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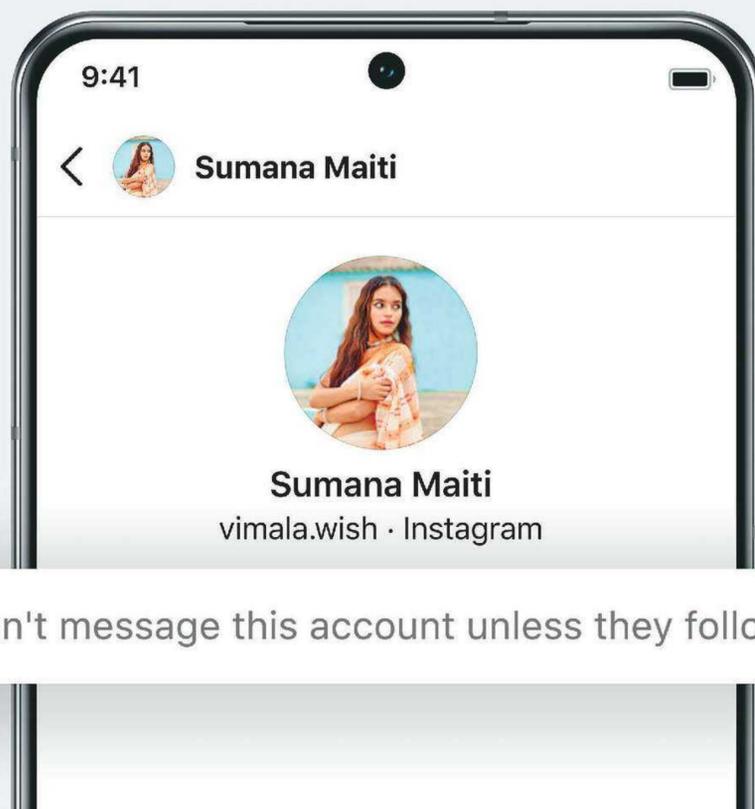
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Dated: 03.06.2024

GANGA
REALTY

PRESENTS

The Tallest Tower
of Gurugram

ANANTAM

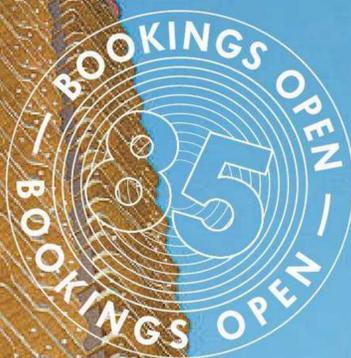
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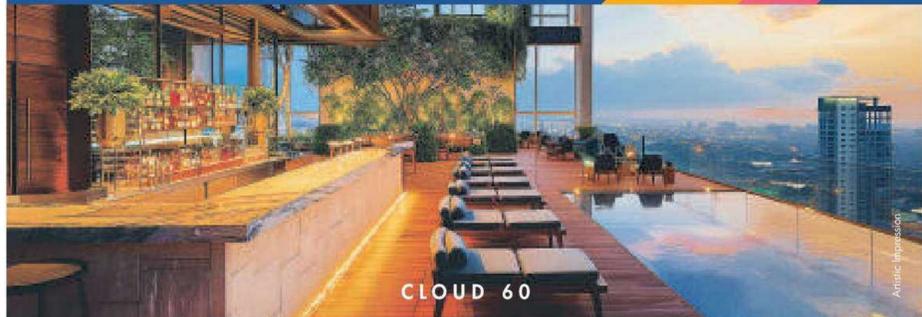
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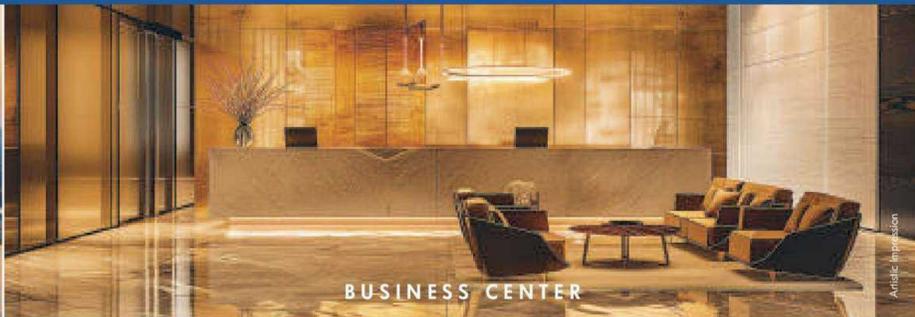
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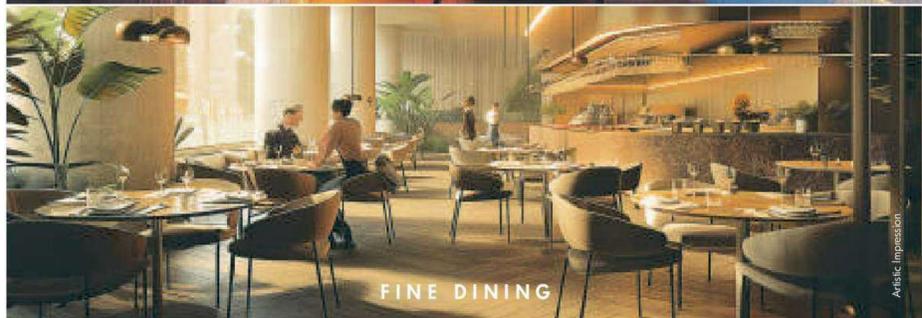
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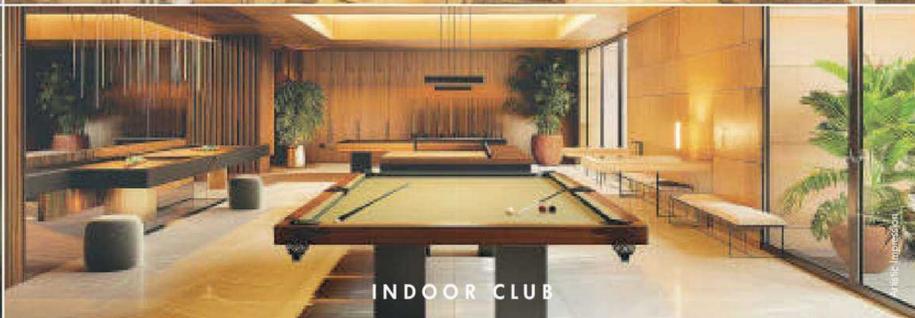
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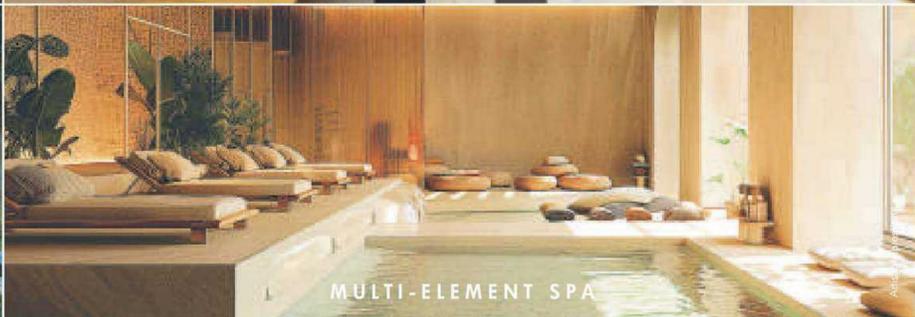
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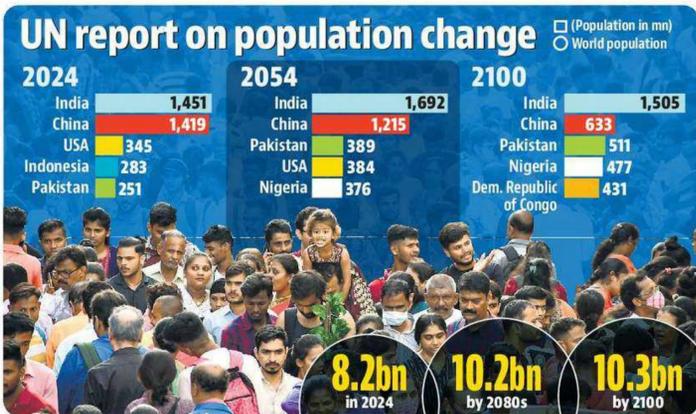
FIRST VOICE. LAST WORD.

India's population 1.45bn, to be twice China's in 2085

Abhishek Jha
 letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: By 2100, India's population of around 1.5 billion will be over twice that of China's 633 million, highlighting the huge demographic dividend available to the country, according to estimates released by the United Nations on Thursday. India will hit an inflection point in 2085 when its population (1.61 billion) will be double of China's (806 million), and the gap will only widen in the next few years, said the report.

India and China will be followed in the population rankings in 2100 by Pakistan (511 million), Nigeria (477 million), Democratic Republic of the Congo (431 million), and the US (421 million), with the last being one of the 62 countries in the world where immigration rather than excess of births over deaths or increase in life expectancy is expected to be the major driver of population growth, according to the biennial World Population Prospects (WPP), released by the United Nations Department of Economic and



Social Affairs (UNDESA) Population Division. The US's current population is 345 million. The report puts India's current population at 1.451 billion, nine million more than what this number was believed to be two years ago. Although in the realm of projection, these are the most authoritative estimates

of India's population due to the absence of a decadal census after 2011. The 2021 census has been postponed indefinitely, first because of the pandemic, and then for reasons never really disclosed.

The marginal upward revision in India's population, unlike what demographic

alarmists and scaremongers like to claim, is not a sign of an imminent population explosion. While India is expected to be the most populous country in the world throughout this century, the latest WPP projections do not see any major change in India's larger demographic trans-

continued on →7

MODI, NIRMALA MEET ECONOMISTS AS BUDGET PREP HITS HIGH GEAR

Rajeev Jayaswal
 letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman met economists on Thursday for a discussion that centered around policy measures required to boost inclusive growth with a medium-term road map to make India the third-largest economy in the world, which will in turn pave the way for achieving the aim of Viksit Bharat (developed India) by 2024, three people aware of the development said.

The meeting, held at Niti Aayog, is crucial as the government is likely to present the Modi government's vision for the next five years in the budget.

→P11

Munak canal breach floods outer Delhi



Streets and several homes in Delhi's northern fringes were flooded on Thursday after a breach in the Munak water canal, which also threatens to hit water supply to some parts of the national capital.

Related story on page 5

SANCHIT KHANNA/HT PHOTO

IAF flags concern over delay in new Tejas LCA

Rahul Singh
 letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Indian Air Force (IAF) is unhappy with the current pace of the Tejas light combat aircraft (LCA Mk-1A) programme because of the possible risks a delay in the induction of new fighter planes could pose to the air force's combat effectiveness, and has flagged the hot-button issue to plane maker Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), calling for timely execution of the ₹48,000-crore contract for 83 jets, senior IAF officers aware of the matter said on Thursday.

"We have told HAL that delay is unacceptable as it will affect



LCA Mk-1A made its maiden sortie from an HAL facility in Bengaluru on March 28.

our fighting capabilities. IAF is still waiting for the first Mk-1A aircraft that was to be delivered by March 31, 2024," said one of the officers cited above, who asked not to be named.

The state-run firm is now tar-

getting the first delivery in August after completing the necessary certification requirements, and says it will deliver 16 of these fighters to IAF in the financial year 2024-25 as per schedule. It also hopes to deliver all the 83 aircraft on order by 2028-29, HAL officials said.

Many in the air force are, however, sceptical about the LCA Mk-1A deadlines being met, and one of the main reasons for that is the lingering delay in the supply of the F404 engines to HAL by US firm GE Aerospace. The delivery of the engines is delayed by around 10 months, HT has learnt.

The LCA Mk-1A made its

continued on →7

CASUAL HALTING OF BAIL ORDERS 'SHOCKING': SC

Utkarsh Anand

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday condemned the practice of higher courts casually staying bail orders granted by trial courts, particularly when the accused is neither a terrorist nor considered a threat to society.

"What is this happening? A person is granted bail, you (Enforcement Directorate) approached the high court and merely on your asking, the order granting the bail remains stayed for one year. This is shocking," observed a bench of justices Abhay S Oka and AG Masih.

The SC underscored that such stays should not be granted merely at the behest of probe agencies, especially when detailed reasons for granting bail have been provided by the trial courts.

→P8

Key conspirator in leak of NEET papers nabbed: CBI

Mukesh Kumar Mishra
 letters@hindustantimes.com

PATNA: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Thursday arrested one of the key accused and a close associate of the mastermind in the NEET-UG paper leak case from Jharkhand, officers aware of the matter said.

According to agency officers, the accused, Rakesh Ranjan, also known as Rocky, is a relative of the main suspect Sanjeev Kumar alias Mukhia, who continues to be absconding. Ranjan was an important part of Mukhia's gang, which leaked the question paper, and his arrest could help unravel the interstate network behind the irregularities that have marred this year's premier medical exam, they added.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, officers aware of the matter said that Ranjan played an instrumental role in



Rakesh Ranjan

the leaked paper reaching the aspirants.

"Ranjan sent the leaked paper in a PDF format to his associate Chintu alias Baldev, who then circulated it to the 35 candidates staying in the hostel of Learn Boys School in Khemnichak on the outskirts of Patna on the intervening night of May 3 and 4," an officer aware of the matter said. Baldev has already been arrested

continued on →6

NEET hearing adjourned to next week

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday adjourned the hearing in the NEET-UG 2024 case after noting that some of the parties had not yet received the latest affidavits filed by the Centre and the National Testing Agency (NTA).

The case will now be heard on July 18, further delaying a decision on a clutch of petitions demanding the re-conduct of the country's premier medical examination because of alleged paper leaks and other malpractices.

→P11

STUDENT SUICIDES A VERY SERIOUS SOCIAL ISSUE: SC

Utkarsh Anand

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday highlighted the rising number of suicides as a "social issue" and granted the Centre four weeks to file a reply to a PIL seeking the effective implementation of a public health programme for suicide prevention. "Suicide among students is a very serious social issue," said a bench, headed by CJI Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud.

→P8

CHINA SHIPMENT OF BANNED CHEMICALS SEIZED AT TN PORT

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

CHENNAI: A consignment of internationally banned chemicals coming from China was seized from a private sea port near Chennai, officials said on Thursday, adding that a probe was on to find if the consignment was to go to Sri Lanka or Pakistan. The consignment of ortho-chloro benzylidene malononitrile, known as CS is used as a tear gas and riot control agent.

→P8

TOP COURT MAY GET ITS FIRST JUDGE FROM MANIPUR

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court may soon welcome its first judge from Manipur after the Collegium recommended justice N Kotiswar Singh, currently serving as the chief justice of the Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh high court, and justice R Mahadevan, the acting chief justice of the Madras HC, for elevation to the top court. Justice Singh's appointment would mark a significant milestone, as he would be the first judge from Manipur to ascend to the SC, pending government approval.

→P12

JAISHANKAR HOLDS MEETINGS WITH EYE ON MYANMAR SECURITY SITUATION

Rezaul H Laskar

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NEW DELHI: The deteriorating security situation in Myanmar figured in two meetings held by external affairs minister S Jaishankar with his counterparts from Myanmar and Thailand on Thursday. Jaishankar held a trilateral meeting with Thai foreign minister Maris Sangiampongsa and Myanmar foreign minister Than Swe on the sidelines of a Bimstec foreign ministers' retreat in Delhi, and also met separately with his Myanmar counterpart.

→P12

Teen kills teen over Instagram jealousy

Debashish Karmakar

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GURUGRAM: A 15-year-old boy murdered a 16-year-old boy in Sector 40, Gurugram late on Wednesday night, allegedly over resentment concerning the latter's chat with a girl on Instagram, police said on Thursday.

Despite being stabbed in the neck, chest and torso, the victim managed to run at least 250 metres down a lane, before finally collapsing in front of a house and dying, police said.

The gruesome murder came to

light at about 10.30pm on Wednesday when the owner of the house, in front of which the victim had collapsed, alerted the police after hearing screams and then spotting the boy lying in a pool of blood at the entrance of his residence.

Police officers said the 15-year-old was apprehended from Rewari 16 hours later.

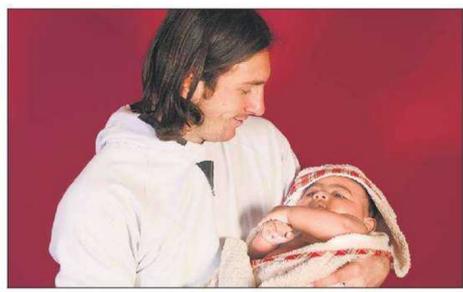
The victim, who hailed from Madhya Pradesh, was friends with the suspect, who lived in Rewari, for around two years on Instagram, police said.

Both lived in Jharsa village in Sector 39.

→P3

{ EUROS AND COPA } PASSING OF THE BATON?

How two finals – one featuring the king, the other the heir – may change football



A 20-year-old Lionel Messi with a six-month-old Lamine Yamal for a photoshoot in Barcelona in 2007.

Dhiman Sarkar

letters@hindustantimes.com

KOLKATA: Lionel Messi isn't stopping. Lamine Yamal is just about beginning. On Sunday, they will aim to make Argentina and Spain the best football teams on either side of the Atlantic in what could be as much a passing of the baton as it is a coming together of the reigning monarch and the heir apparent across continents and time zones.

The final of the Copa America and the European championship will be thousands of

miles apart but it will be united in Messi and Yamal tracing their roots to FC Barcelona. A union amplified by a photograph on social media of a 20-year-old Messi cradling a six-month-old Yamal.

If he wins, this would be only Messi's second Copa title. Odd, you would think, for the greatest player of this generation, who has won four Champions League titles, been a Spanish league champion 10 times and the French league twice. But between his last Copa and this, Messi also took home a World

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NUMBER THEORY

Hathras and the gaps in emergency health infra

By Sreedev Krishnakumar and Auhona Mukherjee

This (Hathras) disaster shows how vulnerable we are. We need better infrastructure, more staff, and proper emergency plans to handle such situations", Dr RK Verma, the medical superintendent at Sikandra Rao Trauma Centre; it did most of the heavy lifting after tragedy struck in Hathras, told

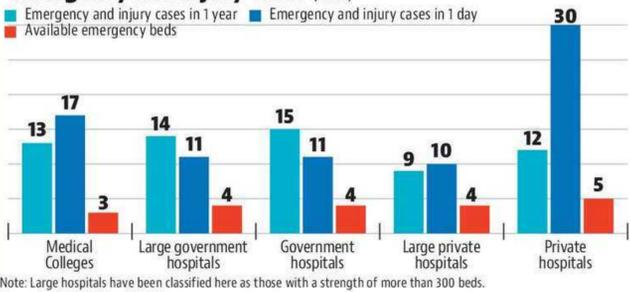
HT a day after one of the worst ever stampede tragedies in the country. An HT analysis of health care statistics and studies shows that Hathras is a grim reminder of the deficiencies in our first response medical infrastructure. Here are four charts which summarise this problem.

1 Trauma is one of the biggest components of emergency cases but infrastructure to provide emergency care is lacking in most hospitals

A 2020 report based on a survey of 100 healthcare facilities across the country which was prepared by Jayaprakash Narayan AIIMS Trauma Centre for NITI Aayog shows this clearly. The report found that live observations conducted for 24 hours at the designated facilities put the share of trauma and road traffic injuries at 24% (largest) among all cases brought to emergency departments of hospitals. Most hospitals were found lacking to deal with such cases. "Even though 91% of hospitals had in-house

ambulances, trained paramedics needed to assist ambulance services were present only in 34%", the report says, flagging further problems such as lack of demarcated triage area, pre-hospital arrival notification system, and most importantly lack of adequate beds for patients coming to the emergency department. The report shows that the share of emergency hand injury cases across hospitals was around ten percentage points more than the share of beds available for emergency patients.

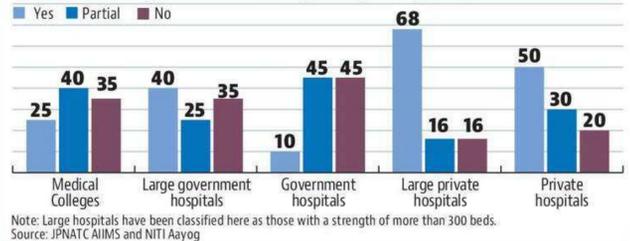
Mismatch between emergency beds and burden of emergency and injury cases (In %)



2 Smaller government hospitals have the lowest surge capacity

Among the most important requirements for hospitals when it comes to dealing with a Hathras kind of tragedy is what is called surge capacity. This basically means the hospital being able to evaluate and care for a markedly increased volume of patients in situations that challenge existing capacity of hospitals. NITI Aayog found that government hospitals fared poorly compared to their private counterparts in terms of surge capacity and the smaller government hospitals - the kind which had to be the first responder in the aftermath of the stampede at Hathras - had the worst score on this count.

Share of hospitals with surge capacity (In %)



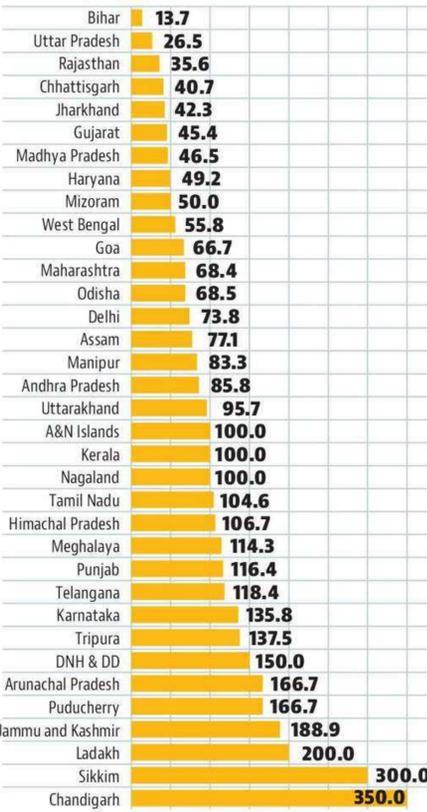
3 At the root of the problem are overworked and often dysfunctional first response units of medical care

India's health care system has long been criticised for ignoring basic facilities and being obsessed with speciality hospitals. The risks of this top-heavy infrastructure are most acute when tragedies such as Hathras take place when there is no functional and effective care facility at nearby places.

"Healthcare delivery in India has been envisaged at three levels namely Primary, Secondary and Tertiary. The secondary level of health care essentially includes Community Health Centres (CHCs), constituting the First Referral Units (FRUs) and the Sub-district (SDH) and District Hospitals (DHs). CHCs were designed to provide referral healthcare for cases from the Primary Health Centres level and for cases in need of specialist care approaching the Centre directly", the Health Management Information System (HMIS) report of the ministry of health says.

While Uttar Pradesh does relatively better on the number of FRUs required for the state's population, a large number of these FRUs were dysfunctional which means that the number of required FRUs being fulfilled means very little when the need arises. As per norms, an FRU unit should be there for every five lakh population. According to HMIS, as many as 18 states and union territories don't have the required number of functional FRUs as per their population. Among these, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan have the least share of functional FRUs as compared to the number of required FRUs at 13.7%, 26.5% and 35.6% respectively. Unless these deficiencies are addressed, our medical infra will continue to get overwhelmed when tragedies like Hathras strike.

