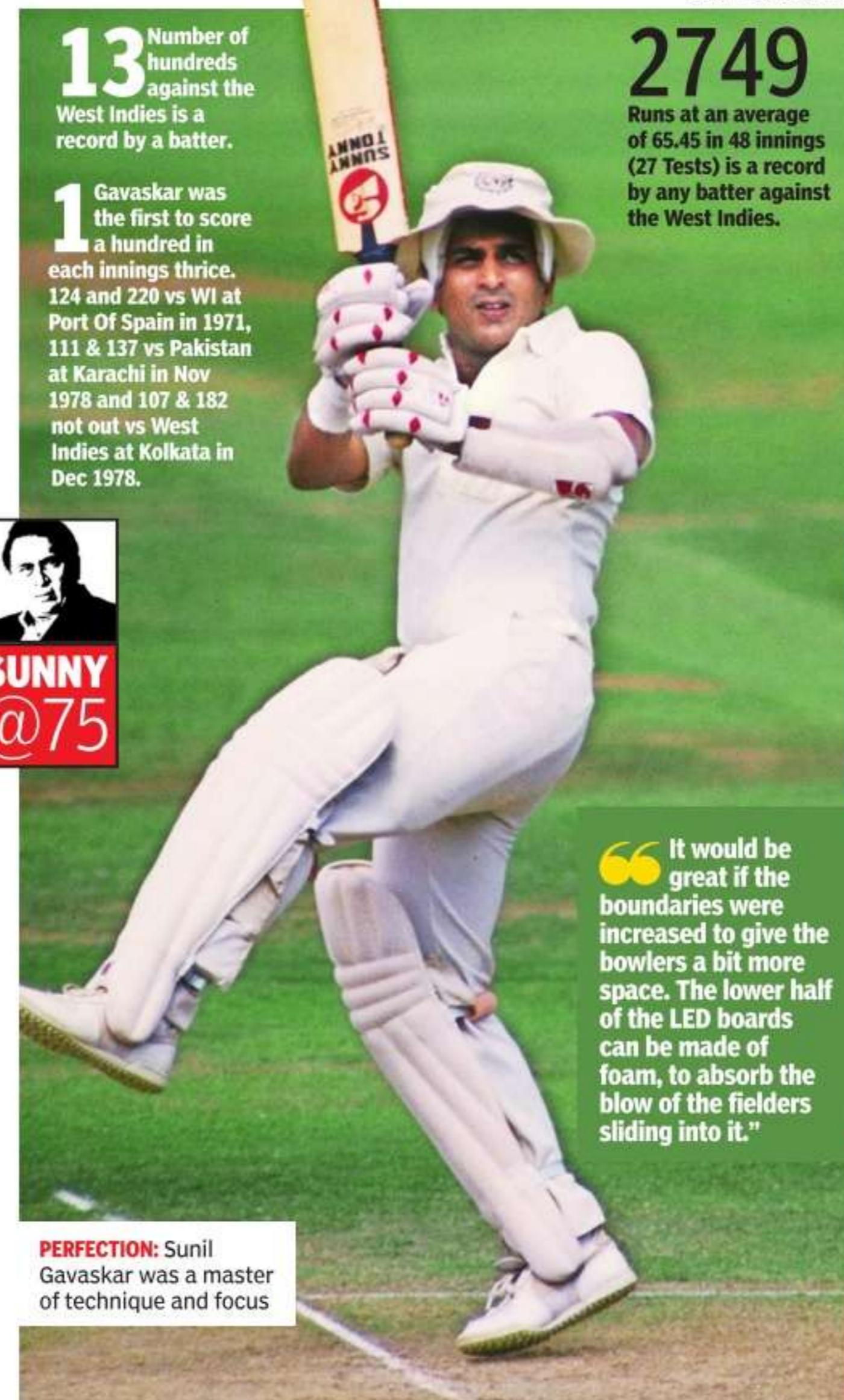
The 86 out of 102 at Port of Spain, when we chased down 404 to win the Test against West Indies in 1976. By the end of Day Four, I was 86 not out. It is my most fluent innings. The next morning, I struggled for an hour to score the next 16 runs. That's how cricket can be!

What about knocks of other batters?

