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Hindustan Times

Tragedy on Agra-Lucknow expressway



Eighteen people were killed and 19 injured when a sleeper bus headed for Delhi hit a milk tanker on the Agra-Lucknow Expressway in Unnao, Uttar Pradesh on Wednesday. →P7 PTI

EARLY MORNING CRASH
The incident near Jojikot village in Behra Mujhawar police station area took place around 5am, when the bus tried to slip between the milk tanker and truck that broke down in the centre of the road.

'BUS LIKELY SPEEDING'
The bus, which officials said was speeding, rammed into the milk tanker. It then scraped along its side, throwing several passengers out of the windows, before the two vehicles overturned.

PROBE KICKED OFF
The tanker and bus overturned after the accident, which killed 14 men, three women and a child. Local officials said that a probe had been kicked off following the crash.

No mass malpractice in NEET: Centre to SC

Utkarsh Anand
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NEW DELHI: The Union government on Wednesday submitted a fresh affidavit in the Supreme Court, firmly opposing the demand for a retest of the NEET-UG 2024 and asserting that a comprehensive report from IIT-Madras refutes allegations of widespread malpractices or illicit benefits to candidates at some select centres.

Hinging on key points from the IIT-Madras data analysis, the Centre underscored the integrity of the examination process and the measures taken to ensure its sanctity so that interests of hundreds of thousands of students, who have attempted the question papers fairly after years of hard work, could be protected.

Supporting this stance, the National Testing Agency (NTA), which conducts NEET, also filed an affidavit separately in the top court, maintaining that so far only 47 candidates - 17 in Patna and 30 in Godhra - have been suspected to be indulged in paper leak and irregularities

Systemic fraud, widespread leak, students tell top court

NEW DELHI: As the Supreme Court gears up to hear on Thursday a clutch of petition demanding the re-conduct of NEET-UG 2024 due to alleged paper leaks and other malpractices, the group of students challenging the results of the all India examination claimed a "systemic fraud" that compromised the sanctity of the examination and eroded trust in medical education across the country. →P8

The consolidated written submissions by the petitioners presented a detailed set of arguments, arguing that NEET-UG 2024 was marred by cheating and inefficiencies, citing multiple instances that they claim have undermined the credibility of the process. The petitioners allege that the NEET-UG 2024 question paper was leaked on a "massive scale" - both digitally and physically.

relating to OMR sheets. NTA also told the court that it would be relying on the findings of the IIT Madras report during the proceedings on Thursday.

The agency claimed that the video showing a photo of the NEET-UG exam paper leaked on Telegram on May 4 was fake. "Discussions within the Telegram channel indicate that

members identified the video as fake. The timestamp was manipulated to create a false impression of an early leak. Comments and discussions on social media further corroborate that the images in the video were edited, and the date was intentionally modified to suggest a May 4 leak. The screenshots highlight the

continued on →6

SC SLAMS STATES OVER VACANCIES IN POLLUTION CONTROL BOARDS

Abraham Thomas
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NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Wednesday pulled up Delhi and the adjoining states of Haryana, UP, Rajasthan and Punjab for rendering pollution control boards "toothless", with some of these bodies functioning at less than half the sanctioned staff. The court found Delhi fared the worst with 233 of 344 posts in the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) lying vacant. A DPCC official said there are only 80 vacancies, not 233. →P3

B'DESH, CHINA SIGN 28 PACTS, ELEVATE THEIR PARTNERSHIP

BEIJING: Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina met President Xi Jinping and her Chinese counterpart Li Qiang here on Wednesday as the two countries signed 28 agreements, MoUs and announced seven projects to further elevate their strategic ties to the "comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership" status, Bangladesh's state-run news agency Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS) reported. →P7

24 DETAINED FOR QUESTIONING OVER KATHUA AMBUSH

JAMMU: The Jammu & Kashmir Police has detained at least 24 people for questioning, and security forces have widened their search operations to locate the terrorists who ambushed an army vehicle in Kathua district of the Union territory, killing five army personnel, officers aware of the matter said on Wednesday.

Police officers said they were questioning the detainees as part of their efforts to nab the terrorists, who immediately fled the ambush site.

"While searches are on to track down the attackers, over 24 suspects have been detained by the police for questioning," an officer said on condition of anonymity. →P10

Capital loves snacking, orders Mughlai, Italian

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NEW DELHI: Samosas, kachori, pakodas, chhole bhature and kebabs. This is what Delhi prefers over a dumpling, taco or even the popular south Indian combo of idly-vada, according to a study on food orders conducted in Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR), which said that north Indian snacks were the most ordered in dining and delivery orders across the Capital, followed by Mughlai and Italian cuisines.

Noida followed a similar trend to Delhi, but 53% of Gurugram preferred Chinese food, according to the report released by the



Chhole bhature is among Delhi's preferred snacks. HT ARCHIVE

National Restaurant Association of India (NRAI) on Tuesday.

The study was based on a survey of 5,200 restaurants across 21 cities in the country. Besides, 120 CEOs of restaurant chains were also interviewed to clock responses on their best-selling and most popular food items. →P5

MAN ARRESTED FOR KILLING HIS TWIN DAUGHTERS

HT Correspondent
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NEW DELHI: The Delhi Police on Wednesday arrested a man who allegedly killed his newborn twin daughters and buried them near his house in Sultanpuri as he was upset over not having a son, officers aware of the matter said.

The crime took place on May 30 when Neeraj Solanki, a Delhi University graduate, fled the hospital with the twins as his wife, Pooja Solanki, was being discharged, police said. →P4

{ ACROSS THE COUNTER } GROUND REALITY

Spot check: All 14 barred products for sale at Patanjali stores across at least 4 states



The Patanjali store in Patna where HT was able to purchase 13 of the 14 banned products. HT

Jignasa Sinha, Sanjeev K Jha, Animesh Mishra, Ruchir Kumar and Amit Bathla
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI/LUCKNOW/PATNA/DEHRADUN: On Tuesday morning, the Supreme Court of India directed Patanjali Ayurved to provide proof it has ceased the sale and advertisements of 14 products banned by the Uttarakhand state licensing department in April, seeking to verify the company's claim that it had issued directives to all store owners, advertising outlets and social media platforms to adhere to the ban.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, HT visited Patanjali stores across four major Indian cities - Delhi, Lucknow, Patna and Dehradun -

and was able to procure most of these products, procuring a receipt in each case. In some shops, while not all of the 14 were available, these were put down to a lack of availability, with people at the counters insisting these could be procured in a week. But each of the 14 were found in at least one store.

Tuesday's order was passed despite a later affidavit by Uttarakhand informing the court that the ban was revoked by another state department on procedural grounds, following which fresh show cause notices were issued to Patanjali on July 8. But Patanjali's lawyer said the company had not yet received an official communication regarding the revocation, and as such, remains bound by the Supreme Court's orders. →P10

NUMBER THEORY

How bad are the floods in northeastern states?

By Abhishek Jha

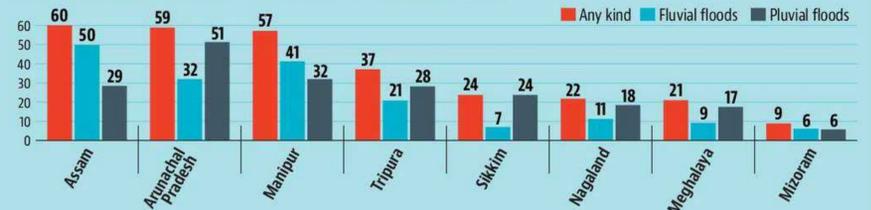
Parts of all northeastern states have been affected by floods this monsoon season. But how bad is the situation? Assessing the extent of floods is a long and complicated exercise. However, a part of this problem can be simplified for the North-East since large parts of the populated region in these states are exposed to floods because of overflowing rivers, or fluvial floods. This is different from pluvial floods, which are caused by poor drainage of rainwater. Therefore, the water level in rivers can be a reasonable indicator of the severity of the hazard. Here is what the data shows.

1 Which states have the most settlement area exposed to fluvial floods?

This question is important because most data on floods (including river-level data used in this analysis) is limited. We can understand whether those gaps will affect our analysis if we know the exposure to different kinds of flood hazards. This can be calculated from a study published in Nature last year: "Global evidence of rapid urban growth in flood zones since 1985". The study estimated the settlement extent in areas exposed to once-in-100-years flood events, with the most recent data available for 2015. This shows that around 60% of the settlement area in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, and Manipur is exposed to both kinds of floods. This area is 37% in Tripura, between 21%-24% in Meghalaya, Nagaland, and Sikkim; and 9% in Mizoram. Of the overall exposed area, at least half in all states is exposed to fluvial floods, except Meghalaya and Sikkim. This means that river levels can reasonably indicate the severity of floods in most northeastern states. To be sure, the area exposed to pluvial floods is larger in all states (due to urban settlements) than those affected by fluvial floods, except in Assam, Manipur, and Mizoram.

Pradesh, and Manipur is exposed to both kinds of floods. This area is 37% in Tripura, between 21%-24% in Meghalaya, Nagaland, and Sikkim; and 9% in Mizoram. Of the overall exposed area, at least half in all states is exposed to fluvial floods, except Meghalaya and Sikkim. This means that river levels can reasonably indicate the severity of floods in most northeastern states. To be sure, the area exposed to pluvial floods is larger in all states (due to urban settlements) than those affected by fluvial floods, except in Assam, Manipur, and Mizoram.

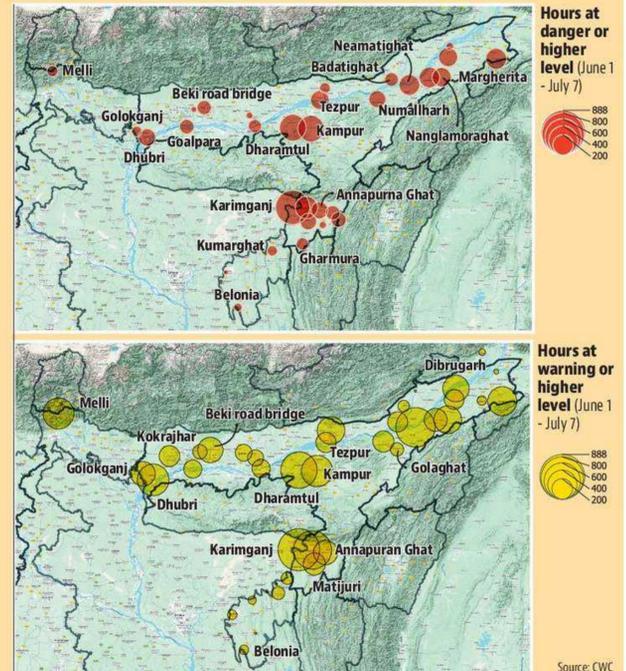
Share of settlement area exposed to once-in-100-years flood hazards of different kinds (in %)



Source: Rentschler, J., Avner, P., Marconcini, M. et al. Global evidence of rapid urban growth in flood zones since 1985

2 How long have rivers been flowing over danger mark in NE states this monsoon?

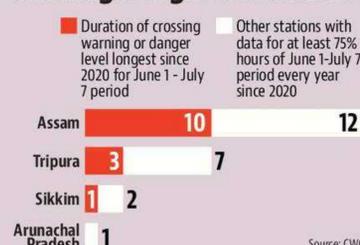
The Central Water Commission (CWC) displays water-level data for 221 stations across the rivers of northeastern states. However, only 53 stations have data for most of the June 1-July 7 period and have a warning or danger level specified: 36 stations in Assam, 10 in Tripura, three each in Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim, and one in Manipur. While Meghalaya and Mizoram do not have such stations, they also have relatively smaller exposure to fluvial floods. Among the 53 stations with better data, the river crossed the danger level at 31 stations for at least one hour in the June 1-July 7 period. These stations make up 26 of 36 stations in Assam, three of 10 in Tripura, and one each in Manipur and Sikkim. The worst affected is the Karimganj station in Assam, where the Kushiara river has flown above the danger level for 538 of the 888 hours under consideration. The few Manipur, Sikkim, and Tripura stations do not show promising trends either. The Barak River was above the danger mark for 111 hours at the Chotabekra station in Manipur's Imphal East district; Teesta for 56 hours at the Melli station in Sikkim's Namchi district; and the Manu river for 47 hours at Kumarghat station Tripura's Unakoti district. To be sure, as the accompanying maps show, even more stations crossed the warning level: 36 for at least one hour and 34 for at least 24 hours. Warning level was available for only 47 stations.



3 How bad are river levels this monsoon as against earlier?

Any comparison with the past reduces the number of stations with sufficient data. For example, only 36 of the 53 stations analysed above have data for at least 75% of the hours under consideration from June 1 to July 7 in every year since 2020. It is possible that there are fewer readings in some because there was no threat then. However, HT has used only the 36 stations with high coverage for ranking. This shows that river levels crossed the warning or danger level for the longest duration this year since 2020 at 14 of the 36 stations. These stations are 10 of the 12 stations in Assam, one of two in Sikkim, and three of seven in Tripura.

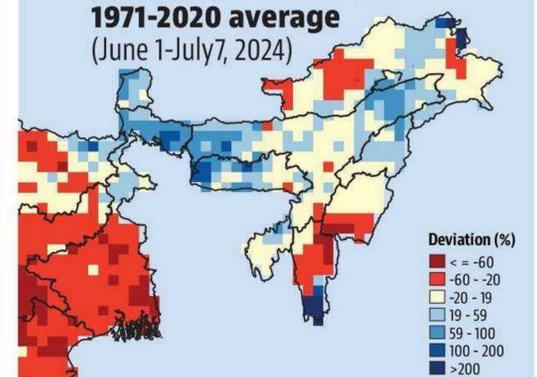
Distribution of stations by hours spent over warning/danger level in 2024



4 Disasters due to rain can extend to locations other than what the river data suggests

One reason for this is the exposure of settlements to pluvial floods. Moreover, most northeastern states are also reporting landslides. Therefore, it is important to check the fraction of these states dealing with a large surplus of rain. This shows that for the June 1-July 9 period, at least half of Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, and Sikkim received excess or large excess rain, which is defined as 20% or more rain than the long period average or LPA (average rain during the 1971-2020 period). Such area also covers 25%-33% of Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura, and Mizoram. There is no such region in Manipur, but only because the state flooded only in July.

Deviation in rain from 1971-2020 average (June 1-July 7, 2024)



These numbers taken together highlight that the floods in north-eastern states this year are widespread and likely far from the norm. Rivers have crossed the danger mark at almost 60% of stations where the mark is specified. The duration of crossing such danger/warning levels is also the longest in at least five years at 40% of stations. With excess rain, this threat from the river is likely to be accompanied by landslides in hilly terrain, making this a disastrous monsoon for northeastern states.



Hindustan Times

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Muslim women entitled to seek alimony, says SC

Utkarsh Anand

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NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Wednesday ruled that a divorced Muslim woman is entitled to seek maintenance from her husband under Section 125 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC), asserting that any discrimination against Muslim women in matters of alimony under the secular laws of the country would be regressive and against gender justice, equality.

A bench, comprising justices BV Nagarathna and AG Masih, decisively rejected the argument that the provisions of Section 125 of the CrPC do not apply in view of there being a personal law for Muslims, and that the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act, 1986, will prevail over the secular law.

"There cannot be disparity in receiving maintenance on the basis of the law under which a woman is married or divorced. The same cannot be a basis for discriminating a divorced woman entitled to maintenance as per the conditions stipulated under Section 125 of the CrPC or any personal or other law such as the 1986 Act. I, therefore, hold that Section 125 of the CrPC cannot be excluded from its application to a divorced Muslim woman irrespective of the law under which she is divorced," said justice Nagarathna in her judgment. Both the judges on the bench wrote separate but concurring judgments.

To be sure, the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, the new law that replaces the

continued on →6

What the top court said

GENDER EQUALITY

Discrimination against Muslim women in matters of alimony under secular laws will be regressive, it said

PERSONAL LAW DOESN'T SUPERSEDE

Rejects argument that CrPC Section 125 provisions do not apply due to there being a personal law for Muslims and that the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act, 1986, will prevail over the country's secular law

FORTIFYING WOMEN'S RIGHTS

The 1986 Act does not bar Muslim women from seeking maintenance under the CrPC

SHAH BANO ALLUSION

Philosophy laid down in Shah Bano verdict lives through. In that case, the apex court ruled that Muslim women were entitled to maintenance under CrPC Section 125, which was later countered by the Rajiv Gandhi govt through the 1986 Act



"There cannot be disparity in receiving maintenance on the basis of the law under which a woman is married or divorced. The same cannot be a basis for discriminating a divorced woman entitled to maintenance..."

— JUSTICE BV NAGARATHNA, SC JUDGE, IN HER ORDER

Judge stresses on financial stability, empowerment of married women

Utkarsh Anand

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NEW DELHI: In a compelling post-script to the Supreme Court ruling on the rights of Muslim women to alimony, justice BV Nagarathna underscored the crucial need for financial stability and empowerment of married women in India.

Highlighting the vulnerability of women who lack independent sources of income and access to

financial resources, particularly for their personal expenses, the judge emphasised the need for change so that the services and sacrifices of homemakers for the economic well-being of the family, and the economy of the nation, are duly acknowledged.

"I would like to advert to the vulnerability of married women in India who do not have an independent source of income or who do not have access to monetary resources in their house-

holds, particularly for their personal expenses," justice Nagarathna wrote.

She stressed that Indian married men must become conscious of the fact that they have to financially empower and provide for their wives, who do not have an independent source of income.

"Such financial empowerment would place such a vulnerable wife in a more secure position in the family," the judge said. →P13

SC HOLDS BENGAL SUIT AGAINST PROBES BY CBI MAINTAINABLE

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Wednesday rejected the Centre's objections to the maintainability of a suit filed by the West Bengal government challenging the continued operations of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) within the state despite the local government's withdrawal of consent under the Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act — setting a precedent for potential challenges by other states.

The apex court held that CBI can be "equated to the Government of India" due to the agency's establishment, exercise of powers, extension of jurisdiction and superintendence — all vesting with the central government. →P7

NATO STRONGER THAN EVER, RUSSIA WILL FAIL: BIDEN

Prashant Jha

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WASHINGTON: US President Joe Biden has termed the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (Nato) as the "single greatest, most effective defensive alliance in the history of the world", claimed that the bloc is stronger and better resourced than ever before, pledged his "full support" to Ukraine, assured European allies that a majority of Americans remained committed to Nato, and declared that Russia won't prevail in its war.

Biden was speaking on Wednesday morning at the Nato Summit in Washington DC, held at the same venue where the Washington Treaty that created the alliance was signed in 1949. →P17

India, Austria push for end to Ukraine conflict

Rezaul H Laskar

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NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday reiterated India's position that a solution to the Ukraine crisis cannot be found on the battlefield during his visit to Austria, conveying New Delhi's assessment of the conflict.

The Ukraine war figured prominently in talks between Modi, the first Indian premier to travel to Vienna in 41 years, and Austrian Chancellor Karl Nehammer. The two sides also discussed ways to bolster cooperation in areas such as trade, investment, science and technology, green energy, and climate change.

Modi repeated the message he conveyed to Russian President Vladimir Putin in televised



Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Austria's Chancellor Karl Nehammer in Vienna on Wednesday.

remarks at the Kremlin on Tuesday — peace talks under the shadow of guns can't succeed and parties to the conflict need to return to dialogue. Nehammer said his discussions with

Modi were an opportunity to find out about India's assessment of the situation and to "familiarise India with European concerns".

continued on →6

{ MUMBAI HIT-AND-RUN } SENT TO POLICE CUSTODY

Mihir changed looks to evade officers, say cops

Vinay Dalvi

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MUMBAI: Police on Tuesday produced Mihir Shah, who allegedly mowed down a 45-year-old in Mumbai early on Sunday morning, before a local magistrate's court in the city, where he admitted he was behind the wheel of the BMW during the accident and also said he trimmed his hair and shaved his beard in a bid to give investigators the slip.

Mihir, the son of a Shiv Sena leader, however, evaded questions about being inebriated at



Mihir Shah

the time, said investigators, even as the court remanded the 24-year-old in police custody till July 16.

continued on →6

BYPOLLS TO 13 ASSEMBLY SEATS HELD IN 7 STATES

HT Correspondent

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NEW DELHI: Voting for the 13 assembly bypolls across seven states — including four in West Bengal and three in Himachal Pradesh, where chief minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu's wife Kamlesh Thakur is in the fray — was held on Wednesday.

The results will be announced on July 13.

Barring sporadic incidents of violence in Manglaur assembly segment in Uttarakhand and two constituencies in West Bengal, polling was peaceful in all other places, officials aware of the matter said. →P8

Yogi Adityanath
Chief Minister, U.P.

Nand Gopal Gupta "Nandi"
Minister of Industrial Development, U.P.

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1	0-21	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	16	0-36	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	31	0-51	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00
2	0-22	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	17	0-37	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	32	0-52	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00
3	0-23	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	18	0-38	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	33	0-53	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00
4	0-24	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	19	0-39	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	34	0-54	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00
5	0-25	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	20	0-40	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	35	0-55	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00
6	0-26	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	21	0-41	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	36	0-56	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00
7	0-27	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	22	0-42	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	37	0-57	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00
8	0-28	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	23	0-43	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	38	0-58	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00
9	0-29	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	24	0-44	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	39	0-59	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00
10	0-30	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	25	0-45	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	40	0-60	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00
11	0-31	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	26	0-46	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	41	0-61	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00
12	0-32	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	27	0-47	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	42	0-62	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00
13	0-33	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	28	0-48	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	43	0-63	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00
14	0-34	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	29	0-49	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	44	0-64	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00
15	0-35	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	30	0-50	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00	45	0-65	1000	2,50,00,000.00	25,00,000.00

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[MY INDIA] NEAR MUNDRA PORT

SC stays order to take land back from Adani

The Supreme Court on Wednesday stayed a Gujarat high court order asking the state government to complete the process of taking back nearly 108 hectares of grazing land given to an Adani Group firm near the Mundra port in 2005. A bench of justices BR Gavai and KV Viswanathan took note of the appeal by Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ) that the impugned order is required to be stayed in the interest of justice. The residents of Navinal village of Kutch district had moved a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) in the high court against a decision to allot 231 acres of "gauchar" land to the Adani firm. Though the state revenue department made the allotment in 2005, the villagers came to know about it in 2010 when APSEZ started fencing the land. HT

[MY INDIA] TRIAL COURT HEARING

Sheena's remains in CBI office, court told

Weeks after it informed that parts of the purported skeleton of Sheena Bora were untraceable, the prosecution on Wednesday told the trial court in Mumbai that they were lying at Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) office in New Delhi. Sheena Bora, 24, was allegedly murdered by her mother Indrani Mukerjee and others in 2012. The revelation came on a day when the trial court received an email alleging that Sheena's bones had not gone missing, but they were in the possession of a forensic expert who had examined the skeleton. The prosecution said that CBI did not rely on these articles as evidence as they were not cited in the charge sheet. →PT

[MY INDIA] SMUGGLERS BUSTED

108 kg gold bars seized near LAC; two men held

The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) seized 108 gold bars, weighing one kilogram each, near the Indo-China border and arrested two people on Tuesday, an officer of the border force said. Two mobile phones, a binocular, two knives and several Chinese food items, were also seized from the alleged smugglers, the officer said. The seizures and arrest were made near Sriprale, around a kilometre away from the Line of Actual Control, a senior ITBP officer said. He added troops of the 21st battalion had received a tip-off about alleged smuggling along the border. "This is the biggest haul of gold recovered by the ITBP during border operations," Ajay Nirmalkar, Commandant of the 21st ITBP battalion, said. →PT

[WORLD] 'RUST' TRIAL

Baldwin accused of breaking gun rules

A prosecutor on Wednesday said Alec Baldwin broke "cardinal rules" for handling guns in the 2021 killing of Rust cinematographer Halyna Hutchins, while his lawyer said he was failed by the movie's set safety experts who already have been convicted in the case. Baldwin, on trial in Hollywood's first on-set shooting fatality in three decades, took notes at the defence table and listened to opening statements in his involuntary manslaughter trial. The evidence will show that someone who played make believe with a real gun and violated the cardinal rules of firearm safety is the defendant, Alexander Baldwin, the prosecutor said. AGENCIES

[MY INDIA] HILL STATE RAVAGED

22 dead in Himachal rain fury since June 27

Twenty-two people have died in rain-related incidents in Himachal Pradesh and the state has suffered a loss of ₹172 crore in the two weeks since the onset of monsoon on June 27, officials said on Wednesday. According to the state emergency operation centre, at least five roads were reported to be closed in Mandi, four in Shimla and three in Kangra. The Meteorological office in Shimla has issued a 'yellow' warning of heavy rain, thunderstorms and lightning at isolated places on Thursday and Friday, and predicted a wet spell till July 15. It also warned of damage to crops, partial damage to vulnerable structures, due to strong winds and rain, disruption in traffic and waterlogging in low-lying areas. HT

'Better governance': Microsoft lets go of OpenAI board seatAssociated Press
letters@hindustantimes.com

REDMOND: Microsoft has relinquished its seat on the board of OpenAI, saying its participation is no longer needed because the ChatGPT maker has improved its governance since being rolled by boardroom chaos last year.

In a Tuesday letter, Microsoft confirmed it was resigning, "effective immediately," from its role as an observer on the artificial intelligence company's board.

"We appreciate the support shown by OpenAI leadership and the OpenAI board as we made this decision," the letter said.

The surprise departure comes amid intensifying scrutiny from antitrust regulators of the powerful AI partnership. Microsoft has reportedly invested \$13 billion in OpenAI.

European Union regulators said last month that they would take a fresh look at the partnership under the 27-nation bloc's antitrust rules, while the U.S. Federal Trade Commission and Britain's competition watchdog have also been examining the pact.

Microsoft took the board seat following a power struggle in which OpenAI CEO Sam Altman was fired, then quickly reinstated, while the board members behind the ouster were pushed out.

"Over the past eight months we have witnessed significant

progress by the newly formed board and are confident in the company's direction," Microsoft said in its letter. "Given all of this we no longer believe our limited role as an observer is necessary."

With Microsoft's departure, OpenAI will no longer have observer seats on its board.

"We are grateful to Microsoft for voicing confidence in the Board and the direction of the company, and we look forward to continuing our successful partnership," OpenAI said in a statement.

It's not hard to conclude that Microsoft's decision to ditch the board seat was heavily influenced by rising scrutiny of big technology companies and their links with AI startups, said Alex Haffner, a competition partner at U.K. law firm Fladgate.

"It is clear that regulators are very much focused on the complex web of inter-relationships that Big Tech has created with AI providers, hence the need for Microsoft and others to carefully consider how they structure these arrangements going forward," he said.

OpenAI said it would take a new approach to "informing and engaging key strategic partners" such as Microsoft and Apple and investors such as Thrive Capital and Khosla Ventures, with regular meetings to update stakeholders on progress and ensure stronger collaboration on safety and security.

[EXPANDING REACH] ARIANE 6 LAUNCH

Europe back in space

European Space Agency's (ESA) Ariane 6 rocket successfully blasted off for the first time on Tuesday, releasing satellites into orbit and restoring Europe's independent access to space



People attend a public screening of the Ariane 6 rocket launch in Toulouse, France. AFP

What was the mission?

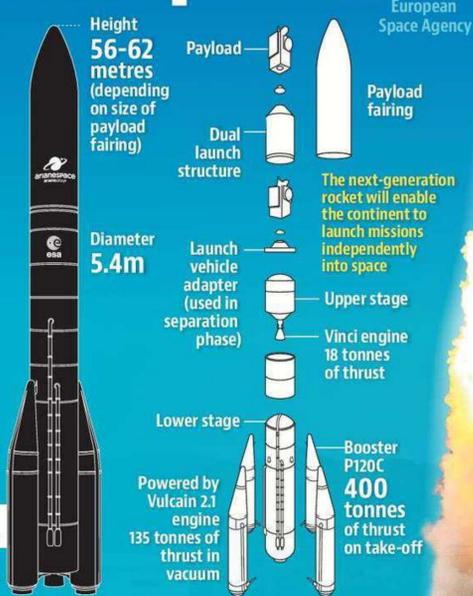
Launched from Europe's spaceport, the flight deployed three sets of micro-satellites for research purposes. It was carrying a payload of university microsatellites, various experiments and two atmospheric re-entry capsules

Ariane 6: A lowdown

Developed at an estimated cost of €4 billion, Ariane 6 was selected by ESA in 2014. It will be able to place satellites in geostationary orbit 36,000 km above the Earth and satellite constellations hundreds of kilometres up

Hiccup during first flight

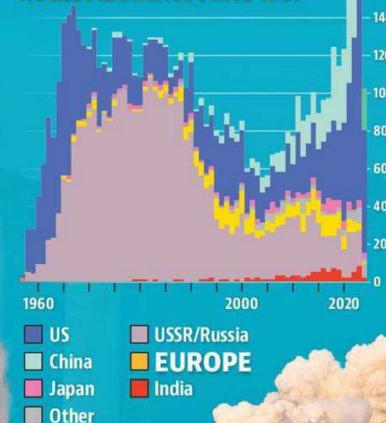
About two-and-a-half hours into the flight, ESA announced that the upper portion of the rocket had suffered an unspecified problem that led to its auxiliary power unit shutting off. As a result, the final batch of payloads - two small capsules designed to test the conditions for surviving re-entry - remained stuck onboard

**Return to space map**

European space efforts have suffered a series of blows, including four years of delays to Ariane 6, that have robbed the continent of its own way to launch missions into space. Since ESA retired its workhorse Ariane 5 rocket more than a year ago, Europe has had no independent means of sending its satellites into space, while the war in Ukraine has cut Western ties to Russian Soyuz rockets

Ariane 6 is fundamental for Europe's space ambition... It is about sovereign access to space for institutional and governmental missions... and this need has been even more emphasised in view of the geopolitical situation.

- TONI TOLKER-NIELSEN, ESA's acting director of space transportation

Rocket launches since 1957

[SHODDY CONSTRUCTION?]

Bridge under the water: A tale of crumbling infra in Bihar

Subhash Pathak

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PATNA: On June 16, 2020, cloistered inside his "Samvad Hall" in Patna in the middle of a raging pandemic, Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar inaugurated the Sattarghat bridge across the turbulent river Gandak via videoconferencing. The bridge, which connects Kesaria in East Champaran to Faizalpur in Gopalganj was eight years in the making, its foundation stone laid by Kumar in 2012. On that June day, Kumar was peeved. He said that ordinarily, he would have liked to travel to the spot "to inspect the quality of work before the formal inauguration." His fears were not unfounded.

Twenty-nine days later, a section of the brand new bridge, including an approach road, collapsed into the water.

In the days that followed, an embarrassed Bihar government ordered an inquiry by a high-level team of experts led by Ramakar Jha, the head of the civil engineering department of the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Patna. The panel attributed the collapse to the changing course of Gandak which enters Bihar from Nepal. In June 2021, it recommended pulling down an 810-metre portion of the approach road to create additional pathways for the water to pass. Little was done, and in one monsoon season after another, both Gopalganj and Saran, have seen widespread flooding.

Much has happened in Bihar since June 2020. A pandemic has come and gone, exacting a tragic price. Political allegiances have changed — Nitish Kumar left the NDA and joined the Mahagat-bandhan; then left the Mahagat-

bandhan and joined the NDA. And yet, there are two constants. One, that Nitish Kumar has survived wave upon wave of choppy political waters to remain chief minister. And second, as Bihar's rivers continue to turn, bridges continue to collapse under the weight of shoddy maintenance, the lack of a plan, and complete mismanagement.

Take for instance, these last three weeks which have seen 13 bridges, big and small, collapse.

Changing rivers

Four of the collapses over the past two weeks have been across a small rivulet of the Gandak — called the Gandaki — in Siwan. While there have been no deaths

or injuries in these incidents, engineers in the water resources department (WRD) have blamed them on a "sudden and unexpected huge" flow of water in the river. Prima facie, an inquiry report, submitted to the Siwan

district magistrate on June 24, said that gushing currents eroded the soil around the main pillars of the bridges, dislocating them from their original position. This was attributed to a rise in the flow of the water from Nepal, which saw heavy rains in June.

Except, the rise in river water should be far from a surprise. It happens year on year, and in one Bihar region after another. On June 18, in Araria, 390km away from Siwan, a section of the 282m-long RCC (reinforced cement concrete) bridge on the Bakra river in Sikta block saw severe damage, with three to four spans of the structure — being built by RWD at the cost of ₹12 crore, crumbling into the river. Engineers who inspected the

bridge, found the same reason — "damages due to the changing course of the river."

Exactly two years before that, on June 18, 2022, two pillars of a four-lane bridge between Bihpur and Fumaut villages in Naugachhiya were washed away when the Kosi river moved southward. River basin expert Dinesh Kumar Mishra said, "The bridge was part of a 30km road that connects Bihpur in Bhagalpur to Birpur in Supaul. The construction company is said to have lost more than ₹200 crore. But that is the risk the contractors have to face with a turbulent river like the Kosi."

Mishra said that the Kosi's swirling currents during the monsoon forces both the river and its tributaries to change course. "The Kosi comes down to Bihar from a steep height and with a heavy load of silt. An insignificant stream of the Kosi flowing even two to three kilometres away from the main course of the river can turn into a major waterway, affecting the structures that lie in its path," Mishra said.

But professor Ramakar Jha, the NIT professor who inspected the Sattarghat bridge, said that rivers changing the course were hardly surprising, and could not be used as the excuse for collapsing bridges. "The construction companies and executing agencies should not resort to such a poor alibi. Instead, what should happen are good feasibility studies to understand the hydrology of the river. If a project costs between ₹200 and ₹300 crore, these feasibility exercise will not take more than a crore," Jha said.

Design flaws and a lack of a policy

Experts pointed out that government administrators and architects in Bihar largely use the Lacey method (named after Ger-



In the last three weeks, 13 bridges, big and small, have collapsed in different parts of Bihar. HT

ald Lacey who came up with it in the 1930s) — based on the concept of a regime channel where silt grade and charge remain constant and then provides equations that help calculate velocity, hydraulic mean depth and bed slope — to evaluate the hydrology of the river. "But the Lacey method is largely applied to evaluate canals. In Bihar, engineers often resort to this method to evaluate the hydrology of rivers which they then use to plan the design of bridges. It is no wonder that their piers and foundations get damaged when there is an unexpectedly high current," Ramakar Jha said.

Mishra said that there now needs to be an extensive hydrological analysis of all rivers in Bihar, particularly those that gush down from the Himalayas. "Never before, have I heard of so many bridges coming down in such a short span of time. There is something amiss in both their design, and the nature of the rivers owing to climate change. The

structures of bridges usually weaken when gushing currents erode soil around the foundation of piers and make deck-slabs unstable. Concerned departments must conduct safety audits before the onset of every monsoon," Mishra said.

Senior government officials also said that rampant sand-mining, which impinges on the carrying capacity of rivers, makes a shift in their path easier, and weakens structures, is a problem to contend with. Sunil Kumar, vice president of the Indian Engineers' Federation and executive engineer of the Bihar Police building corporation said, "The norms state that no mining of sand will be done within 500 metres of the bridge. But this rule is rarely adhered to, which poses risks to the foundation of a bridge. Recently, the Indian Railways were forced to carry out a strengthening of the piers for the 160 year old Abdul Bari bridge on the river Sone, after it was found that they had

weakened due to rampant sand mining."

Officials pointed to other man-made crises as well — in particular the hasty grant of approvals to projects deemed key by the state government. Patna's Marine Drive or the Jaya Prakash Ganga Pathway, a 21.5km driveway on the southern banks of the Ganga built at the cost of ₹3,106 crore and approved in 2007, for instance, was called by one executive engineer of the water resources department, who asked not to be quoted, as an example of "disturbing natural flow". "It is being built on the southern bank of the Ganga. The project was given a go ahead despite reservations from environmentalists who had feared that this will cause the river to shift away from Patna. This has now happened and there is flooding on the plains of Hajipur and Muzaffarpur," he said.

Pankaj Malviya, who was part of a volunteer campaign that

raised concerns on the project, said, "The Ganga Pathway is now forcing the river to deposit silt on the Patna side of the bank. The river bed is being flattened because of the silt which is left behind because of the obstruction in the flow."

The bridge was meant to ease Patna's notorious traffic from east to west and construction began in 2013, but was only opened for traffic in June 2022. "This is because the road design, being constructed as a mix of at-grade and elevated shapes had to be changed because of the pattern of the flow of the Ganga. Box canals, which were meant to ensure the unhindered flow of water have still not been built, allowing people to encroach the river bank," the WRD engineer quoted above said.

Even more damningly, while Bihar has laid out norms for maintenance of public infrastructure such as roads, it has no such policy for the maintenance of bridges. Officials admit that formulating a "bridge maintenance policy" often comes up in the wake of a bridge collapse, but fades quickly into memory. "Beyond this, the department spends very little time and money on the maintenance of bridges. Recently, the chief secretary held a review meeting in the wake of the collapse of the twelve bridges directed officials to frame the bridge maintenance policy to be approved by the state legislature in the coming monsoon session. But I have heard the same things since 2018," the executive engineer said.

The spate of bridge collapses have spurred a political furore in Bihar with the state assembly's Leader of Opposition Tejashwi Yadav saying that the frequent collapses was a metaphor for a failing "double engine govern-

ment" — a reference to alliance partners, the JD(U) and the BJP being in charge both at the state and the Centre. "There is hardly a week that passes when the report of a bridge collapse doesn't dominate the headlines," Yadav said.

The government, however, has insisted that it has taken cognisance of the bridge collapses, and was taking stern action, pointing to rural works department minister Ashok Chaudhary ordering the suspension of three engineers involved in the construction and maintenance of the bridge that collapsed on the Bakra river. Former JD(U) minister and MLC Neeraj Kumar said that he suspected a design behind the series of collapses, and that nobody guilty would be spared. "The CM is personally monitoring the situation and reviewing works of the road construction department and the rural works department to prevent recurrence of these collapses," Neeraj Kumar said.

On July 3, Nitish directed the two departments to conduct a survey of all the old bridges in the state and identify those that require immediate repair. This came even as a PIL was filed in the Supreme Court on June 29, raising concerns about the safety and longevity of bridges in Bihar, particularly during floods and the monsoon.

The petitioner, advocate Brajesh Singh, sought the setting up of real-time monitoring of bridges and said, "Such routine accrual of falling bridges in Bihar is disastrous as the lives of people at large are at stake. Therefore the urgent intervention of this court is required to save the lives of people."

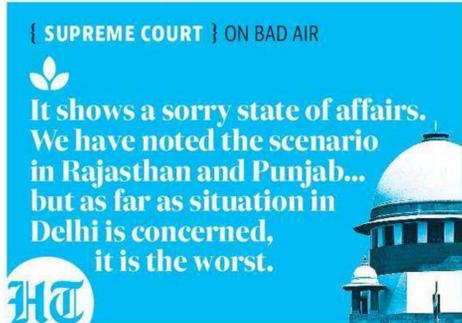
Bihar waits for intervention, as it waits, almost inevitably, for news of the next bridge collapse.

SC slams states over pollution panel vacancies

Abraham Thomas
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Wednesday pulled up Delhi and the adjoining states of Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Punjab for rendering pollution control boards "toothless", with some of these bodies functioning at less than half the sanctioned strength, and directed their chief secretaries to submit a timebound plan within three weeks to fill up all vacant posts. In an order passed by a bench headed by justice AS Oka, the top court found that Delhi fared the worst with 233 out of 344 sanctioned posts in the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) lying vacant. "This is a sad state of affairs that in the capital city also, the pollution control body is hardly functional with only one-third posts functioning," said the bench, also comprising justice Augustine George Masih.

The court got figures from the adjoining states, too, with Haryana reporting 202 vacancies out of 483 sanctioned posts, Rajasthan 476 out of 808 posts, Punjab 315 vacancies against nearly 650 posts, and UP still requiring to fill 145 out of the 732 posts in pollution control boards (PCBs). "We direct the chief secretaries to file an affidavit laying down timebound schedule for filling up all vacant posts in PCBs," the court said, and posted the matter for further consideration on August 20. "It shows a sorry state of affairs. We have noted the scenario in Rajasthan and Punjab so far as filling up of PCB posts are concerned, but as far as situation in Delhi is concerned, the situation is worst," it said. Delhi has a perennial pollution problem, which is exacerbated during winter. The city has consistently ranked among the most polluted Capitals of the world over the past decade, and



alleviatory measures have failed to improve the situation. Emphasising the need to have PCBs functioning at full strength, the bench said, "These authorities exercise very important statutory functions under the Environment Protection Act, Air Act, Water Act etc., and with nearly one-third

posts vacant, these authorities will be rendered toothless. It is the desire of the states that PCBs should not function." With regard to Delhi, the court observed that instead of regular appointments, workers were employed at various levels on a contractual basis. The court

failed to file an affidavit before the court. On April 22, the court had asked Delhi and adjoining states to submit a status report on the pending vacancies in PCBs. Additional advocate general for UP Garima Parshad that the vacancy figure which stood at 325 as per the CPCB report submitted in November 2023 has been brought down to 145. According to the figures contained in the CPCB report, out of the sanctioned posts of 11,969 employees in PCBs across the country, more than 6,000 posts are lying vacant. Separately, a DPCC official said they were working to fill vacancies, but denied that 233 posts were. "Based on posts created under DPCC, there are 207 vacancies. However, we have hired 127 contractual staff, effectively meaning only 80 posts are presently vacant," the official said. The Delhi government did not respond to queries for comment.

related to the alleged irregularities in the Delhi Waqf Board. Khan, the Okhla MLA, had moved a petition seeking to set aside the April 9 order of the magistrate court, and to put a stay on proceedings pending before the magistrate court. Special judge Kavari Baweja issued notice of the application to ED and listed the matter for hearing on July 12.



