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COMMENCES IN JULY, 2024

MODI IN VIENNA: FIRST VISIT BY INDIAN PM IN 41 YEARS

Day after Putin meet, PM underlines: Loss of innocent lives unacceptable

India, Austria hold bilateral talks: PM says blueprint for cooperation ready**SHUBHAJIT ROY**
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

A DAY after he met Russian President Vladimir Putin, the Russia-Ukraine war continued to dominate Prime Minister Narendra Modi's meeting with Austrian Chancellor Karl Nehammer in Vienna where he said "this is not a time for war", "problems cannot be solved on the battlefield" and "loss of innocent lives, anywhere, is unacceptable".

Modi's reiteration of the statements, echoing what he said in Moscow, signals to the West that he has sent a clear

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**Prime Minister Narendra Modi poses for a selfie with Austrian Federal Chancellor Karl Nehammer during his visit to the Federal Chancellery, in Vienna on Wednesday. ANI****US voices 'concerns' on India-Russia relationship****SHUBHAJIT ROY**
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

IN THE wake of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's just-concluded visit to Russia, the US State Department, for the second day in a row, expressed "concerns about India's relationship with Russia". Saying that it "continues" to express these concerns to India, the US confirmed that it had held "conversations" with India in the "past 24 hours" too. "We have been quite clear about our concerns about India's relationship with Russia. We have expressed those privately

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Muslim women can seek maintenance from husband under CrPC: SC

Provisions of 1986 Act do not restrict right under CrPC Section 125: Bench**ANANTHAKRISHNAN G**
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

THE SUPREME Court on Wednesday ruled that all married and divorced women, including Muslim women illegally divorced by pronouncement of "triple talaq", are entitled to claim maintenance from their husbands under Section 125 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), 1973, "irrespective of her personal law".

In separate but concurring judgments, a Bench of Justices B V Nagarathna and Augustine George Masih held that the right of Muslim women to seek recourse to Section 125 will not be eclipsed by the provisions of the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act, 1986, enacted by the then Rajiv Gandhi government after the landmark Shah Bano judgment of 1985.

"The rights created under the provisions of the 1986 Act are in addition to, and not in derogation of, the right created under Section 125 of the CrPC," Justice Nagarathna wrote.

Underlining the religion-neutral character of the provision, Justice Masih said: "Numerous decisions of this court went on to state that

EXPLAINED
Reiterating its position

THE SUPREME court has reiterated a landmark position: that Muslim women are protected like women of other religions, and that Parliament's 1986 law that attempted to overturn the Shah Bano judgment did not remove the protection available to them under Section 125 CrPC.

EXPLAINED, PAGE 13

Section 125 of CrPC, 1973, is a measure for social justice to protect the weaker sections, irrespective of applicable personal laws of the parties".

The court said that "the right to seek maintenance under Section 125 of CrPC, 1973, is invocable even during the sustenance of marriage and thereby is not contingent upon divorce."

"If Section 125 of the CrPC is excluded from its application to a divorced Muslim woman, it would be in violation of Article 15(1) of the Constitution of India

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**GOVT, NTA FILE AFFIDAVITS IN SC, COURT HEARING TODAY**

Centre on NEET-UG: Data analytics of results show no mass malpractice

ANANTHAKRISHNAN G
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

DATA ANALYTICS of the NEET-UG 2024 results by IIT-Madras found "no abnormality" and show "that there is neither any indication of mass malpractice nor a localised set of candidates being benefitted leading to abnormal scores", the Centre told the Supreme Court Wednesday.

On Monday, the court had sought to know whether it would be feasible to use data analytics to identify suspect cases and segregate tainted students from untainted ones.

Responding to this, the Centre, in its affidavit, said the Department of Higher Education had requested the Indian Institute of Technology-Madras to undertake the exercise. "IIT-Madras was also requested to ascertain through data analytics, if there are any suspected cases who could have indulged in wrongdoing and other red flags which indicate any aberration in the spread of top performers/candidates. A set of parameters, which shall form the basis of the analytics, was also requested to be devised," the Centre said.

"An exhaustive and elaborate technical evaluation of the data

pertaining to the NEET-UG 2024 examination was carried out by IIT-Madras, using parameters like marks distribution, city-wise and centre-wise rank distribution and candidates spread over marks range," it said.

The analysis found that "the marks distribution follows the bell-shaped curve that is witnessed in any largescale examination, indicating no abnormality", the Centre said.

"City-wise and centre-wise analysis was done for two years (2023 and 2024) to find out if there are any abnormal indications. The analysis is carried out

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UGC-NET 'paper leak': Evidence was doctored, finds CBI investigation

RITIKA CHOPRA
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

THE CBI probe into the alleged UGC-NET paper leak has found that the "evidence", which led the Education Ministry to cancel the exam just a day after over 9 lakh candidates appeared for it across 317 cities on June 18, was doctored, government sources told *The Indian Express*.

On June 19, the Centre canceled the exam crucial for entry-level teaching jobs and PhD admissions in Indian universities, following inputs from the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) that

"the integrity of the examination may have been compromised".

The input was a screenshot of a UGC-NET paper circulating on a Telegram channel around 2 pm on the exam day (June 18), with messages and comments suggesting it was leaked before the first session.

UGC-NET is held in two sessions; the first session was from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm and the second from 3 pm to 6 pm.

The chatter on Telegram channels was detected by the Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C) under the MHA, and relayed to the University Grants

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AIIMS blood test offers hope & help in early Alzheimer's diagnosis

ANKITA UPADHYAY
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

A SIMPLE blood test, developed by researchers and doctors at the All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS), New Delhi, may help in early diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease, a progressive type of dementia that mainly affects those aged 65 and above.

For the last four years, re-

searchers have been working with 90 patients from Delhi-NCR, all between 50 and 75, at the memory clinic and geriatric departments of AIIMS to develop a blood screening test for early diagnosis of the disease and help understand what caused their memory to fade. Considering an estimated 8.8 million Indians older than 60 have some form of dementia, a predictive blood test

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Reddit confession, teen from Faridabad, tip-off: How student who duped US varsity was caught

ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND, PARUL KULSHRESTHA & RITIKA CHOPRA
NEW DELHI, JAIPUR, JULY 10

AT 1.03 pm on February 23, Lehigh University in Pennsylvania, US received an email titled "Urgent Report of Admission Fraud - Seeking Immediate Investigation". The short email would set off a chain of events that would ultimately end in the arrest of a 19-year-old

**Lehigh University in Pennsylvania. lehigh.edu**

from India for allegedly duping the prestigious varsity and securing admission, alongside a scholarship of \$85,000.

The student, Aryan Anand, would have gotten away with it too, had it not been for an anonymous post by him on Reddit, and another 19-year-old from Faridabad who pieced together the alleged fraud. Anand, a computer science student, was arrested on April 30, and charged with forgery, tampering with

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CHARGESHEET AGAINST KEJRIWAL, AAP ED: Dealers were arm-twisted for not paying kickbacks, targeted in Punjab

NIRBHAY THAKUR
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

IN ITS first prosecution complaint against Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal in the Delhi excise policy case, the Enforcement Directorate has alleged that the AAP convenor had a role in "arm-twisting wholesalers for not paying kickbacks".

The complaint, akin to a chargesheet, was filed by the ED in May. The Rouse Avenue Court took cognizance of the complaint, in which the AAP too has been made an accused, on Tuesday.

A section of the complaint, which talks about Kejriwal, titled "Role in arm-twisting wholesalers for not paying kickbacks", states that certain liquor busi-

**CM Kejriwal was arrested by ED on March 21**

nessmen who were not ready to "give kickbacks" were targeted in AAP-ruled Punjab.

"...when certain wholesalers were not agreeing to give kickbacks to the AAP in Delhi their businesses were targeted in Punjab through the officials of Punjab," alleged the prosecution complaint.

"M/s Mahadev Liquor, the third biggest wholesaler in Delhi which has stakes in Ms Deepa Chaddha, was not paying kickbacks. Vijay Nair — by using the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**PAGE 1 ANCHOR**

At 16 years, a dream, a dream goal, and football history for Yamal

SANDIP G
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

THE MATCH clock, and the world around Lamine Yamal, stopped at 20:16 at the Allianz Arena in Munich. It was the precise moment when the wondrous strike from his left-instep curled and curved in its 20-yard journey, shook the iron post and nestled into the French nets, past the airborne shot-stopper Mike Maignan.

The goal stirred a famous comeback victory for Spain over France to enter the Euro Championship 2024 final, and

would soar into the hall of fame of the greatest goals ever in the tournament, and adorn the wall of football tragic in the years to come.

The goal was remarkable on several layers, from his poise in front of a packed defence to snatch the ball, the vision in discovering the perfect path to goal amidst French shirts, the dexterity of his feet to trick his pre-match provocateur Adrien Rabiot and friends to one side, nudge the ball to the opposite side with a delicate touch of the out-step and the conviction to bend the ball beyond the goalkeeper from the distance.

But the most astonishing fea-

ture was that Yamal is only 16 — he turns 17 on Saturday. He is already the youngest to several feats — youngest to play for his club, FC Barcelona, and country, youngest goal-scorer for both, youngest assist-maker, youngest goal-scorer at Euros.

He looks younger. There is no trace of moustache; he bares the braces on his teeth when he smiles, he has packed textbooks so that he can prepare for the exams. The coach often substitutes him after the hour mark, lest he ends up paying a hefty fine as the German labour law prevents minors working after 8 pm. With the ball on his feet, though, he

**Lamine Yamal celebrates as Spain reach the Euro finals for the first time in 12 years. Reuters**

sends adults double his age this way and that, into a gorge of embarrassment.

But somewhere, he is still a child. Though he has been at Barcelona's famous youth academy La Masia for a decade, he feels homesick. He talks to his parents Sheila, from Equatorial Guinea, and Mounir from Morocco, everyday. In the phone call before the match, his mother asked him what gift he wanted for his birthday. He replied: "You don't need to buy me any present if we manage to win." He gave himself a birthday present. A goal of unreal beauty.

In that moment, the face of

his parents may have flashed in his mind. Childhood was not easy, his father had to borrow money from relatives and neighbours to buy boots and take him to football trials. During one such trial, he caught the eye of Barcelona scouts. Eight years later, he caught the attention of the legendary Xavi Hernandez, then Barcelona manager. He needed just 10 minutes of watching him practice to invite him for training with the senior team. And last season, he was fast-tracked to the first team.

But for years, he kept his mother's scarf at his bedside. He carried it to the school and the

pitch. Whenever there is a break, he rushes to his hometown, Rocafonda, a sleepy migrant-rich town with about 120,000 inhabitants, half-an-hour from Barcelona. He spends time with his parents and extended family. "I have 23 cousins, and we spend a lot of time at my uncle's bakery. I belong there," he once told GQ Spanish.

The town is his identity. Whenever he scores a goal, he flashes the last three digits of the town's post code 304. The number is printed on his boot too, beside the flags of Equatorial Guinea and Morocco. He has

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FROM PAGE ONE FULL REPORTS ON WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

PM: Loss of innocent lives unacceptable

message to Putin. The fact that he reiterated this, while meeting a European leader who is not a member of NATO, is significant, sources said.

In the first visit by an Indian PM in 41 years, Modi reached Vienna late on Tuesday night. After holding bilateral talks with Nehammer, which he described as "fruitful discussions", Modi said: "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. The loss of innocent lives, anywhere, is unacceptable."

He said 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, recalling that the historic Vienna Congress was hosted in the hall where they were standing, and the conference provided direction for peace and stability in Europe.

Nehammer, on his part, said India is an influential and credit-worthy country whose role is more than important when it comes to the Russia-Ukraine peace process. "We had very intensive talks about the Russian aggression against Ukraine. For me, as the Federal Chancellor of Austria, it is particularly important to get to know India's assessment and to understand it, and to familiarise India with European concerns and worries," he said.

"Moreover, the conflict in the Middle East was a major topic," Nehammer added. As a reliable partner, Austria will be available as a site for dialogue, making use of its unique position as a neutral country, a member of the European Union but not a member of NATO, he said. "As such Austria is willing to act as a bridge builder and to contribute towards the achievement of a peaceful solution," he said.

Modi said he was happy that he got the opportunity to visit Austria at the beginning of his third term. "This visit is both historic and special. After 41 years, an Indian Prime Minister has visited

Austria. It is also a pleasant coincidence that this visit is taking place as our bilateral relations complete 75 years," Modi said.

"We have identified new opportunities to further strengthen our cooperation. We have decided to provide strategic direction to our relationship. A blueprint for cooperation over the coming decades has been prepared. This is not limited to economic cooperation and investment alone," he said.

"We will work to combine our strengths in areas such as infrastructure development, innovation, renewable energy, hydrogen, water and waste management, artificial intelligence and quantum technology. To connect the youth and ideas of both countries, the start-up bridge will be accelerated," the PM said.

Stating that an agreement on mobility and migration partnership has already been reached, Modi said this would facilitate legal migration and the movement of skilled workforce.

"Today, we also shared our thoughts on challenges faced by humanity, such as climate change

and terrorism. Regarding climate, we invite Austria to join our initiatives like the International Solar Alliance, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, and the Biofuel Alliance," he said.

"We both strongly condemn terrorism. We agree that it is unacceptable in any form and cannot be justified in any way," he said. Modi said the two sides agreed on the need for reforms in the United Nations and other international institutions to make them more contemporary and effective.

Modi later met Austrian and Indian CEOs and invited Austrian companies to invest in India as he highlighted the potential for bilateral collaborations in infrastructure, energy, emerging technologies and other sectors.

"PM highlighted the significant potential for collaboration between Indian and Austrian companies in various sectors, including infrastructure, renewable energy, green sectors, new and emerging technologies, fintech, startups, and innovation, among others," the MEA spokesperson said.

• AAP MLA

was in the BJP before switching to the AAP.

He said the purpose with which he had joined the AAP has not been fulfilled by the party.

"The people of Delhi were crying for water in peak summer for the past three months and whenever we raised the issue to the ministers, they blamed the L-G, Modi ji and Haryana Government. But did nothing from the government side to resolve the issue," he said.

Tanwar, who holds a diploma in engineering as per his election affidavit, also criticised the "dictatorship of AAP ministers and their policies", which he said were responsible for Delhi's present condition.

Incidentally, just six hours before joining the BJP, Tanwar had in a post on Facebook taken a stand against the BJP over the mass transfer of Delhi government school teachers.

Anand, who joined the BJP from the BSP, alleged that the Arvind Kejriwal government is "mired" in corruption and is against Dalits.

Senior AAP leader and Delhi minister Saurabh Bharadwaj meanwhile accused the BJP of trying to break opposition parties by imposing false cases against their leaders and pressuring them.

"Kartar Singh Tanwar ji was my colleague till two hours ago... BJP has changed the politics of the country so much that now you can arm-twist any political person and make him do anything..." he said. "Everyone knows in 2016, income tax raids were conducted on Kartar and the BJP government's I-T department said that they found unaccounted cash worth Rs 130 crore..."

"Which common person would want to get into court cases and go to jail... Tomorrow, they may transfer the I-T case to ED... BJP with its conspiracy has been trying to scare several of our MLAs with fake cases, some come under pressure."

• ED: Dealers were arm-twisted for not paying kickbacks

excise officials in Punjab - arm-twisted her by closing down on a false pretext her liquor factories in Punjab and then made her surrender the licence of Mahadev Liquor and then redistributed the business to their select wholesalers," it alleged.

Nair, former communications in charge of the AAP, was termed a "very close associate of the CM". He was allegedly the middleman between the "South Group" and the AAP.

The complaint also talks about Kejriwal's role in the Goa Assembly election campaign.

"...Arvind Kejriwal is knowingly involved in the use of proceeds of crime thus generated in the Goa election campaign of the AAP to which he is the convener and the ultimate decision-maker," alleged the central agency. The ED said that Rs 45 crore was used for the AAP's Goa Assembly election campaign in 2021-2022 from the proceeds of crime, which were bribes collected from the South Group.

The ED had earlier alleged that the now-scraped excise policy was drafted "considering the favours to be granted to the South Group".

According to the agency, the South Group "secured uninhibited access, undue favours, attained stakes in established wholesale businesses, and multiple retail zones (over and above what was allowed in the policy)", and paid Rs 100 crore to AAP leaders in return.

• At 16, a dream, a dream goal, and football history

taken a slice of RocaFonda to Barcelona, and now Germany. Both worlds - the systematic football school and the chaotic, self-learning street academy - perfectly blend in him.

He has the mischief and eye for finding small spaces, he can wriggle through a cavalcade of markers and possesses a vast spread of tricks. "When you learn to play on the street, in the end you have more resources, because it is more street football, without so

many rules, and that generates more mischief in you compared to someone who has trained in a school," he had once said.

He has the technical finesse of a Barcelona academy product too. He has a splendid first touch, can control the ball with any muscle of his body, is selfless in passing the ball to his teammates, drops back for defensive duties, and his tackling and pressing near in his half were as important as his goal on Tuesday night.

The praises overflowed. "He is touched by God," Spain coach Luis de la Fuente gushed. "His shot was magnifique," France coach Didier Deschamps extolled. "Only a chosen one could perform this," Rodri, his teammate, praised. Months ago, Xavi would say: "His decision-making is almost always

right. That is the hardest thing in football."

By virtue of his abundant gifts, the coincidence of a left-footed player on the right wing, and the Barcelona link, Yamal has been likened to Lionel Messi. Yamal himself has laughed off the comparison, and he is mature, beyond his years, to know that the road to greatness is long and winding. There are several tales of caution. The youngest goal-scorer before him - Johan Vonlanthen of Switzerland - is now a Seventh-Day Adventist priest. His vaunted senior Ansu Fati is struggling to settle into mid-table clubs.

But whether he fulfils his talents or not, Yamal has waltzed into the footballing consciousness of the world, stopping it when the game clock struck 20:16 in Berlin.

• Centre's affidavit on NEET-UG examination

for the top 1.4 lakh ranks, given that the total number of seats across the country is around 1.1 lakh. This analysis is granular enough to indicate any abnormality, had a large number of students gotten into high ranks (top 5%), due to malpractice or if students from a particular exam centre or city were benefitted. The analysis shows that there is neither any indication of mass malpractice nor a localised set of candidates being benefitted leading to abnormal scores," the affidavit said.

"There is an overall increase in the marks obtained by students, specifically in the range of 550 to 720. 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."

"If an exercise is to be conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA) and by the Union

Government so as to identify any further beneficiaries of the question paper leakage, a considered decision at the policy level would have to be taken by the government on the status of the counselling," it said. The Centre said counselling will be conducted in four rounds starting from the third week of July.

In a separate affidavit, the NTA said that with regard to the "alleged question paper related incident at Patna", the Bihar police had furnished a list of 17 candidates. "The NTA, after following due process, withheld the results of such candidates, after issuance of show cause notices," it said.

In Godhra, Gujarat, where allegations of wrongdoings surfaced, "a list of 30 candidates was provided by the concerned district administration and police authorities... based on which the results of the concerned candidates have also been withheld after issuance of show cause notices", it said. It said that on the basis of se-

• US voices 'concerns' on India-Russia relationship

directly to the Indian government, and continue to do so. And that has not changed," US State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller told reporters at his daily news conference.

Asked whether the US had raised the issue recently, Miller confirmed: "We have had conversations with them in the past 24 hours."

He said the US continues to "urge India to support efforts to re-align an enduring and just peace in Ukraine, based on the principles of the UN charter, based on upholding Ukraine's territorial integrity and its sovereignty. And that will continue to be what we will engage with India about."

A day earlier, Miller had said: "India is a strategic partner with whom we engage in a full and frank dialogue. And that includes our concerns about their relation-

ship with Russia." "I will look at Prime Minister Modi's public remarks to see what he talked about. But as I said, we made quite clear directly with India our concerns about their relationship with Russia. So we would hope India and any other country, when they engage with Russia, would make clear that Russia should respect the UN charter, should respect Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity," he had said.

On Tuesday, Pentagon spokesperson Major General Pat Ryder said: "India and Russia have had a relationship for a very long time. From a US perspective, India is a strategic partner with whom we continue to engage in full and frank dialogue to include their relationship with Russia. As it relates to the NATO summit being this week, of course, like you, the

world is focused on that." "I do not think anybody will be surprised if (Russian) President (Vladimir) Putin tries to represent this visit in a way that seeks to somehow show that he is not isolated from the rest of the world. And the fact of the matter is, President Putin's war of choice has isolated Russia from the rest of the world, and it has come at great cost... So we will continue to view India as a strategic partner. We will continue to have a robust dialogue with them," Ryder said.

When a reporter said Putin was "not looking so isolated with the head of the world's largest democracy being in Moscow, embracing him right now", Ryder replied that Modi also met Zelenskyy recently. "I think that we trust that India will support efforts to realise an enduring and just peace for Ukraine and will

convey to Mr Putin the importance of adhering to the UN charter and the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity," he said.

Acknowledging that his two-day visit to Moscow was being watched by the "entire world", Modi walked the hard diplomatic tightrope in his meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin. So, a day after a suspected Russian missile struck a children's hospital in Kyiv, Modi told Putin that the death of innocent children causes "pain and the heart simply explodes", "peace talks do not succeed amid bombs, guns and bullets", and "solution (to any conflict) cannot be found on the battlefield". At the same time, Modi underlined that both had a "frank" exchange on Ukraine and he had sensed a "new way" of thinking.

• Muslim women can seek maintenance

which states that the State shall not discriminate against any citizen only on the ground of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them," Justice Nagarathna said. "A reading of Section 125 of the CrPC would indicate that... (its) intention... is to provide for a speedy remedy and prevent vagrancy by compelling the husband to support the wife. The provision is meant to achieve a social purpose. The reason being that after marriage, it is the duty of the husband to provide shelter and maintenance to the wife in the Indian context. Particularly, if she is unable to maintain herself, if he neglects or refuses to do so, the wife is legally entitled to enforce the said right by filing a petition under Section 125 of the CrPC, irrespective of any other right created in favour of the wife under any other law. Therefore, the passing of the 1986 Act, in my view, cannot militate against or dilute the salutary nature of Section 125 of the CrPC. The object of this provision is to save a wife, including a divorced woman, from deprivation and destitution," she said.

Section 125 of the CrPC states: "If any person having sufficient means neglects or refuses to maintain (a) his wife, unable to maintain herself, or (b) his legitimate or illegitimate minor child, whether married or not, unable to maintain herself, or (c) his legitimate or illegitimate child (not being a

• Muslim women can seek maintenance

married daughter) who has attained majority, where such child is, by reason of any physical or mental abnormality or injury unable to maintain itself, or (d) his father or mother, unable to maintain himself or herself, a Magistrate of the first class may, upon proof of such neglect or refusal, order such person to make a monthly allowance for the maintenance... at such monthly rate as such Magistrate thinks fit..."

The ruling came on an appeal filed by Mohd Abdul Samad, who had been ordered to pay Rs 20,000 as monthly maintenance to his ex-wife by a family court in Telangana. The woman had moved the family court under Section 125 of CrPC stating that Samad had given her triple talaq. The HC, on December 13, 2023, said "that several questions are raised which need to be adjudicated" but "directed the petitioner to pay 10,000 as interim maintenance".

Challenging this, Samad told the SC that the HC had failed to appreciate that the provisions of 1986 Act, which is a Special Act, would prevail over the provisions of Section 125 CrPC, which is a general Act.

Rejecting this, the SC said: "It is undoubtedly clarified by the Constitution Benches of this Court that the same cannot promptly be deemed to override any other rights so provided by the enactments of the legislature".

• Early Alzheimer's diagnosis

can help sift those with Alzheimer's and help in better disease management.

Researchers tested the 90 patients - 35 with serious memory lapse, 25 with mild cognitive impairment and 30 healthy people - on six blood markers, the levels of which can indicate an early onset of Alzheimer's Disease, a condition where clusters of amyloid beta (Aβ) and tau proteins in the brain disrupt memory and processing functions. The ratio of these proteins in blood can help determine the stage of Alzheimer's.

Buoyed by these findings, which have been published in *BioMed Central*, a UK medical journal, the researchers have now applied for a grant from the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) for further research. The study was supported by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Department of Health Research (DHR).

"The research is promising and could change therapy protocols if found to be successful in larger trials with a bigger sample size. India could easily become the dementia capital of the world and the biggest gap in understanding the disease is the lack of a blood screening for biomarkers. We have good cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) biomarkers and imaging

tests like PET and MRI as of now. But these can detect the disease only when symptoms have already shown up," says Dr Vishnu VY, additional professor, Department of Neurology.

The AIIMS blood test can detect these biomarkers at least 10 to 15 years before the disease becomes full blown, enabling doctors to slow down its progress.

"This can be done by treatments that can manage symptoms and a lifestyle correction in mid-adult life, involving diet, exercise and managing existing comorbidities, if any. The idea is to preserve the patient's level of function longer," says Dr Vishnu.

Dr Saroj Kumar, Assistant Professor, Department of Biophysics, who worked with a team of researchers from the neurology and geriatric departments, says, "There is no cure for Alzheimer's and once detected, one can only provide symptomatic relief. But it develops over 15-20 years. So if we are able to detect signs 10 years before, patients might be able to stop degeneration with a healthier lifestyle," he says.

The biomarkers test is effective because it can measure biological changes that indicate if a disease is present or a person is at risk of developing a disease.

• Reddit confession

records or identification, theft by deception, and theft of services. A spokesperson for Homeland Security Investigations in the US told *The Indian Express*, "On June 12, Enforcement and Removal Operations arrested Anand based on this criminality and an immigration judge issued a removal order on June 24. ERO continues to hold Anand pending his removal from the United States."

It was around 3 am on February 23 that Anand posted on a subreddit called Btechtards, which has over 50,000 members: "I have built my life and career on LIES and FRAUD." In it, he referred to having fabricated admission paperwork, altered his grades, and even made a fake death certificate of his father to secure an "aid package" at a university. The post stated that he scored 58% in Class 12, and he "edited that" to 91%. "I just wanted freedom at any cost, and if I could go to college without even spending a penny of my parents' money, only then I could get that," it read.

Just a day earlier, the whistleblower had joined the subreddit as a moderator. "When I read his post, it felt unbelievable at first. This was either one of the most elaborate frauds committed on an institution or fiction," the teen, who did not wish to be identified, told *The Indian Express*. He is pursuing B.Tech in Computer Science at a reputed institute in India.

Given that the post was anonymous and didn't give details of the university, the teenager started going through past posts Anand made from his anonymous Reddit account - u/TransportationOk4728. "A lot of them were random posts, but in two of them, I noticed he mentioned Lehigh University. He had also posted a photo of a university, which via reverse image search I realised was also of Lehigh University. I also discovered that the only university community he followed on Reddit was Lehigh," he said.

In his email to the university hours later, he wrote: "I serve as the moderator for the subreddit r/Btechtards. I am reaching out to bring to your attention a concerning post recently shared on our platform, which provides comprehensive details regarding an alleged case of admission fraud involving an Indian student... I will attach all the screenshots, which I believe will be enough for the concerned authorities to figure out who the student is."

Asked why he wrote the email, he told *The Indian Express*, "His post was horrifying... the fact that he faked his father's death... I have been a JEE aspirant myself. I have seen how hard people work for the SAT and to get admission to universities abroad. Here this guy was proudly boasting about his fraud... It felt like the morally right thing to do." A month passed, and on March 18, he heard back

• Reddit confession

from Detective David Kokinda from the Lehigh University Campus Police Division. Kokinda requested "the exact date of the post" and inquired if the teen would be available for a phone call. The two got on a 15-minute video call on March 20.

According to a complaint filed by the campus police division with the District Attorney's office in Northampton, the university had pieced together circumstantial evidence to confirm Anand was the one who made the post. Since the post specified he moved to the US and joined the varsity in August 2023, officers figured he was a first-year student. He also wrote that his roommate at the university was involved with a fraternity. At the time, Lehigh had only one first-year international student from India on full scholarship. "That student's name is Aryan Anand. He has a roommate who is in an officially recognised fraternity," the copy of the complaint filed with the DA's office reads. The university probe also found that the Reddit account was created using the email address "aryanthegreat@gmail.com". It had also been accessed from the Lehigh network from Anand's account, ara327.

The university also wrote in its complaint that Anand had attended Ruby Children Senior Secondary School in Kota, Rajasthan. *The Indian Express* reached out to the school to learn that school officials have not been contacted about the case so far. School records show he completed Class 10 from a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Hyderabad, and scored 538 out of 600 in his Board exams. He completed Class 11 from a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Kanpur and his permanent address is in Chandigarh. In class 11, he scored a C1 grade, with 58%.

A visit to the Chandigarh address listed in school records led to a dead-end. According to residents at the colony, Anand or his family did not reside there. The university's complaint also states that the "metadata of (his father's) death certificate", which got him the scholarship, "indicates the document was altered on the iLovePDF webpage". According to police, Anand has admitted that his father is alive.

A June 24 press release from Northampton County District Attorney's office said Anand "entered a negotiated plea of guilty to one count of forgery. Pursuant to the condition that he return to India... Lehigh University did not request restitution, which would have totaled approximately \$85,000. As a condition of this sentence, Anand was released to the custody of the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement."

When contacted, the university said, "Lehigh revoked his status as a student and his admission was rescinded."

• UGC-NET: Evidence was doctored, finds CBI probe

Commission (UGC) on June 19 around 3 pm. Based on this input, the government announced the cancellation later that night. On June 23, on the request of the Education Ministry, the Central Bureau of Investigation took over the probe.

According to government sources, the CBI has found that the said screenshot of the question paper was manipulated in a way to create the impression that it was available before the examination. It is learnt that a candidate shared a photograph of the question paper on a Telegram channel around 2 pm, right after the first session of the UGC-NET. This photograph was then allegedly doctored to suggest that it had been available with people even before the examination. The exact nature of manipulation is not known.

"This was basically a scam run by a Telegram channel where, a few days before the examination, claims were made that the paper had been leaked and would be

available for money. Once the first session of the paper was over, the scammers then arranged a photograph of that question paper through a student, doctored it, and circulated a screenshot immediately to make it seem like they had it before the exam. This was done to establish credibility for their claims so that they could also make money even in future," said a government source, who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

It is learnt that the CBI has apprised the Education Ministry of this finding. However, it's not clear if the government will recall its decision to cancel UGC-NET, given that the input on which it was cancelled has now been found to be doctored. The National Testing Agency (NTA) which conducts the exam on UGC's behalf, has already announced a tentative window for the retest - between August 21 and September 4.

The CBI has not made any arrest in the UGC-NET case so far. According to sources, the modus

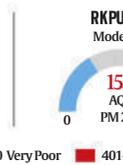
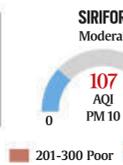
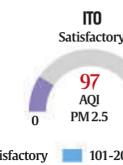
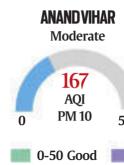
operandi was deciphered based on an analysis of the screenshot and digital trail of the messages exchanged on the Telegram channel where claims of the paper leak were made. The CBI is expected to file a report in the case soon.

UGC-NET has two papers - the first is common to all and the second is subject-specific paper based on the candidate's specialisation. The second paper is offered in 83 subjects. The combined duration of the two papers is three hours, and both are meant to be attempted in one session without any break. Both papers consist of objective-type multiple-choice questions (MCQs). A total of 150 questions are asked, with 50 questions in Paper 1 and 100 questions in Paper 2.

UGC-NET is conducted twice a year, in June and December. Although the NTA has been holding it in computer-based test format since December 2018, it went back to pen-and-paper format this year.

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3 THE CITY



SKY WATCH
July 11
Generally cloudy sky.
Very light to light rain

MAX: 36 | **MIN: 26**
.5°C above normal | 1.3°C below normal

NO END TO AAP'S WOES

MLA Kartar Singh Tanwar who joined BJP has a strong base, is an old hand



Chhattarpur MLA Kartar Singh Tanwar (extreme left) being welcomed by BJP's Virendra Sachdeva Wednesday. Amit Mehra

GAYATHRI MANI
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

IN ANOTHER blow to the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in Delhi, which is facing a vacuum with all of its top leaders in jail, Chhattarpur MLA Kartar Singh Tanwar joined the BJP on Wednesday.

Tanwar said he was leaving the AAP because of the party's "dictatorship". "The condition of Delhi has become so bad. We are not able to do anything against it due to the dictatorship of AAP ministers and their policies... People of Delhi were crying for water in the peak of summer for the last three months. Whenever we raised the issue to the ministers, they blamed the Lieutenant Governor, (Prime Minister) Modi ji and the Haryana government."

Tanwar's exit is a big setback for the AAP. A party leader said that Delhi Chief Minister and AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal "personally called" Tanwar "to offer the South Delhi seat in the recent Lok Sabha elections." However, that did not work out and the AAP fielded Sahi Ram instead, who lost to the BJP's Ramvir Singh Bidhuri

by 69,000 votes.

Tanwar, 62, is seen as having a strong base in the Chhattarpur area of the capital, and on Wednesday, he joined the BJP along with Chhattarpur ward councillor Umesh Singh Phoghat, AAP workers Ratnesh Gupta and Sachin Rai, and former Patel Nagar MLA Veena Anand.

The move to the BJP marks a return of sorts for Tanwar, who started his political career as a Municipal Corporation of Delhi councillor on the BJP ticket. He joined the AAP in 2014 and won the Assembly elections from Delhi's Chhattarpur constituency in 2015. He retained the seat in 2020. In July 2016, the Income Tax Department (IT) conducted raids at his residence in Fatehpur village and a farmhouse located in South Delhi. The IT Department claimed to have found cash and identified movable and immovable assets worth several hundred crores.

Some AAP leaders suggested Wednesday that Tanwar moved to the BJP to avoid further action from the IT Department, and that his decision followed another raid on his premises. "He was under pressure," an AAP leader said.

Waterlogging keeps civic bodies busy amid short, intense showers

SOPHIYA MATHEW
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

SHORT AND intense spells of rain lashed parts of Delhi-NCR on Wednesday, leading to instances of waterlogging, traffic snarls, and falling of trees.

The city recorded a significant amount of rainfall as the Palam station logged 25.4mm while the Safdarjung base station observed 10.1mm rainfall between 2.30 pm and 5.30 pm.

While seven complaints of waterlogging were received at the control room of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), three were reported at the New Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC) control room. Besides, two cases of trees falling were reported.

The areas that were affected by waterlogging included Keshavpuram Zone, Siddhartha Extension, DMS Colony-Hari Nagar, Uttam Nagar, Saraswati Marg-Karol Bagh, and Chittaranjan Park.

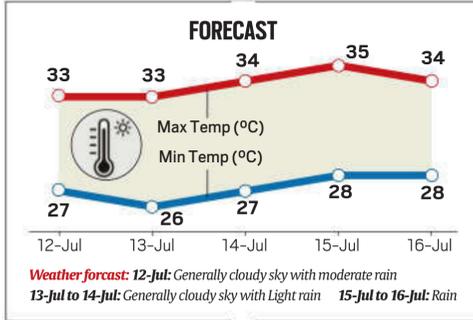
Krishna Mishra, a scientist with the India Meteorological Department (IMD), said, "The shifting of the monsoon trough from the South to align to its normal position, extending from North Pakistan and along Ganganagar, Prayagraj in Southwest Uttar Pradesh till Kolkata, caused today's (Wednesday) rainfall in Delhi."

Commenting on the rainfall on Tuesday, Mishra said, "The intense spells of rainfall caused in the capital yesterday were because of the monsoon trough extending its orientation from Southwest Rajasthan to Bay of Bengal."

The Delhi Met office, in its weather alert as per Nowcast system, wrote on X, formerly Twitter, at 12.39 pm: "Moderate to heavy rainfall accompanied with moderate thunderstorm and lightning is very likely to occur at NCR during the next two hours."



A flood-control bund at the Yamuna Old Iron Bridge, Delhi on Wednesday. Tashi Tobgyal



Accurate prediction of monsoon is not possible if only reliant on models, because global models developed for weather forecasting fail to accurately detect mesoscale convective systems or activity, especially in tropical areas, said Mishra. Therefore, the IMD also uses the Nowcast system that uses radar and satellite imagery, which gives forecasts for the next three hours.

Weather stations at Ridge, Lodhi Road, Delhi University, Jafarpur and Mayur Vihar logged 7.8 mm, 5mm, 4.5mm, 2mm and 4mm rainfall respectively as of 5.30pm.

The maximum temperature observed at the Safdarjung base station was a notch above normal

with 36.4 degrees Celsius, for the first time in seven days, while the minimum temperature stayed close to normal at 27.5 degrees Celsius.

An NDMC official confirmed that three complaints of waterlogging were received at its Integrated Control and Command Centre as of 4.43pm. The official said the complaints were received from Lodhi Colony, Kalibari-Mandir Marg, and Ansari Nagar West.

Scattered to fairly widespread light to moderate rainfall in Delhi is predicted till Saturday, according to an IMD press release.

A generally cloudy sky with light rain is predicted for Thursday.

Delhi govt is fully prepared, says Atishi

New Delhi: The AAP government in Delhi is fully equipped to handle any flood situation and provide timely relief, Delhi minister Atishi said on Wednesday as she visited the areas near Yamuna. The senior AAP leader recollected the monsoon havoc last year when Yamuna's water level had reached its highest point in 40 years, leading to flooding in low-lying areas. "This year, the Delhi government is prepared. In case of a possible flood, if people have to be evacuated from low-lying areas even in a short time, then the government is ready for that too," she asserted. During her visit, she was accompanied by senior officials from the Revenue Department and the Irrigation & Flood Control Department to assess the flood preparedness. ENS

FIVE NABBED, GIRL'S FATHER ON THE RUN

Headed to meet friend, Gr Noida teen dies after 'attack by her family members'

NEETIKA JHA
NOIDA, JULY 10

AROUND 12 PM on Tuesday, a 17-year-old set out from his home, in Greater Noida, for a village nearly 11 kms away.

Having passed Class 12 only a few days ago, he picked up his best friend on his bike and moved towards the village. Since it was his usual gym timing, his mother did not bother to ask him about his destination.