97 not out by Gundappa Viswanath at Chennai versus West Indies in 1975. His hundred against West Indies in 1978 at Chennai, 175 not out by Kapil Dev against Zimbabwe at Tunbridge Wells in the 1983 World Cup, Sachin Tendulkar's 114 in the Perth Test versus Australia in 1992 and Virender Sehwag's 293 against Sri Lanka at the Brabourne Stadium in 2009. These are knocks I personally saw. There are others too, like VVS Laxman's 281 vs Australia in Kolkata in 2001, but I wasn't in the stadium to witness it.

You fought with BCCI in the 70s for cricketers to be paid better. How satisfying is it to see today's cricketers earn well?

It is terrific to see today's cricketers get duly rewarded for it is they who bring in the crowds and the sponsors. Thanks



PROMOTING CRICKET: Sunil Gavaskar passed on the baton of batting greatness to Sachin Tendulkar, also seen here with Vinod Kambli (L). (Right): Sharing a light moment with son Rohan

SUNIL GAVASKAR'S TEST, ODI AND FIRST-CLASS CAREER RECORD

Format	M	I	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50	Ct
Tests	125	214	10122	236*	51.12	34	45	108
ODIs	108	102	3092	103*	35.13	1	27	22
FC	348	563	25834	340	51.46	81	105	293

—Rajesh Kumar

3 He remains the only batter with three double hundreds against West Indies. 220 at Port of Spain in April 1971; 205 at Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai in Dec 1978 and 236 not out (a career-best while batting at No.4) at Chennai in Dec 1983.

4 Daniil Medvedev is now just the fourth player in this century to beat the world No. 1 on three or more occasions at Grand Slam events along with Novak Djokovic, Rafael Nadal and Stanislas Wawrinka.

QF RESULTS

Men: 3-Carlos Alcaraz (ESP) bt 12-Tommy Paul (USA) 5-7, 6-4, 6-2, 6-2; 5-Daniil Medvedev (RUS) bt 1-Jannik Sinner (ITA) 6-7(7), 6-4, 6-6(4), 2-6, 6-3.

Women: 4-Donna Vekic (CRO) bt 10-Lulu Sun (NZL) 5-7, 6-4, 6-1; 7-Jasmine Paolini (ITA) bt 19-Emma Navarro (USA) 6-2, 6-1.

when action on the outside courts started. Consequently, first rounds of the mixed doubles is yet to be played, forcing organizers to move the final from Thursday to Sunday.

All the rain has made the courts slippery, on Monday Novak Djokovic slipped a few times on Centre Court, but it has been far worse on the outside courts. On Sunday after going down to Tommy Paul on Court No.2, Roberto Bautista Agut said, "the conditions today were not good to play good tennis. It was very cold, windy and some rain."

Meanwhile, it has been raining every day at this south-west London suburb, more so in the last few days, where play on the outside courts (read not Centre and No.1 both of which have roofs) has been erratic. On Tuesday, it was as late as 4 pm

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In a repeat of last year's semifinals, Medvedev will defend champion Carlos Alcaraz, after the Spaniard saw off American Tommy Paul 5-7, 6-4, 6-2, 6-2 in the second quarterfinals.

Vekic into maiden Slam semis In women's action, Donna Vekic of Croatia made her first Grand Slam semifinal in her 43rd start at a major when she put New Zealand's Lulu Sun to shade with a 5-7, 6-4, 6-1 win on Tuesday.