ED response sought in MLA's revision petition

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letters@hindustantimes.com

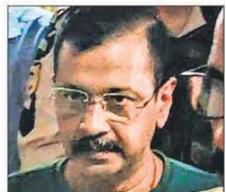
NEW DELHI: A Delhi court has sought a response from the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on a revision petition filed by Aam Aadmi Party legislator Amanatullah Khan, challenging the summons issued to him by a magistrate court in connection with a money laundering case

related to the alleged irregularities in the Delhi Waqf Board. Khan, the Okhla MLA, had moved a petition seeking to set aside the April 9 order of the magistrate court, and to put a stay on proceedings pending before the magistrate court. Special judge Kavari Baweja issued notice of the application to ED and listed the matter for hearing on July 12.

HC to hear plea against bail to CM next week

Shruti Kakkar
htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Delhi high court on Wednesday listed for July 15 the Enforcement Directorate's (ED) plea challenging bail to Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal by the trial court on June 20 in the alleged money laundering case, even as the CM's legal team requested the court to hear the matter on urgent basis.



Arvind Kejriwal

A bench of justice Neena Bansal Krishna deferred the hearing after ED, represented by additional solicitor general SV Raju, sought time to respond to the reply filed by Kejriwal stating that the CM's legal team had served the reply copy at 11pm on Tuesday and he therefore need more time. Kejriwal, represented by senior advocate AM Singhvi, said that the reply copy was mailed to the investigating officer at 1pm. He contended there was extreme urgency in the matter as the high court on June 25 had stayed the bail granted to the AAP chief. The high court on June 25 stayed the bail granted to Kejriwal by the trial court after ED moved the court challenging the trial court's June 20 bail order. ED told the Delhi high court that the trial court order was "perverse". The federal probe agency's petition stated that the bail order was passed without granting it adequate opportunity to oppose the application. The money laundering case stems from alleged alterations in the now-scrapped Delhi excise policy of 2021-22 to benefit certain liquor traders. On June 20, a Delhi court granted Kejriwal bail in the ED case citing lack of direct evidence.

This order was halted by the Delhi high court in less than 24 hours, and on June 25, a vacation bench of justice Sudhir Kumar Jain stayed the order saying it was passed without appreciating the material submitted by ED. Justice Jain also expressed displeasure regarding the trial court's observations that it was not possible for the court to consider "1,000 pages of documents" while dealing with the bail application. He observed that the trial court should have given ED an opportunity to present its case. In its reply filed on Tuesday, the AAP chief, while opposing ED's plea, contended that discretionary orders of bail cannot be set aside merely on perceptions and fanciful imagination of the prosecution. Kejriwal raised questions regarding the maintainability of the federal probe agency's plea and asserted that the high court equated the bail order with an order of guilt or acquittal, which ought to have detailed findings after meticulously weighing the evidence. The AAP chief asserted that the trial court, before granting bail to him, had clearly heard ED, and the agency could not condemn and criticise the order.

SC refuses to remove the cap of 100,000 on city's auto-rickshaws

Abraham Thomas
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NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Wednesday said that the cap on the number of auto-rickshaws plying on Delhi roads has been placed with in the interest of protecting the environment as it turned down a plea filed by auto manufacturer Bajaj seeking an exemption on the cap for CNG-driven autos.

By an order of the top court passed in November 2011, 100,000 three-seater auto rickshaw (TSR) are allowed to ply in Delhi. Prior to this, only 55,000 autos were allowed to operate, considering the fact that they used to run on "polluting fuels" such as petrol or diesel. Dismissing Bajaj's application for clarification that the cap will not apply to BS-VI CNG autos, a bench of justices AS Oka and Augustine George Masih said: "We will not entertain an application at the behest of a private manufacturer. If this court starts entertaining applications by manufacturers, driven by commercial interest, it will send wrong signals." It further clarified: "The order of this court imposing a cap on TSRs was to protect the environment. If there is drastic change of circumstances and in the interest of people, [and the] cap needs to

be lifted, an application should come from the government or any organisation working in the interest of common man. But an application cannot come from the manufacturer of autos." Bajaj's application was pending in the top court since 2018 and was moved in the MC Mehta matter where the court has been issuing directions in the interest of protecting the environment and curbing pollution in Delhi-NCR. Senior advocate Dhruv Mehta, appearing for Bajaj, said that TSRs provide a vital means of commutation for citizens in Delhi and realising this, the statutory authority called EPCA, assisting the court on Delhi pollution issues, had in an earlier report recommended that the cap should be lifted with the availability of cleaner fuels. The Delhi government was represented by advocate Jyoti Mendiratta who opposed the application by Bajaj citing "change in circumstances" with the development of the Delhi Metro and other public transport. The bench said, "It's a different thing if the government comes out with a policy. But will the court be justified to lift the cap at the instance of private manufacturers. You may have commercial interest. How can we increase the cap if somebody wants to have more business?"

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Children playing in the rain on Kartavya Path on Wednesday. Delhi received 10.1mm rainfall, and the maximum temperature was recorded at 36.4°C. SANCHIT KHANNA/HT PHOTO

Another spell of intense rain brings traffic in Delhi to halt

HT Correspondents
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NEW DELHI: Intermittent spells of rain continued to hit the Capital on Wednesday, leaving some parts of west, south and central Delhi waterlogged, with the Met department attributing the showers to the high relative humidity in northwestern India.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) also forecast "very light" to "light" rain in the city on Thursday and issued a "yellow alert", saying that the streak of humid days will continue for the rest of the week.

The Safdarjung observatory, representative of Delhi's weather, recorded 10.1mm rainfall between 8.30 am and 5.30pm. Palam recorded 25.4mm, Lodhi Road 5mm and Ayanagar 3.9mm during this period.

"Most areas received light rain while isolated areas recorded moderate rain. Humidity remained high and will remain fairly high for the remainder of the week," said an official.

Waterlogging in parts

According to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi's (MCD) monsoon report, the agency received six waterlogging complaints from areas like Keshavpuram, Siddhartha Extension, DMS colony in Hari Nagar, parts of Uttam Nagar, and Saraswati Marg in Karol Bagh. An MCD part of CR Park also reported waterlogging, adding that MCD also received a complaint regarding an uprooted tree from RK Puram.

The Delhi Traffic Police said police closed the Azad Market underpass in north Delhi due to waterlogging.

The relative humidity oscillated between 61% and 98% throughout the day. Delhi recorded a maximum temperature of 36.4 degrees Celsius (°C), which was a degree above normal. It was 33.2°C a day earlier. The minimum was 27.5°C, which is normal for this time of the year. It was 27.2°C on Tuesday.

The weather agency has predicted the maximum to hover around the same mark on Thursday but drop to 33°C on Friday due to more rain. The minimum will likely hover between



Vehicles amid heavy rain on NH24 on Wednesday. RAJK RAJ/HT

26°C-27°C over the next two days. With Wednesday's spell, the cumulative rainfall for the month now stands at 51.3mm. The normal rainfall mark for July is 209.7mm. Despite the rain, Delhi's air quality was back in the "moderate" category after six consecutive days of "satisfactory" air. This was primarily down to a drop in wind speed. Delhi's 24-hour average air quality index (AQI) recorded a reading of 138 (moderate) at 4pm on Wednesday. It was 84 (satisfactory) a day earlier at the same time.

Traffic cops step up action
The Delhi Traffic Police on Wednesday said it has identified nearly 100 spots in the Capital where water gets logged during monsoon on the main roads impacting traffic, adding that a strategised action plan has been devised to manage vehicles, including road closure on affected routes.

Special commissioner of police K Jagadesan said that some of these steps include ones implemented earlier. "There was a list of 80 spots where water is

logged during monsoon, but we have identified more than that. A list of actions was then prepared, which the traffic inspectors across Delhi started implementing on Tuesday," said Jagadesan.

Police said that one of the most significant steps being undertaken is road closure as soon as the traffic starts to get affected due to waterlogging. "The road will be closed for traffic and vehicles will be diverted. There may be some congestion on the diverted routes, but the traffic will be moving," he added.

The officer said that the traffic inspectors, who earlier took the formal route of contacting the civic agencies to facilitate the pumping of water, will now contact pump operators directly.

Another step taken by the traffic police is to rope in locals who have volunteered to help in case a vehicle breaks down. Police will also issue real-time advisories on social media. "These are shared on social media already. However, WhatsApp groups have been formed which have traffic inspectors who can ensure the advisories are posted on social media," he added.

Ridge tree-felling: SC notes claims of cops 'harassing' petitioner

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NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Wednesday took a serious view of allegations that the Delhi Police is harassing a petitioner seeking contempt action for illegal felling of trees in the Delhi ridge area, with police personnel constantly visiting his residence and putting his bank accounts under surveillance.

A bench of justices AS Oka and Augustine George Masih said, "It is very serious," after reading the contents of the application moved by the founder of NGO New Delhi Nature Society. This organisation filed a contempt petition early this year against the central public works department (CPWD), director general of forests, and Delhi principal chief conservator of forests for clearing of ridge land falling within the central ridge area at Buddha Jayanti park.

Without issuing notice on the application, the bench asked additional solicitor general (ASG) Aishwarya Bhat to go through the application. "We are not issuing notice. As an officer of the court, please go through the application. We will hear it on Friday."

Senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan appearing for the petitioner NGO along with advocate Manan Verma said that on May 14, the court issued notice on the contempt petition filed by it along with another contempt plea by Delhi resident Bindu Kapurea against Delhi Develop-

Minister on petitioner's claim: Attempt to shoot messenger

NEW DELHI: Delhi minister Saurabh Bharadwaj on Wednesday alleged that work is on to hide evidence of tree-felling in the Ridge area, and added that one of the petitioners in the case is being pressured by Delhi Police, and that their finances are being probed by central agencies. "NGO which is fighting in Hon'ble Supreme Court to save forests is being harassed by Delhi police... Interestingly, Delhi Police is directly under LG... This is clearly an

attempt to shoot the messenger... Whistleblowers should be protected by police. Here whistleblowers are being harassed... The roots and trunks of the cut trees are being disappeared and work is ongoing despite the Supreme Court's stay," he posted on X. Bharadwaj's remarks came a day after he and his cabinet colleague Atishi, who are part of a committee set up by forest minister to investigate the felling of trees in the Satbari area, visited the site. **HTC**

ment Authority (DDA) for felling nearly 1100 trees in Satbari falling in south Delhi ridge for construction of a road project.

"From June 5, individuals from Delhi police have been visiting my house to seek details about the NGO and asking me about the other petitioner Bindu Kapurea. They have approached my bank to get details of my past financial transactions," Sankaranarayanan said.

The court asked, "They made enquiries about the other petitioner also? We will see on Friday." The NGO told the court that going by the sequence of events, it is evident that the police action against it is a "counterblast" to the pending contempt proceedings and is aimed to create fear in the minds

of the petitioners pursuing the case.

The NGO has also sought to implead the commissioner of police and officials of the bank to the proceedings before the court to know the basis for such enquiry.

The present application comes at a crucial stage during the hearing of the contempt petitions when the court has asked DDA to come clean on the names of the higher ups who directed the felling of trees, without waiting for permission from the court, as mandated by a 1996 Supreme Court order. In this regard, the court had asked DDA vice chairman to provide details about involvement of Delhi LG VK Saxena who visited the ridge site on February 3.

NO COMPELLING REASON TO GRANT JAIN BAIL: COURT

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NEW DELHI: A Delhi court, while denying interim bail to former Delhi minister Satyendar Jain in a money laundering case registered against him by Enforcement Directorate (ED), underlined that there existed no "compelling reason" or "intolerable grief" to justify allowing the plea. The order was pronounced on Tuesday, but a detailed reasoning was released on Wednesday.

Jain had approached the court, seeking interim bail for four weeks on the ground that his wife has suffered a fracture in her leg, rendering her unable to follow her daily pursuits.

But the court found inconsistencies in the medical records provided. While Jain's wife was injured on June 29 and visited the hospital the same day, the medical records for that visit were not produced.

MALIWAL OPPOSES BAIL TO CM'S AIDE IN ASSAULT CASE

NEW DELHI: AAP Rajya Sabha MP Swati Maliwal on Wednesday opposed a bail plea filed by Bibhav Kumar, a close aide of chief minister Arvind Kejriwal, saying that she was "brutally assaulted" by Kumar. She added that the chief minister protected his aide following the assault.

As a bench of justice Anoop Kumar Mendiratta posted the plea for orders on Friday, Maliwal, who was present in court, urged it to reject the petition saying that she was subjected to victim shaming and was painted as a liar by AAP ministers in press conferences. **SHRUTI KAKKAR**

Man nabbed for killing newborn twin daughters

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NEW DELHI: A month after a 32-year-old man murdered his newborn twin girls and buried them near his house in Sultanpuri, outer Delhi, Delhi Police officers said on Wednesday that they have arrested the accused from Rohtak in Haryana.

The accused, investigators said, was unhappy over the birth of his daughters as he wanted a son.

The shocking crime took place on May 30 when Neeraj Solanki, a Delhi University graduate, fled the hospital with the newborn daughters as his wife, Pooja Solanki, was being discharged.

He allegedly took the babies in a car and told his wife that he would be following her to her parents' home in Rohtak. However, he went to Sultanpuri in Delhi where he lives, and buried them at a crematorium there. Police said Solanki and his family initially lied to Pooja that the babies died of illness.

On June 3, Pooja and her family called the police to report the murder of the twins and told investigators that their father was unhappy about the sex of the infants. By this time, Solanki had absconded, they said.

On June 5, police said they took permission from the SDM office to exhume the bodies, after which they were shifted to a hospital. Police suspect the accused had starved the babies to death and later buried them. DCP (crime branch) Amit Goel said the accused kept changing his mobile handset, SIM cards

and hideouts to evade the police. Solanki's father, Vijender Solanki, who was also detained, told the police that the father of the girls was upset so he kidnapped them from the hospital. "The team conducted raids at various places in Delhi and Haryana in search of the accused. We were in touch with his family while keeping a surveillance on him. He was finally found on Monday in Rohtak. During interrogation, he confessed to the double murder," added Goel.

Solanki is a graduate in arts from DU and was currently unemployed. He and his wife got married in 2022. The accused and his family allegedly harassed Pooja and demanded dowry from her. Police said they even forced her to undergo a sex-termination test, but she refused.

Meanwhile, his father and family kept lying to Pooja's family in order to buy time till they buried the babies. He found a crematorium near his house and dug a small hole using an axe and then buried the babies and went back home, said the police.

Police are still probing how deeply the family members are involved in the murder case.

Repairs on after damage seen on Ashoka Rd again

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NEW DELHI: A sinkhole appeared on a small section of Ashoka Road in the city on Wednesday, just days after a part of the road caved-in due to excessive rains.

The damaged site was barricaded, leading to traffic snarls during peak evening hours in New Delhi, according to police. The reason for the second sinkhole in the past four days was the same as for the one on Sunday—damage to the underlying old 1,200mm sewer line. To be sure, the section that was damaged on Sunday near the Windsor Palace roundabout has not been repaired and still remains barricaded.

The road falls under the jurisdiction of New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC).



This is the second sinkhole on Ashoka Road in a week. HT PHOTO

The Delhi traffic police issued two advisories regarding the cave-ins at the two sites, asking commuters to plan their journey accordingly. "Traffic is affected on the Windsor Palace round-

about in front of Ashoka Road from C-Hexagon due to damage to the sewer pipeline," the police posted on X. In a second alert, the police warned that traffic was affected towards Windsor Palace from C-Hexagon.

Atishi reviews flood prep along Yamuna

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NEW DELHI: Delhi revenue minister Atishi on Wednesday took stock of flood preparations along the Yamuna and said that the government will issue a flood advisory to people living in low-lying areas if the river's water levels reach 204m.

The water level in Yamuna is hovering around 202.6m at the Old Railway Bridge. Delhi considers a water level of 204.5m to be a warning level, while the danger point—which prompts evacuation efforts along the banks of Yamuna—is 205.33m. Last year, the river touched an all-time high of 208.66m on July 13, causing widespread flooding in parts of Delhi.

Speaking to the media, Atishi said that as soon as the water

level reaches 204m, people will be alerted via announcements.

"Currently, the water level is 202.6m, which is much below the danger mark, but the Delhi government is alert and cautious. Even if a flood situation arises, we are fully prepared for relief and rescue work," she said.

"Last year, the Yamuna water level had reached the highest level in the last 40 years, due to which there was a flood-like situation in low-lying areas along the Yamuna. Keeping this in mind, this year, the government has started preparations for floods much in advance. If there is a flood this year, we are ready to deal with it and for relief and rescue operations," she said.

The minister said that cloud-burst-like situations are occurring in different parts of the country.

BJP claims power bills hiked; AAP shoots back

HT Correspondent
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NEW DELHI: The BJP and the AAP traded barbs on Wednesday over allegations of power hikes in the Capital. The Delhi BJP accused the AAP government of "surreptitiously" increasing electricity tariffs under the guise of power purchase adjustment cost (PPAC). Power minister Atishi hit back, accusing the BJP of "spreading false rumours about hike in tariffs", saying that BJP-ruled states provided the most expensive power in the country.

PPAC is the surcharge component in power bills which is provided by electricity regulatory commissions to meet additional costs due to variations in power purchase costs incurred by the discoms. Power bills continue to vary throughout the year. Delhi BJP president Virendra

Sachdeva said, "AAP-led government is increasing the rates surreptitiously. They are not changing the units, but under the PPAC Act, the charges have increased to 8.5%. Increased rates have been implemented under PPAC."

However, Atishi said that the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC) ordered discoms that the current PPAC will remain unchanged.

She said: "According to the Electricity Act of 2003, discoms can increase the PPAC by up to 10% in summer to meet more demand, a provision that has been in place since the act was passed. BJP is misleading the people of Delhi by spreading rumors that electricity prices have been increased in Delhi."

The PPAC rate can be revised once every quarter and remains valid for three months. Discoms did not comment.

{ GEETA COLONY } ACCUSED BOOKED UNDER WILDLIFE PROTECTION ACT

Wildlife smuggler nabbed carrying 100 baby turtles on a motorbike

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NEW DELHI: The Delhi Police on Wednesday arrested a 38-year-old man trying to illegally sell 100 turtles, mostly hatchlings, near northeast Delhi's Geeta Colony as they busted a racket in which rare reptiles were being smuggled for the past six months.

The turtles were stuffed in a bag being carried on a two-wheeler, and the ages of the reptiles can only be ascertained after tests, officials said.

Some of the turtles were endangered species that are offered rigorous protection under the Wildlife Protection Act.

The arrested accused was identified as Bheem Singh, 28.

Police said they received a tip-off around 1pm that a man was smuggling dozens of turtles, adding that a group of animal activists had posed as decoy customers and

ordered the turtles online from him. They were communicating on WhatsApp and Telegram.

Deputy commissioner of police (DCP) (Shahdara) Surendra Choudhary said the recovered turtles fall under the "banned" category, which means they cannot be kept as house pets or traded.

"A team was deployed near Raja Ram Kohli Marg at the Pusta Road in Geeta Colony. At 1.20pm, the staff noticed a man approaching on a scooter with a big bag. He was spotted under the flyover and was caught after the activists identified him," the DCP said.

Police then carried the turtles to a police station, where they were kept in buckets filled with water. The reptiles were later carried shown to a judge at the Karkardooma court. The accused was also produced before the court.

"They were taken out of the bag and were immediately kept in water. We arranged four to five



Some of the rescued turtles in a bucket at the police station. HT

buckets and the turtles were evenly distributed. The staff also brought some seeds and fruit to feed the turtles. The activists told us that it appeared that the reptiles had been confined in the bag

for days," said an investigating officer aware of the case.

Forest department officials said the turtles were finally taken to Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary in the evening.

Endangered, vulnerable

According to the initial assessment, the reptiles include 50 Indian-roofed turtles (*Pangshura tecta*), 45 black pond or spotted pond turtles (*Geoclemys hamiltonii*), three Indian-eyed turtles (*Morenia petersi*) and two Indian softshell turtles (*Nilssonina gangetica*). Police said each turtle would fetch the smugglers anywhere between ₹8,000 to ₹10,000 in the black market.

According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species, the Indian roofed turtle is listed as "vulnerable and rare", and the black pond, Indian-eyed and Indian softshell turtles are listed as "endangered". Singh was booked under the Wildlife Protection Act and Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act.

Reports showed that the Indian-roofed turtles are found in major rivers and in Pakistan and

Bangladesh. The black-spotted pond turtles are Schedule I species sold for \$120 dollars online. Officials said the recovered turtles are found in the Ganga and its tributaries, adding that they can grow up to two feet in size.

"The accused told us that he and his friend from Ghaziabad have been smuggling rare species of turtles for five to six months. He procures the species from the Ganga stretch in Garhmukteshwar area called Garh Ganga and from other subsidiary rivers," said the officer quoted above.

The officials added that the turtles will be kept at Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary for now.

Gauri Maulekhi, an animal activist said these turtles are mainly trafficked so they can be sold as pets. "Though not legally allowed to be kept as pets, people still buy them illegally on the black market for this very purpose," she said.

{ WHAT NCR EATS } REPORT BY NATIONAL RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

Delhi, Noida go for Indian snacks, but Ggm prefers eating Chinese

Snehil Sinha

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NEW DELHI: Samosas, kachori, pakodas, chhole bhature and kebabs. This is what Delhi prefers over a dumpling, taco or even the popular south Indian combo of idly-vada, according to a study on food orders conducted in Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR), which said that north Indian snacks were the most ordered in dining and delivery orders across the Capital, followed by Mughlai and Italian cuisines.

Neighbouring Noida followed a similar trend to Delhi, but 53% of Gurugram preferred Chinese food, according to the report released by the National Restaurant Association of India (NRAI) on Tuesday. The study is based on a survey of 5,200 restaurants across 21 cities in the country. Besides, 120 CEOs of restaurant chains were also interviewed to clock responses on their best-selling and most popular food items.

"The market size of Delhi-NCR's organised food service sector is estimated at ₹42,002 crore. Among the top 21 cities identified in terms of market size of organized food service, Delhi-NCR stands second after Mumbai. Delhi populace dines out the most for get-togethers and celebrating important occasions.

Visiting a food outlet after or before watching a movie is also a significant driver. Additionally, 32% of the Delhi populace stated their dining out frequency has increased, when compared to pre-pandemic times," the report said.

According to the report, 51% of people in Delhi order north Indian snacks at restaurants, followed by Mughlai, Italian and Chinese cuisines. The least number of takers are for south Indian, and American and Mexican cuisines, it said.

On average, Delhi residents eat out 8.96 times a month while Noida and Gurugram residents eat out around 7.5 times each. The amount spent on restaurants per visit per capita is highest in Gurugram, at ₹1,274, followed closely by Delhi, at ₹1,165 and Noida, at ₹997.

According to the report, 45% of Delhi's consumers — primarily Gen Z and millennials, calling themselves "taste voyagers" — seek out restaurants with unique themes, international cuisines, and tech-enabled customer experiences.

"While there is an overall preference for Indian snacks in Delhi, in the organized food sector, cloud kitchens have surged to the forefront, capturing a 36% share due to their cost-effectiveness and convenience, closely

What Delhi likes to eat



followed by quick-service restaurants (QSRs), which hold 31% of the market share," said Sandeep Anand Goyle, head of Delhi chapter of NRAI and owner of Essex Farms, a multicuisine fine-dining restaurant in Kalu Sarai.

He said there are over 120,000 organised and unorganised eateries in Delhi, followed by 61,000 in Noida and 54,000 in Gurugram.

Delhi and Noida residents, when they eat out, mostly prefer visiting fine-dining restaurants,

while Gurugram residents prefer quick-service restaurants. According to the report, 30% of Delhi residents prefer fine dining, followed by 20% preferring quick service restaurants, 13% casual dining, 11% food courts and 9% desserts, ice-creams and baked goods.

"Family is the most preferred company (at 40%) while dining out in Delhi. Indian snacks and Mughlai are highly preferred by Delhi customers while dining

out. Preference for Italian items, such as pizza and pasta, are also significant," the report said.

In Noida and Gurugram as well, preferred company for eating out was family, at 40%, followed by friends and romantic partners.

While some preferred eating out alone, eating out with colleagues was the least preferred. Only 4% in Delhi prefer eating out with colleagues, according to the report. Noida, at 7%, and Gurugram, at 3%, did not fare much better in this category.

Mushrooming business

According to the report, quarterly leasing activity was the highest in the last quarter of 2023, clocking 18% more than the previous quarter. The restaurant business grew most in Noida, followed by Gurugram, but remained stagnant in Delhi.

"Mall rentals in Delhi remained stable during the quarter. Prime main streets, such as Khan Market witnessed a 3-5% growth year-on-year basis, whereas south Delhi markets such as South Extension and Lajpat Nagar witnessed a 10-15% growth on y-o-y basis. Other main street markets, such as Rajouri Garden and Greater Kailash, remained stable on q-o-q (quarter on quarter) basis, as well as y-o-y basis," the Delhi report said.

Excise case: BJP, AAP trade blows over ED charges

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NEW DELHI: The Delhi unit of the BJP and the AAP on Wednesday clashed over the supplementary charge sheet filed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in the scrapped excise policy case. The BJP labelled the AAP "the most corrupt party" saying this was the first instance of a political party being named an accused, to which the latter hit back, saying the electoral bonds data showed the BJP took donations worth crores from accused of the "so-called liquor scam".

BJP demanded that all AAP government ministers in Delhi be investigated, while the AAP said the BJP should be probed for quid pro quo in donations received through electoral bonds.

Delhi BJP chief Virendra Sachdeva, in a press conference, said, "ED's supplementary charge sheet has been filed. On July 12, the accused number 38 — the AAP — will become the first party in the country to hear such a call. While individuals are often charged in money laundering cases, the AAP as a whole is now facing such allegations," Sachdeva said.

THE BJP SAID ALL AAP MINISTERS IN DELHI BE PROBED, AND THE AAP SAID THE BJP SHOULD BE PROBED FOR QUID PRO QUO IN DONATIONS

Sachdeva said that the charge-sheet filed by the investigating agency also mentioned that Arvind Kejriwal had been repeatedly retracting his statements.

Responding to the comments, Delhi minister Saurabh Bharadwaj said it became public knowledge that the BJP took donations worth crores of rupees from the accused of liquor scam and the central government should investigate the donations received by the party from the accused.

Addressing a press conference, Bharadwaj said: "Many firms that donated money to BJP are under investigation. After taking donations, BJP-led Centre made accused of scam witnesses. When will the central government investigate donation of these crores to BJP?"

Drive to raze illegal Aravalli structures

Leena Dhankhar

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GURUGRAM: Two days after Hindustan Times reported an alarming rise in the construction of illegal farmhouses over the past year, contrary to the forest department's claims of no new construction or illegal mining, the district administration has ordered the demolition of illegal farmhouses and boundary walls in the Aravallis.

Officials aware of the matter said the demolition drive was aimed at removing nearly 800 illegal structures in the eco-sensitive Aravallis and is set to commence within a week.

Gurugram deputy commissioner, Nishant Kumar Yadav, on Wednesday issued directions to prevent illegal mining and construction activities in the Aravalli region. He said it is necessary to increase vigilance and take strict action against the perpetrators.

"The Sohna sub-divisional magistrate has been tasked with overseeing the operation. We will carry out marking and ensure that illegal construction is not carried out again and if anyone is involved, strict action will be taken against the landowner," he said.

According to the forest department's estimates, there are 500 illegal farmhouses there.

DDA app to remove encroachments soon

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NEW DELHI: The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) is creating a mobile app for encroachment removal across the city, where residents can register complaints regarding unauthorised construction, according to officials.

The officials added that the complainants will also be able to get regular status updates on the app, which will be monitored by

the Special Task Force (STF) for encroachment removal that comprises all civic agencies in the Capital.

"As of now, DDA's 311 app has a window on the STF. Complaints can also be made online through the website. But it is an older version and people cannot upload details such as the exact location of the encroachment.

"We expect the new app to be able to allow users to fill in all such details," said a DDA official, asking not to be named.

Ex-AAP min, incumbent MLA among 6 to join BJP

Alok KN Mishra

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NEW DELHI: Kartar Singh Tanwar, Chhatarpur MLA of the AAP, and Raaj Kumar Anand, former Delhi minister and ex-AAP Patel Nagar MLA, joined the BJP on Wednesday, striking a blow to the AAP ahead of next year's state assembly elections.

The duo were inducted into

the party by national general secretary Arun Singh. Delhi BJP chief Virendra Sachdeva said. Tanwar is a two-time MLA from Chhatarpur, where he won in 2015 and 2020. He joined the AAP from BJP in 2014, and his return was termed a "homecoming" by BJP leaders.

Anand, a former social welfare minister in the Delhi government, was disqualified from the assembly on June 14,

five weeks after he joined the BSP. He was elected the MLA of Patel Nagar constituency, a reserved seat, on an AAP ticket.

Anand's wife Veena Anand, who was elected Patel Nagar MLA in 2013 on an AAP ticket, also joined the BJP's ranks.

Besides the trio, AAP's Said-Ul-Ajaib councillor Umed Singh Phogat, and AAP members Ratnesh Gupta and Sachin Rai also joined the BJP.



MCD meet not held due to protests by BJP
NEW DELHI: The MCD zonal meeting on sanitation in central zone was not held due to protests by BJP councillors, who raised slogans demanding constitution of ward committees. Delhi mayor Shelly Oberoi in a press conference said, "The meeting's agenda was to improve sanitation system but BJP did not allow it to start." BJP councillor Rajpal said the meeting had no legal basis as the AAP has not constituted ward panels. "Under which rule was this meeting called when the panels have not been formed? How can mayor call a ward panel and chair it?" he said.

Now, book Delhi Metro tickets 120 days in advance

NEW DELHI: The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) on Wednesday said that people can now book tickets for the Delhi Metro 120 days in advance using Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited website. DMRC said the ticket's validity has been increased to four days as well.

Woman dies after childbirth, kin held for hospital ruckus

NEW DELHI: Three members of a family were arrested for allegedly creating a ruckus inside Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital in the city and threatening a doctor after a woman, Heena, 19, died after giving birth to a boy on Tuesday morning, police said on Wednesday. Based on a complaint from the hospital, police arrested the woman's father, huer husband, and his brother.

We regretfully announce the demise of
Mr. PHILIP EAPEN

Senior Advisor, MRF Ltd.

On July 7, 2024 in Chennai.



PHILIP EAPEN
(1937 - 2024)

MRF proudly remembers a remarkable man for his **66-year tenure** and his extraordinary contributions to the growth and success of MRF Tyres. A man of immense experience and wisdom, he will forever be our guiding light.

Funeral will be held on Thursday, 11th July, 2024 in Chennai.

Prayer Service: 2.30 pm at his residence in Chennai.

Funeral Service: 3.15 pm at St. Peter's & St. Paul's Orthodox Church, New Colony, Thomas Nagar, Koyambedu, Chennai - 600 107.

Burial: 4.00 pm at Kilpauk Cemetery, Kilpauk Garden Colony, Chennai - 600 102.

Deeply mourned by:

Wife: Mrs. Laila Eapen

Sons: Ajoy Philip, Late Anuj Philip and Atul Philip

Meera Jacob Philip, Diya Philip, Talia Philip, Mihir Eapen Philip, Sneha Susan Philip, Meghna Philip, Shruti Rajan, Kian George Philip and Arin Joseph Philip.

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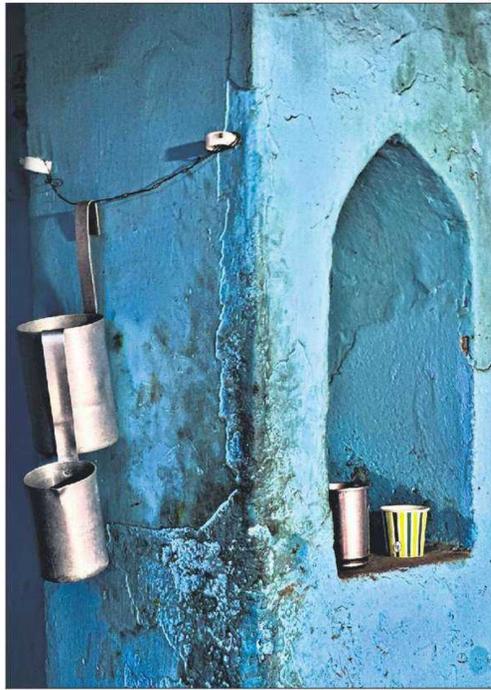
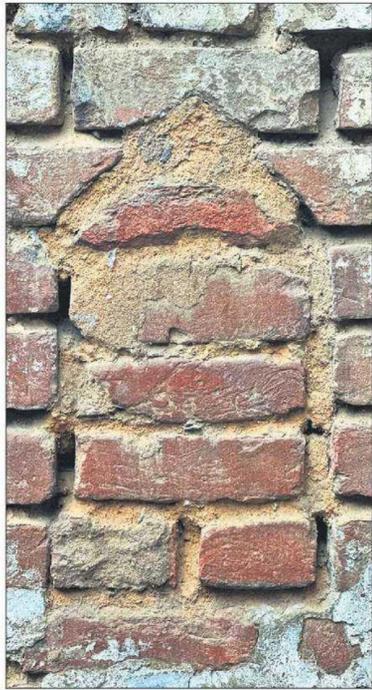
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In search of taaks past

On the disappearing element of domestic architecture

PUBLIC INTEREST

This one holds the patriarch's framed Bachelor of Engineering certificate. The one in the other house has a copy of *Shree Ramcharitmanas*.

Each is a taak.

An arch-shaped niche scooped into wall, taak is an element of traditional household architecture lost to the past. Well, almost. For they are still spotted in Delhi, especially in the Walled City, and in the Capital's very many villages. Taaks were celebrated on these pages some years ago, but while fast disappearing from our world, the region is so full of old taaks that you stumble into fresh new sightings every other day.

In a home, a taak would generally be at the centre of the wall and would be used to keep something sacrosanct — maybe a holy book, or a scented agarbatti.

When Delhi homes had no Western-style sofa and we sat on mattresses laid out on the floor, the long cylindrical gao-takiya pillow would be placed directly under the central taak. Many households exploited the taak for keeping fruits, dawai ka patta, dadi's paan box, dada's dentures, didi's college I-card, bhayya's ainak, and other household knick-knacks we liked to have within easy reach.

Naturally, it was in taak where we kept things and later looked for them everywhere but in the taak. That gave birth to the saying— "Usko to taak mein rakh diya," indicating a relative so out of sight and out of mind that they might as well be in the taak.

These alcoves are never spotted in new houses, rendered obsolete by sideboards and shelves. Besides the walls of our suburban flats are no longer thick enough to contain a taak.

That said, cobwebby taaks linger on in old localities. The other day a taak in a hole-in-the-wall Purani Dilli chai shop was crammed with a half-full pack of Harvest Gold double rotis. A nearby dairy had its taak claimed by two glasses—see right photo.

Some taaks in ruined buildings are left with only a faint impression of their arched outline—see left photo.

Then there are taaks that existed for show. Too shallow for use, they were just an impression on the wall. Roshanpura in Gurugram is rich in them.

Without doubt, the best taaks are those that continue to be active players in daily life. Sabeeha Jhinjhanvi in Old Delhi's Chitli Qabar chats daily for a few minutes on WhatsApp video with her son, who works in Amsterdam. While doing so, she goes about her household chores, her mobile phone (with her son in it) standing upright in the living room taak.



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MUMBAI HIT-AND-RUN

Maharashtra chief minister and Shiv Sena supremo Eknath Shinde meanwhile sacked Mihir's father Rajesh Shah as the party's deputy leader in Palghar, though the latter remains a party member.

Mihir, who was accompanied by his driver Rajrishi Bidawat, crashed his BMW 5-Series into a scooter, which Pradeep Nakhawa (50) was driving and his wife Kavari Nakhawa (45), on Annie Besant Road in Worli around 5.30am on Sunday. He then allegedly dragged Kavari on the bonnet till the Bandra-Worli Sea Link.

Then, Mihir and Bidawat stopped the car and disentangled Kavari from the car's tyre. Bidawat then took the driver's seat, ran the car over her while reversing, and then fled, according to police. The car later broke down at Kala Nagar, from where Mihir headed to his girlfriend's house in Goregaon, while Bidawat waited for Rajesh.

The suspect then changed locations over and over for nearly 60 hours to try and evade police, who eventually arrested him on Tuesday evening.

According to police officers present in the Dadar court on Wednesday, Mihir claimed he left the car at Kala Nagar and fled fearing public fury. Likewise, Mihir's family members also said they left their homes fearing public assault, he claimed.

"Soon after the incident, Bidawat narrated the incident to Rajesh, who asked him to take responsibility and urged Mihir to flee. By the time Shah reached Kala Nagar, he found Bidawat waiting in the car," said a police officer.

Both were arrested later on Sunday.

"We have to seize the BMW's number plate, which we suspect Mihir and Bidawat have destroyed. We also need to seize his cellphone," public prosecutor Ravindra Patil told the court.

Headed, "We need to find the people the accused had called and those who helped him flee. He has trimmed his hair and chopped his beard. He has to take police to the barber so that his statement can be recorded. He has been telling us that he has a driving licence, however, we have not got the same from him. We have also written to the RTO (regional transport office) to check his licence and inspect the vehicle."

Patil said Mihir's and Bidawat's recollections of the sequence of events did not match.

"We have also confronted Bidawat and Shah about the trail of incidents. There are discrepancies in their statements which need to be verified. We also need to check in whose name the vehicle was registered," he said.

Opposing the plea, Mihir's lawyer Ayush Pasbola argued: "There

is nothing more to recover, as both the car and CCTV footage are with the police. The demand application doesn't specify the need for custody."

A senior officer at Worli police station said statements of 14 people, including three eyewitnesses, have been recorded.

Meanwhile, Maharashtra chief minister Shinde on Wednesday assured strict action against those guilty and announced ₹10 lakh aid for the victim's family.

MODI IN AUSTRIA

"Chancellor Nehammer and I have discussed in detail the ongoing conflicts around the world, whether it is the conflict in Ukraine or the situation in West Asia. I have said before that this is not a time for war. Problems cannot be solved on the battlefield," Modi said after the talks, speaking in Hindi.

"The loss of innocent lives, anywhere, is unacceptable. India and Austria emphasise on dialogue and diplomacy for the earliest possible restoration of peace and stability. We are both ready to provide every possible cooperation to achieve this," he said.

India and Austria, Nehammer said, are united by concerns over the geopolitical situation and the two leaders had "very intensive talks about the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine". Pointing to Modi's just concluded visit to Russia, Nehammer said: "It was particularly important for me to hear about the Prime Minister's personal assessment regarding the intentions of Russia in respect of the peace process."

Nehammer said it was an "important signal" that India participated in the recent peace summit on Ukraine hosted by Switzerland and the two sides had discussed "possibilities of reviving the peace process". He pointed to India's "unique position" in the Global South and its role as the largest democracy and said the country will be "more than important" for the peace process and future peace summits.

Austria, as a neutral country and a non-NATO member, will be available as a site for dialogue and is willing to "act as a bridge builder", Nehammer said.

A joint statement issued after the talks said both leaders supported "any collective effort to facilitate a peaceful resolution" of the Ukraine war in line with international law and the UN Charter. "Both sides believe that achieving a comprehensive and lasting peace in Ukraine requires bringing together all stakeholders and a sincere and earnest engagement between the two parties to the conflict," the statement said.

On the bilateral front, the discussions between the Indian and Austrian leaders focused on cooperation in trade, investment, science and technology, green energy, artificial intelligence, climate change, cultural cooperation and people-to-people ties. Modi said he and Nehammer identified new opportunities to strengthen cooperation and decided to give strategic direction to bilateral ties. A blueprint for cooperation over the coming decades won't be limited to economic cooperation, and the two sides will combine strengths in areas such as infrastructure development, innovation, renewable energy, water and waste management and quantum technology, he said.

A mobility and migration agreement signed by the two sides in 2023 will facilitate legal migration and movement of skilled workforce, he added.

With two-way trade currently worth ₹2.7 billion, Nehammer emphasised the scope for expanding economic cooperation.

He also highlighted the role of India's first prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru in negotiations that led to a treaty between the Soviet Union, the UK, the US and France in May 1955 to grant Austria independence and to facilitate withdrawal of occupation forces. The Austrian State Treaty was signed by the four parties with the understanding that the independent state of Austria would remain neutral, acting as a buffer zone between the East and the West.

Modi invited Austria to join India's initiatives such as the International Solar Alliance, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure and Biofuel Alliance.

"We strongly condemn terrorism. We agree that it is unacceptable in any form and cannot be justified in any way," he said.