Functional FRUs as share of required number of FRUs as per population norms (In %)



{ MY INDIA } FLOODS, LIGHTNING

54 killed as heavy rains pummel UP



At least 54 people in Uttar Pradesh were killed in lightning strikes, floods and snake bites between Wednesday and Thursday alone, state officials said as heavy showers pummeled several regions, swelling rivers in 16 districts. A report from the state relief commissioner's office said that 43 people died due to lightning in 20 districts, nine drowned in four districts and two died of snakebites in two districts. The flood has affected over 1.8 million people across 923 villages. Further, 191,515 hectares of agricultural land has been submerged in the flood. →P8

{ WORLD } STARTED ACTING IN 1970

'The Shining' actor Shelley Duvall dies of diabetes at 75



Shelley Duvall, the intrepid, Texas-born movie star whose wide-eyed, winsome presence was a mainstay in the films of Robert Altman and who co-starred in Stanley Kubrick's 'The Shining,' has died. She was 75. Duvall died Thursday in her sleep at her home in Blanco, Texas, her longtime partner, Dan Gilroy, announced. The cause was complications of diabetes, said her friend, the publicist Gary Springer. "My dear, sweet, wonderful life, partner, and friend left us last night," Gilroy said in a statement. "Too much suffering lately, now she's free. Fly away beautiful Shelley." →P15

{ MY DELHI } EXCISE POLICY CASE

SC order on CM plea against arrest today



The Supreme Court is scheduled to deliver on Friday its verdict on Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal's plea challenging his arrest by the Enforcement Directorate in a money laundering case linked to the excise policy case. The chief minister was arrested on March 21 by the ED in the money laundering case. On June 20, he was granted bail by a trial court here on a personal bond of ₹1 lakh in the case. However, the ED had moved the Delhi HC the next day and contended that the trial court's order granting bail to Kejriwal was "perverse" and "one-sided." P11

{ SPACE } NEW EXOPLANET

Planet with 'an ocean'

Scientists using the James Webb telescope have discovered an exoplanet LHS 1140 b, which could potentially have a life-sustaining liquid ocean

In the 'habitable' zone

The exoplanet LHS 1140 b sits 48 light years from Earth, which equates to more than 450 trillion kilometres (280 trillion miles) - relatively close in the vast distances of space. It lies in the "Goldilocks zone" - neither too hot or too cold - that could host liquid water, a key ingredient for life, according to a study published late Wednesday in The Astrophysical Journal Letters. First discovered in 2017, scientists say it has been thoroughly scrutinised ever since, according to study co-author Martin Turbet of France's CNRS scientific research centre

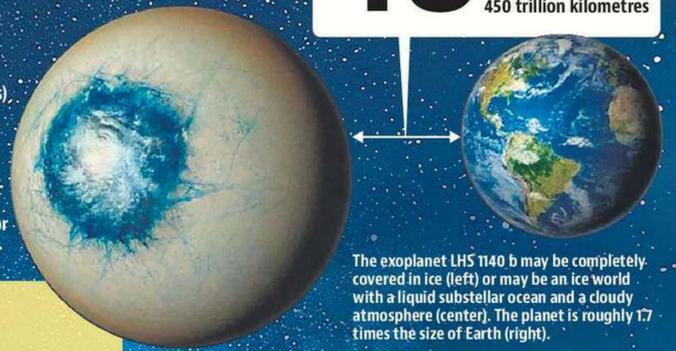
Why the find is important

Of all currently known temperate exoplanets, LHS-1140b could well be our best bet to one day indirectly confirm liquid water on the surface of an alien world beyond our Solar System

Earth-like composition

The Webb telescope was able to analyse the planet's atmosphere as it passed in front of its star. Estimates based on data reveal that LHS 1140b is less dense than expected for a rocky planet with an Earth-like composition. The density of the planet indicates that it "actually has large quantities water". All the water in Earth's oceans represent only 0.02 percent of its mass. But 10 to 20 percent of the exoplanet's mass was estimated to be water.

48 LIGHT YEARS FROM EARTH which equates to more than 450 trillion kilometres



The exoplanet LHS 1140 b may be completely covered in ice (left) or may be an ice world with a liquid substellar ocean and a cloudy atmosphere (center). The planet is roughly 17 times the size of Earth (right). Image: Benoit Gougeon, Université De Montréal

Ice or water?

One possibility is that the surface is mostly ice, but there is a vast liquid ocean where the planet is most exposed to its red dwarf star's heat. The liquid water could be hidden under a thick shell of ice, like on the moons Ganymede, Enceladus or Europa orbiting around Jupiter and Saturn. It will take at least a year to confirm if the exoplanet has an atmosphere, and two or three more to detect the presence of carbon dioxide, scientists said.

4,000km in diameter. Size of the ocean on the exoplanet, around half the surface area of the Atlantic Ocean

Capital's only African elephant and a tale of captivity, heartbreak, solitude

Jasjeev Gandhiok

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NEW DELHI: Visitors to Delhi Zoo from the early 2000s till as late as 2020 recall Shankar - the lone African elephant there - as intelligent, energetic, responsive, even playful. Zookeepers who have spent time with him say he was among the most popular attractions in the zoo, simply because of how interactive he was with the common public.

This is a far cry from how Shankar has been depicted in news reports in recent months - as an aggressive elephant who had to be sedated and chained after he broke a section of the wall in his enclosure in September last year, injuring himself as well as a zookeeper. He did that, zoo officials said, because he came into "musth" - a state of aggression where increased reproductive hormones are released by the animal.

Since then, Shankar has rarely been released into his enclosure. On Sunday, zoo administrators reached out to the forest and wildlife department of the Delhi government, seeking assistance to tranquillise him after he again came into musth.

Prolonged time spent being chained has meant that the metal has started to "bite into" the flesh of Shankar's hind legs - only adding to his aggressive behaviour, zoo officials said.

"The animal had to be tranquillised, keeping in mind the safety of the animal, the visitors and zoo staff. He is responding well to the treatment and is healthy and conscious," said Delhi Zoo director, Sanjeev Kumar, adding that the chains, too, have been removed and replaced by a sling and rope. But behind Shankar's new aggressive temperament, there is a

long tale of a loneliness.

His early life

In 1998, Shankar arrived at Delhi Zoo as a calf along with his female companion Bombai. Both were gifted to Delhi Zoo by the Robert Mugabe-led Zimbabwe government.

Zoo officials recall their early years were marked by them chasing one another around the enclosure, with the two sharing an affectionate bond. "Despite being young calves, they were playful and caring to one another," said an official.

Shankar was named after India's ninth president Shankar Dayal Sharma, while Bombai was named after the wife of the Zimbabwe ambassador who came to India in 1998.

However, Bombai passed away in 2001 due to a condition called Impaction colic, where the gastrointestinal system gets blocked. Now nearly 29 years old, Shankar has lived over two decades without his partner, an existence that zoo officials said has been marked with growing bouts of loneliness.

Even after Bombai's death, he remained happy. He still had two other Indian elephants as playmates - Heera and Laxmi. Zoo officials said the trio would play in their enclosures together.

"Despite Heera and Laxmi being Indian elephants, they all bonded well together," said former zoo curator Riyaz Khan. African elephants are much larger than their Indian counterparts - weighing around 1,000kg more on average than the Indian elephant. African elephants also have much larger fan-shaped ears, as compared to much smaller, round-shaped ears of the Indian counterparts. Renu Singh, the first female Delhi Zoo director, who served



Shankar and his female companion, Bombai, were gifted to Delhi zoo by the Robert Mugabe-led Zimbabwe government. HT PHOTO

between 2017 and 2019, said Shankar remained one of the most popular attractions during her tenure. "Elephants are highly intelligent creatures. They are also very social. Shankar would turn around and respond, when we called his name. He also waved at visitors using his trunk and was energetic, particularly when around the Indian elephants," she said.

Decline in his 'social life'

A senior zoo official, on condition of anonymity, said this equation between the elephants changed slightly in 2014, when it was decided in a Central Zoo Authority (CZA) meeting that the elephants needed to be kept separately. "Since the African elephant is an exotic species, it was decided to keep Shankar separate from the Indian elephants. This meant that while they were released in the enclosure separately, they would still continue to go on morning walks together. Zookeepers would take the trio for several rounds in the enclosure, before visitors arrived and this exercises the animals. This meant Shankar was still seeing Heera and Laxmi through the day," the official explained. A more recent incident in 2021,

changed this equation even further. On one of their morning walks, Shankar came into musth, attacking and injuring Heera. This forced them to separate the elephants even more, the zoo official cited above said.

"Since then, the elephants have not been taken on morning walks together. This practically meant its interaction with the Indian elephants reduced completely," the official said.

Singh, the former zoo director, said that while musth is a natural phenomenon for elephants, it is important that they get social interaction and are given space to release their "aggression" on walks. "On walks, the animal's aggression and built-up energy is released slightly," she said.

A long quest to find him a partner

Over the last few years, as Shankar's loneliness became more apparent, a group called Youth for Animals started a petition in 2021, seeking his release into a wildlife refuge or to be sent back into Africa.

But officials cited above said rehabilitation of African elephants into the wild in India is next to

impossible.

In 2022, a 16-year-old activist from the group filed a petition in the Delhi high court. The court directed authorities to inspect the living conditions of the elephant, as well as look into the possibility of finding a partner - a move which has failed for multiple reasons over the last few years.

The only option they have now is to find a partner from Africa through animal exchange programmes. But even this has failed - Shankar's aggression growing over the years has meant there are few countries willing to send their female elephant here.

Khan said finding a female African elephant and then convincing the local government to send it to India has been a difficult task, one attempted by multiple directors.

"Even if an African country is convinced to send one, there is a cost in translocating the animal to a different continent and it may not adapt. There is also the question of space and we also don't know whether they will successfully mate or not," he said.

Kumar said there are no female African elephants at any zoo in the country, making an exchange possible only from a zoo abroad. India's laws, as part of the Wildlife Protection Act, 2022 (Amended), don't allow for exotic animals to be released into the wild.

Gauri Maulekhi, an animal activist and trustee at the People for Animals (PFA), who earlier this year wrote to the Union ministry of external affairs (MEA), asking for no animal to be exchanged as part of diplomatic gifts, said loneliness has become the sad reality of Shankar. "This is an example, which teaches us no live animal exchange as a gift should happen again," she said.

African elephants are known to live up to 60 to 70 years in captivity, meaning Shankar still has more than half his life ahead of him. It may prove to be a lonely one.

MY DELHI

{ MURDER OF TWIN NEWBORN GIRLS } PAID ₹1.7 LAKH TO NOIDA CLINIC FOR TEST

Accused tried to force wife to abort after sex determination

Jignasa Sinha
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NEW DELHI: The investigation into the murder of the two-day-old twin girls by their father last month has revealed horrifying details, including how the man forced his wife to undergo a sex determination test at a Noida clinic after paying a registered doctor ₹1.7 lakh, Delhi Police officers investigating the matter said on Thursday.

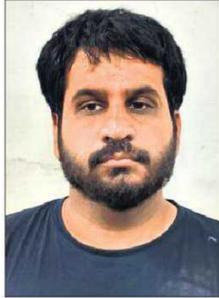
The accused, identified by police as Neeraj Solanki, 32, starved the babies before burying them at a crematorium near his house in Sultanpuri, outer Delhi, the officers said. The accused and his family also tried to force the woman to abort the foetuses after finding out she was pregnant with twin girls. However, she fled to her parents' house in Rohtak, Haryana, and stayed there for six months until the delivery. Police are now looking for the doctor who conducted the illegal sex-determination test.

Solanki was arrested from Sampla, Rohtak on Tuesday — over a month after the shocking incident took place. On May 30, Solanki fled with his newborns from the hospital soon after they were delivered and while their mother was being discharged.

He took them their house in Sultanpuri, outer Delhi, and buried them at a nearby crematorium. He was unhappy about the sex of the infants, officers said.

He starved the infants
The specifics of the probe also revealed the murders were premeditated as Solanki "tortured" the infants by starving them for two days before burying them.

Solanki and his wife Pooja got married in 2022 and the couple were struggling to conceive a child, a senior police officer said. Pooja then underwent in-vitro fertilisation in Delhi last year. "It was a tough pregnancy for her as she was initially pregnant with triplets but one foetus had to be surgically removed due to her



Neeraj Solanki starved his twin daughters to death.

health," the officer added, requesting anonymity.

"Solanki and his family lied to Pooja and told her it was a medical checkup before taking her for the sex determination test. A registered doctor conducted the test. When the report came, Solanki pressured his wife to abort but she did not agree," he added.

She delivered the twins on May 30 and was discharged the next day. On June 1, police said, Solanki arrived with his family and took the babies. He assured his wife that he would drop them to her parents' home in Ismaila but never did. "We found he drove for at least three to four hours with the babies with the car AC cranked up. He took the babies out of the car late at night and put them in a room at his home and did not feed them. We think they starved to death but a viscera report is pending," a second investigating officer said, asking not to be named.

Pooja and her brother Jugnu called Solanki and his family multiple times but they did not respond, after which they informed the police on June 3.

Police said Solanki planned different ways to kill the babies, including drowning and strangling them, adding he even drove towards a field and a drain but panicked and returned home.

"Solanki along with his father

Vijender buried the babies at the crematorium. Solanki's sister, Monika, was also seen with him and the babies. Monika, a resident of Najafgarh, is on the run," the second officer added. Investigators arrested Vijender on June 23. Police said Solanki has two sisters, one brother, apart from his parents in the family. However, the role of other family members remains unclear.

Police said a team headed by ACP Umesh Barthwal and inspectors Yogesh and Vinod Yadav found that Solanki was using a scooter which was seen in the Bawana area. The location was traced through CCTV mapping.

"We arrested him outside a guest house. He told us he was trying to contact his wife again and fix things. We suspect that he knew about his father's arrest and was going there to threaten her," added the officer. Solanki and Vijender have been sent to judicial custody after interrogation. They were booked under sections 302, 304, 315, 201 of the IPC.

DELHI COPS PROBE DETAILS OF KIDNEY TRANSPLANTS IN NOIDA SINCE 2022

HT Correspondent

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NOIDA: The crime branch of the Delhi Police, which is investigating an international organ trade racket, collected details of kidney transplants that have taken place in Gautam Budh Nagar since 2022 from the office of chief medical officer Dr Sunil Kumar Sharma on Thursday.

"Our office is fully cooperating with the investigation. They asked us about out transplant approval committee and its members.. We have submitted a written response to all their queries," Sharma said.

Delhi Police officers said they uncovered an organ trade racket operating between India and Bangladesh, leading to the arrest of seven people, including Dr Vijaya Kumari, 50, suspected to have performed 15-16 illegal kidney transplants at Yatharth Hospital in Noida from 2021 to 2023.

The police suspect that a few more Noida hospitals could be involved in the racket, officers said. "Since the gang has been operating since 2022, we wanted records of all the kidney transplant cases and went to CMO's office to get records," an officer said.



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{ GURUGRAM } ACCUSED NABBED FROM REWARI

15-yr-old boy murders 16-yr-old over 'Instagram rivalry'

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GURUGRAM: A 15-year-old boy murdered a 16-year-old girl in Gurugram's Sector 40 late on Wednesday night, allegedly over resentment concerning the victim's chat with a girl on social media, police said on Thursday. Despite being stabbed in the neck, chest and torso, the victim managed to run at least 250 metres into a residential road, before finally collapsing in front of a house where he died, police said. The gruesome murder came to light at about 10.30pm on

Wednesday when the owner of the house, in front of which the victim had collapsed, alerted the police after hearing screams and then spotting the boy lying in a pool of blood at the entrance of his residence.

Police officers who were part of the investigation, said that the 15-year-old suspect was apprehended from Rewari within 16 hours of the incident.

The 16-year-old victim, who hailed from Madhya Pradesh, was friends with the suspect, who lived in Rewari, for around two years on Instagram, police said. They both lived in Jharsa

village in Sector 39.

Police said that after committing the murder, the suspect fled to his uncle's house in village Kasola in Rewari, from where he was arrested on Thursday afternoon.

The dispute between the two stemmed from the suspect having befriended the victim's ex-girlfriend on Instagram three months ago, said Rishi Kant, assistant commissioner of police (east).

"The girl also lived in Jharsa. However, the victim had also started chatting with her again which the suspect came to know recently and raised objection," he said.

Kant said that the victim had initially assured the suspect that he will not talk to the girl again but continued to do so. "The suspect got to know that he was still chatting with the girl and confronted him," he said. "On hearing this, the suspect hatched an elaborate plot to murder the victim."

Elaborate plan

Crime branch officers, asking not to be identified, said that the suspect stole ₹20,000 from his house and left home on Tuesday and stayed at a hotel. They said the accused switched cellphones after purchasing a new one for

₹12,000 in order to contact the victim. He also bought a knife from a shop in Jharsa on Tuesday evening.

On Wednesday, he invited the victim to meet him at a park near the Sector 40 market, about 500 metres from his house, to drink beer.

A senior crime branch officer said that the suspect did not make any phone call in order to not be traced, but instead arranged the meeting with the victim over Instagram.

"As soon as they met outside the park, the suspect pulled out his knife and stabbed the victim

in the throat, chest and abdomen in quick succession," he said.

The officer said that till Thursday morning, the identity of the deceased could not be ascertained. However, a constable showed the photo of his body to a boy near the murder spot who identified the victim as a Jharsa resident.

"That boy took police to the victim's house after which his identity was ascertained. The family member's questioning and a blurred CCTV clip from the area of the stabbing led us to the suspect's house who also lived nearby," he said.

SC ADJOURNS SISODIA'S BAIL HEARING AS JUDGE RECUSES HIMSELF

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NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday adjourned the hearing on a bail plea by former Delhi deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia to next week as one of the judges sitting on the bench that was to hear the matter recused for personal reasons. Sisodia was arrested by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in February 2023 and later by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) a month later in connection with the probe into the irregularities in the Delhi excise policy of 2021-22.

As the matter came up before a three-judge bench of justices Sanjiv Khanna, Sanjay Karol and Sanjay Kumar, the court informed senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi, appearing for Sisodia, that one of the judges on the bench, justice Kumar, will not be able to hear the case.

"My brother will not like to hear the matter for personal reasons," justice Khanna said. As the bench was about to adjourn it to a later date, Singhvi assisted by advocate Vivek Jain pointed out: "This matter requires extreme urgency as the trial has not yet begun".

'Ridge trees cut on opposite side of approved section'

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NEW DELHI: In yet another turn of events in the row related to the illegal felling of 1,100 trees in Chhatarpur's Ridge area, Delhi urban development minister Saurabh Bhardwaj alleged on Thursday that the trees were cut to expand the road on the wrong side of what was approved earlier.

His statement comes a day before the matter is to be heard by the Supreme Court.

Bhardwaj cited documents available on the website of Unified Traffic and Transportation Infrastructure (Planning & Engineering) Centre (UTTIPEC), the governing body, chaired by the lieutenant governor, that approves all infrastructure projects of Delhi. According to the approved maps from April 2022 for constructing the corridor from Chhatarpur main road along Gaushal Road shown by Bhardwaj, the road from the main Chhatarpur Road towards CAPFIMS campus was supposed to be expanded on the left that has boundary walls of farmhouses. "Delhi Development Authority

(DDA), instead, decided to expand the road on the right side, by chopping down hundreds of trees. They could have taken land from the private farmhouses and broken their walls. I would have done that, but they decided to cut trees," Bhardwaj said.

He added that the project approval mentions that all necessary statutory permissions must be taken by DDA, including for felling trees, which was not done.

The UTTIPEC website seen by HT mentions that the project was approved by the governing body "subject to compliance of approval conditions by concerned statutory bodies/ government agencies". UTTIPEC added, "Implementation of this project involves acquisition of private lands, diversion of forest land etc. which is cost intensive. It was suggested that the alternative mechanism of cost sharing, like on an institutions/organisations benefited from the project, may be explored."

DDA as well as the LG's office did not comment on the issue. The contempt case filed by environmental activist Bindu Kapure will be heard next on Friday, July 11.

WOMAN FOUND DEAD IN S DELHI PARK, POLICE PROBING CASE

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NEW DELHI: A woman was found dead inside the Aastha Kunj park in south Delhi on Tuesday, police officers said, adding that there were no visible injuries on her body, and the cause of death has not been ascertained yet.

The deceased was identified as Devika Gurung, 30, originally from Sikkim. Police said she had shifted to Delhi a few months ago and was working odd jobs. Her father and brother have been informed about her death, said officers, adding that the cause of death will be ascertained after a post-mortem.

"There were no injury marks on her body or signs of foul play. Her body was preserved at AIIMS mortuary and crime proceedings were initiated," deputy commissioner of police (south-east) Rajesh Deo said.

A senior officer probing the case said, "We do not suspect it was a murder... However, foul play has not been ruled out. We are probing the matter."

Meanwhile, locals complained about security arrangements at the park, which is frequented by morning and evening walkers.

No need to wait 24hrs to begin probe into missing children: HC tells police

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NEW DELHI: The Delhi high court directed the Delhi Police to start investigations into the cases of missing children without waiting for 24 hours, remarking that the first 24 hours in such a case is a critical period that can lead to positive outcomes.

A bench of justices Prathiba M Singh and Amit Sharma underscored that though the presumption behind the waiting was that children generally go missing when they are with friends or relatives and return to home, such a delay in search efforts might result in kidnappers taking the child out of court's jurisdiction or lead to some untoward incident.

"It's extremely important that immediate investigation and inquiries be conducted... without waiting for 24 hours under the presumption that the child may return."

DELHI HIGH COURT

The waiting period was "wholly unnecessary", the court said.

"Thus, in the case of complaints relating to children going missing, irrespective of whether the child is a minor or a major; waiting for the 24-hour period could result in crucial time being wasted. Therefore, it is extremely important that immediate investigation and inquiries be conducted

by the police/investigating agencies without waiting for 24 hours under the presumption that the person/child may return home," the court said in its July 9 order, uploaded on Thursday.

The bench added: "There is no scope for any speculation or conjecture that the child may return home in 24 hours.. In fact, the first 24 hour-period is the crucial

period or critical period, when steps for tracing of the missing person or child could lead to positive outcome."

The court issued the directions while dealing with a plea filed by a father whose daughter was missing since February.

In his petition, the father stated that though he approached the police on February 19 to lodge a complaint, the police asked him to return the next day, if his daughter did not return.

In its 10-page order penned by justice Singh, the judges opined that the initial waiting for 24 hours by the police before registering the complaint, appeared to have caused delay in tracing the girl.

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Canal breach leads to chaos in Bawana

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NEW DELHI: A portion of the channel-lined canal (CLC), or the Munak canal, was breached near Bawana in outer Delhi on the intervening night of Wednesday and Thursday, disrupting water supply to four of the nine water treatment plants (WTPs) in the Capital, people aware of the matter said.

The breach also led to large parts of Bawana getting flooded, with water entering several houses in the locality, leading to at least 2,000 families being evacuated.

Teams from the Haryana irrigation department, which maintains the canal, were working on repairing the aqueduct till late on Thursday night. The Delhi government said that raw water from the canal is being diverted to other routes to minimise losses, but WTP operations are only likely to normalise by Friday evening.

Delhi Jal Board (DJB) officials said that the breach could result in the loss of 60-70 million gallons per day (mgd) of water, with parts of southwest Delhi such as Dwarka, Palam, and Matiala expected to be hardest hit.

The Delhi government has set a target of supplying 1,000 mgd of water to the Capital, and a short-fall of 1 mgd affects an estimated 21,500 people in the city.

The breach and inundation of parts of Bawana also led to a political tussle between the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)-led Delhi government—which said it has ordered an inquiry to probe whether the breach was a result of sabotage—and the opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Congress, which accused the AAP of poor maintenance. Lieutenant governor VK Saxena, too, waded into the issue, noting that he had flagged the matter of repairs of the canal in June.

Breach at midnight

The breach, located near Bawana M-block JJ Cluster, was first reported at around Wednesday midnight, when parts of F, G, J, K, L and M blocks began getting waterlogged. As more water started entering the neighbourhood, people from these areas were evacuated by NDRF and revenue department officials.

Truckloads of sand were brought to the site to plug the leaks. Officials also made preparations to develop temporary bunds at the breach.

By 2pm on Thursday, a Haryana irrigation department team arrived from Kakroi and Hathnikund, and began repair works, with a dozen workers and an



People in Bawana evacuate flooded areas after the breach in Munak canal on Thursday.

SANCHIT KHANNA/HT PHOTO



excavator deployed at the site.

An official overseeing repair work at the site, requesting anonymity, said that the water from the Kakroi regulator upstream has been diverted to the Delhi Sub Branch (DSB) canal—which runs parallel to Munak—and into the Yamuna to prevent further damage.

"The breached section was already 40-50ft wide, and it took the entire day to drain out the water already present in the canal channel. We are creating two sandbag bunds on either side of the breach, and a 90-100ft wide section will be refilled and

covered with a concrete liner overnight," the official said.

Water supply to be hit

A senior DJB official said the catchment area of the Dwarka WTP in southwest Delhi such as Dwarka, Matiala, Palam and the surrounding areas are not likely to get any water till Friday evening. DJB has advised residents of the impacted areas to store sufficient water and use it judiciously for the next two-three days.

"The real quantum of loss has not been assessed, but we are expecting a shortfall of at least 60-70 mgd," the official said.

A second official said operations at the Dwarka WTP have completely stopped, and areas supplied by the Bawana, Haidarpur, and Nangloi WTPs will face disruptions in tail end areas.

The Bawana WTP supplies 20 mgd to northwest Delhi. Haidarpur supplies 24 mgd to northwest and west Delhi, and Nangloi supplies 44 mgd to west Delhi.

Delhi water minister Atishi, who was inspecting the point of breach, said the new concrete lining will take time for curing. "We are expecting that the canal will be able to carry water tomorrow (Friday)," she said.

LG blames DJB over upkeep, AAP says remark 'misleading'

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NEW DELHI: Following the damage to a portion of the Munak canal on Wednesday night, lieutenant governor (LG) VK Saxena asked the chief secretary to take serious note of inadequate maintenance of the canal, pointing out that the Delhi Jal Board (DJB) should have undertaken repairs through the Haryana irrigation department.

Officials from the LG office said that Saxena previously the matter upkeep in June when the government raised issues of water leakage, theft and less water being released from the canal. Saxena also asked the chief secretary (CS) to take up the matter with ministers to ensure repairs. A letter sent to the CS by the principal secretary to the LG said: "The breach in the Munak Canal underlines the absence of adequate maintenance of the canal, which should have been undertaken by DJB through Haryana irrigation department from time to time. LG has taken serious note of the

matter and has advised the CS to take the matter with minister (water) and minister (flood control department), GNCTD so as to ensure that the matter is taken up with the Haryana authorities at the appropriate level and this channel is restored, repaired and maintained at the earliest."