The boy never returned. Barely an hour-and-a-half later, the teenager's uncle received a call that his nephew and his friend were brutally beaten, allegedly by relatives of a girl he had gone to meet.

"One of our relatives called me saying that a group of men have put my nephew and his friend in a car and they are thrashing them. We rushed there and took them to the hospital," the 52-year-old

While the teenager succumbed to his injuries at the hospital, his friend who accompanied him remains in critical state

said. The boy succumbed to his injuries.

According to police, the incident occurred after the father of a 14-year-old girl, who the boy had known for the past year-and-a-half, found out about their supposed relationship.

The Greater Noida police registered an FIR against six men, including the girl's father, her brother and cousins under BNS section 190 (unlawful assembly), 110 (homicide), 115 (2) (causing hurt), 127 (2) (wrongful confinement), 103 (1) murder, and 191 (2) rioting.

Police have arrested the brother and the cousins while the father is said to be on the run.

Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police, Greater Noida, Ashok Kumar said that the two boys had gone to meet the girl.

"They were beaten by her family and were later admitted to GIMS hospital, where the teenager died during treatment. We have arrested three accused and are probing the case," he added. The friend of the deceased boy is battling for his life at the hospital; his father is not sure if he will make it. "My son cannot even speak a word because of the injuries. His body has turned blue, I don't think he will survive," said the father.

A cousin of the deceased said he came in contact with the girl because her aunt was married to a man in his village.

"She used to come and stay at her (the aunt's) house. The two

(the boy who was killed, and the girl) became friends and fell in love," he said.

'Private parts mutilated'

The deceased was the only son of his parents; his father died years ago.

His family alleged that his private parts were mutilated and nails pulled out from the toes. Another cousin of the boy said it looked like the accused had planned "to kill my brother". He said, "The entire body was blue, toenails pulled out, private parts mutilated."

The girl's house, meanwhile, is locked and all her relatives are absconding. People in the village said that they did not know of the incident till Wednesday morning.

"The girl studies at a school nearby. Her family left last night after his (the teenager's) death," said a neighbour.

From Yamuna tributary to monsoon bane: The story of Barapullah drain

SAMAN HUSAIN
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

ORIGINALLY A tributary of the Yamuna river, rejuvenated by yearly rainfall, the Barapullah nullah has now become synonymous with monsoon mayhem in Delhi with the overflowing water making its way into homes and shops, causing massive damage.

The nullah is clogged with sewage and construction waste, thanks to lack of desilting and treatment of sewage, making it capable of extensive damage even with a short spell of rainfall.

Earlier, Delhi Mayor Shelly Oberoi had attributed the waterlogging in Central and South Delhi due to blocking of Barapullah, stating that debris from construction of Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) was being dumped into the drain.

The route

The nullah originates from Mehrauli and flows through Saket,



The nullah originates from Mehrauli. File

Chirag Dilli, Savitri Nagar, and Defence Colony before reaching Nizamuddin. A tributary runs from RK Puram through Gautam Nagar, Seva Nagar, CGO Complex, and meets the main nullah at Nizamuddin. Another stream carries water from Greater Kailash through LSR, Amar Colony, Central Market, Lajpat Nagar, Jangpura Extension, Pant Nagar, and finally to Nizamuddin. The basin is managed by the PWD, while the Sarai Kale Khan section comes under the irrigation and flood control department. Karol Bagh section is the responsibility of the NDMC

while the rest is under MCD.

"When the Commonwealth Games were scheduled for 2010, thousands of trucks of debris were dumped into the nullah to make an elevated ground for trucks for construction work. Over time, so much debris has been dumped that there is no space for the water to flow anymore... the agencies involved do not cooperate in cleaning the nullah," said Anil Goswami, Head of the Bhogal RWA.

The history

Historically, the nullah was a

tributary of the Yamuna River, receiving water from the ridge and other streams before flowing into the Yamuna. Author and historian Swapna Liddle said, "The name 'Barapullah' dates back to the era of Jahangir, when a bridge with twelve pillars was constructed over it, leading to its name (with 'Barapullah' translating to 'twelve pillars')."

For 23 years, the Nizamuddin Residents Welfare Association (RWA) has been fighting a legal battle for its upkeep, initially in the Supreme Court and before the National Green Tribunal (NGT) for the past nine years. Despite the NGT's efforts to appoint high-powered committees and issue directives, the authorities—chiefly the state government, DJB, and DDA—have brazenly flouted court orders, they said.

Efforts to dredge and desilt the Barapullah Nullah have been hampered by the dumping of debris and the absence of effective sewage treatment, as stated in the NGT tribunal's order.

AAP, BJP clash over increase in electricity bills

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

AS A political row simmers over a surge in electricity bills for a large number of residential consumers with the addition of power purchase adjustment charges (PPAC), officials on Wednesday offered clarity. While people who have opted for subsidies won't see any change, power bills for other consumers will increase by 6-8 per cent, said officials.

The statement came after the Delhi BJP held a press conference to criticise the ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), stressing that it would impact electricity consumers in the city. The Delhi government-backed electricity companies are extorting a hefty amount from residents in the name of PPAC, the party leaders alleged. The ruling party, however, countered the attack, saying that BJP leaders are "misleading" Delhiites by spreading "rumours".

Officials said that the revised

THE HIKE

Discoms	Existing PPAC (on past dues)	Additional current PPAC	Total
BRPL	27.07%	8.75%	35.83%
BYPL	31.60%	6.15%	37.75%
TPDDL	29.13%	8.75%	37.88%
NDMC	30%	8.75%	38.75%

*May 24 to July 2024

PPAC charges were implemented from February this year. According to senior government officials, discoms have revised the PPAC by between 6.75 per cent and 8.75 per cent. "PPAC is a surcharge provided by the Electricity Regulatory Commission to meet the variation in the power purchase costs incurred by the discoms. The power purchase cost is dependent upon the coal or fuel prices. Recently, there has been a significant increase in coal prices due to higher imports and transport costs," said

an official.

The PPAC, officials further said, is recovered to ensure the timely pass-through of costs to the consumer, as any delay would further burden them with interest costs. As per the directions of the Ministry of Power (MOP), every state's regulatory commission has to place a mechanism for automatic pass-through of fuel and power procurement costs in tariff to ensure the viability of the power sector. In the case of Delhi, there is no automatic pass-

through but the discoms levy the PPAC only after verification and approval of the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission or DERC.

Power Minister Atishi claimed the DERC order, regarding the PPAC, clearly states that the current PPAC will remain the same and no more charges will be made.

Justifying the PPAC revision, she said, "Discoms have a provision in the Electricity Act 2003 that allows them to increase PPAC by up to 10 per cent from that prescribed by DERC in case of high cost of power purchase," she said.

The Minister said that the power is purchased from the electricity exchange during summer to meet increased demand to provide 24x7 power, and therefore the PPAC might be greater in summer, especially due to heatwaves.

Delhi BJP chief Virendra Sachdeva in a press conference said that the AAP government and the discoms colluded to increase PPAC by 8.75 per cent to 43.79 per cent, resulting in higher electric-

ity bills for consumers.

"Atishi should answer how power discoms increased PPAC without the DERC approval," he said, adding that if the BJP government had purchased electricity from the power grid before April, prices would not have risen. "But the Kejriwal government was busy with politics when it was time to make a summer power supply plan," he said.

BJP leader Arvinder Singh Lovely, meanwhile, showing his electricity bills, claimed, "Electricity bills have increased not just because of higher consumption in summer but mainly due to the PPAC..."

Atishi hit back at the BJP, saying that the electricity charges in the states ruled by the party were higher, and there were also long power cuts in cities like Noida and Greater Noida in Uttar Pradesh and Gurgaon in Haryana.

The Delhi government provides a 100 per cent subsidy up to 200 units and 50 per cent up to 400 units.

Carrying 100 baby turtles in a bag on scooter, wildlife smuggler arrested

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

A TIP-OFF received by police on Tuesday about a smuggler's bid to transport banned turtles prompted officials at Delhi's Geeta Colony Police Station to set up a trap. A team led by Inspector Satyawan kept vigil in areas including Raja Ram Kohli Marg and beneath the Pusa Road flyover in Geeta Colony. This led to the arrest of a 38-year-old man, and a total of 100 baby turtles were recovered from him, police said on Wednesday.

The accused, identified as Bheem, has been involved in a smuggling operation of turtles and other species, police were told during interrogation. The accused is a resident of Ghaziabad in Uttar Pradesh. He further revealed that a case was recently registered against his associate



The accused was nabbed on Tuesday. Express

Ravi Bhatnagar at the Nandgram Police Station, in Ghaziabad, for a similar offence.

"He procures the turtles from Ganga in Garhmukteshwar area called Garh Ganga and from the subsidiary rivers," said DCP (Shahdara) Surendra Choudhary.

He added that a search operation was underway to apprehend Bhatnagar. On Tuesday, the team spotted Bheem on a scooter around 1:15 pm, carrying a large bag while coming from Shakarpur. After he was by the informant as the suspected smuggler, the man was apprehended.

Upon inspection of the bag, police found several live turtles. Bheem failed to provide a satisfactory explanation for possessing them, following which the team apprehended him while seizing his scooter along with the recovered turtles.

The Delhi Police has lodged a case against Bheem at the Geeta Colony Police Station under Sections 9/39/50/51 of the Wildlife Protection Act and Section 11(A) of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, simultaneously passing the information about the seizure to the official of Wildlife Department.



एक
पैड़

का
के
नाम

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

6 GOVT & POLITICS



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



VACATION VOCATION

THE SUPREME Court's vacation calendar has often come under criticism from varied sections. So the message was not lost on anyone when Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud said Tuesday — a day after the court returned to full working strength after summer recess — that his brother judges seemed to have worked hard during the vacations. The CJ said this as Justice J B Pardiwala, sharing a bench with him, pronounced three judgments in a row, totalling 232 pages. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta agreed: "All those ignorant people who say courts are taking vacation must realise that this is what Your Lordships are doing during vacation."

HOUSE HUNT

AHEAD OF the Budget Session in Parliament from July 22, Lutyens' Delhi bungalows are being prepared for new residents as former MPs — including former ministers Smriti Irani, Mahendra Nath Pandey and Arjun Munda — who did not get elected to the Lok Sabha are in the process of vacating their official residences. Officials are also busy scouting bungalows for Rahul Gandhi, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, including one on Tughlak Road. The Lok Sabha House Committee chaired by BJP MP Mahesh Sharma is yet to make any allotment to the MPs.

TECH TALK

HE MAY no longer be a Rajya Sabha MP or a Union minister, but BJP leader Rajeev Chandrasekhar continues to evangelise Indian tech on the international stage. Invited by the Tony Blair Institute of Global Change for a talk at the 'Future of Britain Conference' in London, the former Minister of State for IT spoke about how India has transformed digitally under Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the last 10 years. He specifically focused on the governance issues in the age of AI and how technology transformed governance in the country. His lecture comes in the backdrop of the ongoing debate over digital transformation in Britain. Chandrasekhar's message to the audience was that it should learn from India.

SC stays HC order on taking back land given to Adani firm near Mundra

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JULY 10

IN RELIEF for the Adani Group, the Supreme Court Wednesday stayed a Gujarat High Court order to resume the process of taking back nearly 108 hectares of grazing (gauchar) land given to a group entity in 2005 near Mundra port in Kutch district.

A bench of justices B R Gavai and K V Viswanathan stayed the order while issuing notice on an appeal by Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ).

The state government had on July 5 informed the High Court that it will take back the land. The decision came 13 years after residents of Navinal village moved the High Court through a PIL against the decision to allot 231 acres of gauchar land to APSEZ.

As per residents, the village was left with just 45 acres of grazing land after allotting 231 acres of land to APSEZ. They contended that the move was illegal since they were already facing a short-

age of grazing land, which they said was a community resource.

In 2014, the HC had disposed of the PIL after the state said the deputy collector had passed an order granting additional 387 hectares of government land for grazing. However, when it did not happen, a contempt petition was filed in the High Court.

In 2015, the state government filed a review petition before the HC contending that the available land for allocation to the panchayat is only 17 hectares. The state then proposed to allocate the remaining land nearly 7 km away, which the villagers opposed.

In April 2024, the division bench comprising Chief Justice Sunita Agarwal and Justice Pranav Trivedi directed the Revenue Department to come up with a solution. The state government subsequently informed the court that it will take back the land.

The HC bench expressed satisfaction and said "we require the concerned authority/officers to complete the process of resumption in accordance with law".

As MEA says 10 Indians back from Russia war, families say name them

SREENIVAS JANYALA HYDERABAD, JULY 10

FAMILY MEMBERS OF Indians still trapped fighting Russia's war with Ukraine want the Ministry of External Affairs to declare the names of the 10 youths who, it says, have been brought back to India. The *Indian Express* spoke to families of men from Narayanpet in Telangana, Gulbarga in Karnataka, and Hoshiarpur in Punjab — none of them have returned so far, nor do the families know of anyone who has.

Mohammed Sufiyan (23) of Narayanpet, Mohammed Samir Ahmed (23), Saiyed Ilyas Hussaini (22), and Abdul Nayeem (23) of Gulbarga, and Gurpreet Singh (23) of Hoshiarpur are among those still caught in the war. Saiyed Salman, Sufiyan's brother, told *The Indian Express* that he was relieved when he heard that some Indians had been brought back. "I heard that 10 were rescued, but it has been several days and there is no news of who they are. My brother has not returned, nor have the youths from Gulbarga. In fact, everyone is asking each other if their brother or son has returned. The MEA should officially announce the names," he said.

From Gulbarga, Mohammed Samir Ahmed's elder brother Mustafa also spoke about the lack of clarity. "There's so much hype about youths being rescued from



Surat man Hemil Mangukiya (centre) is among Indians killed fighting for Russia.

Russia, but who are they, and where are they? My brother and two others from Gulbarga are not among them," he said.

They last spoke on Tuesday evening. "He told me there was buzz among some Indian youths that the PM was there. Apart from that, they had no other information, nor has anyone contacted them," Mustafa said.

Sufiyan's brother Salman said they last spoke Sunday evening. "He had no idea about the PM's visit. He is stationed just a few kilometres from the Ukraine border. As the PM was in Russia, I called the Indian embassy in Moscow, but officials there had no clue about bringing the youths back home. It is very frustrating," he said.

Gurpreet from Hoshiarpur has not returned either, his cousin Sandhu said. Mohammed Imran, brother

of Mohammed Afsan of Hyderabad, who was killed in a drone strike in March, said he is in touch with the families from Gulbarga, Hoshiarpur and Kashmir. "They all say the same thing... None of the youths we know have returned," Imran said.

Afsan (30) was working as a salesman at a clothes showroom at Nampally when he came to know of a job opportunity in Moscow, which promised a salary of ₹45,000 per month that would gradually increase to ₹1.5 lakh a month. He was told that after working for a year, he could apply for a Russian citizenship. He left for Moscow November 9 last year, but upon arrival, came to know that he had to work as a helper for Russian soldiers at the warfront. In video calls to his brother, he and other youths who had been similarly duped appealed for help to return. Afsan was killed in a drone strike near the Ukraine border in March. Another youth from Surat, Hemil Mangukiya, was killed on February 21.

The families had earlier told *The Indian Express* that the youths came in contact with an agent named Faisal Khan, who runs a YouTube channel, and were brainwashed into applying for the jobs.

Last month, the MEA had said that 10 Indian nationals working as support staff with the Russian military have been released and have returned to the country.

We never wanted Indians to be part of our Army: Russia

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JULY 10

A DAY after Russia promised early discharge of the Indian nationals from the Russian Army, the Russian embassy's Charge d' Affaires (CDA) said Wednesday it never wanted Indians to be part of the Russian Army.

Russian Deputy Chief of Mission Roman Babushkin, who is currently the CDA since the Ambassador is away, said, "Let us be very clear, we have never wanted Indians to be part of the Russian Army. You would never see any announcement by Russian authorities on this."

He said that most of the Indians were recruited under a commercial framework as they wanted to "make money". He said the small number of Indians — 50, 60 or 100 people — does not make any significance in terms of the wider conflict.

Babushkin said most of the Indians recruited as support staff are working illegally as they do not have appropriate visas to work.



Russian Deputy Chief of Mission Roman Babushkin

When asked if the families of those killed would be given compensation and Russian citizenship, Babushkin said that it should happen as per the contractual obligations. He also said that they are hoping for quick resolution of the issue relating to India's call for return of Indians recruited in the Russian Army as support staff. "We are on the same side with the Indian government on the issue..." he said at a media briefing while responding to a question. He said that the issue should not be politicised.

His remarks come after Russia promised to ensure early release and return of the Indian nationals working in the Russian military as support staff after Prime Minister Narendra Modi "very strongly" raised the issue with President Vladimir Putin.

Ready to work with India to handle situation in border areas: Wang to Doval

K J M VARMA BEIJING, JULY 10

CHINESE FOREIGN Minister Wang Yi has expressed readiness to join hands with India's National Security Advisor Ajit Doval to "properly handle" issues related to the situation in the border areas, amid the standoff in eastern Ladakh.

In a congratulatory message to Doval on his reappointment as India's National Security Advisor and Special Representative for the India-China boundary question, Wang noted that China and India share a relationship that transcends bilateral boundaries and holds increasing global significance.

Besides being the Foreign Minister, Wang is also China's Special Representative of the India-China border talks mechanism. In his message to Doval sent Tuesday, Wang said China and India share a relationship that transcends bilateral boundaries and holds increasing global significance.

Wang said he is "ready to join hands with Doval to implement the important consensus reached by the leaders of both countries, properly handle issues related to the situation on the ground in the border areas, and jointly safeguard peace and tranquility in the border areas", state-run Xinhua news agency reported on Wednesday. PTI

Rajasthan Budget puts focus on bijli, sadak, paani and health; no big sop

HAMZA KHAN JAIPUR, JULY 10

PRESENTING THE first full Budget of the BJP government led by Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma in Rajasthan, Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister Diya Kumari kept the focus on the essentials of 'bijli, sadak, paani' and healthcare while avoiding any major sop. She also laid down the foundation of the government's vision for the next five years as part of "Viksit Rajasthan @ 2047".

As part of the 2047 vision, the Finance Minister announced 10 resolutions of the state government, including a \$350-billion economy; focus on infrastructure development; quality of life; agriculture growth and farmers welfare among others. The focus, largely, was investing in basic infrastructure while upgrading and maintenance of the existing infrastructure facilities.

Kumari announced drinking water projects worth over ₹40,000 crore. This includes six major Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) projects worth ₹20,370 crore; ₹5,000 crore for 25 lakh rural households under the JJM; and additional drinking water works worth ₹5,180 crore for 183 cities and towns as part of AMRUT 2.0 scheme.

For energy, she announced work worth ₹2,25,000 crore to meet power demands up to 2031-32 and an action plan for essential energy production for next 10 years. She announced works related to production of 20,500-

MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 9 greenfield expressways
- 4 lakh recruitment in five years; 20,000 already completed
- Rajasthan Krishi Vikas Yojna projects: ₹650 crore
- ₹200 crore subsidy for agricultural equipment and tools for farmers
- State skill policy: Training for over 1.5 lakh youth in two years

Drinking water projects:	₹40,000 cr
Energy projects:	₹2,25,000 cr
Health projects:	₹27,660 cr
Road network:	53,000 km in five years at ₹60,000 cr

MW capacity from conventional sources of energy and 33,600-MW from renewable energy sources up to 2031-32. All government offices will also be given solar energy based electricity.

Under infrastructure, Kumari announced a 53,000-km road network in five years with an estimated expenditure of ₹60,000 crore. Additionally, she announced construction, upgradation, repair and maintenance works of state highways, bypass road and flyovers with an estimated expenditure of ₹9,000 crore; nine greenfield expressways of more than 2,750 km and repair and maintenance works of 1,343 damaged roads and bridges in two years at ₹644 crore.

For health, she announced projects worth ₹27,660 crore, which, she said, was 8.26 per cent of the Budget. She also announced the Mukhyamantri Ayushman Aarogya (MAA) Yojana with new pediatric packages, among other things.

Other big-ticket announcements included 4 lakh recruitments in government jobs in five years, with an aim of over 1 lakh in the current year itself, of which 20,000 recruitments have already been completed. Overall, the aim is 10 lakh recruitments in five years, including those in the private sector.

Former Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, who skipped the Assembly as he is recovering from



State Finance Minister Diya Kumari arrives at the Assembly to present the Budget. Rohit Jain Paras

EXPLAINED Roadmap for Vision 2047

THE FOCUS is back on 'bijli, sadak, paani', apart from upgradation and upkeep of existing infrastructure. The Budget sets the tone for the next five years as part of the BJP's 'Vision 2047' for Rajasthan.

a slipped disc, termed the Budget "dull and directionless". He said the Budget "does not seem to have anything to do with education, health and social security".

"The lack of schemes now versus the work done by our government in these areas is clearly visible in the budget figures. This Budget has neither provided relief to the public nor has any roadmap for development," Gehlot said.

Ayodhya's land sold to outsiders: Akhilesh



The Indian Express report published on July 10

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW, NEW DELHI, JULY 10

SAMAJWADI PARTY (SP) chief Akhilesh Yadav Wednesday demanded an investigation into the land deals in Ayodhya in the past seven years.

Reacting to an investigative report published in *The Indian Express*, Akhilesh said that it is now emerging that people from elsewhere bought and sold land in Ayodhya on a large scale to make profits. Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra also posted on X: "Common people would know the price of flour and pulses. Ministers and officials were busy finding out the price of land in Ayodhya."

Akhilesh posted an image of the report — *Arnachal Deputy CM to chief of UP Special Task Force, Brij Bhushan's MP-son to politicians across party lines: Rush to ride Ayodhya boom* — published in *The Indian Express* Wednesday. He wrote in Hindi, "As the land deals in Ayodhya are being exposed, the truth is coming out that under BJP rule, people from outside Ayodhya have bought and sold land on a large scale to make profits.

"...The BJP government's decision of not increasing the circle rate for the past 7 years is an economic conspiracy against the local people. Due to this, land scams worth billions of rupees have taken place," Yadav posted. He said: "Here, the land has not been bought but instead (grabbed) by land mafia," adding, "The people living in Ayodhya-Faizabad and surrounding areas did not get any benefit from all this. Buying land from the poor and farmers at the throw away price is a kind of land grabbing."

Akhilesh wrote, "We demand a detailed investigation and review into the 'rigging' and land deals in the name of so-called development in Ayodhya." Shiv Sena (UBT)'s Priyanka Chaturvedi posted on X: "For the BJP, Lord Ram is not about pyaar (love) but vyapaar (business). That is why Maryada Purushottam Lord Shri Ram has taught them a befitting lesson in this election!"

EC team on 2-day visit to Jharkhand

Ranchi: A six-member team of Election Commission of India led by senior deputy election commissioner Nitesh Vyas and Dharmendra Sharma arrived in Ranchi Wednesday to review the special summary revision of electoral rolls, an official said. Assembly elections in Jharkhand are due later this year.

The revision will end on July 24. The draft voter list will be published on July 25 and voters can submit their claims and objection by August 9. PTI

Mehbooba's daughter among Apple users in 98 countries to receive alert on 'mercenary spyware'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, SRINAGAR, JULY 10

ILTIJA MUFTI, the daughter of former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti, Wednesday said she had received an Apple threat notification saying her iPhone could have been attacked by "mercenary spyware", such as the NSO Group's Pegasus.

"Got an Apple alert that my phone's been hacked by Pegasus which GOI has admittedly procured & weaponised to harass critics & political opponents..." Iltija Mufti said in a post on social media platform X.

"I have not received such an alert before, never to my knowledge," she told *The Indian Express*. "I know GOI, especially BJP's top brass, has a history of intim-

idating rivals and silencing dissenters and opponents by hacking into their phones. Snooping around on women is a new low. I'm shocked they've attempted to hack into my phone to intercept my personal information," she alleged.

Apart from Mufti, Pushparaj Deshpande, founder of the Delhi-based Samruddha Bharat Foundation also claimed to have received a similar notification from Apple. The foundation works with stakeholders including the INDIA bloc parties.

Deshpande, who says he also represents Congress as a spokesperson in TV debates, told *The Indian Express*: "I am assuming this is an escalation of what my organisation has been facing for a while. If this is sanctioned by state actors, this is a structural assault on all progressives safe-



Iltija Mufti

guarding India's soul." A source aware of Apple's threat notifications said that the alerts were sent as part of the company's quarterly update process, and users in 98 countries, including India, received them. The number of Indian iPhone users who may have been affected is unclear.

Apple did not respond to a request for comment. It is also unclear when exactly the attack may have taken place since Apple sends these alerts every quarter. It is possible some people's iPhones may have been affected for several months before they learn about it at the

end of a quarter from Apple.

In April, Apple had updated its threat notification policy, which was seen by many as a dilution of its earlier policy. A key change Apple had then made was removing language which said a user's iPhone may have been targeted by a "potential state-sponsored spyware attack" and attributing attacks to "mercenary spyware" instead.

Last October, the company had sent threat notifications to Opposition leaders — including Congress's Shashi Tharoor, AAP's Raghav Chadha and TMC's Mahua Moitra — warning of a "potential state-sponsored spyware attack" on their iPhones.

The notifications sent to Mufti and Deshpande reflect the changed "mercenary spyware" threat. "Apple detected that you are being targeted by a merce-

nary spyware attack that is trying to remotely compromise the iPhone associated with your Apple ID... This attack is likely targeting you specifically because of who you are or what you do. Although it's never possible to achieve absolute certainty when detecting such attacks, Apple has high confidence in this warning — please take it seriously," reads the Apple email. "Mercenary spyware attacks, such as those using Pegasus from the NSO Group, are exceptionally rare and vastly more sophisticated than regular cybercriminal activity or consumer malware..."

Apple started sending these threat notifications in 2021, and since then individuals in 150 countries have received them. When it had sent the notification last year, at least 20 Indians with iPhones had received them.

CPCB backs diversion of air pollution funds for road work, NGT to take call

NIKHIL GHANEKAR NEW DELHI, JULY 10

THE PRINCIPAL bench of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) Wednesday said it will decide whether the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) can continue utilising green funds meant to tackle air pollution for road repair and paving by clubbing the issue with another matter on poor air quality in 53 cities.

The CPCB justified the diversion of green funds for road repairs in urban local bodies, such as the Ghaziabad Municipal Corporation, on grounds that the repairs and paving works helped tackle dust pollution.

A bench of NGT chairperson Justice Prakash Srivastava, judicial member Justice Arun Tyagi and expert member A Senthil Vel said if the CPCB continues to divert

funds from the Environment Protection Charge (EPC) and Environment Compensation (EC), then other municipal bodies may seek parity. The NGT made the observation while hearing a clutch of suo moto matters on air pollution and its impact on health.

The EPC funds are collected by levying a 1% charge on diesel vehicles with an engine capacity of 2000 CC or above registered in Delhi-NCR following an August 2016 order of the Supreme Court. The EPC is collected by the CPCB and is to be used for improving air quality in the region. The EC, on the other hand, is collected from the compensation imposed by the NGT and is managed by the CPCB.

During past hearings, the NGT had expressed displeasure about the diversion of EPC and EC funds for road repair and pavement works in the GMC. It had expressed doubt about the permis-

sibility to divert funds and had stated that this may be "gross misuse and serious financial irregularity". In the last hearing in April, the NGT had directed the CPCB to submit the criteria and guidelines adopted, and reasons behind releasing EPC and EC funds to urban local bodies.

In response, the CPCB requested the NGT to permit continued use of EPC funds for supporting air quality improvement works such as "road construction, paving works, procurement of mechanical road sweeping machines, anti-smog guns etc".

It submitted that of the Rs 98.9 crore it had disbursed from the EPC funds, Rs 15.9 crore was approved for works on eight roads as part of on-ground pollution mitigation. The approval was given after ensuring that the GMC's works were not funded under any other scheme, it said.

MATTER TO BE HEARD ON AUG 13

SC says CBI under Centre's ambit, holds Bengal suit maintainable

ANANTHAKRISHNANG
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

THE SUPREME COURT on Wednesday rejected the preliminary objections raised by Centre on the maintainability of the law suit filed by West Bengal challenging the CBI's power to register and investigate cases in the state despite withdrawal of general consent on November 16, 2018.

Appearing for the Centre, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta argued that the Union government had no superintendence or control over the CBI.

Perusing various provisions of the Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, 1986, a bench of Justices B R Gavai and Sandeep Mehta said, "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 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 Centre which is vitally concerned with."

"...we find that the contention of the learned Solicitor General that even if the CBI, being an independent agency, is considered to be an instrumentality of the State under Article 12 of the Constitution, it cannot be equated to the term Government of India as contemplated under Article 131 of the Constitution, in our view, holds no water," the bench said.

"We... find that the very establishment, exercise of powers, extension of jurisdiction, the superintendence of the DSPE, all vest

with the Government of India... In our view, the CBI is an organ or a body which is established by and under the superintendence of the Government of India..." it said.

However, the bench clarified that the findings will have no bearing on the merits of the suit and posted the matter for hearing on August 13 for framing of issues.

Appearing for West Bengal, senior advocates Kapil Sibal, AM Singhvi and Bishwajit Bhattacharya said that CBI is not a statutory body but an investigative agency of the Centre. They contended that under the DSPE Act, CBI's supervision is with the Central Vigilance Commission only in respect of the offences related to the Prevention of Corruption Act and that for all other matters, it vests in the central government.

"No doubt that the powers of superintendence of the Central Government would not relate to the superintendence of investigation of a particular case and the investigating agency (CBI) would always be entitled to investigate the offences independently. However, that would not water down administrative control and superintendence of the DSPE that vest with the Centre," they said.

Though the Centre urged the court to dismiss the suit on grounds that the state had not disclosed that some of the FIRs mentioned in the plaint were registered under the directions of the HC, the SC said, "a very reading of the plaint... would reveal that the claim of the petitioner is with regard to the investigations except with respect to the FIRs registered under the order of competent court of law".

BJP: SC verdict on maintenance to divorced Muslim women ended threat to Constitution

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

THE BJP Wednesday welcomed the Supreme Court's ruling that a divorced Muslim woman is entitled to maintenance from her husband, saying the judgement has ended a threat posed to the Constitution by the Rajiv Gandhi government, which had used its Parliamentary majority to overturn the Shah Bano verdict of the apex court.

"Whenever the Congress has been in power, the Constitution was under threat. It (Rajiv Gandhi government's) was a decision which gave primacy to Sharia over the Constitution. The prestige of the Constitution that was crushed by the Congress government has been restored by this order," BJP national spokesperson and Rajiv Sabha MP Sudhanshu Trivedi said.

The Congress has over the last few months accused the BJP of looking to change the Constitution. Congress MPs have taken their oaths in Parliament with a copy of the Constitution in hand.

The BJP's attack is also part of a counter where the party has accused the Congress of being anti-Constitution, first recalling the Emergency and now recalling the Shah Bano judgement.

Trivedi said the verdict, a relief to Muslim women, should be seen beyond religion as it is a matter of equal rights.

'Don't complain, push yourself': For Bihar's first trans SI, donning the uniform is a lifelong dream

SANTOSH SINGH
PATNA, JULY 10

FOR MADHU Kashyap, a 23-year-old trans woman from Bihar's Bhagalpur village, the road to being a sub-inspector in the state's provincial police force was fraught with difficulties. Apart from the obvious gender parity, she also had to contend with medical complications — a surgery she had two years ago meant she lost six months of preparation time, a setback that could have cost her a lifelong dream of donning the uniform.

Madhu is one of three trans people who cracked the Bihar Police Subordinate Selection Commission (BPSSC) exams to qualify for SI positions in the



Voters after exercising franchise in Maniktala Assembly bypoll in Kolkata, Wednesday. Partha Paul

BJP alleges bogus voting, intimidation in Bengal bypoll, EC seeks report

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, JULY 10

AS FOUR Assembly constituencies in West Bengal went to bypoll on Wednesday, the Opposition BJP filed nearly 100 complaints alleging violence, intimidation and bogus voting by the ruling TMC, prompting the Election Commission to seek an action taken report from the state Chief Electoral Officer.

The Trinamool Congress (TMC), however, dismissed the charges, calling them "baseless". Till 5 pm, Raiganj in Uttar Dinajpur witnessed the highest turnout at 67.12 per cent, followed by Ranaghat Dakshin (Nadia) at 65.37 per cent, Bagdah (North 24 Parganas) at 65.15 per cent, and Maniktala in Kolkata at 51.39 per cent.

With nearly 10 lakh voters in the four Assembly segments, the EC had deployed around 70 companies of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) to secure 1,097 polling booths.

In Maniktala, BJP candidate Kalyan Chaubey demanded re-poll in 89 booths, alleging booth capture. He said he might move the Calcutta High Court seeking free and fair election.

BJP's North Kolkata district unit chief Tamoghna Ghosh pointed fingers at the Central force, alleging that they did not swing into action. "We could not see Central forces in action today. They were made inactive by the state police. We expect a more proactive role from the Central forces," said Ghosh.

While Choubey was greeted with 'go back' slogan by TMC workers when he visited a booth in Maniktala, BJP's Ranaghat Dakshin candidate Manoj Kumar Biswas and Bagdah nominee Binay Kumar Biswas alleged that they were not allowed to visit some of the booths and his vehicle was vandalised by TMC supporters. "I was stopped from visiting booths after I got complaints that our party workers were being beaten up by TMC goons," said Biswas.

Uttarakhand: Cong candidate says shots fired, police unsure

AVANEESH MISHRA
DEHRADUN, JULY 10

SEVERAL PEOPLE were injured in a clash in Uttarakhand's Manglaur Vidhan Sabha constituency during bypolls on Wednesday. Manglaur Congress candidate Qazi Nizamuddin alleged that miscreants also opened fire near a polling booth, though police said there is no confirmation of this.

The clash broke out at the Libberheri booth when voting was underway. "I reached there within half an hour. This man has suffered injuries from canes... There were four-five people. No one came to take them to the hospital... I could not find any officer and could see only two sub-inspectors and four constables present... We are telling the names of those who opened fire, but there is no one listening in this *andheri nagri*," said Nizamuddin in a video he made while taking an injured person to the hospital.

HC orders Haryana to open Shambhu border within 7 days on 'experimental basis'

JAGPREET SINGH SANDHU
CHANDIGARH, JULY 10

THE PUNJAB and Haryana High Court Wednesday directed the Haryana government to remove within a week on an experimental basis the barricades set up at the Shambhu border where farmers have been camping since February 13 when their 'Dilli Chalo' march was stopped. Due to barricading, the border with Patiala on Punjab side and Ambala on Haryana side, has remained closed for traffic.

"On experimental basis, we direct the State of Haryana that at least the barricade at Shambhu border should be opened up within a week so that general public is not put to inconvenience. It is also open to the State of Haryana to take effective steps to enforce the law and order against the protesters if they do not remain within their limits which have been set down by the State," said a bench of Justices GS Sandhawalia and Vikas Bahl.

The bench said that endeavour should be made by both the states (Punjab and Haryana) that Shambhu border "is restored to its original glory and open to one and all and that the law and order is maintained for the convenience of the public".

"It is made clear that Punjab shall also remove any obstruction(s) on the highway to ensure



Farmers camping at the Shambhu border called a meet on July 16 to discuss the matter and future course of action. File

free flow of traffic," the bench said and asked the farmer unions to ensure they abide by the law.

The bench was hearing a PIL filed in February by one Uday Pratap Singh of Haryana seeking directions to stay all obstructive actions by the government of the Haryana and the Centre against the farmers' protest.

Meanwhile, the farmers camping at the Shambhu border called a meeting on July 16 to discuss the matter and future course of action.

The Haryana government had set up barricades at the Ambala-New Delhi national highway in February after Samyukta Kisan Morcha (Non-Political) and Kisan Mazdoor Morcha (KMM) announced a 'Dilli Chalo' march in support of various demands, in-

cluding a legal guarantee to minimum support price (MSP) for crops, and farm loan waiver. The farmers have been staying put at the Shambhu and Khanauri border points since February 13 after their march was stopped by the security forces.

On Wednesday, Haryana's Additional Advocate General Deepak Sabherwal argued that 400-450 protesters are still sitting on the Punjab side of the highway, and they may enter Ambala and conduct a gherao at the SP's office. The bench, however, observed, "Men in uniform cannot be scared of them... We are living in a democracy; farmers cannot be stopped from entering Haryana".

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

SC refuses to set aside Bhavani Revanna's anticipatory bail

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

THE SUPREME COURT Wednesday refused to set aside the anticipatory bail granted to Bhavani Revanna, the mother of suspended JD(S) leader and rape accused Prajwal Revanna, in a kidnapping case involving one of the victims of her son's alleged sexual assaults.

A bench of justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan issued notice to Bhavani Revanna on the appeal filed by the Karnataka government challenging the Karnataka High Court order.

"The accused is a woman who is aged 55 years. There are serious allegations against her son of indulging in atrocious things. He ran away and eventually, he was caught. In a case of this kind of allegations, what will be the role of the mother in abetting the crime committed by her son?" the bench told senior advocate Kapil Sibal.

Sibal said the relief granted was the "most unfortunate" and the victim was under captivity on the directions of the family. "There is nothing... let us not politicise the matter," the SC said.

Mumbai woman accused in Goa home demolition denied anticipatory bail

Circumstances show she conspired: Court

PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA
PANAJI, JULY 10

A SESSIONS Court in Goa Wednesday dismissed the anticipatory bail plea filed by Pooja Sharma, a Mumbai resident named as an accused in connection with the demolition of a residence in Goa — a seemingly local case that had snowballed into a massive political row.

In the order, Sessions Judge, North Goa, Panaji, Irshad Agha said that though Sharma was personally not present at the time of the incident, the "circumstances show that she has conspired in the performance of the said act".

The home at the centre of the case was demolished in North Goa's Assagao last month. The complainant, Prinsha Agarwadekar, had lodged a police complaint alleging that on June 22, Sharma and others conspired to criminally trespass in her house, with excavators and bouncers, with the intention to demolish it and forcefully evict the occupants.

Agarwadekar claimed she has been residing there with her husband and son for many years. Police had arrested a broker, Arshad Khwaja, and three others for allegedly conspiring to demolish the property.