Following their talks, Nehammer and Modi jointly addressed CEOs of the two sides at a business roundtable in Hofburg Palace. Modi highlighted the potential for collaboration between Indian and Austrian companies in sectors such as infrastructure, renewable energy, new and emerging technologies, fintech, start-ups and innovation. He also invited Austrian companies to invest in India.

MUSLIM WOMEN ALIMONY CrPC and has become operational since July 1, has retained the older provision on alimony under Section 144.

In a robust defence of Muslim women's rights, the judgment

held: "Maintenance is a facet of gender parity and enabler of equality, not charity. A destitute Muslim woman has the right to seek maintenance under Section 125 of the CrPC despite the enactment of the 1986 Act."

The court underscored that the rights granted to a Muslim woman under the 1986 Act to receive a reasonable and fair provision and maintenance from her former husband during the 'iddat' (grieving period) are in addition to, not in derogation of, those under Section 125 of the CrPC.

"Therefore, if a divorced Muslim woman approaches the magistrate for enforcement of her rights under Section 125 of the CrPC, she cannot be turned away to seek relief only under Sections 3 and 4 of the 1986 Act, as is sought to be contended by the appellant herein. In other words, such a divorced Muslim woman is entitled to seek recourse to either or both the provisions. The option lies with such a woman," it held.

The court also stressed that Section 125 of the CrPC is a more beneficial provision for a Muslim divorced woman as compared to the provisions of the 1986 Act. "It follows that a destitute Muslim woman has the right to seek maintenance under Section 125 of the CrPC despite the enactment of the 1986 Act," it noted.

By affirming that Muslim women can seek maintenance under Section 125 of the CrPC, the top court has ensured that they are not subjected to discriminatory practices based on their religion and that they have the same legal recourse available to women of other faiths, thereby reinforcing the principle of equality enshrined in the Indian Constitution.

The judgment unequivocally held that the 1986 Act does not bar Muslim women from seeking maintenance under the CrPC, thereby expanding their legal avenues and fortifying their right to justice and financial security post-divorce.

Moreover, the ruling challenges regressive and patriarchal interpretations of the law that have historically limited the rights of Muslim women. By rejecting the notion that the 1986 Act supersedes the CrPC in matters of maintenance, the court has affirmed a progressive and inclusive interpretation of the law.

The court also held that a Muslim woman who has been subjected to the outlawed practice of instant triple talaq, can opt for maintenance under Section 125 of the CrPC even though the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act, 2019 provides for sustenance allowance. "The provisions of the 2019 Act provide remedy in addition to and not in derogation of Section 125 of the CrPC," it held.

The court was hearing a Muslim man's petition, questioning a Telangana high court direction to pay ₹10,000 interim maintenance to his former wife. The appeal stated that a divorced Muslim woman cannot seek maintenance under Section 125 of the CrPC because the 1986 Act will prevail over it.

Senior advocate Gaurav Aggarwal assisted the court as amicus curiae, and submitted that the remedy under a secular statutory provision of Section 125 cannot be foreclosed for a divorced Muslim woman by virtue of enactment of a personal law remedy under the 1986 Act.

The judgment on Wednesday delved into the historical context of Muslim women's rights, citing the landmark Shah Bano case of 1985. In that case, the Supreme Court had ruled that Muslim women were entitled to maintenance under Section 125 of the CrPC — a decision that was later countered by the enactment of the 1986 Act by the Rajiv Gandhi government. The new law restricted maintenance for a woman to 'iddat' period and alimony for the child till two years from divorce.

But the philosophy laid down in the Shah Bano verdict lived through times, noted the bench, as it cited the subsequent decision in Daniel Latifi Vs Union of India (2001), in which another constitution bench relied extensively on the 1985 judgment and interpreted the 1986 Act to ensure it did not deprive Muslim women of the protection afforded under Section 125 of the CrPC. While upholding the constitutional validity of the 1986 Act, the apex court held that a Muslim husband is responsible for paying maintenance to his divorced wife may extend beyond the Iddat period, as well as for making reasonable and fair provisions for his divorced wife's future.

On Wednesday, the Supreme Court held that the 1986 Act continues to operate within the same juridical compass as the judgments in Shah Bano and the reasons for upholding the constitutionality of the law in the Daniel Latifi case cannot be lost sight of. "The crux of the reasoning in Daniel Latifi is that the 1986 Act is a social welfare legislation that seeks to provide an additional right and thereby, an additional remedy. Therefore, the 1986 Act does not take away rights that divorced Muslim women have either under personal law or under Section 125 of the CrPC," it noted.

NEET AFFIDAVIT

fabricated nature of the claims made in the video", the affidavit stated.

According to the Centre's affidavit, the department of higher education, ministry of education, had requested IIT-Madras to conduct a detailed data analysis of the NEET-UG 2024 results to identify any suspected cases of malpractice and evaluating the spread of top-performing candidates.

IIT-Madras conducted a thorough analysis of the top 140,000 ranks for 2023 and 2024 to detect any abnormalities. This analysis, the Centre said, aimed to identify if any centres or cities showed signs of undue advantage to a large number of students due to malpractices.

The report of the analysis, dated July 10, however, revealed no indications of mass malpractice or any localised set of candidates benefitting unduly, adding the distribution of high marks was consistent across various cities and centres, the government said.

"The analysis shows that there is neither any indication of mass malpractice nor a localised set of candidates being benefited leading to abnormal scores. There is an overall increase in the marks obtained by students, specifically in the range of 550 to 720 (total score). This increase is seen across the cities and centres. This is attributed to 25% reduction in syllabus. In addition, candidates obtaining such high marks are spread across multiple cities and multiple centres, indicating very less likelihood of malpractice," stated the affidavit.

The IIT-Madras report, endorsed by its director, maintained that the analysis of the 2023 and 2024 NEET-UG data could lead to an inference "with confidence that there has been no abnormality, which has affected the results".

The affidavit has been submitted in compliance with the directive of a bench, led by Chief Justice of India Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud, which on Monday highlighted the compromised sanctity of the NEET-UG 2024 due to a question paper leak but emphasised that the issue of retest would depend on whether the wrongdoers can be effectively segregated in order to prevent the wastage of resources, disruption of the academic calendar and potential damage to the career prospects of millions of honest students.

Fixing the next hearing on Thursday, the court outlined settled parameters for deciding whether a retest is necessary, which included ascertaining if the breach occurred at a systemic level; if the breach affected the overall integrity of the examination process; and the possibility of identifying and segregating the beneficiaries of the fraud from the untainted students. The bench sought details about the nature and extent of the leak, the gap between the leak and the conduct of the exam, the manner of the leak, dissemination of the leaked question papers, steps taken to identify the beneficiaries, and measures adopted to secure the integrity of future examinations.

The Centre's affidavit outlined the steps taken by the Union government to ensure the examination's integrity and address any malpractices. Pointing out that the ministry of health & family welfare oversees the counselling process for UG seats, which will begin in the third week of July 2024, the affidavit stated that any candidate found guilty of malpractice will have their candidature cancelled during or after the counselling process. NTA, on its part, submitted that the options being considered is to replace the mode of conduct of examination from pen and paper mode (OMR-based) to computer-based test (CBT) mode.

"Further options are also being explored simultaneously so as to perfectly obviate the occurrence of any malpractices that may affect the sanctity and integrity of the exam," it said, adding that based on the progress of investigations, as and when the names of suspicious candidates become available, it can also initiate administrative process for debarring such candidates.

It also pointed that not 67 but only 61 candidates had scored the perfect marks of 720 because six of them were given grace marks due to a loss of time and after the retest, those six candidates have not been able to score 720.

The government said it has established a high-level panel of experts, headed by Dr K Radhakrishnan, former chairman of ISRO, and chairman, board of governors, IIT Kanpur. This committee will recommend measures to enhance transparency and robustness in future examinations.

The affidavit underscored the government's legislative efforts to ensure examination integrity. The Parliament enacted the Public Examination (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, 2024, which came into effect on June 21, 2024. This Act provides stringent punishments for offences related to unfair means in public examinations. "The Union of India is not taking the present litigation in an adversarial manner and is duty-bound to address the concerns of the students who have taken the NEET examination 2024," it said.

HT Homage

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In Grief

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Anuja Sehgal (Daughter)
Raghu Sehgal & Aditi (Son & Daughter in Law)
Vedika Arora & Aarav Sehgal (Grand Children)

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18 killed, 19 injured as bus rams into milk tanker on Agra e-way

Haider A. Naqvi
letters@hindustantimes.com

UNNAO: Eighteen people, including three women and one child, were killed and 19 injured when a double-decker sleeper bus allegedly rams into a milk tanker on the Agra-Lucknow Expressway, in Unnao district of Uttar Pradesh on Wednesday, officials said.

The incident near Jojikot village in Behra Mujhawar police station area took place around 5am, when the bus tried to slip between the milk tanker, which was on the right-most lane of the expressway, and a stationary truck that broke down in the centre of the road.

The bus, which officials alleged was speeding, rams into the milk tanker, ripping through the vehicle. The bus scraped along its side and threw several passengers out of the windows, before the two vehicles turned turtle, officials aware of the details explained.

The bus was travelling from Motihari in Bihar to Delhi when the accident occurred. Eyewitnesses also claimed the driver of the bus, with 57 passengers onboard, was speeding all night.

"Eighteen people died and 19 were injured in the accident. A probe has been launched into the



The bus after it met with an accident near Jojikot village in Unnao district, on Wednesday.

matter. It appears that the bus was speeding when it hit the tanker from behind," district magistrate Gaurang Rathi said.

According to Lucknow additional director general of police S B Shiradkar, the deceased comprised 14 men, three women and a child. The drivers of both the vehicles were among the deceased.

"So far, the identities of 16 deceased have been confirmed. The bodies are kept in the morgue of the district hospital," Unnao superintendent of police (SP) Shiddharth Shankar Meena said,

adding that police have been their probe into the accident.

Dr Samir Mishra of King George Medical University trauma centre said five people admitted in the facility are in a critical condition.

People aware of the details said the bus's fitness certificate expired on January 1, 2021, its tax validity on November 30, 2023, insurance on February 13, 2024, permit on January 2, 2024, and pollution certificate on April 15, 2024. It has at least 80 challans pending. Survivors said they were sleep-

There was a loud noise, and I was thrown out of the bus. Bodies were lying everywhere, there was chaos

SHABANA,
one of the passengers

ing and were awakened by loud commotion in the crash.

"The bus was travelling at a high speed. Suddenly, there was a loud noise, and I was thrown out of the bus onto the road. Bodies were lying everywhere, there was chaos... I was crying and people were searching for their loved ones. Eventually, others arrived and took me to the hospital," Shabana, a passenger, said.

"We were both asleep when suddenly we heard a commotion as if there was an aandi (storm) and toofan (hurricane). Somehow, my daughter and I managed to get out of the vehicle," another survivor Raushan said.

While President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi condoled the loss of

lives in the accident, chief minister Yogi Adityanath assured best treatment for the injured. Modi announced an ex gratia of ₹2 lakh for the families of the deceased.

In a post on X, Adityanath said "district administration officials have been instructed to speed up the relief work".

Political parties also extended their condolences and urged the administration to provide assistance to the affected families.

"The news of the death of 18 people in a tragic road accident on the Lucknow-Agra Expressway in Unnao, UP, is extremely saddening... The administration is requested to leave no stone unturned in helping the victims," Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge wrote on the micro-blogging site.

Congress MP Rahul Gandhi urged workers of the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) to "cooperate with the administration in relief and rescue operations".

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav accused the government of "negligence". "It is a matter of investigation that despite the presence of a dedicated parking zone on the expressway, why was a vehicle parked in the middle of the road?" he said.

Bengal suit against CBI probes maintainable: SC

Utkarsh Anand
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Wednesday rejected the Centre's objections to the maintainability of a suit filed by the West Bengal government challenging the continued operations of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) within the state despite the local government's withdrawal of consent under the Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act—setting a precedent for potential challenges by other states.

Importantly, the apex court bench led by justice Bhushan R Gavi held that CBI can be "equated to the Government of India" due to the agency's establishment, exercise of powers, extension of jurisdiction and superintendence—all vesting with the central government.

This ruling is not only a shot in the arm for the Mamata Banerjee-led West Bengal government but also sets a legal precedent at a critical juncture when the Opposition and states ruled by non-BJP parties have raised concerns about being targeted by the Centre through the use of central agencies such as the CBI and the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

The decision is likely to have far-reaching implications, providing a strong legal foundation for states to challenge the Centre's alleged overreach and ensuring that central investigative agencies operate within the bounds of the law.

Dismissing the Centre's contention that CBI operates independently of the Union of India, the bench, also comprising justice Sandeep Mehta, meticulously reviewed the provisions of the DSPE Act to hold that the statutory scheme of the Act clearly places the agency under the superintendence of the Government of India.

"A perusal of the entire scheme would reveal that right from the constitution of the special police force which is called DSPE, issuance of notifications specifying the offences or classes of offences which are to be investigated by the



Mamata Banerjee

DSPE, superintendence and administration of DSPE and the extension of powers and jurisdiction of DSPE to the areas beyond the Union territories, it is the central government which is vitally concerned with. Not only that, only such offences which the central government notifies in the official gazette, can be investigated by the DSPE," held the 74-page judgement, authored by justice Gavi.

This administrative control and superintendence do not extend to specific investigations but pertain to the overall functioning of the DSPE, noted the bench, declaring that "CBI is an organ or a body which is established by and which is under the superintendence of the Government of India in view of the statutory scheme as enacted by the DSPE Act." Except for offences under the Prevention of Corruption Act, where the Central Vigilance Commission holds superintendence, the DSPE's superintendence in all other matters lies with Central Government, it added.

Dismissing the Centre's argument that CBI could not be equated to the Government of India under Article 131 of the Constitution, the bench underlined that the West Bengal government's suit raises a significant legal issue—whether CBI could continue to register and investigate cases in the state after the withdrawal of consent in November 2018. Article 131 allows disputes between the Union and states or between states themselves to be directly adjudicated by the Supreme Court.

The case has now been fixed for August 13 for framing of the tria-

Cal HC to hear gov's plea over defamation suit

KOLKATA: The Calcutta high court will hear on Monday an application for interim order by West Bengal Governor C V Ananda Bose in a defamation suit filed by him against chief minister Mamata Banerjee and some other TMC leaders.

The governor had filed a defamation case against Banerjee on June 28, a day after she claimed women complained to her that they were afraid to visit the Raj Bhavan. Justice Krishna Rao on Wednesday granted leave for the defamation plea to be registered before his court. He directed that Bose's application for an interim order, for a direction upon Banerjee and the others not to make any further comment on the issue, will be taken up on Monday.

ble issues in the suit. West Bengal's suit, filed through advocate Astha Sharma, that the central government's actions constituted an overreach and infringed on state sovereignty. The suit pointed out that the TMC government withdrew general consent for CBI probes in November 2018, yet the agency registered 12 cases, which the state termed as "constitutional overreach" by Centre. The state's suit, filed in August 2021, claimed that CBI has been exercising its powers unconstitutionally and demanded annulment of the 12 cases, and restraint on agency from lodging any new cases.

Solicitor general Tushar Mehta represented the Centre, while senior counsel Kapil Sibal, Abhishek Manu Singhvi and Bishwajit Bhat-tacharya appeared for the Mamata Banerjee government.

Justice Khanna recuses himself from marriage equality case

Utkarsh Anand
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: A decision on the review petitions in the same-sex marriage case was delayed on Wednesday after justice Sanjiv Khanna recused himself due to personal reasons.

The Supreme Court is set to consider a clutch of petitions seeking a review of its October 17 judgment that refused to grant legal recognition to same-sex couples and said only Parliament and state legislatures can

validate their marital unions. A bench, led by Chief Justice of India Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud, and comprising justices Sanjiv Khanna, Hima Kohli, BV Nagarathna, and PS Narasimha, was supposed to consider the bunch of review petitions against the same-sex marriage verdict on Wednesday. Justices Khanna and Nagarathna replaced the retired members of the previous bench—justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Ravindra Bhat.

The unexpected recusal of jus-

THE RECUSAL OF JUSTICE KHANNA LEFT THE BENCH WITHOUT THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF JUDGES, STALLING THE REVIEW PROCESS

Justice Khanna left the bench without the required number of judges, temporarily stalling the review process. CJJ Chandra-

chud will now have to reconstitute the bench.

On Tuesday, senior advocates Neeraj Kishan Kaul and Abhishek Manu Singhvi urged the court to hear the review petitions in open court, arguing that the matter's significance for the nation and society warranted a departure from the usual practice of considering review petitions in chambers.

The CJJ acknowledged the request and stated that he would consider it, while also pointing out that this is a review petition

before a Constitution bench and that he cannot unilaterally decide to list the matter for an open court hearing.

The October 17 judgment, decided by a 3-2 majority, refused to accord legal sanction to same-sex marriage and declined to grant constitutional protection to civil unions and adoption rights for queer couples. The judgment noted that mandating the State to grant recognition or legal status to some unions would violate the doctrine of separation of powers.

Have fun with facts on Sundays
Catch the latest column of
HT TWTW
A quiz on the week's development.

HEMwati NANDAN BAHUGUNA UTTARAKHAND MEDICAL EDUCATION UNIVERSITY
NEW CENTRAL HOPETOWN, BAYAKHALA, SELAQUI, DEHRADUN-248011
WEBSITE: www.hnbmu.ac.in, E-mail: info.hnbmu@gmail.com
Ref. No: 752 JNBUMUNET-PC/2024-25 DATE: 10.07.2024
Important Notice regarding NEET PG MDS Uttarakhand State Centralised Counselling-2024
On the basis of merit of NEET PG-MDS 2024 the online central counselling for MDS seats available in private colleges of Uttarakhand will commence from 11 July 2024.
As per directions/advices received from Govt. of India, MCC, DCI, Govt of Uttarakhand time to time, all the latest information and procedure of counselling are uploaded on University website www.hnbmu.ac.in.
All information/update in future will be intimated through the website www.hnbmu.ac.in only. Controller of Examination

कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम / EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE CORPORATION
(अथवा एन एम आर मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार) / (Ministry of Labour & Employment, Government of India)
चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय एवं अस्पताल / Medical College & Hospital
एन एच 3, एन आर 1, फरीदाबाद-121001 (हरियाणा) / NH3, NIT, Faridabad-121001 (Haryana)
Phone No.: 0129-2970111, Email: dean-faridabad@esic.nic.in, Website: www.esic.nic.in

ADVERTISEMENT NO. 05/2024
WALK-IN-INTERVIEW ON 15 JULY, 2024

ITEM NO. 1
TEACHING FACULTY ON CONTRACT
Consolidated pay & Designation of Prof./Assoc. Prof. may be considered against advertised lower post subject to eligibility/suitability of the candidate.

REQUIREMENT	RENUMERATION
Part Time Specialist/Super-Specialist on case to case basis in Anesthesia/Intensive (Critical Care Medicine/Emergency Medicine)	PERCENTAGE (%) OF CGHS RATES
Super Specialist full time	Entry level- ₹ 2,00,000 pm Consultant level- ₹ 2,40,000 pm
Super Specialist part time	Entry level- ₹ 1,00,000 + 20,000* Consultant level- ₹ 1,20,000 + 20,000*
Adjunct faculty having more than 8 years work experience after pg degree in modern medicine	*Visiting charges in case of Emergency Call for 4 hours each day for 4 days a week and other allowances as per rules
Adjunct faculty having more than 10 years work experience after pg degree in modern medicine	₹ 4000/- PER SESSION
	₹ 6000/- PER SESSION

ITEM NO. 2
EMPANELMENT OF PART TIME SPECIALIST/SUPER-SPECIALIST, ADJUNCT FACULTY
(TEACHING EXPERIENCE NOT MANDATORY)

REQUIREMENT	RENUMERATION
Part Time Specialist/Super-Specialist on case to case basis in Anesthesia/Intensive (Critical Care Medicine/Emergency Medicine)	PERCENTAGE (%) OF CGHS RATES
Super Specialist full time	Entry level- ₹ 2,00,000 pm Consultant level- ₹ 2,40,000 pm
Super Specialist part time	Entry level- ₹ 1,00,000 + 20,000* Consultant level- ₹ 1,20,000 + 20,000*
Adjunct faculty having more than 8 years work experience after pg degree in modern medicine	*Visiting charges in case of Emergency Call for 4 hours each day for 4 days a week and other allowances as per rules
Adjunct faculty having more than 10 years work experience after pg degree in modern medicine	₹ 4000/- PER SESSION
	₹ 6000/- PER SESSION

ITEM NO. 3
SENIOR RESIDENT Salary: ₹ 1,36,889
JUNIOR RESIDENT Salary: ₹ 1,13,434

For more details visit website: www.esic.gov.in

NOTE: Reservation as per roster. In case of non-availability of candidates of suitable category, the post may be filled with UR candidates on a tenure of 44 days.

SUDHA RUSTAGI COLLEGE OF DENTAL SCIENCES & RESEARCH, FARIDABAD
(A POST GRADUATE INSTITUTE)
Recognized by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India & Dental Council of India. Affiliated to Pt. B.D Sharma University of Health Sciences, Rohtak.
Estd. 2002

ADMISSIONS 2024-25
BDS | MDS

Schedule of Admission for MDS All Category of Seats (1st Round)

Registration on the online web portal i.e https://hry.online-counselling.co.in/	Dates
11/07/2024 to 14/07/2024 (till 11:59 PM)	

ELIGIBILITY: Admission & fee structure as per directions of Govt. of Haryana, DMER, Haryana/ Pt. B.D. Sharma University of Health Sciences, Rohtak / DCI.

KHERI MORE, SECTOR-89, GREATER FARIDABAD (HARYANA)
Helpline No : 8860077911, 9953297836 Ph: 0129-4230000
Web.: www.srdentalcollege.com, E-mail : admissions@srdentalcollege.com

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 (2) (ii) CrPC

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person Namely: Sadiq @ Sonu, S/o: Sahid, R/o: Present Address: A-172, Harizan Basti, Kondli, Delhi Permanent Address: Kot Mohalla, Murad Nagar, Ghaziabad, U.P. has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in a case vide FIR No. 237/2013, U/s 356/379/411/34 IPC registered at PS Mayur Vihar (Cr. Br.), Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued stating that the said Sadiq @ Sonu could not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the accused Sadiq @ Sonu is absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Sadiq @ Sonu is required to appear before the court to answer the said complaint on or before 28.11.2024.

By Order
Ms. Preeti Agarwala
CMM (East), Court No.29,
Karkardooma Court, Delhi

DP/8553/Crime/2024

झारखण्ड राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण पर्वद
Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board
नगर प्रशासन भवन, एच 0ई 0सी 0, धुर्वा, राँची
दूरभाष : 2400851, 2400852, 2400979 फ़ैक्स : 0651- 2400850/138
Web:www.jspcb.nic.in; e-mail:-ranchijspcb@gmail.com

लोक सुनवाई की सूचना

Environmental Clearance of Chainpur Stone Deposit of M/s Shree Bhole Minerals for the production of 75,464 Cum Granite Gneiss through opencast Mechanized mining method with maximum excavation of 80,726 Cum spread over 5.24 acres (2.12 ha) located in village - Chainpur, Thana- Balidih, Thana No.- 37, District - Bokaro, State - Jharkhand की पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति हेतु लोक सुनवाई की तिथि दिनांक 24.08.2024 (दिन- बुधवार) को पूर्वाह्न 11.00 बजे। "On Project Area, Village- Chainpur, Thana- Balidih, Dist- Bokaro, Jharkhand" में निर्धारित की गई है।

उक्त योजना के सम्बन्धित प्रभाव से प्रभावित होने वाले लोगों/ नागरिकों को एतद द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि लोक सुनवाई में उक्त तिथि, समय एवं स्थान पर आवश्यक रूप से भाग ले एवं Covid-19 के संक्रमण के कारण फेस मास्क, सोशल डिस्टेंसिंग (Social Distancing) आदि एवं आपदा प्रबंधन विभाग (Disaster management) द्वारा जारी किए गए नियमों का अनुपालन करेंगे तथा अपने विचार से अनवरत करावें। इसके अतिरिक्त वे अपना सुझाव, विचार, मंत्र्य अथवा आपत्ति, यदि हो तो लिखित रूप/ ऑनलाईन से या Video Conferencing द्वारा भी सूचना उक्त लोक सुनवाई की तिथि से एक सप्ताह पूर्व तक झारखण्ड राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण पर्वद, टीएनए नवन, पोस्ट धुर्वा, राँची/ जिले के उपायुक्त कार्यालय, बोकारो/ पर्वद के क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, झारखण्ड राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण पर्वद, एच 0 आई 0 सी 0- 1, हाउसिंग कॉलोनी, हीरापुर, धनबाद में उपलब्ध करा दें।

निर्धारित तिथि के पश्चात प्राप्त होने वाले किसी भी प्रकार की आपत्ति/ सुझाव पर किसी प्रकार का विचार नहीं किया जायेगा। लोक सुनवाई की प्रक्रिया पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार की ई-आइएनएओ अधिसूचना संख्या एनओओ-1533 दिनांक 14.09.2006 एवं संशोधित अधिसूचना संख्या एनओओ3067(ई) दिनांक 01.12.09 के अनुरूप होगी।

यह भी सूचित किया जाता है कि उक्त प्रोजेक्ट का ड्राइफ्ट पर्यावरणीय प्रभाव मूल्यांकन प्रतिवेदन तथा इसके सारांश की एक-एक हार्ड कॉपी एवं सॉफ्ट कॉपी निम्न कार्यालयों में अवलोकनार्थ रखी रहेगी। साथ ही कार्यकारी सारांश भी इन कार्यालयों से ही प्राप्त किया जा सकता है।

- उपायुक्त कार्यालय, बोकारो।
- जिला उद्योग केन्द्र, बोकारो।
- जिला पर्वद/ नगर निगम, बोकारो।
- मध्यस्थ, झारखण्ड राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण पर्वद, टीएनए नवन, पोस्ट धुर्वा, राँची।
- क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, झारखण्ड राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण पर्वद, एच 0 आई 0 सी 0- 1, हाउसिंग कॉलोनी, हीरापुर, धनबाद।
- पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार, क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, (राँची) द्वितीय तल्ला, झारखण्ड राज्य आवास बोर्ड मध्यस्थ, हरमू चौक, राँची - 834002
- संबन्धित पंचायत।
- संबन्धित प्रखण्ड विकास पदा/अंचलाधिकारी कार्यालय।

(संजय कुमार श्रीवास्तव)
विशेष कार्य पदाधिकारी

PR 329254 Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board(24-25).D

BSES BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, New Delhi

TENDER NOTICE Date: 11.07.2024

Sealed tenders under two parts (Un priced & priced) are invited for the supply of following materials from all bidders:-

NIT No.	Brief Tender Description	Estimated Annual Cost (₹)	Cost of EMD (₹)	Due Date & Time of Submission	Date & Time of Opening
CMC/BR/24-25/RB/PR/MS/1211	TENDER FOR SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF FIREWALL FOR SCADA OFFICE IN BRPL	1.50 Crores	3,00,000/-	31.07.2024 15:00 HRS	31.07.2024 15:30 HRS

Cost of each Tender Document: ₹ 1180/-
For any query call on 011-49107235 or e-mail on Brpl.Eauction@reliancetada.com
For details in respect of Equipment/BOM/Services, Qualifying requirements, Terms & conditions, purchase/submitment of tender documents etc. please visit our website www.bsesdelhi.com Head (Contracts & Materials)
Regd. Off.: BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, BSES Bhawan, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019 | Corporate Identification No.: U40109DL2001PLC111527 Telephone No. : +91 11 4910 7235 | Website : www.bsesdelhi.com

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
Regd Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001
Corporate Identification Number (CIN) : U40109PB2010SGC033813
Contact No. 96461-18773
टैन्डर सप्लीमेंट्रीवैमल नैचर- QQ-2347 / PO-P.

Chief Purchase Officer/MM, Central Purchase Organization, PSPCL, 2nd floor, Multistory Building, The Mall, Patiala, invites E-Tender for Procurement of 550 Sets of 450 KVAR rating (each Set/Capacitor Bank consisting of 3 Single Phase Units of 150 KVAR rating) and 475 Sets of 600 KVAR rating (each Set/ Capacitor Bank consisting of 3 Single Phase Units of 200 KVAR rating), 12.1 KV HT Shunt Capacitor Banks against PSPCL Tender Enquiry No. QQ-2347/ PO-P. For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 11.07.2024 onwards.
कैट नैचर हेतु Corrigendum अडे addendum, वैचैण्ड डां एम सप्ले <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> में वैचैण्ड नैचर हेतु।
C421/24 35539

King George's Medical University U.P., Lucknow
Bid Inviting Notice

Notice No: 1030/GeM/PS/FO/24 Date: 10.07.2024

Bid has been invited on GeM portal under 02 e-bid systems (technical & financial) for purchase of X-ray Film from OEM or their authorized Indian agents/dealer on the terms and conditions as per bid document. Short details can be viewed at kgmu.org & detailed will be available on GeM portal. Further, bid invitation related information will be available on the KGMU website.

(Finance Officer)

MAHATRANSCO Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.
NOTICE INVITING TENDER CPD/19-2024-25

Tenders are invited through e-Tendering in SRM system from the registered vendors for Supply of following:

Tender No. & Description of Material	Estimated Amount (in Rs. Lakhs)	Due Date & Time (Hrs.) for Submission & Opening of Tender
SP/T-0516/0724 [RFx No.5000001254] [2nd call] (Two Bid System) Procurement of 132kV & 220kV Voltage Class Power Transformers/ICTs of various ratings (110 Nos.) alongwith New Uninhibited High Grade Mineral Insulating Oil for Augmentation Scheme and Emergency/ Critical Spares for various Zones of MSETCL [Including Power Transformers (11 Nos.) Re-Tendered against SP/T-0501/0124 (RFx5000001183)]	57171.01 Lakh	24.07.2024 Up to 16:00 Hrs. at 16:15 Hrs.
1 st Call vide SP/T-0510/0324 (RFx 5000001210)	25000.00	

Contact Person: Office of the Executive Engineer (Gr.P&C)
Tel. No. : 022- 69852720/69852717/08329909813
Email: eegrp6@mahatransco.in, eecp@mahatransco.in
For further details visit our website <http://www.srmtender.mahatransco.in>
Any further amendments will be published on the MSETCL website www.mahatransco.in. So bidders are requested to check the website.

Sd/
Executive Engineer (P&C)

NEET petitioners allege lack of transparency, systematic fraud

Utkarsh Anand

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: As the Supreme Court gears up to hear on Thursday a clutch of petition demanding the re-conduct of NEET-UG 2024 due to alleged paper leaks and other malpractices, the group of students challenging the results of the all India examination claimed a "systematic fraud" that compromised the sanctity of the examination and eroded trust in medical education across the country.

The consolidated written submissions by the petitioners presented a detailed set of arguments, arguing that NEET-UG 2024 was marred by cheating and inefficiencies, citing multiple instances that they claim have undermined the credibility of the examination process. The petitioners allege that the paper was leaked on a "massive scale" — both digitally and physically, and not only in Patna, as claimed by the Union government and the National Testing Agency (NTA). This claim was supported by investigations conducted by the Bihar Police, argued the students, adding it is impossible to determine the exact number of beneficiaries of the leak, given the sophisticated methods used.

"Question paper was circulated on a Telegram channel one day prior to the scheduled examination i.e. on 04.5.2024 at 12.02 AM. This breach of security has raised significant concerns regarding the integrity and fairness of the examination process. Given the nature of social media and modern communication platforms, it is impossible

Students pitch for re-NEET

The students' affidavit argued that NEET-UG 2024 was marred by systematic fraud

'MASSIVE LEAK'

The petitioners allege that the NEET-UG 2024 paper was leaked on a "massive scale" — both digitally and physically, and not only in Patna, as claimed by the Centre and NTA.

'MANIPULATION OF OMR SHEETS'

They argue that this manipulation could have occurred at multiple centres, further compromising the integrity of the examination.

'MASS FRAUD'

They argue that the widespread nature of the fraud, involving paper leaks, OMR sheet tampering and misuse of compensatory marks, points to a systematic fraud.



to accurately determine the full extent of the leak and identify all beneficiaries. This phenomenon makes it extremely challenging to segregate and pinpoint individuals who may have gained an unfair advantage," said the submissions.

The 10-page note added that a press release issued by the Bihar government on June 23 stated that security standards provided by NTA, which also include the guidelines for transportation, storage and hand over of the question paper, was not fully complied with. "Therefore, it is impossible to segregate the beneficiaries of paper leak as there is a systematic failure in the entire examination

process," it said.

This averment assumes significance in view of the Supreme Court's remarks on Monday that a determination of whether the paper leak was systemic or localised was imperative so as to decide whether to order a re-conduct of the exam or to find ways to segregate the wrongdoers, in order to avoid the loss of resources and potential setbacks to the careers of nearly 2.4 million students who appeared for the exam on May 5.

The petitioners in the case are represented through senior counsel Narendra Hooda, Sanjay Hegde, Amit Anand Tiwari, Santosh Paul, Basant R, and advocates

Charu Mathur, Mathews J Nedumpara, Suhaas Ratna Joshi, A Karthik, Tanvi Dubey and Sunny Kadiyan. Solicitor general Tushar Mehta appears for the Centre while senior counsel Naresh Kaushik and advocate Vardhman Kaushik represent NTA.

The petitioners claimed that there was manipulation of OMR sheets at examination centers, a fact that has been proven by the Gujarat Police and acknowledged by the NTA and the government. They argue that this manipulation could have occurred at multiple centres, further compromising the integrity of the examination.

The note, submitted through

nodal counsel Sumit Kumar Sharma, claimed that the high inflation in NEET-UG 2024 scores cannot be attributed to a single paper leak incident in Patna. They argue that the widespread nature of the fraud, involving paper leaks, OMR sheet tampering and misuse of compensatory marks, points to a systematic fraud at a mass level.

Highlighting that 67 students scored perfect scores of 720 and achieved an All India Rank (AIR) 1, the students claimed that it was an anomalous and suspicious outcome. "The recent NEET paper leak and subsequent irregularities have severely compromised the sanctity and fairness of the NEET UG 2024 examination. This breach of trust not only undermines the integrity of the examination process but also casts serious doubts on the credibility of the results obtained," stated the note.

According to the petitioners, NTA resorted to the "flimsy ground" of high performance standards causing high cut-off, which they said is not sustainable in the eyes of law, "being unjust and unreasonable and contrary to settled pattern of the previous years".

The petitioners further claimed that NTA made several contradictory statements. Initially, NTA denied any paper leak in press releases dated May 5 and 6, but later admitted to a leak in Patna in a counter affidavit. Similarly, NTA initially claimed that a loss of time occurred at only one centre (Sawai Madhopur in Rajasthan) but later awarded compensatory marks to 1,563 students across multiple centres, the note pointed out.

Chancellor hails Nehru's role in Austrian history

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The role of India's first premier Jawaharlal Nehru in complex negotiations that facilitated Austria's emergence as a neutral and independent country in 1955 was highlighted by Austrian Chancellor Karl Nehammer at a media interaction with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday.

Though Austria had a provisional government by the end of World War II, it was occupied by France, Soviet Union, the UK and the US, or the so-called Allied powers, after the defeat of Nazi Germany in 1945. These four countries signed a treaty in May 1955 to grant Austria independence and to facilitate the withdrawal of occupation forces.

Delivering a statement to the press alongside Modi, Nehammer referred to Nehru's role while speaking of the relationship of trust between India and Austria that began in the 1950s. "India, for Austria, was an important partner and a supporter when it came to bringing the peace negotiations, which resulted in the [Austrian] State Treaty, to a conclusion," he said, speaking in German.

In a reference to the negotiations that preceded the treaty, he said: "There was a standstill in 1953, the situation was difficult. It was difficult to make progress with the Soviet Union, and it was foreign minister [Karl] Gruber who contacted Prime Minister Nehru... asking for support in the negotiations to bring them to a positive conclusion." "This is what happened — India helped Austria and in 1955, the negotiations came to a positive conclusion with the Austrian State Treaty."

Several historical documents and accounts, including declassified US diplomatic cables and Gruber's memoir *A Political Life: Austria's Journey Between Dictatorships*, have outlined Nehru's role in conveying messages to the Soviet leadership after he was approached by the Austrian side.

In the 1950s, India followed the policy of non-alignment and had established good relations with the Soviet Union. Hans Köchler, a noted Austrian academic and president of the International Progress Organization, recounted Nehru's behind-the-scenes role in the negotiations in a lecture delivered in 2021. "One of the founders of the Non-Aligned Movement, Indian prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru, played a crucial role in Austria's efforts. On 20 June 1953, he met with Austrian foreign minister Karl Gruber on the Bürgenstock Mountain above Lake Lucerne, Switzerland," he said.

Gruber acknowledged Nehru's "good offices vis-à-vis the Soviet government in the matter of the deadlocked negotiations" on the treaty. "Gruber told [Nehru] — in the presence of India's ambassador to



Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Austrian Chancellor Karl Nehammer click a selfie in Vienna, Austria, on Wednesday. PTI

India gave Buddha to world, not 'yuddha': Modi in Austria

VIENNA: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said India has given 'Buddha' to the world, not 'Yuddha' (war), which means it has always given peace and prosperity, and therefore the country is going to strengthen its role in the 21st century.

Addressing the Indian diaspora in Vienna, Modi also said that India is working towards being the best, the brightest, achieving the biggest and reaching the highest milestones. "For thousands of years, we have been sharing our knowledge and expertise. We didn't give 'Yuddha' (war), we gave the world 'Buddha'. India always gave peace and prosperity, and therefore India is going to strengthen its role in the 21st century," Modi said in Austria, a day after he arrived here from Moscow where he highlighted the importance of finding a peaceful solution to the Ukraine conflict during his talks with President Vladimir Putin.

"It is the power of our electoral machinery and democracy," he said.

Austria as "meaningful", Modi said that after 41 years, an Indian Prime Minister has visited the country.

"This long wait has come to an end on a historic occasion. India and Austria are celebrating 75 years of their friendship," he said. "India and Austria are geographically on two different ends, but we have many similarities. Democracy connects both countries. Our shared values are liberty, equality, pluralism, and respect for the rule of law. Our societies are multicultural and multilingual. Both countries celebrate diversity, and a big medium to reflect these values are elections," he said, amid chants of 'Modi, Modi'.

Recalling the recently concluded general elections, Modi said 650 million people exercised their right to vote and despite such a big election, the results of the elections were declared within hours.

"It is the power of our electoral machinery and democracy," he said. PTI

Bypolls held in 7 states; violence in Bengal, U'khand

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Voting for the 13 assembly bypolls in seven states — including four in West Bengal and three in Himachal Pradesh, where chief minister Sukhvir Singh Sukhu's wife Kamlesh Thakur is in the fray — was held on Wednesday. The results will be announced on July 13.

Barring sporadic incidents of violence in Manglaur assembly segment in Uttarakhand and two constituencies in Bengal, polling was peaceful in all other places, officials said.

The bypolls are being held against vacancies created either due to deaths or resignation of incumbent members. The 13 seats that went to the bypolls are Rupauli in Bihar, Raiganj, Ranaghat Dakshin, Bagdah and Manikatala (all in Bengal), Vikravandi (Tamil Nadu), Amarwara (Madhya Pradesh), Badrinath and Manglaur

(Uttarakhand), Jalandhar West (Punjab) and Dehra, Hamirpur and Nalagarh in Himachal Pradesh. In Uttarakhand's Manglaur constituency, several people were injured in a clash between supporters of the ruling BJP and the opposition Congress at a polling booth. There were reports of firing at the booth as well, but the police refuted the claims.

"Some people were injured in a clash between two groups at booth number 2 in Libberhedi village in Manglaur. However, we can't confirm if firing took place at the booth... We are looking into the matter." Haridwar rural superintendent of police (SP) Swapan Kishor Singh said.

The Manglaur bypoll was necessitated due to the death of sitting BSP legislator Sarwat Karim Ansari in October while the Badrinath seat fell vacant after Congress MLA Rajendra Bhandari switched to the BJP in March. While 68.24% voters exer-



A man assists an elderly woman at a polling station in Raiganj, in West Bengal.

cised their franchise in Manglaur, Badrinath reported 49.80% turnout, according to polling figures updated on ECI app at 9pm. Officials said the figures are tentative and could go up marginally after the final count is compiled.

In Bengal, violence was reported in Bagdah and Ranaghat Dakshin assembly segments, with the BJP accusing workers of the

ruled TMC of assaulting its booth agents and stopping its candidates from visiting some polling stations. The ruling party rejected the claims. Of the four seats in the eastern state, Raiganj recorded the highest turnout of 67.12%, followed by Ranaghat Dakshin (65.37%), Bagda (65.15%) and Manikatala (51.39%), according to the ECI turnout app.