In response, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government said Haryana was to blame.

"As far as maintenance is concerned, it is Haryana's responsibility. In the canal system, the ownership of the canal remains with one state even if that canal comes to another state. Even if the canal enters Delhi, the ownership remains with Haryana. Despite being within Delhi, Haryana will have jurisdiction over it; the Delhi government cannot tamper with it or do anything of significance," it said in a statement.

The AAP also said that the LG's word on this matter was not gospel. "If he writes something, we ought not to believe as if the court has given its verdict. The LG often writes misleading things in his letters," it alleged.

'We spent night on the road with no food, power'

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NEW DELHI: Over 2,000 families living along the periphery of the Munak canal in Bawana woke up around midnight to loud noises and cries for help as water from a 50-foot-wide breach in the canal channel—it carries about a third of Delhi's water supply—gushed into their localities.

Residents living on the ground floor were suddenly under three to four feet of water, amid floating utensils and furniture. The elderly and children relocated to adjoining roads, having higher elevations, where they spent the rest of the night.

The worst hit were blocks J, K, L and M of Bawana colony. They were completely submerged and dewatering pumps from the Delhi Development Authority (DDA), Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), flood control department and Public Works Department (PWD) were pushed into operation. They were still pumping out water as late Thursday.

The submerged areas comprise narrow lanes and three to four-storey brick-mortar buildings, where people from low-income groups live. The area is flanked by high-rise DDA flats on one side and the Narela-Bawana waste-to-energy plant on the other.

Sitting with a hunched back, near a dewatering pump in Block L, 72-year-old Jai Mala Devi said that she woke up

around 12.30am to loud noises and hurried knocks. "People were banging doors asking others to get out. I heard something was damaged. When I went down to the ground floor, utensils were floating in water. There was no rain, but the whole area was flooded. I quickly woke others up, but power supply had not been cut off yet... so, we waited to avoid risk. Now, we have been stuck on this road for more than 17 hours," Devi said.

Om Prakash, 27, who works as an LIC agent, said the pumps came too late and hardly any arrangement was made in the first 12 hours. "Most of the people who were stuck were rescued by locals. The administration was slow to respond," he said.

Residents also shared purported videos in which a local is seen warning about a water leak from the canal which may lead to soil erosion, warning that low-lying ground in the area was already getting filled with leaking water over the past two days. HT could not independently verify the authenticity of the video.

However, water minister Atishi denied any possibility of leakage or seepage, leading to the canal breach.

During a spot check, HT found that eight large dewatering pumps mounted on tractors were pumping out water from the affected areas around 4pm, but the water level was still at two to three feet in many parts. A Delhi Jal Board tanker was deployed to provide drinking water.



People leave the JJ cluster area in Bawana after the water flooded their homes on Thursday.

SANCHIT KHANNA/HT PHOTO

Measures taken to ensure Capital is not flooded: AAP

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NEW DELHI: Delhi irrigation and flood control (I&FC) minister Saurabh Bharadwaj on Thursday said the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government has taken a number of measures to ensure that the city does not flood when the Yamuna swells this monsoon.

The water level in Yamuna is currently around 202.3m at the Old Railway Bridge. Delhi considers a water level of 204.5m to be a warning level, while the danger point—the level which prompts evacuation efforts of people living along the banks of the river—is 205.33m. Last year, the Yamuna touched an all-time high of 208.66m on July 13, causing widespread flooding in parts of Delhi.

Speaking to the media at the Delhi secretariat on Thursday, Bharadwaj said that the government has repaired or raised the height of several drain regulators and has desilted drains. In addition, a 24x7 flood control room has been set up to monitor the water level and the discharge into the river from the Hathnikund barrage in Haryana, and embankments along the Ring Road have been reinforced to prevent a deluge, he said.

"Yamuna swells due to heavy discharge from the Hathnikund Barrage, coupled with rains in Delhi and NCR areas. Currently, the daily discharge from Hathnikund is around 350 cusecs, and the water level is below the warning level," the minister said. Water from the Hathnikund barrage takes 36 to 72 hours to reach Delhi. The Yamuna begins to swell in Delhi when Hathnikund begins to release 100,000 cusecs of water.

Bharadwaj said the government has made "pilot cuts" in islands in the Yamuna—deep channels dug in the centre of the islands—to ensure the free flow of water when the river swells. "The cuts will help the flow of

Measures implemented by government

24x7 flood control room monitoring Yamuna levels

Drain regulator near WHO building, which was broken in 2023 floods has been fixed; additionally stone embankment built to protect regulator, pumps deployed

Restoration of Yamuna Bazaar wall, plugging of gaps with bricks

Hakikat Nagar Inlet at Najafgarh Drain repaired and restored in Mukherjee Nagar



Deep cuts made in Yamuna islands at 5 places to ensure free flow of water when it swells

RAISED HEIGHT

Tanga Stand regulator (Kashmere Gate) raised from 3.45m to 4.45m to prevent overtopping of gates	Metcalf House regulator (Outer Ring Road) raised from 3.25m to 4.25m	Parapet wall from Khybar Pass to Chandgi Ram Akhara along Ring Road raised: 209.30m	Ramp at Boat Club (Civil Lines) raised from 208.66m to 209.30m	Raising of parapet wall along footpath up to 209.00m near Neeli Chatri
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water to wash away the islands and further improve the flow of the water," he said.

The minister also spoke of a flood warning mechanism, in which a committee of district-level officials will keep vigil in their respective areas if the Hathnikund barrage releases 100,000 cusecs of water. If the discharge hits the 300,000-cusec mark, then district authorities will warn people residing within the river embankments, and arrangements will be made to shift them to a safer place by the revenue department.

LG takes stock

Separately, lieutenant governor VK Saxena on Thursday chaired a meeting of the Delhi Disaster

Management Authority (DDMA) with revenue minister Atishi on flood control preparedness, and directed that the desilting of drains should be completed by July 15.

Saxena also directed the clearing of all debris, construction materials and machinery from the Yamuna floodplains to avoid any hindrance in the flow of the Yamuna.

"If the concerned agencies fail to clear the same, DDA will carry out the removal exercise at the cost of these agencies," the LG office said in a statement.

Saxena further directed that critically vulnerable areas be monitored round-the-clock from the central control room.

Remove encroachments along Yamuna bank: HC

HT Correspondent
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NEW DELHI: The Delhi high court has ordered the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) to remove all encroachments and illegal construction along the Yamuna riverbank, riverbed, and drains flowing into the river.

"This court directs the vice chairman, DDA, to remove all encroachments and illegal construction on the Yamuna riverbank, riverbed and drains flowing into river Yamuna. He is also appointed as the nodal officer and shall coordinate with officials of MCD (Municipal Corporation of Delhi), Delhi Police, DMRC (Delhi Metro Rail Corporation), irrigation and flood control department, PWD (Public Works Department), Delhi Pollution Control Board (DPCB) and forest department.

The vice chairman, DDA shall convene a meeting of all the concerned officials within a week," a bench of acting chief justice Manmohan and justice Tushar Rao Gedela, said in its July 8 order, uploaded on Wednesday.

The court directed for removal while dealing with a plea seeking directions to DDA to demolish the unauthorised construction that was being carried out on the riverbank and to further prevent the same in future.

The petition filed by one Shabnam Burney, underscored that illegal construction was going on without any permission which was endangering the ecologically fragile plain. It went on to add that the same was also causing air pollution in the area and leading to respiratory problems for the people living around the same.

Govt recommends hike in PUC test rate, file with LG

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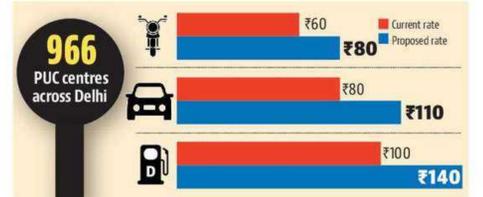
NEW DELHI: The Delhi government on Thursday recommended a hike in the rates to carry out pollution level tests for vehicles after demands from petrol dealers association, which said that the rates have not been revised in the last 13 years. The revised rates will be effective after approval from lieutenant governor VK Saxena, after which a notification will be issued.

The rates were last revised in 2011 and the association threatened to shut down the testing centres at petrol pumps if the rates were not revised.

Transport minister Kailash Gahlot said the decision was taken to address the long-pending demands of the association. "In

Revision of rates

A PUC certificate is a mandatory document assuring that the vehicle's tailpipe emission falls within permissible limits.



response to the demands of the Delhi Petrol Dealers Association (DPDA) and to keep up with the rising costs of pollution checking services, we have decided to revise the rates," he said. However, Bibek Banerjee,

general secretary of DPDA, said the hike was not sufficient.

The pollution under control certificate is a mandatory document assuring that the vehicle's tailpipe emission falls within permissible limits.

108 agents held this year for human trafficking and illegal immigration: IGI Airport police data

Karn Pratap Singh
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NEW DELHI: At least 108 agents involved in human trafficking using forged passports and visas were arrested till June 30 this year as part of a crackdown carried out by the Indra Gandhi International (IGI) Airport police, senior officers aware of the police action said, adding that arrests have seen a nearly 90% rise from the same period last year.

The crackdown, officials said, is part of larger nationwide efforts to curb cases of human trafficking and illegal immigration, wherein Indians as well as citizens from neighbouring nations were cheated with the promise of safe travel abroad for jobs.

IGI Airport police officers said they have issued look-out circulars (LOC) against 76 agents

wanted regarding different cases of cheating, illegal immigration, and forgery, but are hiding in different foreign countries.

The agents have used at least 10 different modus operandi including travelling using fake visa, through "donkey routes", on someone else's passport with similar features, making fake Indian passport for foreign nationals, changing identity after blacklisting and tampering of passport, said deputy commissioner of police (IGI Airport) Usha Rangnani.

According to data shared by Delhi Police, while 108 human trafficking agents were arrested till June 30 this year, the number of arrests of agents was 57 in the same period in 2023—this means arrests have seen an 89.5% year-on-year rise for this period. Of the 108 arrested agents,

THE CRACKDOWN IS PART OF LARGER EFFORTS TO CURB CASES OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION, OFFICIALS SAID

most of them were from Punjab, Gujarat, Haryana, Maharashtra, and West Bengal, officers said, adding that 19 were involved in cases of fake visa, while 24 were arrested in cases related to incidents where their clients travelled on someone else's passport with similar facial features.

There were arrests of 21 agents for sending or attempting to send citizens from India's adjoining countries (barring Pakistan) to

other countries using fake Indian passports, DCP Rangnani said.

"At least 11 agents were arrested this year for sending their clients to foreign countries using Donkey routes. Such agents exploit passengers by sending them to countries offering visa-on-arrival to Indian nationals, organising routes that facilitate illegal border crossings into destination countries," she added.

Donkey route
Explaining the donkey route method, DCP Rangnani said that a common tactic of the agents involves sending passengers with fake Schengen visas to accessible European countries like Azerbaijan or Kazakhstan. From there, they are routed through Central American or Caribbean countries such as Guatemala and Costa Rica, and

finally to the United States.

In one such case cracked recently, a passenger, who was deported from the US disclosed in his interrogation that he had gone to that country in 2017 through a donkey route that was facilitated through two agents who charged him ₹20 lakh and directed him through Dubai, Cuba, Peru, Nicaragua, Mexico, and finally to his destination.

"Throughout his harrowing journey, the passenger went through hardships, often going hungry and sleepless. His original passport was confiscated by the agents, and despite reaching the US and securing work, his life took a turn in 2023 when he got into a fight in Chicago that led to his imprisonment for nine months. He was finally deported to India, rendering all his efforts futile," said Rangnani.

Delhi swelters on a sultry day as 'real feel' hits 53°C

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NEW DELHI: A combination of soaring humidity levels and bright sunshine made for uncomfortably sultry conditions on Thursday, with the average heat index (HI) or "real feel" logging a reading of 53 degrees Celsius (°C), according to data from the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

The relative humidity oscillated between 55% and 100%, making it significantly difficult to be outdoors.

The wet-bulb temperature—another indicator of thermal comfort—was 30.4°C.

IMD's forecast was inaccurate yet again, as no rain was recorded at any weather station in Delhi till 5.30 pm. The agency had predicted light to moderate rain for Thursday.

HI, also known as the "feels like" temperature, is a calculation that depicts what the temperature feels like to the human body when relative humidity is combined with the air temperature and wind speed. It is commonly used to assess the risk of heat-related illnesses and heat stress. Prolonged exposure to an HI of 26-32°C will likely cause



A man covers himself with a stole to keep himself cool. SUNILGHOSH/HT

fatigue, while 32-40°C is widely associated with sunstroke, and 40-54°C with heatstroke.

A wet-bulb temperature of 32°C or higher makes it difficult for people to work outdoors for long. With a wet-bulb temperature of 35°C—the maximum threshold—humans can no longer regulate body temperatures.

At the Sadfarjung observatory, representative of Delhi's weather, the maximum temperature was recorded at 38.8°C—three degrees above normal. The minimum was 27.2°C, which is around normal.

The weather agency, however, predicted that a marginal relief was underway on Friday and the Capital will likely receive light to moderate showers owing to an approaching monsoon trough.

"Parts of Delhi will likely receive light to moderate showers on Friday, along with gusty winds during the day. This should provide a cooling effect. Even then, humidity will remain high, as it does during the monsoon period," said an IMD official.

Delhi's maximum temperature was 36.4°C on Wednesday and the minimum was 27.5°C. So

TRACKING WET-BULB TEMPERATURE

53°C HEAT INDEX **55% to 100%** HUMIDITY

30.4°C WET-BULB TEMP

The wet-bulb temp measures the heat's impact on human health. The principle is simple: as we cool down by sweating, the more readily sweat evaporates, the less hot we feel. But evaporation becomes harder when the air is heavy with moisture. It is measured by wrapping thermometer bulb in a wet cloth, hence, the term wet bulb.

far this month, 56.3mm of rainfall has been recorded in the city. The normal monthly rainfall mark for July is 209.7mm. Last July, 384.6mm was recorded.

Meanwhile, Delhi's air quality remained in the "moderate" zone. The 24-hour average air quality index (AQI) recorded a reading of 113 (moderate) at 4pm on Thursday, according to the Central Pollution Control Board. It was 138 (moderate) a day earlier at the same time. CPCB's national bulletin showed the primary pollutants on Thursday were PM2.5, PM10 and ozone (O3).

Man accused of murdering cop released on bail by high court

HT Correspondent
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NEW DELHI: The Delhi high court granted bail to a man accused of murdering a former Delhi Police constable after considering that his role in the incident was only confined to buying a SIM card on a fake identity after the murder.

"Considering the role of the present applicant is of buying a SIM card on a fake identity, post the alleged murder of the

deceased and the fact that he is statedly in custody since 29.09.2023, this court deems it fit to release the applicant on regular bail subject to him furnishing a personal bond in the sum of ₹25,000/- with one surety of the like amount to the satisfaction of the concerned Jail Superintendent/concerned Court/Duty M.M.," a bench of justice Manoj Kumar Ohri said in the July 10 order.

The man approached high court against city court's May 1

order rejecting his bail in a case registered against him under sections 365 (kidnapping), 302 (murder), 201 (tampering of evidence), 419 (cheating by personation), 471 (using as genuine a forged document), 120 B (criminal conspiracy).

The FIR was filed by woman's mother in October 2021 alleging that her daughter was missing since September and was later killed by his colleague working in the Delhi Police.

MAN JUMPS IN FRONT OF METRO AT KASHMERE GATE

NEW DELHI: A man died after jumping in front of an approaching Metro train at the Kashmere Gate Metro station on Thursday morning, police said, adding that a suicide note was recovered from the person's belongings.

The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) said the incident disrupted Metro operations for around one hour.

HTC

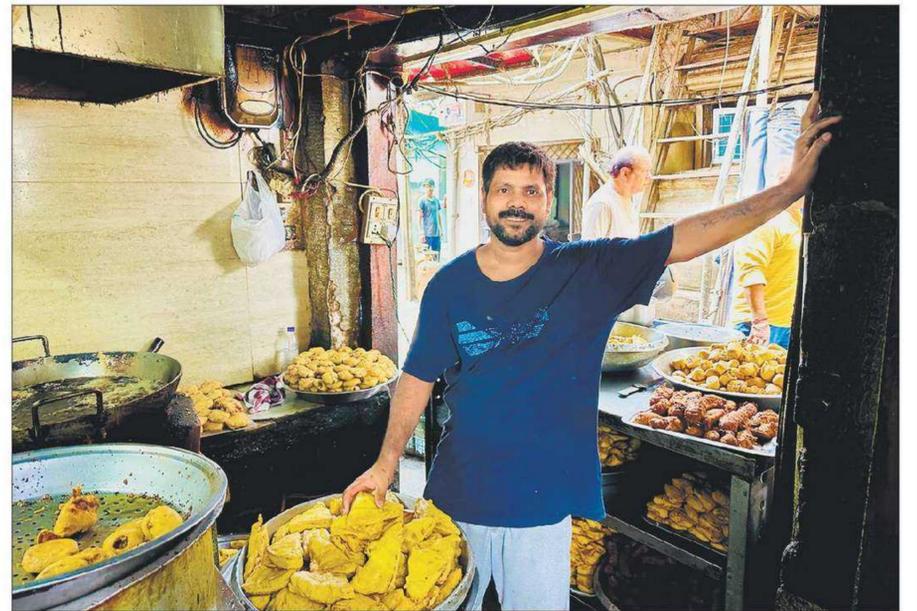
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Monsoon frying

On the taste of the season

{ PUBLIC INTEREST } When it rains, one feels for the Minto Road bridge. The central Delhi underpass almost always gets flooded. Truth be told, extreme weather trends have robbed the Delhi monsoon of its traditional charm. Anyways, for years the pakoda cart at the Gurugram railway station has strived for an idyllic July-August experience, bonding itself to the trinity of train travel, spicy deep-fried tidbits, and barsat.

The platform's snack cart has a long record of rustling out punchy green chilli pakodas. The green chilli would tend to be long and slim—these chillies are truly spicy—but the fried batter coating brings down the heat a notch or two.

That said, even a most average deep-fried pakoda tastes delicious when you are devouring it during a downpour, especially in a rail station, amid the jostling crowd of travellers struggling with their trunks and bags, while expresses chug by after every few minutes.

Plus, there's the pat-pat patter of the barish falling on the station's tin shed.

The most legendary among the classic pakoda-and-rain places in Delhi is the Khandani Pakoda-

wala (since 1962) at the Ring Road Market in Sarojini Nagar. (See photo: cook Manoj in the kitchen).

The counter is these days packed with paneer pakoda, soya stick pakoda, veg chop pakoda, palak-methi-pyaz pakoda, bread pakoda, baingan pakoda, pyaaz pakoda, aloo-mattar seekh pakoda, gobi pakoda, sweet corn pakoda, mix veg pakoda, and hari mirch pakoda. The pyaaz pakoda glistens like a sinful secret—hidden within the golden brown crust is the whole pyaaz, translucent, soft and slightly sweet. (Caution: There's no place within to sit, you have to stand on the footpath and gobble down the pakodas. So if it rains, you are then sure to get wet!)

The most classic pakoda destination is actually any of the very many pakoda carts parked daily along the city's pavas. In that spirit, let us raise the long-time cart near the Civil Lines Metro station that serves deep-fried moong dal pakodas—Ram Laddu—all through the year.

Let us also praise the unknown hawker who occasionally pops up in Lodhi Garden during monsoon months with his basket of Ram Laddus. One late evening, it started to drizzle in the park and the vendor quickly whisked off his stand under a tree, where he patiently stood beside his remains of his day. The sight was poignant.



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OUTWORD NO - MHMC/ 813/2023-24 DATE - 11/07/2024

Public Notice E-Tender

The Chief Officer Matheran Municipal Council, has Published the declaration of E-Tender for Conservation and Restoration of Charlotte Lake at Matheran (Re-Tender 1) Details information is available on the <https://mahatenders.gov.in> website

Sd/-
Chief Officer
Matheran H. S. Municipal Council, Matheran

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, PHED, REGION UDAIPUR
Tel. No. 0294-2481538, e-mail: ace.uda.phed@rajasthan.gov.in
No.: ACE/UDR/NIT. 19-20/2024-25/3457-3466 Dated: 5.7.2024
Corrigendum - 01

Following Corrigendum is hereby issued to this office NIT No. 19-20/2024-25 (DIPR No. C/4985/2024 in regarding change in dates and Extent up to which qualified to tender i.e. the contractors of various classes shall be qualified to tender up to the extent prescribed against each class below as order of Secretary Finance (Budget) letter No. 2018 Dt. 27.06.2024.

Details of this tender Corrigendum can be seen in NIT exhibited on website www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in <http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in> & <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>

(Mohan Lal Saini)
Addl. Chief Engineer
PHED, Region Udaipur

Dipr/c/5757/2024

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GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
Public works Department
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E-TENDER NOTICE NO. 1 / 2024-2025

Online Tenders (e-tender) in "B-1" form for the **03 (Three)** works are invited by the Executive Engineer, P.W. (North) Division, Dhule, (Phone no. 02562-288763) on Government of Maharashtra Electronic Tender Management System <http://mahatenders.gov.in> from any bidder who satisfy the qualifying criteria.

As per above tender notice, **03 (Three)** works, detail tender information will be available at <http://mahatenders.gov.in> and can be download from **12/07/2024 at 12:00 hrs to 20/07/2024 at 17.45 hrs.**

Prebid of Above works on 15/07/2024 Time 12.00 Hours in the office of the Chief Engineer P.W. Region, Nashik.

Opening of above works On 22/07/2024 Time 11.00 Hours (If possible) in the office of the Superintending Engineer, P.W. Circle, Dhule.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
P.W. (North) Division, Dhule

DGIPR/2024-25/ROC 805

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY G20

E-Tender Notice No. JHS/Br/L/2024-25/09 Date: 08.07.2024

E-TENDERING TENDER NOTICE

Dy. Chief Engineer/Bridge/Line/Jhansi, North Central Railway, Jhansi for and on behalf of President of India invites open E-tenders on the prescribed forms for the under noted work:-

Tender No.: Br-JHS-2024-12, **Name of work:** Provision of inspection pathway, Ladders & inspection cradle for Inspection of bearing of PSC girder bridges at Mahoba-Khajuraho-Lalitpur (40 Br.).

Cost of work: Rs. 2,70,83,940.41 **Bid Security (Earnest Money):** Rs. 2,85,400/-

Date of Opening of tender: 05.08.2024, **Completion period:** 12 Months, **Eligibility Criteria for Similar work:** "Repair to steel girder involving field riveting or any bridge work involving erection/launching or regirdering or open web girder." **Note:** (1) The complete information along with tender document of above E-Tenders are available on Website www.ireps.gov.in. up to 15:00 hrs. on the due to date of tender opening i.e. 05.08.2024. (2) Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above tenders. For this purpose, vendors are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website along with Digital Signature Certificate issued by CCA under IT Act-2000. (3) Rates entered into Financial Rate page and duly signed digitally shall be considered. Rates and any other financial entity in any other form/letter head if attached by vendors shall be straightway ignored and shall not be considered. (4) Document being attached should be signed by the tenderer on its body. (5) Payment of Bid Security [Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)] in respect of e-tendering shall be accepted through net banking or payment gateway only. (6) In case of any difficulty helpdesk available on the website of IREPS may be approached (7) Tender on line can be submitted up to 15.00 hrs. on dated 05.08.2024. 1203/24 (ADM)

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Vaishnav slams CM over excise case; AAP hits back

HTC and Agencies
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Union minister Ashwini Vaishnav on Thursday hit out at Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal, claiming his role in the alleged liquor scam has raised a question mark on his entire political career.

Commenting on the charge sheet filed by the Enforcement Directorate in the excise policy case, the Union minister said: "The liquor scam by Kejriwal has raised a question mark on his political career. The Congress too has joined them in the scam. The Congress and AAP (Aam Aadmi Party) have formed an alliance of the corrupt to loot Delhi."

The AAP hit back, alleging that the charge sheet is part of the Bharatiya Janata Party's "agenda" to keep Kejriwal in jail. In the charge sheet, ED has claimed that Kejriwal directly used part of the ₹100 crore "kickbacks" for his stay at a luxury hotel in Goa.

Vaishnav said that all Delhi residents were fed up with the manner in which the AAP and



Union railways minister Ashwini Vaishnav

Kejriwal have spread "anarchy" in the national capital with their "dishonesty".

"They made tall promises about removing mountains of trash and cleaning up Delhi, but haven't fulfilled a single promise. They could not ensure water supply to Delhi, but had their complete focus on liquor," Vaishnav said.

The Union minister said Kejriwal used to claim there was no evidence to prove the allegations of kickbacks in the excise policy scam, but ED has placed the entire evidence before courts.

North East Delhi MP Manoj Tiwari also hit out at the AAP government in Delhi.

"History has been made in Delhi, with an entire political party (AAP) charged by the ED in the liquor excise policy case," he said, citing ED's mention of AAP as the key beneficiary in the charge sheet.