Police had also served two notices to Sharma to join the investigation.

IAS officers 'close to BJP' transferred in BJP govt's first reshuffle in Odisha

SUJIT BISOIYI
BHUBANESWAR, JULY 10

NEARLY A month after assuming charge, Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi Wednesday effected major changes in the top bureaucracy with two "influential" bureaucrats in the previous BJP government being moved out.

G Mathivathanan, who was serving as the secretary of housing and urban development for over 11 years, has been transferred as director general of Gopabandhu Academy of Administration, which imparts training to Odisha Administrative Service officers. Sports secretary R Vineel Krishna, who was serving as special secretary in the chief minister's office, has been posted as commissioner, land records and settlement.

As sports was one of the major focus areas of the previous Naveen Patnaik government, Vineel wielded enormous power to implement major projects including the hockey stadium at Rourkela. Both Mathivathanan, who hails from Tamil Nadu and Vineel, a resident of Andhra Pradesh, were considered to be "powerful" in the BJP government and close to V K Pandian, the then private secretary of former CM Naveen Patnaik.

Usha Padhee replaced Mathivathanan and Bhaskar Jyoti Sharma succeeded Vineel as new sports secretary. It has also transferred finance secretary Vishal Dev to the electronics and IT department.

Senior bureaucrat Saswat Mishra, who has been currently serving as secretary to governor, has been given additional charge of the finance department along with the energy department.

Governor seeks report from CM on actions taken against Kolkata top cops

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, JULY 10

CITING HIS complaint against Kolkata Police Commissioner Vineet Kumar Goyal and Deputy Commissioner of Police (Central) Indira Mukherjee, West Bengal Governor C V Ananda Bose has asked Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee to submit a report on the actions taken against the two top cops.

Late June, the Governor sent a report to the Ministry of Home



Bengal Governor CV Ananda Bose, CM Mamata Banerjee

Affairs (MHA) accusing the two top officers of Kolkata Police of "functioning in a manner unbecoming of a public servant".

The same report was sent to the state government on July 4.

The Governor alleged that the two officers "tarnished" the office of the Governor through their actions, and ignored service rules.

On May 8, a woman staffer had accused Governor Bose of molestation inside Raj Bhavan, following which the Kolkata Police launched an inquiry into the incident. In his report to the Centre, Governor Bose said that Kolkata Police formed a SIT and held media briefings on the alleged molestation issue "giving an impression that the Governor could face criminal charges".

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ADA:ADV-126(A) **ADDENDUM** Date: 10-07-2024

RECRUITMENT OF PROJECT ASSISTANTS:
ADVERTISEMENT NO. ADA:ADV-126 DATED 9TH JULY 2024

The details on Stipend, Upper Age limit and Tenure is included under para 'C' of General Conditions in the above referred advertisement of ADA published in this daily on 10.07.2024 and mentioned below as:

Stipend: (a) Candidates having qualification as B.E/B.Tech in First Class with a valid GATE Score OR B.E/B.Tech PLUS M.E/M.Tech both in First Class OR B.E/B.Tech in First Class PLUS 2 years relevant experience after UG and eligible for Walk-IN interview: Rs. 37,000/- per month plus HRA as per rules.

(b) Candidates having only UG level qualification i.e B.E/B.Tech (in First Class) and eligible for written Test and Interview: Rs. 31,000/- per month plus HRA as per rules.

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Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission is a Statutory Body constituted under the provisions of Electricity Act, 2003. The Commission desires to hire the services of competent consultants for analysis of the tariff/true-up petitions. The Consultant shall provide comprehensive assistance to Commission for analysis of Multi-Year Tariff Petitions and true-up petitions to be filed by the generating companies and Transmission licensee in Madhya Pradesh as per the "Scope of Work" provided at Clause 2 of RFP/Bid document. The RFP/Bid documents may be downloaded from the Commission's website www.mperc.in.

The significant dates are indicated below :

1. Issue/Publication of Bid Document	-	11th July, 2024
2. Receipt of Bid proposal	-	16:00 Hours of 8th August, 2024
3. Opening of Technical Portion of Bids	-	17:00 Hours of 8th August, 2024

The interested parties may submit their proposals strictly in accordance with the procedure laid down in the RFP/Bid documents, so as to reach to the Commission's office as per the time schedule indicated herein. For amendments/due date extension/update if any, please visit Commission's website regularly.

M.P. Madhyam/115312/2024 **SECRETARY**

8 EXPRESS NETWORK

Karnataka student killed as she refused to marry: CID chargesheet

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE BENGALURU, JULY 10

THE KARNATAKA CID has filed the chargesheet in the Neha Hiremath murder case stating that the accused, Fayaz Khondunaik, stabbed her for refusing to marry him.

On April 18, Neha Hiremath, 23, daughter of Hubballi Dharwad Municipal Corporation corporator Niranjan Hiremath, was stabbed to death by Fayaz, her former classmate, outside KLE Technological University. She was a first-year MCA student.

The case, initially registered at Vidyanagar police station, had taken a political turn after the BJP alleged it was a case of "love jihad". The case was handed over to CID. Neha's father Niranjan Hiremath, a Congress councillor, had also alleged it was a case of "love jihad", but the CID has ruled out such an angle in the case.

The 483-page chargesheet, filed by CID DySP MH Paika, has named 99 witnesses, and has CCTV footage, postmortem report, Forensic Science Laboratory report and other evidence.

According to the chargesheet, Fayaz and Neha were classmates at PC Jabin Science College, where they were studying BCA in 2020-21. Later, they became friends and by 2022 it turned into a relationship. In March, differences cropped up between them. Around 4.40 pm on April 18, Fayaz, who had bought a monkey cap and a knife, waited outside KLE Technological University.

"How can you cheat me after loving me for so many days?" Fayaz said while stabbing her, according to the chargesheet.

SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

Justice Khanna recuses self from hearing verdict review petitions

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JULY 10

THE SUPREME Court hearing on petitions seeking review of its October 17, 2023 judgment, refusing to grant legal recognition for same sex marriage, could not take place Wednesday as one of the judges on the five-judge constitution bench recused himself from the hearing.

Justice Sanjiv Khanna, the second seniormost SC judge who was on the reconstituted bench, is seen to have cited personal reasons to recuse.

The October 2023 ruling was delivered by a bench headed by CJI D Y Chandrachud and comprising Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul, S Ravindra Bhat, Hima Kohli and PS Narasimha.

After the retirement of Justices Kaul and Bhat, the bench was reconstituted with Justices Khanna and BV Nagarathna replacing them. The bench was scheduled to consider the review petitions in chamber on July 10.

With Justice Khanna recusing, the CJI will have to reconstitute the bench. In its ruling, the five-judge bench, in four separate judgments on October 7, 2023, declined to strike down or tweak provisions of the Special Marriage Act, 1954, saying there was "no unqualified right" to marriage.

MANOJ MORE PUNE, JULY 10

HIS PRESTIGE having taken a severe beating in the recent Lok Sabha polls, where his faction of the NCP just won one seat, there is a new Ajit Pawar to the fore ahead of the Assembly elections and the coming Maharashtra Legislative Council elections.

On Tuesday, the NCP national president was at Mumbai's Siddhivinayak Temple, where he and party leader Praful Patel attended the "abhishhek" ceremony. On Sunday, he personally welcomed Sant Tukaram Maharaj Palkhi, part of the Pandharpur pilgrimage, to his hometown of Baramati. The Deputy Chief Minister joined the pilgrims

BUS PERMIT HAD EXPIRED IN 2021, SAY POLICE



The bus is towed away after the accident on the Agra-Lucknow Expressway in UP's Unnao district on Wednesday. PTI

18 killed, 19 injured as bus on its way to Delhi hits tanker in Unnao

MANISH SAHU LUCKNOW, JULY 10

A DELHI-BOUND double-decker bus from Bihar rammed into a milk tanker on Agra-Lucknow Expressway in Unnao district of Uttar Pradesh in the early hours of Wednesday, leaving 18 people dead and 19 injured.

According to police, the bus carrying 59 people appeared to be over speeding and hit the tanker from behind. After the collision, both the bus and the milk tanker overturned. The drivers of the bus and the milk tanker died in the accident.

"Around 4:50 am on Wednesday, we received information about a road accident. A police team reached the spot and began the rescue operation. Eighteen people were dead, 19 injured, and 22 passengers were unhurt," Circle Officer (Unnao) Arvind Chaurasia said. The victims include three women and one boy.

"We were sleeping. I don't know what happened," Mohd Shamim, a passenger who sustained head injuries told re-



Dilshad has lost six members of his family. PTI

porters at the hospital. Another passenger, Dilshad, lost six of the eight family members he was travelling with. "We were sleeping at the time of the accident and woke up to find ourselves trapped inside. Those who reached the spot were busy recording videos instead of helping us," Dilshad said, adding the bus driver was speeding all night.

Meanwhile, preliminary inquiry revealed that the bus permit had expired in 2021.

"The bus, which is owned by one KC Jain, a resident of Jodhpur in Rajasthan, was registered in Mahoba district, Uttar Pradesh, in January 2019. Its fitness certificate

AKHILESH BLAMES 'GOVT NEGLIGENCE'

Lucknow: While condoling the death of 18 people in the bus accident in Unnao, SP chief Akhilesh Yadav Wednesday said the "negligence of the BJP government" was responsible for it. "Why did the vehicle (tanker) not receive towing service if it was broken down? Crores of rupees are collected on expressway daily. Instead of being spent on management and administration, is that money going somewhere else? BJP government should answer," he said on X. **ENS**

expired in 2021. Additionally, both the permit and insurance of the bus had expired," Chaurasia said.

"A complaint has been lodged by a transport officer to file an FIR against the owner and the bus operator, a resident of Delhi," said the officer.

"It was also found that 39 sleeper buses, belonging to KC Jain, were registered in Mahoba,"

Assistant Regional Transport Officer (Mahoba) Daya Shankar said, adding the registration of 35 sleeper buses was suspended on Wednesday as their fitness certificates had expired.

Earlier in the day, Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath termed the accident "extremely sad and heartbreaking". Bihar CM Nitish Kumar announced an ex gratia of Rs 2 lakh to the next of kin of each deceased hailing from his state.

President Droupadi Murmu and PM Narendra Modi also condoled the loss of lives. Modi announced an ex gratia of Rs 2 lakh for the families of the deceased and Rs 50,000 for the injured.

Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge expressed grief over the incident and urged the administration to provide all help to those affected.

Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi wrote in a Facebook post, "The government is requested to provide full assistance to the families of the victims and provide all possible help in the treatment of the injured."

WITH PTI INPUTS

MUMBAI BMW HIT-AND-RUN CASE

Cops: Mihir admitted he was driving; changed appearance

Shinde Sena sacks his father Rajesh Shah from post

SAGAR RAJPUT MUMBAI, JULY 10

DAY AFTER he was arrested in the BMW hit-and-run case in Worli that claimed the life of 45-year-old Kaveri Nakhwa on July 7, the Worli police investigating the case said that the main accused, Mihir Shah, son of Shiv Sena leader Rajesh Shah, has confessed to being behind the wheels of the car at the time of the accident.

According to police, 23-year-old Mihir claimed that he fled the spot as he was afraid of consequences. They also said he shaved off his beard and cut his hair to hide his identity.

A senior police officer claimed that the two main accused — Mihir Shah and his driver Rajrishi Bidawat — have given contradictory statements and that they need to confront them and verify through technical evidence.

"We have to confront the two accused — Bidawat and Mihir, face-to-face as there is a lot of discrepancy between the facts stated by them due to which it is necessary to conduct a thorough interrogation and confront them," read police's remand application.

Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde Wednesday sacked Rajesh Shah from the post of deputy leader of Shiv Sena's Palghar unit. "As per the orders of Shiv Sena chief leader Eknath Shinde, Rajesh Shah of Palghar has been relieved from the post of deputy leader (Palghar)," the order signed by Sena secretary Sanjay More said.

Shah was arrested from Virar on Tuesday. On Wednesday, police produced him before court, following which sent him to police custody till July 16.

"He went into hiding when we had his latest picture in which



BMC demolishes a portion of a Juhu bar which accused Mihir Shah had visited before the accident. Amit Chakravarty

he had a fully grown beard. So to mislead us and also to evade arrest, he shaved off his beard and also got a hair cut assuming that we would not be able to recognise him," said an officer adding they would record the statement of the barber as well.

Police have so far recorded statements of around 14 people, including witnesses.

On Sunday, Mihir rammed his BMW car into a two-wheeler on which Pradip Nakhwa and his wife Kaveri were travelling. Kaveri was killed while Pradip was injured. After the accident, Shah switched seat with driver Rajrishi Bidawat, police said.

Shinde announced a compensation of Rs 10 lakh for family of Kaveri Nakhwa. "All legal or financial support will be provided to the family of the victim by the government," he said.

Seeking Mihir's custody, police told the court that the accused has not been cooperating and they need to recover the number plate and seize his phone. "We also want to understand exact locations where Mihir was hiding," police told the court.

Defence lawyer Aayush Pasbala argued that shaving off beard and cutting his hair cannot be a ground for asking his custody and told the court the two accused have already been confronted and their stories have aligned.

Accused's family was scared of being attacked by mob, say police

SAGAR RAJPUT MUMBAI, JULY 10

THE MUMBAI Police, investigating the BMW hit-and-run case involving Mihir Shah, the son of a Shiv Sena leader, said Wednesday his family members, including his mother and sisters, escaped after the accident Sunday as they were scared of a mob attack and police interrogation.

On Tuesday, the Mumbai police arrested Mihir Shah from Virar and also detained Mihir's mother Meena, his sisters Pooja and Kinjal, and a friend from a resort in Murbad in Thane district.

"We have recorded their statements and trying to ascertain their role. They have claimed they went into hiding as they were scared of being attacked by a mob while the investigators would have also detained them and conducted sustained interrogation," said an investigator.

A senior police officer also said that his grandparents, who stay in Palghar, are also untraceable since the incident.

Meghalaya: FIR after assault on migrant workers over 'permit'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE GUWAHATI, JULY 10

THE POLICE have registered an FIR and the Meghalaya Human Rights Commission sought a report Wednesday after non-local workers were allegedly assaulted Tuesday by members of a group claiming to check if they had "work permits".

The incident comes amid Khasi Students' Union's renewed pressure to implement an Inner Line Permit in the state. The union members are checking the 'work permits' of migrant labourers.

The alleged incident took place in Shillong's Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium where work is underway ahead of the Durand Cup, scheduled to begin this month.

In a widely circulated video, a technician from Delhi, who identified himself as Sonu, said that people had entered the venue Tuesday morning and began gathering the workers. He said that three of the men started hitting him while ordering him to stand with the other workers.

In the video, he is heard saying, "This incident makes me

want to leave. I have spoken to my company and they have also asked me to leave."

Shillong City SP Dara Aswagosh said that "no accused has been named in the FIR" lodged in connection with the incident.

Making it clear that no group is authorised to conduct checks, CM Conrad Sangma said, "There is nothing called a work permit. There is registration done by the labour department and that is the only policy in our state... This is done to ensure safety to individuals and maintain a database of all labourers in the state."

Those who are checking, the CM said, are "on the wrong side of the law". Five FIRs have been registered against different organisations carrying out such checks over the last few days, he said.

Taking a suo motu cognizance of the alleged incident, state Human Rights Commission issued a notice to the SP concerned and sought a report within two weeks.

The state Assembly has also passed resolutions in favour of extending an ILP to the state and Sangma has repeatedly said that the matter will be examined by the Centre.

Deakin University opens doors to first PG batch at GIFT City

RITU SHARMA AHMEDABAD, JULY 10

A WELL-DESIGNED curriculum, better employment options, quality education at a lower cost — these are some of the reasons 45 students chose Australia's Deakin University, which has set up camp at GIFT City in Gandhinagar.

As Deakin University welcomed its inaugural postgraduate batch Wednesday, the excitement of being a part of the first international university to establish a campus in India was palpable.

"When I am getting a return of Rs 50 lakh against an investment of Rs 22 lakh, this is certainly a better decision than studying in Canada, Australia or even Iceland," said Phalak Mitra, 20, a commerce graduate, who had worked as a capital market and security analyst.

A large number of students who took admission in the two courses — cybersecurity and business analytics — offered by the university are from Gujarat, closely followed by Maharashtra and New Delhi, with some from Chennai and Bengaluru as well. The Master of Cyber Security (Professional) course has 15 stu-



The inaugural postgraduate batch has 45 students. Express

dents, while Master of Business Analytics has 30.

Bhavishya Rane, a 25-year-old with a Bachelor of Engineering (BE) in Computer Science, worked for three years as a technical analyst in Mumbai. He said he gave up the idea of studying abroad after going through Deakin's curriculum, comparing costs, and talking into consideration the matter of having to adjust in a new country.

Shreyas N M, a 22-year-old from Bengaluru with a BE in Artificial Intelligence (AI), said, "When I researched Germany in terms of employability, I realised I did not have many options, and the fee of the Deakin course in AI

was similar to those in Germany — around Rs 25 lakh," he said.

The university has offered two fully-funded scholarships covering tuition and living expenses. The inaugural PG batch has 45 students against university's intake capacity of 100 "despite receiving applications and expressions of interests from thousands", Deakin Vice-Chancellor Prof Iain Martin told *The Indian Express*. "The batch size of Business Analytics is bigger as students from different educational backgrounds are eligible. Students in cyber security batch are from IT and computer science fields, which is a prerequisite for the course," Martin said.

Another hit-and-run case in Maharashtra: Woman killed, 1 held

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE MUMBAI, JULY 10

A 36-YEAR-old woman was killed in an alleged hit-and-run incident in Maharashtra's Nashik on Tuesday evening, two days after a woman was killed in Mumbai in a similar incident involving a BMW car. The Nashik police arrested the driver of the car that mowed down the woman on Ganganapur Road.

As per CCTV footage from the spot, the woman, identified as Vaishali Shinde, was seen walking when a speeding Maruti A-star rammed her. The woman was flung in the air in the impact but the car sped away. Those present at the spot rushed her to a local hospital where she was declared dead.

Police registered an FIR and launched a search for the accused. Using clues from CCTV footage, police traced the driver based on the vehicle's registration number and arrested him. The accused, whose identity was yet to be revealed, was produced before a court which sent him to police custody.



A man, allegedly involved in the case, after his arrest in Nashik on Wednesday. PTI

A day before, another woman, identified as Nidhi Ware, 45, was run over by a truck in Nashik while she was out shopping.

The two accidents came after the hit-and-run case in Worli, Mumbai, where the son of Shiv Sena leader Rajesh Shah rammed his BMW car into a two-wheeler, killing 45-year-old Kaveri Nakhwa and injuring her husband Pradip Nakhwa Sunday.

Before this, a minor son of a builder allegedly driving a Porsche under the influence of alcohol mowed down two IT professionals travelling on a bike in Kalyani Nagar area on May 19.

Polls and prestige at stake, Ajit Pawar the devotee and pilgrim takes shape

(warkaris) in traditional attire, accompanied by wife Sunetra.

Party insiders admit that these public displays of piety from Ajit, a veteran politician who has long worked on the ground in these parts, are rare.

Even the Budget that he presented last week had a gift for the warkaris — ₹20,000 for every 'dindi' (or group of them) participating in the Sant Dnyaneshwar Maharaj and Sant Tukaram Maharaj palkhis to Pandharpur.

These measures by Ajit come in the wake of the Lok Sabha polls, where the NCP did not just finish last among the six major parties in the fray, Sunetra also lost the prestigious Baramati battle to Sharad Pawar-led NCP's Supriya Sule.

In the Legislative Council polls coming up for 11 seats on July 12,



Maharashtra Deputy CM Ajit Pawar with NCP leaders Praful Patel and Sunil Tatkare at Siddhivinayak Temple Tuesday. PTI

the NCP has two nominees in the fray. The opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) coalition has forced a contest by nominating three names. With 66 MLAs, the

MVA has the numbers to elect two, but will need to break away MLAs from the Mahayuti coalition to ensure a win for a third. The candidates fielded by the

EXPLAINED Behind Ajit Pawar's religious push

PUBLIC DISPLAYS of piety from Ajit are rare. His visit to the Siddhivinayak Temple and participation in the Pandharpur pilgrimage come ahead of the MLC polls where a cross-voting cloud hovers over his NCP, and Assembly elections later. These measures by Ajit follow the Lok Sabha polls, where NCP finished last among the six major parties in the fray.

MVA include Pradnya Satav (Congress), Jayant Patil (Peasants and Workers Party) and Milind Narvekar (Sena UBT)."

Of the parties in Mahayuti, Ajit's NCP is the most vulnerable, after the Lok Sabha poll performance. While it won just one seat out of the four it contested, the

NCP (Sharadchandra Pawar) bagged eight out of its share of 10.

Denying any worries regarding cross-voting, NCP spokesperson Umesh Patil said: "The Sharad Pawar-led party does not have enough candidates to contest the Assembly elections (due at the end of the year). That is why they are

making such desperate noises." Speaking to reporters after his temple visit, Ajit said: "In the coming days, I will start campaigning for the Assembly elections. Before that, I decided to take the blessings of Lord Ganesh."

The NCP has also denied herding its MLAs ahead of the July 12 elections. "We don't need to keep our MLAs in a five-star hotel. We trust our MLAs," NCP state chief Sunil Tatkare said Monday, adding that the Mahayuti had "devised a strategy to ensure the victory of all our nine candidates".

Patil also said that the NCP's Lok Sabha poll performance would have no bearing on the Assembly elections. The party is particularly banking on the monetary payout announced for women in the state Budget by Ajit.

Among those who have claimed that the Ajit faction's MLAs are ready to cross-vote is Rohit Pawar of the NCP (Sharadchandra Pawar). According to him, more than 15 MLAs of the faction are in touch with them. "We will take only those who have not been critical of our party's national president (Sharad Pawar). The final decision will be his," Rohit said.

NCP (SP) spokesperson Mahesh Tapase said, "It is clear that Ajit Pawar is worried about his people staying together, which has made him turn to God."

Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut said Ajit is worried that "at least three-to-four MLAs might cross-vote in favour of MVA". "That is why he is resorting to such tactics," he said.



Govt. of Haryana

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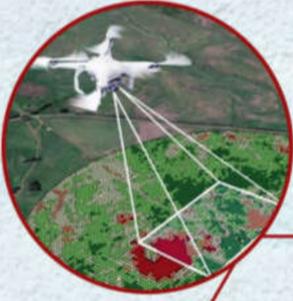
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BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

The food price constraint



Upcoming budget needs to address structural issues that weigh down the agricultural sector

DHARMAKIRTI JOSHI, PANKHURI TANDON AND SHARVARI RAJADHYAKSHA

MESSAGE TO MOSCOW

PM's Russia visit frames Delhi's fraught challenge of multi-alignment — and its opportunities

NEW DELHI'S GRADUAL move from its Cold War-era principle of non-alignment to the more pragmatic multi-alignment could well have hit a wall in 2022. The war in Ukraine sharpened the renewed great power rivalries and India had significant partnerships with both sides — the traditional relationship with Russia on the one hand, and deepening ties with the US on the other. Two and a half years later, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's first visit to Russia since the conflict began shows that New Delhi is getting more adept on the diplomatic tightrope: While the visit saw warmth between PM Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin and a slew of announcements on trade, technology and the defence partnership, India also chided Moscow as it made a stronger pitch for peace. However, the vexed challenges of multi-alignment, of balancing competing and sometimes contradictory interests, remain. Two formulations by PM Modi during the visit are symptomatic of the complexity that India must navigate.

Reacting to the alleged bombing by Russia of a children's hospital in Kyiv, he said that such an incident was "painful" and "peace talks do not succeed amid bombs, guns and bullets". The joint statement "noted with appreciation relevant proposals of mediation and good offices aimed at peaceful resolution of the conflict in accordance with international law and on the basis of the UN Charter in its entirety and totality". These statements mark a sharpening of the PM's earlier formulation that "this is not an era of war", first made in 2022 and echoed in the G20 New Delhi Declaration. At the same time, they leave room for India to play the role of a bridge between Russia and the West. Calling Russia an "all-weather friend" is aimed at ensuring that Delhi and Moscow can carry forward their engagement despite the looming China factor and India's deep and growing ties with the US and Europe. The Ukraine war has isolated Russia from the West and its economic stability owes much to Beijing's backing. Given India's long-standing dispute with China over its aggression on the border and its need for Russian oil and arms, including spare parts and maintenance for pre-existing inventory, in the medium term, it is essential that the supply chains from Moscow are maintained.

Of course, Delhi's balancing act is growing more demanding in a polarised world. The current scenario is volatile, what happens in the US election later this year has significant ramifications — to what extent will the new White House reshape the dynamic with Europe and China? That's why the way forward for India is to continue to engage with all partners — bilaterally and in multilaterals like the Quad, I2U2 and Shanghai Cooperation Organisation — based on its economic and strategic interests. If a partnership with the US, Japan and Australia is necessary to keep China in check in the Indo-Pacific, the relationship with Russia is needed for energy security and defence. Doing business with a growing India is in the interest of all sides.

IT'S HEATING UP

Breaches of Paris Pact's 1.5 degrees target are a reminder: Countries must build resilience against weather vagaries

THE AVERAGE GLOBAL temperature between July 2023 and June 2024 was the highest on record, according to the European Union's Copernicus Climate Change Service's latest bulletin. The agency, among the World Meteorological Organisation's key sources of climate data, has revealed that in the past 12 months, the planet was 1.64 degrees Celsius hotter than in the fossil fuel era. The findings do not immediately mean that the world has defaulted on the Paris Climate Pact's 1.5 degrees threshold — that target is measured in terms of decadal averages and not yearly temperature. Last month was the Earth's hottest June on record. The onset of La Nina might bring relief to people in several parts of the world. Nevertheless, there are enough reasons to see the EU agency's data as a continuing shift in global temperatures. The "temporary" breaches of the 1.5-degree target over the past two years are warnings to brace for a warmer world and bolster adaptation mechanisms.

Reducing GHG emissions and limiting the amount of warming has so far been the prime focus of climate policymaking. However, mitigation targets have historically been inadequate and the global community has never agreed on who shoulders the greater burden of decarbonisation. At the same time, it is increasingly becoming evident that even a decimal-point increase in global warming makes extreme weather events more intense and frequent. Last year, the IPCC's Synthesis Report warned that measures to build resilience are "largely small-scale, reactive and incremental with most focusing on near-term risks". The report underlined the need to weather-proof agriculture, secure people's livelihoods, protect the vulnerable from rising seas and rivers and strengthen healthcare systems.

In 2021, the New Delhi-based Council for Energy, Environment and Water's study revealed that more than 80 per cent of India's population is vulnerable to climate disasters, and most regions have low adaptive capacities. India does have a climate adaptation plan. But the toll taken every year by landslides, floods and heat waves underscores that much needs to be done to secure the vulnerable. Despite advancements, India's weather reporting system finds it difficult to keep pace with climate-related complexities. The infrastructure of even the metros like Delhi, Mumbai, and Bengaluru struggles to cope with extreme rainfall episodes. Like most parts of the world, India's climate adaptation project remains a top-down endeavour. It's time that policymakers appreciated that climate change is a global phenomenon that cannot overlook local solutions.

COACH GAMBHIR

He is likely to emphasise primacy of the team over individual glory. That can only be good

GAUTAM GAMBHIR'S STINT as the head coach of the Indian men's team can take cricket away from the celebrity culture that has come to define it, and towards an acknowledgement of the collective effort that results in victories or defeats. Never the flashiest or most-talented player in the team during his playing days, Gambhir reached the top of the game using the unglamorous attributes of hard work, grit, a strong mind and a solid work ethic.

It's this quality that is likely to appeal to youngsters coming into the team in a transitional phase of Indian cricket. Stalwarts like Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma are outliers who are capable of working things out if they fall into a rut. All they may ever need from a coach would be reassurance, more than technical inputs. As far as the seniors are concerned, keeping the dressing room a happy place is key. It's the development of the less heralded players that should be the new coach's focus. Gambhir takes up the India job after guiding Kolkata Knight Riders to the Indian Premier League title in his first season as mentor. That team was characterised by a lack of big superstars — no player from the franchise featured in India's 15-man squad for the T20 World Cup.

Gambhir has often railed against the tendency of turning cricketers into demi-gods. A part of it could be attributed to him not getting enough plaudits for stellar roles in the finals of the two World Cups India won during his time. Be it his stint as Delhi's Ranji Trophy captain or KKR coach, the former Lok Sabha MP is known to punt on youngsters with promise and stand by them. If this helps the younger players in the team in coming out of the shadow of their more celebrated teammates, it could only be a good development for Indian cricket.

MONETARY POLICY IN India has been navigating diverging economic trends. While GDP growth continues to surprise on the upside, core inflation seems set on a downward trajectory. However, food inflation — typically considered idiosyncratic — has stayed stubbornly elevated, restricting the fall in the consumer price index (CPI) and restraining the Monetary Policy Committee of the Reserve Bank of India. Mint Road wants to rein in inflation at 4 per cent on a durable basis from 4.8 per cent now. But is this possible without falling food inflation?

Food commands nearly 40 per cent weight in the CPI basket. Hence, and as past trends also indicate, overall inflation cannot be tamed without bringing down food prices. In all the years that CPI has neared 4 per cent, food inflation has stayed below 4 per cent. Since 2000, the headline reading has gone below 4 per cent in just six years, with the most durable run seen during 2000-2006 when it averaged 3.9 per cent. Notably, food inflation averaged 2.5 per cent in those years.

Since then, there have been only two years of the headline number dipping below target — 2017-18 and 2018-19 — when it averaged 3.5 per cent. That was when food inflation was a mere 1 per cent. Food inflation surged after the pandemic to 6.4 per cent on average (between 2020-21 and 2023-24), higher than the 5.9 per cent overall CPI inflation.

In the 50 months since the first lockdown, inflation has remained above 4 per cent all through and food has been above 4 per cent in 39 months. Headline inflation has been above 6 per cent in 24 months (the upper limit of RBI's tolerance band of 2-6 per cent) while food has been above 6 per cent in 28 months. Even as overall CPI slid to 5.4 per cent in 2023-24, food rose to 7.5 per cent. It climbed further to 8.7 per cent in the first two months of the current financial year.

Hence, the easing of inflation to 4 per cent on a durable basis may be on shaky grounds at present. RBI expects average inflation at 4.5 per cent in the current year, with the last quarter at 4.5 per cent. This assumes a normal

monsoon and high base will lower food inflation. CPI has softened recently due to the slide in non-food inflation, including core inflation (inflation excluding food and fuel). At 3 per cent in May, core inflation was at a record low. This fall would suggest muted demand pressures on inflation, creating scope for rate cuts.

Time and again, evidence has suggested the pivotal role of food in controlling overall inflation. Since food has high weight and is purchased at a higher frequency, it is known to influence inflation expectations and can put pressure on wages.

Recent research (Are food prices the 'true' core of India's inflation?, RBI Bulletin January 2024) shows that large and persistent food shocks spill over into non-food inflation. Additionally, high food inflation hits the poor more since it has a higher weight in their consumption basket. Our assessment shows that the bottom 20 per cent of the population in rural and urban areas currently face nearly 50 basis points higher inflation than the top 20 per cent.

When will food inflation loosen its grip? Historically, the monsoon used to be its key determinant. Yet, climate change has increased the uncertainty around rains, and is progressively adding other weather shocks for agriculture. The key hope for this year is an above-normal monsoon predicted by the India Meteorological Department. Even so, its distribution, as always, remains uncertain. Despite the monsoon arriving on schedule, its progress has been slow. As of June 30, the all-India rainfall deficiency was 11 per cent below the long period average. A pick-up in rains since then has plugged the deficit. But, to spur the rural economy and to tackle food inflation, we need adequate and well-distributed rains for the rest of the season.

To increase the risks further, other weather shocks such as heatwaves and unseasonal rains have added a fresh dimension to food production and its price outlook. With climate change, the frequency and scale of these shocks has been increasing, evident in the post-pandemic period. In 2022-23, heatwaves

and unseasonal rains contributed to a surge in inflation, even as the monsoon turned out normal. In 2023-24, El Niño was aggravated by global warming, leading to the driest August India had seen in recorded history.

While the shocks have been varied in nature, they have kept overall food inflation stubbornly high. Heatwaves have affected crop production by depleting groundwater levels, shrivelling wheat grains and pest infestations. They also affected dairy and poultry output. On the other side, unseasonal rains hit crops during harvesting and transportation stages.

The time has come for policy to factor in the effects of climate change since the absence of mitigating measures could lead to a structural increase in the risks to food inflation. Controlling climate change's impact on food will require help from fiscal policy. Agricultural infrastructure needs to be upgraded — from production to transportation and storage. For production, policy can help promote climate-resistant crop varieties. The introduction of heat-resistant wheat was a welcome step this year, which needs to be pursued for other crops as well. Agricultural research needs to be incentivised. Currently, investments in R&D are just around 0.5 per cent of agriculture GDP, according to a 2023 paper by ICRIER.

Irrigation infrastructure needs to be stepped up amid heatwave-linked risks to water availability. Despite government efforts, only 57 per cent of agriculture is covered by irrigation so far. Cold storage and food processing should be further encouraged. This will help reduce food wastage amid increasing risks to food supply. Until these structural issues are addressed, risks for food inflation are likely to stay elevated. Even though monetary policy has limited capacity to address these issues, it cannot ignore persistently high food prices if it wants to achieve its goal. The upcoming Union Budget needs to intensify efforts in this direction.

Joshi is chief economist, Tandon is senior economist, and Rajadhyaksha is economic analyst at CRISIL Ltd



LATIKA GUPTA

THE XIV DALAI Lama, who turned 89 on July 6, is popular for his modern perspective on life and politics. Over six decades, he has transformed himself from a spiritual and religious leader of the Tibetans to a teacher of democracy.

The Dalai Lama has provided magnanimous leadership to the Tibetan Government-in-Exile to peacefully fight for a democratic order. With his guidance, a constitution was launched by the Tibetans in 1963. In 1991, a charter for governance in exile based on Buddhist values, liberal democracy and human rights was launched. He emerged as a great teacher-practitioner who ushered Tibetans into a democratic way of life. He used the medium of "teachings", as is prescribed in Tibetan Buddhism, to nurture the idea of democracy in his followers.

By conceptualising democracy in specific ways and communicating it, he has created an organic discourse around his knowledge. His speeches help us identify a "teach-able" version of democracy. He described democracy as a process using which the Tibetans could walk on a path leading to it (democracy) and continued to convey the scope for further reforms. He assured his followers repeatedly that democracy was connected with Buddhism.

This is consistent with the construct of "vehicles" in Tibetan Buddhism. Different vehicles of Buddhist practice are characterised by different manifestations of the role of the teacher. A "vehicle" possesses a base, path, and fruit. The base is the experience, understanding, and personal development of the practi-

LEADER AND TEACHER

Through his work and teaching, the Dalai Lama has deepened a culture of debate

IN GOOD FAITH

The Dalai Lama remained consistent with the Buddhist tradition of training the mind to overcome afflictive emotions. While teaching and encouraging people to practise democracy, he maintained a position of spiritual freedom that refuses to strike back in anger or retaliation. The spiritual freedom with which the Dalai Lama has responded to violence is an inspiration to us all. This is where he has been a symbol of yet another aspect of the liberal outlook.

tioner. The path is the appropriate practice and the fruit is the accomplishment. The Dalai Lama has helped the exiles visualise democracy as a base of life, a path and also a fruit to be achieved. He paved the ground for thinking afresh about collective governance and the need to achieve a middle path between the cultural past and the modern present.

While introducing such complex ideas, he constantly refers to the role of education. His approach can be classified as that of the 20th-century educationist John Dewey who considers education a social process. In this frame, the Dalai Lama emerges as a teacher who introduced a transformative idea to a large group of people, continually taught it and then asserted the need to practise democracy. He helped them develop the conviction that change will come if efforts are made.

He remained consistent with the Buddhist tradition of training the mind to overcome afflictive emotions. While teaching and encouraging people to practise democracy, he maintained a position of spiritual freedom that refuses to strike back in anger or retaliation. The spiritual freedom with which the Dalai Lama has responded to violence is an inspiration to us all. This is where he has been a symbol of yet another aspect of the liberal outlook. He has been open to the wisdom of other religions, a practice deeply rooted in his own Madhyamaka tradition of Buddhism. The Dalai Lama has presented a model of interfaith education which involves shaping a healthy religious identity grounded in the resources of one tradition,

respectful of differences among religious visions while remaining open to the beauty, goodness, and truth.

Learning to gain knowledge and wisdom is central to Buddhism. Its primary principle is that ignorance is the root cause of all suffering, and knowledge is the antidote. One of the most important ritualised practices is to gain knowledge through debate. The central purpose of Tibetan monastic debate is to defeat misconceptions, establish the correct view, and clear objections to that view. It involves mastering several verbal and non-verbal patterns, diligently learning and understanding the meaning of various philosophical principles. It is a part of the cultural patrimony that the Dalai Lama has reimagined and emphasised by promoting it in religious institutions and secular schools. It is taught to all the Tibetan refugee children. He has promoted debate as a way to arrive at a stable and resolved understanding of issues that may help Tibetans construct knowledge and face the challenges of living with uncertainties.

We can celebrate the Dalai Lama by acknowledging his work as an educational philosopher. The term "Dalai Lama" is itself made up of the Mongolian word *dalai* (i.e. vast/ocean) and the Tibetan word *bla ma* (i.e. spiritual teacher) meaning Ocean-like Spiritual Teacher. The XIV Dalai Lama is a 'Magnificent Teacher' indeed.

The writer teaches education at Delhi University. She was the FUR fellow for Dalai Lama Studies in 2022

JULY 11, 1984, FORTY YEARS AGO

GOLDEN TEMPLE ACTION

THE GOVERNMENT ASSERTED that the secessionist movement in Punjab, under the increasing influence of external forces, had assumed menacing proportions, forcing it to take action in the Golden Temple complex and elsewhere in the state. The White Paper says that the anti-national movement matured with the active support of small groups operating from countries like the US, UK, West Germany and Canada.

suaide Sikh religious leaders to undertake kar seva of the damaged Golden Temple complex bounced back as the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee made it clear that the SGPC is authorised to undertake kar seva. Any decision on its launch would take place only after the Army was withdrawn — not only from the Golden Temple complex but also from all other gurdwaras in the state.