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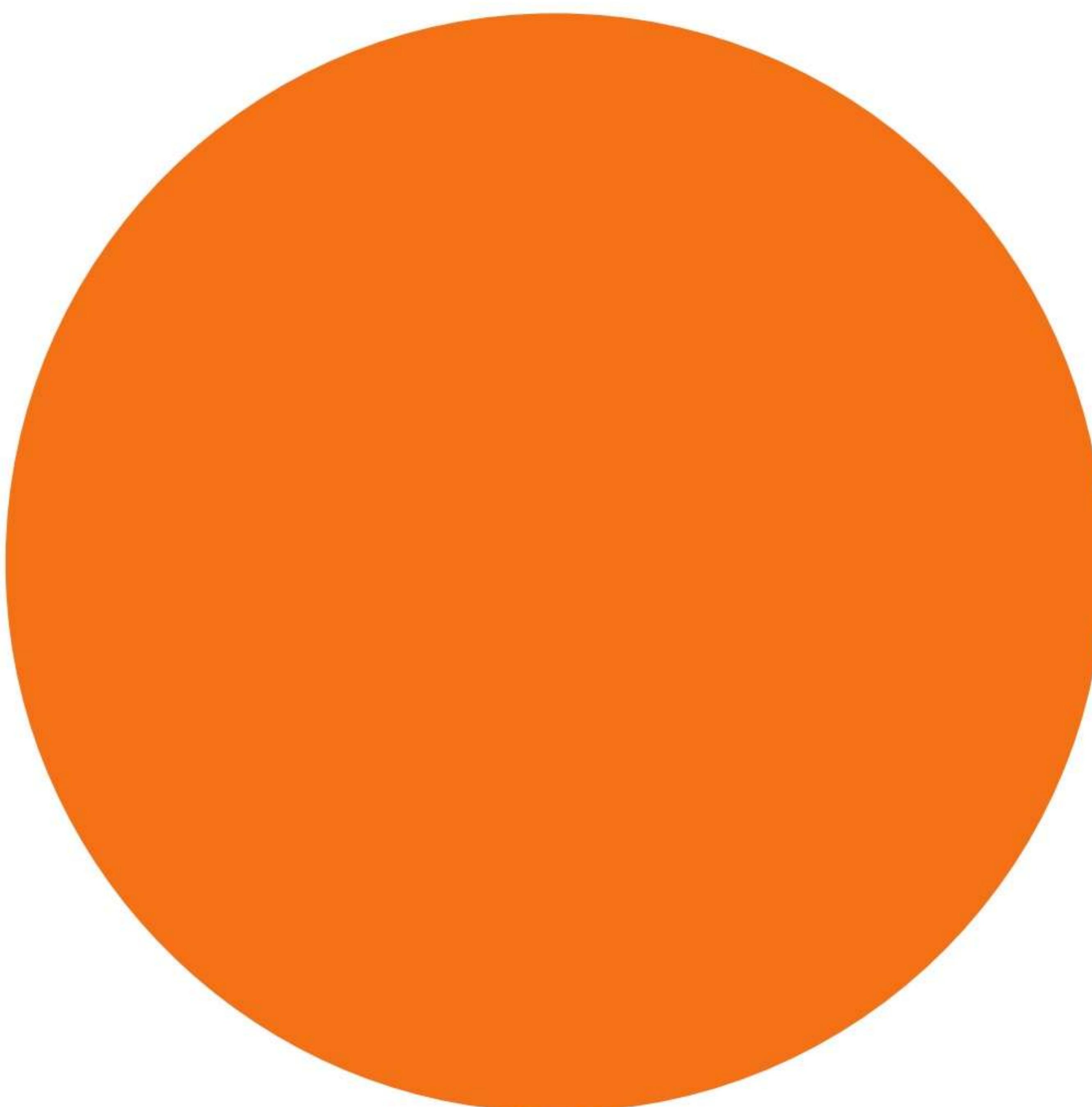
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Harry Kane-led England and **Virgil van Dijk**'s Netherlands set up a blockbuster clash in the second semifinal of 2024 Euro in Dortmund on Wednesday



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FIFTH-SEED MEDVEDEV EDGES OUT WORLD NO.1 SINNER IN A 5-SET BATTLE (6-7 6-4 7-6 2-6 6-3) TO ENTER WIMBLEDON SEMIS FOR 2ND YEAR 22

BMW hit-and-run: Neta's son arrested from Virar 60hrs on

Mom, 2 Sisters Picked Up From Shahapur Resort

Mateen Hafeez & S Ahmed Ali | TNN

Mumbai: For just a couple of minutes, a friend of Mihir Shah, the 24-year-old accused in the BMW hit-and-run case in Worli, switched on his phone early Tuesday. That was enough for police to trace the location of Mihir, son of a Shiv Sena functionary, and arrest him from a hotel in Virar in the afternoon, almost 60 hours after he rammed a two-wheeler and killed a woman, Kaveri Nakawa (45).

Mihir, his mother and two sisters had been on the run from early Sunday morning and their mobiles were switched off. Police however had

PHONES OF 2 AIDES, 2 LOCATIONS

- After running over Kaveri Nakawa in Worli, Mihir Shah & chauffeur Rishiraj Bidawat flee, but BMW stalls in Bandra
- Mihir takes auto and goes to girlfriend's house in Goregaon
- She calls up his sister who comes, takes him to their Borivali home
- Mihir, mother, sisters and a friend head out in 2 vehicles, including an

► **Juhu bar sealed, its licence suspended P 3**

► **2 killed in hit-&-run cases in Nashik, P 9**

tracked down numbers he had called regularly and noted down numbers of a few friends he dialled regularly. Their phones too were switched off, but one of the numbers suddenly came alive on Tuesday morning, resulting in staying in a resort in Shahapur.