AAP national general secretary Sandeep Pathak said the ED's charge sheet is part of the BJP's agenda and the ED does not have any evidence against AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal. He said that the move is aimed at keeping him (Kejriwal) in jail and stopping the work of Kejriwal government.

"The ED has just filed the 7th supplementary charge sheet in the so-called liquor scam hatched by the BJP. After conducting raids at thousands of places in two years of investigation... They have named Arvind Kejriwal and the Aam Aadmi Party as accused. In PMLA, unless the proceeds of crime are found and it is established where the money came from and where it was spent, a case cannot be made. There is no evidence of this," Pathak said in a press conference at AAP's headquarters.

28-YR-OLD DELHI MAN STABBED TO DEATH BY THREE IN BHAJANPURA

NEW DELHI: A 28-year-old man died after he was stabbed multiple times in his face, neck, chest and abdomen, allegedly by three near his house in Gamri Extension, Bhajanpura, northeast Delhi, on Wednesday night, police officers said.

According to police, the victim, identified as Prem Chaudhary alias Sumit, was facing conviction in an attempt to murder case and was out on bail. Chaudhary operated a tour and travel company and a gym, police added. The three accused are yet to be identified, police said, adding that the reason behind the incident is yet to be ascertained.

Deputy commissioner of police (northeast) Joy Tirkey said police received a call regarding the incident at 11.30pm on Wednesday. "A team reached there and rushed the injured man to hospital, where doctors declared him dead on arrival. The deceased was a resident of Bhajanpura. The victim was convicted by a Delhi court in an attempt to murder case in 2015. He was granted bail by the Delhi high court some months ago." **HTC**

{ FROM PAGE 1 }

NEET ARREST

by CBI. The 30-year-old was produced before a special CBI court in Patna that remanded him to the agency's custody for 10 days.

Investigators have said the question paper for the May 5 entrance test may have been leaked on May 3 while it was being transported from the Ranchi airport to the office of a courier company and then to the Hazaribagh branch of the State Bank of India (SBI) with the help of employees of either the transport company or the courier agency. The case was busted by the Bihar police's Economic Offences Unit (EOU) after a half-burnt question paper was recovered from the private school's hostel on May 5, hours after the commencement of the exam. The question paper bore the serial code of Oasis School, situated in Hazaribagh, and one of the exam centres. The school's principal Ehsanul Haque and vice-principal Imtiaz Alam are

among the 12 people arrested by the federal agency in the case.

Agency officers said that Ranjan was on the run since the irregularities came to the fore and was changing his hideouts regularly to evade authorities. They added he was nabbed through technical evidence and after questioning the other accused arrested in the case.

"Ranjan was located and identified through a detailed analysis of his digital footprints, including IP addresses and email communications. Before his arrest, the CBI set a trap and conducted raids at four locations in the vicinity of Patna and Kolkata," a senior CBI officer said on condition of anonymity, adding that the Nalanda resident was planning to flee to Nepal.

Investigators said Ranjan was in touch with Mukhia when he was on the run. They were yet to ascertain he was involved in other paper leak cases also.

The examination, conducted by the National Technical Agency (NTA) for admissions to MBBS, BDS and other related undergraduate medical courses across India, has been mired in controversy, with allegations of question paper leaks and inflated marking—issues that have become a nationwide flashpoint for political parties, leading to thousands of students protesting for weeks. This year's examination was conducted at 4,750 centres in 571 cities, including 14 abroad. The results, declared on June 4, sparked controversy when 67 candidates achieved perfect scores of 720, with some of them belonging to the same examination centre.

The Supreme Court is currently hearing a batch of petitions seeking a retest. The Centre has argued against plea, contesting that there was no evidence of mass malpractice and that the leak was localised. The Centre's affidavit outlined the steps taken by the Union

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

The students have challenged the results of the all India examination, claiming that the question paper was circulated on a Telegram channel one day prior to the scheduled examination, raising significant concerns regarding the integrity and fairness of the examination process. The top court is scheduled to take up the matter on July 18.

{ FROM PAGE 1 }

POPULATION REPORT

India's population will reach around 1.692 billion by 2054 before peaking in 2061 at 1.701 billion, according to the report. Interestingly, an aging China is set to lose around half of its population in the next 75 years. The current median age of the Indian population is 28.4 years, compared to China's 39.6 years and the US's 38.3 years. By 2100 these numbers will be 47.8 years, 60.7 years, and 45.3 years respectively.

India's key demographic challenge, according to the report, is not preventing population growth, which is more a result of past momentum, but effectively utilising the limited window it has for exploiting its demographic dividend. India's working age population, the WPP projections show, will peak by 2049, 12 years earlier than its overall population has peaked. At its peak, India's working age population will be 1,027 million. "In about 100 countries or areas, the working-age population (between 20 and 64 years) will grow through 2054, offering a window of opportunity known as the demographic dividend. To capitalize on this opportunity, countries must invest in education, health, and infrastructure, and implement reforms to create jobs", the WPP report says.

The reason for India's working-age population peaking before its overall population is the country's declining fertility rate, which is defined as the number of children a woman has in her lifetime. India's fertility rate had already fallen below the replacement level of 2.1 in 2020 and was 1.962 in 2024. Therefore, future population growth is more a result of the momentum of past growth. In other words, India's large population in the reproductive age is expected to grow its total population for some more decades even at fertility levels lower than the replacement level. The replacement level is the fertility rate required to maintain population size at a constant size in the long run if there is no migration.

Peaks and troughs

What are the other key takeaways in the latest WPP numbers? It has made a small upward revision to its 2022 forecast of world population from 8.1 billion to 8.2 billion. The world's population is now expected to peak at 10.29 billion in 2084 instead of the 10.43 billion in 2086 estimate given in the 2022

report. There is a similar reduction in the expected global population in 2100 - 10.2 billion instead of 10.3 billion. There is now an 80% probability that world population will peak within the current century, compared to a 30% probability seen in the estimates made a decade ago, the WPP-2024 report said. The population of China and 62 other countries - accounting for 28% of global population in 2024 -- has already peaked by 2024. In the remaining 126 countries (India among them), population is likely to peak either beyond 2054 or even 2100.

Population drivers

There are different drivers of population growth or lack of it across countries. While global fertility rate in 2024 is 2.25 births per woman, it is below the replacement level in more than half of all countries now. In nearly one-fifth of all countries, the fertility rate is already below 1.4, sometimes called "ultra-low" fertility, which means their population is shrinking. "By the late 2030s, half of the women in countries with populations that have already peaked will be too old to have children by natural means. Because the share of women in the reproductive age range (roughly, between 15 and 49 years) is projected to decline rapidly in such countries, the impact on population size of policies aimed at raising fertility levels is likely to diminish over time," the report says. But immigration is expected to be a major driver of population growth in 62 countries through 2100, and is believed to have already pushed the peaking of population in many of them.

Living longer

In another statistic which shows normalisation from disruption caused by Covid-19, life expectancy has returned to the levels seen before the pandemic in nearly all countries, the WPP report said. Global life expectancy at birth decreased from 72.6 in 2019 to 70.9 years in 2020 and 2021, but has improved to 73.3 years in 2024. This number is projected to increase to 77.4 by 2054. Improving life expectancy is unlikely to prevent population decline because of falling fertility in the coming decades. Another outcome of improving life expectancy is that more than half of global deaths are likely to occur at age 80 years or higher in 2054, compared to 17% in 1995.

While the number of deaths among children under five fell

below 5 million for the first time in 2023 since at least 1950, according to the report "high levels of child mortality persist in many regions even though such deaths are largely preventable". "Nearly all deaths of children under age 5 (95% of the total) take place in 126 countries with populations that are still growing, including the Democratic Republic of the Congo, India, Nigeria and Pakistan."

TEJAS LCA

maiden sortie from an HAL facility in Bengaluru on March 28.

"There are some observations relating to the LCA Mk-1A's maiden flight and then there is the engine issue. HAL doesn't have enough engines to deliver the 16 aircraft this year," said the IAF officer cited above.

The single-engine Mk-1A will be a replacement for the IAF's Mikoyan-Gurevich MiG-21 fighter.

"IAF should have started phasing out the last of its MiG-21s and raising the first LCA Mk-1A squadron by now. The conversion to new aircraft for pilots, and the training of technicians and maintenance crews will take time. If we don't get the new aircraft on time, the capability drawdown will be drastic. IAF doesn't have a Plan B for the MiG-21 replacement," said a second IAF officer, who also asked not to be named.

To be sure, IAF's leadership has firmly backed the LCA programme and more Mk-1 aircraft will be ordered. In a review last year, IAF Chief Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari described the fighter aircraft as the flag-bearer of the air force's efforts towards the indigenisation of its combat fleet. IAF's endorsement, however, does not absolve HAL of the delays in the project, said a third IAF officer. LCA Mk-1A is an advanced variant of the LCA Mk-1, which has already been inducted by IAF. "You must cut us some slack as the Mk-1A is more or less a new aircraft," said one of the HAL officials cited above, asking not to be named. "This means there is a comprehensive certification process for the new systems and that is taking some time. HAL has ramped up its production capacity to be able to meet IAF's requirements for new fighters. The project is a top priority for us," he added. HAL has set up a new production line in Nashik for LCA Mk-1As to meet IAF's growing needs. HAL says it can build 16 LCA Mk-1As every year in Bengaluru, and the Nashik line will help it ramp up production to 24 jets.

HAL officials acknowledged the engine delay issue but said that the plane maker was working towards resolving it and has plans in place to ensure that the project doesn't suffer. "We are hoping to get some F404 engines to deliver 16 Mk-1A aircraft in FY 2024-25. If there is more delay, HAL will still keep building the planes and fly them with Category B engines (reserve ones). When the GE engines come, we will fit those on the aircraft and deliver the planes to IAF. We are confident of sticking to the overall delivery schedule (by 2028-29)," said a second HAL official. There was no response from GE Aerospace to a set of queries from HT on the reasons for the engine delay till the time of going to print.

Engine deliveries are believed to have been delayed because of supply chain challenges.

Even as doubts shroud the delivery schedule of the LCA Mk-1A jets, more are likely to be ordered soon. In April, the defence ministry issued a tender to HAL for the proposed acquisition of 97 more LCA Mk-1As to strengthen the air force's capabilities at a time it is grappling with a shortage of fighter squadrons. The new fighter planes are expected to cost around Rs 67,000 crore.

LCA is set to emerge as the cornerstone of IAF's combat power in the coming decade and beyond as it is expected to operate around 350 LCAs (a mix of Mk-1s, Mk-1As and the future Mk-2).

Forty Mk-1 jets operated by IAF are in the initial operational clearance (IOC) and the more advanced final operational clearance (FOC) configurations - the first variants of LCA. IAF recently relocated its last MiG-21 fighters from their home base at Suratgarh in Rajasthan to the sprawling Nal desert fighter base near Bikaner, where the only other remaining Indian MiG-21s are based, as the world's fourth largest air force prepares the ground to pull these iconic planes out of service and begin raising its new LCA-Mk-1A fleet.

Both squadrons operate the MiG-21 Bison, the last variant of the single-engine workhorse.

The LCA project was sanctioned in 1983 as a replacement for MiG-21s. IAF raised its first LCA Mk-1 squadron in Sullur with two aircraft in July 2016. While the existing Mk-1 and the new Mk-1A variants will replace MiG-21 fighters, the Mk-2 aircraft is planned as a replacement for the MiG-29s, Mirage-2000s and Jaguar fighters that will start retiring in the coming decade.



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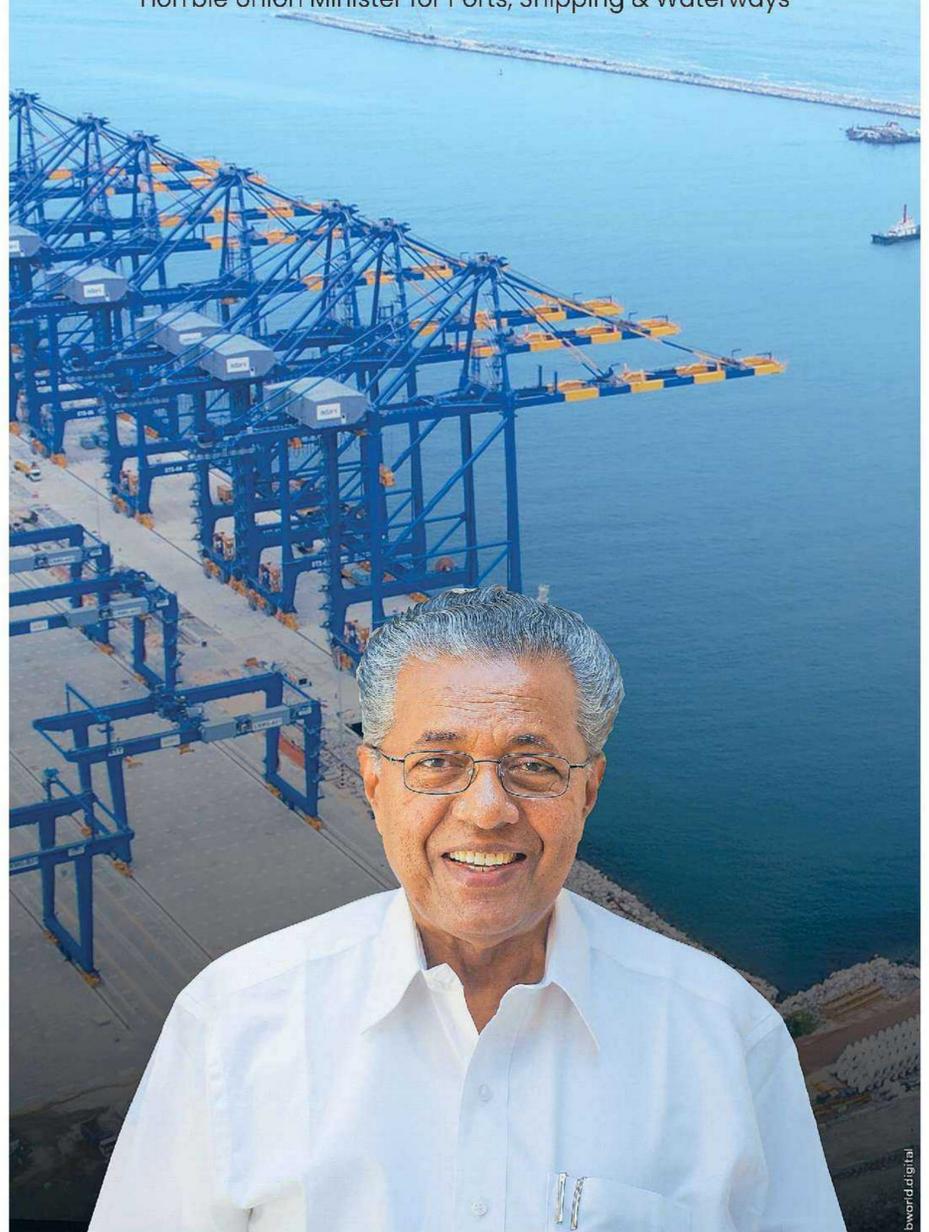
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala

Presided by
Shri V N Vasavan

Hon'ble Minister for Ports, Devaswom & Cooperation

Chief Guest
Shri Sarbananda Sonowal

Hon'ble Union Minister for Ports, Shipping & Waterways



Ports Department
Information and Public Relations Department
Government of Kerala

Hearty Welcome

PUBLIC NOTICE
VEHICLE DEPOT WORKSHOP
DELHI CANTT

On order of Government of India, Vehicle Depot Workshop EME, Delhi Cantt is being disbanded, if any payment due/pending against Regimental Fund Account, Vehicle Depot Workshop EME, Delhi Cantt, request intimate by 20 July 2024. After that, no representation/request will be accepted.

Place: VDW, Delhi Cantt -sd-
Ref. No.: 101/Regd/Fin (Sushil Kumar)
Date: 12 July 2024 Lt Col
Officer Commanding

कोल इंडिया लिमिटेड
(एक महारत्न कंपनी)

"All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on website of Coal India Ltd www.coalindia.in / respective Subsidiary Company, CIL e-procurement portal <https://coalindiatenders.nic.in> and Central Procurement Portal <https://eprocure.gov.in>. In addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal <https://gem.gov.in>."

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CRIS
Chandigarh, New Delhi - 110021

Corrigendum
Tender No. 01245133 for "Selection of Master System Integrator for the Central Video Management System (CVMS) on the Public Cloud for the IP-based CCTV Surveillance for Indian Railways for 8 Years"
Tender Closing Date/Time stands revised/extended upto 14.08.2024 (15:30 hrs.).
For further details, please visit IREPS website (www.ireps.gov.in).

दक्षिणांचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लि

Invitation of Proposal DVVNL is seeking proposal for the appointment of Secretarial Auditor for F.Y. 2024-25 & 2025-26. Detailed advertisement is provided on our website www.dvvnl.org. Proposals are invited till July 25th, 2024. Managing Director, DVVNL
"राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचाये" फ़ार्म: 6182 / फ़ोन: 011-26101010 / 011-26101011 / विज्ञापन दिनांक: 08/07/2024

OFFICE OF CHIEF ENGINEER (URBAN & NRW)
PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, JAL BHAWAN
2-CIVIL LINES JAIPUR, RAJASTHAN

No. SE/MM/NB/24-25/6832-57 **BID NOTICE** Dated: 04.07.2024
On behalf of the Governor of Rajasthan, PHED invites bids online in electronic format on website <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> from manufacturers for procurement of ISI Marked Poly Aluminium Chloride conforming to IS 15573:2005 (amended/ revised up to Date), procurement of ISI Marked MS PIPES, Medium Class 125-150mm conforming to IS 1239 (Part-1): 2004 (Amended/Revised up to date), Procurement of ISI Marked MS PIPES, Medium Class 200 mm, Conforming to IS 4270: 2001 (amended/ revised up to date) & procurement of ISI Marked A.C. Pressure pipes (size 150-800mm) as per IS 1592-2003 (amended upto date) Manufactured with Mazza Process. For details please visit website www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in & <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>
NIB Code: PHE2425A0188
UBN Code- PAC- PHE2425GLRC02411
AC PIPES (150-800MM)- PHE2425GLRC02412 (SURENDRA SHARMA)
MS PIPES (200MM)- PHE2425GLRC02413 SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
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Tender Notice for various works
Government of Punjab
Tender Notice Reference No. 04 Dt. 10.07.2024

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

Sr. No.	Item	Quantity	Closing Date & Time	Opening Date & Time
1.	Tap Connection to consumers, Extension and Augmentation of Water Supply of Tube Well and Construction of 1.5 Lakh Gallon OHSR at Cheema Under AMRUT 2.0.	1	02.08.2024 at 5.00 PM	03.08.2024 at 11.00 AM

For details log on: eproc.punjab.gov.in

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Ph. W/S & Sew. Divn., Sangrur
ees.pwssb@punjab.gov.in
35553

Don't stay bail orders casually: SC to courts

Utkarsh Anand

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday condemned the practice of higher courts casually staying bail orders granted by trial courts, particularly when the accused is neither a terrorist nor considered a threat to society.

"What is this happening? A person is granted bail, you (Enforcement Directorate) approached the high court and merely on your asking, the order granting the bail remains stayed for one year. This is shocking," observed a bench of justices Abhay S Oka and AG Masih. The apex court underscored that such stays should not be granted merely at the behest of investigating agencies, especially when detailed reasons for granting bail have been provided by the trial courts.

"How can a bail be stayed as a matter of course? Just on the asking of the agency? This is about liberty after all... Where is the question of staying a bail order unless the accused is a terrorist or is a threat to society?" the bench asked ED's counsel Zoheb Hossain.

The court indicated its intention to deliver a comprehensive judgment that would establish clear guidelines and deterrents against the casual staying of bail orders. "Let's say something about the casual manner in which an order granting bail was stayed. We will have to say something on this practice by courts. It cannot be like this... What signals we are sending. We are not only blaming you (ED), but we are blaming us as well."

Notably, the top court's stance

What the apex court said

On year-long stay on bail

"What is this happening? A person is granted bail, you (Enforcement Directorate) approached the high court and merely on your asking, the order granting the bail remains stayed for one year. This is shocking."

On liberty

"How can a bail be stayed as a matter of course? Just on the asking of the agency? This is about liberty after all... Where is the question of staying a bail order unless the accused is a terrorist or is a threat to society?"

On placing blame

"Let's say something about the casual manner in which an order granting bail was stayed. We will have to say something on this practice by courts. It cannot be like this... What signals we are sending. We are not only blaming you (ED), but we are blaming us as well."

comes against the backdrop of a recent controversy involving Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal, who is in judicial custody in connection with alleged illegalities in the framing of the 2011-22 excise policy.

On June 21, the Delhi high court stayed the bail granted to Kejriwal by a trial court in the money laundering case linked to the excise policy case. The trial court cited a lack of direct evidence against Kejriwal and suggested potential bias in the ED's approach.

Following ED's appeal, the stay came in less than 24 hours after the order of bail by the trial court, but the high court's initial stay order by a vacation bench did not provide any reasons, raising significant legal and ethical questions.

On June 23, the CM moved the

Supreme Court, assailing the initial stay order. The plea before the top court alleged procedural irregularities in the way the high court handled the case, ruling that an unreasonable order had curtailed his liberty in violation of the basic fundamental threshold on which the bail jurisprudence is premised in the country.

In the present case, Parvinder Singh Khurana was granted bail by a Delhi court on June 17, 2023, in connection with a money laundering case. After ED filed an appeal, the Delhi high court on June 23 stayed the bail order but did not give any reason. Khurana moved the Supreme Court against the stay order, prompting a vacation bench to direct on June 7 that Khurana will be released forthwith.

As the matter was taken up by the regular bench on Thursday,

Hossain, representing ED, defended the high court's stay order by pointing out the contradictory nature of the trial court's orders. He pointed out that 39 days before the impugned bail order, another judge had denied Khurana bail, and without any change in circumstances, bail was later granted. "We have a good case on merits," Hossain argued, highlighting the alleged involvement of Khurana in a ₹1800 crore fraud.

But the bench was not convinced by Hossain's defense. "Can you defend such orders as an officer of the court? Why was this matter transferred to another judge? Why did the judge recuse? One judge recused after reserving the judgment. And the bail remained stayed all this while without any reasoned order," it said.

Hossain responded that high court judges recused from the case, adding the agency cannot be blamed for not courts not penning detailed orders or judges recusing from cases.

The court, however, expressed its discontent with the casual way a detailed bail order was stayed by a one-line order from the high court. "There was a reasoned order for granting bail. Can that be stayed by a one-line order? And then the order of interim stay remains valid for one year. When the accused moves the high court, he is asked to seek temporary bail for urgent reasons," the court lamented.

The bench went on to reserve its judgment in the matter, allowing ED to file written submissions within two days, and suggesting that it would deliver a comprehensive ruling on the issue.

SC RAPS U.P. GOVT FOR SEEKING NOD TO FELL 1K EXTRA TREES NEAR TAJ

Abraham Thomas

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NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday pulled up the Uttar Pradesh government for seeking permission to cut 3,874 trees for a highway project, while pointing that an expert environment panel found it necessary to cut only 2,818 trees to support the project alignment.

Sending a strong message to states to be serious in environment-related issues, a bench of justices AS Oka and Augustine George Masih said: "It is very unfortunate that states being the custodian of environment are casually making applications for cutting trees."

The court was hearing an application moved by the Uttar Pradesh national highway division, seeking permission to fell 3,874 trees in the Taj Trapezium Zone (TTZ) for the construction of the Agra-Jalesar-Etah road.

"Is the state of UP not concerned for environment? What kind of applications are you making? Your application was for 3,874 and we managed to save 1,000 trees. We will not let you off," the bench remarked. "You file an affidavit setting out the name and designation of the persons who have taken this decision to cut trees."

As the trees are located in the TTZ close to the iconic Taj Mahal, the state was required to take prior permission of the court, which is monitoring steps in a plea for preserving the environment around the protected monument. "We are not here for rubberstamping what states suggest. Our job is to see how every tree can be saved," the bench said. Stating that UP had prayed for "unwarranted" felling of 1,000 extra trees, the court directed the state to file an affidavit in two weeks whether it accepts the CEC report. It posted the matter for August 2.

India halts shipment with banned chemical

HT Correspondent

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CHENNAI: A consignment of internationally banned chemicals was seized from a private sea port near Chennai, officials said on Thursday, adding that a probe was on into whether the consignment was to go to Sri Lanka or Pakistan.

The consignment came from China, an official said, requesting anonymity, and added that the seizure was made a "few days ago" from Kattupalli, a private multi-cargo port of the Adani group about 30 km from Chennai. "We are enquiring whether it was meant to go to Sri Lanka or Pakistan. This is the route usually taken to go to Sri Lanka via sea," the official cited above said.

The consignment of Ortho-Chloro Benzylidene Malononitrile, also known as CS is used as a tear gas and riot control agent, was intercepted after routine checking detained the consignee as the chemical figured under India's export control list of Special Chemicals, Organisms, Materials, Equipment and Technologies as a controlled substance, the officials said.