In Himachal Pradesh, the bypolls were necessitated after the resignation of independent legislatures — Ashish Sharma from Hamirpur, Hoshiyar Singh from Dehra and KL Thakur from Nalagarh — who had voted for the BJP in the Rajya Sabha elections in February. All three have been fielded by the BJP. Chief minister Sukhu's wife Kamlesh Thakur is also making her poll debut from Dehra seat. Nalagarh recorded the highest polling at 78.82%, followed by Hamirpur (63.89%) and Dehra with 63.89% turnout. The Jalandhar West assembly

bypoll in Punjab, necessitated after Sheetal Angural resigned as AAP legislator, reported 51.30% polling. The contest is primarily among AAP's Mohinder Bhagat, Congress's Surinder Kaur and Anurag, who has been fielded by the BJP. In Vikravandi assembly seat in Tamil Nadu, where ruling DMK's Aniyur Siva is pitted against NDA ally PMK's C Anbumani, 82.48% voters exercised their franchise, according to ECI.

In Madhya Pradesh's Amarwara assembly bypoll, necessitated after sitting MLA Kamesh Shah defected from the Congress to the BJP, 78.71% turnout was reported, according to the 9pm data on ECI app.

In Bihar's Rupauli constituency, the bypoll was necessitated after the resignation of JD(U) legislator Bima Bharti, who unsuccessfully contested the recent Lok Sabha polls on an RJD ticket. The bypoll recorded a turnout of 51.14%, according to the ECI app.

Moscow, KPS Menon — that his government was considering to offer guarantees against Austrian participation in military alliances' i.e. a constitutionally enshrined policy of permanent neutrality. He asked Nehru to convey this position to the Soviet authorities."

Köchler said. Köchler also cited British historian John Wheeler-Bennett as saying that Nehru accepted the office of mediator and Menon subsequently advanced the proposal during a conversation with Soviet foreign minister Vyacheslav Molotov.

Nehru's role finds mention in a declassified diplomatic cable sent to the US State Department in June 1953 by the acting US high commissioner for Austria, Walter C Dowling, that was based on a conversation with Gruber.

Austria's pledge to commit to a neutral status became part of the

Moscow Memorandum of 1955, which paved the way for the Austrian State Treaty. Bruno Kreisky, who was minister of state in the PMO in 1955 and later became Austria's premier, later wrote: "So is the Name Nehru für immer mit der Geschichte unserer Neutralität verbunden." (Thus, the name of Nehru will forever be connected with the history of our neutrality.)

About a month after Austria gained full independence, Nehru became the first foreign leader to make a state visit to Vienna in June 1955. Nehammer noted that Austria's neutrality could help it play the role of a "bridge builder" in efforts to find a solution to the Ukraine crisis. "Austria will be available as a site for dialogue, making use of its unique position as a neutral country, a member of the EU but not a member of NATO," he said.

and Russia is prepared to meet the technology needs of India's petrochemical industries that are growing at more than 10% annually, Griva said. On India's demand for repatriation of Indian nationals recruited into Russian Army, Babushkin said, "It is a common problem which has strong domestic implications for India. Unfortunately, this topic can be politicised..." Russia has "never wanted" Indians to be part of the Russian Army, which has not made any announcements about wants to specifically recruit Indians, he said.

CASTE SURVEY REPORT WILL BE TABLED IN K'TAKA CABINET, SAYS CM

HT Correspondent

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BENGALURU: Karnataka's much awaited socio-economic and education survey report, popularly known as the caste survey report, will be put before the state cabinet, chief minister Siddaramaiah has said.

The caste survey report was submitted to the chief minister in February by the chairman of state's backward classes commission, K Jayaprakash Hegde, but was put on hold in view of the Lok Sabha elections.

"I have not seen the report yet. It has to be placed before the cabinet, which we will do," Siddaramaiah told reporters in Bengaluru on Tuesday.

The survey, which was commissioned by Siddaramaiah in 2015 during his first tenure as chief minister (2013 to 2018), covered over 13 million households comprising over 59 million residents across the state.

The survey was mired in controversies even before its report was submitted as a portion of its leaked report allegedly disputed the numerical strength of Lingayats and Vokkaligas — the dominant castes in the southern state. The exact figures will be known after the report is made public by the government.

Days before the survey report was submitted to the chief minister, a schism had surfaced within the Karnataka's ruling Congress regarding the release of the survey findings, with Siddaramaiah and deputy CM DK Shivakumar being at odds over the matter. While the CM had said he would take a call after receiving the report, Shivakumar, who is also the state Congress chief and a prominent leader from the Vokkaliga community, had advocated for a re-conduct of the survey.

INDIA grouping eyes more key roles across standing committees

Saubhadra Chatterji

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NEW DELHI: After winning 236 seats in the Lok Sabha polls, the INDIA bloc of opposition parties expects that it will have more chairs of department-related standing committees, than opposition parties did in the last House.

The committees are expected to be announced during the upcoming Monsoon session.

Two Opposition leaders on Wednesday told HT that the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha secretariats have written to parties, asking for nomination of respective party MPs in the 24 panels. "The Lok Sabha secretariat has written to me, asking us for nomination of MPs in different panels," Trinamool Congress (TMC)'s Lok Sabha lawmaker Sudip Bandyopadhyay said. A senior official from Congress president and Rajya Sabha Leader of Opposition (LoP) Mallikarjun Kharge's office also confirmed that a similar request was received from the Upper House secretariat.

There are 16 department-related standing committees under the Lok Sabha and eight under the Rajya Sabha. To be sure, no final decision has been taken on the chairs, which would be decided by the Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhanekar and Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla.

A senior Congress strategist said the INDIA bloc is expecting at least three additional chairs of the standing committees. "The Congress should get one more panel. Samajwadi Party, which doesn't lead any such panel, should get one. And the TMC should also get one." Apart from this, Lok Sabha's LoP Rahul Gandhi is likely to head the Public



Rahul Gandhi is likely to head the public accounts panel.

Accounts Committee, the audit watchdog of Parliament, and a few Opposition leaders might also get charge of other panels.

Before the Lok Sabha elections in May 2024, the Congress party led three standing panels: commerce (till Abhishek Singhvi lost his Rajya Sabha seat in April), environment and chemical & fertilizers. The TMC, despite being the third largest party in Parliament, didn't get any chairman's post. Samajwadi Party's Ramgopal Yadav had initially chaired the health panel but this reverted to the BJP after some time. DMK's K Kanimozhi led the rural development panel.

This time, both Samajwadi Party (41 MPs in Parliament across the two Houses) and the TMC (42 MPs in the two Houses) will be entitled to at least one chairman's position. "But the final decision will be taken by Dhanekar or Birla," said a senior non-Congress opposition leader.

An opposition functionary argued that "55% of the lawmakers are with the ruling side whereas 45% are in the Opposition. If the chairpersons' posts are distributed in this ratio, the ruling side should get 13 chairpersons of the department-related standing committees, which oversee functioning of different ministries, and the others, 11.

'Russia remains largest contributor to India's energy'

Rezaul H Laskar

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NEW DELHI: Russia is committed to being the "largest contributor" to India's energy security after accounting for more than a third of the country's oil purchases and is giving priority to long-term contracts for crude, coal and fertilisers, a senior Russian diplomat said on Wednesday.

India and Russia on Tuesday set a trade target of \$100 billion by 2030 during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's talks with President Vladimir Putin in Moscow.

India and Russia on Tuesday set a trade target of \$100 billion by 2030 during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's talks with President Vladimir Putin in Moscow.

The two sides have already raced past an earlier target of \$30 billion by 2025, with two-way trade currently worth more than \$65 billion mainly because of India's massive purchases of discounted Russian crude.

"Russia is committed to remain the largest contributor to India's energy and food security. We prioritise long-term contracts for crude oil, coal, energy and fertilisers," Roman Babushkin, charge d'affaires at the Russian embassy, told a reporters.

The two sides are eyeing investments in energy infrastruc-

INDIA AND RUSSIA SET A TRADE GOAL OF \$100 BILLION BY 2030 DURING PM'S TALKS WITH PUTIN

ture, including oil refining and manufacture of petrochemicals, and energy transition. The two sides also plan to diversify civilian nuclear cooperation as the "strongest pillar" of the bilateral strategic partnership, and there have been discussions on floating nuclear reactors and small

and modular reactors, nuclear medicine and fast breeder reactors, Babushkin said.

Russia's crude oil supplies to India have jumped from 2.5 million tonnes in February 2021 to 45 million tonnes in 2022 and 90 million tonnes in 2023, Evgeny Griva, deputy trade commissioner at the Russian embassy, said. "We now have a stable share of Indian crude imports and Russia covers between 30% and 40%," he said.

Russian LNG majors such as Gazprom, Novatek, RusChemAliance and Sakhalin Energy, too, are eyeing the Indian market,

and Russia is prepared to meet the technology needs of India's petrochemical industries that are growing at more than 10% annually, Griva said. On India's demand for repatriation of Indian nationals recruited into Russian Army, Babushkin said, "It is a common problem which has strong domestic implications for India. Unfortunately, this topic can be politicised..." Russia has "never wanted" Indians to be part of the Russian Army, which has not made any announcements about wants to specifically recruit Indians, he said.

Farmer protesting at Khanauri died due to bullet from shotgun, HC told

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CHANDIGARH: Shubh Karan Singh, a farmer who died during an agitation at the Punjab-Haryana border earlier this year, was hit by a bullet fired from a shotgun, the Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL) informed the Punjab and Haryana high court on Wednesday.

In its report to the high court, the CFSL said the 21-year-old protester's death was "caused using a shotgun". It submitted the report before a bench of justices GS Sandhwalia and justice Vikas Bahl, which resumed its hearing on a bunch of petitions on farmer-related issues. Taking note of the report, the bench said it "thus settles some controversy regarding the manner in which the protester had died" and directed police commissioner of Jhajjar in Haryana, Satish Balan, to look into the first information report, which was initially filed by the Punjab police.

A farmers' uprising has gripped the Punjab-Haryana border since February 13, with the cultivators seeking legal guarantees for



Shubh Karan Singh

higher crop prices, relaxation of strict environmental regulations, pensions and withdrawal of police cases filed against them during the 2020-21 farmers' stir against the now-repealed three agricultural laws. On February 21, as the protesters at Khanauri in Jind tried to hold a "Delhi Chalo" march to build pressure on the Centre over various demands, Singh was killed in clashes with police, prompting farm unions to temporarily pause their agitation.

While farmers alleged that Singh was hit by a bullet fired by policemen and other security personnel, officers in the Haryana police said shotguns are not used by their personnel posted at Khanauri and Shambhu border — a second site of the ongoing protest.

LIFT BARRICADES AT THE SHAMBHU BORDER: HC TO HRY

CHANDIGARH/PATIALA: The Punjab and Haryana high court on Wednesday directed the Haryana government to remove within a week, on an "experimental basis", barricades set up at the Shambhu border, where farmers have been camping since February 13, when their "Delhi Chalo" march to build pressure on the Centre over various demands was halted.

A bench of justices GS Sandhwalia and Vikas Bahl noted that the closure of the border, near Ambala, was causing "great inconvenience" to the public as it also leads to some crucial places in Punjab, and since the number of protesters at the site have dwindled over time, the Haryana government cannot continue to block the highway for "all times to come". "The same (blockade) is leading to a lot of inconvenience," it said. The bench, however, directed farm outfits to maintain law and order. HT

Probationary IAS officer under scanner over fake OBC docs during exam

HT Correspondents

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PUNE: Pooja Khedkar (32), a 2023 batch IAS officer of the Maharashtra cadre, allegedly submitted fake disability and Other Backward Class (OBC) certificates to clear the civil services exam, an official said on Wednesday.

It came days after the probationary IAS officer, who had used her private Audi car with a red-blue beacon light and VIP number plate, was transferred from Pune to Washim following complaints of misuse of power.

She appeared for the civil services exam under the OBC and visually impaired categories, the official said, adding she also submitted a mental illness certificate. In April 2022, she was asked to report at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi for verification of her disability certificate but she did not do so, citing Covid infection, the official said. The official said that her



Pooja Khedkar

father Dilip Khedkar, a former state government officer, while contesting the recent Lok Sabha elections, had declared his property valued at ₹40 crore.

Pooja appeared for the civil services exam under the OBC category, where the creamy layer certificate limitation is an annual parental income of ₹8 lakh, the official said.

Her father unsuccessfully contested the elections from Ahmednagar as a candidate for Prakash Ambekar's Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi (VBA) garnering over 15,000 votes.

Both Pooja and her father did not respond to HT's calls or text messages.



एक
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के
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महावृक्षारोपण अभियान

11 जुलाई 2024

चलव बनाबो हरियर छत्तीसगढ़

प्रदेश में रोपे जाएँगे करीब 4 करोड़ पौधे

“ आइये जननी और जन्मभूमि के
रिश्ते को नई पहचान दें,
पौधा लगाकर उसे संरक्षित करें। ”

- श्री विष्णु देव साय
मुख्यमंत्री, छत्तीसगढ़



मुख्यमंत्री विष्णु देव साय से
जुड़ने के लिए QR CODE स्कैन करें।

हमने बनाया है, हम ही सँवारेंगे

14 barred Patanjali products sold across counter at dedicated stores

Jignasa Sinha, Sanjeev K Jha, Animesh Mishra, Ruchir Kumar and Amit Bathla

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI/LUCKNOW/PATNA/DEHRADUN: On Tuesday morning, the Supreme Court of India directed Patanjali Ayurved to provide proof that it has ceased the sale and advertisements of 14 products banned by the Uttarakhand state licensing department in April, seeking to verify the company's claim that it had issued directives to all store owners, advertising outlets and social media platforms to adhere to the ban.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, HT visited Patanjali stores across four major Indian cities — New Delhi, Lucknow, Patna and Dehradun — and was able to buy most of the products, procuring a receipt in each of these cases. In some shops, while not all of the 14 products were available, these were put down to a lack of availability, with people manning the counters insisting these could be procured within a week. To be sure, each of the 14 products were found in one store or the other.

Tuesday's order by the apex court led by justice Hima Kohli was passed despite a later affidavit by the Uttarakhand government informing the court that the ban imposed on April 15 was revoked by another state department on procedural grounds, following which fresh show cause notices were issued to Patanjali on July 8. But Patanjali's lawyer said that the company had not yet received an official communication regarding the revocation of the ban, and as such, the company remains bound by the Supreme Court's orders. "The respondent 5 (Patanjali Ayurved Limited) shall state on affidavit whether the request to intermediaries has been accepted to and whether the 14 Ayurvedic formulations have been withdrawn," stated the court in its order on Tuesday.

During the proceedings, Patanjali's lawyers accepted the directive of the bench, also comprising justice Sandeep Mehta, which directed the firm to sub-



HT visited Patanjali stores across four north Indian cities — New Delhi, Lucknow, Patna and Dehradun — and was able to buy most of the products, procuring a receipt in each of these cases.

mit an affidavit confirming whether the instructions have been followed and if the 14 Ayurvedic drugs have indeed been withdrawn from sale. The affidavit was to be filed within two weeks, and the case is scheduled for a hearing on July 30. Gautam Talukdar, advocate-on-record for Patanjali Ayurved in the Supreme Court said, "The order revoking the suspension passed by the Uttarakhand government is not communicated to Patanjali so far. Patanjali came to know of it through the affidavit filed by the state in the Supreme Court. Till any official communication is received, Patanjali is bound to comply with the suspension imposed on 14 products by the Uttarakhand state licensing authority on April 15."

But the situation on the ground was different. The 14 Patanjali products whose manufacturing licenses were cancelled are Swasari Gold — ostensibly for acute cough and throat infection; Swasari Vati — for respiratory problems and throat irritation; Bronchom — for cough, cold and bronchitis; Swasari Pravahi — to improve lung function; Swasari Avaleh — for cough and cold; Mukta Vati Extra Power — for healthy blood

pressure levels; Lipidom — to reduce cholesterol; BP Grit — for blood pressure and heart health; Madhugrit — to manage diabetes and blood sugar; Madhushashini Vati Extra Power — for diabetic complications; Livamrit Advance — for liver health and detoxification; Livogrit — for liver health, loss of appetite, jaundice and indigestion; Eyegrit Gold — for eye health; Patanjali Drishti Eye Drop — an eye tonic.

At 6.15 pm at the Patanjali store in New Delhi's New Friends Colony, the shopkeeper — ostensibly unaware of the cancellation of licenses — had seven of the 14 products in stock. He said that these are sold widely, and shelves are emptied of them every two weeks. "We have been selling the medicines for over a year now. The others (other 7) are also available in our stores but the stock has been low for a few days. The medicines will arrive next week," he said.

Less than an hour later, at the Patanjali store in East of Kailash, the shopkeeper said that he had stock of nine of the 14 medicines, but was similarly unaware of a ban. "We have customers from East of Kailash, GK, Jangpura, Panchsheel Park, Green Park and other areas. They buy our

medicines regularly. Most of the customers are older men or middle aged couples," he said.

In Patna's Lok Nayak Bhawan, near the Dak Bungalow roundabout, Ashish Keshri of Paragati Patanjali said that they had no intimation from the company to stop the sale of its ayurvedic products. "The supply chain was disrupted briefly for 10 days during the Lok Sabha election period. If any of the Patanjali products were banned, they would not have been in the supply chain and we would not be selling them," Keshri said. HT procured 13 of the 14 products (one was out of stock) for Rs 3,215.

At 7.30 pm on July 9, HT was able to procure all 14 medicines at the Patanjali Arogya Kendra in Lucknow's Hazratganj, for a total of Rs 3,370. The shopkeeper manning the store said, "All these medicines are available in bulk. We can even give you more than 10 strips of all of them."

HT also visited two Patanjali stores in Uttarakhand's capital Dehradun. At the first — Dev Enterprises on Raipur road, it was able to buy 13 of the 14 sus-



Receipt from Patanjali Arogya Kendra, Dehradun, dated 09/07/2024.

ended products. The shopkeeper was initially reluctant to issue a bill, dialled his supplier to get clearance, but then eventually gave one. "There was some confusion about these products and there was a fake report about a ban. A clarification has come from Patanjali and everything is clear now. It is a ban by the media, not in reality," he said.

A second store at the New Chauhan Arogya Kendra near the IT Park on Sahasthradara Road also had the medicines available. The shopkeeper said, "That these medicines have been suspended is just a rumour. It is a conspiracy by companies who sell modern medicine because people are now turning to Ayurveda."

HT reached out to Patanjali spokesperson SK Tjariwala for his comments over the phone, but he refused to comment, insisting that the case was subjudice.

HC ASKS PATANJALI TO DEPOSIT ₹50L FOR BREACH OF INTERIM ORDER

MUMBAI: The Bombay high court on Monday directed Patanjali Ayurved Ltd to deposit an amount of ₹50 lakh with a court officer within a week, for alleged breach of the court's interim order restraining it from selling its camphor products.

Acting on an intellectual property rights suit filed by Mangalam Organics Ltd, the court had on August 30, 2023, restrained Patanjali Ayurved from selling the camphor product.

A single bench of justice RI Chagla on July 8 noted that Patanjali, in an affidavit submitted in June, admitted breach of the earlier order granting injunction against sale of the impugned camphor products.

"Such persistent breach of the injunction order dated 30th August 2023 by defendant no. 1 (Patanjali) cannot be tolerated by this court," Justice Chagla said in the order, a copy of which was made available on Wednesday.

The high court has posted the matter for further hearing on July 19.

Earlier this year, Mangalam Organics had filed a plea, pointing out that Patanjali Ayurved was manufacturing as well as selling the camphor product and it was available for sale at Patanjali Mega Store in Virar. HT

{ KATHUA TERROR ATTACK } 24 detained, search ops for terrorists intensify

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JAMMU: The Jammu & Kashmir Police has detained at least 24 people for questioning, and security forces have widened their search operations to locate the terrorists who ambushed an army vehicle in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir, killing five army personnel, officers aware of the matter said on Wednesday.

Police officers said they were questioning the detainees as part of their efforts to nab the terrorists, who immediately fled the ambush site.

"While searches are on to track down the attackers, over 24 suspects have been detained by the police for questioning," an officer said.

On Monday, terrorists lobbed hand grenades and opened fire with automatic weapons at an army truck passing through Badonta village. Naib Subedar Anand Singh, Havaldar Kamal Singh, Rifleman Anuj Negi, Naik Vinod Singh and Rifleman Adarsh Negi — all residents of Uttarakhand — were killed in the ambush. Five army personnel were also injured in the attack.

After the attack, security forces launched a search operation in the forest areas of the district,

POLICE SAID THEY ARE QUESTIONING THE DETAINEES AS PART OF THEIR EFFORTS TO NAB THE TERRORISTS, WHO FLED THE AMBUSH SITE

which was now extended to cover nearby Udhampur and Doda districts, officers aware of the matter said.

Attack on police post foiled
Terrorists attempted to attack a police post in the Basantgarh tehsil of Udhampur on Wednesday, but the policemen stationed there thwarted their bid by swiftly retaliating, forcing them to flee, officers aware of the development said.

A senior police officer said a village defence guard informed the police after noticing "suspicious movement" in the nearby area.

"He immediately informed the police. The terrorists fired a couple of rounds, but the cops were already in a high state of alert and retaliated quickly. As a result, the terrorists fled into the jungles," the officer said on condition of anonymity.

For first time, DGCA sets rules for ground staff to boost airport safety

Neha LM Tripathi

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NEW DELHI: In a first, aviation regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has come out with rules specifying the training and competency requirements of ground personnel for safe operations at the airports as well as to strengthen the oversight mechanism.

The new Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR), prepared after detailed consultations, comes against the backdrop of ground incidents at some airports that have resulted in damage to aircraft.

The new rules to be imple-

mented over next six months were published on July 8, DGCA said in a statement on Wednesday. "The implementation of this CAR will standardise the requirements across the ground handling agencies [and] strengthen the oversight mechanism," it said.

Stressing that the ground handling staff plays a pivotal role in safe and efficient ground operations at the airports, DGCA added: "The robust safety mechanism to be implemented prospectively by the ground handling service providers (GHSPs) would help in prevention and mitigation of ground incidents at the airport thereby enhancing

the quality of services rendered in safety-sensitive functions."

Welcoming the move, AISATS CEO Sanjay Gupta said the comprehensive approach taken by the DGCA addresses several critical aspects of ground operations. "While implementation may present initial challenges, these measures are indispensable for maintaining India's aviation growth trajectory while prioritising safety. They will not only enhance operational efficiency but also bolster India's reputation in the global aviation community, which is crucial as the country continues to expand its role in international air travel," Gupta added.

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E-TENDER NOTICE

Bid No: DM/EL/COR-07/245, Package 20B Tender ID: 2024_NCRCT_197510_1

Online bids are invited for Design, Engineering, Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Comprehensive Operation & Maintenance of 4.9 MWp Roof Top Solar PV Project and associated support structure works on RESCO Model for a period of 25 years in Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RTTS Corridor of NCRCT.

For detailed information and subsequent addendum/corrigendum (if any), please visit NCRCT website www.nrcrt.in or CPP Portal www.etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app from 11.07.2024 to 12.08.2024 (upto 1500 hrs).

GGM/Procurement

Government of Punjab
Tender Notice for Various Works
Tender Notice Reference No. 25 Dt. 09.07.2024

The Department of Punjab Water Supply & Sewerage Board invites online bids for the following:-

Sr. No.	Item	Quantity
1.	Providing Tap Connections to consumers, Extension and Augmentation of Water Supply System at Amloh District Fatehgarh Sahib for Distribution Network. Installation of Tube well and Construction of 0.5 Lakh Gallon OHSR under AMRUT 2.0 Scheme, Part-I, Phase-I	1

Closing Date and Time : up to 05.08.2024 at 3:00 PM
For detail log on to: eproc.punjab.gov.in
Note: Any Corrigendum(s) to the Tender Notice shall be published on the above website only.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Punjab W/S & Sew. Divn No. 2, Patiala
ee2.pwssb@punjab.gov.in

35529

SEARCH FOR KIDNAPPED/MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a girl (depicted in the photo) **Namely: Akriti Kumari D/o Sudhir Singh R/o T-29/20, Road No.20, Punjabi Basti, Baljeet Nagar, Anand Parbat, Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped since 30.04.2024 from the area of P.S. Anand Parbat, Delhi. In this regard a case vide FIR No. 228/24 U/s 363 IPC dated 01.05.2024 has been registered at PS Anand Parbat, Delhi. Her physical description is as under:-

AKRITI KUMARI

Age : 16 Years 10 month, Height: 5', Complexion : Wheatish, Face: Oval, Built: Normal, Hair : Long and Black, Wearing: Green colour top and Blue colour jeans.

Any person having any information/Clue about this missing/kidnapped girl, may inform SHO, Anand Parbat, Delhi E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in, website : <http://cbi.nic.in>

SHO
P.S Anand Parbat, Delhi
Central District, Delhi
Phone: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax No. 011-24368639 Ph. No. 011-23242020, Extn. 44135
DP/5590/CD/2024 Mob.: 8750870435

रजिस्ट्री सं० डी० एल०-33004/99 REGD. NO. D. L.-33004/99

भारत का राजपत्र
The Gazette of India

सी.जी.—डी.एल.—अ.—04072024—255147
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असाधारण
EXTRAORDINARY
भाग II—खण्ड 3—उप-खण्ड (ii)
PART II-Section 3-Sub-section (ii)
प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

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No. 2420] NEW DELHI, TUESDAY, JULY 2, 2024/ASHADHA 11, 1946

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
NOTIFICATION
New Delhi, the 2 July 2024

S.O. 2555(E)— In exercise of powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 3A of the National Highways Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government, after being satisfied that for the public purpose, the land, the brief description of which is given in the Schedule below, is required for building (Two Lining, Widening and Tunnel Construction etc.), maintenance, management and operation of NH 134 (94) section of Dharasu - Yamunotri road in the stretch of land from Km. 78.450 to Km. 83.150 (Design Chainage Km. 0.000 to 4.242) in the district of UTTARKASHI in the state of UTTARAKHAND, hereby declares its intention to acquire such land.

Any person interested in the said land may, within twenty-one days from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, object to the use of such land for the aforesaid purpose under sub-section(1) of section 3C of the said Act.

Every such objection shall be made to the Competent Authority, namely, Additional District Magistrate (ADM), Uttarkashi. In writing and shall set out the grounds thereof and the Competent Authority shall give the objector an opportunity of being heard, either in person or by a legal practitioner, and may, after hearing all such objections and after making such further enquiry, if any, as the Competent Authority thinks necessary, by order, either allow or disallow the objections.

Any order made by the Competent Authority under sub-section (2) of section 3C of the said Act shall be final.

The land plans and other details of the land to be acquired under their notification are available and can be inspected by the interested person at the aforesaid office of the Competent Authority.

SCHEDULE

Brief Description of the land to be acquired with or without structures falling NH134 (94) Dharasu - Yamunotri road in the stretch of land from Km. 78.450 to Km. 83.150 (Design Chainage 0.00 to 4.242) in the village(s) namely- Bajari, Kunshala Taluk-Barkot in the district of UTTARKASHI in the state of UTTARAKHAND

3936 GI/2024

District: UTTARKASHI
<https://egazette.gov.in>
Publication Date: 2 July 2024
<https://egazette.gov.in>
<https://bhoomirashi.gov.in>
Note: The physical copy of this notification is also available at the office of CALA/PIU/PMU/RO/ED and Landowners may also see the notification there.

File Number: NH-134(94)-UR-2020-21-573
ABHAY JAIN, Dy. Secy

HIMACHAL PRADESH
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
e-Procurement Notice
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

1. The Executive Engineer HPPWD Jubbil Distt Shimla H.P on behalf of Governor of H.P invites the online bids on Percentage rate, in electronic tendering system, in 2 Cover System for the under mentioned work from the eligible and approved contractors/Firms registered with HPPWD Department.

Job No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Cost of Tender Form (Rs.)	Time Allowed	Class
1.	Balance work of Doshi Boul Badhau Raika road km 0/0 to 2/50 under NABARD (SH- ROPD, CD works, M/T works side drain and road infrastructure etc.)	15109863	302200	5000	6 Month	Class C

Tender document and other instructions can be downloaded or viewed online from the portal <https://hptenders.gov.in> by the firm/individual registered on the website which is free of cost.

Key Dates:

1. Date of Online Publication	14.07.2024 11:00 HRS
2. Document Download Start and End Date	14.07.2024 11:30 HRS upto 21.07.2024 17:30 HRS
3. Bid Submission Start and End Date	14.07.2024 11:30 HRS upto 21.07.2024 17:30 HRS
4. Physical Submission of EMD and Cost of Tender Document	On line Mode
5. Date of Technical Bid opening	22.07.2024 11:00 HRS
6. Evaluation of Technical Bid followed by Opening of Financial Bid.	Date to be announced

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Jubbil Division
HPPWD, Jubbil

DPR HP-0685

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB
PUNJAB WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE BOARD

NIT No.: 36/PWSSB D-2/BT1 Date: 09.07.2024
Executive Engineer, Pb. W/S & Sew. Divn. No. 2, Bathinda on the behalf of Chief Executive Officer, Pb. W/S and Sew. Board Chandigarh invites online bids for the following:-

S. No.	Item	Amount in Lacs
1.	Part (A) - Prov. & Laying of RCC NP-3 Pipe with HDPE lining, UPVC pipe sewer, MPS Including pumping Machinery, DI K-7/R/M and all other works contingent thereto at Bhagta Bhai Ka as per DNIT (SBM-2.0) Part-B: Survey, Soil Testing, Design, Supply and Constn., Commissioning of 3 MLD capacity STP cum 9 Kid FSTP based on Suitable Proven Sustainable Biological technology including other appurtenant works on turnkey basis as per DNIT including O&M for a period of 60 months after stabilization period of 3 months (SBM-2.0)	556.15
2.	Part (A) :- (As per Sr. No. 1) S&S inside HDPE lining, at Nathana as per DNIT (SBM-2.0) Part (B) :- (As per Sr. No. 1) 1.00 MLD Capacity STP Cum 3 KLD FSTP (SBM-2.0)	1349.38

Closing date & time:- 9th Attempt : 05.08.2024 upto 11.00 AM
Opening date & time:- 9th Attempt : 05.08.2024 upto 03.00 PM
Pre Bid meeting date & time:- : 22.07.2024 at 11.00 AM

For detailed log on to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>.
Note: Any Corrigendum(s), to the Tender/RFP Notice shall be published on the above website only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Pb. W/S & Sew. Divn. No. 2, Bathinda

35514

UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY

General Public is hereby informed that a male person **Namely: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown** was found at Platform No.7, Inside Train No.04024 at Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi on 17.06.2024 at 11.50 p.m. In this regard vide DD No: 2A dated 18.06.2024 has been lodged at P.S Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi.

The description of the deceased is given as below:

Name: Unknown, Sex: Male, Age: Approx 75-80 years, Complexion: Dusky, Height: 5'6", Wearing: White Colour Shirt and Black Colour Pant.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to identify the deceased but no clue has come to light so far. Anyone having information about the deceased, please inform the undersigned.

SHO
P.S Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi
Tel. No. 011-23961522, 9560388273

DP/8917/Rly/2024

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified male (depicted in the photo) name **Unknown S/o Unknown**, residence and family is **Unknown** age 50-52 years approx. was found dead in accident at **Yudhister Setu Loop, Kashmir Gate, Delhi on 07.07.2024**. In this regard a DD No. 397/24, U/s 281/106 BNS, Dated 07.07.2024 has been lodged at PS Kashmir Gate, North Distt., Delhi. The dead body was preserved for 72 Hrs in Subzi Mandi Mortuary. His physical description is as under:-

Sex: Male, Age: 50-52 years approx., Height: 5' 6" ft., Complexion: Shallow, Face: Oval, Built: Medium, Wearing: Grey colour Pant & cream colour inner Shirt, Blue colour checkdar Lungi, red & black checkdar Angochha.

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone numbers:-

SHO
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> P.S. Kashmir Gate, Delhi
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in Ph.: 011-23962210/46123
Tel. No.: 011-24368638/24368641 Mob. No. 8750870123
Fax No.: 011-24368639 DP/8970/N/2024



Govt. of Haryana

“स्वामित्व योजना, सिर्फ कानूनी दस्तावेज़ देने की योजना भर नहीं है, बल्कि ये आधुनिक टेक्नॉलॉजी से देश के गांव-शहर में विकास और विश्वास का नया मंत्र भी है।”
- नरेन्द्र मोदी



Your Properties Now Lal Dora Free State Level Function

Under

Mukhya Mantri Shehri Svamitva Yojana

Registry Distribution

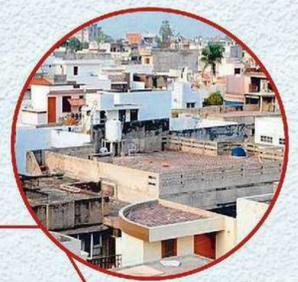
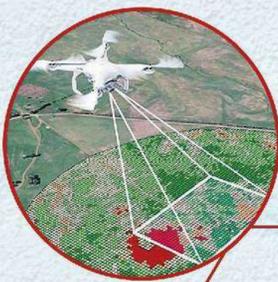
and

Urban Lal Dora Property Certificate Distribution

Chief Guest

Sh. Nayab Singh

Chief Minister, Haryana



August Presence

Sh. Subhash Sudha

Minister of State, Urban Local Bodies (I.C.), Haryana

Date - 11th July, 2024

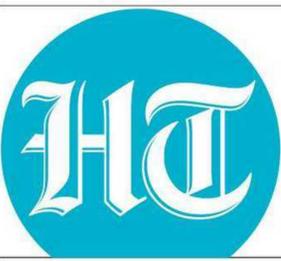
Time - 11 AM

Venue - Opposite DCP Office,
IMT Chowk, Manesar, Gurugram



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to join
the program





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SCAN THE CODE TO BOOK YOUR ADS ONLINE



www.htclassifieds.com

PROPERTY/DLF - SUSHANT LOK

RENTED BROKERS WELCOME

TENANT	RENT/M	TENANT	RENT/M
BAJAJ ALLIANZ	1.06 Lacs	NTHRIVE	3.68 Lacs
SUPERDRY	1.17 Lacs	UNO MINDA	3.92 Lacs
SBI BANK	2.08 Lacs	KOTAK BANK	4.50 Lacs
RESENOLA	2.09 Lacs	POPEYES	6.50 Lacs
COMPASS PLC	3.25 Lacs	AUSTRALIAN CO.	7.12 Lacs
RETAIL	3.42 Lacs	INDPT. BLDG	20.00 Lacs

Rajeev Saluja | 99100-72803 | 98104-92803

PREMIUM PLOTS for SALE

- 1022 sq.yds DLF-I Kachnar/ Arjun Marg
- 502 sq.yds DLF-I A, B, C-Blk, North/ East
- 402 sq.yds DLF-II Jacranda Marg
- 251 sq.yds DLF-II Jacranda Marg, Corner
- 360 sq.yds DLF-IV Amaltas Lane, Gated
- 270 sq.yds DLF-IV Pair/ Single, Gated

THE PEARL REALTY (Unit of Pearl Estate) **SUHANU SACHIN** 99105-11528 | 98104-56475

GROCERY SUPERMART FOR SALE

CONTACT: 9971100671
PROFITABLE SUPERMART for sale in Sec-108 & Sec-57, Gurugram - Area 7000 sq.ft. Yearly Sale: 7CR. Reason: Owner shifting out of India.

FARIDABAD FOR SALE

2022 Sq. Yd. Newly Duplex House in Sector-21B, East 60' Road in Faridabad

ARIHANT Properties & Constructions

Ashok Jain - 9810029666

perfect estate agency

DIRECT OWNER Meeting DLF City-I, 300 Yds, 18 Mr Road Excellent Location, Broker Excuse # 9910888735

RENTED OWNER

9811418455 | 9873984984

RENTED RETAIL

Global Magnum Park, Top Brand, Ground Floor, Area 1074 Sq.ft. Double height, Rent 150/-, Fitouts by Tenant, Owner 9811418455, 9873984984

EXOTICA 2645 sq.ft. For Sale

Excellent location, Higher Cheque, Call only with direct buyer Contact, Charanjit Singh, Kalyani Estate # 9810102199

FOR SALE SUSANT LOK-1 G2, 37

New Luxury Building 416 S.Yard, Stilt + 4, 4BHK On Each Floor **Owner:- 9818068888**

PYRAMID ESTATE DDJAY PLOTS

9871822771

PYRAMID ESTATE PLOTS FOR SALE

9810270916, 9810229162

PLOTS FOR Sale in DLF-I, J-500

L-400, O-200, J-215, K-200, M-215, 300 sq.Yds. Many more options. Cont: Pyramid Estate 9810270916, 9810229162

DLF CITY: Elegant Floor (400) Top-Terrace/ North/ 12Mr. Ind. Houses

400/200/250/5 - Office 2100 Sq.Ft. (Walk to Club/Galleria) Attr. Price: Mohi Ahuja 9810012400/9910049201

SABHARWAL ASSOCIATES

9910026336 | 9810026076

CONFIRM PLOTS DLF-I, 2-502Yd

Ashoka Crescent 24Mr., 502Yd Paschim Marg 24Mr., 502Yd Corner East 12Mr., 300Yd East 12Mr. Call: 9810026076, 9910026336

perfect estate agency

DIRECT OWNER Meeting DLF City -I, 200 Yds Good Location, Broker Excuse # 9910888735

ULTRA LUXURIOUS Park Face Fully Furnished 8-BHK 494 Yds Bungalow

with Lift, Bsmt, Power Back-up Avail @ 11.25cr in Sector-17 Near Signature Tower. P/s Call Khurana 9811155032

ADANI Oyster Grande 2579 sq.ft.

Sector-102, 3+Study+Servant, Mac Cheque #9811857882

RENTED

Kia	1,00,000
Axis Bank	2,38,000
Delsey	2,75,000
Omni Kitchen	2,88,000
Hameleys	3,00,000
Jockey	3,21,000
Torte	5,05,000
Popeyes	6,50,000

STAR SHINE REALTORZ

9958681717

INFOCITY (ADJOINING Hero-Honda Chowk)

1000 meter North facing building for sale, covered area of 27,000 sqft (scale facade with lift). Kindly contact 9811131131

DLF-3 CONFIRM Sale Plots W/BK/ 400sqyd on 12 mtr Road North Facing/ Gated/ Mac Chq. T Bk/ 500 sqyd on 12 mtr Near M&C City club sqs Call Amit Prop 9899335988

DLF-3 CONFIRM Sale V/BK/ 316sqyd/ liveable Kothi North Facing Best Price. B floor 3BHK G floor in 316 plot CR/ North Facing Adjoining Green Belt. Call Amit Prop 9899335988

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ADANI Oyster Grande 2579 sq.ft.

Sector-102, 3+Study+Servant, Mac Cheque #9811857882

SOUTH DELHI

MIGLANI REALTORS 9999070007

200/251/300 Sq.Yds Prime Locations plots available for sale in DLF Phase-1 & 2 on 12 Mr road. Clear Title. For more details please contact: 9999070007

MIGLANI REALTORS 9999070007

DLF PH-1 509 Sq.Yds Old Built up Corner Kothi in A-15 lane for Sale @ 22 Cr. Also 502 Sq.Yds Prime Plots for sale in DLF-1 on 12 Mr. Excellent locations. 9999070007

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TARA ANAND NIKETAN 9810055500

BUNGALOW: Anand Niketan 700/280/265/200; 400Yd Full Build. Westend 500y Best loc/Vasant Vhr 2000/1200/800/1600/400y; Shanti Nkn 1200/600y; Davinder Tara 989975500

KOTHI For Sale JASOLA 9310023400, 9999922185

KOTHI For Sale in Jasola 300 Sq.Yds Picket - 1, Basement + 3 Floors, East Facing, Excellent Location Nearby Sports Complex, Contact 9310023400, 9999922185

PANCHSHEEL PARK 504, 500 Sq.Yds Corner All Floor Building 4 BHK Each West Facing Wide Road Separate Parking Ready to Shift. Contact: 9810066309

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PANCHSHEEL PARK 504, 500 Sq.Yds Corner All Floor Building 4 BHK Each West Facing Wide Road

'Historic': Muslim women, leaders laud top court verdict on alimony

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Several women politicians and social activists from Muslim community hailed the Supreme Court's landmark ruling on Wednesday that affirmed the right of Muslim women to seek maintenance, saying the verdict will prove to be a boon for those facing abject poverty.

The apex court in a judgment of far-reaching implications held that a Muslim woman can seek maintenance from her husband under Section 125 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPc), observing that the "religion neutral" provision is applicable to all married women irrespective of their religion.

Farzana Begum, a social activist from Kishanganj in Bihar, hailed the verdict as "historic". "This is indeed a historic verdict in favour of those women who are forced to live in abject poverty after being divorced by their husbands," Begum said. "The verdict will prove to be a boon especially for women with young children. I know many such women who will be benefited by this verdict."

Former Rajya Sabha member and Janata Dal (United) leader Kahkashan Perween said: "We all should welcome the Supreme Court's verdict."

Saima Khan (40), a resident of Shaheen Bagh in Delhi, said the top court's judgment will give confidence to Muslim women in seeking maintenance. "There are

This is indeed a historic verdict in favour of those women who are forced to live in abject poverty.

FARZANA BEGUM,
Social activist from Kishanganj

countless women whose husbands leave them and their children to fend for themselves—especially in low-income groups—forcing the women to go out for work leaving children unattended. The ruling will build their confidence in asking for maintenance," Khan said.