KAR SEVA CONFUSION

THE UNION GOVERNMENT'S efforts to per-

particularly on the question of the seventh replenishment of the International Development Association. They also expressed their distress over the stalemate in the North-South dialogue.

A CASE OF STOLEN EYES

A PECULIAR CASE of "theft" of a pair of eyes has come to light. According to a complaint lodged with the AIIMS director by a resident of village Hathikhana, Farrukhabad district of Uttar Pradesh, his son, Ghanshyam's body when handed over to him after the post-mortem examination, was discovered to have its eyes replaced with a pair of artificial eyes.



Russia razor's edge

PM Modi's successful visit to Russia indicates a consolidation of bilateral ties despite geopolitical constraints



NANDAN UNNIKRISHNAN

PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA Modi's successful visit to Russia has once again demonstrated India's ability to walk the geopolitical equivalent of a razor's edge and give everyone something to cheer about while providing stability to ties with a consequential partner.

The proponents of the bilateral relationship will refer to the warm words Modi had for Russia and President Vladimir Putin: The synergy of the political vision of the world; the charting of new areas of economic and scientific cooperation, and the slew of agreements that will open the path to reaching a trade turnover of \$100 billion by 2030.

Those who would rather see India and Russia drift apart will point to the frank words of the PM on Ukraine and the lack of significant military purchases. The PM's formulations on Ukraine — "the death of innocent children causes great pain", the solution to the war in Ukraine "cannot be found on the battlefield" and that "India is on the side of peace" and would do everything possible to achieve this peace — will echo across media for a long time. In today's geopolitical scenario, the visit cannot be confined to the bilateral context. It will be seen as New Delhi's emphatic endorsement of strong ties with Moscow despite the fighting in Ukraine, concerns about the Kremlin's growing ties with Beijing and Western pressures to de-couple from Russia. India and Russia also share the goal of ushering in a multi-polar world.

On Ukraine, Modi managed to convince the Kremlin to discharge all Indians in the Russian armed forces and assist them in getting back home. It is estimated that 30 to 40 Indians, four of whom have reportedly been killed, are currently performing various tasks with the Russian armed forces. Additionally, India and Russia agreed that the Ukraine conflict had to be resolved peacefully "through dialogue and diplomacy... in accordance with international law and on the basis of the UN Charter in its entirety and totality". Getting Russia to agree to this formulation in the joint statement doesn't mean that India will immediately throw itself into mediation mode. Still, this wording could be the basis on which Moscow and West-backed Kyiv could be nudged to the negotiation table.

Moscow's growing closeness with Beijing undoubtedly figured in the informal talks Modi had with Putin over dinner. During the discussions, Modi would have tried to gauge whether there has been any change in Moscow's traditional position of neutrality in India-China ties.

While the content of the Modi-Putin chat on China is unlikely to come into the public domain for some time, Russian foreign minister Sergei Lavrov's recent utterances on the subject suggest that there is no change in its long-standing stance. When referring to the India-China border clashes, at the recent Primakov Readings, Lavrov said that Russia looks at, "with understanding", India's current views on talks with China. Similarly, Putin would have sought an understanding of India's growing relationship with the US



CR Sasikumar

and would have most probably been reassured that New Delhi would not allow ties with Washington to impinge on Indo-Russia relations.

On the bilateral front, the leaders would have spent considerable time discussing ways of boosting trade, which has been considerably hampered by the wide-ranging Western sanctions on Russia. Paradoxically, despite the war and related sanctions, India and Russia trade has grown exponentially from the barely \$10 billion before February 2022 to \$65.7 billion in the last financial year. The two sides traded goods worth \$17.5 billion in the first quarter of this year, suggesting that last year's figures are likely to be exceeded.

This rapid growth is attributable to the massive spurt in the purchase of Russian oil, which was being sold at discounted rates following the imposition of sanctions. The manifold growth in trade also brought new problems — payments and trade imbalance. The need to avoid sanctions on payments to Russia has led to the revival of rupee-rouble, which now accounts for nearly 60 per cent of payments. But the balance of trade is massively in Russia's favour, amounting currently to over \$50 billion. If adequate measures are not taken soon, this is likely to increase as energy purchases by India are likely to grow in the future.

These issues would have figured prominently in the discussions but understandably, as in relation to military cooperation, specific

details are not being announced. But a perusal of the joint statement issued at the end of the visit hints at possible new payment mechanisms and identifies a whole range of new areas — agriculture, automobiles — which could be growth areas for Indian exports. The two sides have also agreed to intensify efforts on maritime and land connectivity projects — International North-South Transport corridor, the Chennai-Vladivostok and Arctic Ocean Northern maritime corridors — among others.

While details are sparse, the joint statement suggests that the interruptions in the flow of military spares and delays in weapons platform deliveries are to be addressed primarily through the setting up of production units in India, probably under the 'Make in India' initiative.

Given the above, it does not appear that the India-Russia relationship is in "terminal decline" as suggested by some commentators. On the contrary, the Modi-Putin dialogue indicates that efforts are being made to make bilateral ties more resilient, considering the current geopolitical realities and the limitations of both countries. Modi and Putin appear to understand that the future of stable Indo-Russian ties will depend on how deeply the two countries can involve themselves in each other's national development projects.

The writer is senior fellow, Observer Research Foundation

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"Modi reportedly told Putin that 'when innocent children are killed, the heart bleeds, and that pain is very terrifying'. But judging by the outcome of the summit, the Indian PM survived this pain and found comfort in Putin's friendly embrace." — THE GUARDIAN

A plan for national well-being

Success of India's family-planning programme lies in making it integral to the health of communities and empowerment of women



J P NADDA

ON THIS WORLD Population Day, we reflect on India's journey in family planning and reaffirm our commitment to address the challenges that lie ahead.

As endorsed in the United Nations International Conference on Population Development (ICPD) in May, India has not only provided leadership to the ICPD agenda but has also demonstrated progress through improved family-planning services and improving health outcomes, especially maternal health and child health.

In India, people are opting for smaller families, averaging just two children. This trend reflects a significant shift over the past decade, during which more than half of women (57 per cent) in their reproductive age (15 to 49 years) have actively used modern contraceptives. This widespread use of contraceptives highlights the success of India's family planning programme. However, family planning is much more; it is integral to the health and well-being of communities and empowering women by providing them with rights and choices. With 369 million young people aged 10-24, India is on the brink of a transformative demographic shift.

Moreover, over the decades, the programme has evolved significantly, adopting various approaches to family planning, ranging from clinic-based to target-oriented methods, and the voluntary adoption of family-planning choices. This variation represents the adaptation of policies to meet the changing needs of the population.

The national population and health policies emphasise the necessity of addressing the unmet need for family planning, defined as the percentage of women who do not want to have children or want to delay child-bearing but are not using any method of contraception. The programme achieved a milestone in 2012 with the introduction of the Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, and Adolescent Health (RMNCH+A) approach, alongside the emphasis on family planning through Family Planning 2020 and now Family Planning 2030. It has progressively focussed on raising awareness, fostering community engagement, improving access to information and services, expanding the range of contraceptive choices, ensuring quality assurance of services delivered up to the last mile, and implementing innovative strategies in high-fertility regions.

The growth and development of a country is linked to population dynamics. The aim is to maintain and achieve replacement levels of fertility both nationally and sub-nationally. India has already achieved replacement level of fertility at the national level (TFR 2.0) and 31 states/UTs have already achieved this milestone as per NFHS-5 (2019-21).

Family planning has also been recognised globally as reducing maternal and child morbidity and mortality. An important component of the programme is to focus on improving maternal and child health. This shift is necessary because family-planning strategies have to be adapted to India's de-

mographic diversity. The strategy also gives significant consideration to social issues such as age at marriage, age at first birth, and education. These factors are crucial for a holistic approach to family planning that addresses the diverse needs of the nation.

The Mission Parivar Vikas (MPV), one of the flagship family planning programmes of the government, was launched in 2016 for increasing access to contraceptives and family-planning services in 146 high fertility districts of seven states (Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Assam).

The approach uses awareness campaigns such as Saarthi Vaahans (awareness on wheels) and Saas Bahu Sammelens to address social barriers for young women to access contraceptives and providing Nayi Pahel kits to newly married couples to sensitise them about responsible parenthood practices.

Improvements in the uptake of modern contraceptives in the MPV districts led to the government's decision to scale up this programme to all districts of the seven states and in six Northeastern states in 2021.

Currently, the National Planning programme offers a variety of reversible modern contraceptives encompassing condoms, intrauterine contraceptive devices, oral pills, MPA injections etc. In 10 states, covering two districts each, subdermal implants and subcutaneous injections are in the rollout stage, with plans for further extension.

As we commemorate World Population Day 2024, themed "Healthy Timing and Spacing of Pregnancy for the Health and Well-being of Mother and Child", we acknowledge the efforts of our state counterparts and the relentless dedication of our health workforce, including ANMs, ASHAs, and other ground-level functionaries who are at the forefront of delivering crucial services.

The government is committed to overcoming barriers related to access, misconceptions about contraceptive methods, lack of awareness, geographical and economic challenges, and restrictive social and cultural norms. Substantial investments are being made to improve family-planning service delivery, including ensuring the availability of both temporary and long-term contraceptive methods, adequate budgetary allocations, and maintaining uninterrupted supplies at health facilities and through community workers. Additionally, family-planning services are being extended to the last mile through Ayushman Arogya Mandirs.

India's demographic dividend must navigate the complexities of sustainable development, urbanisation, and migration. Integrating these factors into our policies ensures that demographic growth translates into a sustainable future and inclusive prosperity. Successful interventions must go hand-in-hand with niche strategies.

On this World Population Day, let us pledge to build a brighter and healthier future for all, with a special focus on marginalised and vulnerable communities across India. Let us strive for a future where our demographic dividend is fully realised, where every citizen has access to quality healthcare, and where the health and well-being of our people are the foundation of our nation's progress and prosperity.

The writer is Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Chemicals and Fertilisers

Why we forgot K C Neogy

His absence from collective memory speaks of a larger syndrome



BIBEK DEBROY

I HAVE NO intention of converting this column into a Neogy biography. In an earlier column ('The administrator India forgot', IE, June 13), I wrote about Kshitish Chandra Neogy (1888-1970). But, a few bits need to be added. In that column, I mentioned that in 1946, he became a member of the Nuclear Commission, which led to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In October 1946, Jawaharlal Nehru wrote to Lord Wavell (Selected Works): "It may interest you to know that over a month ago I requested K C Neogy to become a delegate in our UNO Delegation to America. He accepted it, but soon after he expressed his inability to go. The reason he gave me was that conditions in East Bengal were fast deteriorating and that a general attack on behalf of the Muslim League was expected in the near future. Neogy did not wish to leave his family in East Bengal when everybody there seemed to be expecting this mass attack." Nehru also stated this in an interview he gave to the press in September 1946. "As for the proposed Indian delegation to the UNO, originally the Government had invited Syed Raza Ali and Pandit Hriday Nath Kunzru. Neither of them was able to accept. Later, Neogy was invited and he accepted, but in the past few days Neogy informed me that he would be unable to go owing to more or less domestic reasons."

We know K C Neogy was a member of Indian National Congress and was elected to the Constituent Assembly (1946) from Bengal. But before this, there was the Central Legislative Assembly and, representing Bengal, he was elected to this in 1920, 1923, 1926 and 1930. Now that a lot of information has been digitised, we can find more stuff from parliamentary records. He was educated in Presidency College (Kolkata) and Dhaka College and was married to Lila Devi. From 1935 to 1940, he was Dewan of the Mayurbhanj State, a fact that is probably not generally known. His permanent address was in Southern Avenue (Kolkata). In 1939, Charulal Mukherjee published a book titled *The Santals*. It was dedicated to Maharaja Pratap Chandra Bhanja Deo of Mayurbhanj and Neogy was some kind of trigger for the monograph. In January 1938, he wrote to the author, "I am glad that you are thinking of bringing out a comprehensive book on the Santals, incorporating your past writings on the subject. As you know we have a very large Santal population in Mayurbhanj, and would like to encourage a regular ethnological and anthropological survey of this as well as other aboriginal tribes inhabiting this state... In case, however, you feel interested in undertaking a study of our Santal population on the spot, I shall arrange for requisite facilities in the matter." Mayurbhanj state did

help the author in his survey.

There are two reasons why Neogy faded from public memory. Jawaharlal Nehru was fond of him and once Nehru was no longer around, Neogy lost his importance. Plus, he himself aged. More importantly, he wrote little, almost nothing at all, other than what was part of committee reports. An exception was a piece he wrote, titled "Rabindra Nath Tagore, the Poet Laureate of India". (Which educated Bengali could avoid writing on Tagore?). This was published in *The Open Court* in 1917. (Tagore won the Nobel Prize in 1913.) "Indeed, the sudden acclamation in the West of Rabindra Nath Tagore as a world-poet of the first magnitude, has made a few critical spirits in India shake their heads in doubt and weigh and scrutinise the meed of praise that has been bestowed on this illustrious son of Ind(ia). Whether the halo that surrounds him today will endure is more than one can say. And these Indian critics are inspired with the fear that what appears to be natural splendour radiating from a lustrous gem of the Indian deep, may, after the excitement of the passing hour has spent itself, prove to be but the illusive effect of some handy optical stage device, impressed into service at the impatient call of the goading desire of the West for something fresh and quaint in the way of stimulants... Overwhelmed as the poet has been by the

eulogy and benediction with which he has been greeted from all quarters, he does not seem to be quite happy with his Indian audience. After his first return from Europe, Rabindra Nath was received everywhere in India with affectionate regard. But he seemed to suspect that much of the honour showered on him, particularly in his native province of Bengal, was but the echo of the tributes of praise that were unstintedly rendered to his genius in the West... It might be said that a poet was often-times more honoured by posterity than by his own generation." This might seem contrarian today. But writing in 1917, there was a grain of truth to it. And reluctant though Bengalis might be to admit it, in 1913, Bengal didn't applaud the Nobel Prize wholeheartedly.

The only other written piece that goes under Neogy's name is a piece in a slim monograph titled, "What Happened After Gandhi's Arrest". This was published by the India League of America in 1942. But this was actually a speech delivered in the Central Legislative Assembly in 1942. We are often accused of not documenting history properly. A malaise also relevant for K C Neogy.

The writer is chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the PM. Views are personal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RETHINK SECURITY

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Terror in Kathua' (IE, July 10). Terror operations seem to have shifted to the south of Pir Panjal. Forces thinned out with increasing strength rerouted to the LAC. Indian Army troops in the sectors south of Banihal should rethink their operating procedures given the changed scenarios — an increasing liaison with intelligence agencies and revamping intelligence mechanisms. Counter-terrorism activities must be based on a proactive approach. Such casualties given the highly professional nature of the armed forces is not acceptable.

Subhash Vaid, New Delhi

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Terror in Kathua' (IE, July 10). Frequent terror attacks on the Indian Army convoys in J&K appears to be a well-conceived conspiracy, presumably involving local elements. This may be a tactic to disrupt the upcoming state assembly elections. The recurrence of such tragic instances flies in the face of assurances that the Valley's security has been strengthened. The involvement of the local population is a matter of great concern and reflects the oversight of the intelligence apparatus.

Ravi Mathur, Noida

THE BLAME GAME

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'A mockery of Parliament' (IE, July 10). Maintaining decorum in Parliament is the duty of all, including the Prime Minister. The PM must realise that his stature has vastly diminished. It is no concession on his part to sit through and listen to the speech of the Leader of Opposition, rather it is his duty. He is known for frequently skipping the sessions in Parliament. The language he chooses to describe the LOP — "balak buddhi" is tactless.

Peter Mundackal, Dwarka

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'A mockery of Parliament' (IE, July 10). The writer, the Deputy Chairperson of Rajya Sabha has called the Opposition's sloganeering during the prime minister's speeches in Parliament as antithetical to the fundamental values of democracy. But, the lack of action suggests that the conduct was not punishable, unlike in 2023, when 146 opposition MPs were suspended. The onus to run both the Houses smoothly rests with the government. Let us forget the BJP's use of parliamentary disruption as a democratic exercise.

LR Murmu, New Delhi

Kathua ambush: Truck driver, 50 others detained

Jammu: The manhunt for the terrorists responsible for the ambush in Kathua district, which resulted in the death of five Army personnel, has led to the detention of a truck driver and 50 others, officials said on Wednesday.

According to officials, the truck, which was initially close behind the ill-fated Army vehicles on the Machedi-Kindli-Malhar mountainous road, slowed down near Badnota village in Lohai Malhar when the terrorists opened fire from two different directions. Five Army personnel, including a Junior Commissioned Officer, were killed in the ambush on Monday.

Suspicion has been cast on the civilian tipper driver, with authorities investigating whether he intentionally delayed the convoy by requesting a pass on the culvert.

"Usually, Army vehicles are given preference in these areas but the tipper still asked for a pass which slowed down both vehicles," an official said on condition of anonymity. A massive search operation, conducted by the army and police, is on amidst heavy rain in dense forests across four districts.

Drone with 25-kg payload tested at world's highest pass

MAN AMAN SINGH CHHINA CHANDIGARH, JULY 11



The team that carried out the test at Umling La Pass in Ladakh. Express

A BENGALURU-BASED firm has claimed to have successfully tested a 100-kg Max Take Off Weight (MTOW) Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) at an altitude of 19,024 feet at Ladakh's Umling La pass, which also happens to be the highest motorable pass in the world.

MTOW includes the weight of the drone and the payload. The NewSpace Research and Technologies claimed to conduct the test flight on Tuesday.

Speaking to The Indian Express, the CEO of NewSpace, Sameer Joshi said the company has successfully demonstrated carriage of 25 kg of useful payload from the 5,800m high pass, with a radius of action greater than shown by the DJI FlyCart 30 drone of China at Mount Everest base camp in April 2024. During the flight testing in Ladakh, the NewSpace drone flew to an altitude of 6,200m, said Joshi, a former IAF fighter pilot.

to support autonomous drone operations towards civilian and military uses.

"It will especially give a huge boost to support logistics carriage, disaster and rescue events and medical relief in the higher regions of J&K, Uttarakhand, and the North Eastern states," he said.

The NewSpace drone can also augment the Ministry of Defence's air maintenance sorties at high altitude, offering a huge reduction in cost per hour of manned flights in region. A Cheetah helicopter can carry around 25-75 kg load at around same altitude with much more cost per sortie.

Joshi claimed that this is a new world record at high altitude for a 100-kg MTOW class drone for High Altitude Operations. He said their product offers a great value for money

ISRO espionage case outcome of woman spurning advances of Kerala cop, says CBI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, JULY 10

THE 1994 ISRO espionage case, in which former space scientist Nambi Narayanan was falsely implicated, was allegedly created by a then special branch officer of Kerala police to justify his illegal detention of a Maldivian woman in India after she spurned his advances, the CBI has told a court here.

The agency has made the allegation in a charge sheet filed by it against five former police officers for allegedly implicating Narayanan and five others, including two Maldivian women,

in the espionage case.

In the charge sheet, which was filed in the last week of June but became public on Wednesday, the CBI said that the then special branch officer S Vijayan, who retired as an SP, took away the travel documents and air tickets of Maldivian national Mariyam Rasheeda, preventing her from leaving the country, as she spurned his advances.

The agency further said that Vijayan then found out that she was in contact with an ISRO scientist - D Shashikumar - and based on that a surveillance was mounted on Rasheeda and her Maldivian friend Fauzia Hasan.

The police had also informed the Subsidiary Intelligence Bureau

(SIB) about the women, but the IB officers who examined the foreign nationals could not find anything suspicious, the CBI said.

Thereafter, Rasheeda was arrested under the Foreigners Act for overstaying in the country without a valid visa with the knowledge of the then Commissioner of Police, Thiruvananthapuram and then SIB Deputy Director, the CBI said.

Subsequently, the SIT arrested four ISRO scientists including Narayanan, the CBI added. "To sustain the initial wrongs, another case of serious nature was launched with false interrogatory reports against the victims (including Narayanan and others)," the agency has said in

its final report recommending the prosecution of former DGPs R B Sreekumar and Siby Mathews, former SPs S Vijayan and K K Joshua and ex-intelligence officer P S Jayaprakash.

Reacting to the development, Narayanan on Wednesday said that as an individual he was not concerned whether the charge-sheeted former police and IB officers were punished or not as his role in the matter was over. "They have already been punished. They are already suffering. I have no desire that they should go to jail. I do not even expect an apology from them. I would have been happy if they just said that they had made a mistake," Narayanan told reporters.

Alwar man dies after being 'thrashed' by girl's parents in Haryana

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE CHANDIGARH, JULY 10

A RAJASTHAN man was brutally thrashed late on Tuesday night allegedly by the family members of a girl whom he was in a relationship, in Haryana's Rewari district, following which he died later. The deceased was identified as Mohit, 21, a resident of Giglana village in Alwar district. The Rewari police have initiated investigations.

According to preliminary investigations, Mohit had come to the Haryana village to meet the girl, who is a minor according to her family members.

"Mohit had reached the girl's home around midnight and tried to take her out. Her grandparents who were present at home saw him and raised an alarm. The girl's uncle and other relatives who were sleeping nearby caught hold of Mohit and brutally assaulted him with an iron rod. After about an hour of beating him up, the girl's uncle called Mohit's father and asked him to take his son away. Mohit's father Mukesh and uncle Rajesh soon reached there and took Mohit back on a motorcycle," a police officer said.

In his complaint lodged with the police, Mohit's uncle Rajesh said, "We received their (the girl's family members') phone call late last night. They alleged that they had caught Mohit doing something wrong with the girl. They alleged that Mohit was harassing their daughter, repeatedly calling and texting her. They asked us to come and take Mohit back. While we were bringing Mohit back home, he complained of a severe stomach ache. We took him to a hospital but he did not survive."

"Mohit's body bore several injury marks around his eye, stomach, feet and chest. We had no clue about his relationship with the girl. We only got to know about it today. We have lodged a complaint against the girl's family members. We want justice. They have killed our son," Rajesh said.

Actor, Goa minister's staff file cross-complaints after altercation

PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA PANAJI, JULY 10

AN ACTOR and a minister's staff have lodged police complaints against each other after an altercation over "blocking the way" at a panchayat office in Goa on Wednesday evening.

The incident took place around 4 pm in Revora after a minor argument between Goa-based actor Gaurav Bakshi and personal security officer (PSO) of Goa's Minister for Fisheries Nilkanth Halarnkar, said police.

Halarnkar said he was at a panchayat event and was about to leave when Bakshi started arguing with

his driver and PSO.

"The PSO told him to move his vehicle since it was blocking the path, but he started shouting. I sat in the car and did not have an argument with him. He then started filming a video on his phone. I had another function to attend, so we left. Later, I learnt my PSO reported the incident to his head office as part of protocol and lodged a police complaint. After the police summoned him (Bakshi), he called my officer and boasted about having connections in the PM's Office. It is for the police to investigate the complaint," Halarnkar said.

Bakshi is known for his roles in Bombay Begums and Naxalbari.

CORPORATION 'SCAM'

ED searches Karnataka former minister, Cong MLA's residences

ENS BENGALURU, JULY 10

A DAY after they were questioned by the SIT in connection with the alleged irregularities in the Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation, the ED Wednesday conducted searches in four states, including the residences of former minister B Nagendra and corporation chairman and Congress MLA Basanagouda Daddal in Bengaluru and Ballari.

The agency covered around 20 locations in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and one more state as part of a case registered under the PMLA, the sources said. A case has also been registered by the CBI based on a complaint filed by Union Bank of India's deputy general manager and regional head

of Bengaluru East. The complaint stated that Rs 89.63 crore was embezzled, of which Rs 5 crore has been recovered. So far, the police have arrested 11 people and seized around Rs 14 crore. Nagendra, a four-time MLA and Scheduled Tribes Welfare Minister in the Siddaramaiah-led Cabinet, resigned on June 6 after P Chandrashekar, corporation official involved in auditing and coordinating with Union Bank of India died by the suicide on May 26. In the six-page suicide note, he alleged there was an unauthorised transfer of Rs 187 crore belonging to the corporation from its bank account.

"Let ED do their job, we won't interfere in that. Let them do their job in accordance with law, let them do whatever they have to," Siddaramaiah said.

State BJP chief B Y Vijayendra said, "We welcome ED raids on Nagendra and Daddal. This is probably a big corruption scam unheard of in the state's history." WITHPTIINPUTS

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Titi Singh, S/o: Sh. Nikka Singh, R/o: H. No. K-40, Shyam Nagar, Tilak Nagar, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in Cr. Case No. 5497/2020 & FIR No. 725/2020, U/s 25/54/59 A ACT, P.S.: Rajouri Garden, New Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Titi Singh cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Titi Singh has absconded (or are concealing themselves to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said Titi Singh accused of Cr. Case No. 5497/2020 & FIR No. 725/2020, U/s 25/54/59 A ACT, P.S.: Rajouri Garden, New Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 26.09.2024.

By Order Sh. Shashank Nandan Bhatt Metropolitan Magistrate Room No. 356, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

DP/8915/WD/2024 (Court Matter)

Govt. of Jharkhand Office of the Director

Ranchi Institute of Neuro-Psychiatry & Allied Sciences Kanke, Ranchi - 834006 (Ph.: 2450303, 2450813, 2450188) www.rinpas.nic.in, Director-rinpas@jharkhandmail.gov.in & Directorrinpas@gmail.com

E-tender notice No. Tender Document No.- DIR/04/07/2024-2025/ MISC/ Stationery Printing Section are invited in two bid system (Technical & Price Bid) through e-tendering process only, from competent and eligible agencies, for a period of minimum one year.

Table with columns: Sl.No., Details, Timelines/Other Particulars. Includes tender document fee, earnest money deposit, and publication dates.

Note:- For further details, please visit website http://jharkhand tenders.gov.in

RINPAS Letter no. 1765, date-10/07/2024, Sd/- Director, RINPAS, Kanke, Ranchi

JAPIT Jharkhand Agency for Promotion of Information Technology

(An Autonomous body under Department of Information Technology & e-Governance, Govt of Jharkhand)

Ground Floor, Engineer's Hostel - I, Near Golchakkar, Dhurwa, Ranchi, Jharkhand Phone. 0651-2401044, 2401047 email: japit_doit@rediffmail.com

Notice Inviting Tender

Table with columns: S.No, Basic Requirement, Specific Requirement. Lists tender details for system integration and maintenance.

Note: 1. JAPIT reserves the right to change any schedule of bidding process. Please visit Procurement website https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in regularly for the same. 2. Proposals must be received as per time, date and venue mentioned in the Fact Sheet. Proposals received after due date and time WILL NOT be considered in this procurement process. 3. The Bidders are advised to submit the Bids well in advance as JAPIT/GoJ will not be responsible for non-submission of the bids because of any technical glitches or any problems in connectivity services used by the Bidder.

RAJASTHAN STATE HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY, JAIPUR

(Govt. of Rajasthan) No. F7(13)/RSHA/PKG. BS-01 to 09/2023-24/D-593 Date: 03-07-2024

Short-Term Notice Inviting Bid (07/2024-25)

Bids for Implementation of Improvement measures for 10 High Priority Blackspots are invited from the interest bidders upto 11:00 am on 19.07.2024. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on website https://proc-rajasthan.gov.in, https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in. The estimated value of Rs. 10.26 Crores.

UBN: PWD 2425 WL0B02081 Sd/- PWD 2425 WL0B 02082 (V.L. Dhankhar) Member (Works, Contracts & Operations) Rajasthan State Highways Authority, Jaipur

DIPR/C/5573/2024

TENDER NOTICE : SHOPS/VENTURES

1. AOC, AF Stn Palam New Delhi-10 invites sealed tenders to run the following shops/ventures on rent at this Station for a period upto five years. The applicant must have sound financial status and business experience in the field. All participants (including civilians & Govt agencies) can apply for the following shops/ventures however allotment would be carried out giving preference to war widows / widows of Defence personnel killed while on duty, disabled soldiers/Ex-servicemen and spouses/widows of Ex-servicemen as per existing guidelines:

Table with columns: Sl.No., Name and Location, Base Price (₹). Lists various shops like Restaurant at IOC Chowk, Stationery Shop at RV Area, etc.

2. The blank Tender Forms can be collected from Stn Sports Section, Camp Area, AF Stn Palam from Monday to Friday 0800 hrs to 1430 hrs wef 11 July 24 to 18 July 24 on cash payment of ₹ 100/- (Non Refundable). In case of any query, contact on following mobile numbers 7036028666, 8876762047, 8527765380.

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

Table with columns: SR No., Name of Board/Corp/AUTH, Name of Work/Notice Tender, Opening Date/Closing Date, Amount/EMD, Website of the Board/Corp/AUTH, Nodal Officer/Contact Details/Email.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in NO. 27673/HRY

Jharkhand Film Development Corporation Limited An Undertaking of Government of Jharkhand

Suchana Bhawan, Meur's Road, Beside-Audrey House, Ranchi, Jharkhand-834008 E-mail: connect_jfdcl@gmail.com

NIT No: 60 Dated: 10-07-2024

Invitation for Expression of Interest (EOI) JHARKHAND FILM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED HEREBY INVITES OFFLINE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR SELECTION OF FILM PRODUCTION COMPANY / FIRM FOR SHOOTING & PRODUCTION OF FILM FEATURING INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED BAND / ARTIST AT NETARHAT AND ONE WATERFALL OF RANCHI AS DECIDED BY THE CORPORATION IN ORDER TO PROMOTE TOURISM.

Table with columns: SN, Particulars, Date. Lists EOI publication date, bid submission start date, and bid application submission end date.

EOI document, including terms and conditions of work is available on the website of Jharkhand Film Development Corporation Limited (www.jharkhandfilms.org) and Information & Public Relations Department, Government of Jharkhand (https://prdjharkhand.in).

Managing Director PR 329277 Jharkhand Film Development Corp Ltd(24-25)#D Jharkhand Film Development Corporation Limited

ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय

कम्पाईन्ड बिल्डिंग, प्रथम तल्ला, एलसीओ रोड, धनबाद

ई-अति अल्पकालीन पुनर्विनिर्माण आमंत्रण सूचना

ई-निविदा संख्या:- 05/RWD/DHANBAD/24-25 दिनांक :- 09.07.2024

कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, धनबाद द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

Table with columns: क्रम सं०, आईडी-टी फिकेशन संख्या/पैकेज संख्या, प्रसंग, कार्य का नाम, प्राकृतिक राशि (लाख में) अंक में, अक्षर में, कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि, टेंडर कॉल संख्या. Lists two work items for road construction.

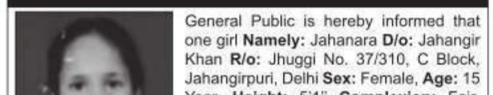
2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि- 15.07.2024 3. ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय- 24.07.2024 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक। 4. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय- 26.07.2024 अपराह्न 3.30 बजे। 5. निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता- कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, धनबाद, पिन- 826001 6. ई-निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं०- 0326-3554757

विरतुल जानकरी के लिए वेबसाइट jharkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, धनबाद

PR 329267 Rural Work Department(24-25)#D

SEARCH FOR MISSING



Jahanara

General Public is hereby informed that one girl Name: Jahanara D/o: Jahangir Khan R/o: Jhuggi No. 37/310, C Block, Jahangirpuri, Delhi Sex: Female, Age: 15 Year, Height: 5'1" Complexion: Fair, Build: Medium, Face: Round, Wearing: Yellow Kurta, Black Payjama and Hawaii Chappal has been missing since 05.07.2024 from Jhuggi No. 37/310, C Block, Jahangirpuri, Delhi, from the Jurisdiction of Police Station Jahangirpuri, Delhi. In this regard FIR No. 383 Date: 06.07.2024 has been registered at P.S.: Jahangirpuri, North West Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the Missing girl but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this Missing girl. Please inform to the following.

Website : http://cbi.nic.in SHO E-Mail ID: cbc@cbi.gov.in P.S.: Jahangirpuri, North-West Delhi Fax: 011-24368639 Ph: 8750870228, 9971129212, DP/8929/NW/2024

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

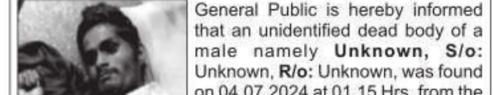
See Section 82 Cr. P.C.

Where complaint has been made before me that accused Munmun Swer W/o Sh. Deepak, R/o- B-59, IInd Floor, Street No. 19, Rajapuri, Bharat Vihar, New Delhi has committed (or suspected to have committed) the offence in case registered vide FIR No. 97/2024 U/s 381/409/120B IPC PS Tilak Nagar, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused Munmun Swer cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Munmun Swer has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Munmun Swer of case FIR No. 97/2024 U/s 381/409/120B IPC PS Tilak Nagar, Delhi is required to appear before this court (or before me) to answer the complaint on or before the day of 12.08.2024.

By Order Sh. Devanshu Sajjan Metropolitan Magistrate-07 Room No. 289, 2nd Floor, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi DP/8617/WD/2024 (Court Matter)

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General Public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a male named Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, was found on 04.07.2024 at 01.15 Hrs. from the area Near Main Porch Entry No.-2, Hazrat Nizamuddin Railway Station, Delhi. In this regard DD No.: 01A, Dated 04.07.2024, has been lodged at Police Station Hazrat Nizamuddin Railway Station, Delhi

Identification of unidentified dead body of male is as under: Sex : Male, Age: 30-35 years, Height : 4'5", Complexion: Fair, Wearing: Blue Colour Short Pant and Gray Colour T-Shirt.

If any one having any information or clue about this male deceased may kindly be informed undersigned.

SHO P.S. Hazrat Nizamuddin Railway Station, Delhi DP/8839/RJ/2024 Ph.: 9868043418 & 8750871311



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

CrPC & personal law: Divorced Muslim women's right to alimony

AJJOY SINHA KARPURAM
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

THE SUPREME Court on Wednesday dismissed an appeal by a Muslim man against a Telangana High Court order allowing his ex-wife to seek maintenance under the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (CrPC).

A two-judge Bench of Justices B V Nagarathna and George Masih reiterated that a Muslim woman is entitled to seek maintenance from her husband under Section 125 of the CrPC — a secular legislation — even if they were divorced under religious personal law.

While the ruling follows a 22-year-old landmark precedent, it sparked a discussion on the chequered legal and political history of the right to maintenance of Muslim women.

The present case

Petitioner Mohd Abdul Samad challenged a 2017 family court order directing him to pay maintenance of Rs 20,000 per month to his former wife. The Telangana High Court, on appeal, refused to set aside

the order of the family court.

Section 125 CrPC places an obligation on "any person having sufficient means" to maintain "his wife" or "his legitimate or illegitimate minor child" if they are unable to maintain themselves — typically through monetary support at regular intervals. The explanation in the section clarifies that the word "wife" also includes a divorced woman who has not re-married.

Justice Nagarathna, in her opinion, said that Section 125 CrPC is "embedded in the text, structure and philosophy of the Constitution" as a social justice measure. "The remedy of maintenance is a critical source of succour for the destitute, the deserted and the deprived sections of women... It is an instantiation of the constitutional philosophy of social justice that seeks to liberate the Indian wife including a divorced woman from the shackles of gender-based discrimination, disadvantage and deprivation," Justice Nagarathna wrote.

This, she said, is "aligned" with the power to create special provisions for women under Article 15(3) of the Constitution, and the

obligation on the State under Article 39(e) to ensure "that citizens are not forced by economic necessity to enter vocations unsuited to their age or strength".

The ruling reiterated that maintenance under Section 125 CrPC exists "in addition" to the provisions for maintenance under the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act, 1986 (MWPRD Act), not "against" it. "...While enacting the 1986 Act, Parliament did not simultaneously or at any time thereafter create any bar for a divorced Muslim woman from claiming maintenance under Section 125 of the CrPC," Justice Nagarathna wrote.

This position was first taken in the landmark 2001 ruling in *Daniyal Latifi & Anr v. Union of India*.

Shah Bano decision

In 1978, a woman named Shah Bano Begum filed a petition seeking maintenance from her husband under Section 125 for herself and her five children. Divorcing Shah Bano via "irrevocable *talaq*" later that same

year, her former husband, Mohammed Ahmad Khan, argued that he is only required to provide maintenance during the *iddat* period following divorce — three months under ordinary circumstances during which she cannot marry another man — according to Muslim personal law.

After Shah Bano's plea was granted by Madhya Pradesh High Court in 1980, the matter reached the Supreme Court. The All India Muslim Personal Law Board argued that the court was bound to apply Muslim personal law as per The Muslim Personal Law (Shariat) Application Act, 1937.

A five-judge Constitution Bench upheld the High Court's decision. Then Chief Justice of India Y V Chandrachud held that provisions such as Section 125 CrPC "cut across the barriers of religion", and "whether the spouses are Hindus or Muslims, Christians or Parsis, pagans or heathens, is wholly irrelevant". The court also held that the divorced wife was entitled to maintenance under Section 125 even after the *iddat* period "if she is unable to maintain herself".

The government of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi then enacted the MWPRD Act, which effectively overturned the Shah Bano verdict. Under the Act, the obligation to pay maintenance after the *iddat* period was placed on the relatives or children of the divorced wife and, in their absence, on the State Wakf Board.

Challenge to 1986 Act

Soon after the MWPRD Act was enacted, Shah Bano's lawyer, Danial Latifi Nafess Ahmad Siddiqui, challenged its constitutionality before the Supreme Court.

He argued that Section 125 is meant to protect women of all religions from "destitution or vagrancy", and that the MWPRD Act discriminates against Muslim women, violating their right to equality (Article 14) and right to life with dignity (Article 21).

The Centre argued that personal law is a legitimate basis for discrimination and does not violate the right to equality.