CS is a dual-use chemical listed under international agreements and India's export control list. While it has civilian applications as riot control agents, the



The consignment of Ortho-Chloro Benzylidene Malononitrile was seized at the Kattupalli Port, in Tiruvallur district.

sheer quantity seized raises concerns about its potential military use. The 2,560-kg shipment originated from the Chinese firm, Chengdu Shichen Trading Co Ltd, and was consigned to Rohail Enterprises, a Rawalpindi-based defence supplier in Pakistan, news agency PTI reported cited officials.

Stored in 103 drums of 25 kg each, the cargo was loaded on a vessel Hyundai Shanghai (sailing under Cyprus flag), on April 18, 2024, at Shanghai Port, China. The Karachi-bound vessel reached Kattupalli Port on May 08, 2024. Further investigation of the chemical showed that the consignment was a listed sub-

stance under the Wassenaar Arrangement, of which India is a signatory, they said. The shipment was seized under the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962, and the Weapons of Mass Destruction and Delivery Systems (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Act, 2005. According to officials, the large quantity of shipment raised concerns over its potential military use, more so given the ongoing internal conflicts in Pakistan, where security forces have been trying to suppress movements in Balochistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

(With agency inputs)

'SOCIAL ISSUE'

SC notice to govt on plea to act on student suicides

Utkarsh Anand

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NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday highlighted the rising number of suicides as a "social issue" and granted the Union government four weeks to file a comprehensive reply to a public interest litigation (PIL) that sought public health measures to tackle the problem.

The observations come against the backdrop of the alarming crisis in Kota, which for a second year at least has had a grim trend of students choosing to end their lives, often under

pressure to perform so that they can score well in the highly competitive college qualifier examinations.

"Suicide among students is a very serious social issue," remarked a bench headed by Chief Justice of India Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud as it considered the submissions of lawyer and petitioner Gaurav Kumar Bansal.

Bansal, in his petition, emphasised the urgent need for effective steps to address the increasing number of suicide cases. The bench, also comprising justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra,

directed the Centre to file a detailed affidavit in response.

"It is a social issue, let them (Centre and authorities) file a fresh affidavit and bring latest steps on the record," said the bench.

On August 2, 2019, the Supreme Court issued notices to the Centre, all states, and Union territories, demanding responses to the PIL. The plea also sought directions for states and Union territories to initiate projects offering support and advice through call centres and helplines for individuals with suicidal thoughts.

The petition, referencing data from the Delhi Police, noted that 140 cases of suicides among children under 18 years were recorded between 2014 and 2018. The plea argued that the failure of authorities to draft, design, and implement a public health programme for suicide prevention violates both Section 29 and Section 115 of the Mental Healthcare Act, 2017, as well as Article 21 (protection of life and personal liberty) of the Constitution.

Bansal contended in his plea that the Delhi government has "failed to provide a healthy social atmosphere". The plea further

claimed that all states and Union territories have not implemented various provisions of the Mental Healthcare Act, 2017, and should be directed to take appropriate measures to prevent and reduce suicides within their jurisdictions.

Referring to the World Health Organization's (WHO) report 'Preventive Suicide - A Global Imperative', the petitioner highlighted that young people are among the most affected, and suicide has become the second leading cause of death for those between the ages of 15 and 29 globally.



Rajnath Singh admitted to AIIMS with back pain

NEW DELHI: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh was admitted to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) here on Thursday with complaints of back pain, hospital officials said. He is stable and under observation, AIIMS media cell in-charge Dr Rima Dada said, adding he is undergoing tests. The 73-year-old was admitted early in the morning and is in the Old Private Ward, she said.

Birla pushes for UNSC reforms

NEW DELHI: Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Thursday made a strong pitch for greater democratisation of global governance structures such as the UN Security Council and the WTO. Addressing the 10th BRICS Parliamentary Forum in St Petersburg in Russia, Birla said India was committed to uniting developing countries, and affirmed its dedication to the principles of mutual respect.

SC pulls up Bengal govt for failing to follow its prison reform orders

Abraham Thomas

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NEW DELHI: Coming down hard at the West Bengal government for delaying action on prison reforms, the Supreme Court on Thursday cautioned it to put its house in order while expressing dissatisfaction over steps taken by the eastern state to implement a court-appointed committee's reform proposals.

Taking up a suo motu petition titled "Inhuman Conditions in Prisons" where the court is considering reforms in jails across the country, a bench headed by justice Hima Kohli noted that despite its earlier direction asking states and Union territories to accord "top

THE APEX COURT EXPRESSED DISSATISFACTION OVER STEPS TAKEN BY BENGAL GOVT TO IMPLEMENT PROPOSALS OF THE COURT-APPOINTED COMMITTEE

priority" to jail reforms on issues pertaining to overcrowding, facilities for women and children in jail, besides other issues, several states were unable to come out with a concrete action plan.

"We are dissatisfied with the affidavit of West Bengal. The

state is cautioned to put its house in order," the bench, also comprising justice Sandeep Mehta, remarked.

In a note prepared by senior advocate Gaurav Agarwal, who was assisting the court as amicus curiae in the matter, the bench was informed about West Bengal not adopting a serious approach to implement the reforms proposed by the committee headed by former Supreme Court judge, justice (ret'd) Amitava Roy, for construction of new jails and expansion of barracks in existing prisons.

In January, the states were directed to set up district-level committees for resolving the issues flagged by the committee.

THREE DEAD, TWO MISSING AFTER BOAT CAPSIZES IN ASSAM: POLICE

GOALPARA: At least three people were killed and two others went missing after a boat capsized in the floodwaters in Assam's Goalpara district on Thursday, officials said.

According to police, the incident took place at Similitola in Rongjuli police station area when the boat with around 20 people on board was returning after the cremation of a person.

"There were approximately 20 people on the boat. The overloaded boat capsized while navigating through flooded areas after the evening cremation," the officer said. While most of the passengers managed to swim to nearby highlands, five people were reported missing.

{ LONDON EVENT } SMALL ELEVATOR, NO RAMP

Disability activist unable to enter Nehru Centre

Yogesh Pawar

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MUMBAI: A case of discrimination due to denied access at London's Nehru Centre has led to shock waves across disabled rights' groups across both the UK and India. The Nehru Centre comes under the Indian High Commission and is directly overseen by the ministry of external affairs.

Dr Mithu Alur, who heads ADAPT (formerly The Spastics Society of India), was invited as the Chief Guest at the Nehru Centre in London for a seminar dedicated to use of music as an empowering tool for mental health.

Dr Alur's daughter, Malini

Chib, well-known Indian disability rights activist who has cerebral palsy and author (of One Little Finger she wrote over two years typing with only one finger) was also invited. Once they reached the venue her husband asked for a ramp for the wheelchair which was arranged.

"And then began the frantic struggle," remembers Dr Alur. "The lift was too narrow with barely enough space for one person with crutches. A wheelchair just wouldn't go in. The landing area outside the lift too did not have enough space for a wheelchair indicating that the Nehru Centre is not accessible to wheelchair users."

She underlines how this is directly in violation of the UK's

Delhi HC lauds BNSS for emphasis on use of tech

NEW DELHI: The Delhi high court on Thursday lauded the newly enacted Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), which has replaced the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPc) from July 1, noting that the new law, with its comprehensive emphasis on technological integration, marks a transformative shift in criminal justice and promotes a system fundamentally aligned with the principles of fairness and justice.

A single bench of justice Amit Mahajan praised the provision in BNSS that mandates video-

graphy and photography during search and seizure operations.

"The practice of photography has now been made mandatory. This legislative enhancement is designed to ensure a more transparent and accountable approach in investigation.

BNSS, with its emphasis on technological integration, heralds a transformative era in criminal justice, promoting a system that is fundamentally aligned with the principles of justice," the court said in its verdict on July 8, which was uploaded on Thursday.

SHRUTI KAKKAR

BENGAL CID SEEKS FAMILY SAMPLES TO MATCH DNA IN B'DESH MP CASE

KOLKATA: The West Bengal police Criminal Investigation Department (CID), probing into the murder of Bangladeshi lawmaker Md Anwarul Azim Anar, has approached the high commission of the neighbouring country to collect the DNA samples of his family members.

"We have approached the Bangladesh high commission through the Ministry of External Affairs to collect the DNA samples of the MP's family members. We have already got the court's orders for this," a top CID officer said, requesting anonymity. "His family members are expected to come to Kolkata soon"

Anar, a three-time MP of the ruling Awami League led by prime minister Sheikh Hasina, was last seen on May 13 in Bidhannagar in the northern fringes of Kolkata, a day after he arrived in the eastern state to undergo medical treatment. Investigation by both the CID and the Dhaka Police's Detective Branch revealed that Anar was murdered in a flat near Kolkata. Investigators recovered around three kilograms of flesh from a septic tank of the New Town flat where Anar was last spotted and human bones from the banks of a canal in South 24 Parganas.

Forensic reports have confirmed that the flesh was of a human. "We now need to confirm whether the samples belong to the MP. For this DNA matching need to be done after collecting samples from the MP's family members," the CID officer added.

HTC

The landing area outside the lift did not have space for wheelchair, indicating that the Nehru Centre is not accessible to wheelchair users

DR MITHU ALUR,

ADAPT chief

The Equality Act 2010 - which forms the cornerstone of wheelchair access regulations in the island nation -- and also goes



Govt. of Haryana



“ गांवों के विकास से जुड़े हर कार्य में पंचायत की अहम भूमिका होती है। सशक्त पंचायतें हमारे समृद्ध गांवों की पहचान हैं। हमारा ध्येय इनके अधिकारों में वृद्धि करके इन्हें और सक्षम बनाना है। ”

- नायब सिंह

“ हमारी सरकार पंचायती राज संस्थाओं को मजबूत बनाने और लोगों के सपनों को पंख देने के लिए काम करती रहेगी। ”

- नरेन्द्र मोदी



Empowered Panchayats Strong Foundation of Rural Development

State Level Panchayat Sammelan

Date - July 12, 2024 | Time - 2:00 pm

Venue - Indradhanush Auditorium, Sector-5, Panchkula



Chief Guest

Sh. Nayab Singh

Chief Minister, Haryana

Presided over by

Sh. Mahipal Dhanda

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

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Development and Panchayats Department, Haryana

PIMPRI CHINCHWAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

CIVIL HO

TENDER NOTICE No:- CIVIL/GARDEN AND SPORT/100/1/2023-2024 (Second Call)

Offers by way of e-tendering (Percentage) are invited by the Joint City Engineer, Civil Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation from contractors in e-tendering system for following works.

- The contractor shall quote his Percentage offer on the Cost of work excluding Royalty and material testing charges as mentioned below.
- The offer for work shall be exclusive of GST. The GST at the applicable rate shall be paid separately by PCMC for work
- Regarding the Royalty, the policy that the corporation determines will be binding on you.

Sr. No	Name of work	Estimated cost put to the Tender (Rs) (4+6)	Cost of Work excluding Material testing charges (Rs)	Royalty (Rs)	Material Testing Charges (Rs)	Earnest money (Rs)	Security Deposit (Rs)	Time limit in calendar Months	Cost of Tender Document + With GST (Non Refundable) (Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Development of Biodiversity Park At Talwade	745,355,279	745,236,009	14,778,771	119,270	3,726,776	37,267,770	18	74,704

Time table for the tenders shall be as follows:

Online sale of tenders	:-	Date :- 12/07/2024 to Date : 05/08/2024
Last date of submission of tenders	:-	Date :- 05/08/2024 up to 3.00 pm
Date of opening of tenders	:-	Date :- 07/08/2024 at 3.00 pm

The Municipal Commissioner PCMC reserves the right to accept or reject any tender partially or completely without any reason thereof. The details of above works, such as Security Deposit, Earnest Money Deposit, Terms & Conditions of the Tender and Schedule of works, are available on web site <http://mahatenders.gov.in>. In case of any technical problem related to the tender document, the same can be referred to the NIC email support at eproc@nic.in or on telephone numbers 0120-4200462, 0120-4001002, 0120-4001005, 0120-627787

Sd/-
(Manoj Sethia)
Joint City Engineer
Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation,
Pimpri- 411 018.

ADVT No. -57
ENGG/CIVIL GARDEN & SPORT/16/251/2024
Date: 11/7/2024

उत्तराखण्ड पावर कारपोरेशन लि.

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत वितरण मण्डल चम्पावत।

पत्रांक : 870/वि.वि.म.(च.)निविदा दिनांक : 11.07.2024

ई-निविदा सूचना

विद्युत वितरण मण्डल चम्पावत निम्न कार्य हेतु ई-निविदा आमंत्रित करता है :-

क्र. सं.	ई-निविदा संख्या	कार्य का विवरण	ई-निविदा ऑनलाइन तथा ऑफलाइन (हार्ड प्रिंट) जमा करने की अन्तिम तिथि एवं समय	ई-निविदा बिड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय	ई-निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय
1.	वि.वि.म.(च) 11/2024-25	वि.वि.म. खटीमा के हल्दी अनुभाग के अन्तर्गत उलानी पोगक -2 में विभिन्न ग्राम में एलसीडी लाईन पर स्थापित जीए-सीएन एपीएएसआर वीजल कण्डक्टर को एलसीडी कोबिल (लगभग 16.500 कि.मी) में बदलने का कार्य, निविदा विधि के अनुसार। निविदा मूल्य ₹ 11800/- एवं धरोहर धनराशि ₹ 2,77,000/-	26.07.2024 12:00 बजे तक	27.07.2024 12:00 बजे	27.07.2024 13:00 बजे
2.	वि.वि.म.(च) 12/2024-25	वि.वि.म. खटीमा के अन्तर्गत 33/11 के.वी.ओ. विद्युत उपसंस्थान कंजाबाग से निकलने वाले 11 के.वी.ओ. इस्लामनगर पोषक में पूर्व में स्थापित कण्डक्टर को AAAC कण्डक्टर से बदलने का कार्य, निविदा विधि के अनुसार। निविदा मूल्य ₹ 11800/- एवं धरोहर धनराशि ₹ 3,45,000/-	28.07.2024 12:00 बजे तक	27.07.2024 12:00 बजे	27.07.2024 13:30 बजे
3.	वि.वि.म.(च) 13/2024-25	वि.वि.म. खटीमा में शारदा पावर हाउस लोहायाहड से निकलने वाले 33 के.वी.ओ. ऑवरहेड लाईन को खेल के मैदान से हटाकर अण्डराउण्ड करने का कार्य, निविदा विधि के अनुसार। निविदा मूल्य ₹ 5900/- एवं धरोहर धनराशि ₹ 1,65,000/-	26.07.2024 12:00 बजे तक	27.07.2024 12:00 बजे	27.07.2024 14:00 बजे
4.	वि.वि.म.(च) 14/2024-25	वि.वि.म. चम्पावत के अन्तर्गत 33/11 के.वी.ओ. विद्युत उपसंस्थान टनकपुर एवं बनबसे में स्थापित 11 के.वी.ओ. सर्किट ब्रेकर व कल-पूरजों को बदलने, मरम्मत, टेस्टिंग व मासिक रख-रखाव का कार्य, निविदा विधि के अनुसार। निविदा मूल्य ₹ 1180/- एवं धरोहर धनराशि ₹ 60,000/-	26.07.2024 12:00 बजे तक	27.07.2024 12:00 बजे	27.07.2024 14:30 बजे
5.	वि.वि.म.(च) 15/2024-25	वि.वि.म. चम्पावत के अन्तर्गत 33/11 के.वी.ओ. विद्युत उपसंस्थान लोहाघाट, खेतीखान एवं बराकोट में स्थापित 11 के.वी.ओ. सर्किट ब्रेकर व कल-पूरजों को बदलने, मरम्मत, टेस्टिंग व मासिक रख-रखाव का कार्य, निविदा विधि के अनुसार। निविदा मूल्य ₹ 2360/- एवं धरोहर धनराशि ₹ 85,000/-	26.07.2024 12:00 बजे तक	27.07.2024 12:00 बजे	27.07.2024 15:00 बजे

नोट - निविदा भाग 01 में पी.व्यू.आर. की शर्तें पूर्ण करने वाले निविदाकार का ही भाग-02 अलग से तिथि निर्धारित करते हुये खोला जायेगा एवं कार्य, मर्दे एवं शर्तें उत्तराखण्ड सरकार की वेब साईट www.uktenders.gov.in पर देखी जा सकती है।

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GLC300 4MATIC	Selenite Grey	2024	2277	Unregistered
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RENESOLA	2.09 Lacs	POPEYES	6.50 Lacs
COMPASS PLC	3.25 Lacs	AUSTRALIAN CO.	7.12 Lacs
RETAIL	3.42 Lacs	INDPT. BLDG	20.00 Lacs

Rajeev Saluja | 99100-72803
98104-92803

BUSINESS

CORRIDGENDUM

The following corrigendum is hereby issued in the above mentioned "Public Notice" and classified advertisement "Lost & Found" both published in Hindustan Times & Hindustan Hindi (Delhi Edition) on Thursday 11th July 2024 as under:
"The name 'Sanjiv Goyal' appearing therein in reference to the Sale Deed dated 01/12/2004 (being Vendee therein) should be read as 'Sanjiv Goyal' for all intents & purposes.
Gaurav Sachdeva (Advocate)
C-21, Malviya Nagar, N.D.-17
Ph: 011-41048314, 981006297

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SANTOSH Kumar Verma R/o H.No. 349, 2nd Floor, Ashoka Enclave Main Sector-35, Faridabad, Haryana, certify that Samridhi Verma Class 9th-C, Saffron Public School, Faridabad name mentioned in Aadhar Card and name mentioned in School records Samridhi Verma are same person. I Solicit kindly assign the name Samridhi Verma in School records as mentioned in Aadhar Card for all future purposes.

I, SUVARNA Malikarjun Sheelin W/o Sh. Malikarjun Kalappa Sheelin R/o Rz-F-1105/105-A, Third Floor, Street No.1, Behind Bhagat Chandra Hospital, Mahavir Enclave, Palam, New Delhi-110045, Have Changed son's name from Saadhiya to Saadhiya Malikarjun Sheelin for all future purposes.

I, PARVEEN Kumar, wife Neha R/o Town Hodal, Post Hodal District Palwal (HR) Pin Code 121106 have changed the date of birth of my wife from 21st August 2002 to 31st August 2002 through affidavit no. 56AA039559 dated 09th July 2024. Now her correct date of birth is 31st August 2002.

I, NILAM Agarwal, W/o Sh. Jayant Bansal, R/o 404, Gali No. 78, Mahavir Enclave Part 3, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 have changed my name to Neelam Bansal for all future purposes.

I, ASHISH Sharma S/o Shri Amar Nath R/o House Number 1294 Sector 8 Faridabad Haryana 121006 have changed my name to Kiran Bala Saini.

I, NIKHIL Rana, S/o Shri Ram Kishan Rana, R/o C-042, Enigma Indiabulls, Sector 110, Gurugram, Haryana 122001, declare that in some documents my name is written as Nikhil, Nikhil Rana and Nikhil Rana. All names pertain to the one and same person i.e. Nikhil Rana. My Real name is Nikhil Rana and I should be known as Nikhil Rana for all my future purposes.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, MITHLESH Pandit, S/o Sh. Kedar Pandit, R/o H. No. 706, 2nd Floor, Gali No. 11, Raj Roy Vihar Kapashera Border, New Delhi 110097, have changed my name to Mithlesh Kumar. My real & correct DOB is 09.12.1998.

I, MRS. Roopendra Lekha Mishra spouse of Wg Cdr (Retd) Ashok Kumar Mishra resident of H-35/B, Saket, New Delhi-110017 have changed my name from Roopendra Lekha Mishra to Roop Mishra vide affidavit date 10.07.2024 at New Delhi.

I, ISHANI D/o Sh. Nanda R/o H.No.10, Neharpar New Hari Nagar, Kheri Kalan (113), Faridabad Haryana-121002 have changed my name from Mumti to Ishani for all future purposes. My correct DOB is 05.03.2002.

I AM Mohammad Rohil Hasan, S/O Muzaffar Ali, R/O-VIII-Gokulpur, Datawali Meerut. Has changed his daughter's name from Ayesha to Ayesha Rohil, she will be known as Ayesha Rohil for all future purposes.

I, RAVI Prasad Kanthi No-15710102h, Hav.S/O Apparao R/o Villi-Mahadeva-puram, P.O-Peddabammi, Teh-Kotab-namal, Dist-Srikakulam, 532474, have changed My Son Name From Vadha Rakshit Kanthi to Vedha Rakshit Kanthi for All Future Purposes.

IT IS for general information that I, Bhuvan Pahwa S/o Ved Prakash Pahwa R/o H.No. 595, Upper Ground Floor, Parmanand Colony West, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar West, Near Tagore Park, North West Delhi-110009, declare that my name spelling is wrongly written as Bhuvan Pahwa in my old Driving Licence No. DL08 2010068429. The actual name spelling of mine is Bhuvan Pahwa, respectively which may be amended accordingly.

I, MALKIT Singh S/o Diltag Singh R/o B-713, Sec-5, Rohini, Delhi-85 hereby declare that name of my wife has been wrongly written as Sarajeet Kaur in my Passport. The Actual name of my wife is Sarajeet Kaur.

I, SAURABH Singh S/o Sh. Vishnu Svaroop R/o H.No. 254, Ward No. 19, Near Dauji Mandir, Baldev Ganj Nagar, Palwal have changed my name from Saurabh Singh to Sourabh Singh for all future purposes.

LOST & FOUND

I, BHASKAR Agrawal S/o Mr. Pradeep Agrawal R/o B-208, Sushant lok-2, Sector 57 Gurgaon has lost Original Allotment and Possession letter of office space No. G-2/1015 in BIF Corporate Greens Sec-74 Gurugram (Haryana). Finder please call 9871987144

I, PANKAJ Massey S/o Zakir Massey R/o Plot No. B-160, Flat No. M1A, Shalimar Garden Ext-2, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad U.P.-201005 have lost my Original Registry with my important Documents. If anyone found, please contact at 9818523509

TENDER NOTICE

NOTICE

NOTICE OF INVITING TENDER FOR RESTAURANT CONTRACTOR
From Experienced Canteen/Catering/ Restaurant Contractor for a Budgeted Restaurant Service including Home Delivery/Take Away/ Banquet Hall/Green & Tiled Area at Riverside Sports & Recreation Club, Club Avenue, Mayur Vihar Phase-1 Extension, Delhi -110091.
For more details and informations please contact club office number 8882887530/9625067178. Last date of submission of tender is 27.07.2024.

Monsoon SPECIAL

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Publication Date : 14 July 2024
Booking deadline 12 July 1:00 PM sharp.

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SOUTH DELHI & GURGAON: Abhishek Tiwari: 9899865804
NOIDA & GHAZIABAD: Gaurav: 8630242501 | **Telebooking:** 1800-103-1800

PUBLIC NOTICES	PUBLIC NOTICES	PUBLIC NOTICES
<p>PUBLIC NOTICE No. DUBA/Cons/434/MR/2024-(37) Dated: 05/07/2024. Mr. Keshav Raychaudhuri Resident of J-9, Saket New Delhi, Delhi, Pin-110017, India, Present Address Mazaya 18, Apartment Tower-2, Cluster U, JLT, Dubai, U.A.E. And Miss. Manasi Kamalkant Mankad Daughter of Kamalkant Ratilal Mankad Resident of A/705 Kohinor-1, Near Milat Nagar, New Lohandwala Complex, Andheri W, Mumbai Pin-400053, Maharashtra, India Present Address Mazaya 18, Apartment 304, Liwan, Dubai, U.A.E Above Mentioned Indian Nationals Are Presently Residing in The UAE Have Given Notice Of Intended Marriage Between Them Under The Foreign Marriages Act, 1969. If Anyone Has Any Objection To The Proposed Marriage, He/She Should File The Same With S/O Undersigned According To The Procedure Laid Down Under The Act/rules Within Thirty Days From The Date Of Publication of This Notice on Email: Cons1.dubai@mea.gov.in, Cons3.dubai@mea.gov.in. For (Bijender Singh) Marriage Office Consulate General of India P.O.BOX:737, DUBAI (UAE) Fax No. 0097143970453 Email: Cons1.dubai@mea.gov.in Cons3.dubai@mea.gov.in</p>	<p>PUBLIC NOTICE General public is hereby informed that We, Anand Bakshi and Arun Kumar Bakshi, Co-owners of property no. 115 Block 205-C also known as 42, Tadar Mal Road, Bengali Market, New Delhi 110001, have lost the Original Perpetual Lease Deed pertaining to our property executed on 15th February, 1939 between Shri Kishore Chand son of Rai Sahib L. Dina Nath, caste Arora, and The Secretary of State for India, registered in Delhi as No.1701 in Additional Book No.1, Volume 118 on pages 109 to 112 on 14th day of April, 1939. If anyone finds the said document, please contact us at 42, Tadar Mal Road, Bengali Market, New Delhi 11001, Mobile 9891616533 Anand Bakshi 42, Tadar Mal Road, Bengali Market, New Delhi</p>	<p>Public Notice Notice is hereby Given That The Share Certificate No. 4755 For 5000 ordinary Shares Bearing Distinctive No(s) 7048521-7053520 of Agnis Logistics Limited Standing in The Name of Mukesh Luthra Has Been Reported Lost/Stolen And That an Application For Issue of Duplicate Certificate in Respect Thereof Has Been Made To The Company's 502, 5th Floor Skyline GIDC Char Rasta, VAPI 396195, Valsad Gujarat To Whom Objection, if Any, Against Issuance of Such Duplicate Share Certificate Should be Made within 15 Days From The Date of Publication of This Notice. The Public are Cautioned Against Dealing in Any Manner With These Shares.</p>

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{ PRE-BUDGET DISCUSSIONS }

Modi holds key meet with top economists

Rajeev Jayaswal
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi met economists on Thursday for a discussion that centered around policy measures required to boost inclusive growth with a medium-term road map to make India the third-largest economy in the world, which will in turn pave the way for achieving the aim of Viksit Bharat (developed India) by 2024, three people aware of the development said.