Ayisabi Pandikasala, an independent councillor in Kerala's Kozhikode, said the ruling will enable poor divorced women some financial stability. "Earlier, once divorced, if the woman gets the custody of the children, she'd suffer raising them even though the law states the children must be provided for by the father. But not all men do that. This verdict will enable poor divorced women financial stability."

Zeenath KP, a native of Palappuram in Malappuram district of Kerala, said: "The verdict is certainly good as it affirms the rights of women. I strongly believe that if the man gave the

The verdict is certainly good as it affirms the rights of women... At the same time, the law should be equal.

ZEENATH KP,
Resident of Malappuram district

divorce to a Muslim woman illegally and without her consent, she certainly has the right to seek maintenance from him. At the same time, the law should be equal. If the woman divorces her husband on her own volition and marries another man, I don't think she has the right to seek maintenance."

'Significant step towards gender equality'
National Commission for Women (NCW) chairperson Rekha Sharma on Wednesday welcomed the court's ruling.

"I wholeheartedly welcome the Supreme Court's landmark ruling. This decision is a significant step towards ensuring gender equality and justice for all women, regardless of their religion," Sharma said.

She added: "It reinforces the principle that no woman should be left without support and protection under the law."

Empowering women financially a path to strong society: Judge

Utkarsh Anand
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: In a compelling post-script to the Supreme Court ruling on the rights of Muslim women to alimony, justice BV Nagarathna underscored the crucial need for financial stability and empowerment of married women in India.

Highlighting the vulnerability of women who lack independent sources of income and access to financial resources, particularly for their personal expenses, the judge emphasised the urgent need for change so that the services and sacrifices of homemakers for the economic well-being of the family, and the economy of the nation, are duly acknowledged.

"I would like to advert to the vulnerability of married women in India who do not have an independent source of income or who do not have access to monetary resources in their households, particularly for their personal expenses," justice Nagarathna wrote. She stressed that Indian married men must become conscious of the fact



Justice BV Nagarathna

that they have to financially empower and provide for their wives, who do not have an independent source of income.

Justice Nagarathna called for the acknowledgment of Indian men who are already conscious of this responsibility and make their financial resources available for their spouses' personal expenses, possibly through joint bank accounts or ATM cards.

"Both 'financial security' as well as 'security of residence' of Indian women have to be protected and enhanced...that would truly empower such Indian women who are referred to as 'homemakers' and who are the strength and backbone of an Indian family, which is the fundamental unit of Indian society that has to be maintained and strengthened," she asserted.

{ ₹4.9L-CR BUDGET }

\$350 bn economy target, job creation focus of Raj budget

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

JAIPUR: Rajasthan finance minister Diya Kumari on Wednesday presented the state's annual budget of ₹4.9 lakh crore for the financial year 2024-25 in the legislative assembly, announcing a slew of initiatives for the youth, women, farmers as well as industries, including opening of 400,000 government recruitments in next five years.

This was the first full budget presented by Kumari, who is also the deputy chief minister in the Bhajan Lal Sharma government. On February 8, just two months after the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) returned to power in the desert state, Kumar had presented a Vote on Account (interim budget) in the assembly.

In her nearly three-hour-long budget speech, the minister laid the foundation for a "Viksit Rajasthan 2047" (developed Rajasthan) on the lines of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Viksit Bharat 2047 vision.



Finance minister Diya Kumari presenting the state budget.

"For the all-round development, we have taken 10 resolutions to turn the state's economy into a \$350 billion economy by 2047," Kumari said.

Stressing her government's commitment to providing employment to youth, Kumari said the state government will open 400,000 recruitments over the next five years, including over 100,000 recruitments in the current year.

Policy-2024 and said time-bound recruitment exams would be held to fill vacant posts.

In the interim budget released earlier this year, the state government had similarly announced recruitment for 70,000 jobs. Apart from that, it also included plans to upgrade and establish schools, colleges and hospitals.

The 10 resolutions, according to the minister, focused on "strengthening the basic facilities and improving infrastructure; developing civic amenities; agriculture growth and farmer welfare; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) promotion and inviting investment; promoting art, culture and heritage; environmentally sustainable development; human resource development and health for all; social security; and good governance."

The state budget pegged the estimated revenue of the state for 2024-25 at ₹2.64 lakh crore while the estimated expenditure was ₹2.90 lakh crore.

ANOTHER BIHAR BRIDGE COLLAPSES; ADMINISTRATION BLAMES MUDSLIDE

SAHARSA: Another bridge collapsed in Saharsa district of Bihar on Wednesday, taking the number of such incidents to 13 in a span of three weeks. However, the district administration ruled out the report on collapse and said it was caused by a mudslide on the road due to flooding in Kosi river.

Communication on a 4km-long stretch of road was snapped after a small bridge, constructed in Baliya Seemr village in 2010, could not withstand the force of Kosi floodwater and collapsed.

Ruling out the report of bridge collapse, sub-divisional magistrate (SDM) Pradeep Kumar Jha said, "It wasn't a bridge. It was a mudslide on the road which occurred due sudden force of flood water from Kosi." No casualty was reported.

108kg gold bars seized near LAC; two arrested

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

JAMMU: The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) has arrested two men and seized 108 kg gold bars worth nearly ₹80 crore near the India-China border in Eastern Ladakh, officials familiar with the matter said.

An ITBP spokesperson said the operation was conducted around 1.30pm on Tuesday, when a patrol team found two suspects just one km short of the border in Sirralpe area.

He added: "The two suspects, who were on mules, were asked to halt but they started running towards the border. The ITBP patrol nabbed them and checked their tent from where 108 kg gold bars of one kg each worth ₹84 crore were recovered."

Commandant of the 21st ITBP battalion, Ajay Nirmalkar, said: "This is the biggest haul of gold



ITBP seized 108 gold bars of one kg each in eastern Ladakh.

recovered by the ITBP during border operations. The seized material will be handed over to the customs department."

An official said that besides the gold, the ITBP team also seized two mobile phones, a binocular, two knives and several food items from their possession.

The officials have identified the smugglers as Tsering Chamba (40) and Stanzin Dorgyal, both residents of Ladakh's Nyoma area.

CIC empowered to form benches, allocate work: SC

Utkarsh Anand
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Wednesday ruled that the chief information commissioner (CIC) has the authority to constitute benches of the transparency panel and divide work within the commission. This decision overruled the Delhi high court's May 2010 judgment, which had asserted otherwise.

A bench of justices Vikram Nath and Satish Chandra Sharma found the high court's

judgment contrary to the objective and functioning of the Right to Information (RTI) Act, holding that the CIC does possess the authority to constitute benches.

"The CIC can also frame rules under the RTI Act for the commission's management," justice Nath read out from the operative part of the judgment.

In May 2010, the Delhi high court quashed the CIC (Management) Regulations, 2007, framed by the CIC, noting that the CIC did not have the power to constitute benches. In response, the CIC appealed to

the Supreme Court to resolve the matter definitively, citing conflicting decisions from various high courts on whether the CIC could frame rules for the commission's management under the RTI Act.

The CIC's appeal highlighted that while the high courts of Patna, Bombay and Karnataka upheld the regulations framed by state CICs for managing and hearing cases, the Delhi high court issued an opposite ruling.

The CIC contended that the power to manage the commission's affairs, vested in the CIC,

inherently included the power to allocate work to efficiently utilise the services of information commissioners. Any restriction on this power, particularly the ability to divide work among information commissioners, would seriously impede the commission's functioning, argued the CIC.

The appeal further contended that the high court's judgment had severely disrupted the commission's smooth functioning and its ability to perform its statutory duties mandated by Parliament under the RTI Act.

The appeal stemmed from a judgment delivered by the Delhi high court, which had ruled in favour of the Delhi Development Authority (DDA). The DDA had challenged the CIC's authority to constitute benches under the CIC Management Regulations of 2007, arguing that the CIC did not have the power to issue such regulations, making the constitution of Benches illegal. The DDA's objections were based on the CIC's directive to form an inquiry committee to examine the DDA's rules and regulations.

Hindustan Times
PEOPLE WON'T REMEMBER MY FEES, BUT MY CHARACTERS: KARTIK AARYAN
CHECK OUT TODAY'S EDITION

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
Registered & Corporate Office: Bidyut Unnayan Bhaban
Plot No. 3/C, LA - Block, Sector- III, Bidhannagar, Kol-700106
Notice for E-Auction
Date: 08.07.2024
Tender Cum Forward Auction No.: WBPDDL/CORP/NT/1873/24-25 Dated: 08.07.2024
"Tender-cum-Forward e-Auction for Sale of 7 Lakh Cum Settled Ash From Ash Pond of BKTPR, WBPDDL shall be held on 30.07.2024 at 12.00 PM".
Last date of Bid submission : 26.07.2024 at 12:00 hrs. Tender document published at: wbdnders.gov.in Contact Person: Ipsita Chaudhuri, Sr. Manager, M&C, Corporate Office, WBPDDL. Contact: 9830616477. E-mail: ichaudhuri@wbpdcl.co.in
ICA-111018(2)/2024

बिहार लोक सेवा आयोग
15, नेहरू पथ (बेली रोड), पटना-800001
आवश्यक सूचना
विज्ञापन सं.-31/2024 गृह विभाग (आरक्षी शाखा), बिहार, पटना के अधीन बिहार अग्निशमन सेवानगरीत गैर स्पर्धागीय पद राज्य अग्निशमन परामर्शी एवं सलाहकार के 01 (एकल) (अनाश्रित) स्विच पद पर नियुक्ति हेतु दस्तावेज सत्यापन दिनांक 05.08.2024 (सोमवार) को निर्धारित है। विस्तृत दस्तावेज सत्यापन कार्यक्रम आयोग के वेबसाइट www.bpsc.bih.nic.in पर प्रकाशित है।
परीक्षा नियंत्रक,
बिहार लोक सेवा आयोग, पटना

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF
CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, KENDRAPARA-JAIPUR
AT-CHANDIKHOL, PO-SUNGUDA, JAIPUR-755044
Tel No. 0671-2444488, Email: -sew_jpd@yahoo.com
Office Order- 2351 Date: -09/07/2024
CANCELLATION OF TENDER
The Tender for PM road works (Tender ID-2024_CERWL_135250_6 & 2024_CERWL_135250_5) (Tender Online RCK-1624) invited by this office vide Letter No. 2148 dt. 26.06.2024 is hereby cancelled due to unavoidable circumstances.
Chief Construction Engineer
Rural Works Circle, Kendrapara-Jaipur
OJPR - 25129/11/0004/2425

उत्तराखण्ड पावर कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड
(उत्तराखण्ड सरकार का उपक्रम)
कार्यालय अर्धकक्ष अधिष्ठाता, विद्युत वितरण मन्त्रालय (ग्रामीण), 16-ईंठीगो रोड, देहरादून
दूरभाष : +91-135-2653601, कॉम्प्यूटर आइडेंटिटी संख्या : U40109UR2001SGC028687
पत्रांक : 1554 / वि/विभाग/07/20 / ज/पा/का/लि दिनांक 10/07/2024
"ई-निविदा सूचना"
अधोहस्ताक्षरकारता द्वारा अनुमोदी / प्रतिष्ठित तथा उत्तराखण्ड शासन द्वारा विद्युत अधिष्ठापन कार्य के लिए अधिकृत 'ए' क्लास लाइसेन्सधारी ठेकेदार जो ई-कम टेंडर, उत्तराखण्ड जीएसएटीओ, ईंठीगोएफओ, ईंएसओआई तथा अम विभाग में पंजीकृत हों से निम्न निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।
1. ई-निविदा संख्या 01/EDCRDDUN/2024-25
2. ई-निविदा संख्या 02/EDCRDDUN/2024-25
3. ई-निविदा संख्या 03/EDCRDDUN/2024-25
4. ई-निविदा संख्या 04/EDCRDDUN/2024-25
उपरोक्त निविदाओं की अधिक जानकारी हेतु वेबसाइट www.uktenders.gov.in पर देखें।
(अधीक्षण अधिष्ठाता)

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GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB TENDER NOTICE

Sr. No.	NAME OF DEPARTMENT	NAME OF WORK/NOTICE/TENDER	OPENING DATE/ CLOSING DATE	AMOUNT/ EMD (APPROX.) IN LACS	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1.	Punjab Home Guards & Deputy Director, Civil Defence, Chandigarh	Weapon Simulator (4 Lane)	26.06.2024/ 24.07.2024	1.40 LACS	9988003961 phgcd.chd@punjab.gov.in

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND CORRIGENDUM & ADDENDUM IF ANY, KINDLY VISIT:
www.eproc.punjab.gov.in RD Code: 26/12/991/2023/35542

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

Sr. No.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP./ AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/ EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD / CORP./ AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION ROHTAK	9.69 CONSTRUCTION OF C.CONC. STREET FROM H/O JAI PARKASH JANGIR TO H/O SATBIR SINGH HOODA AND FROM SATBIR SINGH TO H/O DEVENDER DAGAR TO H/O INDER KUMAR IN PREET VIHAR IN WARD 20 M.C. ROHTAK.	09.07.2024 16.07.2024	9.69 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9813082444 xenmrohtak@gmail.com
2	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION ROHTAK	12.44 CONST. OF IPB STREET IN NEW APPROVED COLONY SURYA NAGAR EXT.-04, WARD NO.-01, M.C. ROHTAK + 18 WORKS	09.07.2024 16.07.2024	532.07 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9813082444 xenmrohtak@gmail.com

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in
RO NO 13/2025/60/27671/1917

WESTERN RAILWAY - AHMEDABAD DIVISION ELECTRIC WORKS
E- TENDER - NOTICE No. Sr.DEE/ADI/25(24-25) dt. 05.07.2024 (1)Tender No: EL-50-1-ADI-T-36-2024-25 Name of work: Ahmedabad Division- Electrical work in connection with provision of Air Conditioners for EI Installation Estimated cost : ₹1,84,37,738/-Earnest Money : ₹2,42,200/- (2)Tender No: EL-50-1-ADI-T-37-2024-25 Name of work : Ahmedabad-Electrical work in connection with providing 08 nos. passenger lift at Asarva, Bhachau, Chandlodia, Himmatnagar station Estimated cost : ₹1,75,21,540/-Earnest Money : ₹2,37,600/- (3)Tender No: EL-50-1-ADI-T-38-2024-25 Name of work : Ahmedabad- Electrical work in connection with providing 08 nos. passenger lift at Unjha, Vatva, Viramgam station. Estimated cost : ₹1,76,54,560/-Earnest Money : ₹2,38,300/- For all tenders Date and time submission : Not later than 15:00 Hrs. of 30.07.2024 Date and time of opening : 30.07.2024 at 15:30 Hrs. Address of the office : Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer, D.R.M. Office (W.R.), Near Chamunda bridge, Opp. G.C.S. hospital, Naroda road, Amdapura, Ahmedabad-382345. Website details: www.irps.gov.in 108
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बिहार लोक सेवा आयोग
15, नेहरू पथ (बेली रोड), पटना-800001
आवश्यक सूचना
विज्ञापन संख्या-23/2024, सहायक वास्तुविद् प्रतियोगिता परीक्षा के कतिपय अभ्यर्थियों का उनके द्वारा ऑनलाइन आवेदन में अपलोड किये गये फोटो एवं हस्ताक्षर का ईमेल अस्पष्ट/अपठनीय एवं रिक्त है। वैसे अभ्यर्थियों को सूचित किया जाता है कि वे निम्नलिखित कागजात/साक्षर, परीक्षा को निर्धारित तिथि 18.07.2024 को संबंधित परीक्षा केन्द्र के केन्द्राधीक्षक को समर्पित करना सुनिश्चित करेंगे:-
1. अभ्यर्थी आयोग के वेबसाइट www.bpsc.bih.nic.in पर उपलब्ध घोषणा पत्र को पूर्णरूप से धरकर उनके निदिष्ट स्थान पर किसी राजपत्रित पदाधिकारी से अभिप्रमाणित रीगन फोटो चिपकावेंगे एवं निदिष्ट स्थान पर अपना हस्ताक्षर हिन्दी एवं अंग्रेजी में करेंगे।
2. राजपत्रित पदाधिकारी से अभिप्रमाणित दो रीगन फोटो में से एक फोटो अभ्यर्थी अपने ई-प्रवेश पत्र में निदिष्ट स्थान के बमाल में चिपकावेंगे। दूसरा फोटो ई-प्रवेश पत्र के कार्यालय प्रति में संबंधित परीक्षा केन्द्र पर केन्द्राधीक्षक के समक्ष चिपकावेंगे।
3. अभ्यर्थी पहचान के लिए ऑनलाइन आवेदन में दर्ज किये गये पहचान पत्र के रूप में आधार कार्ड लाना सुनिश्चित करेंगे।
4. केन्द्राधीक्षक द्वारा अभ्यर्थी से प्राप्त उपर्युक्त सभी कागजातों एवं फोटो का मिलान/सत्यापन करने के पश्चात ही उन्हें अपने परीक्षा केन्द्र पर परीक्षा में सम्मिलित होने की अनुमति दी जायेगी।
5. उम्मीदवारों को डाक से (By Post) प्रवेश पत्र नहीं भेजे जायेगा।
नोट:- विहित घोषणा पत्र आयोग के वेबसाइट www.bpsc.bih.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है।
संयुक्त सचिव,
बिहार लोक सेवा आयोग, पटना

PAWARGRID POWERGRID
Request for Proposal (RFP) for Empanelment of Consultants (Rate Contract) (Domestic Competitive Bidding under e-procurement; Funding: Domestic) (Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure) Date: 11/07/2024
POWERGRID invites online bids through e-Portal <https://tender.powergrid.in> for following Packages:
NIT No. Group Tel. Package Reference Salient Particulars Downloading of Bidding Documents Cost of Bid Documents Deadline for Bid Submission: Soft and Hard Copy Part

NIT-01-G-1	0124-2822383/2393/2366	Spec. no.: CCNT/ S-CONS/DOM/A0024/09222 (Package - 1)	Empanelment of Consultants for Rate Contract of Architectural and associated design works.	11/07/2024 to 12/08/2024 (upto 11:00 hrs. (IST))	Soft Copy Part [1100 Hrs. (IST)] Hard Copy Part 14/08/2024 [1100 Hrs. (IST)]
NIT-02-G-1	0124-2822383/2393/2366	Spec. no.: CCNT/ S-CONS/DOM/A0024/09554 (Package - 2)	Empanelment of Consultants for Rate Contract of Civil / Structural Design Works.	11/07/2024 to 12/08/2024 (upto 11:00 hrs. (IST))	Soft Copy Part [1100 Hrs. (IST)] Hard Copy Part 14/08/2024 [1100 Hrs. (IST)]

1. Notwithstanding the publication of aforesaid NIT No. 01 and NIT No. 02 under this single notice, the empanelment of consultants for Architectural Works (Under NIT No. 01) and Civil / Structural Design Works (under NIT No. 02) are separate and independent of each other.
2. For further details including addendum/changes in bidding program, if any, please visit procurement portal <https://tender.powergrid.in>.
3. The cost of Bidding Document (in the form as mentioned in RFP Document) in favour of POWERGRID Corporation of India Ltd. Payable at New Delhi/Gurgaon shall be submitted alongwith Hard Copy part of bid.
4. The first Envelope (Techno-Commercial part) of the bid shall be opened on the same day of the deadline for Bid Submission (Hard Copy part) i.e at 11:30hrs onwards.
5. Pre-bid conference for both the packages will be held on 22/07/2024 at 11:30 hrs. (IST).
6. The complete Bidding Documents for both the packages are also available on our website <http://www.powergrid.in> for the purpose of reference only.
POWER GRID CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED
(A Government of India Enterprise)
Registered Office : B-9, Quab Institutional Area, Katkari Sarai, New Delhi - 110 016
Corporate Office : Saudamini, Plot No. 2, Sector-29, Gurgaon, Haryana - 122 001
Website: www.powergrid.in, CIN: L40101DL1989G038121
A Maharatna PSU

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LAJPAT NAGAR-4, Vikram Vihar Brand New 125 sq Yards, 3 BHK 3rd Floor, Basement, Studio Apartment Park facing, Corner, Lift, self parking A++ Locations. Ajay Rajani 9818820507

4 BHK Available on Rent at Risland Chatterpur @2.25 Lacs. For more details contact RFG Estate @ 981050047.

FOR RENT fully furnished 431sqft. Comm. Flat on 6th floor in Ashoka Estate C.P. & 1300 sqft comm. flat on 7th floor in Deepali build. Nehru Place. Contact: 999941000

COMMERCIAL SPACE Available for rent / sale in CR park, facing main road, 930 sqft, ground floor ideal for cafe / restaurant / showroom / office / bank. Contact number 8800711833

ALAKNANDA G.W./C.R. Park Kalkaji, 3 & 4 BR Kothi, Irshed & unfurnished, DD, Modular Kitchen, Park Face Bakery Car, Rent 70K to 4L, Suitable for corporates/Expats #8800707444

AFFORDABLE, PRIME location Commercial approved at F-1/5/GF & Basement - 5000 sqft each Okhla Ph. 1 Fully Furnished & Power backed. Ph. Mr. Harish Batra-9810515479

COMMERCIAL SPACE Available For Cloud Kitchen, Institute, cafe, Office Space in Kalkaji Main Road, Area 2000 Sq. Ft., Contact 9958456989

NITI BAGH 500 Sq Yds. Park Facing First & Second Floor each Luxurious 4 BHK, S.Q.Tr., Lift, Self Parking, Suits MNC's / Foreigners, Reasonable Rent, Top Location. Ravinder 9810-863504

HAUZ KHAS Enclave 400 Sq Yds, Park facing Kothi, Luxurious 8' ment-Still /G.F./F.Fir & BHK-5/5, Lift, Very Well Maintained, Suits MNC/ Foreigner/ Embassy. call Ravinder 9810883504

HAUZ KHAS E-Block Market Ground Floor 1800 Sq.Feet Commercial Showrooms Suits For Banks/ Retail/ Automobile/ MNC's Etc. Call Owner 9999944414, 9999381848

GOVINDPURI MAIN ROAD Commercial Space 4000 Sqft for Lease G.F./U.G Floor for Banks /Brands/ insurance/ Automobile/ Rest.aurant / Full & Part Avl. Owner 9816059139, 9810002129

COMMERCIAL SPACE, Prime Location 80 ft wide Main Rd East of Kalkaji, Opp. Iskon Temple, 6F 2500 sq. Ft., Basement 3000 sq ft + 3500 sq. Ft., Floor 750 sq ft + 1500 sq. Ft., Lift, Power Backup 150 KVA Suits for gym/office Area 909999995

CENTRAL DELHI

BARAKHAMBA ROAD, Connaught Place, Unfurnished Area, 1560 sff, Ashoka Estate for immediate Rent. For inspections Cosmos # 9810001682.

CONNAUGHT PLACE Barakhamba Road fully furnished/ unfurnished offices on rent area 1600-9000 sq.ft call 99096329, 9960401074, 9810002129

COMMERCIAL SPACE ON RENT 3000 - 40,000 Sq. Feet RANI JHANSI ROAD (NEAR FILMISTAN CINEMA)

SUITABLE FOR BANKS/ E-COMMERCE/ FMCG 8131902828

NOIDA/GREATER NOIDA

FOR RENT Office Spaces & Basement in various Sizes in Sector-62, Noida at attractive rates. Excellent Location with all amenities. # 0981064109, pp.nigam@manteconsultants.com

INDEPENDENT 450M KOTHI FOR RENT 8130223008

SECTOR 50 Noida, 450m Independent Simplex Kothi for Rent, 10 Bedrooms, Big Lawn, North East, 50 per Vaastu. Furnished / Semi Furnished Contact Owner 8130223008

FOR RENT/LEASE CORRENTHUM SECTOR 62 NOIDA, 16,200 SQ FT FURNISHED, 103 WORK STATION 14 CABINS 8130223008

FOR RENT/LEASE FARIDABAD, Near hardware chowk, Plot 66/4, 4 Starred building basement, covered area 25000 sq ft. Open from Two side 9810042104.

GURUGRAM

UDYOG VIHAR 9000 ft. for lease. Brand new interiors, NH-8 Facing, Signage available, other tenants MNC. Next to Radisson Hotel. Covered car parks. # 9871098146

SECTOR 47 Space Platinum Sona Road 755 sqft double height 1st floor fully furnished, central AC suitable for call center, Marketing firm, Law firm, CA or Architect. Rajesh Chadha 9811662223

IN BOUTIQUE hotel - avl. 5 rooms with breakfast on lease for corporate co.s executives near Mg road Gurgaon 20 mts from airport # www.ac7e.in 7042158001, Email: info@ac7e.in

DLF - SUSHANT LOK

FULLY FURNISHED Office Space On Rent DLF City II, 3000 Sq. Ft. walk-in distance from Skandpur Metro Station. Owner 8076764079

COMMERCIAL SHOP for Sale / Rent, 945 Sq.ft Ground floor, Corner, 850 Mir from Galleria Market. For details call Owner - 8076764079

EMPLOYMENT

ACADEMIC

NJMSS SCHOOL (Nr East Delhi) Reqs. PGT - Hindi, Comp.Sc./Phy./Ed. Comm. A-1, Music, Football, TT, Skating & Data Entry Operator. Ms 995999405 Email: njmss2013@gmail.com

NILGIRI HILLS PUBLIC SCHOOL (Affiliation No. 2131421) F-01 Sector 50 Noida Ph. No. 0120-242624, 2485454 E-mail: recruitment.crc@nilgirischools.com

REQUIRES PGT: Mathematics, Psychology, English (1 Post each) post graduate with B.Ed. & 2 years of teaching experience in +2 classes.

TGT: Computer Science, English (1 Post each) - Graduates in respective discipline with B.Ed. & CTET/UPJET and 2 years of teaching experience.

PRT: Computer Science (1 Post) Graduate with B.Ed., CTET/UPJET Qualified and 2 years of teaching experience.

Dance Teacher: (1 post) Masters in respective discipline. Applications are invited on plain paper with detailed bio data and a recent passport size photograph affixed at the top along with attested copies of all testimonials by 20/07/2024 duly addressed to the principal of the school. Applications received without statement of marks shall summarily be rejected.

Chairman (SMC)

MOUNT ABU PUBLIC SCHOOL, Pocket-H, Sector-18, Rohini, Delhi-89. Reg. PGT- Bio, English, TGT- Computer, PRT- EVS, Nursery Teacher. Attend interview on 12, 15 July at 10:30 AM.

HAUZ KHAS Enclave 400 Sq Yds, Park facing Kothi, Luxurious 8' ment-Still /G.F./F.Fir & BHK-5/5, Lift, Very Well Maintained, Suits MNC/ Foreigner/ Embassy. call Ravinder 9810883504

HAUZ KHAS E-Block Market Ground Floor 1800 Sq.Feet Commercial Showrooms Suits For Banks/ Retail/ Automobile/ MNC's Etc. Call Owner 9999944414, 9999381848

GOVINDPURI MAIN ROAD Commercial Space 4000 Sqft for Lease G.F./U.G Floor for Banks /Brands/ insurance/ Automobile/ Rest.aurant / Full & Part Avl. Owner 9816059139, 9810002129

COMMERCIAL SPACE, Prime Location 80 ft wide Main Rd East of Kalkaji, Opp. Iskon Temple, 6F 2500 sq. Ft., Basement 3000 sq ft + 3500 sq. Ft., Floor 750 sq ft + 1500 sq. Ft., Lift, Power Backup 150 KVA Suits for gym/office Area 909999995

UNIVERSAL PUBLIC SCHOOL A-Block, Preet Vihar, Delhi-92 www.universalschools.in

INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR: Pre-Primary and Primary Coordinator Requirement: Well qualified female candidates with good academic record & fluency in English. Masters and B.Ed from recognized University College. Age 40-45 yrs with preferably min 5 yrs teaching & 5 yrs administrative work Exp. Walk-in interviews on 13th & 14th July 2024 from 9:30 am - 11:30 am, apply with self-attested personal and professional documents. Any queries contact- 91712 02910 (between 1:30 to 3pm)

Mount Abu Public School SECTOR-5, ROHINI, DELHI-85 CBSE / IB PYP World School

REQUIRES QUALIFIED & EXPERIENCED STAFF FOR FOLLOWING POSTS PGT - Maths, Logical Studies TGT - Hindi, Social Sci. PRT - S.Sci, General Nursery - Early Years Educators Dance Educators (Western & Classical) Theatre / Yoga Building Supervisor / Care Taker

Candidates can apply within 5 days. Link is available at school website www.mountabuschool.com

BAL VIKAS Public School A-3 Paschim Vihar West Delhi request following female staff 1. NIT 2. TGT Science 3. TGT/SSI 4. Dance Teacher. Contact- 9711844200, 011-25253344

SANT NIRANKARI PUBLIC SCHOOL Govind Nagar, New Delhi. Requires: PRT-English with Maths & Mother Teacher Nurse (Part-Time)

Applicants should have good communication skills & qualification as per CBSE norms. Download APPLICATION FORM from www.snsps.edu.in & e-mail to career@snsps.edu.in OR Post to: Education Department, Sant Nirankari Administrative Block, Nirankari Chowk, Burari Road, Delhi-9. Last date for submission of application form is 15.07.2024 only (Downloaded Filled Forms Accepted)

TULIPS INTERNATIONAL School, Pooth Khurd, Delhi Bawana Road, Delhi -39. Requires the following: PGT: Physics, TGS: Science, Math. Librarian may your CV at the earliest -prncipal.tulips@gmail.com

Noida Educational Academy Affiliated to CBSE, New Delhi (Aff. No. 2131953) Bhangal, Sec.-110, Phase-II, Noida Web: www.neaschool.com

"WE ARE HIRING" Vice Principal Academic Co-ordinator (Foundational Years) PGT- Mathematics, Chemistry TGT- English Walk in interviews are also in progress Candidates with minimum qualification as prescribed by CBSE, fluent in English and Computer literate may apply through the given email neoplacement2023@gmail.com +91-7835033327 / 30

EMPLOYMENT/ACADEMIC

Rich Harvest Public School A-1, JANAKPURI, NEW DELHI-110058 Ph: 011-40534000, 41573653, 46081853 www.richharvestschool.com

INVITES APPLICATION FOR THE FOLLOWING POSTS: ACADEMIC COORDINATOR (Junior Branch) TGT (English, Social Science, Computer) DANCE, ART & CRAFT, LIBRARIAN & MUSIC SKATING / LAWN TENNIS COACH ACCOUNT / OFFICE ASSISTANT RECEPTIONIST + FEE CLERK + NURSE

WALK-IN INTERVIEW from 11.07.2024 to 16.07.2024 (9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.) Apply immediately on prescribed Application Form available at the School. Email your CV & Form at: rpsjobresume@yahoo.com Form can be downloaded from the School Website.

ABHINAV GLOBAL SCHOOL SECTOR-13, DWARKA, NEW DELHI - 110078

Req. trained & exp. candidates with good communication skills for the following posts: PRT Graduates/Post Graduates in the Subject, B Ed from a recognized University & CTET (paper-1) qualified.

PGT English A Master's Degree from a recognized university with at least 50% marks in aggregate from a recognized University in the concerned subject and B.Ed. from a recognized university

Email your detailed C.V. to agsdwarka2014@gmail.com M:70424-93520

HINDUSTAN PREFAB LIMITED (A Govt. of India Enterprise) Jangpura, New Delhi-110 014

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW FOR THE POST OF COMPANY SECRETARY (On Contract Basis) @ Hindustan Prefab Limited (HPL), Corporate Office at Jangpura, New Delhi - 110014

Essential Qualification: Member of Institute of Company Secretaries of India, New Delhi

Minimum Post Qualification Experience: Experience of 03 years in a Govt. / Public / Private Company of repute as 'Company Secretary' or 'Assistant Company Secretary'

Salary: Rs. 55,000/- Per Month (Consolidated) For details, please visit HPL's Website: www.hindprefab.in

NO TADA/DA is admissible for attending the interview. Interested and Eligible candidates may attend the Walk-Interview to be held between 1100 hrs to 1430 hrs on 16/07/2024 along with original documents in support of age, qualification, experience, category etc. together with a set of attested true copies thereof.

PRESTIGE CONVENT SCHOOL (Recognised & Affiliated to CBSE) Pkt. B-5, Sector-8, Rohini. Ph: 27942442, 9643901491 www.prestigeconventschool.in

REQUIRES PRINCIPAL PROFILE: "Highly dynamic and dedicated person, should be proficient in managing school operations, strong in communication skills, having excellent organisational, administrative & leadership qualities. "Must have in-depth knowledge of CBSE and DoE rules"

QUALIFICATIONS: As prescribed and laid down by the CBSE and DoE PGT: PHYSICS & MATHEMATICS Apply with latest Photograph on the prescribed Form available at School Reception between 9:00am and 1:00pm. or send through mail to: prestigeconventschool.pc@gmail.com by Saturday, July 13, 2024

REQ. EXP. PGT (Hindi), PGT (Math) & PGT (English) Walk in interview 11 AM to 2 PM Mata Shy Devi Public School A/2 Keshav Puram Delhi - 110035, contact: 011-45132151

REQ. RESEARCH Officer / Research Asstt. Part/Full time, MSc/PhD Life Science Nehru Place, New Delhi-19 ramaresearchfoundation@gmail.com & 011-40562960, 8770245239.

BAL NIKETAN PUBLIC SCHOOL A/59, Sangam Vihar, MB Road, Near Batra Hospital, South Delhi, New Delhi - 110062 Tel:- 26047575, 931966324/56

B.V.M. PUBLIC SCHOOL Ajay Park, Naya Bazar, Nazafgarh, New Delhi-43

REQUIRES Special Educator P.G.T. - Mathematics School Counsellor Primary Teacher

The Candidates must have Passion, Creativity and Good Communication Skills in English Walk-in-Interview between 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon Contact: 9891980405 Email: bvmpublicschool@yahoo.com

REQ. MECH. Engineer - Diploma in Machinery & Electrical, min. exp 3 yrs. and GEM Portal Executive - Work in Gem Portal, min. exp 5 yrs. and Exp. Female Office Assistant - fluent in English & Tamil, Computer Operator - Tally knowledge Contact: 9810587303, 9910676069

KUKREJA HOSPITAL Rajouri Garden Requires HR, Store incharge, Accountant. Contact: 9990221218 (10-4pm, mon-sat), Email: drgeetkukreja@yahoo.com

WANTED ELECTRICIAN with experience in Electrical Fittings and Maintenance at PMD Infocom LLP, C-3 Sector-3 Noida. Phone: 8920866698

PARAS PUBLIC School Read Lady Teachers, NIT/BI/ED Qualified, E-100 Chanakya Place Near Bindapur Thana, ND-59, 9667969701, 987810-5718, paraspublicschool@gmail.com

PSM PUBLIC SCHOOL Praty Vihar, Kirti Extension, New Delhi-86 Ph: 07298037801

REQUIRES PGTs: Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Maths. TGT: Science, Eng., Physical. PRT, NIT, Music Teacher Librarian

Walk in Interview on 12.07.2024 (Friday) between 10 am to 12:30 noon or email resume at: psmrschool2@rediffmail.com

MODERN SCHOOL A-SR. SEC. SCHOOL AFFL. TO CBSE - PILOT NO. 79, SECTOR-14, VAISHALI, GHAZIABAD. Ph: 0120-4296548, 4236548. modernschoolvaishali@gmail.com

Requires P.G.T. ENGLISH, COMPUTER SC. P.R.T. MATHS. OTHERS: ACADEMIC CO-ORDINATOR (PRIMARY & MIDDLE), SPECIAL EDUCATOR, HEALTH & WELLNESS CO-ORDINATOR, ADMISSION COUNSELLOR, BUILDING SUPERVISOR, ATT. LAB INCHARGE. Application with detailed Resume should reach by 17th July, 2024.

DELHI INTERNATIONAL Sec. School Jawahar Ngr, Del-94, Reg. (Female) TGT: Eng, Maths, Sci, S.St., Primary TR, Computer TR, Academic Incharge. #995851377, E. dss.jind@gmail.com

RAO MAN Singh Sr Sec Pub.School Najafgarh ND-43 Inviting Application Part /Full Time for Class IX to XII as Applicable A.I., I.T., Busi. Admini. & Physical Activity Trainer 9911493706

REQ TCHR TGT/PGT Maths, Eng, Hindi, Admission Counsr, Trnsprt Avl, Saint Angels Schl (CBSE) Baghpat 25 Km frm Delv C. saintangelschl@gmail.com, 0926274739, Wp 0991877378

GENERAL MULTIPLE VACANCIES

NEW DELHI YMCA 1, Jai Singh Road, New Delhi - 110001

REQUIRES PA to the General Secretary & CEO The Candidate should be a Graduate with Diploma in Office Management having 05 years' experience with excellent oral and written communication in English language, efficiency in handling administrative and interpersonal skills is required.

Marketing Executive Applicant should be Graduate with Diploma in Marketing, having 5 year's relevant experience in Digital Marketing through Google Ads, Social Media (Facebook, Instagram etc.).

Front Office Assistant The Candidate should be a Graduate with Diploma in Hotel Management having 03 years' experience with proficiency in Computer operation', good communication skills and shift duties.

Cashier The Candidate should be B.Com with 03 years' experience. Preference will be given to Candidates with Good Communication Skills and having exposure in Tally ERP & MS Excel.

Salary will be commensurate with qualification and experience. Suitable candidates may apply with their typed CV along with a passport size photograph. Qualified candidates may apply within 5 days on the link given below: www.ndymcaerp.in/current/jobs

GENERAL MULTIPLE VACANCIES

SKYLINE POWER SOLUTIONS A MANUFACTURING COMPANY Manufacturer of High quality Generators from 2 KVA to 250 KVA require

SALES OFFICERS Smart, presentable with good communication and convincing skills, willingness to travel with exp. in sales

ACCOUNTS ASSISTANT Min 2years experience Excellent Package offered. Apply: 13, 14 - Raja Garden, ND - 15. # 0114004444 Whatsapp: 9910225991 social@generator.co.in

REQUIRED SHAPERMAN RANDAMAN (KHARIDIA) Having 4 to 5 years experience in SS Utensils Company.

PUNJAB STAINLESS STEEL INDUSTRIES Narela Road, Kundli (Sonapat) Contact Person: Sunil Kumar (M: 9319092790) Email: hr@punjabsteels.com sunil.kumar@punjabsteels.com

GOLDS VILLA Homes Required Female Staff for Office: Receptionists, Tale Artist, Accountant, Computer Staff, Peon. Contact No.: 880082669, 9818571414

REQ. MECH. Engineer - Diploma in Machinery & Electrical, min. exp 3 yrs. and GEM Portal Executive - Work in Gem Portal, min. exp 5 yrs. and Exp. Female Office Assistant - fluent in English & Tamil, Computer Operator - Tally knowledge Contact: 9810587303, 9910676069

KUKREJA HOSPITAL Rajouri Garden Requires HR, Store incharge, Accountant. Contact: 9990221218 (10-4pm, mon-sat), Email: drgeetkukreja@yahoo.com

WANTED ELECTRICIAN with experience in Electrical Fittings and Maintenance at PMD Infocom LLP, C-3 Sector-3 Noida. Phone: 8920866698

PARAS PUBLIC School Read Lady Teachers, NIT/BI/ED Qualified, E-100 Chanakya Place Near Bindapur Thana, ND-59, 9667969701, 987810-5718, paraspublicschool@gmail.com

PSM PUBLIC SCHOOL Praty Vihar, Kirti Extension, New Delhi-86 Ph: 07298037801

REQUIRES PGTs: Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Maths. TGT: Science, Eng., Physical. PRT, NIT, Music Teacher Librarian

Walk in Interview on 12.07.2024 (Friday) between 10 am to 12:30 noon or email resume at: psmrschool2@rediffmail.com

MODERN SCHOOL A-SR. SEC. SCHOOL AFFL. TO CBSE - PILOT NO. 79, SECTOR-14, VAISHALI, GHAZIABAD. Ph: 0120-4296548, 4236548. modernschoolvaishali@gmail.com

Requires P.G.T. ENGLISH, COMPUTER SC. P.R.T. MATHS. OTHERS: ACADEMIC CO-ORDINATOR (PRIMARY & MIDDLE), SPECIAL EDUCATOR, HEALTH & WELLNESS CO-ORDINATOR, ADMISSION COUNSELLOR, BUILDING SUPERVISOR, ATT. LAB INCHARGE. Application with detailed Resume should reach by 17th July, 2024.

DELHI INTERNATIONAL Sec. School Jawahar Ngr, Del-94, Reg. (Female) TGT: Eng, Maths, Sci, S.St., Primary TR, Computer TR, Academic Incharge. #995851377, E. dss.jind@gmail.com

RAO MAN Singh Sr Sec Pub.School Najafgarh ND-43 Inviting Application Part /Full Time for Class IX to XII as Applicable A.I., I.T., Busi. Admini. & Physical Activity Trainer 9911493706

REQ TCHR TGT/PGT Maths, Eng, Hindi, Admission Counsr, Trnsprt Avl, Saint Angels Schl (CBSE) Baghpat 25 Km frm Delv C. saintangelschl@gmail.com, 0926274739, Wp 0991877378

REQUIRES PA to the General Secretary & CEO The Candidate should be a Graduate with Diploma in Office Management having 05 years' experience with excellent oral and written communication in English language, efficiency in handling administrative and interpersonal skills is required.