The All India Muslim Personal Law Board argued that the Act takes care of Muslim women and prevents "vagrancy" while being in tune with Muslim personal law, which

only places an obligation for maintenance on the husband during the *iddat* period.

In an endeavour to uphold the constitutionality of the law while securing maintenance for a divorced Muslim woman beyond the *iddat* period, the five-judge Constitution Bench in its judgment creatively interpreted Section 3(a) of the MWPRD Act, which requires the former husband to provide "a reasonable and fair provision and maintenance to be made and paid to her within the *iddat* period".

The court interpreted this to mean that the husband "is required to contemplate the future needs (of the divorced wife) and make preparatory arrangements in advance for meeting those needs" within the *iddat* period. In contrast, the actual payment would not be limited to this period and could "extend to the whole life of the divorced wife unless she gets married for a second time".

As a result, the court held, a Muslim husband is responsible for paying maintenance even beyond the *iddat* period, and upheld the constitutionality of the MWPRD Act.

THIS WORD MEANS

HANNIBAL DIRECTIVE

Israeli army's purported 'death before capture' doctrine, said to have been activated as Hamas attacked on Oct 7

ANAGHA JAYAKUMAR
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

AS HAMAS raided southern Israel on October 7 last year, the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) activated the "Hannibal Directive", a purported operational doctrine of using maximum force to ensure no soldiers are captured, even if it means sacrificing military and civilian lives, a media investigation has found.

The Hannibal Directive, also known as Hannibal Procedure and Hannibal Protocol, was used from the first hours of the attack at least three military facilities that Hamas infiltrated, the Israeli newspaper *Haaretz* reported on July 7.

About 1,200 people were killed and 250 were carried away to Gaza by the fighters, which provoked a ferocious Israeli assault on the Palestinian enclave in which more than 186,000 may have been killed over the last nine months, according to an estimate published in *The Lancet* journal.

The IDF has said that the results of its internal investigations would be presented once complete.

Operational procedure

The Hannibal Directive refers to a purported IDF operational policy that aims to pre-empt politically painful prisoner swaps by immediately eliminating everyone in the vicinity of a captive Israeli soldier, even if it poses a risk to the soldier himself.

The full text of the purported doctrine has never been published, even though its existence has been discussed for long. Describing the procedures to be used in the minutes and hours immediately following a possible abduction, the directive purportedly states: "In case of capture, the main mission becomes rescuing our soldiers from the captors, even at the cost of hitting or wounding our soldiers."

The 'Hannibal' name

Israeli officials have maintained that the name was chosen at random. But it is believed that the policy was named after the Carthaginian general Hannibal, who apparently chose to kill himself when faced with the possibility of capture by the Romans in c. 181 BCE.

Hannibal, who commanded the forces of Carthage, a great city in what is now Tunisia, in the 17-year Second Punic War with the Roman Empire, had taken refuge with Prusias I of Bithynia in northwest Anatolia. The Romans forced Prusias to give him up, but Hannibal was determined not to be captured.

According to accounts left by the Roman writer Cornelius Nepos and the historian Titus Livius, upon discovering that he had been surrounded, Hannibal consumed poison.

The 'Jibril Agreement'

The Hannibal Doctrine is said to have been formulated as a response to the Jibril Agreement of 1985 in which 1,150 Palestinian prisoners were exchanged for three Israelis who had been seized in Lebanon by the Syria-based militant group Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC).

The deal, which was negotiated over almost a year, was nicknamed after the leader of the PFLP-GC, Ahmed Jibril. Among the Palestinians released by Israel was Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, who went on to found Hamas in 1987.

The swap negotiations were exhausting, and the deal was seen as costly by many Israelis. In mid-1986, after Hezbollah attempted to abduct two Israeli soldiers to southern Lebanon, Yossi Peled, then head of the IDF's Northern Command, drafted the operational order that would become the basis of the Hannibal Doctrine.

LONGER VERSION ON [indianexpress.com/explained](https://www.indianexpress.com/explained)

SUKRITA BARUAH
GUWAHATI, JULY 10

TWO ANTI-dam activists from Arunachal Pradesh were put in preventive detention on Monday, ahead of Union Power Minister Manohar Lal Khattar's visit to the state.

The police claimed to have received reports that the duo was "likely to attempt to cause a public order issue". The activists, however, said that they simply wanted to hand a memorandum to the minister regarding the contentious proposed Upper Siang Multipurpose Storage Project.

The Upper Siang project

The Upper Siang project is a proposed 11,000 megawatt hydropower project on the Siang river in the Upper Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh.

The Siang originates near Mount Kailash in Tibet, where it goes by the name of Tsangpo. It traverses more than 1,000 km eastward, before forming a horseshoe bend around the towering Namcha Barwa peak, and enters Arunachal Pradesh as the Siang. Further downstream, in Assam, the river becomes the mighty Brahmaputra.

In 2017, the government proposed to replace the planned 5,500 MW Siang Upper Stage-I and 3,750 MW Siang Upper Stage-II hydel projects with a single, multi-purpose project of higher capacity — the aforementioned Upper Siang project. Set to be built by the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC), the project would entail the construction of a 300-metre high dam, the largest in the subcontinent, when completed.

According to a November 2022 report by the Central Electrical Authority, there are 29 hydroelectric projects (installed capacity of over 25 MW) in the Siang river basin, with a combined installed capacity of 18,326 MW. The proposed Upper Siang project's installed capacity is roughly 60% of this figure.

But more than its hydropower potential, the dam is being projected as a strategic imperative to counter China's hydel projects on the Tsangpo.

Officials have highlighted in particular the plan for a 60,000 MW 'super dam' in Tibet's Medog county, right on the border with Arunachal Pradesh. The super dam's installed capacity is almost three times that of the largest hydropower station on the planet — the Three Gorges Dam on the Yangtze river in China's Hubei province. It will be used to



A section of the river Siang in Arunachal Pradesh; (right) an anti-dam protest in Parang in March. Facebook/Pema Khandu, Express photo

divert water to China's water-scarce northern regions.

Officials have stated that the Upper Siang project will act as a reservoir to counter the effects of a potentially-reduced flow.

Environmental, social concerns

In the memorandum that three anti-dam organisations — the Siang Indigenous Farmers Forum (SIFF), Dibang Resistance, and North East Human Rights — intended to give Khattar, concerns regarding the project's environmental and social impact are stated. "Arunachal Pradesh already hosts numerous dams, and our rivers have borne the burden of hydroelectric projects for years. The proposed Siang mega dam threatens our ancestral abode that hosts delicate ecosystems, wildlife habitats, and biodiversity," the memorandum states.

Activists are also concerned about the communities that will be displaced due to the project, which they say will submerge

more than 300 villages belonging to the Adi tribe, including the Upper Siang district headquarters of Yingkiang.

"Siang and all the tribal territories of the state [have been the] Ancestral Heritage of our people [for] 1000 of years... generation after generation [has relied] on these rivers for our livelihoods, cultural practices, and sustenance. The proposed dam threatens our way of life," the memorandum says.

SIFF activist Gegong Jijong, resident of Gette, one of the villages which could be impacted by the project, spoke to *The Indian Express*. "After all the villages in the valley along the Siang are submerged... where will we go? We can't go further uphill where there is snow and ice... we also have to survive. There will be no farming, no gardens there," he said.

Earlier this year, while campaigning for the Lok Sabha and state assembly elections in Arunachal Pradesh, Chief Minister Pema Khandu acknowledged people's apprehen-

sions about the project, and said that it would go ahead "only with the people's consent."

Renewed push and resistance

Despite Khandu's reassurance, authorities have seemingly hastened their pre-construction activity, in turn increasing the urgency among those resisting it. Senior NHPC officials met with Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein and others in Itanagar on June 25 "regarding early commencement of Siang basin projects".

The Upper Siang district administration has also called multiple meetings this year to lay the ground for a pre-feasibility survey in the area, a preliminary analysis to assess the probable cost of a project and its feasibility in a given area. The NHPC has chosen three sites along the Siang — Ugeng, Dite Dime and Parang — for its feasibility study.

The minutes of one such meeting called last month state that people should cooperate with the government and "allow the taking up of survey works for national interest and area development". The minutes also state that the survey work is "likely to be taken up shortly". This meeting was chaired by the District Collector, and attended by the Superintendent of Police, the local MLA, and representatives of dam-affected villages.

Authorities are in the process of launching a massive public outreach campaign in the district to drum up support for the project. The NHPC has sanctioned a Rs 325 crore CSR package which will be used for the implementation of livelihood schemes, as well as the development of health, education, and sports infrastructure. MOUs for these activities are currently being signed.

"It is a project of major national interest which a section of people is opposing. We are holding public awareness activities to convince them... There are a number of different activities going on, and we are in the middle of enabling surveys for a pre-feasibility survey," Upper Siang DC Hage Lailang said. Activists, however, are wary of framing the project in national interest terms. They are particularly concerned by a provision of last year's Forest (Conservation) Amendment Act which exempts from clearance the diversion of forest land for strategic projects within 100 km from India's borders.

"The portrayal of the Upper Siang dam as a national security relevance project is problematic, given the history of anti-dam resistance in the region," activist Bhanu Tatak said.

In dark secret about Alice Munro, the moral fallibility of some literary idols

PAROMITA CHAKRABARTI
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

THE CLOSING line of Alice Munro's short story *Dear Life* in the eponymous collection published in 2012, goes: "We say of some things that they can't be forgiven, or that we will never forgive ourselves. But we do — we do it all the time."

Weeks after the Canadian Nobel laureate's death on May 13, her youngest daughter has revealed how exonerated for the unforgivable that Munro granted to her protagonists extended to her personal life too — even if it came at the expense of her family.

In an essay written for the *Toronto Star*, Andrea Robin Skinner, now 58, has said that even after being made aware that Munro's second husband and Skinner's stepfather, the cartographer Gerald Fremlin, had sexually abused her repeatedly, the writer chose to stand by her daughter's abuser.

A mother's rejection

"I have been afraid all my life that you would blame me for what happened," Skinner wrote in a letter to her mother in 1992 — parts of which she shared with the newspaper — telling her of the abuse. Skinner was 25 then, and had spent nearly two decades trying to come to terms with her trauma.

"In 1976, I went to visit my mother, Alice Munro, for the summer..." Skinner wrote.

"One night, while she (Munro) was away, her husband, my stepfather, Gerald Fremlin, climbed into the bed where I was sleeping and sexually assaulted me."

Over the course of Skinner's childhood, Fremlin would continue to abuse her sexually. "At the time, I didn't know this was abuse. I thought I was doing a good job of preventing abuse by averting my eyes and ignoring his stories," Skinner wrote.

When Skinner finally mustered the courage to tell her mother, things panned out exactly how she had hoped they wouldn't.

"She (Alice) said that she had been 'told too late', she loved him (Fremlin) too much, and that our misogynistic culture was to blame if I expected her to deny her own needs, sacrifice for her children, and make up for the failings of men. She was adamant that whatever had happened was between me and my stepfather. It had nothing to do with her," Skinner wrote in the article.

Fremlin blamed Skinner for the abuse, writing in letters that she was a "home-wrecker" who had led him on.

Years later, some support

Over the years, Skinner's contact with her mother and her two sisters, Sheila and Jenny, petered out. In 2005, Munro made a declaration of devotion to Fremlin in an interview, which opened up old wounds. Skinner went to the police; Fremlin was charged, and he pleaded guilty on arraignment. But the news was never made public, in deference to Munro's stratospheric fame.

Fremlin died in 2013, the same year that Munro received the Nobel Prize for



Munro at her home in Clinton, Canada, on June 23, 2013. *The New York Times*

Literature. Skinner remained estranged from her mother up until her death.

In 2014, her sisters reached out to Skinner, hoping for a reconciliation and an understanding of their complicity in the silence that shrouded her ordeal. It was with their support that she finally decided to tell

the story of Munro the mother, eclipsed forever by Munro the writer.

Alice Munro, Nobel laureate

Across collections of short stories such as *Dance of the Happy Shades* (1968) to *Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship, Marriage* (2012) and others, Munro wrote of the course of chance through the lives of girls and women. She wrote of spinsters and divorcees, adulterers and coquettes, wives and working women, mothers and daughters — mapping their lives with empathy and a rare interiority. Shame and grief, desire and morality joust for space with loneliness and revenge, joy and redemption. Her short stories, finely crafted with what the 2009 Man Booker International Prize committee called "depth, wisdom and precision", held their own against the dazzle of fully-formed novels, cementing her position as a literary great.

Complicated legacies of icons

From Pulitzer Prize-winning Junot Diaz

and *Thirteen Reasons Why* author Jay Asher, accused of sexual harassment, to the problematic politics of Ezra Pound, T S Eliot or V S Naipaul, from J K Rowling's controversial views on trans rights to Munro's feet of clay, what makes the realisation that the finest of literary idols are fallible so disconcerting?

Perhaps it is the awareness that it is not merely their particular failure — sexual harassment, misogyny, bullying or racism — that is of the essence. It is the fact of the power that they command, that can reduce or silence others into submission, that makes the difference.

Skinner wrote, "I also wanted this story, my story, to become part of the stories people tell about my mother. I never wanted to see another interview, biography or event that didn't wrestle with the reality of what had happened to me, and with the fact that my mother, confronted with the truth of what had happened, chose to stay with, and protect, my abuser."

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14 THE WORLD

TOP OF THE WORLD



Workers gather outside Samsung's Hwaseong factory Tuesday. AP

SOUTH KOREA Samsung workers to go on strike indefinitely

Seoul: Unionised workers at Samsung Electronics declared an indefinite strike Wednesday to pressure South Korea's biggest company to accept their calls for higher pay and other benefits. Thousands of members of the National Samsung Electronics Union launched a temporary, three-day strike on Monday. But the union said Wednesday that it was announcing an indefinite strike, accusing the management of being unwilling to negotiate. Samsung Electronics says there have been no disruptions to production. "We are confident of our victory," the union statement said. AP

THAILAND New Senate replaces old one installed by army

Bangkok: Thailand's Election Commission Wednesday endorsed 200 new senators who will replace a military-appointed upper house, revealing a new legislative body that could make it harder for the embattled ruling Pheu Thai party to govern. The new upper house will not have a role in voting to approve who becomes prime minister, but will retain the power to vet laws and appoint crucial members of powerful organisations like the Election Commission and the Constitutional Court. REUTERS

IRAQ Court sentences dead IS leader's wife to death

Dubai: An Iraqi court issued a death sentence against a wife of the late Islamic State leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, for working with the group and detaining Yazidi women in her home, the Iraqi judiciary said on Wednesday without naming the woman. The Supreme Judicial Council in Iraq said the Yazidi women were kidnapped by Islamic State gangs in Sinjar district, west of Nineveh Governorate, and then held prisoner by the woman in her house in Mosul. The woman is held in Iraqi custody. REUTERS

ISRAEL URGES CIVILIANS TO LEAVE ALL AREAS OF GAZA CITY

Israeli airstrike hits Gazans gathered for football match, 29 killed: Residents

Spectators crowded school grounds in Abassan of south Gaza's Khan Younis

REUTERS
GAZA, JULY 10

AN ISRAELI missile slammed into a tent encampment in southern Gaza on Tuesday just as displaced people had gathered to watch a football match at a school, eyewitnesses said on Wednesday.

At least 29 people, mostly women and children, were killed in the strike, according to Palestinian officials, which took place as spectators crowded the school grounds in Abassan east of Khan Younis and hawkers sold smoothies and biscuits.

"They were watching a football match. There were injuries and martyrs. I witnessed this...people thrown around and body parts scattered, blood," a young woman, Ghazzal Nasser, told Reuters in Abassan.

"Everything was normal. People were playing, others were buying and selling (food and drinks). There was no sound of planes or anything," she said.

The Israeli military said it was reviewing reports that civilians were harmed. It said the incident occurred when it struck with "precise munition" a Hamas



Palestinians walk past rubble amid the Israeli military offensive in south Gaza's Khan Younis on Wednesday. Reuters

fighter who took part in the Oct. 7 raid on Israel that triggered the war. The military did not immediately respond to a request for comment on whether it knew a football match was going on when the strike was ordered.

At the nearby Nasser Hospital, dozens of Palestinians bid farewell to loved ones before funerals and burials. "The schools were overcrowded with

people and the street was full too, suddenly a missile hit and destroyed the whole place," said Asmaa Qudeih, who lost some relatives in the attack. "Bodies flew in the wind, body parts flew, I don't know how to describe it," she said.

Israeli forces continued to press their offensive in north and central Gaza on Wednesday, and deepened their incursion into

two Gaza City districts. Soldiers carried out house-to-house searches in some areas and tanks shelled several homes, according to residents.

The militant group Hamas said the renewed Israeli campaign threatened to derail efforts to secure a ceasefire in the nine-month-old war, with talks to resume in Doha on Wednesday.

Leaflets were dropped on Gaza City, this time with a map marking "safe routes" for the evacuation of the whole city, not just certain districts. The Israeli leaflets urge civilians to head south along two routes to the central Gaza Strip.

The Israeli military said in a statement its forces were continuing operations in Gaza City against militants of Hamas and its ally Islamic Jihad, who they said had operated from inside the UNRWA facilities, using them as a base for attacks.

"After a defined corridor was opened to facilitate the evacuation of civilians from the area, IDF troops conducted a targeted raid on the structure, eliminated terrorists in close-quarters combat, and located large amounts of weapons in the area," the military said.

PM SET TO LOSE FRIDAY'S TRUST VOTE

Prachanda battles till the end to prevent Oli's return as PM

YUBARAJ GHIMIRE
KATHMANDU, JULY 10

AHEAD OF a confidence vote Friday that he is set to lose, Nepal Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' is leant to be making last-minute efforts to ensure, at the very least, that his rival — KP Sharma Oli, Chairman of the Communist Party of Nepal-United Marxist Leninist (CPN-UML) — does not replace him.

All developments point to Prachanda losing the vote of confidence, his fifth in the past 17 months. The PM has the support of 70 members of the 275-member House. The Nepali Congress and the CPN-UML, which struck a deal on July 2 to oust Prachanda, together have 167 members.



PM Pushpa Kamal Dahal; Former PM KP Sharma Oli

A highly-placed official source said Prachanda approached Deuba over the phone to consider an offer that Maoist Centre was willing to back him as PM. Deuba, however, said that he had already signed a deal with CPN-UML. Sources said Prachanda also met with NC leader Shekhar Koirala and others to keep Oli out of power.

Prachanda has also been us-

ing Constitutional provisions to prevent Oli's return as PM. He insists that Article 76(3) of Nepal's Constitution, and not Article 76(2), should govern the process.

While Article 76(2) provides for the choice of a leader of any party who can command the support of two or more parties and prove a majority within 30 days, Article 76(3) makes it mandatory for the leader of the largest party to be invited to form government.

Govinda Acharya, press advisor to the PM, said: "His party believes that once the current government that was elected under Article 76(2) is defeated in the House, then the automatic way forward will be exercising 76(3)." Interestingly, CPN-MC is using the same public stance that Oli took to stop Prachanda's ascent as PM.

Russian court orders arrest of Opp leader Navalny's wife

Moscow: A court in Russia ordered the arrest of the widow of Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny during a hearing Tuesday that was conducted in absentia as part of a sweeping Kremlin crackdown on the opposition.

Yulia Navalnaya, who lives abroad, would face arrest if and when she returns to Russia.

Moscow's Basmanny District Court ruled to arrest Navalnaya on charges of alleged involvement in an extremist group.

Navalny, the fiercest political foe of Russian President Vladimir Putin, died in February in an Arctic penal colony while serving a 19-year sentence on extremism charge. Authorities said he became ill after a walk but have otherwise given no details on Navalny's death. AP

Rwanda says it does not have to repay UK for scrapped migrant deportation policy

ABDILATIF DAHIR
KIGALI, JULY 10

RWANDA DOES NOT have to repay the hundreds of millions of pounds it received from Britain as part of a contentious policy aimed at sending migrants on a one-way flight to the Central African nation, two senior Rwandan government officials say.

Rwanda's president had previously suggested that such money could be returned.

As part of the deal, Britain was set to give Rwanda as much as about half a billion pounds in development funding in exchange for taking in the migrants. Britain's independent public spending watchdog said in early



Migrants rescued while crossing the English Channel. File

March that the country had already paid Rwanda £220 million, about \$280 million, even though no asylum seekers had been deported to the African nation.

Britain's new prime minister,

Keir Starmer, scrapped the plan after taking over last week.

One of the Rwandan officials, Alain Mukuralinda, the government's deputy spokesman, said on Wednesday that the agree-

ment did not include a reimbursement clause.

"The British decided to request cooperation for a long time, resulting in an agreement between the two countries that became a treaty," he said. "Now, if you come and ask for cooperation and then withdraw, that's your decision."

The other official, Doris Uwicyeza Picard, the coordinator of the migration partnership with Britain, said in a statement late Wednesday that her country was under "no obligation" to refund the money. She said Rwanda would remain in "constant discussions" with British officials about the next steps, though she did not elaborate on what those steps might be or when such discussions would begin. NYT

PARTS OF MAJOR HIGHWAY WASHED AWAY BY FLOOD

FLOODS TRAP OVER 130 NEAR TIBET-NEPAL BORDER

More than 130 people including tourists were trapped in Tibet near China's rugged Himalayan border with Nepal on Wednesday after incessant rains unleashed landslides and floods, severing road links, according to Chinese state media. Many sections of a major highway leading to the remote Tibetan town of Zhentang were washed away by floods, Chinese state media reported. REUTERS

'IT'S UP TO HIM... TIME IS RUNNING SHORT'

Ex-Speaker Pelosi hints Biden should reconsider decision to stay in race



ANNIE KARNI
WASHINGTON, JULY 10

REPRESENTATIVE NANCY Pelosi of California, the former speaker, suggested on Wednesday that President Biden should reconsider his decision to remain in the presidential race, the strongest public push yet from a senior member of his party for him to weigh dropping out.

Despite mounting concerns that his candidacy could cost Democrats not only the White House but both chambers of Congress, Biden has been unequivocal about his intention to seek a second term.

On Wednesday, Pelosi said on MSNBC's "Morning Joe" that Biden should continue to weigh his options. "It's up to the president to decide if he is going to run," she said. "We're all encouraging him to do whatever he decides to do. And that's the way it is. Whatever he decides, we go with."

Pelosi said she wanted to delay the conversations about Biden's future until after the president's first news conference since his debate performance that raised questions. "Let's just hold off," she said. "Whatever you're thinking, either tell somebody privately, but you don't have to put that out on the table until we see how we



President Biden awards the Presidential Medal of Freedom to ex-Speaker Nancy Pelosi in May 2024. AP file

EXPLAINED Pelosi, Clooney: Who is next?

PELOSI'S COMMENTS underscore how much pressure Biden will be under as he closes out the NATO summit in Washington and holds a news conference. Among Biden allies, Pelosi's message to the President — and to her fellow Democrats — is seen as a warning that more will go public with their misgivings about his candidacy if he seriously stumbles in his first post-debate unscripted before media.

George Clooney, high profile Biden supporter, asks him to leave race



Actor George Clooney

Washington: Movie star and lifelong Democrat George Clooney added his voice to calls for Joe Biden to leave the presidential race on Wednesday.

Clooney said in a New York Times opinion piece that he loves Biden, but the party would lose the presidential race as well as any control in Congress with him as the nominee.

"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," wrote Clooney. He's hosted many high-dollar fundraisers last month. Clooney argued the party should pick a new nominee at its convention, saying it would be "messy" but "wake up" voters in their favour. AP

Biden, NATO set to announce Ukraine aid, vow membership

REUTERS
WASHINGTON, JULY 10

US PRESIDENT Joe Biden and leaders of other NATO member states are set to announce new aid and stress a membership pledge for Ukraine at a summit in Washington after Biden promised to defend Kyiv against the Russian invasion.

As Biden welcomed NATO leaders, the United States and Germany announced that the U.S. would start deploying longer-range missiles in Germany in 2026 in an effort to demonstrate its commitment to NATO and European defense.

A joint US-German statement said the "episodic deployments" were in preparation for longer-term stationing of such capabilities that would include SM-6, Tomahawk and developmental hypersonic weapons.

A draft communique prepared for the meeting of the alliance said the allies intend to provide Ukraine with minimum



US President Joe Biden awards NATO chief Jens Stoltenberg with the Presidential Medal of Freedom on Tuesday. Reuters

funding of 40 billion euros in military aid within 2025, but stopped short of the multi-year commitment NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg had sought.

The draft, seen by Reuters, also strengthened past NATO language on China, calling it a "decisive enabler" of Russia's war effort in Ukraine and saying Beijing continues to pose systemic challenges to Euro-Atlantic security.

Biden said in a speech on

Tuesday that NATO was "stronger than it's ever been" and that Ukraine can and will stop Russian President Vladimir Putin.

However, November's U.S. presidential election could presage a sharp change in Washington's support for Ukraine and NATO. Republican candidate Donald Trump has questioned the amount of aid given to Ukraine to fight Russia's invasion, and US support for allies generally.

26 MN TONS OF CLOTHES ARE THROWN AWAY EACH YEAR IN WORLD'S LARGEST TEXTILE PRODUCER & CONSUMER

China's landfills brim with textile waste as fast fashion triumphs over recycling

TIAN MACLEOD JI
WENZHOU, JULY 10

AT A factory in Zhejiang province on China's eastern coast, two mounds of discarded cotton clothing and bed linens, loosely separated into dark and light colors, pile up on a workroom floor. Jacket sleeves, collars and brand labels protrude from the stacks as workers feed the garments into shredding machines.

It's the first stage of a new life for the textiles, part of a recycling effort at the Wenzhou Tiancheng Textile Company, one of the largest cotton recycling plants in China.

Textile waste is an urgent global problem, with only 12% re-

cycled worldwide, according to fashion sustainability nonprofit Ellen MacArthur Foundation. Even less — only 1% — are castoff clothes recycled into new garments; the majority is used for low-value items like insulation or mattress stuffing.

Nowhere is the problem more pressing than in China, the world's largest textile producer and consumer, where more than 26 million tons of clothes are thrown away each year. Most of it ends up in landfills.

And factories like this one are barely making a dent in a country whose clothing industry is dominated by "fast fashion" — cheap clothes made from unrecyclable synthetics, not cotton.

Produced from petrochemicals that contribute to climate change, air and water pollution, synthetics account for 70% of domestic clothing sales in China.

China's footprint is worldwide: E-commerce juggernaut brands Shein and Temu make the country one of the world's largest producers of cheap fashion, selling in more than 150 countries.

To achieve a game-changing impact, what fashion expert Shaway Yeh calls "circular sustainability" is needed among major Chinese clothing brands so waste is avoided entirely.

"You need to start it from recyclable fibers and then all these waste textiles will be put into use



A pile of discarded textiles waits to be shredded at Wenzhou Tiancheng Textile Company in Zhejiang province. AP

again," she said. But that is an elusive goal: Only about 20% of China's textiles are recycled, according to the government and almost all of that is cotton.

While China is a global leader in the production of electric cars and electric-powered public transit and has set a goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2060, its efforts in promoting fashion sustainability and recycling textiles have taken a back seat.

According to a report this year from independent fashion watchdog Remake assessing major clothing companies on their environmental, human rights and equity practices, there's little accountability among the best-known brands.

Also getting zero were U.S. label SKIMS, co-founded by Kim Kardashian, and low-price brand Fashion Nova. U.S. retailer Everlane was the highest-scoring at 40 points, with only half of those for sustainability practices.

China's domestic policy doesn't help. Cotton recycled from used clothing is banned from being used to make new garments inside China. This rule was initially aimed at stamping out fly-by-night Chinese operations recycling dirty or otherwise contaminated material.

Making matters worse, many Chinese consumers are unwilling to buy used items anyway, something the Wenzhou factory sales director, Kowen Tang, at-

tributes to increasing household incomes. Still, among younger Chinese, a growing awareness of sustainability has contributed to the emergence of fledgling "remade" clothing businesses.

And therein lies the real problem, said Sheng Lu, professor of fashion and apparel studies at the University of Delaware. "... consumers are not willing to pay higher for clothing made from recycled materials, instead they actually expect a lower price," he said.

With higher costs in acquiring, sorting and processing used garments, he doesn't see sustainable fashion succeeding on a wide scale in China, where clothes are so cheap to make. AP

15 ECONOMY

SENSEX: 79,924.77 ▼ 426.87 (0.53%) NIFTY: 24,324.45 ▼ 108.75 (0.45%) NIKKEI: 41,831.99 ▲ 251.82 HANG SENG: 17,471.67 ▼ 51.56 FTSE: 8,185.28 ▲ 45.47 DAX: 18,349.29 ▲ 113.10

GOLD	USD RATE	OIL	SILVER
₹75,050	₹83.51	\$85.74	₹94,400

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) as of July 9

International market data till 1900 IST

OIL TRADE WITH RUSSIA HELPED IN PROVIDING FUEL TO INDIANS, STABILISE OIL MARKET: PM

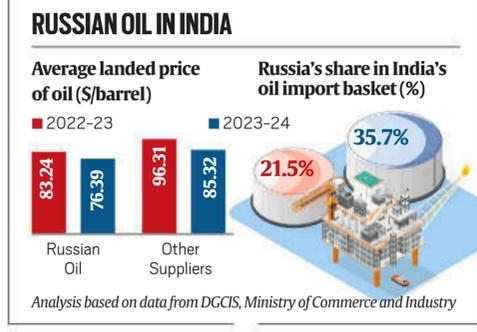
Indian refiners likely saved \$10.5 bn by buying discounted Russian oil

SUKALP SHARMA
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

OIL HAS traditionally not been a major pillar of the India-Russia relationship, with the commodity languishing somewhere in the depths of the trade list between the two countries. But the outbreak of the war in Ukraine and what followed changed that completely, bringing oil to the very top of the trade relationship between Moscow and New Delhi.

During his visit to Moscow earlier this week, Prime Minister Narendra Modi acknowledged that Russia's support helped India provide fuel to its vast population even as many countries faced an energy crisis. Modi also said that the world should accept that the India-Russia oil trade brought stability to global energy markets.

According to *The Indian Express's* analysis of India's official trade data, Indian refiners likely saved at least \$10.5 billion in foreign exchange between April 2022 and May 2024 by ramping up purchases of discounted Russian crude oil following the outbreak of the war in Ukraine. With Western buyers cutting oil imports from Russia in the wake of its February 2022 invasion of Ukraine, Moscow began offering discounts on its crude. Indian refiners have been lapping up these discounted barrels, so much so that Russia,



which used to be a marginal player in India's oil trade, is now New Delhi's biggest oil supplier. The booming oil trade has also catapulted Russia into the club of India's top trade partners.

India has had to walk the diplomatic tightrope on the surge in its oil imports from Russia, with some voices in the West initially criticising New Delhi, alleging that buying Russian oil was helping Moscow finance its war in Ukraine. India, on its part, has been emphasising that as the world's third-largest consumer of crude oil, with an import dependency level of over 85 per cent, energy security and affordability are key priority for it. The government has time and again stated that Indian refiners helped rebalance the global oil market and keep prices in check by buying more Russian oil, which the West had com-

pletely shunned. Modi's recent comments in Moscow are being seen as a reiteration of India's long-held stance.

For 2023-24 (FY24), the total value of India's oil imports was \$139.86 billion, as per data from the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIIS). Had Indian refiners paid for Russian oil the average per-barrel price they paid for crude from all other suppliers put together, the oil import bill would have been \$145.29 billion, or \$5.43 billion higher, the analysis shows. Similarly, for FY23, while India's total oil import bill was \$162.21 billion, it would have been higher by \$4.87 billion had the average landed price of Russian oil been the same as the average price of oil from all other suppliers. In April-May—the first two months of FY25—the difference on account of Russian dis-

counts is estimated at around \$235 million. Although \$10.5 billion may not appear to be a significantly high amount in the overall scheme of India's foreign trade, the savings are substantial considering these were accrued by five Indian refining majors—Indian Oil Corporation, Reliance Industries, Bharat Petroleum Corporation, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation, and Nayara Energy—and their arms.

It is also worth noting that the discounts offered by Russia to Indian refiners also forced a few other major oil suppliers like Iraq to offer discounts, which would have helped Indian refiners save more on cost of crude. The cushion from savings of crude purchases also partly enabled Indian fuel retailers to not hike petrol and diesel prices even as prices in the international market surged in periods of high volatility over the past couple of years.

The effective discounts, while significant from the point of view of Indian refiners, are not as high as what had been initially anticipated. Relatively higher cost of freight and insurance for Russian crude as compared to oil from other suppliers is seen as the most likely reason. With Moscow facing Western sanctions over the Ukraine war, freight and insurance costs for ferrying Russian oil shot up. This suggests that while the discounts might have been deeper on the actual price of oil, the discount on landed price—which includes freight

and insurance costs—would work out to be much lower.

The average landed price of Russian crude imported by Indian refiners for FY24 was \$76.39 per barrel, against \$85.32—the average landed price of oil imported from all other suppliers, the analysis of DGCIIS data shows. For FY23, the average landed price of Russian crude was \$83.24 per barrel, while that of all other suppliers put together was \$96.31.

The government releases commodity-wise and country-wise trade data with a lag, and currently, data up to May 2024 is available. While the price of crude oil depends on grades and their prices can vary substantially, the average landed price of crude and import volumes from the supplying countries were used for computations as the government does not release grade-wise data.

For FY24, Russian crude accounted for nearly 36 per cent of India's oil imports totalling 232.31 million tonnes, or 1.70 billion barrels. In the first two months of FY25, too, Russian oil maintained a similar market share. For FY23, Russian oil had a market share of 21.5 per cent, given that Indian refiners had started ramping up Russian oil imports only from the beginning of that year. In the process, Russia displaced traditional heavyweights like Iraq and Saudi Arabia to emerge as India's largest source market for crude.

REGISTRATION FEE ON HYBRID ELECTRIC VEHICLES

UP's fee waiver on hybrids may push green mobility

AGGAM WALIA
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

THE UTTAR Pradesh government waived off registration fees for strong hybrid and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (EVs) on July 5, joining Tamil Nadu and Chandigarh in offering incentives for cleaner alternatives to petrol and diesel vehicles. This move comes as hybrid vehicles gain traction globally by offering improved fuel economy without the range anxiety of full EVs. Recent sales figures highlight this shift in India's automotive market. In FY23, strong hybrids made up 0.5 per cent of total sales, which surged to 2.2 per cent in FY24. By comparison, the share of battery EVs grew at a slower pace, from 1.3 per cent to 2.3 per cent of the market, and there are signs of a further slowdown in this category. The UP government's decision could encourage more states to introduce similar incentives, potentially accelerating India's transition to a greener transportation sector.

Making hybrids cheaper

Hybrid vehicles combine an internal combustion engine (ICE) with an electric motor, working together to power the car. Strong hybrids can switch between running solely on the electric motor, the ICE, or both simultaneously, optimising fuel efficiency. Unlike full EVs or plug-in hybrids, strong hybrids do not require external charging. Their batteries are recharged



through regenerative braking and by the ICE itself, eliminating dependence on charging infrastructure. This self-charging capability makes strong hybrids particularly attractive in regions where EV charging networks are still developing.

The UP government's 100 per cent waiver on registration fees for strong hybrids could save buyers up to Rs 3.5 lakh. The waiver is likely to boost sales for manufacturers like Maruti Suzuki India, Toyota Kirloskar Motor, and Honda Cars India, all of which offer strong hybrid models. Previously, strong hybrids priced above Rs 10 lakh ex-showroom incurred a 10 per cent road tax.

In February last year, the Tamil Nadu government had also announced incentives in the form of road tax, registration, and permit fee exemptions for strong hybrids. The Chandigarh administration also offers road tax rebate on strong hybrid vehicles priced be-

low Rs 20 lakh. **Maruti, Toyota bet on hybrids**

Tata Motors, Mahindra & Mahindra and Hyundai Motor have been betting big on EVs. But passenger car market leader Maruti Suzuki has taken a more conservative approach, with no battery EV in the market so far. Maruti has, however, prioritised hybrids in its portfolio in partnership with Toyota Kirloskar.

According to HSBC research, hybrid vehicles are the more practical medium-term solution for the country's decarbonisation efforts and, more importantly, are less polluting. "We have a long-standing belief that hybrid and compressed natural gas cars are a

practical medium-term (5-10 years) solution for India, while the country moves towards eventual electrification. Hybrids are critical not just from a cost of ownership perspective, but also for India's decarbonisation drive," HSBC said in a note issued to investors earlier this year.

The note said that total (well-to-wheel) carbon emissions from an EV is currently 158 g/km, compared to 133 g/km for hybrids—which means that a hybrid is at least 16 per cent less polluting than the corresponding EV. These numbers are 176 g/km and 201 g/km for corresponding petrol and diesel vehicles respectively.

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BRIEFLY

Retail inflation for industrial workers eases

New Delhi: Retail inflation for industrial workers eased to 3.86 per cent in May compared to 4.42 per cent in the same month a year ago. The Consumer Price Index-Industrial Workers (CPI-IW) was 3.87 per cent in April 2024, a labour ministry statement said. According to the statement, year-on-year inflation for May 2024 moderated to 3.86 per cent against 4.42 per cent in May 2023. **PTI**

Inflation fight not yet over: Fed Chair

Washington: Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell said on Wednesday he was not yet ready to declare inflation had been beaten, but felt the U.S. remained on a path back to stable prices and continued low unemployment. Powell and other Fed officials have said they will not cut interest rates until they have gained even greater confidence that inflation is headed back to the central bank's 2 per cent target after a breakout surge during Covid-19. **REUTERS**

Four PSU banks pay ₹6,481 cr dividend to Govt

New Delhi: Four public sector banks, including Canara Bank and Indian Bank, on Wednesday presented dividend cheques worth Rs 6,481 crore to PM Nirmala Sitharaman for financial year 2023-24. **PTI**

Tesla hikes Model 3 prices in Europe

New Delhi: Tesla has raised prices of its Model 3 cars in European countries including Germany, the Netherlands and Spain by about 1,500 euros after the EU imposed tariffs on EVs made in China, the US automaker said on Wednesday. Tesla had warned in June it might lift prices due to the tariffs imposed. **REUTERS**

Forced layoff row: Paytm not to recover joining bonus

New Delhi: After receiving the Labour Ministry's rap over the alleged termination of an employee, the Paytm management on Wednesday appeared before the regional labour commissioner and agreed not to recover the joining bonus from the worker, according to official sources.