The conversation, ahead of the Union Budget 2024-25, was largely about accelerating efforts to rapidly alleviate poverty by keeping inflation under check, deepening and broadening welfare measures, and creating employment opportunities through investments and skilling, the people said, asking not to be named.

In a social media post on X, the Prime Minister confirmed the development. "Earlier today, interacted with eminent economists and heard their insightful views on issues pertaining to furthering growth," he said.

The meeting, held at Niti Aayog, is crucial as the government is likely to present the Modi government's vision for the next five years in the budget.

The meeting on Thursday was attended by Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman, sectoral experts, economists, and senior officials. Sitharaman is scheduled to present the budget for FY25 in the Parliament on July 23.

Niti Aayog vice chairman Suman Bery was a part of the meeting, as were planning minister Rao Inderjit Singh, chief economic advisor V Anantha Nageswaran, economists Ashok Gulati and Surjit Bhalla, and banker KV Kamath.

"This budget will be the first document providing a road map transform India into a \$30 trillion developed economy by 2047 for projected 165 billion citizens," one of the people aware of the details said. "It will provide a template for a future-ready India." The identified focus areas



PM Modi and finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman at a meeting with economists in New Delhi on Thursday.

are rural development, agricultural growth, investments in infrastructure, health, housing, sanitation, education, skilling, security and trade, he added.

The PM will take inputs of experts and economists for accelerating economic growth and social reforms, a second person said. "The idea is to make lives of citizens easy and prosperous," he added. The suggestions centered around further consolidating the fiscal position, continuing public expenditure to boost growth, giving impetus to ease of living, and focussing on farmers, women, youth, middle-classes, and the vulnerable, he said. Economic development to tackle hunger and poverty eradication was also proposed in the meeting, a third person said.

control price rise. In line with that, the SJM has suggested that the government expenditure in building rural infrastructure like warehouses and cold chain "may be increased substantially".

Pointing out that there is a perception that higher prices given to the farmers causes food inflation, Ashwani Mahajan, the national co-convenor of SJM, said there is evidence to suggest that prices given to the farmers may control inflation by way of curbing profiteering by market players.

"The government needs to find novel ways to ensure remunerative prices to the farmers by using e-markets, modern warehousing facilities with marketable warehousing receipts and modern technology," he said.

To protect the rights of labour, it has mooted the idea of imposing a "robot tax" on use of labour-displacing technologies, which is claims is not to discourage the use of new technology but to cross subsidise those who face losses owing to labour displacing technologies.

"The funds so raised can be used to help displaced to adopt new technologies," the SJM told the government. Production linked incentives schemes (PLI Scheme) should be introduced for import substitution from China including organic chemicals, plastic and EV related equipment has also been put forth.

With inflation having been identified as a major concern, RSS offshoots have been urging the government to take steps to

Help farmers, contain inflation: RSS offshoot

Smriti Kak Ramachandran
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Concerned by inflation, especially in the prices of essentials and food items, the Swadeshi Jagran Manch (SJM), an offshoot of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), has urged the Union finance ministry to offer subsidies for micro irrigation system for small farmers and find ways to ensure remunerative prices to the growers.

It also suggested tax incentives on an employment-output ratio for industries to boost employment growth.

The RSS is the ideological fount of the Bharatiya Janata Party that leads the ruling National Democratic Alliance.

According to people aware of the details, the suggestions were made during a pre-budget meeting with government officials last month. The SJM has also suggested introducing wealth tax on vacant land to discourage "unnecessary land holding on the pretext of future requirements."

This has been done with a view to provide housing for all, said a person aware of the details. "Affordable housing should include hostels for workers and students," the SJM has suggested.

With inflation having been identified as a major concern, RSS offshoots have been urging the government to take steps to

First vessel at Kerala's massive new port



Cargo vessel San Fernando from China arrived at Kerala's newly built Vizhinjam International Sea Port on Thursday, marking the first container ship arrival at India's largest transhipment port, which will hold operations trials from July 12.

SC to hear NEET-UG pleas on July 18 after late-night filing

Utkarsh Anand
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday adjourned the hearing in the NEET-UG 2024 case after noting that some of the parties had not yet received the latest affidavits filed by the Centre and the National Testing Agency (NTA). The case will now be heard on July 18, further delaying a decision on a clutch of petitions demanding the re-conduct of the country's premier medical examination because of alleged paper leaks and other malpractices.

A bench, headed by Chief Justice of India (CJI) Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud, deferred the hearing while putting on record that some of the advocates appearing for the petitioner candidates have complained about not receiving the affidavits filed by the Centre and NTA on Wednesday night. The bench, which also comprised justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, noted that the parties would need to go through the affidavits to apply their mind to the points raised in them before proceeding with the matter.

In its affidavit submitted on Wednesday night, the Centre firmly opposed the demand for a re-test of the NEET-UG 2024, cit-



Union education minister Dharmendra Pradhan with NEET aspirants, in New Delhi on Thursday.

ing a comprehensive report from IIT-Madras that refutes allegations of widespread malpractices or illicit benefits to candidates at select centres.

"The analysis shows that there is neither any indication of mass malpractice nor a localised set of candidates being benefited leading to abnormal scores," the affidavit stated.

The NTA also filed a separate affidavit, stating that so far, only 47 candidates - 17 in Patna and 30 in Godhra - have been suspected of involvement in paper leaks and irregularities relating to OMR sheets.

NTA affirmed it would rely on the findings of the IIT-Madras report during the court proceedings.

'No large-scale conspiracy, says CBI on UGC-NET

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Central Bureau of Investigation has not found any large-scale conspiracy in the UGC-NET paper leak, people aware of the matter said on Thursday, adding a charge sheet is likely to be filed against a youth for circulating a doctored screenshot of the now-cancelled paper.

{ KATHUA ATTACK } TOP SECURITY BRASS REVIEW SITUATION

Over 60 detained, say cops as searches enter Day 4



Senior police and Border Security Force (BSF) officers at the interstate security review meeting in Kathua on Thursday.

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Search operations in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district intensified on Thursday, as the hunt for the terrorists behind the ambush on an army convoy entered its fourth day.

More than 60 people have been detained so far for questioning by security forces, officials close to the development said.

Both police and army per-

sonnel are on the lookout for the terrorists, who shot at an army truck passing through Badnota village on Monday, resulting in the death of five soldiers.

On Thursday, senior officials from Border Security Force (BSF), intelligence agencies, and Punjab and Jammu police, convened at a high-level inter-state security review meeting in Kathua to talk about improving border security following information about the terrorists allegedly infiltrating

into Kathua through the International Border (IB).

Punjab director general of police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav said in a post on X, "Today a highly useful Inter-State Coordination Conference between BSF, J&K Police, Central Agencies and the Punjab Police was held in Kathua, J&K, to focus on enhancing border security and synergy between the two State Police Forces and the Border Guarding Force."

With inputs from PTI

PACE NEWS | Hindustan Times MEDIA MARKETING INITIATIVE

Bal Bhavan International School, Dwarka organizes Waste to Wealth Program

Bal Bhavan International School, Dwarka is an acclaimed futuristic school that is dedicated towards serving the society by providing a learning milieu that fosters holistic development of the child. The quintessence culture of the school resonates with teaching of humanistic values, core life skills and excellence in academics. For the fraternity of the school, i.e., the Director, Kunal Gupta, and the Principal, Jaspreet Kaur, education is experience and the essence of this experience lies in self-realization. At the same time the pedagogy adopted by the school aims at creating global citizens of tomorrow who have the power to drive a sustainable economy. A sustainability accelerator program has been integrated with the curriculum to incorporate sustainability pattern in



the foundational years so as to make it a convention to be followed throughout life. The school endeavors to provide such avenues that teach children about societal and environmental concerns by intertwining SDG's with co-curricular activities. Most recently the school was part of Waste to Wealth Program in association with Blue Planet Environment Solution and they have been bestowed with Guinness World

Record Certificate of Participation for the record event of most waste paper collected in 24 hours. Activities conducted in the school like Design Boot Camp-Sustainable Fashion, Awareness Rallies and Kabaad Se Jugaad proclaim that the school practices what they preach. For Bal Bhavanites "Sustainability is not just about adopting the latest technology, it is about accepting the responsibility to change behavior and mindset".



Aapejay School, Pitampura hosted its Annual Investiture Ceremony



Aapejay School Pitampura, organized Annual Investiture Ceremony to bestow the responsibilities on the newly elected members of its Students' Council for the academic year 2024-25. The ceremony was graced by the presence of Professor Dr Geeta Bhatt, Director, (NCWEB) University of Delhi.

Dedication House presented a cultural fiesta adding colors to the event. The programme included a skit on Life of Dr A.P.J Kalam, speech and inspiring songs and poems. The ceremony took its momentum with an inspiring speech given by the chief guest, motivating and encouraging the newly appointed student leaders, instilling in them a sense of responsibility and purpose. The School Principal, Veena Goel, endowed the fellow parliamentarians with their ties and badges and encouraged them to take up challenges with confidence and determination, marking the beginning of a journey of leadership, transcending barriers and overcoming odds. The elected Student Parliament comprised students from classes IV to XII. Head Girl Manya Tuli and Head Boy-Yuvraj Singla along with their young parliamentarians stepped forward to embrace responsibilities. The ceremony concluded with a solemn oath taken by the newly appointed Prefectorial board.

Scan the code for all the latest updates

Students of St. Mark's Sr. Sec. Public School, Meera Bagh participated in Exchange Program to Germany



A delegation of six students from St. Mark's Sr. Sec. Public School, Meera Bagh, led by the Principal, Ritika Anand, and teacher incharge Rooma, were a part of an enriching exchange program to Germany. The journey began with visits to Vienna and Berlin, before proceeding to Küstengymnasium i.H, Neustadt. During their stay in Neustadt, the delegation also explored the cities of Hamburg and Lübeck. The delegation also got an opportunity to meet the Mayor of Neustadt, Mirko Spieckermann.

Students attended classes, participated in workshops, and engaged in various cultural exchange activities with their German counterparts. The students returned with broadened perspectives and lifelong memories, underscoring the importance of such international exchanges in today's globalized world.

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e-mail: investor.relations@tcs.com website: www.tcs.com CIN: L22210MH1995PLC084781

Extract of the audited consolidated interim financial results for the three months ended June 30, 2024 (₹ crore)			
	Three months ended June 30, 2024	Year ended March 31, 2024	Three months ended June 30, 2023
Revenue from operations	62,613	2,40,893	59,381
Profit before exceptional item and tax	16,231	62,955	14,989
Profit before tax	16,231	61,997	14,989
Profit after tax	12,105	46,099	11,120
Total comprehensive income for the period	11,891	46,336	11,200
Paid up equity share capital (Face value: ₹1 per share)	362	362	366
Total reserves (including non-controlling interests)*	90,957	90,957	90,840
Earnings per equity share:- Basic and diluted (₹)	33.28	125.88	30.26

*Balance for three months ended June 30, 2024 represents balance as per the audited consolidated balance sheet for the year ended March 31, 2024 and balance for three months ended June 30, 2023 represents balance as per the audited consolidated balance sheet for the year ended March 31, 2023 as required by Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015.

Extract of the audited standalone interim financial results for the three months ended June 30, 2024 (₹ crore)			
	Three months ended June 30, 2024	Year ended March 31, 2024	Three months ended June 30, 2023
Revenue from operations	52,844	2,02,359	49,862
Profit before exceptional item and tax	15,878	58,560	13,932
Profit before tax	15,878	57,602	13,932
Profit after tax	12,115	43,559	10,484
Total comprehensive income for the period	12,149	43,724	10,602

Notes:
1. The audited consolidated financial results and audited standalone financial results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting held on July 11, 2024. The statutory auditors have expressed an unmodified audit opinion on these results.
2. The Board of Directors at its meeting held on July 11, 2024, has declared an interim dividend of ₹10.00 per equity share.
3. In April 2019, Computer Sciences Corporation (referred to as CSC) filed a legal claim against the Company in the Court of Northern District of Texas and Dallas Division (trial court) alleging misappropriation of trade secrets and other CSC's confidential information and sought preliminary and permanent injunctive relief, and unspecified monetary damages and disgorgement of profits.
A trial before an advisory jury was held and on November 17, 2023, the jury returned an advisory verdict in favour of CSC, finding that the Company misappropriated CSC's trade secrets and recommended compensation of US \$70 million (equivalent to ₹584 crore) and a further punitive damage of US \$140 million (equivalent to ₹1,168 crore) to be paid by the Company to CSC. Subsequently, the parties filed their respective written submissions in the matter. On June 13, 2024, the trial court passed a judgement as follows:
a) The Court ordered that the Company is liable to CSC for US \$56 million (equivalent to ₹467 crore) in compensatory damages and US \$112 million (equivalent to ₹935 crore) in exemplary damages.
b) The Court also assessed that the Company is liable for US \$25 million (equivalent to ₹209 crore) in prejudgment interest through June 13, 2024.
c) The Court also passed certain injunction and other reliefs against the Company.
The Company, based on external opinion and legal assessment, believes that it has a strong case and would defend its position vigorously and pursue legal remedies to overturn the adverse judgement of the trial court.
4. The above is an extract of the detailed format of financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements Regulations, 2015). The full format for three months ended June 30, 2024, are available on the BSE Limited website (URL: www.bseindia.com), the National Stock Exchange of India Limited website (URL: www.nseindia.com) and on the Company's website (URL: www.tcs.com/investors).

For and on behalf of the Board of Directors
K Krithivasan
CEO and Managing Director
DIN:10106739

Mumbai
July 11, 2024

Have fun with facts on Sundays
Catch the latest column of **TWTW** THE WEEK THAT WAS
A quiz on the week's development.

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA, HOME DEPARTMENT (PORTS & TRANSPORT)
MAHARASHTRA MARITIME BOARD
Indian Mercantile Chambers, 2nd floor, Ramjiwada Kamani Marg, Balaram Estate, Mumbai - 400 001
Tel.: 022-69041777 Fax: 022-69041740 Website: ceommb.maharashtra.gov.in
Email: ceo.mmb@maharashtra.gov.in / ceommb@gmail.com
Second E-Tender Notice - (Year 2024-25)
Main Portal: <https://mahatenders.gov.in>
Digitally signed E-Tender for following work is invited by Chief Executive Officer, Maharashtra Maritime Board, Mumbai, from Registered with Government of Maharashtra in appropriate class and having experience in execution of Marine related civil works, for following works in B1 Tender Form

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Approximately Tender Cost in Rs.	Earnest Money Amount in Rs.	Blank Tender form amount in Rs.	Time limit for Completion of Work
1.	Beautification of existing jetty area and construction of passenger shed and allied facility at Vehlote Tal. Bhivandi Dist. Thane.	1,21,98,475.00	1,22,000/-	1,180/-	12 Months (Including Monsoon)

The details can be viewed online and downloaded directly from the Government of Maharashtra E-Tendering Portal <https://mahatenders.gov.in> from 12.07.2024 at 17:00 hrs. upto 19.07.2024 at 17:00 hrs. (IST).
The right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason is reserved.

Sd/-
(Mr. Ajit Mohite)
Executive Engineer,
Maharashtra Maritime Board, Mumbai.

DGIPR/2024-25/ROC 818

Border stability focus of India's meet with Myanmar, Thailand

Rezaul H Laskar

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The deteriorating security situation in Myanmar figured in two meetings held by external affairs minister S Jaishankar with his counterparts from Myanmar and Thailand on Thursday, with New Delhi focusing on border stability and humanitarian assistance.

Jaishankar held a trilateral meeting with Thai foreign minister Maris Sangiampongsa and Myanmar foreign minister Than Swe on the sidelines of a Bimstec foreign ministers' retreat in New Delhi, and also met separately with his Myanmar counterpart.

The Indian side's concerns about the security situation in Myanmar have grown since resistance forces launched a coordinated offensive against the junta last October, overrunning hundreds of military bases and taking control of trade routes on the borders with India, Bangladesh and China.

In a post on X, Jaishankar said he and his Thai and Myanmar counterparts "exchanged views on border stability and humanitarian assistance". He said countering trans-national crimes, including cyber, narcotics and illegal arms, is a shared priority of the three countries. "We will continue to cooperate



External affairs minister S Jaishankar with other leaders during the 2nd BIMSTEC Foreign Ministers' Retreat, in New Delhi. PTI

in that regard," he said.

Discussions at the trilateral meeting also focused on connectivity projects that are "crucial for the future of Bimstec", Jaishankar said.

At the bilateral meeting with Than Swe, who is also the deputy prime minister of Myanmar, Jaishankar shared India's "concerns regarding border stability and flow of displaced persons". He said in a separate post on X: "India supports the return to democracy in Myanmar and engages all stakeholders in that regard."

Earlier, addressing the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (Bimstec) foreign ministers' retreat, Jaishankar said global and

regional developments made it imperative for the grouping's seven members to "find more solutions amongst ourselves".

Bimstec, he said, represents the intersection of India's "Neighbourhood First" and "Act East" policies, which have a specific focus on the Bay of Bengal, "where collaborative potential has long remained unrealised". The two-day retreat will help prepare strong outcomes for the Bimstec Summit in Thailand later this year.

Jaishankar said on X that discussions at the retreat focussed on strengthening connectivity, institution building, cooperation in trade, collaboration in health and space and digital public infrastructure.

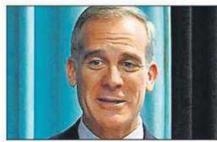
Garcetti: No such thing as strategic autonomy during times of conflict

NEW DELHI: Strategic autonomy cannot apply in times of conflict and India and the US must uphold principles when other countries go against the rules-based order or violate sovereign borders, US Ambassador Eric Garcetti said on Thursday in a swipe against Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Russia.

Garcetti's remarks, made at a conclave focused on the India-US defence partnership, came against the backdrop of the White House and the US state department expressing concern about India's relationship with Russia.

Acknowledging New Delhi's reliance on Moscow for spare parts for legacy Russian military hardware, Garcetti suggested India will have to choose between Russia and the US for meeting long-term military requirements.

"We understand there's legacy equipment, you've got to be battle-ready, you need spare parts for that, but as you look at the future, we know where the best systems, the best weapons are coming from," he said.



Eric Garcetti

Garcetti said several times during his speech that both India and the US shouldn't take their relationship for granted because "while it is wide and it is deeper than it's ever been, it is not yet deep enough". He also sought to compare Russia's invasion of Ukraine to the situation on India's northern border, noting that the world has "witnessed countries who ignore sovereign borders".

He said, "I don't have to remind India how important borders are... That when we stand on those principles and stand together... we can show that principles are the guiding light of peace in our world and together the world's two largest democracies can enhance the... stability of our region." HRC

Top court may get first judge from Manipur

Utkarsh Anand

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NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court collegium on Thursday recommended Justice N Kotiswar Singh, currently chief justice of the Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh high court, and Justice R Mahadevan, acting chief justice of the Madras high court, for elevation to the apex court.

Justice Singh's elevation will mark the appointment of the first judge from Manipur, more than 70 years after the country gained independence.

The collegium, led by Chief Justice of India Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud, considered factors, including seniority, merit and judicial integrity, before selecting the two names. Other members of the collegium are Justices Sanjiv Khanna, Bhushan R Gavai, Surya Kant and Hrishikesh Roy.

The Supreme Court currently has 32 judges, two short of its sanctioned strength of 34, following recent retirements. Justice Hima Kohli is set to retire in September, adding urgency to new appointments.

HT had on July 8 first reported about the collegium's plan to finalise the names of two new judges to fill vacancies in the apex court, and that justices Singh and Mahadevan figured among the shortlisted names.

On Justice Singh, the collegium's resolution stated: "His appointment as a judge of the Supreme Court will provide representation to the North-East, and in particular, he will be the first judge from the state of Manipur to be appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court."

Justice Singh was appointed as the chief justice of the Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh high court in February 2023. He started his judicial career as an additional judge of the Gauhati high court in October 2011.

It added that Justice Singh has "an impeccable record, both in judicial capacity and in terms of the work which has been ren-



Justices N Kotiswar Singh and R Mahadevan

dered by him on the administrative side".

Justice Mahadevan, appointed to the Madras High Court in October 2013, belongs to a backward community from Tamil Nadu. The collegium noted his appointment would bring diversity to the bench.

The resolution explained why Justice Mahadevan was preferred over two senior Madras High Court judges: "The collegium has given precedence to the candidature of Mr Justice R Mahadevan in order to give representation to the backward community."

According to people aware of the matter, the collegium also finalised names of new chief justices for eight high courts, including Delhi, Madras, Himachal Pradesh, J&K and Ladakh, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, Jharkhand and Meghalaya. The resolutions are expected to be officially released on Friday morning, they added.

The Supreme Court collegium, comprising the Chief Justice of India and the four senior-most judges, is responsible for selecting judges. A memorandum of procedure framed in 1999 guides the appointment and transfer of judges in India's Supreme Court and high courts.

Justice PB Varale was the last appointment to the Supreme Court in January 2024, marking the first time the court has had three judges from the Scheduled Caste category. In April 2023, Chief Justice Chandrachud announced the involvement of the Centre of Research and Planning, the court's in-house think tank, in preparing a list of potential future appointments to the top court.

TOP KUKI BODY REJECTS SINGH'S CLAIMS OF TALKS WITH MEITEIS

Thomas Ngangom

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IMPHAL: Kuki Inpi Manipur (KIM), an apex body of the Kuki community in Manipur, on Thursday said it had no "knowledge" of a meeting between Kuki-Zos and Meiteis that chief minister N Biren Singh had spoken about a day earlier.

In a statement, KIM said: "A demand for Union Territory with legislature for the Kuki-Zo people have long been forwarded to the Government of India for constitutional course of action and the Kuki-Zo people is only resolute to commit to the same until fulfilment".

It added: "Any supposed Peace Talk or Political negotiations; without the knowledge of the Kuki Inpi and its constituent organisations, is only illusory. The Kuki Inpi and its constituent organisations, are the only legitimate bodies to manoeuvre a way forward for the Kuki-Zo people."

On Wednesday, Singh told reporters in Imphal that talks between the Kukis and Meiteis, which have been locked in an ethnic standoff since May 3 last year, have already started and peace has begun to return to the state. He, however, did not give details of the talks or its progress.

{ RAHUL GANDHI } CONGRESS MP

Congress, INDIA bloc will... put pressure on Centre to end (Manipur) tragedy



HT

{'MISUSE OF POWER'}

Centre sets up panel to review as trainee IAS lands in trouble

HT Correspondent

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NEW DELHI/PUNE: The Centre on Thursday formed a single-member panel to check the "candidate claims and other details" of controversial probationary IAS officer Puja Khedkar, who allegedly misused the disability and OBC quota to secure a position in the service, even as the 32-year-old took charge as assistant collector at the Washim district collectorate in Maharashtra following her transfer from Pune.

In a statement, the personnel ministry said the panel, chaired by a senior officer of the rank of additional secretary in the department of personnel and training, will inquire and submit a report within two weeks. The development came as Khedkar took charge as an assistant collector at the Washim district collectorate in Vidarbha region, but declined to comment on the flurry of claims that she used illegal means to clear her civil services exam.

"The government rules do not allow me to speak on anything on this matter. I am happy to join duty at the Washim district collectorate and am looking forward to working here," she said. The trainee of the 2023 batch, who had used her private Audi car with a red-blue beacon light and VIP

Allegations against her

FAKE DOCUMENTS

She appeared for UPSC in 2021 using a fake physical disabilities certificate, claimed benefits under 'mental illness' category

INCOME DECLARATION FOR OBC QUOTA

- Her father Dilip declared income of ₹43 lakh/year, wealth of ₹40 crore in his poll affidavit
- OBC quotas have income cap of ₹8 lakh/year

SKIPPED MANDATORY TESTS

She skipped a mandatory medical exam, officials said

ALLEGATIONS OF MISCONDUCT

- Her behaviour was aggressive towards junior staff
- She illegally occupied antechamber of Pune additional collector Ajay More; her father reportedly threatened a senior officer over this
- Her private Audi car had a red beacon, used a 'Maharashtra government' sticker as well as a VIP registration number
- She demanded additional staff

number plate, was transferred from Pune to Washim on Monday following complaints of misuse of power. When police went to Khedkar's bungalow in Pune on Thursday to inspect the car over the violations, they found the bungalow gates locked, PTI reported.