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Salary will be commensurate with qualification and experience. Suitable candidates may apply with their typed CV along with a passport size photograph. Qualified candidates may apply within 5 days on the link given below: www.ndymcaerp.in/current/jobs

MEDICAL

Maharaja Agrasen Group of Hospitals Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi - 26. Ph: 40777777, 40776666

Requires (Location - Punjabi Bagh) Sr. Consultant - Gastroenterology - DM in Gastroenterology - with relevant experience.

Consultant- Neurology - DM Neurology with suitable experience

Consultant - Cardiology ICU - MD/DNB in any specialties with suitable experience

Consultant- Dermatology- MD/DNB Dermatology with more than 5 yrs experience

Consultant Pediatrics Superspecialities: in cardiology, Pulmonology, Neurology, Gastroenterology, Hematology, Rheumatology and Developmental Pediatrics Endocrinology, Nephrology: Qualification - Fellowship/DM/Mch with relevant experience

Nursing Superintendent - B. Sc. / M. Sc. Nursing with minimum 10 years' Administrative experience as ANS / DNS in a 300 bedded Hospital & acquainted with NABH norms, out of which at least 2/3 yrs as Nursing Superintendent in a hospital not less than 200 Beds. Salary negotiable on the basis of suitability.

Sr. Resident/Associate Consultant-MS/DNB/DCH - Pediatrics with experience

Wildlife board will now take 1st call on clearance to projects in protected area

Jayashree Nandi letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: In a shift from a decision in March, to consider projects requiring a wildlife nod only after the project has received a forest clearance, the Union ministry of environment, forests and climate change (MoEFCC) has issued a new sequence of priority: a nod from the standing committee of the National Board for Wildlife (SC-NBWL) is a prerequisite for considering projects in protected areas further for a forest clearance.

FINAL CLEARANCE FOR PROJECTS LOCATED BOTH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE A PROTECTED AREA WILL BE GIVEN ONLY AFTER A NOD FROM SC-NBWL

Protected Areas, would be considered for grant of "in-principle" approval under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, only after obtaining the recommendation of the SC-NBWL, permitting use of forest land for non-forestry purpose, has been obtained, the new sequence sent to state governments says.

sible in such cases to avoid fait-accompli situation," they add. Proposals located in the eco-sensitive zone of a protected area requiring both wildlife and forest clearances will be processed simultaneously.

HT reported on March 22 that SC-NBWL had decided that it will consider proposals for wildlife clearance for projects only after they have received forest approvals, a new protocol that officials said was aimed at avoiding conflicting decisions and to enable tighter scrutiny of projects in eco-sensitive zones. The latest decision was possibly taken to prioritise careful decision making on diverting forests from protected areas, consultants said.

"All environmental permissions are needed independently and they can be applied for simultaneously, hence they are not interdependent. The question is what should be considered first keeping in view where the proposals fall, and if a proposal falls in a protected area, SC-NBWL nod looks more important than forest clearance," said an environmental consultant who helps projects with environmental clearances.

and is more project friendly because all clearances can be applied for simultaneously. But we are aware that there is a sequential nature for prioritising. For example, when we apply for environmental clearance, we are asked at what stage our forest clearance is. Forest clearance takes the longest because it has two stages, it involves tree enumeration, study of the area etc," said another consultant.

"I am not sure why they are allowing stage 1 forest clearance for projects involving both protected area and non-protected area. This is because the impacts on wildlife both outside and inside protected areas will be similar and both areas need to be prioritised" she added.

Out of 1888 wildlife clearance proposals since March 30, 2023, 91 have been disposed of. Of those 91, 19 proposals have been rejected according to the Parivesh 2.0 dashboard. Around 1046 wildlife clearances are under consideration of state authorities and rest are pending at various levels.

Since June 28, 2022, 3770 projects have received "in-principle" forest clearance and 997 have got final forest clearance.



JP Nadda

NADDA CHAIRS 1ST EXEC PANEL MEET OF NATIONAL ONE HEALTH MISSION

Press Trust of India letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Union Health Minister JP Nadda chaired the first executive committee meeting of the National One Health Mission on Wednesday.

He said the mission will help India achieve integrated disease control and pandemic preparedness by institutionalising the 'One Health' approach, the health ministry said in a statement.

Nadda also highlighted the role of the mission in leveraging the ongoing/planned programmes of different ministries and departments by fostering collaborations to address the health of humans, animals, plants and environment holistically and in a sustainable manner, the statement said.

Remains of Sheena Bora lying at store of Delhi office: CBI to court

Press Trust of India letters@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: Weeks after it informed that parts of the purported skeleton of murder victim Sheena Bora were untraceable, the prosecution on Wednesday told the trial court here that they were lying at the CBI's office in New Delhi.



Sheena Bora

court on Wednesday about the email. After reading it, the lawyers submitted that the allegation should be investigated. The judge then sought a response from the central probe agency.

through the office 'malkhana' (store)... the articles i.e. the bones are (found to be) lying in the malkhana," prosecutor CJ Nandode said.

The CBI did not rely on these articles as evidence as they were not cited in the charge sheet, and it wanted to proceed without bringing them on record, the prosecution added.

The court then resumed the cross examination of the forensic expert.

Sheena Bora (24) was allegedly murdered by her mother Indrani Mukerjee and others in 2012. Mukerjee, a former media executive is now out on bail. The murder came to light in 2015, three years after Sheena was allegedly strangled in a car by her mother with the help of Indrani's former husband Sanjeev Khanna and driver Shyamvar Rai.

German yard intensifies push for submarine order

Rahul Singh rahul.singh@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: German shipbuilder thyssenkrupp Marine Systems (tkMS) on Wednesday made a fresh pitch to equip the Indian Navy with a variant of its HDW Class 214 submarine, with a focus on the new technologies it integrates, technology transfer and indigenisation to push the country's self-reliance agenda, and the navy's proven track record of operating the yard's Class 209/1500 vessels.

It faces competition from Spanish shipbuilder Navantia that has offered its S-80 submarine to India for the ₹43,000 crore P-751 programme to build six advanced vessels with an air independent propulsion (AIP) system in partnership with local yards.

The tkMS push comes at a

THE P-751 PROJECT WILL SEE THE DEVELOPMENT OF 6 ADVANCED SUBMARINES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LOCAL YARDS

time when India's hunt for new attack submarines is set to enter a critical phase, with the navy finalising its technical report on the recent field evaluation trials of the HDW Class 214 and S-80 submarines.

"Technically we are in a strong position, tkMS fully demonstrated the AIP system during the trials. We will transfer the submarine's design and technology to India, enabling the goal of self-reliance," tkMS India CEO Khalil Rahman said at a media briefing.

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA CORRIGENDUM table with columns: SR. No., NAME OF BOARD CORP./AUTH, OLD REFERENCE/ NIT NO., NATURE OF CORRIGENDUM, WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./ AUTH, NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/ EMAIL

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE table with columns: SR. No., NAME OF BOARD CORP./AUTH, NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER, OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME), AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES, WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH, NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/ EMAIL

संचालनालय, नगरीय प्रशासन एवं विकास, म.प्र. भोपाल Directorate, Urban Administration & Development, M.P., Bhopal Palika Bhawan, Near 6 No. Bus Stop, Shivaji Nagar, Bhopal-462016

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (Office: Chief Engineer/P&M, PSPCL, Ludhiana) CIN: U40109PB2010SGC033813, Website: www.pspcl.in

HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT E-Procurement Notice INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) The Executive Engineer HPPWD Dharamshala Division on behalf of Governor of H.P. invites the item rate bids, in electronic tendering system, for following works from the eligible and approved contractors registered with HPPWD:-

Uttar Pradesh Medical Supplies Corporation Limited (CIN: U83310UP2010SC0102423) Address: SUDA Bhawan, 7/23, Sector-7, Gomti Nagar Extension, Lucknow

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पत्रांक - यूईपीसीबी/एअर/नॉ०-7966/495 दिनांक 09/07/2024 पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति हेतु लोक सुनवाई के लिये सूचना मै, सोम माईस द्वारा श्री शीतल जोशी, ग्राम मुस्योली, तहसील एवं जिला बागेश्वर द्वारा ग्राम मुस्योली, तहसील एवं जिला बागेश्वर में प्रस्तावित मुस्योली सोपस्टोन माईनिंग (क्षेत्रफल-5.602 हे.) की पूर्व पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति हेतु लोक सुनवाई का प्रस्ताव उत्तराखण्ड प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड, देहरादून के समक्ष प्रस्तुत किया गया है।

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कार्यालय जिलाधिकारी मेरठ अधिनियम 2013 की धारा 21(1) एवं (2) के अन्तर्गत सामान्य सूचना

भूमि अंश, पुनर्वसन और पुनर्व्यवस्थापन में उचित प्रतिक्रिया और पर्यवेक्षण अधिनियम 2013 की धारा 11 की उपधारा (1) के अन्तर्गत जैसा कि उल्लेख प्रस्तावित/कलेक्टर (समुचित सरकार के प्रयोजन हेतु) अधिसूचना संख्या- 1985 दिनांक 27.04.2023 निर्गत करती है तथा राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र परिवहन निगम के द्वारा सार्वजनिक प्रयोजन हेतु दिल्ली-गाजियाबाद-मेरठ आन्ध्रराष्ट्रीय परिवहन के लिये जिला मेरठ तहसील मेरठ सदर परगना मेरठ ग्राम मेरठ व रिहानी में स्थित अधिनियम की धारा 19 के अन्तर्गत समुचित भूमि की उद्घोषणा संख्या-384 दिनांक 05.03.2024।

Table with columns: क्रम/सं. (Sl. No.), परगना/तहसील (Taluk/District), ग्राम/गाँव (Village), नूतन संख्या/गाँव संख्या (New No./Village No.), क्षेत्रफल (हेक्टर में) (Area in Hectares), अधिलिखित भू-वास्तु/स्थानीय/उपस्थानीय/सर्वकारी पट्टेदार का नाम (Registered Landholder/Local/Non-Local/Official Name), विवरण/उप विवरण/अपनी यदि कोई हो तो उसका नाम (Details/Remarks/Own Name if any), आपेक्षित भूमि का उद्देश्य (Intended Use of Land)



OPINION

The
Hindustan Times
ESTABLISHED IN 1924

OUR TAKE

Modi in Moscow, in a balancing act

New Delhi's ties with Russia have held strong, but the challenge now is to make the West see reason in India's strategic choices, autonomy

The diplomatic tightrope being walked by India over the conflict in Ukraine was on display as Prime Minister Narendra Modi told Russian President Vladimir Putin during their meeting at the Kremlin, in the glare of television cameras, that no solution can be found on the battlefield. The optics of the Putin-Modi bonhomie had been marred on the day the Indian leader arrived in Moscow for his first visit to Russia in five years by a Russian missile strike on Ukraine's largest children's hospital. Modi amplified his message about ending the war in Ukraine, especially to prevent the death of innocent civilians, and the Global South's expectations for peace.

The big challenge now will be sealing this relationship to New Delhi's partners in the West as merely an expression of India's national interests and not an endorsement of Putin's Ukraine policy or his political system. Images of Modi embracing Putin triggered outrage in the West. While European friends may be willing listeners, Washington, caught in the presidential poll season, might not be amused, though India-US relations appear to have been firewalled from New Delhi's legacy ties. Despite India's strong nudge to end hostilities and return to the path of dialogue, Putin appears in no mood to heed such advice. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's critical remarks suggest New Delhi will have to work harder to convince its partners in the West of its stance on Russia.

Modi's visit to Moscow was also significant for the ambitious target set by the two sides to drive trade to \$100 billion by 2030. Two-way trade is already more than double an earlier target of \$30 billion by 2025, thanks to India's massive increase in purchases of crude. Given India's growing energy needs, achieving the new target shouldn't be too difficult but the real problem is balancing it. India's exports to Russia have been insignificant for years and currently languish at \$4 billion. Indian corporates and banks with significant exposure to the western financial system are reluctant to venture into Russia because of the fear of sanctions. India's trade basket will have to be significantly expanded alongside increased access to Russia's markets and the creation of a reliable system for trade settlement insulated from the West's extensive sanctions regime. Russia will also have to address India's continuing concerns about Moscow moving closer and closer to Beijing. However, India-Russia relations have stood the test of time and the message from the Moscow meet is that it continues to be on an even keel.

The challenge that is coaching Team India

The Board of Control for Cricket in India made Gautam Gambhir's appointment official on Tuesday, although this was pretty much a done deal and there were no other really major candidates in the fray. His success as mentor of Kolkata Knight Riders in the 2024 season of the Indian Premier League showed him to be a smart tactician and a builder of teams as well. In his role as mentor for the Lucknow Super Kings, he found a way to do the same. His intensity, seen by some as a disadvantage, actually works well in the context of building and motivating high-performing teams.

But as Anil Kumble can probably tell him, coaching Team India is a different cup of tea altogether. One of Gambhir's main tasks will be to win over the dressing room, one used to Rahul Dravid's understated way of working. And that will call for greater tact on his part. Young players in the team will likely have no problem — he'll push them hard, back them to the hilt and reward their successes. But the seniors have played with and against him, have heard him speak critically about them on news channels and know that he doesn't like to take prisoners.

Gambhir likes to have a say in how things unfold unlike Dravid, or Ravi Shastri (who came before). They firmly believed that it was the captain's team, and their job was mainly to help it function at its best. At some point during his three-year stint, the new coach will also have to take a call on the future of some of the seniors, and that may test him too. Gambhir starts with the team on a high, thanks to a World Cup win — but that just raises expectations of his own stint.

A new cadre of unicorns to build developed India

Governments are partnering with non-profits for population-level impact to address pressing development challenges. These system-support organisations drive change and ensure long-term impact at the grassroots

Once upon a time, in villages of the heavily forested Gadchiroli district tucked into the south-east corner of Maharashtra, the infant mortality rate (IMR) was a shocking 121 out of 1,000 live births. SEARCH for Health, a non-profit that works to improve public health in rural India, successfully reduced IMR from 121 to 30 by way of its intervention in Gadchiroli, bringing it down to less than a quarter of the previous levels. Their intervention was then adopted by the government of Maharashtra where IMR was reduced by 51%. Their programme has now been implemented across India. We refer to such organisations that are partnering with governments for population-level impact as System Support Organisations (SSOs).

The government is central to resolving India's growth and develop-

ment challenges, playing the roles of the service provider, regulator, and funder. And governments are open to engaging with civil society organisations that provide them with specialised, technical, and administrative inputs to create outsized impact.

These SSOs are like a new category of unicorns that stand out not for their billion-dollar valuations, but for the impact they have achieved by supporting governments to overcome a myriad of issues in sectors ranging from education to health to policy design to road safety. Here are some more examples of SSOs. Vidhi, which works to strengthen policies and governance, has assisted the central and state governments with 394 projects that included drafting Acts, Rules, and Regulations. Vidhi was instrumental in framing landmark laws like the Aadhaar Act and the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code.

SaveLIFE Foundation (SLF), which aims to improve road safety and emergency care in India, piloted the Zero Fatality Corridor (ZFC) model on the Mumbai-Pune Expressway that resulted in 58% reduction in fatalities (despite increased traffic on the expressway in this period). They are now working with the ministry of road transport and highways to expand the ZFC model to the top 100 most dangerous highways in the country. SLF also helped secure India's first Good Samaritan Law, which protects and empowers people

who help victims of road accidents.

While all three SSOs work in different domains and have chosen different methods to achieve results, a systems change approach is what unites them. The systems change approach necessarily entails working with the government as it is the main actor in accelerating India's growth. For large-scale impact in their respective domains, the SSOs work in close collaboration with the Union and state governments to get to the root of the problem and resolve them for the long-term, rather than suggest quick fixes or band-aid solutions.

A report by The Convergence Foundation and India Impact Sherpas studied 20 SSOs in India, including SEARCH, Vidhi, and SLF, that have adopted systems change to understand the underlying practices of the approach. The report outlines in detail a model of what needs to be done to create systemic impact — outward programmes and practices along with internal organisational building work.

The practices include using data and evidence for building scalable solutions, and working with governments to inform policy design and implementation. The inward-looking processes account for everything from a systems change orientation at the leadership level, to aligning with funders who need to know that this approach will not necessarily bear fruit in the short run, to building a



Ashish Dhawan



Non-profits and the government are working together to improve nutrition and hygiene in schools, and enhance the livelihoods of farmers

diverse talent pool in-house. These internal structures and culture are key to building organisations that are resilient and lasting to make a long-term systemic impact.

It is, however, important to acknowledge at this point that besides the organisation's intention and practices, funding plays a critical role in enabling systemic impact. In the last decade or so, we have seen several leading Indian philanthropies put their (financial and strategic) weight behind systems change and work with governments across India.

Take, for example, the Piramal Foundation which has collaborated with NITI Aayog to strengthen last-mile delivery in aspirational districts. They are also working with the government of Rajasthan to improve education quality and health care services. They even support SSOs like the Kaivalya Education Foundation that has partnered with 10 state governments to build the leadership capabilities of education officials.

The Tata Trusts have partnered with the ministry of women and child development to support the Union

government's National Nutrition Mission. They provide managerial and administrative support to the district and state administrations for effective implementation of the mission.

The Azim Premji Foundation too has collaborated with a group of non-profits and the governments of Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu to improve nutrition and hygiene, enhance the livelihoods of small farmers, and rehabilitate mentally ill homeless people respectively. These philanthropic initiatives recognise that investing in systems change and working with the governments will give them the highest ROI in terms of scale and sustainable impact.

The government, funders, and SSOs, all need to come together for transformative, large-scale impact by keeping systems change at the forefront. By committing to systems change, we will be laying the foundation for India to become a developed nation.

Ashish Dhawan is founder-CEO, The Convergence Foundation. The views expressed are personal

Case to respect and protect women's reproductive rights

In the late 1990s, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) appointed me as the Goodwill Ambassador for South Asia. All charged with my new role, I set out to speak with many women whom I was working with in the slums of Mumbai. I also visited hundreds of women in villages and realised that having multiple children was not their choice. They were aware about the harmful impact it had on their bodies and the children, many of whom were malnourished and many more were anaemic. I remember telling a woman that I would arrange a regular supply of contraceptive pills for her, which she could take discreetly without her mother-in-law or husband knowing. She looked at me with disbelief at my ignorance, and said, "Didi, do you really think there is a single spot in my hut where I can hide something without the other family members knowing?" Discussing family planning was seen as a taboo in many communities.

Several factors including patriarchal attitudes and social norms restricted women's autonomy in making decisions regarding their sexual and reproductive health, including family planning. This fact needed to be brought to the table in the numerous dialogues concerning gender equality, family planning, sexual and reproductive health and HIV/AIDS. I had the opportunity to interact with multiple stakeholders — from government officials to community leaders, the public as a Member of Parliament from 1997 to 2003, I also had the opportunity to speak with many rural women. Since then, we've seen commendable progress in advancing conversations around family planning. However, much remains to be done to achieve India's Family Planning 2030 vision, which aims to increase access, choice, expand contraceptive options, and enhance the quality of family planning services. Access to modern contraceptives remains a significant challenge, and addressing this issue is crucial for ensuring gender equality.

Over the years, the basket of contraceptive choices has expanded significantly. These newer, safer and simpler methods can truly empower women to make more informed decisions about their health and their careers and lead more fulfilling lives. Challenges regarding knowledge and access to modern contraception for both men and women persist. Despite the availability of modern contraceptives, the use of traditional methods among married women (aged 15-49 years) has almost doubled — from 5.7% (2015-16) to 10.2% (2019-21), according to the latest National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) data.



All women globally should have access to a basket of contraceptive choices

We must ask ourselves: Are we truly addressing the root cause that hinders the widespread adoption of modern contraceptive methods? Additionally, how and why are modern contraceptives more effective — and who do they benefit?

All women globally should have unhindered and equitable access to a basket of contraceptive choices. In the Indian context, access to temporary, spacing methods is particularly critical, given the large young population in the country. Contraceptives like injectables, implants, and intrauterine devices (IUDs) provide reliable, long-term protection against unintended pregnancies. Furthermore, self-administered methods offer women greater autonomy, allowing them to manage their reproductive health with greater ease and confidence. While all contraceptives have side effects, the benefits of modern contraceptives for women are profound. They lead to better maternal outcomes by reducing the risk of unintended pregnancies and associated health complications. By enabling women to space their pregnancies, contraceptives contribute to improved health for both mothers and their children. Women can achieve better nutritional status, recover fully between pregnancies, and provide better care for their children. Furthermore, the ability to plan and space pregnancies empowers women to pursue education and career opportunities, giving them more autonomy and control over their lives, thereby enhancing their economic independence and leading more fulfilling lives, and overall well-being.

According to NFHS-5, the unmet need for spacing has decreased from 12.9% in 2015-16 to 9.4% in 2019-21, highlighting the growing recognition of the benefits of spacing methods. After all, family planning is not just about preventing unwanted pregnancies; it is about empowering women with the knowledge and resources they need to make the best decisions for themselves and their families. When couples have access to a wide range of modern contraceptive options, they can plan their lives better and contribute to creating a healthy and stable family. To truly empower women and improve their reproductive health, we must focus on creating efficient, affordable, and reliable ways to access contraceptive products and services and integrating family planning into primary health systems. There is an imperative to inform and educate communities while prioritising the needs of newly married couples, those without children, and postpartum and post-abortion women.

Moreover, we must confront and dismantle the misconceptions surrounding contraceptives. Societal attitudes often perpetuate myths and misinformation, creating a climate of judgement around women's reproductive choices. Public figures, activists, and leaders have a responsibility to challenge these attitudes and advocate for policies that respect and protect reproductive rights. By making these strategic efforts, we can ensure that every woman and her partner has the freedom to make informed decisions about her reproductive health, leading to healthier families, stronger communities, and a more equitable world.

Shabana Azmi is an actor/activist and former Goodwill Ambassador, UNFPA. The views expressed are personal

{ JOE BIDEN } PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES



Afghan common ground in India-Russia relations

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Russia for a summit-level meeting with President Vladimir Putin caught global attention. For New Delhi, despite the war in Ukraine and tensions between Washington and Moscow, its relationship with Russia remains an important incubator for cooperating against prevailing security challenges in the region, such as Afghanistan.

Modi's visit to Moscow has come at an interesting juncture for this time-tested bilateral relationship. India decided that it would not attend this year's Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit in Kazakhstan at the leadership level, prioritising the bilateral visit instead. This gave an opportunity for both parties to resume their strategic dialogue after a gap of some years. Both sides highlighted countering terrorism as a major deliverable.

However, despite the common security interests, specifically on terrorism, there are geopolitical crossroads today that will require deft diplomacy notwithstanding the historicity of ties. Both Russia and India attended, and supported, the recent United Nations (UN)-backed meet on Afghanistan in Qatar. Both have direct engagements with the Taliban, albeit Moscow has developed much deeper and quasi-formalised ties, with recent reports also suggesting the Kremlin is preparing to de-list the Taliban as a proscribed terror group. Security stakes for Russia over the past two months have starkly increased around the Afghan issue. The March terror attack in Moscow claimed by Islamic State Khorasan (ISKP) which operates from the Afghanistan-Pakistan geography killed over 140 people. More recently, a similar attack took place in the country's Dagestan region, while previously two Russian diplomats were killed in an ISKP attack in Kabul in 2022.

With India and Russia having a common interest in Afghanistan's stability, the ensuing big power competition, which is pushing Moscow into a tight Chinese economic embrace, is increasingly turning out to be a challenge. But in Afghanistan, this new geopolitical concern is not as black and white as some make it to be. While true that both Moscow and Beijing now increasingly align in multilateral forums to scuttle western power and interests, in Afghanistan, they seem to have a distant and at times divergent approach specifically when seen from the point of view of influence in Central and South Asia.

Pakistan's current push to address its own crisis with the Taliban may shape at least some of these intricacies as far as China and Russia

are concerned. Many in the Pakistani media have alluded that the main pressure for them to urgently address issues with the Taliban and the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) is coming from Beijing. However, to even try and effectively do this, Rawalpindi has raised the alarm in Washington instead. The visit by United States (US) CENTCOM chief General Michael Kurilla to the country's restive Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province and the contested Durand Line in May marks a subtle revisit of geopolitical designs of the past three decades where both China and Russia benefited from US-provided military and financial assistance for countering terrorism. This would be unpalatable today.

Russia is also trying its own approaches, in part due to the Af-Pak dichotomy. Its recent invitation for Pakistan to join the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) is a case in point where Putin is trying to hit multiple birds with one stone. That is, gain more bilateral stakes in Pakistan, and perhaps even make its displeasure to India known for increasingly becoming part of US-partnered designs, from Quad in the Indo-Pacific to the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor. Simultaneously, Moscow would like to maintain an independent presence in South and Central Asia and ideally avoid being subservient to Chinese agendas.

This is an opportunity for India. While debates are ripe on Russia's slip towards China, with good reason, Afghanistan provides ample space for New Delhi to work with Russia and strengthen interests in addressing common security issues in this geography. Even as most neighbours today have few overlapping strategic interests, the likes of India, Iran, and Russia, have a deep history of cooperation which includes outreach to multiple stakeholders across political and ethnic divides between Kabul and Kandahar.

Prioritised leadership-level attention to Afghanistan could go a long way in revisiting at least some of the common grounds on security, development, and economic stability of the once again embattled State. While Pakistan's completely failed policy in Afghanistan over the decades has come home to roost, the implications of the same could go well beyond the region, as demonstrated by ISKP, and by way of other terror groups, including Al Qaeda, continuing to survive in the country.

Kabir Taneja is fellow, Strategic Studies Programme, Observer Research Foundation. The views expressed are personal

WORLD

China, B'desh boost ties



Chinese President Xi Jinping and his delegation (left) attend a meeting with Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina, at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. REUTERS

Bangladesh occupies a strategic position between Myanmar, a longtime Chinese ally, and India, the rising Asian giant with which China has a longstanding border conflict.

China provides Bangladesh with tanks, missile launchers and other weapons and is building ports, rail tracks, power plants and bridges.

Sheikh Hasina is strengthening relations to encourage Chinese investment in Bangladesh's economy, which faces challenges over debt burden.

Hasina's visit to China is taking place a few weeks after she visited India, demonstrating her plans for a partnership with both neighbours in the face of growing interest by the US in the Indo-Pacific region.

Media reports in Bangladesh say it will seek \$20bn in new loans from China during Hasina's visit.

B'desh and China sign 28 pacts as Hasina meets Xi

Agencies
letters@hindustantimes.com

BEIJING: Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina met President Xi Jinping and her Chinese counterpart Li Qiang in Beijing on Wednesday as the two countries signed 28 agreements, covering mostly trade and investments, to further elevate their strategic ties.

During the meetings, both countries agreed to elevate their "strategic partnership" to a "comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership," Bangladesh's state-run news agency Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS) reported.

China will help Bangladesh economically in four ways by giving grants, interest-free loans, concessional loans and commercial loans, the Chinese president said during the bilateral meeting with Hasina, it said.

Zunaid Ahmed Palak, Bangladesh's State Minister at the Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications & Information Technology posted a photo of the two leaders' meeting on X and said, "Hon'ble President of China, H E Mr Xi Jinping met and held a bilateral meeting with the Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on Wednesday."

Bangladesh's foreign minister Dr Hasan Mahmud briefed the media about the outcome of the meeting between Hasina and Xi and described it as "a very successful discussion held in a very cordial environment".

Giving out details about the Li-Hasina meeting, BSS said the agreements were inked in the presence of Hasina and Li after the delegation-level talks between the two countries.

The Bangladesh prime minister received a red carpet reception from Premier Li upon arriving for bilateral talks. Discussions focused on the Rohingya issue, business, trade, investments, bilateral relations, and various regional and international matters.

Agreements were signed on economic and banking cooperation, trade and investments, digital economy, infrastructure development, disaster management, construction of the 6th and 9th Bangladesh-China friendship bridges, agricultural exports from Bangladesh, and people-to-people connectivity, according to the BSS report.

While Bangladesh maintains development partnerships with the United States and India, it is also drawing closer to China, which is heavily engaged in the country's major infrastructure projects.

While the United States and European countries pressured Hasina's administration to hold free and fair elections in January, China openly sided with Hasina.

China has also showed a willingness to help Bangladesh's economy as it faces dwindling foreign currency reserves.

6 die in shootout between Pak Taliban and police

PESHAWAR, PAKISTAN: Security forces raided a hideout of Pakistani Taliban on the outskirts of the northwestern city of Peshawar on Wednesday, triggering a shootout that killed three officers and as many insurgents, police said.

A militant commander Abdul Rahim was among the insurgents killed in the raid which took place in the town of Matni, a local police officer Ashfaq Khan said.

Khan provided no further details, and there was no immediate comment from the Pakistani Taliban — who are known as Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan or TTP — and are an ally of the Afghan Taliban.

TTP has stepped up its attacks on security forces since the Afghan Taliban seized power in neighboring Afghanistan in 2021.

Pakistani officials often accuse Afghanistan's Taliban rulers of giving shelter to TTP fighters, a charge Kabul rejects. TTP denies using Afghan soil for attacks in Pakistan. AP

UK police hunt for 'crossbow' killer

Agence France-Press
letters@hindustantimes.com

LONDON: UK police were searching on Wednesday for a suspect who may have a "crossbow" after the wife and two daughters of a BBC radio racing commentator were killed in a suspected "targeted" attack.

Kyle Clifford, 26, from Enfield in north London, is wanted in connection with the deaths of the three women in the town of Bushey, north of London, on Tuesday night. The victims were Carol Hunt, the 61-year-old wife of BBC radio and Sky Sports racing commentator John Hunt, and their two daughters, Louise, 25, and Hannah, 28, the broadcasters said.

Local police said officers were called to a house in the leafy commuter town where the three women were pronounced dead at the scene.

Chief Superintendent Jon Simpson said armed officers and specialist search teams were involved in the manhunt,



The accused Kyle Clifford, who is wanted in connection with an incident in Bushey, England. A police car is parked in Bushey in the borough of Hertfordshire, on Wednesday. AP, AFP

Nato stronger than ever, Russia will fail in Ukraine, says US prez

Joe Biden's address at Nato summit came at a time when he is facing increasing pressure from his own supporters to quit the prez race

Prashant Jha
letters@hindustantimes.com

WASHINGTON: US President Joe Biden has termed the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (Nato) as the "single greatest, most effective defensive alliance in the history of the world", claimed that the bloc is stronger and better resourced than ever before, pledged his "full support" to Ukraine, assured European allies that a majority of Americans remained committed to Nato, and declared that Russia won't prevail in its war.

Biden was speaking on Tuesday (Wednesday morning IST) at the Nato Summit in Washington DC, held at the same venue where the Washington Treaty that created the alliance was signed in 1949. He was also speaking at a time when his rival, Donald Trump, who has been sharply critical of Nato and has attributed Russia's invasion of Ukraine to Nato potentially opening its doors to Kyiv, is ahead in the polls. This has caused jitters among Nato member States, already alarmed at China-aided Russian advances in Ukraine. Biden sought to use the speech to address these concerns and reiterate American commitment.

Biden's address came at a time when he is facing increasing pressure from his own supporters to quit the presidential race after his debate performance that exposed his age related deficits, a demand that the President has rejected. Biden, who was reading off a teleprompter, also sought to use his speech to project a sense of control and normalcy, and showcase that he is ready for another four years in office.

In an emphatic and strong voice, Biden first recounted the achievements of the alliance. "Together, we rebuilt Europe from the ruins of war, held high the torch of liberty during long decades of the Cold War. When former adversaries became fellow democracies, we welcomed them into the Alliance. When war broke out in the Balkans, we intervened to restore peace and stop ethnic cleansing. And



Nato leaders pose during a group photo at the alliance's 75th anniversary celebratory event during the summit in Washington, DC, US, on Tuesday. BLOOMBERG

when the United States was attacked on September 11th, our Nato Allies — all of you — stood with us... a breathtaking display of friendship that the American people will never ever, ever forget."

Biden said that, at each moment, there were questions about whether Nato would adapt, and claimed that each time, it did. He recognised the entry of Finland and Sweden as the newest members of the bloc, and said, "And here with us today are countries from the Indo-Pacific region. They are here because they have a stake in our success and we have a stake in theirs." Leaders of Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand are attending their third Nato Summit in a row, in a sign of the increasing convergence of the European and Indo-Pacific theatres.

Biden also pointedly addressed a key issue within American politics on Nato, where Trump has accused European members of not paying their fair share and declared

The war will end with Ukraine remaining a free and independent country. Russia will not prevail. This is a pivotal moment for Europe... and I might add, for the world.

JOE BIDEN,
United States president

that they cannot expect to ride on US security umbrella for free. Biden said, "In 2020, the year I was elected President, only nine Nato allies were spending 2% of their GDP on defence. This year, 23 will spend at least 2%. And some will spend more than that. It is remarkable proof that our commitment is broad and deep, that we are

The outcome of this [Ukraine] war will shape global security for decades to come. Time to stand for freedom and democracy is now. The place is Ukraine.

JENS STOLTENBERG,
Nato chief

ready...willing...able to deter aggression and defend every inch of Nato territory across every domain: land, air, sea, cyber, and space."

In a message intended both his home audience as well as allies, Biden said, "The American people understand what would happen if there was no Nato: another war in Europe,

American troops fighting and dying, dictators spreading chaos, economic collapse, catastrophe. Americans, they know we are stronger with our friends. And we understand this is a sacred obligation."

Biden added a strong Nato was essential because "autocrats" wanted to overturn the global order, terrorist groups continued to plot "evil schemes", and in Europe, Russia's President Vladimir Putin sought to "wipe Ukraine off the map". Biden said, "Putin won't stop at Ukraine. But make no mistake, Ukraine can and will stop Putin, especially with our full, collective support. And they have our full support."

The US President announced the donation of air defence equipment to Ukraine and said, "In the coming months, the United States and our partners intend to provide Ukraine with dozens of additional tactical air defence systems...All told, Ukraine will receive hundreds of additional interceptors over the next year, helping protect

Ukrainian cities against Russian missiles and Ukrainian troops facing air attacks on the front lines."

In an effort to counter the perception that Russia was gaining in the war, Biden claimed that Russia was in fact "failing". Suggesting that Putin's losses had been staggering, Biden said, "More than 350,000 Russian troops dead or wounded; nearly 1 million Russians, many of them young people, have left Russia because they no longer see a future in Russia. And Kyiv...was supposed to fall in five days. Remember? Well, it's still standing two and a half years later and will continue to stand."

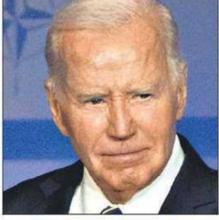
At the glittering ceremony on Tuesday evening, a short video first traced back Nato's origins, successes, summits and resilience over the past seven decades, framing the alliance as an identity and underlining the theme of solidarity, friendship and being there for each other "in the darkest hour".

In a signal to Biden, Nancy Pelosi hedges on his candidacy; Clooney urges prez to end 2024 bid

Prashant Jha
letters@hindustantimes.com

WASHINGTON: Nancy Pelosi, the senior-most Democrat in the House of Representatives, a close friend of President Joe Biden and someone he has always called the best speaker of the House in US history, became the first Democratic elder to cast doubts on Biden's candidacy for the 2024 presidential election.

In an interview on Morning Joe, a liberal news show that Biden reportedly watches every day, on Wednesday, Pelosi said that she would support whatever Biden decides. But she



Joe Biden AP

added, "It's up to the president to decide if he's going to run. We are all encouraging him to make that decision, because time is running short."

The statement is significant for Biden has repeatedly said that he is in the race and the matter is closed. But Pelosi's statement is seen as a sign of the growing disquiet in Capitol Hill where close to a dozen Democratic lawmakers have publicly called on Biden to drop out. But many more representatives and Senators are understood to privately believe that Biden, after his debate performance on June 27, was poised to lose to the presumptive Republican nominee,

interview to ABC News had reinforced the impression from the debate.

Clooney said that Democrats won't win in November "with this president". "On top of that, we won't win the House, and we're going to lose the Senate. This isn't only my opinion; this is the opinion of every senator and Congress member and governor that I've spoken with in private. Every single one, irrespective of what he or she is saying publicly." Clooney said that just as Biden had saved democracy in 2020, he needed to save democracy in 2024 — and that he can do so this time by dropping out.

HT

43 sentenced to life for 'terror' links in UAE
DUBAI: A court in the UAE has handed life sentences to 43 Emiratis for "terrorist" links, state media said on Wednesday, after a mass trial heavily criticised by UN experts and rights groups. AFP

12 schoolchildren killed as minibus crashes in S Africa
JOHANNESBURG: Twelve schoolchildren and their driver were killed in South Africa on Wednesday when their minibus overturned and caught fire on a road in Gauteng province. AP

UK police hunt for 'crossbow' killer



The accused Kyle Clifford, who is wanted in connection with an incident in Bushey, England. A police car is parked in Bushey in the borough of Hertfordshire, on Wednesday. AP, AFP

with the suspect believed to be in north London or around Bushey.

Simpson also urged Clifford to contact police and warned the public not to approach the suspect. He called it "a horrific incident involving what is currently believed to be a crossbow, but other weapons may also have been used".

A primary school in nearby Enfield kept children indoors during the police search.

Israeli army orders evacuation of Gaza City amid fierce fighting

GAZA STRIP: Israel's army dropped thousands of leaflets over war-torn Gaza City on Wednesday urging all residents to flee a heavy offensive through the main city of the besieged Palestinian territory.

The leaflets, addressed to "everyone in Gaza City", set out designated escape routes and warned that the urban area, which had a pre-war population of over half a million, would "remain a dangerous combat zone".

The warning came as Israeli troops, backed by tanks and aircraft, have fought Hamas and Islamic Jihad militants in the heaviest combat the city has seen in months in the war raging since October 7.

In one operation, the army said it had killed militants and found weapons inside the long-vacated Gaza City headquarters of the UN agency for Palestinian refugees, UNRWA.

Elsewhere across Gaza, deadly strikes have hit four schools used as shelters in four days, sparking rebukes from France and Germany which both labelled the attacks "unacceptable".

Heavy fighting also raged in Gaza's far-southern Rafah, where witnesses told AFP that Israeli tanks had rumbled into the city centre and unleashed intense fire on buildings.

The latest fighting in Gaza has newly displaced 350,000 civilians, said UNRWA chief

Philippe Lazzarini, who spoke before the leaflet drop and said "there is absolutely no safe space in Gaza".

The upsurge in fighting, bombardment and displacement came as talks were to resume in Qatar towards a truce and hostage release deal to end the war now grinding on into its 10th month.

An Israeli delegation led by Mossad chief David Barnea arrived in Doha, a source with knowledge of the negotiations said, speaking on condition of anonymity because of their sensitivity.

CIA director William Burns was also expected in the Qatari capital after holding talks in Cairo on Tuesday. AFP

Clashes around Myanmar town enter 2nd week
BANGKOK: Fighting raged for an eighth day around a Myanmar regional military headquarters, where an ethnic armed group had briefly captured a battalion command, one of its commanders said. AFP

Indonesia: Rains halt search for 30 missing people
PALU, INDONESIA: Rains on Wednesday halted the search for 30 people trapped under a landslide that engulfed an unauthorised gold mine on Indonesia's Sulawesi island over the weekend, killing at least 23 people. AP

Government of Odisha "e" Procurement Notice
WORKS DEPARTMENT
Bid Identification No. CCEKC - 04 / 2024-25
e-mail : ccekeonjharwdcircle@gmail.com / sekcpwd_keonjhar@yahoo.com
Letter No. 2891 DT. 09.07.2024

1. Name of the Work :- Improvement to approach road and internal road for Skill Development Training Centre at Telkoi for the year 2023-24.

2. Estimated Cost :- Rs. 154.44 Lakhs

3. Class of Contractor :- "B" Class & "A" Class

4. Period of Completion :- 05 (Five) Calendar Months

5. Date and Time of availability of Bid document :- From 11.30 Hours of 19.07.2024 to 16.00 Hours of 02.08.2024

6. Last date / Time for receipt of bids in the portal :- 11.30 Hours of 02.08.2024

7. Date of Opening of Bid from Portal :- Chief Construction Engineer, Keonjhar (R&B) Circle, Keonjhar-758001.

8. Name and address of the officer inviting Bid :- Chief Construction Engineer, Keonjhar (R & B) Circle, Keonjhar-758001.