Official sources said Paytm has also agreed to make the notice period payment to the said employee. However, they didn't reveal the name of the employee who got the relief. An email sent to Paytm on the issue did not elicit a response. Official sources, meanwhile, said the employee has accepted the exit offer made by Paytm, in the presence of the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central), Bengaluru. They also said following the parleys, the grievance has been resolved to the satisfaction of both sides. **PTI**

\$100-bn FDI pledge by EFTA: Goyal to visit Switzerland soon

MUKESH JAGOTA
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

COMMERCE AND industry minister Piyush Goyal will visit Switzerland to take forward a \$100 billion investment commitment for India made by the four-nation European Free Trade Association (EFTA) under a bilateral free trade agreement (FTA).

In the FTA that India signed in March with EFTA - which apart from Switzerland includes Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein - India secured the investment pledge from EFTA over next 15 years in return for tariff concessions to the members of the grouping.

These investments will come as foreign direct investment (FDI) and portfolio investments that should generate 1 million direct jobs, Goyal said at the National Executive Committee meeting of FICCI. "I can withdraw conces-



Commerce & Industry minister Piyush Goyal. **File**

sions in the FTA if this commitment is not fulfilled." The fingerprint of the FTA document shows that of the \$100 billion investment, \$50 billion will flow in the first 10 years and \$50 billion in another five years. "Excitement that I am finding in Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland and Iceland makes me believe that we can actually exceed that if we are more forthcoming about that. They will look

for India partners and investors," the minister said.

So far the members of the grouping have collectively invested \$10.7 billion in India of which \$9.96 billion has come from Switzerland alone. Bilateral trade between India and EFTA stood at \$23.9 billion last financial year. India's exports were up 0.8 per cent to \$1.9 billion while imports were \$22 billion up 31.7 per cent. The source of imports from EFTA was Switzerland at \$21.2 billion last year.

On India-UK FTA the minister said that initial comments made by the UK government are very encouraging. The newly appointed UK Secretary of State for Business and Trade Jonathan Reynolds had met Goyal in February this year during his India visit when he was shadow trade minister. "The Labour government is deeply committed (to FTA) as is the Modi government," the minister said. **FE**

MORGAN STANLEY REPORT 'Budget may retain fiscal deficit target at 5.1%

ENSE ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, JULY 10

US INVESTMENT bank Morgan Stanley has said the central government is likely to retain fiscal deficit target at 5.1 per cent of GDP in FY25, in line with the interim budget. Fiscal prudence, capital expenditure spending to help create jobs and targeted social sector spending are likely to be key themes of the Budget, it said. The government will unveil the Union Budget on July 23.

The fiscal deficit target which was 5.6 per cent of GDP in F24 is expected to be on track to attain the target of 4.5 per cent of GDP by FY26, Morgan Stanley report

WHAT DID THE REPORT SAY

■ The market seems to be approaching the Budget with exuberance and could be dealing with both volatility and a correction post-Budget

said. "The fiscal headroom has improved with a larger-than-expected transfer of surplus from the RBI, which in our view will help to maintain the momentum on capex expenditure and increase targeted welfare spending."

it said. Morgan Stanley said it expects the possibility of a slightly lower fiscal deficit target (tad below 5.1 per cent of GDP) given the support from tax and non-tax revenues. According to the report, job creation supported through capex, targeted social sector spending and focus on 'Viksit Bharat' plan are likely to be the themes in the budget. "With fiscal prudence guiding the overall fiscal policy stance, we expect the focus to remain on capex expenditure over revenue expenditure and targeted social sector spending with focus on improving access to physical, social and digital infrastructure," Morgan Stanley said.

"We also expect the budget to

provide focus on the government's road-map for 'Viksit Bharat' (developed nation) by 2047. In addition, the budget could also give a road-map for a medium-term plan for fiscal consolidation beyond FY26, it said.

It said the impact of the budget on the market has been on a secular decline, albeit actual performance is a function of pre-budget expectations (as measured by market performance ahead of the budget). As of now, the market seems to be approaching the budget with exuberance and could be dealing with both volatility and a correction post budget, if history is a guide, Morgan Stanley said. **FULL REPORT ON**
www.indianexpress.com

Subdued demand hurts retail sales growth in Q1

VIVEAT SUSAN PINTO
MUMBAI, JULY 10

RETAIL SALES growth slowed down in the April-June quarter due to tightening of discretionary spending by consumers, prolonged heatwave, fewer wedding days, and volatility in gold prices. Retailers across categories -- from apparel, lifestyle and jewellery to grocery -- and recent quarterly updates of companies such as Avenue

Supermarts, Nykaa and Titan point to such a downturn.

Both Avenue Supermarts and Titan closed flat on Wednesday at Rs 4,839.40 apiece and Rs 3,223.95 a share on the BSE in a weak market. FSN E-Commerce Ventures, which runs Nykaa, was down 0.31 per cent in Wednesday's trade on the BSE. While shares of Vedant Fashions were down 0.14 per cent at Rs 1,050.20 apiece at close of trade on Wednesday on the BSE. "The April-June period this

year has been difficult," says Manish Kapoor, MD & CEO, Pepe Jeans India. Beauty retailer Nykaa flagged a "muted" demand environment in Q1, saying that elections as well as heatwave had hurt sales growth in its physical retail business. Avenue Supermarts, which operates DMart stores in India, said its Q1 sales growth would come in at 18 per cent, lower than the 20 per cent topline growth reported in Q4, on the back of a slowdown in discretionary spending. Titan

is grappling with a surge in gold prices which is hurting jewellery sales.

The long election season and the severe heatwave prevented people from stepping out to shop, Kapoor said.

"At a broader level, I believe there is intense competition for the share of wallet of the consumer today. There are multiple avenues available to people to spend their discretionary income. This is hurting retail sales," Kapoor says. **FE**

SBI raises ₹10K cr via long-term infra bonds

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, JULY 10

STATE BANK OF India (SBI) on Wednesday said it has raised Rs 10,000 crore through its sixth infrastructure bond issuance, offering a coupon of 7.36 per cent.

The issue received bids in excess of Rs 18,145 crore and was oversubscribed by around 3.6 times against the base issue size of Rs 5,000 crore, the bank said.

The total number of bids received was 120 from investors across segments, including provident funds, pension funds, insurance companies, mutual funds and corporates.

The proceeds of bonds, having maturity of 15 years, will be utilised in enhancing long-term resources for funding infrastructure and affordable housing segments, the lender said. "This issuance will help in developing a long-term bond curve and en-

courage other banks to issue bonds of longer tenor," said Dinesh Khara, Chairman, SBI. With the current issuance, the total outstanding long-term bonds issued by the bank stands at Rs 59,718 crore.

As on March 31, 2024, the bank's total loan outstanding to the infrastructure sector stood at Rs 3,94,681 crore. Of the total domestic advances of the bank, the share of infrastructure loans is 12.23 per cent.

Kerala to hold Int'l GenAI Conclave from Thursday

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

THE GOVERNMENT of Kerala Thursday (July 11) will kickstart the International Gen AI Conclave to facilitate discussions around the burgeoning generative AI market in India.

The event, spread over two days, will bring together industry leaders, policymakers, and innovators to explore AI's transformative potential and its impact on society and the economy. The event will be held at the Lulu Grand Hyatt Bolgatty International Convention Center in Kochi. The event will feature a mix of keynote addresses, panel discussions, and interactive sessions.

The International Gen AI Conclave underscores Kerala's commitment to fostering innovation and embracing transformative technologies. Partnering with IBM, this initiative aims to position Kerala as a hub for Generative AI innovation, catalysing economic growth and driving the state's vision for Industry 4.0 readiness. The conclave will also showcase Kerala's ecosystem for investment, infrastructure, workforce, and trade policies. In a press statement, the state government said that AI adoption aligns with its goal of efficient service delivery, ensuring inclusive and transparent governance.

"The conclave aims to create a forum for business decisions, learning, networking, and partnerships, benefiting a wide range of enterprises, including technology-based startups and MSMEs. The event will also highlight Kerala's advancements in AI education and research, with numerous institutions offering courses in AI and Robotics, and a state-wide program to train secondary school teachers in AI tools," the statement added.

TRAVANCORE DEVASWOM BOARD
Nanthancode, Thiruvananthapuram - 695 003
Phone: 0471-2314288
E-Mail: deotdb@gmail.com
Website: www.travancoredevaswomboard.org

No. 11401/19/Est/Av/EstC Date: 10-07-2024

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

Travancore Devaswom Board invites EOI for the empanelment of IRDA accredited and licensed insurance brokers operating in India for providing technical guidance, support for the implementation of various insurance schemes.

For more details visit www.travancoredevaswomboard.org

Last date of submission of bids: **18-07-2024 before 1 PM**
Bid Opening Date: **18-07-2024 2 PM onwards**

Sd/- **DEVASWOM COMMISSIONER**
(For and behalf of Travancore Devaswom Board)

भारतीय कंटेनर लिमिटेड
Container Corporation of India Ltd.
(एन एफ एल एम एन) (A Group of India Undertaking)

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

CONCOR invites E-Tender in Single Packet System of tendering for the following work:-

Tender No.	CONAREA-I/ENG/CD- SNFE-76991/2024-25
Name of Work	Development of Additional Infrastructure at ICD Sanathnagar (Hyderabad)
Estimated Cost	Rs. 378.64 Lakhs (including GST)
Completion Period	12 (Twelve) months
Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 3,39,400 (Rupees Three Lakhs Thirty-Nine Thousand Four Hundred only)
Cost of Tender Document (Non-refundable)	NIL
Tender Processing Fee (Non-refundable)	Rs.3540/- (inclusive all taxes & duties through e-payment)
Date of sale of Tender (online)	11.07.2024 (from 15:00 hrs.) to 01.08.2024 (up to 17:00 hrs.)
Date & Time of submission of Tender.	02.08.2024 up to 17:00 hrs.
Date & Time of Opening of Tender	05.08.2024 at 15:00 hrs.

For financial eligibility criteria, experience with respect to similar nature of work, etc, please refer to detailed tender notice available on website www.concorindia.co.in, but the complete tender document can be downloaded from website www.tenderwand.com/CDI only. Further, Compendium/Abstract to this tender, if any, will be published on website www.concorindia.co.in and www.tenderwand.com/CDI, and CPP Portal only. Newspaper press advertisement shall not be issued for the same.

Executive Director (Projects) | Phone No.: 911-4122590

Government of Karnataka
(Infrastructure Development, Ports & Inland Water Transport Department)
Karnataka Maritime Board
Office of the Marine Engineer, Department of Ports & IWT, Baithkhol, Karwar - 581302

NO. ME/GNL/CR-04/2023 Dated: 09.07.2024

TENDER NOTICE 2nd CALL (Only in E-Procurement) (TWO COVER SYSTEM)

Tender is invited by the undersigned in E-Procurement (KPPP) portal for the below mentioned service. The reputed, bonafide, resourceful & experienced registered firms/ contractors who have executed and are having experience in similar nature of service can participate in the Tender through E-procurement portal. To obtain more information, please visit the website: <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> (Tender Indent No. IDD/2023-24/SE0022/call-2)

Name of work: (1) Hiring of Pilot Launch with Manning for a period of 3 years at Karwar Port, Uttara Kannada round the clock (24 hrs a day) including Handling, Operation and Maintenance (HOM) charges of Pilot launch, Fuel, Lubricants, Water, Manning Crew, Maintenance, etc., and inclusive of all applicable taxes. Except GST. Amount Put to Tender (Except GST): **Rs. 4,38,00,000.00**, EMD: **As mentioned in bid document**, Last date for Queries: **20.07.2024 @ 17.30 hours**, Last Date for receipt of Tender: **25.07.2024 @ 17.30 hours**

For further details and general enquiries, interested firms / contactors may contact the undersigned office **E-mail: marineengineerkrw@gmail.com** and **phone No.: 08382 221402** during working hours, before last date of queries.

Sd/- **Marine Engineer, Karwar**

DIPR/ADK/KSMCA/132/24-25 dt. 10.07.2024

SALUTE THE SOLDIER



9420789W RFN RAJ KUMAR RAI

We salute and remember Rfn Raj Kumar Rai and Rfn Jit Bahadur Limbu of 1/11 Gorkha Rifles (BATALIK) had made the supreme sacrifice during 'OP VIJAY' (KARGIL) in 1999 in a true act of valour. The brave soldiers will always be remembered for their enthusiasm. To these bravehearts we pledge that we shall always be guided by their immortal spirit and do their name proud.

CO AND ALL RANKS, 1/11 GORKHA RIFLES (BRAVEST OF THE BRAVE) (BATALIK)

Head Constable Arun Kumar

ITBP salutes its braveheart Head Constable Arun Kumar of 20th Battalion, who laid down his life in the line of duty on this day in Arunachal Pradesh in 2018.

Resident of : Vill.- Jais, Distt. - Amethi (Uttar Pradesh)

CENTRAL RESERVE POLICE FORCE NAGALAND 11-07-1964

- Shaheed Naik Avtar Singh** 17-04-1923 To 11-07-1964 7 Bn Uttarakhand
- Shaheed L/Nk Srichand** 05-05-1935 To 11-07-1964 7 Bn New Delhi
- Shaheed CT Trilok Singh** 31-11-1936 To 11-07-1964 7 Bn Uttarakhand
- Shaheed CT Surat Singh** 24-10-1940 To 11-07-1964 7 Bn Haryana
- Shaheed CT Ramadhar Mishra** 10-09-1943 To 11-07-1964 7 Bn Uttar Pradesh
- Shaheed CT Manphool Singh** 01-10-1942 To 11-07-1964 7 Bn Haryana

Shaheed Nk Avtar Singh, Shaheed L/Nk Srichand, Shaheed Ct Trilok Singh, Shaheed Ct Surat Singh, Shaheed Ct Manphool Singh, Shaheed Ct Ram Adhar Mishra, and Shaheed Ct Dev Narayan Singh were posted in the 7th Battalion of CRPF in Nagaland to counter underground Naga hostiles. During an ambush, these soldiers displayed immense bravery despite being heavily outnumbered. Six of these bravehearts were martyred on July 11, and one on August 8, 1964. The nation will forever remain indebted to them and their families.

CENTRAL RESERVE POLICE FORCE Jammu & Kashmir 11 July 1995

- Shaheed Naik Dayal Singh** 02-09-1952 To 11-07-1995 85 Bn Uttarakhand
- Shaheed Constable Sat Pal Singh** 12-06-1968 To 11-07-1995 85 Bn Uttarakhand

The 85 Battalion of CRPF was deployed in Anantnag, Jammu and Kashmir, for antiterrorist operations. On 11 July 1995, troops patrolled a crowded market area to prevent militant activity. Unidentified militants took advantage of the crowd and hurled a grenade at a picket near Char Bhai Hotel at KMD Bus Stand. Shaheed Nk Dayal Singh and Shaheed Constable Sat Pal Singh sustained serious injuries in the blast. Despite a thorough search, the militants escaped. Both brave troopers later succumbed to their injuries, attaining martyrdom.

CENTRAL RESERVE POLICE FORCE ARUNACHAL PRADESH 6 July 1996

- Shaheed Head Constable B. D. Sharma** 29-11-1961 To 11-07-1996 42 Bn Haryana

The 42nd Battalion of CRPF was deployed in Khonsa, Arunachal Pradesh, for law enforcement and counter-insurgency operations. On 6th July 1996, during a fierce encounter with insurgents, Shaheed Head Constable B. D. Sharma and Shaheed Constable P. N. Mark sustained severe injuries. Despite this, they continued the assault, inflicting heavy losses on the insurgents. Constable P. N. Mark succumbed to his injuries the same day, while Head Constable B. D. Sharma passed away on 11th July 1996. Their bravery and self-sacrifice will forever be remembered by the nation.

CENTRAL RESERVE POLICE FORCE Chhattisgarh 11 July 2006

- Shaheed Constable Akhtar Hussain** 01-07-1954 To 11-07-2006 51 Bn Uttarakhand

The Arampur camp in Dantewada district, was a long-standing target for Maoists. On the night of 11th July 2006, about 100 Maoists attacked the 51 Battalion of CRPF camp under PS Kowakender, Dantewada, intending to overrun it and loot weapons. Shaheed Constable Akhtar Hussain, on sentry duty at the forest side, alerted the troops and opened heavy fire. Despite sustaining severe bullet injuries, he held his ground, causing significant losses to the attackers and forcing their retreat. Though he later succumbed to his injuries, his gallant action foiled a major Maoist attack. The nation will forever remain indebted to him and his family.

CENTRAL RESERVE POLICE FORCE Jharkhand 11 July 2016

- Shaheed Constable Ajay Kumar** 25-10-1986 To 11-07-2016 209 CoBRA Punjab

The 209 CoBRA Battalion of the CRPF along with the Civil Police, conducted a special operation in the Burhaphar forest area of Jharkhand. During the operation, they encountered Maoists. The troops retaliated with heavy fire, forcing the Maoists to flee. In the encounter, Shaheed Constable Ajay Kumar sustained serious bullet injuries but continued to fight fiercely until he succumbed to his injuries, attaining martyrdom.

CENTRAL RESERVE POLICE FORCE Jharkhand 11 July 2018

- Shaheed Constable Nirmal Ghosh** 18-08-1990 To 11-07-2018 193 Bn West Bengal

Constable Nirmal Ghosh is one of CRPF's heroic figures, making the ultimate sacrifice while bravely fighting Maoists. On 11 July 2018, Maoists ambushed a team from the 193 Battalion of CRPF in the hilly and jungle terrain of Dalapani, Galudih, East Singhbhum, Jharkhand. After the initial attack, the troops retaliated forcefully, surprising and overwhelming the enemy, who then fled. Despite severe injuries, Constable Nirmal Ghosh fought fiercely until his last breath. He was posthumously awarded the Police Medal for Gallantry for his raw courage and selfless devotion. The nation will forever remain indebted to him and his family.

UJVN LIMITED
H.O. "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephones: 0135-2763808, Fax: 0135-2763508
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvnl.com

Tender Notice Date: 10/07/2024
Letter No: 588

Office of the Executive Engineer (Civil-Maintenance), Vyasi Project, Dakpathar, invites sealed tenders from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:

Tender No.04/2024-25/EE(C-M)Vyasi Project.
Name of work: "Construction of shed for Mata Vaisnho Devi Temple at Vyasi project affected village Juddo"
Estimated cost : Rs. 1047680.00 (GST extra)
Date of availability of bid document on website: 10-07-2024 From 17:00 Hrs.
Last date for submission of tender: 01-08-2024 Upto 15:30 Hrs.
For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Nigam's website "www.ujvnl.com"

Executive Engineer (Civil-Maintenance)
"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"

UJVN LIMITED
H.O. "UJJWAL" MAHARANI BAGH, GMS ROAD, DEHRADUN - 248006, CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866
Tele. 0135-2763508, 2763808, Fax: 0135-2763507, website: www.ujvnl.com

Tender No.587 Date: 10/07/2024

DATE EXTENSION NOTICE No. 01

Due to unavoidable reasons, the date of submission and opening of the following tender invited by the Executive Engineer (Civil), UJVN Ltd., Lohiahead, Khatima is extended as follows.

1. Tender Notice Reference:
NIT No.02/EE(Civil)/Lohiahead/Khatima/2024-25:
"Annual Operation, Cleaning & Upkeep of Staying Facility and Office of Executive Engineer (Civil), UJVN Ltd. at Sharda Power House, Lohiahead Khatima for the year 2024-25".

2. Last Date & Time of Receipt of tender in Office : up to 11:00 hrs. of 25.07.2024

3. Date & Time of Opening of Tender : at 15:00 hrs. of 27.07.2024 For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website, the tender document can be downloaded from the Nigam's website www.ujvnl.com

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

RAJASTHAN HOUSING BOARD
No. :- 292 Dated :- 09/07/2024

NOTICE INVITING BID : 01/2024-25

Bid for Plantation Work (including 5 years Maintenance) at various places in Division Ajmer, Mansarovar Scheme Jaipur & Jhunjhunu Div Repair and Maintenance and other misc. works at Shishvinghpura RHB Colony at Sikar, Cleaning of Drains, Sewer line, Chamber, Manholes, Roads, Berms and Open Space & Collection of garbage/rubbish all houses (Including Door to Door Collection) and Streets with Complete Scheme Area at Panchsheel Daurai & Naka Madar Scheme at Ajmer, Gaddi Thoriyan Beawar, Cleaning of Drains, Roads, K.G.R., PH-IV, Kishangarh, Repair of Office Building Ajmer Div. (Online/ Offline) invited from interested bidders from 12.07.2024 to 22.07.2024 (upto 6.00 PM) & document submission date 23.07.2024 (Upto 12.00 noon) as per Schedule Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the site Rajasthan Housing Board. This bid shall be opened/downloaded in office of the Resident Engineer (E-Proc), RHB, Jaipur on dated 23.07.2024 (on 4.00 PM) <https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> and <https://urban.rajasthan.gov.in/rhb> websites.

UBN No. RHB2425WSOB00065, RHB2425WSOB00074, RHB2425WSOB00072, RHB2425WSOB00070, RHB2425WSOB00071, RHB2425WSOB00066, RHB2425WSOB00067, RHB2425WSOB00068, RHB2425WSOB00069
Raj.Samwad/C/24/2066 Dy. Housing Commissioner, JC-II, Jaipur

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
Tender Notice No. 4520242025 **Tender Notice** Dated: 08.07.2024

Divisional Railway Manager (Engineering) North Central Railway, Prayagraj for and on behalf of the President of India, invites online open tenders (E-tender) as detailed below:-

Name of work: Provision of 01Nos. deep tubewell with pump house in PRYJ station area in lieu of pump no. 94.

SN.	E-Tender Notice No.	Approx Cost	Earnest Money
1	4520242025-117	₹ 34.26.822.94	₹ 68.500.00

Name of work: (a) Providing & fixing PVC water storage tank on temporary staging at various locations (b) Provision of Hydrant pipeline for coach watering facilities at NYN, PCOI, PRYJ & SFG station (c) Provision of 14 nos. dog kennel & 05 nos. repairs of existing dog kennel at NYN, PCOI, PRYJ & SFG station (d) Hourly basis repair & maintenance activities, during Maha Kumbh Mela-2025.

SN.	E-Tender Notice No.	Approx Cost	Earnest Money
2	4520242025-118	₹ 2.63.88.173.67	₹ 2.82.000.00

For both tenders Date & Time of Closing of tender is- 31.07.2024 at 15.00 PM., Completion period: 06 Months, Nature of work: Sr.No.1-Not Applicable & Sr.No.2- Any civil engineering work. Note:- 1. For full details and submission of tenders, please see the Indian Railway website www.ireps.gov.in. 1202/24 FA

Ministry of Culture
Government of India

Prime Ministers Museum and Library
cordially invites you to a Talk on **The Half-Wed Wives: Rituals of Concubinage in Early Modern Marwar** by **Dr. Priyanka Khanna** Junior Fellow, PMML

Thursday, 11 July 2024 at 3:00pm
Venue: Seminar Room
Prime Ministers Museum and Library
Teen Murti House, New Delhi

All are Welcome.
Those wishing to have their names added to the email list may please email us at: ccs2nmml@gmail.com
CBC-09142/12/0014/2425

छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल
पर्यावास भवन, सेक्टर-19, नवा रायपुर अटल नगर, जिला- रायपुर (छ.ग.)

// सर्व संबंधित को सूचना //

भारत सरकार, पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय की ई.आई.ए. अधिसूचना दिनांक 14/09/2006 (यथा संशोधित) के अंतर्गत सर्व संबंधित को सूचित किया जाता है कि मेसर्स गोकक कास्ट इंजीनियरिंग (इंडिया) प्राइवेट लिमिटेड, ग्राम-सांकरा, तहसील-धमधा, जिला-दुर्ग (छ.ग.) में Expansion by the installation of 3x2 MVA SAF in the existing shed of Unit I and 3x4 MVA SAF in Unit II for the production of FeMn 49000 TPA or SiMn 34000 TPA or Pig Iron 49000 TPA or Calcium Carbide 34000 TPA के पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति हेतु लोक सुनवाई बाबत छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, नवा रायपुर में आवेदन प्रस्तुत किया गया है। उक्त परियोजना के संबंध में आपत्ति/सुझाव/विचार/टीका टिप्पणी, इस सूचना के जारी होने के दिनांक से 30 दिवस के अंदर क्षेत्रीय अधिकारी, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, 5 / 32 बंगला, भिलाई, जिला-दुर्ग के कार्यालय में मौखिक अथवा लिखित रूप से कार्यालयीन समय में प्रस्तुत की जा सकती है। इस परियोजना के लिये लोक सुनवाई दिनांक 10/08/2024 को समय दोपहर 12:00 बजे, स्थान-खेल मैदान, ग्राम-सांकरा, तहसील-धमधा, जिला-दुर्ग (छ.ग.) में नियत की गई है। यह भी सूचित हो कि:

- लोक सुनवाई के दौरान सम्मिलित होने वाले व्यक्तियों को फिजिकल / सोशल डिस्टेंसिंग का पालन करना अनिवार्य होगा।
- लोक सुनवाई में सम्मिलित होने वाले व्यक्तियों द्वारा मास्क का उपयोग किया जावेगा तथा समय समय पर सेनेटाइजर का उपयोग किया जाना अनिवार्य होगा।
- लोक सुनवाई स्थल पर सम्मिलित होने वाले व्यक्तियों की बैठक व्यवस्था क्रम से कम 02 मीटर की दूरी रखना अनिवार्य होगा।
- कोरोना वायरस के नियंत्रण एवं रोकथाम हेतु शासन द्वारा जारी समस्त दिशा-निर्देशों का अक्षरशः पालन किया जाना अनिवार्य होगा।

ई.आई.ए. नोटिफिकेशन 14 सितम्बर 2006 (यथा- संशोधित) के अनुसार संबंधित व्यक्तियों के अवलोकन / पठन हेतु ड्राफ्ट ई.आई.ए. रिपोर्ट, कार्यपालक सार हिन्दी एवं अंग्रेजी भाषा तथा सी.डी. (साइट कॉपी) डायरेक्टर, पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार, इंदिरा पर्यावरण भवन, जोर बाग रोड, नई दिल्ली, क्षेत्रीय अधिकारी, एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार, अरण्य भवन, नार्थ ब्लॉक, सेक्टर-19 नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर, जिला- रायपुर, छत्तीसगढ़, कलेक्टर, कार्यालय कलेक्टर, दुर्ग, जिला-दुर्ग, मुख्य कार्यपालन अधिकारी, जिला पंचायत, दुर्ग, जिला-दुर्ग, मुख्य महाप्रबंधक, जिला व्यापार एवं उद्योग केन्द्र, दुर्ग, जिला- दुर्ग, संचयन / सचिव, ग्राम पंचायत- सांकरा, तहसील-धमधा, जिला-दुर्ग, क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, 5 / 32 बंगला, भिलाई, जिला-दुर्ग एवं मुख्यालय, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, पर्यावास भवन, सेक्टर-19 नवा रायपुर अटल नगर, रायपुर में रखी गई है।

सदस्य सचिव
छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल,
नवा रायपुर अटल नगर, रायपुर (छ.ग.)

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.
Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001.
Corporate Identity Number U40109PB2018GCG03813; Website: www.pspcl.in.
(Contact No. 96461-22185)

Tender Enquiry No. 315/SS(D)-367/Spares Dated: 09.07.2024

Dy.CE/ Substation Design/ TS Organization, PSPCL, C-1, Shakti Vihar, P.S.PCL, Patiala invites E-tender for Manufacture, Testing and Supply of 1950 Nos. Heat Shrinkable Type Cable End Termination Kits of various Types suitable for Armored Single Core 11KV 30mm² Size Stranded Aluminum Conductor, XLPE Insulated, PVC Sheathed, Screened Cables. For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 11.07.2024 (11:00 AM onwards).

Note: Corrigendum and amendments, if any, will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

NO. 35519_PSPCL C-417/24

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala - 147001)
Corporate Identity Number U40109PB2018GCG03813
Website: www.pspcl.in (Mobile no: 96461-22067)

E-Tender Enq. No:- 7572/P-1/EMP-12710 dated 08.07.2024

Dy.Chief Engineer/ Headquarter (Procurement Cell-I) GGSSTP, Roopnagar invites E-Tender ID No. 2024 POWER 123576.1 for Procurement of MN Group items for the year 2024-25. For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 09.07.2024 5.00 PM onwards.

Note: Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

NO. 35521_PSPCL RTP-61/24

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-NOTICE INVITING TENDER

For and on behalf of President of India, Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (RSO), Northern Railway, Delhi Division, New Delhi invites 'E- Tender' in prescribed tender form for the following work.

Name of Work with its Location : Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Testing of Crew Management Systems at GZB, TKD, ANVT, PNP, PWL and NZM Crew Lobbies as per CRIS Specification No. 2007/CRIS/NDLS-HQ/CMS/project/Rollout-II/0030/p1-dt. 27.12.2018

2. Approx. Tender value (Rs) Rs. 22,05,205.24/- (including GST).

3. E.M.D (Rs.) Rs. 44,200/-
Note:- Online payment mode available on IREPS website.

4. Date & Time of tender opening (immediately when tender submission ends). 01.08.2024 at 15:00 Hrs.

5. Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen www.ireps.gov.in

TENDER NOTICE No.:- NIT-02-2024-25-Elect-RSO, Dt.10.07.2024 2101/24

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

दानापुर छावनी परिषद्

छावनी परिषद् कार्यालय, दानापुर छावनी पटना,
बिहार - 801503 (i) टेक्नी, टेम्पू, एवं जीप पार्किंग फी एवं (ii) रोड साइड हाकिम की वसूलने हेतु निविदा का ई-निामा सूचना

कार्यालय, दानापुर छावनी परिषद् का निामा निविदा वर्ष 2024-25 के लिए टेक्नी, टेम्पू एवं जीप पार्किंग फी एवं रोड साइड हाकिम की वसूलने के लिए ई-निामा माध्यम से आवंटन हेतु कार्यालय पोर्टल [eChhawani Danapur](http://eauction.gov.in) एवं <http://eauction.gov.in/eauction/> पर प्रकाशित किया जा रहा है। संबंधित महत्वपूर्ण विधियों के साथ अन्य आवश्यक विवरण eChhawani Danapur एवं पोर्टल <http://eauction.gov.in/eauction/> से प्राप्त करें। उक्त निामा हेतु प्रारंभिक तिथि 10.07.2024 से 31.07.2024 है। इस निामा के संबंध में अन्य किसी भी प्रकार की जानकारी कार्यालय से प्राप्त कर सकते हैं।

हो/-
मुख्य अधिशासी अधिकारी
दिनांक:..... जुलाई 2024 दानापुर छावनी परिषद्, दानापुर

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY E-Tender Notice

Following E-tenders are invited by DRM (Engg) NWR/Ajmer at 15.00 Hrs. on the mentioned date. **1. Tender No.:** 93/2024 **Name of work:** ADEN/RPZ Sub Division Zone No. 24 (2024-25 & 2025-26) All type repairs & maintenance and sanitary works in service buildings UDZ(including) to COR (excluding) and Bari Sadri (including) to MJ (excluding) & excluding ZRTI Jurisdiction of SSE/W/RP/ & SSE/W/MVJ Approximate Cost: Rs. 1,40,00,000.00 Earnest Money: Rs. 2,00,00,000.00 **Tender Closing Date:** 17.07.2024. **2. Tender No.:** 94/2024 **Name of work:** ADEN/RANA PRATAP NAGAR Sub Division- Zone No. 21 (2024-25 & 2025-26) All type repairs & maintenance and sanitary works in staff quarters at BEC(excluding) to DRB (including) and BI(including) to MJ (excluding) and other than Udaipur under SSE/W/RPZ and MVJ Approximate Cost: Rs. 1,20,00,000.00 Earnest Money: Rs. 2,10,00,000.00 **Tender Closing Date:** 17.07.2024. **3. Tender No.:** 96/2024 **Name of work:** ADEN-Dungarpur Sub Division Zone No. 24 (2024-25 & 2025-26) - All type Repairs, Maintenance and Sanitary Works in all Staff Quarters & Service Buildings in Dungarpur area and Udaipur(excluding) to Himmat Nagar (Including). Approximate Cost: Rs. 1,59,99,926.64 Earnest Money: Rs. 2,30,00,000.00 **Tender Closing Date:** 17.07.2024. **4. Tender No.:** 91/2024 **Name of work:** Madar- Palanpur Section (UP) Complete Track Renewal (P) - 19.980 TKM & Through Rail Renewal (P)- 5.78 TKM. Approximate Cost: Rs. 5,75,92,982.05 Earnest Money: Rs. 4,38,00,000.00 **Tender Closing Date:** 18.07.2024. **5. Tender No.:** 92/2024 **Name of work:** ADEN/LINE/Ajmer and ADEN/Bhilara sub division- Through Ballast Recoupment (TBR) 47.60 Tkm in Madar-Marwar (DN line) and TBR-20.8 Tkm in Ajmer Chittargarh Section Approximate Cost: Rs. 5,91,16,100.72 Earnest Money: Rs. 4,45,600,000.00 **Tender Closing Date:** 19.07.2024. **6. Tender No.:** 98/2024 **Name of work:** Madar-Palanpur Section: Rebuilding / strengthening of bridges (UP Line) in connection with running of higher loads and higher speed. (Phase 1) Approximate Cost: Rs. 7,46,74,747.16 Earnest Money: Rs. 5,23,40,000.00 **Tender Closing Date:** 19.07.2024. **7. Tender No.:** 99/2024 **Name of work:** ADEN -FALNA Sub Division: Zone No. 12 (2024-25 & 2025- 26) - All Repairs & Maintenance and Sanitary Works in Staff Quarters between Bhnwalya to Pindwara Section. Approximate Cost: Rs. 69,99,908.54 Earnest Money: Rs. 1,40,000.00 **Tender Closing Date:** 19.07.2024. **8. Tender No.:** 88/2024 **Name of work:** Ajmer division: Improvement to road surface on level crossing in Sr. DEN/E jurisdiction. Approximate Cost: Rs. 70,42,718.50 Earnest Money: Rs. 1,40,900.00 **Tender Closing Date:** 24.07.2024. **9. Tender No.:** 97/2024 **Name of work:** Providing covering shed at RUB no. 50, 90, 103, 105, 138, 139 on IR side in Madar - Palanpur Section. Approximate Cost: Rs. 4,10,44,659.67 Earnest Money: Rs. 3,55,200.00 **Tender Closing Date:** 24.07.2024. **10. Tender No.:** 95/2024 **Name of work:** Ajmer-(RPF Company reserve Ajmer) Modernization and upgradation of RPF barracks to accordance with template on barrack post/out post. Approximate Cost: Rs. 29,97,740.51 Earnest Money: Rs. 60,000.00 **Tender Closing Date:** 26.07.2024. The detailed information of the above tender is available on website www.ireps.gov.in and Tender Notice Board of DRM Office, NWR/Ajmer.

780-DR/24

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No.: JHS-N-W-42-24 Dated: 08.07.2024

E-TENDERING TENDER NOTICE

Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecommunication Engineer /Jhansi, DRM's office, Jhansi, for and on behalf of President of India invite open Tender through on Line (E-Tendering) for the following works.

Description of Work: Provision of S&T work in connection with Engg. LHS/RUB work in Gwalior - Sheopurkalan section of Jhansi Division.

Approx Cost: ₹ 6559655.30, **Earnest Money:** ₹ 131200/-, **Cost of Tender Form:** Nil, **Opening of Tender:** 31.07.2024 Time 15.00, **Completion period from issue of letter of acceptance:** 12 Months.

Tender on line can be submitted upto 15.00 hrs. on 31.07.2024. For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website www.ireps.gov.in, (NORTH CENTRAL RLY/JHANSI DIVISION-S AND T) 1195/24(A)

North central railways | www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in | @northcentralrailway | #nrcponc

Govt. of Jharkhand, Office of the Director
Ranchi Institute of Neuro-Psychiatry & Allied Sciences
Kanke, Ranchi - 834006 (Ph.-2450303, 2450813, 2450188)
www.rinpas.nic.in, Director-rinpas@jharkhandmail.gov.in & Directorrinpas@gmail.com

E-tender notice No. Tender Document No:- DIR/05/07/2024-2025/ MISC/ Agriculture & Horticulture Centre are invited in two bid system (Technical & Price Bid) through e-tendering process only, from competent and eligible agencies, for a period of minimum one year.

Sl. No.	Details	Timelines/other Particulars
A	Tender Document Fee (Non-Refundable)	Rs.500/- (Rupees five hundred) through online mode in favour of "DIRECTOR RINPAS". Receipt of online payment should be deposited in the dispatch section of RINPAS before last date for submission of Bids.
B	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Rs. 50,000/- (Rupees fifty thousand) through online mode in favour of "DIRECTOR RINPAS". Receipt of online payment should be deposited in the dispatch section of RINPAS before last date for submission of Bids. (According to NIT Sr. No. 3)
C	Date of Publication on Website	13/07/2024, 11.30 A.M.
D	Pre-Bid Conference	16/07/2024, 11.30 A.M.
E	Date of start of Online Bid Submission	18/07/2024, 11.30 A.M.
F	Last Date and time for submission of Bids	02/08/2024, 17.00 P.M.
G	Opening of Technical Bid-PART A	05/08/2024, 11.30 A.M.

Note:- For further details, please visit website <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>

RINPAS Letter No. 1766, date-10/07/2024

Sd/-
Director,
PR 329263 RINPAS (24-25)_D RINPAS, Kanke, Ranchi

Govt. of Jharkhand Office of the Director
Ranchi Institute of Neuro-Psychiatry & Allied Sciences
Kanke, Ranchi - 834006 (Ph.-2450303, 2450813, 2450188)
www.rinpas.nic.in, Director-rinpas@jharkhandmail.gov.in & Directorrinpas@gmail.com

E-tender notice No. Tender Document No:- DIR/04/07/2024-2025/ MISC/ General Store are invited in two bid system (Tech nical & Price Bid) through e-tendering process only, from competent and eligible agencies, for a period of minimum one year.