The friend, whose identity

► **Kin's location, P 3**

Victim's hubby, daughter seek death for culprit

Calling it a murder, the husband and daughter of the BMW crash victim Kaveri Nakawa have demanded justice for her and the death penalty for the accused, Mihir Shah. "I told him (Shah) to stop, yet he didn't, he ran away. She must have been in so much pain. There is no one for the poor," Pradeep Nakawa, the husband, lamented. Stating that not a single neta had visited them, he said, "Who is there to support us or get us justice? Today, Shah will be sent to jail. Tomorrow, he will be out on bail. Politicians don't care for us. He has money. We have nothing." He demanded to know why Shah was on the run for 2 days if he was innocent. TNN P 3

Govt orders conservation of flamingo lake

In a major victory for environmentalists, state govt, in a recent GR, has decided to conserve the 30-acre DPS Flamingo Lake in Nerul, which recently witnessed deaths of several pink birds, by setting up a high-level committee to study how to protect the lake as a natural flamingo abode. Cicco's work had led to the burial of the major intertidal water inlet to the lake. P 2

3.5km stretch of Coastal Rd to open

The BMC is likely to open up another 3.5 km stretch of the Mumbai coastal road's northbound section upto Worli's Bindu Thackeray Chowk on July 11. It is being done to reduce the congestion at Haji Ali. P 3

Arson in quiet area in Manipur

Arsonists torched the home of a tribal leader, Sei-jathang Khangsa of Kuki In-pi, in Manipur's Jiribam early Tuesday, stoking unrest in the district hours after Rahul Gandhi's outreach in what is a new pocket of discord in the ethnic conflict. P 6

Abducted, raped teen rescued in UP

Ten days after a 16-year-old girl was abducted, force-fed sleeping pills and sexually assaulted in captivity by three boys in Aligarh, police rescued her and apprehended the accused, among them a minor and a woman, officials said Tuesday. P 14

Cop running int'l narco cartel flees

A Delhi court is learned to have issued a NBW against a Delhi police crime branch officer, who was running an international narcotics cartel from the capital, and has reportedly fled abroad to South Africa. P 7

Intense showers dump 422mm rain in 48 hours, half of city's avg for July

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Mumbai: After a mostly dry June, intense rain activity saw the city receive nearly half of the month's average rainfall in just 48 hours. Between July 7 and 9, as much as 422mm rain or 49% of the monthly requirement of 855.7mm was recorded.

Usually, the four monsoon months from June to September bring 2,318.8mm rainfall. The city has already received 38% or 889mm of that quantum.

Moderate rain is forecast for Wednesday for Mumbai and Palghar. For Thane and Raigad, a yellow alert (heavy rain likely at isolated) is in place. In its five-day forecast, the weather bureau issued a yellow alert for Mumbai between July 11 and 13.

► **Cloud patch over city, P 2**

Govt recognises IRS officer's gender change

In perhaps a first in India's civil services history, a woman IRS officer posted as joint commissioner in the regional bench of Customs Excise & Service Tax Appellate Tribunal, Hyderabad, will officially be considered a male with the Union finance ministry accepting her request for a change of gender and name. M. Anusuya will henceforth be recognised as M. Anukathir Surya in all official records. P 6

Sea tosses 200MT trash on Juhu beach

Two days of heavy rain saw 200 metric tonnes of garbage deposited on Juhu beach instead of the usual 40MT daily. As many as 138 labourers had to be pressed into service to clear it. P 2

Rs 3L for locksmith punched in face by cop over ₹20

Slamming police atrocity, MSHRC ordered Rs 3 lakh govt compensation for a locksmith punched in the face by a Vasai sub-inspector, a station house officer.

► **HC: Why evict slums in Powai during monsoon? P 3**

► **Hate speech charge only in 1 case: State to HC, P 5**

following an argument over

Rs 20 with a railway cop in

May. The victim had sought

Rs 80 for making a duplicate

key, but the railway cop insisted on paying Rs 60. P 4

Four PIOS held in US for trafficking, forced labour; 15 women 'techies' rescued

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Hyderabad: Four months after federal police stumbled upon an alleged human trafficking racket and a "forced labour" scheme, four people of Indian origin, including a couple, have been arrested in Princeton, Texas. As many as 15 women were found to be working as forced labour for the accused. The nationalities of the women have not been disclosed.