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "http://tendersodisha.gov.in"

Chief Construction Engineer
Keonjhar (R & B) Circle, Keonjhar
OIPR - 34033/11/0013/2425

उत्तरखण्ड पावर कारपोरेशन लि.
कायदरिप अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत वितरण मण्डल चम्पारत।
पत्रांक : 853/वि.म. (प.) निविदा दिनांक : 09.07.2024

निविदा तिथि विस्तार सूचना

विद्युत वितरण मण्डल उपाकाकालि चम्पारत से आमन्त्रित ई-निविदा संख्या 03/2024-25/विओखो(चो), 04/2024-25/विओखो(चो) एवं 05/2024-25/विओखो(चो) में प्रतिभाग प्राप्त न होने के कारण निविदा ऑनलाईन व ऑफलाईन जमा की तिथि 18/07/2024 की जाती है। निविदा की अन्य शर्त व नियम पूर्ववत् रहेंगे। निविदा सम्बंधित अधिक जानकारी हेतु कृपया <https://uktenders.gov.in> वेबसाइट पर देखें।

अधीक्षण अभियन्ता
विद्युत वितरण मण्डल चम्पारत।

न्यायमूर्ति वृजेश कुमार श्रीवास्तव (द्वितीय) (से.नि.) जॉब आयोग
कमरा नम्बर-103 प्रथम तल, विकास भवन लखनऊ, 30प्र00-226001

सार्वजनिक सूचना
(अंतर्गत The Commissions of inquiry(U.P.) Rules, 1985 Rule 2(B))

जॉब आयोग अधिनियम, 1952 (अधिनियम संख्या 60, सन् 1952) की धारा 3 द्वारा प्रवृत्त शक्तियों का प्रयोग करते हुए महामहिम राज्यपाल उप्र० ने दिनांक 03.07.2024 को अधिसूचना संख्या-00-50/छ-पु०-12-2024 लखनऊ के द्वारा दिनांक 02/07/2024 को ग्राम फूलगढ़ी मुगलगढ़ी, थाना सिफंदरसाह, जिला हाथरस में श्री साकार नारायण विश्व हरि उर्फ भोले बाबा के सत्संग कार्यक्रम में घटित घटना के संबंध में सत्संग सम्पन्न होने के पश्चात सेवादार एवं स्थानीय आयोजक भीड़ को नियंत्रित नहीं कर सके और अचानक भगदड़ मच गयी जिसमें 100 से अधिक लोगो की मृत्यु हो गयी तथा कुछ लोग घायल हो गये। घटना की व्यापकता और पारदर्शिता सुनिश्चित करने हेतु न्यायमूर्ति श्री वृजेश कुमार श्रीवास्तव (द्वितीय) (सेवानिवृत्त), उच्च न्यायालय, इलाहाबाद की अध्यक्षता में तीन सदस्यीय न्यायिक जॉब आयोग का गठन किया गया है जिसके सदस्य निम्नवत हैं:

- श्री वृजेश कुमार श्रीवास्तव (द्वितीय) मा० न्यायमूर्ति (से.नि.) उच्च न्यायालय, इलाहाबाद (अध्यक्ष)
- श्री हेमन्त राव (सेवानिवृत्त, आईएएस) (सदस्य)
- श्री भवेश कुमार सिंह (सेवानिवृत्त, आईपीएस) (सदस्य)

इस आयोग के गठन का उद्देश्य हाथरस भगदड़ घटना की पूरी तरह से जाँच करना और भविष्य में ऐसी घटनाओं की पुनरावृत्ति को रोकने के लिए सुझाव देना है। आयोग सभी संबंधित जानकारी/दस्तावेज साक्ष्य रिकॉर्ड आदि की जाँच करेगा ताकि सभी संबंधित पक्षों के लिए न्याय और उत्तरदायित्व सुनिश्चित किया जा सके। जॉब आयोग को निम्नलिखित बिन्दुओं को संदर्भित करते हुए जाँच आख्या दो माह के अन्दर पूर्ण कर प्रस्तुत करने का निर्देश दिया गया है।

(क) कार्यक्रम के आयोजकों द्वारा, जिला प्रशासन द्वारा प्रवृत्त अनुमति एवं उल्लिखित शर्तों के अनुपालन की जाँच करना।

(ख) यह घटना कोई दुर्घटना है अथवा कोई षडयंत्र या अन्य कोई सुनियोजित आपराधिक घटना की संभावना के पहलुओं की जाँच करना।

(ग) जिला प्रशासन एवं पुलिस द्वारा कार्यक्रम के दौरान मीडिया नियंत्रण और कानून व्यवस्था बनाए रखने हेतु किए गए प्रबंध एवं उनसे संबंधित पहलुओं की जाँच करना।

(घ) उन कारणों और परिस्थितियों का अभिनिश्चय करना जिसके कारण उक्त घटना घटित हुई।

(ङ) भविष्य में इस प्रकार की घटना की पुनरावृत्ति रोकने के संबंध में सुझाव देना।

उपरोक्त सन्दर्भ में इस मामले से परिचित, प्रभावित व्यक्तियों, अन्य सार्वजनिक संगठनों से यह अपेक्षा की जाती है कि वह इस मामले के संबंध में जो जानकारी रखते हैं, को अपने अभिकथन के रूप में सूचना प्रकाशित होने के 15 दिन के भीतर इस आयोग के कार्यालय के पते या सूचना के अन्त में दिया गया है। पर डाक से ई-मेल से या व्यक्तिगत रूप से उपस्थित हो कर प्रस्तुत कर सकते हैं। यह भी स्पष्ट किया जाता है कि ऐसे अभिकथन किसी न्यायिक कार्यवाही में उन व्यक्तियों या संगठनों के विरुद्ध प्रयुक्त नहीं किए जायेंगे। जॉब आयोग का पता-

- दूरभाष नं०-0522-2200595, ईमेल: hathras.nyayikaayog@up.gov.in
- डाक पता: त्रिसदस्यीय न्यायिक जॉब आयोग कमरा नं-103, प्रथम तल, विकास भवन, लखनऊ, उत्तर प्रदेश-226001
- व्यक्तिगत रूप से आयोग के सभासद प्रस्तुत हो कर

आयोग के आदेश से
सचिव
अंकित कुमार
(सचिव)

तीन सदस्यीय न्यायिक जॉब आयोग
लखनऊ

UP 217294 Dt. 10.07.2024
Website: www.upgoc.nic.in

Govt. of Bihar
BIHAR STATE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD
A Govt of Bihar Undertaking
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE E-BIDDING INVITATION
TENDER NO. 10/E-TENDER/ BSTDC/SBD/2024-25
File No. 83/Engg/2024/866/engg/24
(Through e-procurement mode only - www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in)

- Bihar State Tourism Development Corporation Limited (BSTDC), a nodal agency for executing tourism infrastructure projects in the state of Bihar, India, intends to execute tourism infrastructure projects at its tourism potential locations.
- Bihar State Tourism Development Corporation Ltd. (BSTDC Ltd) invites sealed bids from eligible experienced Firms/Contractors/ Agencies/ Bidders for execution of works as given below :-

SL. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost (in Lac)	Bid Processing fees (Beltron)	Bid Document Cost	Bid Security (EMD) (in Lac)	Contract Duration
1.	CONSTRUCTION OF OFFICE BUILDING FOR BSTDC BEHIND HOTEL KUTILYA VIHAR, DAROGA PRASAD RAI PATH, PATNA.	Rs-2676.098	Rs-5,900.00	Rs-10,000.00	Rs-36.761	18 Months

- Date of inviting tender : Date- 08.07.2024
- Date of downloading of bid document : From 30.07.2024 to 07.08.2024 up to 3:00PM. Through website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in only
- Place & Date of Pre-bid meeting : Date 05.08.2024 Time 03:00PM. (Office of Chief Engineer B.S.T.D.C. Patna)
- Last date and time for receipt on eproc2 : Date 08.08.2024 up to 3:00PM
- Last date and time for receipt of hard copy of EMD or other document (if any) : Date 09.08.2024 up to 3:00PM
- Time and date of opening technical bids : Date 09.08.2024 Time 3:30PM Through website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in
- Time and date of opening of financial bids : To be communicated later on
- Place of opening of bid : Through website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in
- Period of bids validity : 120 days
- Officer inviting bids : Executive Engineer, BSTDC Ltd.

13. Further details of works can be obtained from the office of Executive Engineer for clarification, regarding the e-tendering process, please contact e-Proc2.0, Helpdesk, mjunction services limited RJ Complex, 2nd Floor, Canara Bank Campus, Khajpura, Ashiana Road, P.S. - Shastri Nagar, Patna 800 014, Bihar, Toll Free Number: 1800 572 6571, Email Id: eproc2support@bihar.gov.in

14. The Amount of B.O.Q may increase or decrease.

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

Executive Engineer
BSTDC Ltd, Patna.

PR. No. 003682 (B & C) 2024-25

नशे की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार।

Govt. of Bihar
BIHAR STATE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD
A Govt of Bihar Undertaking
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE E-BIDDING INVITATION
RE - TENDER NO. 11/E-TENDER/ BSTDC/EPC/2024-25
File No. 73/Engg/2024/866/engg/24
(Through e-procurement mode only - www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in)

- Bihar State Tourism Development Corporation Limited (BSTDC), a nodal agency for executing tourism infrastructure projects in the state of Bihar, India, intends to execute tourism infrastructure projects at its tourism potential locations.
- Bihar State Tourism Development Corporation Ltd. (BSTDC Ltd) invites sealed bids from eligible experienced Firms/Contractors/ Agencies/ Bidders for execution of works as given below on EPC mod :-

SL. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost (in Lac)	Bid Processing fees (Beltron)	Bid Document Cost	Bid Security (EMD) (in Lac)	Contract Duration
1.	VISHNU PAD WALKWAY COM SHED BUILDING, TENSILE STRUCTURES, ALTERNATIVE APPROACH TO THE TEMPLE, AND BUS DEPOT AT GAYA.	Rs-5774.21	Rs-5,900.00	Rs-10,000.00	Rs-67.75	24 Months

- Date of inviting tender : Date- 08.07.2024
- Date of downloading of bid document : From 30.07.2024 to 09.08.2024 up to 3:00PM. Through website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in only
- Place & Date of Pre-bid meeting : Date 06.08.2024 Time 03:00PM. (Office of Chief Engineer B.S.T.D.C. Patna)
- Last date and time for receipt on eproc2 : Date 10.08.2024 up to 3:00PM
- Last date and time for receipt of hard copy of EMD or other document (if any) : Date 12.08.2024 up to 3:00PM
- Time and date of opening technical bids : Date 12.08.2024 Time 3:30PM Through website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in
- Time and date of opening of financial bids : To be communicated later on
- Place of opening of bid : Through website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in
- Period of bids validity : 120 days
- Officer inviting bids : Executive Engineer, BSTDC Ltd.

13. Further details of works can be obtained from the office of Executive Engineer for clarification, regarding the e-tendering process, please contact e-Proc2.0, Helpdesk, mjunction services limited RJ Complex, 2nd Floor, Canara Bank Campus, Khajpura, Ashiana Road, P.S. - Shastri Nagar, Patna 800 014, Bihar, Toll Free Number: 1800 572 6571, Email Id: eproc2support@bihar.gov.in

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

BSTDC, Beorchand Patel Path, Patna - 800 001
[Tel: 0612-2506219, 2225411, 2506218] (fax) Email: contactbstdc@gmail.com

Executive Engineer
BSTDC Ltd, Patna.

PR. No. 003680 (B & C) 2024-25

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

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EDUCATION/ADMISSIONS

Somerville Pre Schools
(Administered By : Lott Carey Baptist Mission In India)
REGISTRATION FOR ADMISSION TO
NURSERY 2025 - 2026

As per National Education Policy, age as on 01st April 2025 is as follows:

- Pre School 1 (Nursery) 3+
- Pre School 2 (LKG) 4+
- Pre School 3 (UKG) 5+

Registration Forms are to be filled in Online only from 15th July, 2024 to 27th July, 2024

Please visit the websites of the respective Somerville Schools for further details.

- SOMERVILLE PREPARATORY SCHOOL**
D-89, Sector - 22, NOIDA, U.P. 201301
Website: www.somervillenoida.in
- SOMERVILLE PREPARATORY SCHOOL**
Block - H, Sector - Alpha II, Greater NOIDA, U.P. 201310
Website: www.somervillegreaternoida.in
- SOMERVILLE INTERNATIONAL PREP. SCHOOL**
A-07, Sector 132, Expressway, NOIDA, U.P. 201301
Website: www.somervilleinternational.in

Sd/- (Thomas T. Roy)
Secretary/Treasurer (Lott Carey Baptist Mission in India)

MEWAR INSTITUTE
Affiliated to C.C.S. University, Meerut
App. by Bar Council of India, N.Delhi
Admission 2024-25 Estd 1997
Premier Institute in NCR

LLB	BA-LLB
BBA	BCA
B.Com	B.Ed

Other courses available:
B.Sc (Math), M. Sc. (Bio-Tech), LLM, BTC

Sec-4C, Vasundhra, Ghaziabad
0120-2698218/19/20, 9818511145

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
PROPERTY BEARING NO. 1, MUNIRKA MARG, VASANT VIHAR, NEW DELHI 110057.

Be it known to all that THE INDIAN SOCIETY OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS, a Society Registered Under the Societies Registration Act, XXI of 1860, having its Registered Office at C-37 Connaught Place, New Delhi, India - 110001, through its Managing Director Shri Sunil Venkoba Rao Suthrave, duly authorized vide Resolution Passed by circular resolution by the Members of the Governing Body held on 04.06.2024, (say 'Owner') representing itself to be the sole, absolute and exclusive owner of Entire Freehold Plot of Land bearing No. 1, Munirka Marg, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi-110057, measuring 1280 Sq. Yds., with all rights of ownership, possession, privileges, easements and appurtenances thereto (say 'Said Property'), had agreed to sell and transfer the same to my client free from all encumbrances, charges, liens, mortgages, prior agreements etc.

General public is hereby informed that any other person(s)/ institution/ government authorities or any other third party having any sort of right, claim, title or interest of any nature whatsoever in the said property or any part thereof, under and by virtue of any deed(s)/document(s)/prior agreement(s) or otherwise is required to put forth his/her/its claim with the undersigned, within 10 days of publication of this notice alongwith documentary proof thereof, failing which the same shall not be binding on my client and my client shall proceed to complete the transaction as bonafide purchaser, free from all encumbrances whatsoever and no claim of whatsoever shall be entertained thereafter.

NARESH GUPTA (Advocate)
C-75, Greater Kailash Part-I, New Delhi-110048. Tel. 29235175, 40568077

LOST & FOUND

LOST ORIGINAL (i) Sale Deed dated 1st December, 2004 duly registered in the office of the Sub Registrar, New Delhi on 1st December, 2004 as Document No. 1574 in Book No. 1 Volume No. 4498 on Pages from 1 to 19 executed by Mr. S.P. Malik son of Mr. S.D. Malik through his General Power of Attorney Mr. Ajit Jaju (as Vendor therein) and Mr. Jaiju Builders, a Proprietorship Firm, having its office at 6-D, Sainik Farms, New Delhi through its Proprietor Mr. A.K. Jaju (as Confirming Party therein) in favour of (1) Shri Sanjay Goyal son of late Shri B.R. Goyal and (2) Mrs. Raman Goyal wife of Mr. Sanjay Goyal (as Vendee therein) and (ii) General Power of Attorney duly registered in the office of the Sub Registrar, New Delhi on 10th March, 2004 as Document No. 2804 in Book No. 4 Volume No. 2112 on Pages from 1 to 2 executed by Mr. S.P. Malik in favour of Shri Ajit Kumar Jaju, in respect of Property bearing No. 5-401, Greater Kailash Part-I, New Delhi. Necessary online Police Complaint with Chandigarh Police has also been filed/ lodged vide L.A.R. No. 2024/020319, Serial No. 164569 dated 10th July, 2024. By way of this Public Notice it is notified that if any Person, Bank, NBFC, financial institution, governmental/ statutory or non-statutory authority/ agency, tax or any other department or any other entity has or claims any rights, title, interest, lien, demand, charge or claim of any nature as owner or on the basis of aforesaid lost documents or otherwise by way of possession, mortgage, surety, guarantee, gift, inheritance, agreement, MOU, arrangement, purchase, HUF, lease, license, understanding, etc. in respect to the above captioned property or in part thereof and/or against the aforesaid Owner and/or has any sort of dispute/ litigation or otherwise has any objection for its absolute sale/ transfer/ conveyance to my Client, then, such Person, Bank, NBFC or any other entity, etc. should notify the same to the undersigned forthwith alongwith valid Documentary Proof of such claim, dispute, encumbrance etc. within a period of 7 (Seven) days from the date of publication of this Notice, failing which it will be deemed that the above captioned property and my Client shall proceed further with the transaction as bona fide purchaser and any alleged claim and/or objection raised thereafter shall be treated as invalid, given-up, waived and forsaken and the same shall not be binding upon my Client.

Gaurav Sachdeva (Advocate)
C-21, Malviya Nagar, ND-17
Ph. 011-45532238, 981006297

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public is informed in general that I have sold my vehicle Ritz ZXI Car vide registration number HR26AZ6330, Chassis No. MA3EDKD1500143031 and Engine No. 4008134, to CarDekho on August 15, 2022. However, till date CarDekho has not transferred the car out of my name. I have lodged a police complaint regarding the same (Complaint No. 1322703240 dated 10/04/2024) at my local police station (No.10, G Block, DLF Ph-1, Gurugram, Haryana, Pin-122001). Through this notice I inform everyone that I will not be liable for any incident if it happens with the car and CarDekho and the persons whom they sold it will be responsible for the same. Please feel free to contact me at 9971806810 (E mail ambikakcm@arwalis.in)

Ambika Agarwal
31, Kachnar Marg, Near Silver Oak Apartments, DLF Phase-I, Gurugram-122002 (Haryana)

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LOST & FOUND

L. SHYAM Sundar Sharma, have lost my High School (roll no. 150702, year 1977), Intermediate (roll no. 123222, year 1979), UP Board certificate & marksheet; B.Sc (roll no. 72054 year 1983) & B.Ed (roll no 1895 year 1985) marksheet & degrees of Rohilkhand University, Bareilly, UP (enrollment no. 79510). If found, please contact: 836162988.

LOST & FOUND

I. RAJAN Manchanda 5/0 Sh. Heera Lal Manchanda Have Lost Original Conveyance Deed Vide Vaska No. 2954 dated 04/06/1996 along with Original power of Attorney vide Vaska 1080 dated 01/03/2005 of Property No. B-570 Sushant Lok Phase-I, Gurgaon Haryana. Finder may Contact 98100379830

I. RAJIV Lochan, R/o 76L, Neelkanth Apartment, Sector-13, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have lost the Perpetual Lease Deed dated 27.02.1991, of Plot No. B-3/5, Sector-16, Rohini, Delhi-110089, which was duly registered as Document No.2044, in Addl. Book No.1, Volume No.6658, on pages 190 to 195 on dated 12.03.1991 in the office of the Sub-Registrar-I, Delhi. NCR has been lodged vide LR No. 1856892 on dt. 29/06/2024 at Crime Branch Delhi. Founder, please return it to the above-mentioned address.

LOST & FOUND

I. M. Tara Kumar, D/o: Mr. Rohit Kumar, R/o: W-136, G-K-1, N-D-110048, have lost the Original Builder Buyer Agreement alongwith other documents of the Property, Flat No. 14, 4th Floor, 77, Sanchi Building, which is in name of Mrs. Krishna Rani Kumar, Mrs. Santosh Kumar, Mrs. Kamlesh Kumar & Mrs. RajRani Chugh, Finder, Contact : Mr. Rohit Kumar 9811004053.

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

Entire Second Floor with 50% (Half) Terrace Rights (Front Portion) of Property bearing No. S-401, measuring 300 Sq. Yds., situated at Greater Kailash Part-II, New Delhi 110048, alongwith proportionate undivided, indivisible and impartible and freehold ownership rights/ share in the plot of land underneath the property. Be it known to all that Smt. Raman Goyal W/o Shri Sanjay Goyal, by representing herself as absolute owner of the above captioned Property, has agreed to sell/transfer the same to my Client, free from all encumbrances whatsoever, vide written agreement. The original Sale Deed dated 01/12/2004 duly registered as Doc. No. 15374 in Book No. 1 Vol. No. 4498 on Pages from 1 to 19 executed in favour of (1) Shri Sanjay Goyal son of late Shri B.R. Goyal and (2) Mrs. Raman Goyal wife of Mr. Sanjay Goyal and GPA duly registered on 10/03/2004 as Doc. No. 2804 in Book No. 4 Vol. No. 2112 on Pages from 1 to 2 executed by Shri S.P. Malik in favour of Shri Ajit Kumar Jaju, in respect above captioned property are reported to be lost and/or misplaced somewhere and the same are not traceable. Police Report/ Complaint with Chandigarh Police has also been filed/ lodged vide LAR No. 2024/020319, Serial No. 164569 dated 10th July, 2024. By way of this Public Notice it is notified that if any Person, Bank, NBFC, financial institution, governmental/ statutory or non-statutory authority/ agency, tax or any other department or any other entity has or claims any rights, title, interest, lien, demand, charge or claim of any nature as owner or on the basis of aforesaid lost documents or otherwise by way of possession, mortgage, surety, guarantee, gift, inheritance, agreement, MOU, arrangement, purchase, HUF, lease, license, understanding, etc. in respect to the above captioned property or in part thereof and/or against the aforesaid Owner and/or has any sort of dispute/ litigation or otherwise has any objection for its absolute sale/ transfer/ conveyance to my Client, then, such Person, Bank, NBFC or any other entity, etc. should notify the same to the undersigned forthwith alongwith valid Documentary Proof of such claim, dispute, encumbrance etc. within a period of 7 (Seven) days from the date of publication of this Notice, failing which it will be deemed that the above captioned property and my Client shall proceed further with the transaction as bona fide purchaser and any alleged claim and/or objection raised thereafter shall be treated as invalid, given-up, waived and forsaken and the same shall not be binding upon my Client.

Gaurav Sachdeva (Advocate)
C-21, Malviya Nagar, ND-17
Ph. 011-45532238, 9891317238

PUBLIC NOTICE

Entire Property bearing No. 25, measuring 216 Sq. Yards, Part of Khasra No. 59, situated in the Revenue Estate of Village Himayunpur, Colony known as Arjun Nagar, New Delhi-110029. Be it known to all that Smt. Jasvinder Kaur, daughter of Shri Mohinder Singh and wife of Shri R.S. Kataria, representing herself to be the sole and absolute / lawful owner and in peaceful physical possession of the Subject Property, has agreed to sell the Subject Property to my Clients, free from all encumbrances, charges, lien, mortgages etc., vide written Agreement To Sell and has also received substantial advance money from my Clients. Any person(s), Association, Company, Firm, Bank, Financial Institution and any Legal Entity having any sort of right, claim, title or interest in the Subject Property, may put forth his/her/its claim to the undersigned with supporting documentary proof, within 15 (fifteen) days from the publication of this notice, failing which it shall be presumed that the Subject Property is free from all sorts of encumbrances, charges, lien etc. and my Client's shall proceed to complete the transaction, as bonafide purchaser/s and further any such claim raised thereafter shall not be binding upon my client in any manner whatsoever.

AMIT V. AWASTHI (Advocate)
Supreme Court of India
D-36, Pamphos Enclave, ND-48
Ph. 011-45532238, 9891317238

PUBLIC NOTICE

Entire Mezzanine Floor an Entire Second Floor of Property Bearing No. E-31, Measuring 200 Sq. Yards, situated at Hauz Khas Market, New Delhi-110016. Be it known to all that Mrs. Nirdosh Kaur Gill, wife of late Shri Jaiwant Singh Gill, representing herself to be the sole and absolute / lawful owner and in peaceful physical possession of the Subject Property, has agreed to sell the Subject Property to my Client/s in writing, free from all encumbrances, charges, lien, mortgages etc. and has also received substantial advance money from my Client/s. Any person(s), Association, Company, Firm, Bank, Financial Institution and any Legal Entity having any sort of right, claim, title or interest in the Subject Property, may put forth his/her/its claim to the undersigned with supporting documentary proof, within 15 (fifteen) days from the publication of this notice, failing which it shall be presumed that the Subject Property is free from all sorts of encumbrances, charges, lien etc. and my Client's shall proceed to complete the transaction, as bonafide purchaser/s and further any such claim raised thereafter shall not be binding upon my client in any manner whatsoever.

AMIT V. AWASTHI (Advocate)
Supreme Court of India
D-36, Pamphos Enclave, ND-48
Ph. 011-45532238, 9891317238

FAME-III may encourage charging, cut subsidies

The scheme may set aside up to ₹2,000 crore to encourage charging networks

Alisha Sachdev
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NEW DELHI: The upcoming FAME-III scheme to encourage clean transport may give a lift to charging networks, even as the Centre looks to slowly reduce the hefty vehicle subsidies that fuelled an EV revolution in India. According to two officials with direct knowledge of the matter, the scheme may set aside up to ₹2,000 crore to encourage charging networks, critical for wider adoption of electric vehicles.

Alongside, the next edition of FAME will hack subsidies for all EV categories, as part of a plan to taper all federal subsidies on EVs. FAME is short for Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric and Hybrid Vehicles in India. The second edition of FAME ended in March this year.

"Subsidies have to come down now across the board. They will be lower than in



FAME-III may offer subsidies at the same levels as Electric Mobility Promotion Scheme, or lower.

FAME-II," one of the two people said, adding, "Not everyone in the government is in agreement on whether electric four-wheelers should be offered incentives under FAME-III."

Meanwhile, officials at the heavy industries ministry are discussing a national charging policy, though its scope and methodology are not clear, since power is a state subject. The ministry has also held talks with government and industry officials as well as the prime minister's office to chalk out a comprehensive action plan for building a charging infrastructure, seeking feedback on

whether they need to be installed along highways or in cities, the standards they need to follow, and the type of output required. "In our base case scenario, we have built in the continuation of current reduced incentives till the end of FY25 and progressively nil incentives in FY26. We have seen historically that once subsidy reduces, volumes get impacted for a couple of months and then come back," Jay Kale, senior vice-president at equity research firm Elara Capital said.

After FAME-II concluded, the government rolled out Electric Mobility Promotion Scheme

(EMPS), a ₹500 crore scheme solely for electric two- and three-wheelers that will run till July 2025. According to the people cited above, FAME-III may offer subsidies at the same levels as EMPS, or lower.

Queries emailed to ministries of heavy industry and finance remained unanswered.

Industry bodies such as SIAM have pushed for battery swapping incentives under FAME-III, but there is no decision in this respect. Additionally, the government is also likely to consider harmonizing standards for FAME & PLI in the new iteration of the scheme.

The Union cabinet is yet to clear FAME-III, and hence, it may not feature in the Union budget on 23 July, the people cited above said on the condition of anonymity. The final contours of the scheme are still being worked out.

A top executive with an electric two-wheeler maker said the "industry will not be disappointed" with the limited incentives under consideration. Under EMPS, the maximum incentive available for an e-two-wheeler is ₹10,000 per, down from ₹60,000 earlier.

Goyal proposes action plan to boost economy

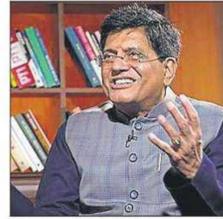
Rajeev Jayaswal
rajeev.jayaswal@htlive.com

NEW DELHI: Commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal on Wednesday proposed a five-point action plan to India Inc to help make India the world's third largest economy in the next three to three-and-a-half years while ensuring basic necessities of life for every citizen.

Asking the industry to become more proactive in making India an inclusive economy and the foremost investment destination, he said that reform must impact and make citizen's life "easier [and] better, ensuring that every young boy or girl, man or woman in the country has a bright future ahead."

"I can give you a small, 5-point agenda to delve upon—how can we converge your [the industry's] interests... with national goals," he said, expounding the first point to nudge India Inc in helping the government to achieve its "national goal" of ensuring a "better quality of life" for the 140-crore Indians along with growing businesses.

He said that the corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities of companies must positively impact the last man at the bottom of the pyramid. "So your participation in all of these



Piyush Goyal, commerce and industry minister.

Vigyan and Jai Anusandhan".

The fourth is quality. Indian industry must produce products of high quality that can compete internationally, he said. In the last couple of years, the government has been focusing on raising quality standards of goods produced in India through hundreds of quality control orders (QCOs). QCOs not only help in making Indian industry globally competitive but also check dumping of low-quality, cheaper items from other countries.

efforts will truly help not only your businesses, but the entire ecosystem around, including MSMEs [micro, small and medium enterprises]," he said. He was addressing corporate honchos at FICCI's national executive committee meeting in New Delhi.

His second plea to the industry was to encourage "Atmanirbhar Bharat" or self-reliant India. "It really bothers me" when some people resort to imports just to save a small amount of money even as similar goods and services are available in India, he said.

"Third, as this government is deeply, deeply committed, and in this 3rd term also wants to focus on innovation and R&D in a big way," he said referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's mantra - "Jai jawan, Jai kisan, Jai

Goyal's fifth point for the industry was sustainability. He asked the industry to adopt clear technologies for a better future. "I hope we can work in partnership to encourage electric mobility," he said. Goyal praised PM Modi's achievement on being conferred the 'Order of St Andrew the Apostle', the highest civilian award in Russia. Saying that this demonstrates how India has been able to navigate international relations with dexterity. He asked the industry to work with the government to take India-Russia bilateral trade to \$100 billion by 2030.

Goyal said he would be visiting Switzerland to work towards the \$100 billion foreign direct investment (FDI) goal under the recently signed India-EFTA Trade & Economic Partnership Agreement.

72% OF SMBs ARE INVESTING IN ADVERTISING, FINDS STUDY

Gaurav Laghate
gaurav.laghate@livemint.com

MUMBAI: Seven in every 10 small and medium businesses (SMBs) in India are now investing in advertising to fuel growth in domestic and global markets, according to a new study.

As many as 72% of Indian SMBs are investing in advertising, with 85% reporting success in acquiring new customers, showed the study conducted by market-research agency Opinium for Amazon Ads, advertising arm of the e-commerce giant Amazon.com Inc.

The study, which surveyed 300 Indian SMBs, along with businesses across several countries, also found that 28% of them decided against advertising because of prohibitive costs and unsatisfactory returns.

"As a digital-first and consumer-first brand, effectively communicating our message is critical. Despite our limited budgets, which make Above The Line (ATL) advertising out of reach, we focus on performance-oriented online efforts. Our primary platforms include Amazon, Google and Meta," said Tuskar Khurana, co-founder of Perfora, a dental-care company.

The path to advertising isn't without challenges. About 30% struggle with budget allocation and 36% find crafting compelling content to be their biggest hurdle.

"Typically, spending around 20% of our revenues on advertising is optimal; most new-age brands allocate between 20 and 40%. While there's a clear correlation between advertising and sales, the proportion isn't always consistent. We experience cycles. Generally, increasing our advertising spend tends to boost revenue, although the return on investment might take a hit," said Khurana.

The study also highlighted the role of advanced technologies in enhancing advertising efficacy, with over two-thirds of SMBs being optimistic about the improvements artificial intelligence (AI) can bring to their campaigns. Around 30% are already equipping their teams with AI capabilities.

Norfund, DEG in race for stake in IndiGrid platform

Utpal Bhaskar
utpal.b@livemint.com

NEW DELHI: Investment firms, including Norway's state-owned investment fund Norfund and German development finance institution DEG, are eyeing a stake in KKR & Co.-backed India Grid Trust's (IndiGrid) new power transmission platform in a deal expected to have an equity value of about \$250 million.



The platform will help India's ambitions to increase its renewable energy capacity.

British International Investment Plc., Beijing-headquartered Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), and Switzerland's responsAbility Investments AG are also looking to invest in the new platform from India's first listed power-sector infrastructure investment trust, said two people aware of the development.

IndiGrid's new electricity transmission platform will help India's ambitions to increase its renewable energy capacity and reduce its dependence on coal for power generation.

Infrastructure investment trusts, or InvTIs, manage income-generating infrastructure assets, typically offering investors a regular yield and a liquid method of investing in infrastructure projects.

"The talks are at a very initial stage with the percentage of stake sale yet to be decided. The development expertise will be housed within IndiGrid," said one of the people cited above, requesting anonymity.

Aventus Capital is running the fundraise for IndiGrid. IndiGrid manages assets worth about \$3.4 billion and also owns 41 power projects comprising 49 transmission lines, 15 substations, and 1.1GW of solar power-generation capacity.

Spokespersons for KKR, IndiGrid, and British International Investment declined comment. A DEG spokesperson in an

emailed response said, "For reasons of confidentiality, we cannot comment on any business activities in individual cases."

A Norfund spokesperson said the company doesn't comment on "market speculation" while Aventus Capital said it does not "comment on stories of this nature".

Queries emailed to the spokespersons of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank on Friday afternoon, and responsAbility on Monday afternoon remained unanswered.

India aims to increase its renewable energy capacity to 500GW by 2030, adding 50GW of green energy capacity annually.

The country currently has an installed renewable energy capacity of 180.79GW, including 73.31GW of solar and 44.73GW of wind-power capacity, out of a total power capacity of 444.75GW.

The additional renewable energy capacity generated from solar and wind farms will need an adequate electricity transmission network to connect to the national power grid. "To cater to the continued significant growth in renewable energy, India's electricity grids—transmission and distribution infrastructure—will require a significant amount of investment," Moody's Ratings said in a 6 June report.

Govt may not change disinvestment, monetisation target

Gulveen Aulakh
gulveen.aulakh@livemint.com

NEW DELHI: The government is likely to keep its revenue target from disinvestment and asset monetization in the upcoming Union Budget at around the same levels of ₹50,000 crore as in the interim Budget.

Two officials familiar with the government's thinking said a shift in strategy of not keeping a separate target for disinvestment and looking at receipts from dividends holistically, will continue.

This comes when receipts from dividends have risen sig-

nificantly in FY24, crossing budget estimates, on the back of a rally by listed public enterprises.

"Some of the transactions are ongoing, and not much has changed from the interim Budget; the approach to not have targets for divestment will continue," one of the officials said.

In the interim budget of February this year, the government moved away from the practice of setting revenue targets from disinvestment or stake sales in central public sector enterprises which the government would either partially or fully exit. A full exit, called strategic

RECEIPTS FROM DIVIDENDS HAVE BEEN HIGHER THAN BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THREE YEARS RUNNING

disinvestment, is where a CPSE is sold to a private company and government hands over management control.

The shift led to a change in tabulation of capital receipts in the budget with asset monetization and disinvestment bring

clubbed under the single head of "miscellaneous", contributing ₹50,000 crore. Dividends from CPSEs were kept separate with an estimated receipt of ₹48,000 crore.

For FY24, the Centre netted ₹32,507 crore, one-half of which came from disinvestment and the other half from asset monetization. This was higher than the budget estimate of Rs 30,000 crore.

Receipts from dividends have been higher than budget estimates for three years running. In FY24, the government earned ₹63,749.29 crore as PSU dividends, 26% above the

revised estimates of ₹50,000 crore and budget estimates of ₹43,000 crore. As of 10 July, no proceeds from disinvestment had come in, as per data issued by the department of investment and public asset management. Receipts from dividends, from stakes that government holds in various CPSEs, stood at ₹4,917.6 crore.

Disinvestment receipts are usually a slow trickle, with stake sales of minority shares via FPOs (follow on public offers) or a windfall when strategic sales go through giving the government a lump sum amount in one go.

New law for Big Tech in News

Gireesh Chandra Prasad
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NEW DELHI: India is considering a new law to ensure fair transactions between Big Tech and news publishers, taking cues from Australia and other nations that want companies such as Google and Meta to pay for using such content on their platforms.

The new law will be in addition to the proposed Digital Competition Bill, on which the government has completed public consultation, according to three persons with direct knowledge of the matter.

A parliamentary standing committee on finance led by Jayant Sinha had in 2022 proposed regulatory provisions to ensure news publishers can establish fair and transparent contracts with influential technology companies.

It was, however, not included in the Digital Competition Bill being steered by the ministry of corporate affairs, which seeks to establish 'dos and don'ts' for Big Tech to ensure fair competition in digital markets, explained one of the persons mentioned above.

"The proposal for ensuring a level playing field between news aggregators and news publishers is under consideration of the

ministry of information and broadcasting. The idea of evolving a separate law is being looked into," said a second person.

The I&B ministry is studying Australia's news media bargaining code and similar laws in the pipeline in other countries, this person added.

A legal expert who has handled competition matters in media and Big Tech sectors said a separate framework for ensuring fair deals between news businesses and digital platforms under the I&B ministry would also suffice.

"Merely the fact that there is a regulation in place has forced Big Tech to come to the negotiating table with news publishers in countries where these frameworks are in place, under the fear that they will be penalized for abusing their position if there is a complaint," said the expert, who spoke on the condition of not being named. "This has resulted in revenues of digital news publishers increasing by leaps and bounds."

Emails sent on 24 June to the I&B and corporate affairs ministries, the Competition Commission of India, Google, Microsoft and the Digital News Publishers' Association seeking comments remained unanswered.

Meta did not immediately reply to queries sent on Tuesday.

India and other nations are exploring the need for a legal framework to ensure fair contracts between news organizations and Big Tech.

Policy makers see a bargaining power imbalance between media organizations, which invest heavily in their news operations, and tech giants that enjoy an edge in the digital market connecting advertisement buyers and sellers.

The committee led by Sinha had proposed increased disclosures by the digital platforms and restrictions on their use of the data of news consumers.

The Digital News Publishers Association in India had told the committee that framed the Digital Competition Bill that it was in favour of forward-looking regulations for Big Tech to ensure a level playing field between large digital enterprises and news publishers, as per the report of the parliamentary committee.

Allen, PhysicsWallah cut operations as Kota cools

Devina Sengupta & Mansi Verma
devina.sengupta@livemint.com

MUMBAI: Allen Career Institute has slashed fixed salaries for its 4,000-plus faculty and administrative staff by 20-40%, multiple faculty members said, after the coaching giant in Kota saw 35-40% fewer students sign up this year.

Reliable Institute, a unit of Allen specializing in coaching for top engineering schools, too, has slashed faculty pay, while rival PhysicsWallah has reassigned teachers to centres outside Kota.

Coming just two years after a fierce war for faculty, the developments paint a grim picture for the once-booming coaching industry in the Rajasthan city,



The salary cut measure comes amid 35-40% slump in student enrolment.

where Allen is the biggest institute.

"On 17 June, a meeting of all faculty was called and chief executive officer Nitin Kukreja informed that the number of student admissions for the year has fallen from 131,000 last year

to 81,000 this year," said a senior physics teacher who has worked with Allen for more than a decade.

"Our compensation will from now include variable pay, which can range from 20-50% and will depend on the performance of

the individual, the company, and the centre," the teacher said on the condition of anonymity.

According to another physics teacher at Allen's unit Reliable, salaries of about 60 faculty members were reduced last month, in some cases by half.

Approximately 600 teachers wrote a joint letter to the institute earlier this month expressing their concerns.

"We have been a part of this prestigious organization since the competitors tried to woo us away or dilute the business you have built so passionately... We acknowledge that the Kota Centre is facing challenges such as declining enrolment this year... But this decision to cut salaries has shocked us. Salary cuts not only affect us financially but also affect our mental state," the letter said.

Mint has seen a part of the letter that was written in Hindi.

Allen did not immediately reply to queries sent late Tuesday. Allen is not the only one struggling with falling student admissions.

"PhysicsWallah has maintained the salaries of all faculty and staff at our Kota centres, despite a 15% expected decrease in admission numbers for academic year 2024-25 compared to 2023-24," said Ankit Gupta, chief executive officer of PhysicsWallah (PW) Offline.

"To address the reduction in student numbers, we have reassigned our faculty members to other centres across India, ensuring seamless faculty association," it added.

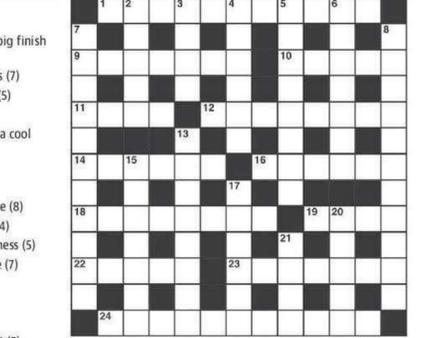
Unacademy did not respond to Mint's emails on salaries at its Kota operation.