Sl. No.	Details	Timelines/other Particulars
A	Tender Document Fee (Non-Refundable)	Rs.500/- (Rupees five hundred) through online mode in favour of "DIRECTOR RINPAS". Receipt of online payment should be deposited in the dispatch section of RINPAS before last date for submission of Bids.
B	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Rs. 50,000/- (Rupees fifty thousand) through online mode in favour of "DIRECTOR RINPAS". Receipt of online payment should be deposited in the dispatch section of RINPAS before last date for submission of Bids. (According to NIT Sr. No. 2)
C	Date of Publication on Website	13/07/2024, 11.30 A.M.
D	Pre-Bid Conference	16/07/2024, 11.30 A.M.
E	Date of start of Online Bid Submission	18/07/2024, 11.30 A.M.
F	Last Date and time for submission of Bids	02/08/2024, 17.00 P.M.
G	Opening of Technical Bid-PART A	05/08/2024, 11.30 A.M.

Note:- For further details, please visit website <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>

RINPAS Letter No. 1764, date-10/07/2024

Sd/-
Director,
PR 329265 (RINPAS) 24-25 (D) RINPAS, Kanke, Ranchi

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer (Bangalore South Constituency), Lakes Division, Room No. 309, 3rd Floor, New Building, BBMP, N. R. Square, Bengaluru - 560 002.

No.EE-BSC(Lakes)/TN-07/2024-25 Date:10.07.2024

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE
(Through GoK KPP Portal only) (Two Cover System)

The Executive Engineer, Bangalore South Constituency, Lakes Division invites tenders from eligible contractors registered with BBMP or CPWD/KPWD/Railways/MES or any State Government Organisations for the work detailed in the table below:

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1.	Wetland Improvement at Parappana Agrahara Lake, Bommanahalli Zone (Call-3). Value of Work : Rs

GOVT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE KEONJHAR

No. 2293 Date: 06.07.2024

1st Corrigendum Notice

Under unavoidable circumstances, the availability of tender online for bidding & opening of Technical Bids of the tender invited vide eProcurement Notice No. 2123/road. & Bridge Works Dtd: 26.06.2024/Bid Identification No. NCB-02/RWCKJR/2024-25 of Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Keonjhar is hereby rescheduled as below.

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender Online for bidding		Last Date & Time of seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Tender In O/o C.C.E., R.W. Circle, Keonjhar	
		From	To		Technical Bid	Financial Bid
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Keonjhar	NCB-02/RWCKJR/2024-25	04.07.24 at 11:00 A.M	25.07.24 up at 5:00 P.M	04.07.24 at 05:00 P.M	26.07.24 at 11:00 A.M	Will be intimate later

All other contents remain unchanged. Chief Engineer, R.W. Circle, Keonjhar.

OIPR No 25177/11/0008/2425

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General Public is hereby informed that one Male (depicted in the photo) namely **Rajat Varshney S/o Lt. Devender Varshney R/o E-2/31, 3rd Floor, Gali No.-2, Shastri Nagar, Delhi Age-35 Years**, has been reported missing since 21.06.2024 from his Residence vide DD No. 73A Dated 07.07.2024 registered at Police Station Sarai Rohilla, North Distt., Delhi. His physical description is as under:

Sex: Male, Complexion: Wheatish, Height: 5'6" Face: Round, Build: Fat, Hair: Black, Clothing: Black Colour T-Shirt, Blue Colour Jeans and Brown Colour Slippers on his feet.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing male but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing male, please inform to the following.

SHO,
Police Station Sarai Rohilla,
North Distt., Delhi

Website: <https://cbi.nic.in> Ph.: 011-23691106, 011-23693611
DP/8967/N/2024 Mobile.: 8191899505

Appeal for Identification

General public is hereby informed that one person Namely: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: About 40-45 Yrs., Height: 5'7", Sex: Male, Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Long, Build: Thin, Wearing: White Colour Shirt and Black Colour Pant, Place of Recovery: Found Dead in an accident under Punjabi Bagh Flyover, Delhi on 29.06.2024. The dead body of deceased has been preserved in Sanjay Gandhi Memorial Hospital, Mangolpuri, Mortuary for identification.

In this regard FIR No. 372/2024, U/s 279/304 A IPC, Dated 30.06.2024 has been lodged at Police Station: Punjabi Bagh, Delhi. Any clue come to notice please inform undersign.

SHO
P.S.: Punjabi Bagh, Delhi
Ph.: 8700304971

DP/8899/WD/2024

PROVISION OF LC GATES IN TINSUKIA DIVISION

Tender Notice No. N-2024-25-TSK-NIT-06, Date: 08-07-2024. E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work: **Tender No.:** N-2024-25-TSK-T-06; **Name of Work:** Provision of double distant signal at 09 Nos. Engineering interlocked LC gates in Furkating-New Tinsukia section of Tinsukia Division in N.F. Railway. **Tender Value:** ₹ 90,99,991/- **Earnest Money:** ₹ 1,80,200/- **Date & time of closing/opening of above tender at 15:00 hrs. on 31-07-2024.** For complete information about the tender document of above e-tender will be available in website <http://www.irops.gov.in>

DRM (S&T), Tinsukia
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

ENGINEERING WORKS IN TINSUKIA DIVISION

Tender Notice No.: TSK/Engg/37 of 2024; Dated: 09-07-2024. E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work: **Brief Description of Item:** Tinsukia Division - Replacement of existing masonry arch bridges Br. No.-456 & 457 by 1x2.0m RCC box/suitable sizes RCC box culvert between Furkating-Arjuna section. **Tender Value:** ₹ 1,70,98,925/- **Earnest Money:** ₹ 2,35,500/- **Date & time of closing of above tender at 15:00 hrs. and opening at 16:00 hrs. on 02-08-2024.** The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available upto 15:00 hrs. on 02-08-2024 in website www.irops.gov.in

DRM (W), Tinsukia
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE
(Mechanical Department)
NOTICE NO. MC-EPOXY-2024-25

The Divisional Railway Manager, E.C. Railway, Danapur is inviting online open tender (on IREPS Portal) for and on behalf of the President of India from reputed contractor with experience, financial capability including those registered/working with Railway/Irrigation/CPWD/MES or any other public sector undertaking for under mentioned works:-

- Name of work with its location: Epoxy Flooring in Toilets in Coaches of Danapur Division. Location: DNR.RGD.RNCC.ARA & PNB Depot. 2. Approx cost of the work: Rs. 1,41,82,840.20 (Rupees One Lakh Forty one thousand eight hundred forty and paise twenty only).
- Earnest Money to be deposited: Rs. 2,20,900/- (Rupees Two Lakh Twenty Thousand Nine Hundred Only).
- Date & Time for submission of tender and opening of tender: Date & Time for submission of tender 30.07.2024 up to 12:00 hrs on www.irops.gov.in Date & Time of opening of tender 30.07.2024 at 12:30 hrs on www.irops.gov.in
- Website particulars & Notice Board location where complete details of tender, corrigendum (if any) can be seen etc.: The tender notice is available on website www.irops.gov.in

Divisional Railway Manager (Mech), E.C. Railway, Danapur.
PR/00662/DNR/MECH/T/24-25/40

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a unknown male Age: 40 years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Black, ID Mark: Scar mark on left eyebrow and scar mark on upper forehead, was wearing White colour Shirt with Printed Spots and Black Pant, was found in Safdarjung Hospital, Delhi (Sangam Cinema, R.K. Puram). In this regard a DD No. 83A, dated 17.03.2024, has been lodged at P.S. R.K. Puram, New Delhi. Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the following address or telephone nos.

SHO
P.S. R.K. Puram, New Delhi
Ph.: 011-26185222,
7065036222, 7597391543

DP/3642/SW/2024

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General Public is hereby informed that one male person Namely: Jarman Singh, S/o: Sukhrum Singh, R/o: Gali No. 2, Rajeev Colony Near CPJ College, Narela, Delhi, Sex: Male, Age: 62 Years, Height: 5'6", Face: Long, Build: Thin, Complexion: Brown, Wearing: Pink Colour shirt and Black Colour pant, has been missing since 07.07.2024 from at Home the Jurisdiction of Police Station Narela Outer North Delhi. In this regard GD No. 09A Date: 08.07.2024 has been registered at P.S.: Narela Outer North Delhi.

Jarman Singh

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing person but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing person. Please inform to the following.

Website : <http://cbi.nic.in> SHO
E-Mail ID : cic@cbi.gov.in Narela
Fax: 011-24368639 P.S.: Outer North District, Delhi
DP/8865/ON/2024 Mob.: 7011227586

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 45-46 years, Height : 5'8", Complexion: Dark, wearing blue colour T-shirt and grey colour lower was dead found under Railway Bridge, Near Marghat wale Baba Hanuman Mandir, Kashmir Gate, Delhi. In this regard D.D. No. 25A dated 06.07.2024 has been lodged at P.S. Kashmere Gate, 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. Kashmere Gate, Delhi,
Tel. No. 011-23967889,
23968730, 8750870123

DP/8846/N/2024

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 CrPC

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **IBRAHIM, S/o: Kalim, R/o: E-31, Main Karawal Nagar Road, Delhi**, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in FIR No. 64/22, U/s 188 IPC, P.S. Khajuri Khas, Delhi, and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **IBRAHIM** cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **IBRAHIM** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant);

Proclamation is hereby made that **IBRAHIM** the said accused of FIR No. 64/22, U/s 188 IPC, P.S. Khajuri Khas, Delhi, is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 30.08.2024.

By Order
Sh. Sukhjeet Singh
Metropolitan Magistrate-03,
North East Distt., Room No.-22,
Karkardooma Courts, Delhi

DP/8887/NE/2024
(Court Matter)

राज्य स्वास्थ्य समिति, बिहार

Pariwar Kalyan Bhawan, Sheikhpura, Patna- 800 014
Department of Health, Government of Bihar

e-tender (NIT) Reference No.: 03/SHS/Drugcell/SCM/2024-25
Notice Inviting Tender for Hiring of Transport Services to Transport Drugs, Consumables, Family Planning Commodities & Other Supplies in the State of Bihar

- The State Health Society, Bihar (SHSB), Patna intends to select agency via e-tendering for providing transport services to transport drugs, consumables, family planning commodities and other supplies till lowest level health facilities in all the districts of the State. Two levels of transportation services shall be provided within a district:
a) LEVEL-1 TRANSPORTATION: From District Drug Warehouse (DWH) of the district to District Hospital, Sub-Divisional Hospitals, Referral Hospitals, Community Health Centres, Primary Health Centres & Urban Primary Health Centres of the district.
b) LEVEL-2 TRANSPORTATION: From Community Health Centres/ Primary Health Centres to APHCs/HSCs/HWCs of their respective blocks of the district.
- Bids are invited from eligible transporters/fleet operators. Period of the contract will be five years. However, it may be extended for one more year with mutual consent of both the parties.
- To participate in the e-tendering process, the bidder/ agency are required to get themselves registered with Bihar Government Centralized e-Procurement portal, i.e., <https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in> and may contact the helpdesk at the following address, "e-Procurement HELP DESK, Mjunction Services Limited, RJ Complex, 2nd Floor, Canara Bank Complex, Khajpura, Ashiana Road, PS- Shastri Nagar, Patna- 800014". Toll Free Number-18005726571 (Working Hours: 8 AM to 7 PM, all days in the week except Sunday and few selected State holidays)

3. Schedule of Events

S.No.	Event Description	Timeline
3.1	Date & time of downloading the NIT/ Bid document	Till 01.08.2024 (Thursday) up to 05:00 PM, on the e-Procurement Portal (https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in).
3.2	Last date & time for submission (upload) of online bidding document.	02.08.2024 (Friday) till 05:00 PM, on the e-Procurement Portal (https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in).
3.3	Date and time of Pre-bid meeting.	16.07.2024 (Tuesday) at 03:00 PM, in the Conference Hall of State Health Society, Bihar, Swasthya Bhawan, Sheikhpura, Patna-800014.
3.4	Time, Date of opening of Technical Bid	05.08.2024 (Monday) at 03:00 PM on the e-Procurement Portal (https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in).
3.5	Time, Date of opening of Financial Bid	To be announced later on the e-Procurement Portal (https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in).

4. The interested bidders may download the tender documents (a complete set of documents is available on website) from e-Procurement Portal (<https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in>) and submit their tender by using the downloaded document.

5. For further enquiry and information, please contact to the following officers during office hours 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM -

a. Mr. Rajesh Kumar, Administrative Officer-cum- I/c Procurement, SHSB; Mob: 70041 92800
b. Mr. Manish Ranjan, Assistant Director (Drugs), Procurement Cell, SHSB; Mob: 94731 97721

6. All further notifications/ Corrigendum/ Addendum, if any, shall be posted on e-Procurement Portal (<https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in>)

For further details please visit : www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar
Executive Director
State Health Society, Bihar

PR- 003761 (B & C) 2024-25

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

Government of Jharkhand
JHARKHAND FLYING INSTITUTE
(A Society Registered under Dept. of Cabinet Secretariat and Vigilance (Civil Aviation Division), Jharkhand
STATE HANGAR, BIRSA MUNDA AIRPORT ROAD, HINOO, RANCHI
Email - jfi.govtfly@gmail.com Telefax:- 0651-2250319, 2251090

Letter Ref. No. - क्रय 05/2024-JFI-160
/Ranchi, Date:- 10/ 07/ 2024

Corrigendum-01

Tender issued through Reference No- क्रय 05/2024-JFI-133/ Ranchi, Date:- 27/06/ 2024 for purchase of X-Ray Baggage Inspection System (XBIS) and Explosive Trace Detector and on-site CAMC (P.R. No-328346) for Jharkhand Flying Institute. Some changes were made during the Pre Bid Meeting held on 09.07.2024 at the RFP Documents. Please visit www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in Other Terms & Conditions of NIT & e-Tender will remain the same. This Corrigendum is also available on the website www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in

SD/-
Managing Director
Jharkhand Flying Institute

PR 329255 Civil Aviation (24-25)_D

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, गोड्डा।
ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना
ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या - RWD/SD/GODDA/04/2024-25

1. कार्य की विस्तृत विवरणी:

क्र. सं.	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि	अग्रघन की राशि	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1	गोड्डा जिला के पोडेयाहाट प्रखंड अंतर्गत नवडीहा पंचायत में नवडीहा स्कूल से नीचे नवडीहा और महडा के बीच नदी पर पुल निर्माण।	3,04,58,200.00	6,10,00.00	10,000.00	18 माह

2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि - 15.07.2024
3. ई-निविदा प्रारंभ की तिथि एवं समय - दिनांक 15.07.2024 से दिनांक 29.07.2024 को अपरान्ह 5:00 बजे तक
4. ई-निविदा खोलने का स्थान - कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, गोड्डा।
5. ई-निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय - 31.07.2024 अपरान्ह 2:00 बजे
6. ई-निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता - कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, गोड्डा।
7. ई-निविदा प्रक्रिया का दूरभाष नं. - 8340110173
8. परिमाण विपत्र की राशि घट-बढ़ सकती है तदनुसार अग्रघन की राशि देय होगी।
9. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रघन की राशि केवल Online Mode द्वारा स्वीकार्य होगी।
10. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रघन की राशि का ई-मुद्रातन जिल्ल खाता से किया जायेगा, उसी खाते में अग्रघन की राशि वापस होगी।
अगर खाता को बंद कर दिया जाता है तो उसकी सारी जवाबदेही आवेगी होगी।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिये वेबसाइट www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in एवं कार्यपालक की सूचना पढ़ पर देखा जा सकता है।
कार्यपालक अभियंता
ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, गोड्डा।

PR 329170 Rural Development(24-25)D

DIRECTORATE, SPORTS & YOUTH WELFARE, CHHATTISGARH

Sardar vallabh Bhai Patel, International Hockey stadium, G.E. Road, Raipur (Chhattisgarh)
phone No.- 0771-2263178, Web: www.sportsys.cg.gov.in. Email ID dir-sportsys.wcr.org.in
No./Store/2024-25/616 Raipur, Dated: 05/07/2024

EXPRESS OF INTEREST

Through out the year, ground in front of Directorate Sports & Youth Welfare, big programmes are organized for the beneficiaries of government of India & State government schemes, in which the honorable Prime Minister, honorable Union Ministers of the government of India, including the honorable Chief Minister and Cabinet Ministers of State government arrive. Hence, the Sports & Youth Welfare Department invites Expression of interest for beautification of Directorate premises from reputed registered firms/agencies having successful-ly did beautification work in the last 10 years. The EO document may be obtained from office of the under- signed on any working day during working hours on payment of Rs. 2000/- (Rs. Two Thousand only) in the form of Demand Draft/Bankers Cheque issued by any nationalized bank in favor of Director Sports & Youth Welfare, Chhattisgarh Raipur.

Tender Schedule is as under -

Issue of EOI Document	08-07-2024
Last date of sale of tender document	22-07-2024 Up to 11:00 AM
Last date and Time of submission of Bid	22-07-2024 Up to 12:00 Noon
Date and Time of Opening of Technical Bid	22-07-2024 at 01:00 PM

Right of acceptance/rejection of any or all proposals reserved with the Director, Sports & Youth Welfare C.G

sd/-
Director
Sports & Youth Welfare,
Chhattisgarh, Raipur

www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar से प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता
स्थानीय क्षेत्र अभियंत्रण संगठन,
कार्य प्रमंडल, खगड़िया

PR. No. 003676 (Planning) 2024-25

नरो से बनानी दूरी है, क्योंकि परिवार जरूरी है।

epaper.indianexpress.com

कार्यालय अधिष्ठाता, छत्तीसगढ़
आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान, छत्तीसगढ़ शासन, बिलासपुर (छत्तीसगढ़) 495001
FAX (0)-07752-224200, PHONE (0)-07752-230030, Website: www.cimsbilaspur.ac.in Email-deancims@gmail.com
क्र. 8754 स्था/प्रशा/विस्म/2024 बिलासपुर, दिनांक 08/07/2024

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

छत्तीसगढ़ आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान, बिलासपुर के चिकित्सा विभाग में चिकित्सा विभाग के माध्यम से संविदा में किये जाने हेतु अधिष्ठाता कार्यालय, विस्म, बिलासपुर में जुलाई माह में दिनांक 11.07.2024 को Walk-In-Interview आयोजित किया जाएगा। निम्न चर्चा का विवरण निम्नानुसार है-

Asst. Professor	Senior Resident	Junior Resident
Anatomy-3 (UR-1, ST-1, OBC-1) Physiology-2 (UR-1, OBC-1) Biochemistry-1 (ST-1) Pharmacology-1 (ST-1) Pathology & Blood Bank-4 (UR-1, ST-1, SC-1, OBC-1) Microbiology-2 (UR-1, ST-1) Community Medicine-5 (UR-1, ST-2, OBC-1, SC-1) General Medicine-4 (UR-1, ST-2, SC-1) T.B. & Chest-1 (UR-1) Surgery-5 (UR-4 (IF), OBC-1) Orthopedic-4 (UR-1, ST-2, OBC-1) Obst & Gynaec-4 (ST-3, SC-1) Radiodiagnosis-2 (UR-1, ST-1) Neurosurgery-1 (UR-1) Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation-1 (UR-1)	Medicine-7 T.B. & Chest-2 Skin & VD-1 Psychiatry-3 Pediatric-3 Surgery-8 Orthopedic-3 Anesthesia-10 Radiodiagnosis-2 Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation-2	Surgery-10 Orthopedic-4 Obst. & Gynaec-4

Salary Rs. 90,000/-(50,000+40,000)

Salary Rs. 65,000/-(40,000-25,000)

Salary Rs. 50,000/-(30,000-20,000)

General Duty Medical Officer
Total Vacant Post-6 (UR-2, ST-2, SC-1, OBC-1)
Salary Rs. 62,120/-

विस्तृत जानकारी संस्थान की वेबसाइट www.cimsbilaspur.ac.in पर उपलब्ध है। चर्चा के संबंध में जानकारी अधिष्ठाता कार्यालय, विस्म, बिलासपुर के दूरभाष से प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

अधिष्ठाता
छत्तीसगढ़ आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान, बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)

18 CLASSIFIEDS & TENDERS

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, Shabnam Dost R/o Mohalla Peer Khan, Gulavathi Rural, Nattugari, Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh-245408 have changed my minor son's name from **Abdul Ahad to Aryan Ansar.** 0050245678-1

I, hitherto known as Lakshmina, W/O Suresh Kumar, R/O Ibrahimabad, Post Dohari Ghat, Dohri Ghat, Po Dohri Ghat, Distt. Mau, Uttar Pradesh-275303, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as **Laxmi.** 0040737633-10

I, Zamirul Eslam S/o Shamshul Islam R/o A-856, Sector-2 Avantika, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to **Zamirul Islam.** 0040737637-5

I, Vaibhav Gaur, R/o H.No.1180, URBAN ESTATE, SECTOR-13, KARNAL (Haryana) -132001, have changed my Minor Daughter's name, from **GAARGE to GAARGE GAUR**, for all purposes. 0040737661-5

I, TOHID MALIK, S/O NAUSHAD MALIK, R/O.2620 GALI.SHANKAR SITA-RAM BAZAR, DELHI-6, DECLARE THAT MY NAME WRONGLY-WRITTEN IN CLASS X CERTIFICATE AND PASSPORT. HAVE CHANGED MY NAME AS TAUHID MALIK, S/O. MR. NAUSHAD MALIK AND MRS. NAZMA, FOR ALL PURPOSES. 0040737671-1

I, Sonu Gulati, D/O Pritam Singh Gulati, R/O Plot No-46, S/F Block-G, Kiran Garden, Uttam Nagar, Delhi-110059, have changed my name to **Sonu Singh Gulati.** 0040737684-3

I, Smita W/o Sharat Saxena, R/o A-4, Vivek Vihar, Delhi-110095, have changed my name to **Smita Saxena**, for all, future purposes. 0040737671-2

I, Praveen Kumar, S/o Chhattar Pal Verma, R/o House.No.197, Gali No.6, New Beselva Colony Old Faridabad Sector-29, Faridabad Haryana-121008, have changed my name to **Parveen Verma** 0040737633-4

I, NEERAJ KUMAR BANDUNI, S/O SHIV RAM BANDUNI, R/O VILLAGE PALI PO-DEVERAJKHAL, CHUBATTAKHAL, PAURI GARHWAL, UTTARAKHAND-246162, have Changed My Name to **NEERAJ KUMAR**, permanently 0040737684-1

I, Mehkar Nagar S/o Ramsaroop R/o D-169/40, Sector-50, Noida, Gautam-Buddha-Nagar, U.P.-201301, have changed my name to **Mehkar Singh Nagar** for all future purposes. 0040737705-1

I, Manju Verma/Manju Kumar Verma, S/o Sunil Kumar, R/o-117, Pocket-5, Mayur-Vihar Phase-1, Delhi-91, have changed my name to **Manju Kumar.** 0040737633-3

I, Kaweri Gambhir Sharma, W/o Mudit Sharma, R/o, H.No. -109-110, pocket-b-7, sector-4, rohini, delhi, have changed my name to **Kaweri Gambhir**, for all, future purposes. 0040737661-6

I, Kaweri Gambhir Sharma, W/o Mudit Sharma, R/o, H.No. -109-110, pocket-b-7, sector-4, rohini, delhi-have changed my name to **Kaweri Gambhir**, for all, future purposes. 0040737633-6

I, Kailash Chand, S/o Bhaskranand, R/o C-184, Dharm-Colony Palam-Vihar Extn., Gurgaon, Haryana-122017, have changed my name to **Kailash Chander.** 0040737637-3

I, Huma Eslam, W/o Zamirul Islam R/o A-856, Sector-2 Avantika, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to **Huma Islam.** 0040737637-4

I, HITHERTO KNOWN AS AKASH THAPA, S/O Sant Bahadur, R/O-H.No.1242 D Block j,j Colony, Bawana North West Delhi delhi 110039, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as **AAKASH THAPA** 0040737661-1

I, HEMANT KUMAR SHARMA, S/O SITA RAM SHARMA, R/O F-2/62A, GALI.NO.3, MAHAVIR ENCLAVE, NEAR NASIRPUR ROAD, PALAM NEW-DELHI-110045, have changed name to **HEMANT KUMAR**, for all, future purposes. 0040737661-7

I, HARSIMRAN SINGH ANAND, S/O SATVINDER SINGH ANAND, R/O B-51, SUBHADRA COLONY, SARAI ROHILLA, DELHI-110035, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO **HARSIMRAN SINGH.** 0040737633-2

I, Gaurav Kumar, S/o Kamal Kumar, R/o, H.No.15, E-Block, Near New Light Public School, Ashok-Vihar Phase-2, Gurgaon (Haryana)-122001, have changed my name to **Gaurav Kumar Verma.** 0040737661-4

I, Mandeep Singh Jakhar f/o Arshiya, address 8044, B-11, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070 wants to add the surname in my minor daughter's name. Pls change it from **Arshiya** to **Arshiya Jakhar** for further communication 0040737631-1

I, Mehnaz W/o Umair Sarfaraz R/o H.No.2991, 2nd Floor, Qaziwara, Darya Ganj, Delhi-110002 have changed my name to **Mehnaz Umair** for all purposes. 0040737610-2

I, GEETA RANI JAIN, W/O-SANJAY JAIN, R/O-H.No.-C-3/168, YAMUNA VIHAR DELHI-110053, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO **GEETA JAIN.** 0040737633-7

I, Devinder Kumar Tyagi, S/o Nanak Chand, R/o H174, Spaze Privy Address, Sector-93, Hayatpura (114), Wazipur, Gurgaon (Haryana) 122505, have changed my name to **Devender Kumar Tyagi.** 0040737661-3

I, DWARKA NATH, S/O RAM SARAN DASS CHOPRA, R/O G-15/7A SECOND-FLOOR RAJOURI-GARDEN, DELHI-110027, have changed my name to **DWARKA NATH CHOPRA** 0040737633-1

I, DEEWAN SINGH, S/O PRATAP SINGH SENWAL, HOUSE, NO-D-54, FIRST-FLOOR, MANSA RAMPARK, OM-VIHAR, UTTAM NAGAR, DELHI-110059, have changed my name to **DIWAN SINGH SENWAL**, all future purposes 0040737637-2

I, Chandan, S/o Jitendra, R/o Kh.No.3/21, Ground-Floor, Swaroop-Nagar Extn, Delhi-110042, have changed my name to **Chandan Kumar Mishra.** 0040737661-2

I, C.S. LAKSHMI is legal, daughter of, **CRANGANORE RAMESHWAMY VISWANATH SUBRAMANIAN**, residing at, **OMQ, NO-91, SALARIA-OFFICERS' ENCLAVE, DWARKA, NEW DELHI-110077**, have changed my name, from **C.S. LAKSHMI** to **CRANGANORE SUBRAMANIAN LAKSHMI**, **Vide-affidavit date-10.07.2024.** 0040737637-11

I, Abhinav Kant Chaturvedi, S/O Abhay Kant Chaturvedi, R/O E-308, SARITA VIHAR, NEW DELHI-110076, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO **Abhinav Chaturvedi.** 0040737637-1

I, AMARNATH KUMAR YADAV, S/O YOGENDRA YADAV, R/O A-143, NEAR-VDS MARKET, SK-2, SECTOR-93, NOIDA, GAUTAM BUDDH NAGAR, UTTAR PRADESH-201301, changed my minor daughter's name **ARTI KUMARI** to **AARTI YADAV.** 0040737633-5

I, RAHUL KUMAR VARMA S/O PURSHOTAM MARWAH R/O D32/2, SECOND FLOOR, STREET 7, NEW GOWDUPURA KRISHNA NAGAR DELHI 110051, have changed my name to **Rahul Marwah.** 0040737633-1

I, ABDUL KADIR, S/O MOHAMMAD YAMEEN, R/O-H.No.B-209, NEAR RASDHYA MASJID, BADKHAL, NIT FARIDABAD-121001, HARYANA (INDIA), Inform that **ABDUL KADIR** and **ABDUL KADEER**, both names are same person. My correct name is **ABDUL KADIR**, for all, future purpose. 0040737671-3

I, A.S. Rosa Tangkhul, W/o A.S.Christopher R/o H.No.601, Block-9, Nurses Residential Complex, Srinivasपुरi, Delhi-110065, have changed my daughter's name from **A.S. Cynthia Mathingri** to **Cynthia Mathingri Awungshi.** 0040737684-2

I, Yogesh Kumar Sharma, S/o Satya Prakash Sharma, R/o A-1, Hastal vihar, uttam-nagar, new-delhi-110059, Have changed my name to **Yogesh Sharma** 0040737684-4

I, SHYAM GARG S/O B.L GARG R/O GH-14/907, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-110087, have changed my name from **SHYAM GARG** to **SB GARG**. Henceforth, I would be known by the name of **SB GARG** for all future purposes. 0070912007-1

I, Shirley Vinoj Manning W/o Vinoj Manning R/O H-59, Second Floor, Residency Greens, Greenwood City, Sector-56, Gurgaon, Haryana-122003 have changed my name from **Shirley Vinoj Manning** to **Shirley Manning** permanently 0040737637-3

I, Shahjada Junaid, S/o Anees Ur Rehman, R/O 2260, Gali Dakotan, Turkman Gate, Delhi-110066, have changed my name to **Junaid Malik**, for all purposes. 0040737623-1

I, Savita W/o Rakesh Kumar R/O House No.90, Butaina, Sikandrabad Distt. Bulandshahr, U.P. have changed my name to **Savita Singh** for all future purposes, before notary **Dharampal Singh.** 0070912022-1

I, Saroj Sharma W/o Late Vinod Kumar Sharma residing at House no. 290 Sector -11/D, Faridabad, Haryana have changed my name to **Saroj Lata Sharma.** 0050245737-1

I, SAURABH S/O SHRI BHAGWAN R/O 134, JOHAR WALI GALI, HAMID PUR, DELHI-110036 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO **SAURABH MAAN** FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES. 0070912010-1

I, Resham Wati, W/o late Kailash Kumar, R/o 1197, Katra-Mohsin Khan, Old Hindu-College, Kashmirer-Gate, Delhi-110006, have changed my name to **Reshma**, for all future purposes. 0040737686-2

I, Ragbhir Singh S/o Shiv Charan, R/O Village Patauda, Tehsil and District Jhajjar, Haryana inform that in my Army documents my name wrongly registered as **Ragbhir Singh** instead of **Ragbhir Singh**, which may be amended accordingly. 0040737627-1

I, Neha w/o Chander Bhatia R/O 1143 Purvi Road, Lok Vihar Appt Vikaspuri Delhi 18 have changed my name to **Neha Bhatia** for all purposes. 0070912006-1

I, Rachna Sangha Mehta, W/o Mr. Ishan Mehta, R/o 199, Jor Bagh, New Delhi-110003, do hereby solemnly affirm & declare that I have changed my daughter name as **Naaila Mehta** in place of her previous name i.e. **Naila Mehta.** 0060117250-1

I, Parveen Kumar, S/o Ghinder Singh, R/O E301, Haldoni Mode, Near RCC-Enclave, Greater-Noida West, Kulesara, Distt-Gautam Buddha-Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201306, have changed the name of my minor son **Naman Thakur aged-15 years** and he shall hereafter be known as **Akshat Thakur.** 0040737686-6

I, PRMOD KUMAR SHARMA, S/O RAMESH CHANDRA SHARMA, R/O-70, BRIJ VIHAR, A.D.A COLONY, BANNA DEVI, G.T ROAD, KOIL, ALIGARH, UTTAR PRADESH-202001, have changed my name to **PRAMOD SHARMA.** 0040737686-1

I, Mohammad Faisal Hassan S/O Mazahir Hasan R/O Flat No.-79, Block-G, Azad Apartment, Plot No.-111, I.P. Extension, Patparganj, Delhi-110092 have changed my name to **Faisal Hasan** for all future purposes. 0040737646-1

I, Murti W/o Late Suresh Chand R/O F-249, Katwaria Sarai, Hauz Khas, New Delhi-110016 declare that my husband's name is wrongly mentioned in his Death Certificate No. **MCDOLIR-0223-2809180125** as **Suresh Malik** but his actual and correct name is **Suresh Chand** as mentioned in his **Aadhar Card** and **Pan Card**. That both name are one and same person. 0070912023-1

I, Murni Devi Jha alias Murni Kumari D/o AJABLAL Jha W/o Amrendra Kumar Jha R/O RZ/11, Main Road, Indira Park, Delhi-45 have changed my name to **SUDHA DEVI** for all Purposes. 0070912025-1

I, Mohammad Islam, S/O Imamudin R/o 171, KhaiKala, Kairana, Shamli, UP have changed my name to **Allaudin** for all purposes. 0070912009-1

I, Jagdish Prasad S/O Ramjit Prasad, R/O F-203, Maple Heights, Sushant Lok-1, Block-C, Gurugram, Haryana 122009, have changed my daughter's name from **Ranya Jagdishi Prasad** to **Ranya Prasad** for all future purposes. 0040737629-1

I, Gurpreet Singh Malhotra R/O Plot No. 91, Navyug Block, Mangal Bazaar, Vishnu Garden, New Delhi-18 have changed my minor son's name from **Simarpreet Singh** to **Simarpreet Singh Malhotra.** 0040737615-1

I, GEETIKA KINDRA, D/O-GURSHARAN SINGH ADDRESS-G-29, 3RD-FLOOR, ORIENTAL VILLAS SUSHANT LOK-3, SECTOR-57, GURGAON HARYANA-122001, HAVE CHANGE MY NAME TO **GEETIKA.** 0040737686-4

I, GARGI AGARWAL, W/O ANURAAG AGARWAL, ADDRESS-B-635, 2ND-FLOOR, ANSAL ESENCIA, SECTOR-67, GURGAON, HARYANA-122101, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO **GARGIE AGARWAL.** 0040737686-5

I, C.S. RAMESHWAMY is legal, son of, **CRANGANORE RAMESHWAMY VISWANATH SUBRAMANIAN**, residing at, **OMQ, NO-91, SALARIA-OFFICERS' ENCLAVE, DWARKA, NEW DELHI-110077**, have changed my Name from **C.S. RAMESHWAMY** to **CRANGANORE SUBRAMANIAN RAMASWAMY**, **Vide-affidavit date-10.07.2024.** 0040737637-10

I, Avinash Kaur, s/o/ daughter of Brinder Pal Singh, resident of BE-32 A, 3rd Floor, Harinagar, New Delhi-110064 (full address in India), and presently residing at **844 Louelda Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R2K3H6** (full address in Canada) do hereby change my name from **SURNAME- AVINASH KAUR** to **FIRST NAME- AVINASH LAST NAME- KAUR**, with immediate effect. 0040737643-1

I, Avinash Kaur, father/ mother of Avyleen Kaur, resident of BE-32 A, 3rd Floor, Harinagar, New Delhi-110064 (full address in India), and presently residing at **844 Louelda Street Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R2K3H6**, (full address in Canada) do hereby change the name of my daughter from **SURNAME- AVYLEEN KAUR** to **FIRST NAME- AVYLEEN KAUR, LAST NAME- KALS**, with immediate effect. 0040737641-1

I, Anmol Sharma R/o C 2204 Gardenia Square Crossings Republik Ghaizabad UP - 201016 have changed my minor daughter's name from **Anvi Sharma** to **Anvi Vashisti** for all purposes. 0040737630-1

I, Ambrish Kumar, S/o Shri Bipin Bihari Jha, Permanently, R/O Village-Manhe, Singhia, Samastipur, Bihar-848209, Presently, R/O Flat No.5-C, Parvatiya-Vihar Co-operative Group Housing Society, Plot.No.B-6, Vasundhara Enclave, Delhi-110096, have changed my name to **Aditya Jha**, for all purposes. 0040737686-9

I, Manju W/o Rishi Pal residence House No-02, Village-Jhundpura, Sector-11, Noida, Gautam Buddh Nagar hereby declare that I have changed my name from **Manju to Manju Chaudhary** therefore I wish that I should be communicated and known as **Manju Chaudhary** in future for any kind of legal or documentation purpose. 0040737625-1

I, Manjeet Kaur W/O Ashok Kumar R/O A-39/2, Street No.5, East Vinod Nagar, Delhi 110091, have changed my minor daughter's name aged about 02 years from **Noor Kaur** to **Anvoo Kaur.** 0130043396-1

I, Aadit Vinoj Manning S/o Vinoj Manning R/O H-59, Second Floor, residency Greens, Greenwood City, Sector-56, Gurgaon, Haryana-122003 have changed my name from **Aadit Vinoj Manning** to **Aadit Manning** permanently 0040737632-2

I, AFIFA ARJMAND, W/O-MOHD MOOQUIN KHAN, R/O-136-A, FLAT, NO-302, 2ND-FLOOR, GALI, NO-12, SIR SYED APPT, ZAKIR-IMPPT, OKHLA, SOUTH-EAST-DELHI-110025, have changed my name to **AFIFA ARJMAND**, for all future purposes. 0040737686-3

I Subhasini Devi W/O, Arun Kumar Singh R/O K 2104, Saviour Greenarch, Ek Murti Chowk, Tezhone 4, Greater Noida West, Gautambudh Nagar, 201318, UP have changed my name to **Subhasini Singh.** 0040737289-1

IP Ganesh R/O #2/445 Street-royal Nagar Post-Kaveripattinam Distt-krishnagiri TN-635112 have changed my minor son's name from **Ashwin Krishnan** to **Ashwin Krishnan G** for all purposes. 0040737630-2

IP Ganesh R/O #2/445 Street-royal Nagar Post-Kaveripattinam Distt-krishnagiri TN-635112 have changed my minor daughter's name from **G Varshini** to **Varshini G** for all purposes 0040737630-3

I Mohit Kumar S/O Late Sh. Harbans Lal R/O O-110, Vani Vihar, Geeta Enclave, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 have changed my name to **Mohit Dhawan** for all purposes. 0040737610-1

I Hanu Harsh Oberoi S/O, Ashok Oberoi R/O 133 LGF, Kailash Hills, Eok, New Delhi-110065 have changed my name to **Hannu Harsh Oberoi.** 0040737616-1

I Godawari Sinha D/o Lakhlan Lal and W/o Rupendra Sinha R/O Annpurna Para, Kanker, Uttar Bastar Kanker, Chhattisgarh-494334, have changed my name to **Riya Sinhaa** 0070911986-1

I Arvind Kumar Janki Prasad Jain Alias Arvind Kumar J P Jain S/O Janki Prasad Jain R/O A-3, Flat No.-601, Vishnu Hitech City, Opposite Ahmedpur Railway Crossing, Badwadya Kalan, Huzur, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh-462039 have changed my name to **Arvind Kumar Jain** 0070912021-1

I Angad Kumar Sahu S/O, Deepchand Sahu R/O O-12, O-block, Sector-12 Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201301 have changed my name to **Angad Sahoo S/O Deep Chand Sahoo** For All Purpose. 0040737614-1

I Narayan Narayan Pillai Omchery S/O P.N.Pallil R/O 245 First Floor New Rajinder Nagar Delhi - 110060 have changed my name to **Nararyana Pillai.** 0040737309-2

EDUCATION

DOWSING Workshop through online zoom will be conducted on behalf of School of Indian Dowisers & Geomancy on **21 & 28 July, Batch 199, Hindi, Marathi or English Literature & Pendulum**, Dowsing Kit will be delivered at home. **Workshop will be conducted on two Sundays between 09:30 am to 02:00 pm. Registration & bank payment through mobile. For more information visit website :** <https://www.indiandowisers.org> & Youtube Channel : **On Dowser's Diary four videos.** **Contact : Ravi Vaidya sir, Principal Dowser, Mobile : 9821349038/9821380289.** 0070911748-2

LOST & FOUND

I, Alka Jain Daughter of Mahender Kumar Jain, resident of 55/42 West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi-110026 have lost my original **Builder Buyer agreement** and other papers relating to property **Commercial Unit G3 (Ground Floor), Agarwal Tower, Plot Number H6, Netaji Subhash Place, District Centre, Wazipur, Delhi-110034**. Finder of the documents may contact at **G3/H6 Agarwal Tower, Netaji Subhash Place, New Delhi-110034** 0040737648-1

I, Gaurav Sharma S/O Late Sh. Rakesh Sharma R/O K-132, Kangra Adarsh VKGS Ltd., Kangra Niketan, Vikas Puri, New Delhi-110018, hereby inform that the **Original Possession & Allotment Letter & Share Certificate** of the above said property has been lost/misplaced. **An FIR LR No. 1662821/2024 Dt. 22.04.2024.** **Finder Contact : 9999261870** 0040737626-1

I, Ranjeet Bedi Advocate New Delhi - 110017 **Seat: Below Post. Pk. Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054**

I, PUBLIC NOTICE
IT IS HEREBY INFORMED THAT MY CLIENT SRI HANPREET SINGH BHALI IS THE OWNER OF SECOND FLOOR, WITHOUT ROOF RIGHTS, 65 FLOP BUILDING PROPERTY BEARING NO. 10, FLOP BUILDING AREA MEASURING 115 SQ YARDS, FLOT BEHIND THE PROPERTY, SITUATED IN THE AREA OF VILLAGE, CHAKHANIKA A COLONY KNOWN AS RAM NAGAR, TILAK NAGAR, NEW DELHI (INDIA). REGULARLY BY DEED VIDE ITS REGISTRATION NO. 195 DATED 16/09/95, & IN THIS PROPERTY SRI HANPREET SINGH IS EXPRESSED & SRI MANOJ KUMAR SINGH BHALI DOES NOT POSSESS THE SUG & DEEDS CERTIFICATE. IF ANY OTHER CLAIMANT HAS ANY RIGHT IN THE FORESAID PROPERTY, HE/SHE SHOULD FILE A DEED OF INTIMATION TO THE UNDERSIGNED WITHIN 15 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF ISSUE OF THIS NOTICE. Sd/- SUBHASH GUPTA ADVOCATE D-46/802, 12, FIRST FLOOR, ANAND NAGAR MARKET, DELHI-110019

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that **I, ABHIMANNU S/O SH. JAI PRAKASH SINGH R/O H.NO. 91, NEAR OLD SOM BAZAR CHOWK, SIRAS PUR VILLAGE, PO: SAMAI PUR, DIST: NORTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110042** declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as **JAI PRAKASH SAH** in my 10th and 12th class educational documents. The actual name of my father is **JAI PRAKASH SINGH**, which may be amended accordingly.