"Probationer Puja Khedkar joined the district collector's office

for training purposes," Washim district collector Buveneswari S said. Meanwhile, fresh allegations surfaced against Khedkar after Navi Mumbai Police, in a report to state chief secretary Sujata Saunik, said she pressured Navi Mumbai DCP Vivek Pansare to release a man arrested in a case of theft in May.

Mumbai hit-and-run accused drank twice before accident: Cops

Vinay Dalvi

vinay.dalvi@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: Mihir Shah, the key accused in the Mumbai hit-and-run case, drank whisky at a bar in Juhu, went home in a Mercedes-Benz, left for Marine Drive minutes later in a BMW, bought beer on the way and drank in the car, investigators said on Thursday, underscoring that the 24-year-old was inebriated during the accident.

"On Saturday night, he first drank liquor along with three friends at Vice-Global Tapas Bar at Juhu Tara Road, where they brought 12 large drinks. Each of them drank around four large drinks. They paid a bill of ₹18,730," said a police officer aware of the investigation, adding that one of the four did not consume liquor. "One of his friends, who was a regular customer at the bar, was 32-years-old and they were served liquor on that basis," said the police officer.

The legal drinking age in Maharashtra is 25.

Around 1am, Mihir dropped his friends and then went home. However, he then dropped off his Mercedes-Benz at home and left for Marine Drive in a BMW, initially being driven by his chauffeur Rajrishi Bidawat. On



Mihir Shah outside court

the way, they stopped at Sai Prasad Bar in Malad and bought four 500ml beer cans, the officer said. "We have recorded the statement of Rajiv Shah, the waiter at the bar who served them the cans," he said.

Mihir drank the beer on the way to Marine Drive, and took over the wheel around 5am. After that, they (Mihir and Bidawat) headed towards Marine Drive, the officer said.

The accident took place at 5.30am, when he rammed into a scooter being driven by Pradeep Nakhawa (50) with his wife Kavari Nakhawa (45) in Worli.

"When confronted with the statements and other technical evidence, Mihir accepted that he was drunk," the officer said.

"On Thursday, we took them to recreate the accident scene and they showed us the point near Girgaon Chowpatty where Mihir started driving," he said.

'Women should be able to exercise their right during family planning'

HT Correspondent

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NEW DELHI: Women should be able to exercise their right to make family planning choices and not be burdened by unwanted pregnancy, Union health and family welfare minister JP Nadda said on Thursday, stressing the need for a collective effort from the Centre and states in this regard.

Nadda was speaking at a virtual meeting with states and Union territories (UTs) on the occasion of World Population Day. The theme of the event was "Healthy timing and spacing of pregnancies for the wellbeing of mother and child".

"The goal of Viksit Bharat



JP Nadda

(developed India) can only be achieved when the health of India's families is well maintained, which can be achieved by smaller families," he said. "The Centre and the states need to collectively work to ensure that women can exercise their right to make family planning choices and are not burdened

by unwanted pregnancy, and to ensure that unmet needs of contraceptives are met especially in the high burden states, districts and blocks." Highlighting that one-fifth of global population is India's, he stressed on the need to celebrate World Population Day as a reaffirmation and commitment to working towards population stabilisation.

On Mission Parivar Vikas, Nadda said it is one of the successful schemes of the National Family Planning Programme, which was initially launched for 14 high priority districts in seven high-focus states and later expanded to cover all districts in those states and six northeastern states.

MADRAS HC ASKS WHY BJP MINISTER LINKED TN WITH B'LURU CAFE BLAST

Divya Chandrababu

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CHENNAI: The Madras high court has questioned Union minister of state (MoS) Shobha Karandlaje over her public claim that bombers involved in Bengaluru's Rameshwaram Cafe blast in March were trained in Tamil Nadu, even before the National Investigation Agency (NIA) conducted searches in Chennai as part of its probe.

Justice G Jayachandran made the remarks on Wednesday while hearing the BJP minister's petition to quash the first information report (FIR) filed against her by Tamil Nadu's Madurai cyber crime police on March 20.

"You (minister) made the statement even before NIA held searches in Chennai," justice Jayachandran was quoted as saying by Bar and Bench.

"It means you are aware of the facts, you know who the trained persons are, who trained them, and what they have done. If you have got some information about the offence, you should have disclosed it to the police. As a responsible citizen, the minister has not done it," the court added.

Read: BJP min booked amid row over remarks on Tamil Nadu

Loss and Damage fund renamed; Philippines to oversee operations

Jayashree Nandi

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NEW DELHI: The Board for Loss and Damage fund unanimously decided to call it the "Fund to respond to Loss and Damage" (FrLD) during its second meeting in Incheon, South Korea, and also decided that Philippines will be the host country for operations of the fund.

Now, observers are demanding that the fund be filled at scale as per the real needs of the most vulnerable people facing climate disasters. How much money the fund is able to mobilise will be key for developing and vulnerable countries, including India.

On Wednesday and Thursday, the board's discussions were focused on the scale of funds that would be available. This especially after a year of several climate extremes and disasters linked to record warming. Currently, some countries, including UAE, Germany, Italy and France, have pledged around \$700 million to the fund. The US, which is historically the highest greenhouse gas polluter, pledged \$17.5m.

The pledges came in during the UN Climate Conference in Dubai last year. According to an assessment in Springer, led by International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, the economic cost of loss and damage is between \$290 and \$580 billion in developing countries alone. By 2050, the economic cost of loss and damage in developing countries is estimated to be between \$1-1.8 trillion.



Activists at COP28 in Dubai in December last year. REUTERS

"Loss and damage" is a term used in UN climate negotiations to refer to the consequences of climate change that go beyond what people can adapt to. It covers both immediate climate disasters and slow onset events, including cyclones, droughts and heatwaves, sea level rise, desertification, glacial retreat, land degradation, ocean acidification and salinisation, according to World Resources Institute.

"Despite making progress in the administrative groundwork through a cooperative approach to operationalise the Loss and Damage Fund, there is a real fear that this will merely become another fund with a few hundred million dollars—woefully inadequate to address the escalating costs of climate damages driven by historical emissions from wealthy nations," said Harjeet Singh, Climate Activist and Global Engagement Director for the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative, who is at the meeting as an observer.

"What we need is a simplified and efficient system that ensures immediate access to funds for governments and communities, with amounts sufficient to truly support their recovery from climate impacts. The current piecemeal approach, without articulating a clear vision for the new fund, risks failing the most vulnerable and perpetuating the cycle of inequity in climate action," he added.

"It's hard to believe that resources are scarce [for the Loss and Damage Fund] when during Covid-19, an astounding \$16 trillion in fiscal stimulus was quickly mobilised to support developed country economies." Nada Elbohi of the Women and Gender Constituency, an observer organisation said, according to Loss and Damage Collaboration which is tracking the meeting.

The board member from Egypt, for example, stressed the need to indicate the scale of the fund will be in the billions.

{ SHEENA BORA CASE }

Bones not relied upon for probe, thus left behind, say CBI officials

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The bones and remains allegedly of Sheena Bora, which were earlier reported to be "untraceable", were found buried deep in the "maalkhana" (evidence room) of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)'s office in Delhi, people aware of the matter said on Friday.

The articles (bones and remains) remained in the "maalkhana" for a long time as they were not among the "relied upon" evidence during the



Sheena Bora

course of the investigation into the 2012 murder, the officials added.

"It doesn't happen often, but the probe team may have submitted the articles (referring to the bones) to the 'maalkhana' and they remained there for a long time as they were not required. Nonetheless, upon proper search, they were traced again, and the CBI court was informed accordingly," an official said, seeking anonymity.

"It doesn't affect the case in any manner," the official added. CBI prosecutor CJ Nandode also informed the same to a trial court on Thursday. Sheena Bora, daughter of former media baron Peter Mukerjee, was allegedly murdered on April 24, 2012 by her mother Indrani Mukherjea, who is currently out on bail.

{ AKAL TAKHT TO DECIDE }

Sikh body may ban shooting of weddings for film

Surjit Singh

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AMRITSAR: Akal Takht, the highest temporal authority of the Sikhs, is likely to issue a formal decree against filming Sikh wedding scenes for movies and television series, people familiar with the matter said on Thursday, adding a decision to this effect may be taken at a meeting of the community's religious leaders on July 15.

"Filmmakers will not be allowed to shoot scenes of Anand Karaj (Sikh wedding ceremony)," Akal Takht Jathedar (or chief) Giani Raghbir Singh said on Thursday.

RECENTLY, A GROUP OF NIHANGS FORCIBLY STOPPED FILMING OF A SIKH WEDDING SCENE FOR A MOVIE NEAR MOHALI

The statement came days after a group of Nihangs forcibly stopped filming of a Sikh wedding scene for a movie at Gharuan, near Mohali, on July 9. The filmmakers had set up a fake gurdwara to shoot the scene. "Filming of such fake weddings

legal action against the filmmakers," the jathedar added.

People familiar with the matter said a meeting of Sikh religious leaders has been called on July 15, when a formal decree seeking a ban on filming Sikh wedding scenes for movies and series is likely to be issued.

The SGPC, on the directions of the Akal Takht jathedar, has already banned photography and videography by actors for the promotion of movies in the Golden Temple complex. The ban came amid a row over a video showing a social media influencer performing yoga at the shrine on June 21.

{ WITHIN 100 DAYS OF NEW NDA GOVT }

2 new features in works for govt e-market

Rajeev Jayaswal
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: State-run Government e-Marketplace (GeM), which is set to cross ₹6 lakh crore sales volume in 2024-25 to become world's top e-commerce portal for public procurement ahead of Korea ON-line E-Procurement System (KONEPS), plans to launch two new features within the first 100-days of the NDA government—an online bidding system for civil works and job opportunities for 5,000 'GeM SAHAYAKS', officials said.

As compared to ₹4 lakh crore gross merchandise value (GMV) in 2023-24, the current GMV has already crossed ₹1.65 lakh crore as on date, GeM chief executive officer Prashant Kumar Singh said. In the first quarter of the current financial year, procurement of goods and services

through the GeM crossed ₹1,24,761 crore, including ₹80,502 crore for services (as compared to ₹18,557 crore in Q1 of 2023-24).

"Driven by services, we expect to close the current financial year at around ₹6 lakh crore. At this pace, we would soon become world's largest online public procurement platform," he added. GeM has already surpassed Singapore's GeBIZ to become the second largest.

GeM is confident of surpassing KONEPS because it plans to launch civil works contracts on its platform soon. While GeM currently offers goods and services on its portal, KONEPS does all three—goods, services and work contracts. The matter will require the cabinet's approval, one government official aware of the development said requesting anonymity.

At this pace, we would soon become the world's largest online public procurement platform

PRASHANT KUMAR SINGH,
GeM chief executive officer

Singh confirmed the development. "We are consulting stakeholders on this. After that we will send the proposal to the government (the commerce ministry) to take it forward," he said.

While both public and private sectors companies, including

micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) can sell their products and services through GeM, the buyers can only be government entities, including gram panchayats and public sector firms.

It is mandatory for government entities to procure goods and services from the portal. GeM has over 150,000 government buyers and over 6.2 million sellers offering a wide range of goods and services, including automobiles, computers, office furniture, logistics services, waste management, and IT services.

"The addition of civil works in GeM would expand its scope, enhance transparency in the award of public civil contracts, eliminate possibilities of corruption and fix responsibilities for delays in completion of public projects," the official mentioned

above said.

A start will be made with, small civil works such as construction of government buildings, pavements, drainage system, and other public utilities and the same would be optional, he said. Globally, 90% of total public procurement includes work contracts, he added.

Singh said the portal is launching an initiative to train and certify 'GeM Sahayaks' to provide expertise to buyers and sellers. "GeM Sahayaks will offer their services to potential and existing users in navigating processes in the portal and help them in proper cataloguing to enhance the value proposition for them."

"Initially, we may train 5,000 people who would be stationed at key pin codes of the country. Later their numbers could be doubled," Singh said.

{ FROM PAGE 1 }

LIONEL TO LAMINE
Cup—and went from being vilified to venerated like Diego Maradona always will be in Argentina—meaning in two years he had won more than in 15 years of international football before that. Can you blame him for not wanting to stop even at 37?

"As I have said before, I intend to continue," Messi said after Argentina beat Canada 2-0 to make the final, where they will meet Colombia. He said he would leave the decision about his ending to God.

That he had scored against Canada, his 109th goal for Argentina was also his first in this Copa, could have been one reason for his mood. That the final is at Hard Rock Stadium, a short drive from his club Inter Miami, could be another. That USA is co-hosting the 2026 World Cup with Mexico and Canada, and Messi, by all accounts, is happy in Miami—his arrival being quite the event with A-listers like LeBron James, Serena Williams and Kim Kardashian coming to his early matches—could be a third.

lanthen of Switzerland who was 18 years and 141 days when he scored against France in Euro 2004.

By the time the final kicks off in Berlin, Yamal will be 17. Still not old enough to drink or drive.

Even Pele was older when he played his first World Cup final in 1958. Pele was 17 years and 239 days old when he scored his first World Cup goal, against Wales in the quarter-final.

Before the semi-final, France's Adrien Rabiot had said if Yamal is to play the final, he would have to do more than what he had done so far. Yamal's retort on Instagram was a subtle, "Move in silence, speak only when it is time." His goal, leaving Rabiot swaying helplessly, was a more emphatic statement of intent. England, who play Spain in the final in Berlin, will want to watch their words.

"Fundamentally I celebrate that he's on our team...and we hope we can enjoy him for years to come," said De la Fuente, his words echoing what everyone said about Messi not long after his Spanish league debut as a long-haired substitute on October 16, 2004.

down.

If Messi made his first team debut in a friendly against Porto in November 2003 and broke through only in 2005-06, it was also because Barcelona had Samuel Eto'o, Deco, Andres Iniesta, among others to choose from.

The details of Messi reaching Barcelona from Argentina as a 13-year-old, the initial agreement on a napkin (so famous that it sold for \$969,000 last May), the club funding his growth hormone deficiency treatment, training at the famous La Masia academy, is well known. Messi stayed for 18 years, scoring a record 672 goals. Loosely termed tiki-taka, and much hated by then manager Pep Guardiola, the Barcelona style of possession football fetched trophies—Messi alone won over 30—and wowed the world. He left only because of the club's severe financial problems.

At his farewell press conference in 2021, Messi wept. And he wasn't the only one in the room.

With Yamal, the story goes that when he was young—okay, younger—he was told that one day Barcelona would come calling. They did, and signed him after one look. He was seven. Barcelona haven't looked back and neither has this prodigy whose father is originally from Morocco and mother from Equatorial Guinea.

Reports describe him as a boy who even after signing a three-year contract with Barcelona in 2023 hasn't forgotten his friends and is shy and humble (unless needed by Rabiot).

Proof of that also came in what Yamal had to say about Messi recently. Messi, he said, is the best footballer ever. No one is going to be Messi, he said with a warning that such comparisons can break a player. If he has half the career of Messi, he would be happy, Yamal said. Exactly the kind of "humility" and "maturity" De La Fuente said he hoped Yamal would continue to show.

A 40-minute drive from Barcelona, Rocafonda is where Yamal still calls home. Rosario is a lot farther from where Messi stays now. But on Sunday, they will be linked by FC Barcelona's, and perhaps football's, past and present.

{ MUSLIM WOMEN ENTITLED TO ALIMONY }

AIMPLB may challenge apex court's judgment

Anupam Srivastava and S Raju
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LUCKNOW/MEERUT: The All India Muslim Personal Law Board (AIMPLB) is likely to challenge the Supreme Court's ruling that said a divorced Muslim woman is entitled to seek maintenance from her husband under Section 125 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC).

THE TOP COURT ON WEDNESDAY SAID THAT DIVORCED MUSLIM WOMEN ARE ENTITLED TO SEEK ALIMONY UNDER SECTION 125 OF THE CRPC

AIMPLB member Maulana Khalid Rashid Farangi Mahali said, "According to the Constitution, every citizen has the right to live according to the customs of their religion. For communities with personal laws, like Muslims, these laws guide their daily lives, including matters of marriage and divorce."

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

lar law.

He said there was "no rationale behind extending maintenance obligations beyond the 'Iddat' period. 'When there is no relationship, why should maintenance be paid? In what capacity should a man be responsible for someone with whom he no longer shares a marital bond?'"

AIMPLB spokesperson Syed Qasim Rasool Ilyas said the order violated Shariat law and the constitutional protections afforded by the Shariat Application Act and Article 25, which guaranteed the freedom to practice religion. "We are exploring all legal and constitutional remedies," Ilyas stated.

SPICEJET CREW MEMBER HELD FOR SLAPPING CISF OFFICER

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

JAIPUR: A SpiceJet crew staff on Thursday was arrested for allegedly slapping a Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) officer at the Jaipur airport, said officials familiar with the matter.

"The incident took place early in the morning when the woman was getting delayed for her flight and she slapped the officer during a heated argument when the officer asked her to follow the mandatory security check," said Aditya Poonia, the deputy superintendent of police, Malviya Nagar.

Meanwhile, the SpiceJet authority has levelled a "sexual harassment" allegation against the CISF officer, saying that the security personnel used "inappropriate and unacceptable language" with the SpiceJet crew staff member.

"SpiceJet is taking immediate legal action in this serious case of sexual harassment against its female employee and has approached the local police," the airline said in a statement.

Activist Gaurav Bakshi arrested over parking row with Goa min's car

Gerard de Souza
gerarddesouza@htlive.com

PANAJI: The Goa Police have arrested actor and activist Gaurav Bakshi a day after an alleged confrontation with the chauffeur of Goa fisheries minister Nilkanth Halarnkar over parking in a narrow lane in north Goa.

The row broke out after Bakshi, around 4pm on Wednesday, allegedly "wrongfully restrained the minister by parking his vehicle in front of the government vehicle"

"Despite repeated requests, he refused to move his vehicle, thereby restraining the complainant and minister's movement and deterred the complainant from performing his lawful duties," said North Goa superintendent of Police Akshat Kausal.

Rahul Parab, the minister's personal security officer, filed a police complaint on Wednesday evening.

The incident took place at Revora in North Goa, within the boundaries of the Tivim constitu-



Gaurav Bakshi

ency, which Halarnkar represents, outside the Panchayat office that the minister was visiting for work.

Halarnkar, who spoke to the media, said he wasn't involved in the confrontation. "My PSO told him to move his vehicle, but he refused and instead started arguing with him, he started filming the incident," Halarnkar said.

However, according to Bakshi's telling of the event, he had arrived at the panchayat office to submit an application for a construction licence but saw a vehicle parked right on the narrow road outside the panchayat and asked the driver to move, which he refused, leading to the altercation.

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WILL THE IMPERSONATORS FACE THE MUSIC?

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Department of Food & Public Distribution
Government of India
Kalyanpur, Kanpur
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(Yogesh Chandra Srivastava)
Administrative cum Purchase & Sales Officer

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ADDENDUM/PUBLIC NOTICE
EXTENSION OF LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS THROUGH PROPER CHANNEL FOR THE POST OF EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (CIVIL) IN DELHI POLICE HOUSING CORPORATION LIMITED ON DEPUTATION BASIS.

With reference to the advertisement DP/8991/DPHCL dated 11.06.2024 for the appointment of Executive Engineer (Civil) in Delhi Police Housing Corporation Limited on deputation basis, initially for a period of three years and extendable upto five years maximum to be filled up by Engineering Officers working in various Ministries/Department of Central Government and State Governments i.e. CPWD, MCD, PWD, DDA, DSIDC, NDMC, DMRC, Delhi Jal Board, CAPFs/Govt. PSUs etc., the last date for submission of applications for the said post through proper channel is **EXTENDED UPTO 10.08.2024.**

However, the eligibility criteria, age limit, qualification, application form, experience for applying for the post shall remain unchanged as per the detailed advertisement published in daily newspaper i.e. Nav Bharat Times (Hindi), Dainik Jagran (Hindi) and Hindustan Time (Hindi), The Times of India (English) on 11.06.2024 as well as in Employment News (Hindi & English) on 22-28.06.2024. The detailed advertisement is also available at Delhi Police/DPHCL website i.e. www.dphcl.com/delhipolice.gov.in.

(AALAP PATEL)
DY. COMMISSIONER OF POLICE
GENERAL MANAGER (Ops.)
DELHI POLICE HOUSING CORPORATION LIMITED
DP/8991/DPHCL/2024

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON
See Section 82 CrPC

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **HARENDER, Aastha Enterprises (CR)**, R/o: B-50, Sector-65, Noida (U.P.) has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **CC No. 13231/18, U/s 138 NI Act, P.S. Sadar Bazar, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **HARENDER, Aastha Enterprises (CR)**, cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **HARENDER, Aastha Enterprises (CR)**, has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant);

Proclamation is hereby made that **HARENDER, Aastha Enterprises (CR)**, the said accused of **CC No. 13231/18, U/s 138 NI Act, P.S. Sadar Bazar, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **13.09.2024.**

By Order
Ms. Divya Gupta
Metropolitan Magistrate, NI Act (05),
Central, Room No. 02, Annexe Building-1,
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

DP/8803/N/2024
(Court Matter)

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

Whereas a complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Asgar Ali S/o Badlu Hasan R/o H No.308, Rajput Mohalla Ghonda, Delhi** have committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence under **FIR No. 679/2022 U/s 379/411 IPC**, has been registered at **P.S. Jafrabad, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said, **Asgar Ali** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said, **Asgar Ali** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Asgar Ali** of **FIR No. 679/2022 U/s 379/411 IPC**, registered at **P.S. Jafrabad, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **16.08.2024.**

By Order
Ms. Aayushi Saxena, Ld. MM,
Room No.07, Karkardooma Court, Delhi

DP/8614/NE/2024

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

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Manish Anand, s/o Unknown R/o, B 18/82, Sector 18, Rohini, Delhi** has committed (or are suspected to have committed) the offence in case **CC No. 3865/2017 U/s 138 NI Act P.S. Sahabad Dairy** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused **Manish Anand** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Manish Anand** has absconded (or are concealing herself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Manish Anand** of **CC No. 3865/2017 U/s 138 NI Act P.S. Sahabad Dairy** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **14.08.2024.**

By Order
Mrs Sarthak Panwar
Metropolitan Magistrate - 05
Room No. 114
Rohini Courts, Delhi.,

DP/8943/ON/2024

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OPINION

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OUR TAKE

Raising bar on gender parity

SC order on alimony flags the case for equality in rights, financial empowerment of women

The Supreme Court (SC) has done well to rule that a divorced Muslim woman is entitled to seek maintenance from her former husband under Section 125 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

The ruling is very much in line with the apex court's progressive jurisprudence that seeks to remove barriers that stand in the way of women from enforcing constitutional rights. The two-judge bench, upholding a Telangana high court directive that directed ₹10,000 as interim alimony to a divorced woman, emphatically rejected arguments that sought to privilege personal law over the country's secular law.

The spirit of the separate but concurring judgments by the two judges is best summed up in Justice BV Nagarathna's order, where she wrote: "Maintenance is a facet of gender parity, not charity". Justice Nagarathna's observation that married Indian men need to become conscious about financially empowering and providing for their wives, who do not have an independent source of income, also reflects upon the secular principle underlying the judgment — the financial precarity of many married Indian women and the need for their financial empowerment.

In the broader context of the personal law debate in India, the Supreme Court has taken forward the philosophy implicit in its *Shah Bano* judgment (1985), which upheld the right of a divorced Muslim woman to alimony under secular law. The then Union government enacted the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act in 1986 under pressure from conservative clerics, politicians and civic leaders to override the judgment. However, the SC's interpretation of the Act in *Daniya Latifi* (2001) ensured that its progressive, egalitarian intent in *Shah Bano* prevailed — the right of the divorced woman to receive fair and reasonable alimony from her former husband. It is the same spirit that drove the Court to deliver the triple *talaq* judgment (2017), where it ruled against the divorce provision, invoked under the personal law, on grounds that it violated gender equality.

Rather than read the judgment as against Muslim personal law, it would be fair to conclude that the apex court has expanded the legal avenues available to divorced women seeking redress on alimony. In a complex country like India, personal laws will continue to hold sway, subject to reforms as and when needed, but no citizen, irrespective of her faith, should be denied recourse to the secular law and its protection of constitutional rights. Simply put, personal laws cannot be invoked as a ground to protect patriarchal privileges underwritten by religious morals.

Beijing's chequebook diplomacy in Dhaka

Bangladesh and China elevated their relationship to a comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership during Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's recent visit to Beijing. It signals China's persistent attempts to expand its reach and influence in the security and economic landscape of South Asia. Ever since the start of the military standoff between India and China on the Line of Actual Control in 2020, Beijing appears to have doubled down on efforts to forge stronger economic and political ties with all of India's neighbours as part of an effort to project its dominance in the region. Much of China's focus has been on massive infrastructure projects that allow it to make inroads into regional economies. However, it must be noted that the Bangladeshi side acknowledged India's regional importance as Hasina visited New Delhi before travelling to Beijing.