The accused have been identified as Santhosh Katkoori (31), his wife Dwaraka Gunda (31), Dasireddy Chandan (24), and Anil Male (37). Three of them, including the couple, are of Telugu origin. Princeton police said they were charged with trafficking of persons and second-degree felony.

A police investigation be-

► **Cops yet to reveal, P 20**

Battered turtle's luck turns after superglue surgery

In a quick fix solution, experts at Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI) in Bareilly used Fevikwik and blouse clasp (hook) to join the shattered shell of an endangered turtle which was run over by a car. Since adhesive used by orthopaedic surgeons was unavailable and time was running out for the turtle, superglue was used as an alternative to fix the multiple cracks in the shell. The turtle is now under observation at a rehab centre in Budaun. TNN P 9

SC order not out, yet colleges in TN start med admissions

CUET-UG results expected this week

The National Testing Agency is likely to announce CUET-UG results by the end of this week with the deadline to challenge the exam's provisional answer key, which was released after a delay, ending on Tuesday night. The final answer key is expected to be out on Thursday. TNN P 14

► EDIT: Mess Gets Neeter

They have started 'booking' seats on 'advance' payments of Rs 2-3 lakh.

The process becomes evident when parents seek admission details. "Parents are asked to meet authorities on campus and are instructed to le-

► **NMC warning, P 20**

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U'khand villages plunge into gloom after Kathua killings

State In Collective Mourning As All 5 Soldiers Were Its Sons

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Dehradun: A day after the terrorist attack on an Indian Army convoy patrolling in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand is engulfed in sorrow over the death of five soldiers from the state who were killed in action.

The dead soldiers, who were serving in the Garhwal Rifles regiment, include Naib Subedar Anand Singh Rawat (41) from Rudraprayag, Rifleman Anuj Negi (25) and Havildar Kamal Singh Rawat (28) from Pauri Garhwal district, and Rifleman Adarsh Negi (26) and Naik Vinod Singh Bhandari (33) from Uttarakhand's Tehri Garhwal district.

On Tuesday evening, their mortal remains arrived at Dehradun's Jolly Grant Airport, where a wreath-laying ceremony was held to pay tribute to the



Army personnel during a counter-terror operation in Kathua on Tuesday

fallen soldiers with traditional military honours. Other senior Army officers were present.

Condemning the terrorist attack, Dhami said, "It was a cowardly act. The entire nation and the state stand in solidarity with the grieving families. Their supreme sacrifice won't go to waste. Those involved in this dastardly act will not be spared, nor those who pro-

vided shelter to the terrorists. The govt will provide every possible support to the families of the fallen heroes."

Lt Col Manish Shrivastava, public relations officer, defense (Dehradun), said, "Of the five soldiers who died, the mortal remains of Naik Bhandari were handed over to his family members, who performed his last rites in Dehradun. The bodies of the two soldiers from Pauri Garhwal were airlifted to Kotdwara city in a chopper and will be transported to their native villages by road for their final rites."

He added, "Due to unfavourable weather conditions on Tuesday, the bodies of the two soldiers from Tehri Garhwal will be airlifted to Srinagar in Pauri Garhwal on Wednesday morning. From there, they will be taken to their respective villages by road for cremation with full military honours."

Among dead, a son worried about his labourer dad, a father his girls' school

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Dehradun: Rifleman Anuj Negi, 25, was one of the five soldiers from Garhwal Rifles who lost their lives when armed terrorists ambushed their convoy in Kathua district of Jammu & Kashmir on Monday. Hailing from Dobriya village in Pauri Garhwal district, Negi was the "financial backbone of his family". He got married in November last year and is survived by his wife, who is two months pregnant, and parents. His father, 50, works as a daily wager in the local forest department office near the village.

Talking to TOI, Nandan Singh Rawat, Anuj's uncle who lives in the same village, said Negi joined the Indian Army six years ago with the intention of improving his family's financial condition while serving the nation.

"Anuj was a devoted family man. During his last visit home, he was making efforts to plan his sister's marriage, but unfortunately he made the ultimate sacrifice before he could witness her wedding," Rawat said.