I, PUBLIC NOTICE
Property Owner: Mr. Suman Bharti & Mrs. Shikha Bharti.
Property Address: Villa No. 285, Block No. Y, measuring 300 sq. yards i.e. 358.8 sq. mtrs. Situated in the TATVAM VILLAS, in the residential colony known as Vipul World, Sector 48, Tehsil Badshapur & District Gurugram, Haryana.
Be it known to all concerned on behalf of my client that Original Transfer Deed dated 29.3.2016, Vaska No. 33148 executed by Mr. Sudhir Gupta in favour of Mrs. Sushma Gupta for the aforesaid property is misplaced/lost and is not traceable and report in this regard has been lodged with P.S. Badshapur, vide Lost Report dated 8.7.2024. Any person(s), Association, Company, Firm, Bank, Financial Institution and/or any other Legal Entity finding the same are requested to return the same to the undersigned forthwith. Any person(s) having any sort of right, claim, title, or interest in the subject property under or on the basis of the said lost/misplaced document, or otherwise, may put forth his/her/its claim, along with the document(s) in support thereof, to the undersigned within 7 days from the publication of this notice, failing which no claim of any kind whatsoever shall be entertained thereafter.

Bansal Law Associates
4161, Main Road
Karkardooma, Opp. Karkardooma Metro Station, Delhi-110092 (981104260)
Email- rahul@bansalassociates.in

I, PUBLIC NOTICE
My client Smt. Urmila Devi W/o Late Sh. Jai Narayan Rao F-12, Vijay Block, Sector No. 3, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092 have disclosed her son Mr. Anil Kumar and his wife Mrs. Anita and their legal heir from all her movable and immovable properties and have reserved all her relations with them as they are disobedient, disrespectful and out of control and misbehavior and other some immovable circumstances arise by them. Anyone dealing with them will do so at their own risk and cost. My client will not be responsible for their any act or deeds as my client have no relation with them. Sd/- BHARAT BHUSHAN ADVOCATE Chno. L-28 Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054

I, PUBLIC NOTICE
It is for general information that **I, GURMEET SINGH S/O LATE KIRPAL SINGH R/O 20B/100A, FIRST FLOOR, TILAK NAGAR, DELHI-110018** declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as **GURMEET SINGH KHULLAR** in my Service Book/Service Record. The actual name of mine is **GURMEET SINGH**, which may be amended accordingly.

I, PUBLIC NOTICE
Known to all that my client **Ms. VIDYA DEVI** wife of **Sh. Ghisa Singh** resident of **2180, Gali No.10, Thang Nagar Anand Parbat New Delhi** had reserved her movable and immovable property as well as family relation and social relation forever from my son **PRITAM** who married and his wife **RESHMA** and his son **PRITAM** his daughters (1) **PRANYA PRITYA** and my son **Manoj KAMAL** who married and his wife of **RENU** and his daughter **NEHA** and **SUNITA** wife of **RAJ KUMAR** (daughter in law) due to their bad behaviour therefore, it is further inform that my client shall not be responsible if any deal is done with above said family members and responsible for the consequences for the same in future. Sd/- KAMAL SINGH Advocate Chamber No. 512, Fifth Floor, Distt. Court, Rohini, Delhi-89

I, PUBLIC NOTICE
IT IS HEREBY INFORMED THAT I AM THE BONAFIDE OWNER OF B-34, CRANGANORE APARTMENTS, PLOT NO.13, VIKAS PURI, NEW DELHI. I HAVE LOST/MISPLACED THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS i.e. POSSESSION LETTER, SHARE CERTIFICATE IN RESPECT OF ABOVE SAID FLAT IN ANYBODY FINDS THESE DOCUMENT PLEASE INFORM ME AT THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS: B-34, CRANGANORE APARTMENTS, PLOT NO.13, VIKAS PURI, NEW DELHI, Mobile No. 9899282238. IF ANY OTHER CLAIMANT HAS ANY RIGHT IN THE FORESAID PROPERTY HE/SHE/IT SHOULD FILE A F.I.R. AND GIVE INTIMATION TO DY. DIST. AND HOUSING, DDA VIKAS SADAN, NA, NEW DELHI-110030 WITHIN THE DATE OF ISSUED OF THIS NOTICE. Sd/- B.N. DEO, Advocate S.R.IndB Courtplex, Jank Pur, ND-58

I, PUBLIC NOTICE
That my client Ms. Sheela Devi W/o Late Sh. Bile Ram R/o 1753, 1st Floor, Gali No. 5, Goving Puri Extension, Kalka J Purch Delhi-110019, disclosed her son, namely **Rinku Chandel** and his wife **Seema Budkhale D/o Sh. Suresh Bud**

DESCHAMPS TO STAY ON
Didier Deschamps is staying on as France coach after being praised by the head of the country's football federation for leading the team "in the best possible way" at the European Championship. AP

Messi on target as Argentina enter Copa final



Messi had struggled with a muscle injury earlier but appeared revitalised. He scored Argentina's second goal in the 51st minute. Reuters

REUTERS
NEW JERSEY, JULY 10

DEFENDING CHAMPIONS Argentina booked their place in the Copa America final after goals from Julian Alvarez and Lionel Messi gave them a 2-0 win over Canada in Tuesday's semi-final in New Jersey.

Argentina will face either Uruguay or Colombia in Sunday's final in Florida, a match that could represent the last shot at silverware for several senior squad members including Messi, Angel Di Maria and Nicolas Otamendi. "Let's enjoy what we are experiencing as a national team, as a group. It is not easy to be in a final again, to compete again to be champions," Messi told Tyc Sports. "I'm living it as I have been living everything lately: enjoying it very much and being aware, as it happens to Fideo (Di Maria) and Ota (Otamendi), that these are the last battles."

Argentina have won a joint-record 15 Copa titles and reached the final six times in the past eight editions but Canada caused them real problems in the opening 20 minutes, Jacob Shaffelburg twice shooting wide from promising positions.

After soaking up the early pressure, though, Argentina went ahead when Rodrigo De Paul played through Alvarez, who ghosted in between two defenders to score with a tidy finish in the 22nd minute.

Argentina, 2022 World Cup winners and number one in FIFA's rankings, gradually took control and Messi had a chance to double their lead in the 44th minute when he created space in the box with some silky footwork before lashing his effort wide.

Canada nearly snatched an equaliser against the run of play in first-half stoppage time as Jonathan David sneaked in ahead of his marker to get on the end of a long throw, but his close-range shot was hit straight at goalkeeper Emiliano Martinez.

Messi had struggled with a muscle injury earlier in the tournament but appeared revitalised on a hot and humid evening at the MetLife Stadium. He scored Argentina's second in the 51st minute, sticking out a boot to divert Enzo Fernandez's shot from the edge of the area past Canada goalkeeper Maxime Crepeau. The goal moved Messi to joint fifth in the all-time Copa America scoring charts, level with Peru's Paolo Guerrero and Chile's Eduardo Vargas, on 14.

His 109th goal for Argentina also saw him surpass Iran's Ali Daei to take sole possession of second place on the all-time international scoring charts.

Messi trails only Cristiano Ronaldo, who has scored 130 goals for Portugal.

SCORELINE	
Argentina	Canada
2	0
J Alvarez 22'	
L Messi 51'	

Wunderkid's wonder goal

16-year-old Lamine Yamal becomes youngest-ever goal-scorer at Euros as Spain beat France 2-1 to enter first final since 2012

SCORELINE

Spain		France	
2	1		
L Yamal 21'		R Muanzi 9'	
D Olmo 25'			

RAHUL PANDEY
JULY 10

IT WAS fitting that Adrien Rabiot stood right in front of him before Lamine Yamal pulled the trigger from 25 yards out of goal to become the youngest scorer in Euros history. Ahead of their semi-final meeting, the Frenchman was asked of his take on the 16-year-old everyone is talking about at these Euros. "He has a lot of qualities. He is capable of playing with his qualities at club level as well as in major tournaments, without pressure." Rabiot could've stopped there, ended it as just another dull, emotionless praise for an opposition player. But perhaps tired of the early days fanboying around Spain's star boy, he flicked a switch. "To play in a Euro final, he will have to do more than he has so far."

What had Yamal done until the semis? Legitimise the right flank as his own, offer a pacy outlet on the wings, who could take defenders head on without skipping a beat, and carve out openings for his teammates. In five games he had three assists.

The only thing left for him to do as an attacking player was to score. So it was only fair that when he did so on Tuesday, Rabiot stood the closest to him, gazing the ball curl around him all the way into the French net. In his defense, there wasn't much he could do to stop it. This wasn't your average hit-with-force outside the box goal. The speed gun reading of 102 km/h is likely to mislead you. No, this was more complex, made possible with subtle yet effective details well beyond the years of a 16-year-old. Gaining control of the ball in the inward-right channel outside the France box, Yamal tricked a neat feint – swaying outside only to cut back in – before unfurling a gorgeous curler in the top bin. We'll come to the shot later, but first let's rewatch that switching of the feet.

At the precise point Yamal receives the ball, two French shirts and his own captain, Alvaro Morata is blocking his path to the goal. He understands that he needs to buy more time and space before having a go. However, the inward-right channel offers the best angular advantage to a left-footed striker. It is most likely to have been the thought behind his zero displacement move. The cut back in is a sharp one that takes Rabiot, his marker, out of the equation and buys him the second and space he needs.

Now the shot. The speed is a decisive factor but not as much as the dip and the swerve. Pause the video just as Yamal wraps his foot around the ball. France goalkeeper Mike Maignan is stationed a good three yards out of the goal line. The ball dipping in from over the six foot two goalkeeper's reach into the goal behind – coupled with the curl in from outside the goal frame – made it nigh impossible to get a hand on, let alone stop. A stunner, and Spain have a way back into the game after trailing in the early minutes.

The left-footed finish was bound to make the social media go gaga. All through the Euros one photo of Yamal has been doing rounds. From back when he was just six months old. A baby Yamal, seated in a bathtub, smiles as he's being bathed by his mother, and one Lionel Messi. The photo is from a calendar shoot, but one that's come to be interpreted by the Spanish media and fans as a baptism ritual. A blessing from his godfather. Yamal's father himself declared it as much as he posted a photoshopped image on his Instagram minutes after his son's heroics guided Spain to their first Euro final since 2012. In it, Yamal Jr. dressed in full

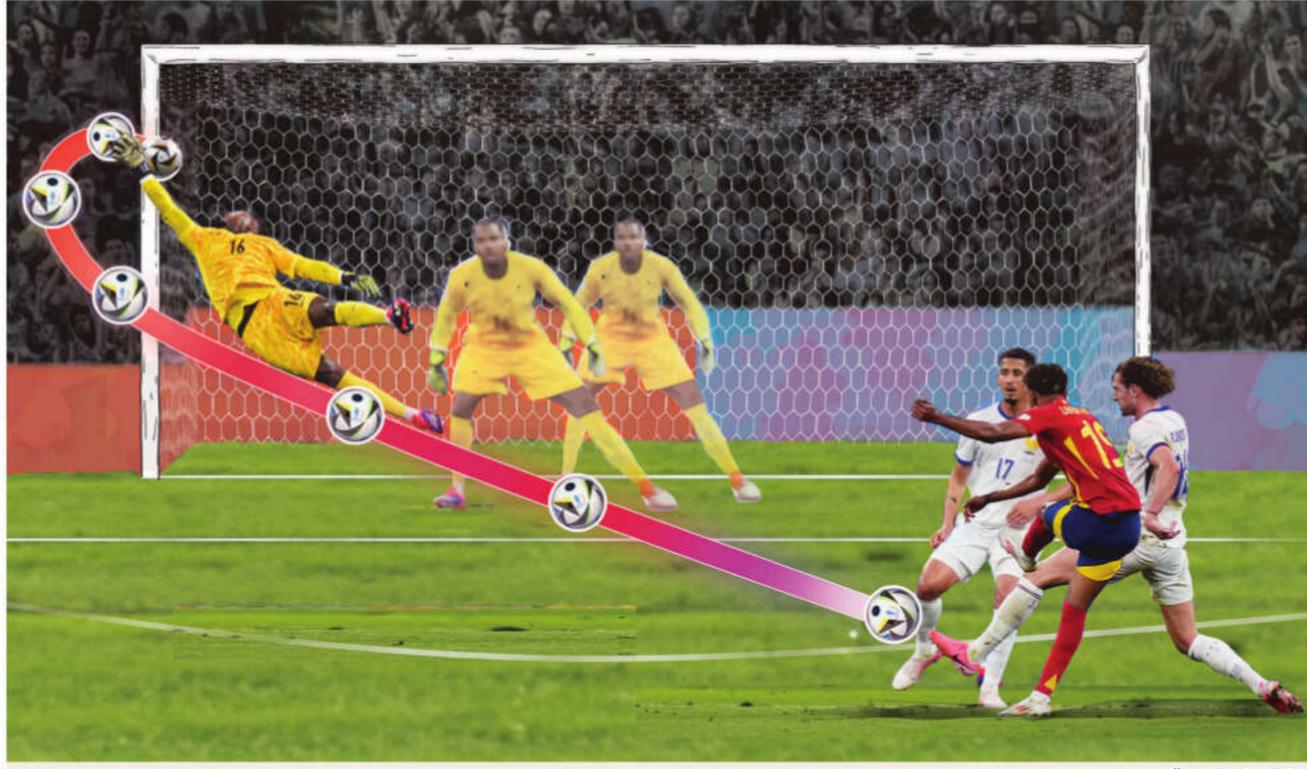


Illustration: Suvajit Dey

He is touched by God | His shot was magnifique | Only a chosen one can do this

LUIS DE LA FUENTE, SPAIN COACH

DIDIER DESCHAMPS, FRANCE COACH

RODRI, YAMAL'S TEAMMATE



MAGIC FROM 25 YARDS

Lamine Yamal collected the ball a little outside the penalty box in a central position, and creating a bit of shooting space by feigning to go this way and that, curled the ball devilishly past France goalkeeper Mike Maignan from around 25 yards and into the top left corner.

Apart from his spectacular goal, Lamine Yamal has three assists at Euro 2024, the most for any player in the tournament.

Spanish kit, lies down on his cradle with Messi standing by his side and their calendar image taped by the Spaniard's pillow.

On Tuesday, he edged past the opposition captain Kylian Mbappe and Pele to become the youngest scorer in a Euros or World Cup match. Mbappe was 19 years and 183 days old when he scored his first goal at a major international tournament. Pele was 17 years and 239 days. Yamal is still three days short of turning 17. Just before he plays the Euro final. Safe to say, he's done more than any 16-year-old has to get there. Rabiot would agree.

Navas, the link between 2010 WC champions and Euro 2024 finalists

SANDIP G
JULY 10

THE SAME right wing, the same No 22. The number—and in his peak the wing too—belonged to Jesus Navas, the Spanish full-back, the lone link between the 2010 World Cup champions and the Euro 2024 finalists. He was the common thread in conceiving both goals, fourteen years apart.

Introduced as a substitute in the 60th minute with the brief to "try and push forward to create danger" he did exactly that. In the 115th minute of the tense final, he gathered the ball from the edge of the touchline in his own half, twisted past his marker Rafael van der Vaart, sprinted upfield, cut in-field, ran into heavy traffic, lost his balance as two Dutch defenders converged onto him, a third rushing onto him.

But still he had the will to scamper the ball to Andres Iniesta, who conjured a sumptuous back-heel to Cesc Fabregas near the centre-line. The latter passed the ball back to Navas, it didn't have the required weight, but he ran back to collect the ball and pick Fernando Torres on his left. The striker's pass was wayward but it bounced off van der Vaart in the box. An aware Fabregas pounced on it and slipped the ball wide to Iniesta in the box. The virtuoso midfielder took a calm touch, the ball reared up and he hammered a shot past the goalkeeper into the bottom left corner.

A decade and four years later, history would nearly repeat itself. The Sevilla-legend, famously homesick, was involved in another historic goal for his country. Soon after the sensational Lamine Yamal strike, the teenager



Full-back Jesus Navas played a role in Andres Iniesta's goal in the 2010 World Cup final too. Reuters

slithered a pass to Dani Olmo, hovering near the box. He saw traffic in front of him, but turned right to see Navas on the far right channel.

The 38-year-old had endured a torrid night as Kylian Mbappe out-speeded and out-thought him, but here he had made the deep run to join the attack. Navas's cross had all the rustiness of someone who was restricted to cameos. But French defender William Saliba cleared the ball away, but only till Dani Olmo, another high-class technician like Iniesta. The ball was travelling at a decent velocity when Olmo's right foot intervened. The first touch sucked all its moments. With the second, from the outside of his boot, he diverted the

ball to his right, before he pirouetted to the direction of the ball, all in one fluid movement of control and dextrousness. The manoeuvre beat Aurélien Tchouaméni. And then he slid the ball through the space between Dayot Upamecano and Mike Maignan. Jules Kounde, from the back-pos lurched in, but could only clip the ball onto his own net. Why he didn't slide full-throttle is a mystery, maybe France had yet to recover from the Yamal blow.

The two moments sum up the Navas irony. He was a jet-heeled winger born in the wrong era of tiki-takians. His biggest gift, speed—so quick that he once ran 100m in 10.8 seconds and broke a running machine—was deemed surplus for that era of Spanish football.

An up and down journey

A misfit to the triangular-passing fixated squad, his appearances were scattered, and mostly as an impact substitute. Shortly after Spain defended their Euro crown in 2013, he was axed and waited for another six years for his comeback. In the interlude, Pep Guardiola converted him into a right back, as he seldom deployed a pure winger. Besides, his crossing was not always defence-splitting and rarely scored goals. In Guardiola's second year, City packed him to Sevilla. He returned to the national fold in 2019, then was ditched after a year. At 34, it seemed he would never play for his country again. But new coach Luis de la Fuente recalled him 10 months ago, and he became Spain's oldest player to feature in a major tournament. Now, at a time when Spain are uncharacteristically relying on two wingers, he has aged. Born in the wrong era, but born for the big moments nonetheless.

[SPORTS BAR]

Cachin ousts Nagal at ATP Challenger

New Delhi: India's Sumit Nagal was ousted by Pedro Cachin of Argentina in the pre-quarterfinals of the Braunschweig ATP Challenger on Wednesday. Cachin, a world No. 117, moved into the quarterfinals of the event with a 6-4, 7-5 win over Nagal, the world No. 73 who was seeded second in the tournament. After winning the first set smoothly, Cachin had a chance to close out the match after breaking Nagal to take a 5-4 lead in the second set. But the Paris Olympic-bound Indian broke back to make it 5-5, only to lose his serve in the 11th game to hand Cachin a 6-5 lead. PTI

Hallgrímsson named Ireland football coach

Dublin: Ireland have appointed former Iceland and Jamaica boss Heimur Hallgrímsson as their new men's head coach ahead of the UEFA Nations League and World Cup qualifying campaigns. The Icelandic's first game in charge will be the Sept. 7th Nations League match against England "Ireland is a proud footballing nation which has consistently produced talented players and enjoyed many memorable moments at major international tournaments," Hallgrímsson said. REUTERS



Rahul Dravid didn't want to be paid more than the other coaches. PTI

Dravid says no to extra Rs 2.5 cr bonus

FORMER INDIA head coach Rahul Dravid has refused to take the additional bonus amount of Rs 2.5 crore offered to him by the BCCI following the recent T20 World Cup triumph in the Americas. Dravid was offered the bonus amount following the national team's success but he was happy to settle for the due amount – Rs 2.5 crore – similar to other coaching staff. The BCCI wanted to repay Dravid for guiding India to the trophy in Barbados by hiking his reward to Rs 5 crore, which is at par with the players, PTI has learnt that the 51-year-old was happy with an equal pay check as other coaching staff. It was more of a goodwill gesture than any official call as Dravid's tenure as India coach had originally ended after last year's 50-over World Cup at home. However, skipper Rohit Sharma and the governing body were successful in convincing Dravid to stay till the T20 World Cup. PTI

Para shooters Rubina, Swaroop secure quota

New Delhi: Indian para shooters Rubina Francis and Swaroop Unhalkar on Wednesday secured quota for Paris Paralympics under bipartite rule, taking the total number of shooters at the Games to 10. The Paralympic Committee of India had applied for two bipartite (wildcard) spots for Rubina (women's 10m air pistol SH1), who has a world ranking of No. 2, and Unhalkar (men's 10m air rifle SH1). Rubina, a bronze medallist in the Asian Games last year in the Women's 10m Air Pistol SH1, and Unhalkar have been consistent performers in international events, prompting PCI to apply for bipartite spot. PTI



Vingegaard wins Tour de France stage II

Paris: Defending champion Jonas Vingegaard held off race leader Tadej Pogacar to win the 11th stage of the Tour de France, having caught the Slovenian after he made a break with over 30 kilometres left on Wednesday. The 211km ride from Evaux les Bains to Le Lioran is the longest stage on this year's Tour, and while the expected early breaks materialised, it came down to the main contenders, with the overall top four making up the first four at the finish. For Vingegaard, who came into this year's event having not raced for three months after suffering a collapsed lung and fractured rib, this was a significant victory over the race leader and favourite. "It's of course very emotional for me," Vingegaard said. REUTERS

Clippers officially re-sign star Harden

Los Angeles: The Los Angeles Clippers re-signed 10-time All-Star James Harden on Wednesday and brought back veteran forward Nicolas Batum. Terms of the deals were not announced but outlets reported last week it's a two-year deal worth \$70 million for Harden. Batum reportedly landed a two-year contract for \$9.6 million. Harden, 34, averaged 16.6 points, 8.5 assists and 5.1 rebounds in 72 games last season in his first campaign with the Clippers. REUTERS

Top-order riches buy India easy win

With four openers, the tour has become audition to stake claim now that Rohit, Virat have made way

VENKATA KRISHNA B
JULY 10

THE ZIMBABWE tour is turning out to be an audition for India's top order going forward, now that Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma have retired from T20Is. After Abhishek Sharma's century in the previous match, it was the turn of Shubman Gill and Yashasvi Jaiswal to show what they can offer as India posted another comprehensive win in Harare on Wednesday. After the batting unit powered them to 182/4, Washington Sundar's Player-of-the-Match spell of 3/15 gave India a 23-run win.

India lead the series 2-1 with the last two T20Is set to be played over the weekend.

With Jaiswal joining the team ahead of Wednesday's match, all eyes were on how India were going to shape their batting order. With a top-heavy squad at their disposal, it was a given that at least one of their four openers on tour would have to bat out of position, what Ruturaj Gaikwad did in the first two matches. But India went a step further, slotting Jaiswal as Gill's partner at the top.

It meant Abhishek, who made it to the team on the back of his electrifying performances in the IPL and scored a century off 46 deliveries as an opener in the last game, was pushed down to No.3 and Gaikwad went further down. Warming the bench on Wednesday were Rryan Parag, Dhruv Jurel and Jitesh Sharma.

With Jaiswal and Gill putting together a 67-run stand, Abhishek came in only in the ninth over, well past the Powerplay. In what were the most batter-friendly conditions they have witnessed so far on this tour, he struggled for fluency and fell for just 10.

Gaikwad reached the middle in the 11th over off the innings. Right through the IPL, he played as an opener who accelerated gradually. Batting in the middle overs, where teams mostly rely on explosive batsmen, he had an unfamiliar role to don.

Coming to the party

But on Wednesday, he didn't have any choice but to hit top gear straight away as Gill was striking only at 120.68 at the half-way stage.

Zimbabwe's fielding helped him on his way to an impressive 49 off just 28 deliveries. After an unbeaten 77 at No.3, another creditable performance at No.4 means he will



Shubman Gill scored 66 runs off 49 balls to take India to a total of 182 in Harare on Wednesday. AP/PTI

most likely vie for a slot alongside Gill for the right-handed opener's role going forward. For the left-hander's role, it seems a battle between Jaiswal and Abhishek.

Between Jaiswal and Abhishek, it is evident who is higher in the pecking order despite modest returns in IPL 2024. Jaiswal may not be as explosive and natural fit in T20s like Abhishek, but few can hit the ball as long and hard as he does. And unlike Abhishek, Jaiswal also has the game to bat deep into the innings without having to change his game. It is this trait that is making India look at him as an all-format player. It hasn't come off for him in T20Is as yet, as he got out after making 36 in his first match since the IPL.

For Gill, it was an innings that showed him the mirror in terms of where he stood in T20Is. The high-risk, intent-full batting doesn't seem to come naturally to him. Like Virat Kohli did in the IPL, he is showing a willingness to change his approach, showing aggressive intent. But there are plenty of yards

for him to gain as despite departing only on the last ball off the 18th over, he only had 66 runs to show from 49 deliveries.

India's top-heavy line-up meant Sanju Samson and Rinku Singh only managed 8 deliveries between them. But are sure-shot inclusions going forward, and it won't make India sweat about their form as India still managed a decent score.

Washington special

The total proved way beyond Zimbabwe's reach. By the time Avesh Khan and Khaleel Ahmed had combined to leave the hosts struggling at 19/3 in 3.1 overs, the chase was more or less over. From there on, it was an opportunity for Washington to send a reminder. During the last IPL, when he played just two matches for Sunrisers Hyderabad, he bowled only 5 overs, which played a role in him not getting a spot in the T20 World Cup squad.

Among those on the fringes, this tour is crucial for Washington. A spinner who bowls in the Powerplay, his batting too is under-utilised. Another top-order batsman, he is vying for a slot in the lower-middle-order and though he hasn't had the opportunity to bat, the off-spinner got a chance to show his worth with the ball. With Ravi Bishnoi - who took a stunner at cover - being the only other spinner in the squad, Washington will have a run of matches to show what he has to offer.

With big boundaries in play, he slowed down his pace and bowled outside the off-stump, and it fetched him the wickets of Sikandar Raza, Jonathan Campbell and Clive Madande before Dion Myres (65 off 49) and Wellington Masakadza provided something for the locals to cheer.

BRIEF SCORES: India 182/4 in 20 overs (Gill 66, Gaikwad 49, Jaiswal 36; Sikandar Raza 2/24, Blessing Muzarabani 2/25) beat Zimbabwe 159/6 (Dion Myres 66 not out, Clive Madande 37; Washington 3/15) by 23 runs.

Atkinson's 7-wicket haul leaves Windies reeling

ASSOCIATED PRESS
LONDON, JULY 10

ENGLAND WERE in command on 30 for one at tea after bowling West Indies out for 121 on the opening day of the first test at Lord's on Wednesday. Ben Duckett was the England wicket to fall, caught behind on three off the bowling of Jayden Seales, with opener Zak Crawley on 24 and Ollie Pope on one at the interval. Earlier, fast bowler Gus Atkinson took seven wickets for 45 runs on his debut as England dismissed the West Indies in just under 42 overs.

Atkinson took three wickets in four balls at one point, just missing out on a hat-trick, as he recorded the best figures by an Englishman on debut since Dominic Cork's seven for 43, also against the West Indies, in 1995. James Anderson, playing in his 188th and final test, claimed his 701st wicket to end the Windies innings. He is third on the all-time wicket-takers list and needs seven more to join Australian Shane Warne (708) in second place behind Sri Lanka's Muttiah Muralitharan (800).

Mikyle Louis, the first man from his island of St Kitts to play test cricket for the West Indies, was his side's top scorer with 27 in only his eighth first-class appearance.

The occasion was dedicated almost entirely to England's retiring record wicket-taker, with Anderson's daughters Ruby and Lola ringing the five-minute bell, montages of his best moments beamed out on the big screen before play and commemorative merchandise cele-

brating his 22-year career for sale in the club shop. Captain Ben Stokes played his part by winning the toss and bowling first under cloudy skies, but Anderson was unable to give a sell-out crowd the breakthrough they wanted to celebrate. Instead, it fell to newcomer Atkinson to give a glimpse of England's future. Coming on after 10 wicketless overs from Anderson and Chris Woakes, the Surrey seamer struck with his second delivery in test cricket, Kraigg Brathwaite chopping a routine delivery into his own stumps. The 26-year-old Atkinson quickly had a second success to his name. This time it was a classical dismissal, duping Kirk McKenzie into a drive and seeing a thick edge sail through to Zak Crawley at slip.

He finally conceded his first run at the start of his fourth over, but by then he had already made an eye-catching first impression and left the field with figures of 5-4-2-2.

Opener Mikyle Louis had lasted 58 balls on his maiden test innings, collecting four fours on his way to 27, but played and missed several times against Stokes before eventually nicking one. Harry Brook dived to pluck an outstanding one-handed catch an inch above the turf. Anderson returned for a second spell before lunch but could not land the wicket he craved, coming closest when Kavem Hodge squirted an inside edge past leg stump as he departed with figures of nought for 20.

BRIEF SCORES: West Indies 121 all out (Mikyle Louis 27; Gus Atkinson 7/45) vs England 30/1 (Zak Crawley 24; Jayden Seales 1/3) by 91 runs at tea.



Gus Atkinson's figures of 7/45 were the best by an Englishman on debut since Dominic Cork's 7/43, also achieved against West Indies, in 1995. Reuters

Clinical Rybakina ends Svitolina run to reach Wimbledon semis

REUTERS
LONDON, JULY 10

THE RARE sighting of the sun at this year's Wimbledon championships provided no incentive for Elena Rybakina to linger around longer than necessary on Centre Court as she ended Elina Svitolina's quarter-final challenge with a 6-3 6-2 defeat.

Over the course of the last five days, the grasscourt major had started to resemble an indoor tournament with matches on the two main showcourts taking place under cover.

With the retractable roof on Centre Court finally open under a clear blue sky on Wednesday, spectators flocking into the 15,000 seater arena were hoping that the Rybakina-Svitolina duel would be a long and thrilling one.

After all this was the only singles match they were going to get to watch on day 10 of the championships since Novak Djokovic's quarter-final with Alex de Minaur had already been cancelled after the Australian pulled out with a hip injury, handing the Serbian a walkover.

All the fans got in return for their £200 (\$260) Centre Court tickets was one hour and one minute of singles action.

Giving value for money to the punters was not exactly high on the priority list for Rybakina. All the fourth seed wanted was to take the win and move another step closer to lifting the Venus Rosewater Dish for the second time in three years - the quicker the better.

Krejcikova waiting

"Really pleased with the way I played today. Thank you so much guys for coming and supporting us," Rybakina told the crowd, who might have felt they had been rather short-changed despite a mixed doubles tie and a legends' match being moved to fill the gap. "It's always tough to play against Elina, she's a great player, great fighter. No matter the score, it is not as easy as it might look like."

"I want to win again. It's getting closer ... I have such amazing memories from 2022 and I'm just enjoying every time I step on the court, especially when I play good," added Rybakina after setting up a showdown with 2021 French Open champion Barbora Krejcikova for a place in Saturday's final.

Rybakina, the highest seed left in the women's draw, was so fixated with the task at hand that she did not even notice Britain's Queen Camilla watching on from the front row of the Royal Box. "Oh, wow, I didn't even see (her). That's amazing," Rybakina said after walking off court.

That single-minded focus helped Rybakina to recover from dropping her opening service game and she went on to produce a majestic performance to extend her perfect grasscourt record to 2-0 against the Ukrainian.

From 3-3 in the first set, Rybakina was on a roll as she won five games in a row as Svitolina



Elena Rybakina, Wimbledon winner in 2022, is the highest remaining seed. Reuters

Djokovic reaches Wimbledon semis

London: Novak Djokovic got a free pass into the Wimbledon semifinals on Wednesday when his quarterfinal opponent, Alex de Minaur, withdrew with a hip injury. De Minaur, an Australian who was seeded ninth at the All England Club, announced he was pulling out of the tournament hours before he and Djokovic were scheduled to play each other at Centre Court.

"Obviously not an announcement I wanted to make, by any means," De Minaur said at a news conference. "I'm devastated." He explained that he heard a crack toward the end of his 6-2, 6-4, 4-6, 6-3 fourth-round victory over Arthur Fils on Monday. De Minaur walked gingerly to the net when that match ended, but he downplayed the severity of things when he spoke to the media afterward.

The walkover places Djokovic in the Wimbledon semifinals for the 13th time, equaling Roger Federer for the most by a man in tournament history. **REUTERS**

kept looking at her husband Gael Monfils in the players' box for some much needed inspiration.

Svitolina had captivated Wimbledon 12 months ago when she had cast aside four Grand Slam champions to reach the semi-finals just eight months after the birth of her

Svitolina had captivated Wimbledon a year ago when she had cast aside four Grand Slam champions to reach the semi-finals just eight months after the birth of her daughter Skai. There would be no repeat of that.

daughter Skai. There would be no repeat of that magical run on Wednesday. Rybakina's performance was so dominant and stifling, the crowd even struggled to engage with either player or get behind underdog Svitolina.

The Russian-born Kazakh, the only women's champion left in the draw, sealed the first set with a 115mph thunderbolt and fired down another ace - her seventh of the match - to complete the one-sided victory.

"It was extremely tough today. I tried everything that was in my power today. Nothing really was working so much. She didn't really let me into the match," a dejected Svitolina said.

"When the opponent is striking the ball that big, everything goes in. Serve goes really quick. Lots of aces. It's tough to do anything. "I was trying to dig, trying to fight, trying to get my chances back but she didn't really let me."

Meanwhile, Lorenzo Musetti moved into his maiden Grand Slam semi-final by outlasting American 13th seed Taylor Fritz 3-6 7-6(5) 6-2 3-6 6-1 at Wimbledon on Wednesday.

The 25th-seeded Italian's bid to join compatriot and world number one Jannik Sinner as a major champion this year faces a massive hurdle, however, as he faces seven-times All England Club champion Novak Djokovic in the last four.

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