{ THE CROSSWORDS }

CRYPTIC CLUES

- ACROSS**
- Fear landing accident may be the big finish (5,6)
 - Stew one has to stir round perhaps (7)
 - Wrong way to achieve a takeover (5)
 - Boast about one's apparel (4)
 - The whole lot is transplanted into a cool bed (8)
 - Cut off some of the beams? (6)
 - Maker of images (6)
 - Told but possibly not needing to be (8)
 - I'll enter race and end up a wreck (4)
 - I leave belligerent speech for business (5)
 - Repeat it's a matter of tear and tie (7)
 - A handy pointer (5,6)
- DOWN**
- A revolting individual seen in flight (5)
 - Crackers - or what they're required for? (4)
 - Describing an arrangement for all perhaps (6)
 - Mentally ill - needs new routine before cure starts (8)
 - The French female gets subordinate to do the washing (7)
 - They may go to pot (4,7)
 - It pays an actor to keep them up (11)
 - Stay for an execution (8)
 - Stop the music (7)
 - Outstanding work of art (6)
 - We object to long period in employment (5)
 - Anxious to show how cutting you can be? (4)

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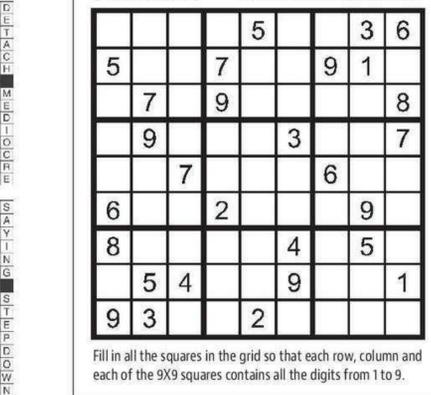
QUICK CLUES

- ACROSS**
- Mood (5,2,4)
 - Ostentatiously rich (7)
 - Slacken (3,2)
 - North German port (4)
 - Outline of film's plot (8)
 - Source (6)
 - Physical condition (6)
 - Regenald (8)
 - Grim fate (4)
 - Relating to the countryside (5)
 - Moroccan seaport (7)
 - Function very efficiently (2,5,4)
- DOWN**
- Provoke to anger (5)
 - Come face to face with (4)
 - Science of light and sight (6)
 - Feign illness to avoid duty (8)
 - Spontaneous (7)
 - Achieve remarkable results (4,7)
 - Of required standard (2,2,3,4)
 - Round (8)
 - Raging fire (7)
 - Prefix denoting against (6)
 - Bulb vegetable (5)
 - Hidden drawback (4)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS (16908)



{ SUDOKU } DIFFICULTY LEVEL ★★★★★



Fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, column and each of the 9x9 squares contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

{ WEATHER }

TEMPERATURE - HIGH - LOW

THURSDAY
Generally cloudy sky with Light rain
36°C | 28°C

FRIDAY
Generally cloudy sky with moderate rain
33°C | 27°C

SATURDAY
Generally cloudy sky with Light rain
33°C | 26°C

ALMANAC

Today is 11th July 2024
 • 4: Mahanarim, 1446
 • 20 Ashadha, Shukla Paksha, 05
 • Samrat 2081
 • Sunset: Thursday at 07:21 pm
 • Sunrise: Friday at 05:31 am
 • Moonset: Thursday at 10:52 pm
 • Moonrise: Thursday at 10:14 am

TEMPERATURE IN FOUR METROS

Delhi 36°C | 28°C
Mumbai 31°C | 27°C
Kolkata 33°C | 27°C
Chennai 36°C | 26°C



EURO 2024



Spain's Lamine Yamal curls in the equaliser against France in their Euro 2024 semi-final in Munich on Tuesday. Spain entered the final with a 2-1 victory.

Ball bender: Wonder kid Yamal and his strike towards greatness

The 16-year-old becomes the youngest to score at the Euros with a wondrous strike taking Spain to final in Berlin on Sunday

Ashish Magotra

ashish.magotra@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: It is never easy to pinpoint the moment when the greats first found their greatness. Was it in the backyard? Was it in school? Was it in youth football? Was it perhaps when no one was watching or was it perhaps on the big stage with the world (or at least all of Europe) watching? When is it that they knew...

We can ask these questions to many of the great athletes to have graced the sporting world and the answers might not be very obvious but we probably won't need to ask Lamine Yamal any of this.

The reason for that being the goal he scored against France in the semi-final of Euro 2024. The teenager, who turns 17 on July 13, moved inside in the 21st minute and picked up a loose ball

more than 25 metres from goal. The beauty was in the setup. With a drop of the shoulder, he sold Adrien Rabiot a dummy and stole some space for himself before unleashing a wondrous strike, sending the ball arcing into the top-right corner of Mike Maignan's goal. The xG (an xG model uses historical information from thousands of shots with similar characteristics to estimate the likelihood of a goal) of the shot, according to UEFA, was just 0.023.

In the U-17 Euro semi-final against France in 2023, he had scored a strikingly similar goal. So, everyone knew he could do it. But to do it in the semi-final of a major championship with your side already down a goal requires character and talent of a special kind. Sometimes the moment chooses you, and sometimes you choose the moment. The goal inspired Spain's 2-1 comeback win over France with Dani Olmo getting the winner in the 25th minute.

A legend in the making

Some goals stay with you for life. Some players too. If you close your eyes and give it a quick think, perhaps the Ronaldo 2.93m jump for a header (Real Madrid vs Man United in 2012/13) will come to



mind, the Messi goal against Getafe (2007), Mbappe's 38kph run against Argentina (2018 World Cup), Pele's pass to Carlos Alberto (1970 World Cup), Maradona against England in 1986, or even Zlatan Ibrahimovic's incredible 'propeller kick' goal against England in 2012.

The list isn't exhaustive by any means and everyone proba-

bly has a different one but Yamal's goal against France should have a good chance of being a natural entry into many of those lists. The occasion, the opponent, his age, his maturity all factors but most of all, his footballing intelligence.

As Patrice Evra, a former France captain, said during the broadcast on Sony Sports what

makes Yamal special isn't what he does, rather it is what he doesn't.

"I usually don't rate youngsters because I believe that they usually need at least five years to find some consistency," said Evra. "But what makes him special is him knowing when to hit the ball, when to pass, when to look for space."

This is a quality that speaks of footballing maturity way beyond his years. He arrived at FC Barcelona at the age of seven from his local club CF La Torreta and at La Masia, their famed academy, he raced through the age categories quicker than any other player of his generation.

He had barely started playing for the U19s when he began training with the first team after catching coach Xavi Hernandez's eye. And then, aged just 15 years, 9 months and 16 days, he made his debut for Barcelona in a 4-0 win against Real Betis, becoming the youngest player ever to represent Barca.

But all the help still doesn't explain his genius. The things he does are the ones you are supposed to gain with experience. As a 16-year-old, he could show us a glimpse of exuberance, a move of rare abandon, a fearless attitude and we'd all

call it fair. But he is the full package.

He got the goal but after that, he stuck very much to how the coach wanted him to play. Tracking back, making professional fouls and veteran plays.

"I'm thrilled that we are in the final, but we still haven't done the most important thing, which is win this," said Yamal after the game.

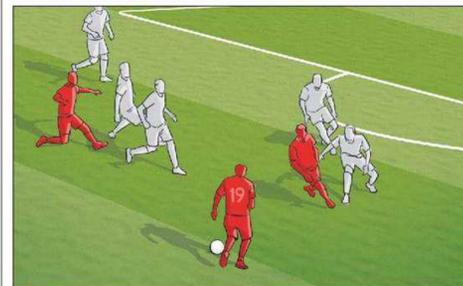
And the goal? "I was aiming for exactly the top corner where my shot went in. It was a feeling of pure elation."

The UEFA technical observer panel of Ioan Lupescu, David Moyes and Aitor Karanka spoke about his all-round game: "At such a young age, he works hard defensively and is a threat on the ball, impressing with his positioning and forming a productive partnership with Jesus Navas on the right."

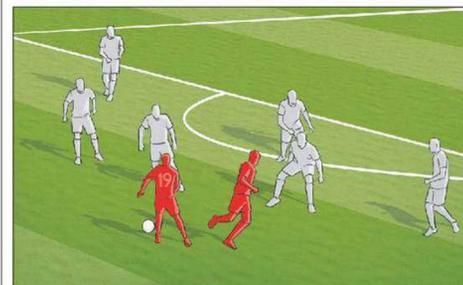
The data showed that he was joint-second among the Spain players for ball recoveries (four) and joint-first for tackles (three). He also made 18 pressures.

On Tuesday, Yamal made history as the youngest ever scorer in Euro history but, in time, many around the world will forget the statistic but remember the goal... the moment that helped Yamal find his greatness.

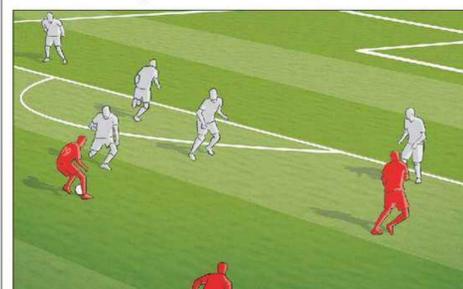
A goal for the ages



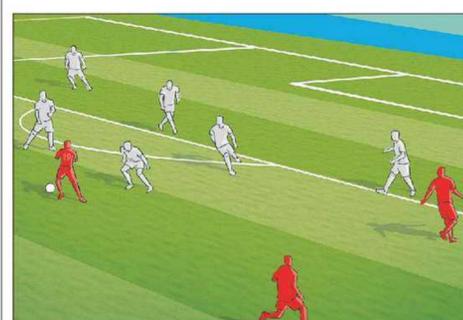
Lamine Yamal gets the ball around 25m away from the France goal in the 21st minute with Spain trailing 1-0.



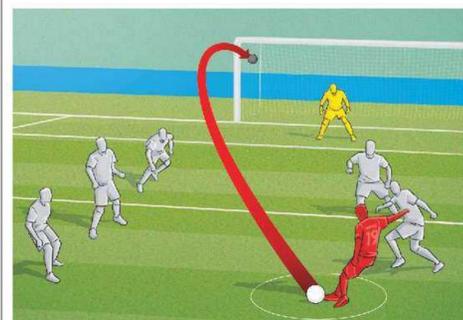
As Yamal moves to his left, team mate Alvaro Morata makes a run towards the right corner of the French box.



Yamal quickly sways towards his right as if to set one up for Morata. France midfielder Adrien Rabiot closes in.



With a quick drop of his shoulders, Yamal moves sharply towards his left completely wrong-footing Rabiot.



Spotting an opening, Yamal curls the ball in at the far post beating the outstretched hand of a diving French goalkeeper Mike Maignan. The xG for the attempt, according to UEFA, was just 0.023.

ILLUSTRATIONS: ASHISH DASS

The step was maybe a bit too high for us, accepts Deschamps

Agencies

sportsdesk@hindustantimes.com

MUNICH: France coach Didier Deschamps refused to point the finger at underperforming stars Kylian Mbappe and Antoine Griezmann after his team went out of Euro 2024 in the semi-finals to Spain on Tuesday.

"The responsibility is mine," Deschamps told reporters when asked about the impact on his team of poor performances at the tournament from both France's captain and vice-captain.

"Against a Spain team of that quality, you need to be at your very best," he added after France lost 2-1 in the last-four clash in Munich despite taking the lead through Randal Kolo Muani's early opener.

"I am not looking for excuses, but when we began our preparation for the tournament we didn't have Aurelien Tchouameni, Adrien Rabiot was injured, and (Dayot) Upamecano was not in the best shape.

"We dealt with the most pressing issues and tried to be as clinical as possible despite everything, but the step was maybe a bit too high for us even though we were lucky enough to open the scoring."

Kolo Muani's goal was the first

scored by a France player in open play at the tournament, but Spain hit back to equalise through Lamine Yamal before Dani Olmo struck what proved to be the winner. "Spain control the game really well. We were not direct enough even if we kept pushing until the end," Deschamps added after France lost a major tournament semi-final for the first time since Euro 96. "I can't reproach the players for not giving everything. They were not all at 100 percent in this tournament for different reasons."

Deschamps also singled out Olivier Giroud after the veteran 37-year-old striker, France's all-time top scorer, made his final appearance for his country as a late substitute against Spain.

Giroud made his France debut under previous coach Laurent Blanc and featured in Deschamps' first game in charge, a friendly against Uruguay in August 2012. "He is disappointed like all the players," Deschamps said. "He was there at the beginning, and he is the last one left from my first match against Uruguay in Le Havre. He went through some difficult spells but ended up being our top scorer. He is an example in terms of longevity and professionalism."

Rodri, the pilot who is giving Spain wings

Dhiman Sarkar

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KOLKATA: When the night was done for Jesus Navas, the bridge between Spain's golden generation and this, Rodri jogged up to him. The right-back, who had stepped in for the suspended Dani Carvajal, turned and saw Rodri acknowledging his contribution. In a European championship semi-final that had wonder goals and Kylian Mbappe, it wasn't a gesture that would make the highlights reel. Yet, it said so much.

Alvaro Morata is Spain's captain but Rodri is the paterfamilias. And hence the acknowledgement to Navas, his senior by 10 years, who took an early booking for the team to ensure Mbappe wasn't clear on goal and made overlapping runs. Hence also the praise for Lamine Yamal. Not, mind you, for the goal that planet is agog with - see it in slow-motion and it seems like Adrien Rabiot and William Saliba are swaying to music you can't hear - but for the teenager's "defensive commitment". According to Rodri, the way Yamal tracked back, helped the full back was "outstanding for a guy of his age."

For Rodri, these details matter. Calm, assured, he is Luis de la Fuente's representative on the pitch; the Spain coach calls



Spain's Rodri celebrates after the semi-final victory in Munich on Tuesday.

REUTERS

him the "perfect computer". When Spain were rattled by Georgia's goal against the run of play and struggling to cope with counter-attacks, Rodri stopped with the ball and gestured by bringing his hands down. Spain needed a reset, a pause and not another rush into the Georgia box which would again make them vulnerable to a break.

Soon after, Rodri scored and Spain were runaway winners.

"The biggest virtue a leader must have is to remain calm when there's a heavy storm," Rodri said, according to The Athletic, before the tournament began. In an interview to The Guardian, Rodri described his job as one who helps the game mature, "take it where you want

to be." If that means slowing things down, so be it. Rodri has some tradition to follow here. He is the latest in a line that has Sergio Busquets and the recently-retired Thiago Alcantara.

"Our idea of football is based on our self-assurance," De la Fuente has said. Rodri is central to that. The defensive solidity he provides helps wide players

Lamine Yamal and Nico Williams express themselves without disrupting the team's balance. "They (Spain) offer collective benefits of their individual qualities," De la Fuente has said. It showed in the way Morata tracked back to help the full backs and explains why Rodri said what he did about Yamal.

At 382 completed passes, Rodri has the most for Spain. It is less than what he would average at Manchester City but for Spain, he plays at the base of the midfield. Rodri had 23 goal contributions (14 assists) and 3633 passes, over 400 more than Lewis Dunk who was in second place, in the 2023-24 Premier League. Rodri was second on the list in 22-23 and third in 21-22.

His sense of space and positioning allows him to take defenders out of the equation consistently. With Emre Can and Ilkay Gundogan man-marking him and Fabian Ruiz, Rodri dropped into deep defence against Germany.

France will sit back because they have quick players who can surprise, Rodri had said before Tuesday's semi-final. So, all night Rodri plugged gaps and made tackles, providing the makeshift backbone a security blanket. And gave Ruiz the licence to move up.

As if swatting a fly, Rodri

bustled the ball off Aurelien Tchouameni early in the Munich night. Wonder how many in the world can do that to someone who has played 38 games for Real Madrid last term and was in his 36th international? Yamal had equalised but Dani Olmo hadn't put Spain ahead when Rodri stole from Randal Kolo Muani, France's only scorer from open play. When Mbappe broke free, Nacho went for the tackle secure in the knowledge that Rodri was double-teaming.

In the second half when Ousmane Dembele scooted up and tried to find Kolo Muani, it was Rodri who blocked the line of supply. Deep in stoppage time, Rodri dispossessed Theo Hernandez. Of Spain's 255 ball recoveries in the tournament, Rodri has made 31, as per UEFA.

"Spain control the game really well," said Didier Deschamps, the hat-tip to Rodri implicit in the France coach's comment.

After a 1-1 draw with Germany in the 2022 World Cup, then Spain coach Luis Enrique had this to say about Busquets: "People have been trying to retire Busquets for years but I want to convince him to play another World Cup!" That didn't happen but that Spain are not missing Busquets shows how good Rodri has been.

SPORT



Argentina enter Copa America final

EAST RUTHERFORD: Lionel Messi was on target as Argentina turned on the style to beat Canada 2-0 and reach Copa America final where they will look for a third straight major title. Julián Álvarez put the Albiceleste ahead in the 22nd minute and Messi redirected Enzo Fernández's shot in off the face of goalkeeper Maxime Crépeau in the 51st.

Next Gen football cup in August

KOLKATA: Punjab FC, East Bengal and Muthoot FA will be India's representatives in the fifth Next Gen Cup, a competition comprising academy teams from clubs in India, South Africa and the Premier League, which will be held in England from August 1 through 4. Aston Villa, Everton, Tottenham Hotspur and Crystal Palace will take part, as per a media release on Wednesday. The teams from India were chosen based on their show in the Reliance Foundation Development League. Punjab FC were winners, East Bengal runners-up and Muthoot FA third.

Injured Kosgei pulls out of Olympics

NAIROBI: Kenya's former marathon world record holder and Olympic silver medalist Brigid Kosgei has pulled out of the Paris Olympics because of injury. The 30-year-old Kosgei, who set a world record 2hrs 14min 04sec for the women's marathon in Chicago 2019, was hoping to make her second Olympic appearance after being named alongside defending champion Peres Jepchirchir and Hellen Obiri in the lineup.

In semis: Krejčíková turns her torrid season around

Rutvik Mehta

rutvik.mehta@htlive.com

MUMBAI: Across two months in four tournaments leading up to the French Open, Barbora Krejčíková lost four singles matches in a row. Over the last week at Wimbledon, she has won five. Things can change quickly in tennis; even though this season tested every ounce of the Czech's patience.

Krejčíková, seeded 31st, entered her first Wimbledon singles semi-final defeating 13th seed Jelena Ostapenko 6-4, 7-6(4) in the quarter-final on Wednesday in a clinical show of craft and experience. She will need to summon all that again on Thursday when she takes on the big-serving Elena Rybakina for a spot in the final.

A two-time Wimbledon doubles champion, this is the first time Krejčíková has gone this far in singles at the All England Club. And the first time the 28-year-old has made the singles last four of a Slam since becoming the French Open champion in 2021. She's been stopped thrice in the quarters since, most recently at this year's Australian Open that put the former world No. 2 on the brink of a re-entry into the top 10.

Post that, however, she endured a troubled few months on and off the court that dragged her out of the top 30. After backing up the run in Australia—she lost to eventual champion Aryna Sabalenka—with another quarter-final in Abu Dhabi, Krejčíková was sidelined with a back injury. Just being able to get out of her bed and go for walks took days, and some more to gently start training. Just as she started to gradually hit her strides again, she was struck down by a severe bout of flu.

For a player who doubles up her volume of tennis competing in both singles and doubles on the WTA tour and in Slams, not being able to get on court for more than two months was unusual. The bright side of that dull phase was getting the rare chance to chase



Czech Barbora Krejčíková celebrates after defeating Latvian Jelena Ostapenko in the quarter-final on Wednesday.

WIMBLEDON SEMI-FINAL LINE-UP

Women's singles (Thursday)	Men's singles (Friday)
■ Barbora Krejčíková (CZE31) vs Elena Rybakina (KAZ4)	■ Daniil Medvedev (RUS5) vs Carlos Alcaraz (ESP3)
■ Donna Vekić (CRO) vs Jasmine Paolini (ITA7)	■ Novak Djoković (SRB2) vs Lorenzo Musetti (ITA25)

her hobbies, like gardening and cooking. Her comeback dish, though, took some time to put together. She lost four matches on the trot across clay events in Stuttgart, Madrid, Strasbourg and Paris. From early Feb to late May when she exited the French Open, Krejčíková hadn't experienced the feeling of winning a match.

"It's tough because you see all the girls and they're playing well. They're going deep in tournaments and in the beginning when you're coming back, it's not really happening for you. You need to take more time and be more patient, which is difficult because you see the girls doing well," Krejčíková told WTA Insider last month. Krejčíková finally got the W she craved moving to grass in Birmingham, where she won two matches. That was again followed by two losses. Coming into this Wimbledon, therefore, few gave her the odds of digging a deep run.

"It was a very, very difficult period. It was actually super difficult even before this tournament," Krejčíková said on court after her win on Wednesday. "There have been many doubts from inside but also from the outside world, but I'm super happy that I never give up."

Krejčíková's showed her experience and ability to adapt tactically

in the clash of the former French Open champions. Ostapenko had a 5-2 record against the Czech, beating her in their previous three encounters. On the greens of London, Krejčíková changed things up. Instead of trying to win the baseline battle with the powerful Ostapenko, Krejčíková slowed the pace of the rallies off her racket. Out came the backhand slices, floating forehands, chips and blocks, and off it threw Ostapenko's ball-striking rhythm. It helped that her serving was superior (she won 81% points on the first serve), and the net play flawless courtesy her doubles game.

Krejčíková's style of play could also ask similar questions of the big-hitting Rybakina, who was clinical in her 6-3, 6-2 win over Elina Svitolina in the other quarter-final. Rybakina, the 2022 Wimbledon champion, is now the frontrunner for the title, but hasn't beaten Krejčíková in their two meetings.

Djokovic gets walkover
Novak Djokovic was given a free pass to the semi-final after his last-eight opponent, Australian Alex de Minaur, pulled out with a hip injury. In the semis, he will take on Italy's Lorenzo Musetti, who beat American Taylor Fritz 3-6, 7-6 (5), 6-2, 3-6, 6-2.

WFI asks SAI to hold fitness tests for Oly wrestlers

Avishkek Roy

avishkek.roy@htlive.com

NEW DELHI: The Wrestling Federation of India has written to Sports Authority of India asking that "medical tests" be done on the six Paris Olympics-bound wrestlers and their fitness assessed. WFI president Sanjay Singh has said the federation "will not be responsible for injuries sustained by any wrestler as no preparatory camp has been sanctioned by SAI".

"There was no camp for wrestlers for Olympic preparation and some wrestlers are training in India at their respective training centres, while others are training abroad under the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS)," Singh wrote in his letter to TOPS on Tuesday. "In light of the upcoming Olympics, it is crucial that all participating wrestlers undergo thorough medical testing before departing for the Games. This precaution is necessary to ensure that each athlete is in optimal health and fitness to compete at their best," he said in the letter, a copy of which is with HT. "Furthermore, I kindly request the TOPS division to coordinate and facilitate medical tests of the Olympic athletes at the earliest convenience. It is important to note that any injuries sustained by any wrestler during the Games or before the Games will not hold the federation responsible, as no preparatory camp has been sanctioned by SAI."

Vinesh Phogat, Anshu Malik, Antim Panghal, Reetika Hooda, Nisha Dahiya and Aman Sehrawat have qualified for Olympics. All of them are training on their own, either in their respective academies in India or abroad. When WFI announced the team in May, it said fitness will be monitored in events and national camp. However, no camp could be organised as wrestlers continued to train with personal coaches and support staff members. Three of the five women wrestlers skipped a multi-nation camp in Hungary, which was part of WFI's training



Anshu Malik.

plan, citing various reasons. National coaches have thus informed WFI that they are unable to assess the fitness of a few.

The case that prompted WFI to write to TOPS is Anshu Malik reportedly suffering a shoulder strain during training. She was even admitted to a hospital here but WFI was not kept in the loop. "WFI enquired from the wrestler and asked her to provide her discharge summary and fitness certificate. The reports were contradictory. In one report she was advised two weeks' rest from June 28. WFI contacted the hospital and received another report that said she is recovering fast and can start light training from July 4," said a person aware of the development. "She has been cleared for training in Japan by the TOPS division. Her parents are also travelling along."

Anshu has been training at her academy in Hissar since returning from a ranking series in Hungary. The 2021 former Worlds silver medalist had trained in Japan in February.

Only one physio cleared

It has been learnt that Vinesh Phogat's personal physio is the only physio for the wrestling squad cleared by Indian Olympic Association so far. Her Hungarian personal coach Woller Akos has also got Olympic accreditation. An IOA official said the physio is going with the team, so she will have to attend to others too. There will be three coaches with the team. An IOA official said IOA physios and masseurs from Games Village can be deployed as well.

SEARCH FOR MISSING



VANDANA

General Public is hereby informed that one woman **Namely: Vandana, W/o: Sh. Krishan Kalawat, R/o: Flat No. - 359, 4th Floor, E-2, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi, Sex: Female, Age: 41 Years, Height: 5'2", Complexion: Wheatish, Build: Medium, Face: Round, Wearing: Red Colour Suit and Sandals in Feet** has been missing since 29.06.2024 from her residence. In this regard **DD No. 60A, Dated: 30.06.2024** has been registered at **P.S.: Vasant Kunj (South), New Delhi.**

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing woman but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing woman. Please inform to the following.

Ph. No. 011-24368638, 24368641
Website: http://cbi.nic.in **SHO**
E-Mail ID: cbc@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639 **PS: Vasant Kunj (South), New Delhi**
DP/8931/SW/2024 **Ph: 011-26892530, 7065036225**

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



Sakshi

General public is hereby informed that a Girl namely **Sakshi D/o Ashok Arora R/o Village Nanakhe Post Office Chhawla, New Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped from her Home Since 29.06.2023 at 05:30 PM. In this regard, a **DD No. 115A, Dt. 29.06.2024** has been registered at **P.S.: Paschim Vihar West, Delhi.** The description of the missing Girl as under.

Age: 34 years, Height: 5'1" Complexion: Fair, Built: Medium, Face: Thin, Wearing: Pink Colour Suit salwar. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out her but no clue has come to light so far. Any person is having information or clue about this missing Girl may kindly inform to the following.

Ph. No. 011-24368638, 24368641
Website: http://cbi.nic.in **S.H.O**
E-mail: cbc@cbi.gov.in
Fax No. 011-24368639 **PS: Paschim Vihar West, Delhi**
DP/8688/OD/2024 **Ph No. 011-25268394**

UTTARAKHAND KHADI AVEM VILLAGE INDUSTRIES BOARD

THANO ROAD, BHOPALPANI, DEHRADUN
Letter No. 322 /Wool Tender/UKVIB/2024-25 Date: 08.07.2024

(E-TENDER NOTICE)

Uttarakhand Khadi Avem Village Industries Board invites sealed tenders from the Producers/Suppliers firms for supply of Australian Merino and harsil wool FOR Chamba/ Srinagar/ Almora Centres of UKVIB in Uttarakhand.

The tender documents can be obtained from UKVIB Head quarter Thano road bhopalpani, Dehradun by remitting Rs.2,360.00 in the form of DD in favour of Chief Executive Officer Uttarakhand Khadi Avem Village Industries Board on all working days from 11 July 2024. The tender form can also be downloaded from site <http://uktenders.gov.in> and can be submitted along with the cost of tender, in the form of DD in favour of Chief Executive Officer Uttarakhand Khadi Avem Village Industries Board payable at Dehradun.

Tender Schedule
• Tender Publishing Date - 11 July 2024 03:00 PM
• Last Date for submission of E-Tender Forms- 27 July 2024 05:00 PM
• Tender Opening (Technical bid)- 29 July 2024 02:00 PM

Chief Executive Officer
Uttarakhand Khadi Avem Village Industries Board Dehradun.

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB

PUNJAB WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE BOARD
NIT No.: 37/PWSSB D-2/BTI Date: 09.07.2024

The Department of Punjab W/S & Sewerage Board invites online bids for the following works:-

Sr. No.	Item	Amount in Lacs
1.	Providing House Service Connections by Augmentation and Rehabilitation of Water Supply System at Rampura Phul Punjab, under AMRUT 2.0 Scheme	Rs. 913.40
2.	Prov. Tap Connections to consumers, Edn. & Aug. of W/S System at Barwala for Distribution Network (AMRUT 2.0)	386.56
3.	Design, Build and Operation of 5.0 MLD STP including its 5 years O&M and Rehabilitation of Existing 8.70 MLD & 3.50 MLD STP at Ballamgarh Road and 5.70 MLD STP at Jallalabad Road and O&M of STPs for 5 years at Sri Muktsar Sahib. (AMRUT 2.0 Scheme)	Lumpsum

Sr. No.	Closing date & time	Opening date & time	Pre Bid Meeting date and time
Sr. No. 1 (11th Attempt)	05.08.2024 upto 11.00 AM	05.08.2024 upto 03.00 PM	23.07.2024 at 11.00 AM
Sr. No. 2 (5th Attempt)			24.07.2024 at 11.00 AM
Sr. No. 3 (4th Attempt)			25.07.2024 at 11.00 AM

For detailed log onto <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

Note: Any Corrigendum (s), to the Tender/RFP Notice shall be published on the above website only. Sd/- Executive Engineer Ph. W/S & Sew. Divn., No. 2, Bathinda 35513

Department of Culture Government of Madhya Pradesh

Dr. Vishnu Sridhar Wakankar Rastriya Samman 2022-23 & 2023-24 Proposal / Recommendation

Government of Madhya Pradesh (Deptt. of Culture) has instituted an annual National Award for Indian Archaeological Studies and Conservation of Cultural Heritage named Dr. Vishnu Shridhar Wakankar Rastriya Samman 2005-06.

The Samman carries an amount of Rs. two lakh, a citation and a plaque of honour. The award will be given to active Indian citizens/institutions for their constructive contribution, creativity and outstanding achievements in the field of conservation of archaeological heritage and archaeological culture. The norms for selection of recipient of the award will be high level creativity, outstanding achievements, continuous perseverance and undoubted and undisputed contribution in the respective field. It is mandatory that the recommended person/institution is creatively active at the time of selection. Over all construction of the entry recommended for the award would be taken into consideration. Recommendation can be sent in prescribed proforma as given below :-

- Name, Address, Telephone No.
- Recommendation
 - Book/ research/ important achievement in the field of archaeology
 - Name of the author/ researcher/ archaeologist.
 - Year of publication/ research/ achievement.
- Name of the institution/ person
 - Detail about the archaeologist/ researchers/ author or achiver in the field of archaeology
 - Date of birth
 - Present address with Tel No.
 - Important information/ achievements
 - Other published research work/ contribution/ list of work.

Date :- Name and Signature of the recommending person

Note :- 1- Please attach a separate sheet if required.

2- This form may please be sent to this office or Email- mparchaeology@gmail.com before 16 August, 2024 addressed to the Commissioner Archaeology, Archives and Museums, Banganga Road, Bhopal-462003 M.P. Nomination received will be put before a high power jury for consideration and selection. State Government have taken a policy decision that the recommendation of the selection panel would be binding on them.

Commissioner Archaeology, Archives & Museums Govt. M.P. Bhopal Tel. 0755-2553307

G-13255/24

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(Section 82 Cr. P.C.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that the accused person **Abu Talib S/o Late Nazbul R/o D-550 Buland Masjid Shashtri Park, Delhi, 2nd Address- Ward No 4, Farasat Bairgachhi Araria Bihar** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **FIR No. 46/19 U/S 379/411 IPC, PS Old Delhi Railway Station** and it has been returned to warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused person **Abu Talib** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Abu Talib**, has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that **Abu Talib in FIR 46/19 U/S 379/411 IPC, PS Old Delhi Railway Station** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **22.08.2024**.

By order
Shri. Anuj Kumar Singh
Add. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate,
Room No. 296A,
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi
DP/8848/RLY/2024

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 CrPC

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Pavneet Singh, S/o: Narender Singh, R/o: WZ-IIIrd B-133, Vishnu Garden, Tilak Nagar, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **FIR No. 138/2021, U/s 20/25/59/61/85 NDPS Act, PS. Tilak Nagar, New Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Pavneet Singh** cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Pavneet Singh** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant); Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Pavneet Singh** accused of **FIR No. 138/2021, U/s 20/25/59/61/85 NDPS Act, PS. Tilak Nagar, New Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **22.08.2024**.

By Order
Sh. Satvir Singh Lamba
ASJ Special Judge (NDPS) West Distt.,
Room No. 132, 1st Floor, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi
DP/8796/WD/2024
(Court Matter)

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male **Name: Unknown, S/o Unknown, R/o Unknown, Age: About 35-40 years, Height : 5'5", Face: Long, Built: Medium, Complexion: Shallow, wearing blue colour T-shirt and half pant** was found dead backside Taxi prepaid booth, Circulating Area, Old Delhi Railway Station on 30.06.2024 in this regard G.D. No. 14A dated 30.06.2024 has been lodged at P.S. Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone numbers.

SHO - P.S. Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi,
Tel. No. 011-23961522,
9971181938

DP/8910/Rly/2024

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that this person (depicted in the photo) **Name: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: about 38-40 years, Sex: Male, Height: 5'7", Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Oval, Built: Thin, Wearing: White color T-shirt, Dark Blue color Lower and Bared Feet, found at Footpath, In-front of shop No. 4029, Naya Bazar, Lahori Gate, Delhi** on 07.07.2024 under area of P.S. Lahori Gate, Delhi.

In this regard a **DD No. 40A, dated 07.07.2024** has been lodged at P.S. Lahori Gate, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far. If any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following.

SHO
P.S.- Lahori Gate, Delhi
DP/8955/N/2024 (UIDB) Ph: 011-23953776, 8750870122

Tricky task of tackling multiple skippers

Rasesh Mandani

rasesh.mandani@htlive.com

MUMBAI: Rahul Dravid worked with seven different captains in his first year as coach but that wasn't by design. As Indian cricket's playing group transitions towards a more youthful look, new coach Gautam Gambhir may again have to work with different captains for each format to begin with.

The Indian team will be playing 15 T20Is after the Zimbabwe series and before next year's ODI Champions trophy. While the focus remains on adding another ICC silverware to the cabinet, these T20Is will be an ideal opportunity to increase the feeder line for the next T20 World Cup; particularly now that Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and Ravindra Jadeja have bid goodbye to the format.

Hardik Pandya, whose first stint as India T20I captain proved to be a false dawn is finally set to get the responsibility with the future in mind. After a forgettable IPL as MI captain, Hardik came up with some match-winning contributions in India's T20 World Cup win and will be one of the captains for Gambhir to connect with. One understands, Hardik is among the few players who was sounded out by BCCI before Gambhir's appointment was made official.

The national selectors led by Ajit Agarkar will be meeting with Gambhir soon to pick squads for the T20I and ODI matches in Sri Lanka. With Rohit, Virat and Jasprit Bumrah

The key challenges ahead of Gambhir



- 1** Gautam Gambhir may have to work with different captains for each format to begin with
- 2** Utilise the 15 T20Is before the Champions Trophy to expand the feeder line
- 3** Gambhir abhors star culture and has critiqued it as a TV pundit. Focus will be on whether he plans to introduce any change in the dressing room culture
- 4** Work with future skipper Hardik to set a new T20 template in place
- 5** The biggest apprehension will be around Gambhir's interpersonal relationship with some of the players he has played with
- 6** Gambhir and chief selector Agarkar's strategic calls with team captains across formats may have a bearing on the tenure

on an extended rest. Hardik's workload will determine his future outlook. If a stop-gap captain is announced, KL Rahul, who last led India in an ODI series may lead. Gambhir and Rahul worked together as mentor-captain for Lucknow Super Giants.

After being out of T20 reckoning, Rahul's performances will be closely watched. While he has time on his hand for a T20 return, Rahul is also being seen as a captaincy backup for Rohit

in the Test format. It hasn't helped though that the stylish batter from Bengaluru has remained injury prone. Among the young crop, Shubman Gill is being earmarked for the job.

Gambhir's elevation to India's head coach position had been in the works for months. It wouldn't have mattered if Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) hadn't won the IPL title. The head coach interview process was meant to be nothing but a formality.

In Gambhir, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)

saw a man of stature and integrity - qualifications that carried more weight than format-specific expertise. Besides they weren't keen to hand over reigns to an overseas professional. With VVS Laxman unwilling to take the plunge, the options were limited.

Before it was made known to the world though, the biggest apprehension was around Gambhir's interpersonal relationship with some of the players

he has played with. At 42, Gambhir is India's youngest-ever head coach and retired only five and a half years back. Gambhir's testy relationship with Virat Kohli was one prickly point.

It is public knowledge that Rohit Sharma would have liked more of Dravid, if only for another year. But Dravid wanted to move on. With Rohit's future beyond the 2025 WTC difficult to predict, BCCI wanted to offer Gambhir a longer rope to draw his services to facilitate the tran-

sition. Eventually, Kohli wasn't consulted. The star batter taking the mic to tease at suggestions of friction between him and Gambhir, their embrace during the IPL is to be seen as an exhibition that the relationship was being repaired.

"There is enough time for the two to have conversations over the table. But it was important for the BCCI to look at the big picture with many youngsters likely to feature in the coming years," a BCCI official said. Gambhir abhors star culture and has critiqued about it as a TV pundit. Whether he plans change the culture of the team and how he goes about doing it may be of consequence.

"A secret to Dravid's success wasn't strategy. Each coach comes with his own thinking. The ability to gauge how much free hand to provide to which player and little things like allowing optional training sessions or not can make or break a team environment," said a former India coaching staff.

It could be argued that even during Dravid's reign, players like Shreyas Iyer and Ishan Kishan were meted out strictest punishment. But the replacements never let their absence be felt. That had a lot to do with an aligned vision between Dravid, Rohit and Chief selector Agarkar.

Gambhir and Agarkar have been teammates before. For the two of them, their strategic calls with team captains, traversing across formats may have a huge bearing on Gambhir's early days as coach.

Atkinson's seven scuppers Windies for 121 on 1st day

Agencies
sportsdesk@hindustantimes.com

LONDON: England debutant Gus Atkinson upstaged James Anderson's farewell by taking a sensational seven wickets as the West Indies collapsed to 121 all out on Wednesday's opening day of the first Test at Lord's.

The build-up to the three-match series had centred on England great Anderson's last appearance in the five-day game following a record-breaking Test career that has yielded 701 wickets — the most by any fast bowler at that level. But Surrey quick Atkinson stole the spotlight with a remarkable haul of 7/45 in 12 overs — including three wickets in just one over.

Anderson, by contrast, did not add to his tally of Test wickets until he had last man Jayden Seales lbw to end the West Indies innings. West Indies debutant Mikyle Louis top-scored with 27 as the tourists were dismissed inside 42 overs. Having played just one warm-up match and with inexperienced top-order batsmen Kirk McKenzie, Alick Athanaze and Kavem Hodge holding only nine caps between them before this Test, it was little surprise the West Indies struggled after losing the toss in overcast conditions. West Indies were 88-3 when Atkinson, who had already taken two wickets before lunch, came on to bowl the 35th over.

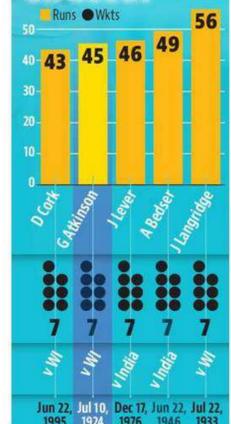
With his second ball of the over he had Athanaze caught by Joe Root in the slips for 23. Atkinson produced a superb delivery with the next ball that Jason Holder, returning to Test cricket after nearly a year's absence, could only edge to Harry Brook in the cordon.

Joshua Da Silva survived the hat-trick but next ball he too fell for a duck, an inside edge caught by wicketkeeper Jamie Smith, who along with Surrey team-mate Atkinson was also making his Test debut.

Atkinson had taken three wickets for no runs in four balls, with his final figures, after he



Best figures for England on debut



accounted for Alzarri Joseph and Shamar Joseph, ranking as the second best by an England bowler on his Test debut behind Dominic Cork's 7-43 against the West Indies at Lord's in 1995.

Earlier, Anderson was thrust straight into the action when England captain Ben Stokes won the toss and elected to field. But despite a probing new-ball spell of five overs for 11 runs, the 41-year-old Anderson was unable to dislodge West Indies captain Kraig Brathwaite or fellow opener Louis.

At the other end, Chris Woakes was lofted for a dismissive legside six by the 23-year-old Louis, the first West Indies Test cricketer from St Kitts.

Brief scores: West Indies 121 all out in 41.4 ovs (G Atkinson 7/45). England 189/3 in 40 ovs (Z Crawley 76, O Pope 57).

India take series lead over Zimbabwe with all-round show



Shubman Gill plays a shot during the 3rd T20I against Zimbabwe. AFP

Agencies
sportsdesk@hindustantimes.com

HARARE: Shubman Gill and Ruturaj Gaikwad produced high-quality knocks before the bowlers did their part as India outplayed Zimbabwe by 23 runs in the third T20I on Wednesday.

Gill (66 off 49), Yashasvi Jaiswal (36 off 27) and Gaikwad (49 off 28) propelled India to 182/4 after the visitors opted to bat.

Zimbabwe were never really in the run chase despite an entertaining effort from No 4 Dion Myers (65* off 49), ending at 159/6 in

their 20 overs.

Washington Sundar, who is likely to play a bigger role in India's T20 set-up after the retirement of Ravindra Jadeja, struck thrice while Avesh Khan took a couple of wickets.

The fourth T20 of the five-match series will be staged here on Saturday. After a loss in the series opener, India have restored normal service with back-to-back victories.

After Avesh Khan bounced out opener Wessly Madhevere in the second over, the wickets kept falling for the home team. However, Zimbabwe did well to stead the

ship after losing their first five wickets for 39 runs.

The 77-run stand off 57 balls between Myers and Clive Madande (37 off 26) put much needed life into the game.

Earlier, Gill-led India made some interesting selection calls. They duly inducted World Cup winners Jaiswal, Sanju Samson (12* off 7) and Shivam Dube into the playing 11, leaving out the likes of Rryan Parag in the middle order. Sanju came to bat at No 5 with four specialist openers Jaiswal, Gill, Abhishek Sharma (10 off 9) and Gaikwad occupying the top four positions.

Jaiswal, who did not get a game in the T20 World Cup, was happy to be back in the middle and went for his shots from the get go. The southpaw collected couple of fours and a six over deep-midwicket in the opening over bowled by off-spinner Brian Bennett to set the tone. Gill began with a gorgeous on drive off left-arm pacer Richard Ngarava before pulling him for a six over fine-leg.

Brief scores: India 182/4 (Gill 66, Gaikwad 49, Jaiswal 36). Zimbabwe 159/6 (Myers 65*, Madande 37, Washington 3/15, Avesh 2/39). **India won by 23 runs.**

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