Sateshwari Devi, another villager, said, "Anuj's wife is two months pregnant. He was overjoyed upon learning the news and was excited about his new role in the family. However, fate had dif-



When Adarsh cracked the Army recruitment test, he decided to leave his studies midway. His decision was driven by the need to financially support his family. He last visited his village in April to attend his cousin's wedding. His sacrifice has made him an inspiration for the youth of the village," said Nandan Singh Rawat, one of his family members.

In another village, Papri in Pauri Garhwal, residents remembered Havildar Kamal Singh Rawat, 28, as being deeply concerned about the education of his two daughters, aged 3 and 5. His elder daughter is in class 1, while the younger one is in LKG.

"That's all he spoke about," said village resident Rajpal Singh Gusain. "Kamal was determined to provide better education to his daughters but it was difficult in his village as it is in a remote, hilly area. Due to this, he moved his family, including his wife and mother, to a rented accommodation in Kotdwara city, approximately 70 km from his village."

Naib Subedar Anand Singh Rawat, 41, was the only junior commission officer (JCO) among the dead. From Kandabhar village in Rudraprayag district, he had built a house in Dehradun three years ago, where he lived with his wife and two daughters, aged 13 and 15.

Anything can happen over dinner, even a heart pump

How Chennai Surgeon And Australian Bioengineer Took Sketches Made On Paper Napkins To The Lab And Produced An Affordable Heart Pump

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Nearly a decade ago, K R Balakrishnan, a heart-lung transplant surgeon in Chennai, and Pete Ayre, a bioengineering professor at University of New South Wales, met for dinner in a Chennai hotel. When the discussion turned to artificial heart pumps, they borrowed pencils from the waiter and scribbled some designs on paper napkins.

Soon, the drawings from the dining table made it to labs and, in five years, out came some prototypes. A couple of them—one for the left side of the heart and a smaller one for the right—are now being tested in sheep in Australia. If things go as planned, the team—it has patented the technology—will start clinical trials on humans in India and Australia by Dec 2024.

A Pocket-Friendly Device
"We never thought we'd get this far," said Balakrishnan, who heads the heart and lung transplant department at MGM Healthcare. "Our discussion started casually. When I left the hotel, I never thought anything would come of it. I was surprised when Pete called me a week later, and things started happening." The two have founded a company called Cardiobionic.

Their plan was simple: To build a heart pump that would be a long-term and affordable solution to heart failure. Heart pumps available in the market now cost US\$100,000 (more than 80 lakh). The team wanted to make one that cost one-fourth of that. "The ones available



FOOD FOR THOUGHT: Dr K R Balakrishnan and bioengineer Pete Ayre photographed about 10 years back, when they came up with the heart pump idea at a dinner meet

now are bulky, almost the size of a cricket ball," said Ayre. "While surgeons may place pumps outside the chest cavity, it is not suitable for petite people and children."

Moreover, pumps today support only one chamber of the heart, the left ventricle. Several people who are given these pumps end up in intensive care for life support when the right side of the heart fails.

The pump is made of titanium and inside there's a non-contact impella—a device that pulls blood from the ventricle and pushes it out into the aorta, delivering oxygen-rich blood to the rest of your body. "It floats on blood and spins continuously. That means it may be a permanent solution and not just a bridge to a transplant," said Ayre.

Several heart failure patients across the country die

waiting for an organ. "There are many hurdles in organ transplant. With better awareness, we are getting organs from brain-dead patients. But not all hearts are utilised because we don't have the network to transport them within its shelf life of four hours. In most parts of the world there are no programmes for heart transplant," he said. "This pump could prevent many deaths."

A smaller pump that supports the right side of the heart in adults can be used as an LVAD, or left ventricular assist device, for a child. "There are no pumps specifically for children now," said Balakrishnan. However, more research is needed to understand why some hearts fail despite having an artificial pump.

Connected Care
The team, meanwhile, is working to convert the pump into a remote monitoring device so that patients can be tracked from anywhere using the internet. They are also looking to make the entire system wireless. "Now, we have a driveline that connects the implanted pump to an external console via a cable across the skin. This can increase chances of infection," he said.

Doctors are pushing the team to make the pump work as efficiently as the human heart. "The heart can increase output by up to 50% during pregnancy, exercise, or emergency. We want to build pressure sensors that help the pump do this," Ayre said.

While the trials in Australia are showing promise, the team is trying for product approval in India, US and Europe.



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