Comparisons between Indian and Chinese investments and loans in Bangladesh are perhaps inevitable, but New Delhi need not fret even if it cannot match Beijing's perennially open chequebook. The truth is, India's initiatives for physical, trade and energy connectivity with Bangladesh have acquired a momentum of their own, and there is greater integration of Bangladesh's economy with that of India. Many of these initiatives have been particularly beneficial for India's landlocked northeastern states and have driven cooperation in diverse areas, such as making Bangladesh one of the top two source countries for foreign tourists. While keeping track of the Dragon's footprint in Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Myanmar, or the Maldives, India must remember they will want to be seen as exercising their strategic autonomy while inviting investments to upgrade infrastructure in crucial sectors such as transport and communications.

INCIDENTALLY

Gopalkrishna Gandhi



Two young girls, from Gurugram & Hathras

Their deaths call for more than just conviction and sentencing: Closure will be achieved only by seeking preventive and corrective action

She was nine. Her mother had gone out, leaving her alone in their Gurugram home. A 16-year-old boy, known to the family as a tuition provider, had access to the house. Sequences pieced together by police and reported in media say that seeing him rifling through her mother's little trove of valuables, the girl raised an alarm. But, before anyone else could hear her shouts, the boy strangled her to death.

This column is not about going into the crime, so I will not go into the details of the unspeakably macabre acts that followed. Besides, the matter now being within the purview of the juvenile justice system, it would not be right to attempt that. Except to note three things:

One, the boy has said he watched crime movies and that this is where he got his ideas and motivation. Also, he was into betting and stole and borrowed money frequently for that addiction. Two, what the victim's mother must be going through defies contemplation. Three, the murderer's father

said that he does not want to see his son, now in police custody. And will not hire a lawyer to defend him. In other words, the father, disgusted by his son's action, has left it to the law to deal with his son in the manner that it should.

The gruesome act being what it was, and while justice's wheels turn as they will, we from the civil society need to reflect on the following. One hopes the boy, if and as and when his guilt is established, gets the maximum penalty that exists for such a crime committed by one of his age. But there is something else that is vital. He should be examined very intensively by psychiatric experts not just for a better understanding of the case but for society's benefit. Simultaneously, customised counselling has to reach the victim's mother and other members of the traumatised family. They cannot be left to "the healing action of time". The girl's mother, in particular, needs to be helped by experts in the field to come to terms — if that is at all possible — with her shattering experience.

Beyond that, this tragedy must not end just with a conviction and sentencing. It must lead to defining preventive and corrective action. The victim saw a theft being attempted and called out, in a sense, to the laws, to law enforcers, to crime prevention, when she was smothered. She was a victim and a whistleblower. She must be heard in her death. She is telling us that if exposure to crime stories through the cinema or any other medium, and to betting, can lead to so appalling, so outrageous, and so altogether hideous a crime, steps need to be taken to put curbs on such exposure.

Schools, educators and families must know that what is at stake is the future of innocence.

Not two days had passed since the Gurugram horror that the Hathras tragedy happened. All of us know what Hathras now stands for — a killer stampede. Again, I will not say anything about the crime behind the stampede for the law is seized of it. But I cannot put away from my mind the fate of another girl. She was 10, one among the over a hundred victims. At her obsequies, her father's words were no different from King Lear's at the death of Cordelia in Shakespeare's great play — "Why should a dog, a horse, a rat have life and thou no breath at all...?" The Hathras father howled, re-living in his mind the agonies suffered by his daughter as the weight of hundreds fell on her delicate frame.

Those guilty of negligence and worse will without doubt be found and prosecuted. But here too there is a larger question behind the quotidian one of fixing blame for the stampede: How and why, in heaven's name, should cults around so-called godmen be allowed to enjoy autonomy, immunity and even anarchic sovereignty? Can such so-called religious centres and their programmes be considered exempt from the laws of public accountability? *Satsangs* are meant to provide spiritual succour. They cannot be allowed to become theatres of death.

A major review of such religious or semi-religious institutions nationally and across all religious divides is called for. Public order is a state subject under the Constitution, as is the subject under



Hathras could turn the stampede tragedy into a redemptive self-cleansing of India's great faith traditions

the State List's entry 28, "Markets and Fairs", which (in the "Fairs" part) comes closest to congregations of the kind that has scarred Hathras. So, the government of Uttar Pradesh is the appropriate agency for the reparation for the stampede. But, what is needed is nationwide scanning of such organisations. Here, the entry coincidentally bearing the same number, 28, in the Concurrent List — "Charities and charitable institutions, charitable and religious endowments and religious institutions" — becomes relevant. It must be invoked now by the Centre in coordination with the states, to initiate a check of so-called *ashrams* and their counterparts in religions other than Hinduism, so as to bring them under a measure of supervision, accountability and compliance with the norms of public order and safety.

Article 19 (1) (b) of the Constitution confers on all citizens of India the right to assemble peacefully and without arms. But it stipulates the placing of reasonable restrictions on that right "in the interest of the sovereignty and integrity of India and public order". Congregations of the devout have been part of India's ethos and culture through the ages. The institutions inspired by Swami Vivekananda, Sri Ramana Maharshi, Swami Sivananda, Sri Aurobindo, Ma

Anandamayi, and Swami Chinmayananda to name a few, are highly respected bodies. But now, the surface density of the fraudulent and the dangerously exploitative kind, aided by the tools of technology to magnify and intensify their impact, has spiralled. They are now far too big in volume to be allowed the "right to assemble" without check.

Interestingly, in his very first edict — Edict I, where he places restrictions on the killing of animals in the name of religion (sacrifices) — Emperor Asoka says, "...nor shall *samaja* (festive gatherings) be held because King Devanampriya Priyadarsi sees many evils in such gatherings". *Bahuka hi dosa samajasa* is the original expression in Magadhi Prakrit. This edict may not have been enforced well in the great Maurya's realm, but it is there, spelt out as a clear intention, for us to see and derive some instruction from.

Hathras could turn the stampede tragedy into a redemptive self-cleansing of India's great faith traditions if such a national survey is undertaken, with steps to regulate and reform placed on track.

Gopalkrishna Gandhi, a former administrator, is a student of modern Indian history. The views expressed are personal

A relationship invested in a multipolar global order

Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi met President Vladimir Putin of Russia at the same time as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) celebrated its 75th anniversary, giving a clear signal that India will continue its path of strategic autonomy and choose its friends in accordance with its national interests. Putin showed that Russia is not isolated from the global majority. The significance of Indo-Russian ties increases as the international system is in transition from a unipolar one with the dominance of one superpower to a multipolar one where many countries of differing capacity and status have a say and a way in international politics. Both India and Russia are invested in the multipolar system. India is a beneficiary of this current conjuncture with strategic relations with Russia on one side and the Western countries on other, that it can leverage with both sides and play a facilitator to peace in these combative times.

Given the context of the Russia-Ukraine war, PM Modi's famous 2022 line "this is not an era for war" resonates further when he mentioned "the Global South's expectation for peace and stability" to Putin. This is echoed in the joint statement on the imperative for peace and solution through negotiations based on international law and the United Nations (UN) Charter and the joint condemnation of terrorism suffered by both sides. The Indo-Russian engagement is demonstrated in multilateral institutions like the UN, the BRICS and Shanghai Cooperation Organisation.

This bilateral engaged with trade and connectivity issues and had more on the plate than the traditional defence agenda. The Russia-Ukraine war put pressure on global food, fuel, and fertiliser prices that spiralled up. India has been able to circumvent this crisis because of its special relationship with Russia, a fact pointed out by PM Modi: India's imports from Russia in 2023-24 were about \$66 billion and increased by another \$20 billion in the first quarter of 2024, primarily because of oil and gas imports. This is because of the concessional rates India negotiated on account of western sanctions, which analysts have shown, saved Indian refiners at least \$10.5 billion in foreign exchange between April 2022 and May 2024.

Indian exports to Russia stand below par at about \$4 billion, which means a significant trade imbalance that concerns both sides who are looking for correction. So, PM Modi has called for a broadening of the basket of Indian exports to every sector including agriculture, pharmaceuticals, manufacturing and services. Trade targets have been set at \$100 billion by 2030, which seals the vision for economic cooperation. Importantly, as Interfax has shown, 70% of Russian-Indian trade is carried out in their national currencies.

The Reserve Bank of India's system of Vostro accounts that countries can operate in India facilitates the development of a bilateral settlement system using national currencies like the rupee and rouble, saving

foreign exchange. It is in this context that the two leaders agreed to move ahead on an India-Eurasia Economic Union Trade and Goods Agreement and processes are being put in place to facilitate Russian investment in India.

Given the focus on connectivity, this visit also stepped up the process of vitalising various transport links like the International North-South Trade and Transport Corridor that links Russian cities from St Petersburg to Mumbai via ports in Iran. This route, now operational, cuts down transport costs and time significantly. The Chennai-Vladivostok maritime route, the North Sea route were also discussed at this highest level opening up Russia-India maritime links.

Defence cooperation between the two countries involves Indian imports of Russian defence systems, platforms and equipment, transfer of technologies, joint production and export to third countries. India has been diversifying its defence imports and also seeking indigenous defence manufacturing. Defence imports from Russia have declined over the last decade from 62% to about 45% currently.

Russia's cooperation with India on nuclear power is set to increase as two new nuclear plants will be added to the existing four. Space cooperation will continue as before as bulk is added to scientific and technical cooperation between the two. Several memorandums of understanding in areas like new joint projects in the Russian Far East where India has already invested in an oilfield earlier; work on elimination of non-tariff barriers; ironing out customs procedures; furthering infrastructure development and investment promotion only deepen economic cooperation and show the diversification and institutionalisation of a long and historic relationship between the two.

The argument that Russia's ties with China come in the way of India-Russia relations is largely untrue as both are mature and seasoned international players who know how to balance their relations without harming any third party — just as India's strategic partnerships with the West do not stand in the way of Russia-India relations. Similarly, the US expressing "concerns" on Russia-India cooperation is an unwarranted warning.

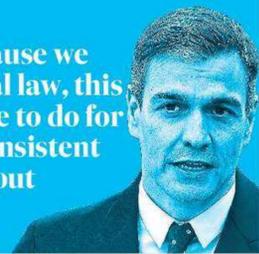
The July 8-9 Moscow bilateral showed the camaraderie between the two countries at different levels as PM Modi was honoured with Russia's highest award, the Order of St. Andrew. Gestures like President Putin's commitment to send back some Indian nationals who had mistakenly joined the Russian war are signs of the interpersonal level of relationship that Indian and Russian leaders enjoy. The words of the two leaders for this cooperation as "special and privileged strategic partnership" and PM Modi saying Russia is India's "all-weather friend" have deep meaning.

Anuradha Chenoy is adjunct professor, Jindal Global University, and former professor and dean, School of International Studies, JNU. The views expressed are personal

PEDRO SANCHEZ } SPANISH PRIME MINISTER



If we support Ukraine because we are defending international law, this is the same as what we have to do for Gaza. There should be a consistent political position without double standards



Railways' role as a job creator is underplayed

As the lifeline of India, the Indian Railways (IR) connects far-flung corners of the country, enabling millions to travel for work, education, trade and leisure. Spanning a vast network of over 68,000 kilometres across plains, hills, valleys and ghats, IR is an enduring symbol of national integration and progress.

The sheer scale of its operations is staggering. It transports over 23 million passengers daily — close to the entire population of Australia. Managing this mammoth feat are more than 1.2 million dedicated employees, working across 17 zones and around 68 divisions, across the length and breadth of our nation. From loco pilots and engineers to paramedics and the railway protection force, IR is among India's largest employers, offering highly sought-after careers, spending huge sums of money in salaries and other benefits for its workforce. This outgo increases by a substantial factor after each successive pay commission.

The last decade has witnessed an unprecedented transformation of IR. Record levels of electrification, introduction of modern trains, expansion of rail lines, enhanced safety measures, adoption of new technologies and automation to re-imagine train journeys have redefined rail travel. Remarkably, even amid the disruption of the Covid-19 pandemic, when many private enterprises resorted to layoffs and pay cuts, IR continued to offer full employee salaries, benefits and perks, ranging from subsidised housing, free medical assistance, travel and leisure, bonuses and much more. The compassionate appointment of wards of railway servants who meet with untimely death, incapacitation or go missing further highlights its sensitivity and compassion towards employees' families and its overall employee-centric ethos.

At the heart of the success of IR lies its most valuable asset — its human resources. With a workforce spanning hundreds of diverse technical and non-technical roles, the Railways relies on the expertise, dedication, and synergy of its employees to keep the wheels of the nation moving. Recruiting the right talent to power this behemoth is no mean feat. Twenty-one Railway Recruitment Boards, spread across India, conduct some of the world's largest competitive exams, with consistent efforts on making railway recruitments more and more inclusive by reaching out to far flung areas of the country and con-

ducting exams in 15 Indian languages. Even during the pandemic, IR has been providing commendable, consistent levels of employment. A recent recruitment drive attracted over 2.37 crore candidates vying for 1.39 lakh positions. Conducting these exams in hundreds of cities (726 examination centres in 211 cities in a recent test), in multiple languages, while upholding the highest standards of transparency, is a logistical triumph. The overarching theme of the IR's rapid transformation is duly reflected in its remarkable adoption of technology in large-scale public sector recruitments. The switch to computer-based tests has minimised the scope for fraud and hastened the recruitment process.

IR has been increasing vacancies and opportunities to recruit more staff as its network continues to expand. Over the last decade (2014-15 to 2023-24), IR has employed over 5.02 lakh candidates in various Group C posts, significantly outpacing the number of 4.11 lakh candidates recruited in the preceding ten years. IR has empanelled 34,370 assistant loco pilots (ALPs) between 2019-2024. In the current recruitment of ALPs, the vacancies have increased from 5,696 to 18,799, vide the notification released on June 18.

As IR continues its transformative journey, modernising infrastructure and expanding reach, they are expected to generate more employment opportunities. It is learnt that over 15,000 additional posts have been generated to ensure employment. Employment notification for filling up 19,500 vacancies has already been issued so far. More vacancies are expected to be notified during the year. The welcome measure of creating an annual recruitment calendar for various critical roles will further impart greater predictability and regularity to the employment process.

Unparalleled statistics of recent recruitments and consistent improvement measures underline IR's status as India's vital job creator. By continually refining its recruitment strategies and leveraging technology, the organisation is not only meeting its human resource needs but also setting benchmarks for large-scale talent acquisition in the country. IR's regular induction and harnessing of the power of its human capital may script new chapters of inclusive growth and shared prosperity for the nation.

Amitabha Khare is an officer with the Indian Railways. The views expressed are personal

Nato slams China over Russia support

During its 75th anniversary summit in Washington, Nato on Wednesday called China the "decisive enabler" of Russia's war against Ukraine

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WASHINGTON: In its most explicit and elaborate reference to China ever, the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (Nato) has called Beijing the "decisive enabler" of Russia's war against Ukraine and warned China that unless it "ceases all political and material support" to Russia's war effort, there will be a "negative impact" on Beijing's interests and reputation.

The Washington Summit Declaration, issued at Nato's milestone 75th anniversary meeting in the US capital on Wednesday, strongly reiterated the importance of the Trans-Atlantic military alliance in the backdrop of internal political challenges and external strategic challenges. It also rolled out a set of new announcements to support Ukraine, and slammed Moscow for its continued aggression.

But the declaration stood out for its emphasis on China, yet another sign that the Moscow-Beijing alliance has, in the West's perspective, led to an increasing fusion of the European and Indo-Pacific theatres. The closer China-Russia partnership is also a matter of keen interest to India, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent Moscow visit was seen, among other factors, as driven by the need to engage with Russia to ensure that its new partnership doesn't erode its older partnership in the context of India-China tensions.

At the outset of the declaration, Nato countries categorically stated, "The People's Republic of China's (PRC) stated ambitions and coercive policies continue to challenge our interests, security and values. The deepening strategic partnership between Russia and the PRC and their mutually reinforcing attempts to undercut and reshape the rules-based interna-



US President Joe Biden and Nato secretary-general Jens Stoltenberg attend a meeting of the North Atlantic Council at the level of Heads of State and Government, Indo-Pacific and European Union during Nato's 75th anniversary summit in Washington, US, on Thursday.

REUTERS

tional order, are a cause for profound concern."

Later in the text, while holding Russia "solely responsible" for the war in Ukraine, the Washington declaration says, "The PRC has become a decisive enabler of Russia's war against Ukraine through its so-called 'no limits' partnership and its large-scale support for Russia's defence industrial base. This increases the threat Russia poses to its neighbours and to Euro-Atlantic security."

Calling on China as a responsible member of the UN Security Council to cease all support to Russia, the declaration specifically says, "This includes the transfer of dual-use materials, such as weapons components, equipment, and raw materials that serve as inputs for Russia's defence sector. The PRC cannot enable the largest war in Europe in recent history without this

Nato hyping up China's responsibility on the Ukraine issue is unreasonable and has sinister motives.

LIN JIAN, Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson

negatively impacting its interests and reputation."

Over the past six months, top US officials — including Secretary of State Antony J Blinken and the head of the American intelligence apparatus Avril Haines — have said that China's support played a key role in changing battleground dynam-

ics in Ukraine and gave Moscow a fillip. The US has also sanctioned Chinese entities exporting dual use material to Russia.

In a sign of the evolution of the US-led Nato alliance, a grouping of 32 members founded in 1949 to counter the Soviet Union, and the blurring of traditional geopolitical boundaries, the declaration says that China poses "systemic challenges to Euro-Atlantic security" and then outlines the specific ways in which China's behaviour is disruptive.

"We have seen sustained malicious cyber and hybrid activities, including disinformation, stemming from the PRC... We are concerned by developments in the PRC's space capabilities and activities... The PRC continues to rapidly expand and diversify its nuclear arsenal with more warheads and a larger number of

sophisticated delivery systems...", the declaration states. Against this backdrop, Nato has asked China to uphold its commitment to act responsibly in cyberspace, to promote responsible space behaviour, and to engage in strategic risk reduction talks.

While saying that the alliance remains open to constructive engagement with China, the declaration warns, "We are boosting our shared awareness, enhancing our resilience and preparedness, and protecting against the PRC's coercive tactics and efforts to divide the Alliance."

The declaration also recognised the presence of leaders of Australia, New Zealand, Japan and South Korea at the summit; this is the third year in a row that America's treaty allies in the Indo-Pacific have attended a Nato summit, an outcome that

is seen as directly linked to the China-Russia no limits partnership announced in February 2022. Japan's PM Fumio Kishida, in an address to the US Congress earlier this year, warned that China was closely watching the war in Ukraine and what was happening in Europe today could happen in Asia tomorrow.

"The Indo-Pacific is important for Nato, given that developments in that region directly affect Euro-Atlantic security. We welcome the continued contributions of our Asia-Pacific partners to Euro-Atlantic security. We are strengthening dialogue to tackle cross-regional challenges and are enhancing our practical cooperation," the declaration said. It added that the specific areas of cooperation included supporting Ukraine, cyber defence, countering disinformation and technology.

'Ukraine's path to Nato membership is irreversible'

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WASHINGTON: The US-led North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (Nato) has declared that Ukraine's path to membership of the Trans-Atlantic military alliance is "irreversible", and termed Russia as the "most significant and direct threat" to the security of the bloc's member-states.

In the Washington Declaration Summit, issued during Nato's milestone 75th anniversary meeting in the US capital on Wednesday, Nato members also patted themselves on the back for undertaking the "biggest reinforcement of our collective defence in a generation", strengthening the alliance's "deterrence and defence posture" with a mix of "nuclear, conventional, and missile defence capabilities, complemented by space and cyber capabilities", and spending more on defence. The declaration also saw a commitment to strengthen the defence industry across Europe and North America, and a warning that rising hybrid threats could escalate to a point that invited collective defence arrangements.

But held in the shadow of Donald Trump's political rise in US, and Russia's gains in Ukraine, Nato's key goal appeared to be aimed at insuring the alliance and its commitment to Ukrainian security against internal political and external strategic shocks.

While saying that a "strong, independent, and democratic Ukraine" was vital for the security and stability of the Euro-Atlantic area, the alliance categorically said that it fully supported Ukraine's "right to choose its own security arrangements and decide its own future, free from outside interference".

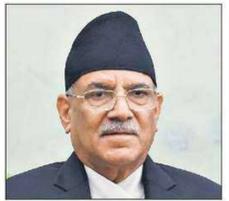
Nato then went on to address the contentious issue of Kyiv's participation in the bloc. While Ukraine has wanted quick membership, Russia has made it clear this remains a redline and has offered Ukraine's possible entry into Nato as a stated reason for its

aggression in the first place. The US has been cautious, while supporting Ukraine, it has aimed to avoid any escalation with Russia in a manner that involves Nato. The issue has got more challenging as Trump has opposed Ukraine's entry in Nato and promised a peace deal with Russia before he takes office, a move that has prompted European allies to "Trump-proof" US support for both Ukraine and the alliance.

The declaration saw these competing impulses at play, with the Joe Biden administration and other Nato members doubling down on their commitment to Ukraine, but leaving enough ambiguity by not offering a timeline for Ukraine's entry.

The declaration also announced a pledge of long term assistance for Ukraine that promises "a minimum baseline funding of €40 billion within the next year". This commitment, Nato has said, extends to purchase of military equipment for Ukraine, in-kind support, costs related to maintenance, logistics and transportation, training, investment in Ukraine's defence industry, with Nato members promising proportional contribution.

On Russia, Nato held Russia as solely responsible for the war in Ukraine. It said there could be no impunity for what the bloc termed as Russian "war crimes". It saw Russia as posing an "all-domain threat" that will continue in the long term as Moscow aims to "fundamentally reconfigure the Euro-Atlantic architecture" but also said that Nato did not seek a "confrontation" and was willing to maintain channels of communication with Russia. The declaration also condemned Russia's "irresponsible nuclear rhetoric and coercive nuclear signalling", and its "hybrid actions" including "malicious cyber activities, electronic interference and disinformation campaigns".



Pushpa Kamal Dahal
ANI
NEPAL'S PREMIER SET TO FACE TRUST VOTE IN PARL TODAY

Press Trust of India
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KATHMANDU: Ahead of a floor test for Nepal's embattled Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' on Friday, the Nepali Congress and CPN-UML have issued whips requiring their lawmakers to vote against the confidence motion tabled by the former guerrilla leader.

K P Sharma Oli-led CPN-UML, the largest party in the ruling coalition, withdrew support from the Prachanda-led government last week after inking a power-sharing deal with the largest party in the House — Nepali Congress — to replace the former Maoist leader.

The Nepali Congress, the largest party in the 275-member House of Representatives, has 89 seats at present, while CPN-UML has 78 seats. Their combined strength of 167 is much more than the 138 seats required for a majority in the lower house. Prachanda's Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist Centre) has 32 seats.

Prachanda, who requires 138 votes for the government to win the vote of confidence in the House, is likely to secure around 63 votes, and the government is almost sure to lose the floor test on Friday.

The Nepali Congress (NC) has instructed its lawmakers to be present in the House and vote against Prachanda's confidence motion. Similarly, the CPN-UML has also issued a whip requiring its lawmakers to vote against the motion. My Republica newspaper reported.

Democrats step up pressure on Biden to exit presidential race

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WASHINGTON: President Joe Biden will try to head off growing opposition within his own party on Thursday, sending out his advisers to meet with Democratic senators to shore up their support and holding his first solo news conference in almost eight months.

Biden's re-election campaign has been on the ropes for two weeks, since the 81-year-old incumbent's stumbling debate performance against Donald Trump, his 78-year-old Republican rival, raised fresh questions about his age and mental acuity — concerns that voters had long raised in public opinion polls.

Peter Welch on Wednesday evening became the first Democratic US senator to call on Biden to step aside, joining at least nine Democratic members



Nato chief Jens Stoltenberg (left) and US President Joe Biden share a toast at a dinner with Nato allies and partners in the East Room of the White House in Washington, DC, on Wednesday.

of the House of Representatives who have appealed to the president to withdraw from the race. Welch, a first-term senator from Vermont, said in a Washington Post op-ed that Biden should end his candidacy "for the good of the country."

Several high-profile lawmakers have said Biden should stay

in the race, and many others, including former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, have declined to say definitively whether he should step aside.

A Reuters/Ipsos poll released last week found Biden and Trump tied at 40% each. Other opinion polls have found Trump widening his lead over Biden.

Biden has seen his fundraising advantage over Trump disappear in recent months, and some high-profile Democratic donors, including actor George Clooney, are calling on him to step aside.

Open to another prez candidate, Schumer signals
Democratic US Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer has privately signalled to donors that he is open to a Democratic presidential candidate other than President Joe Biden, Axios reported on Wednesday.

However, Schumer reiterated support for Biden in a statement late on Wednesday after the Axios report came out. "As I have made clear repeatedly publicly and privately, I support President Biden and remain committed to ensuring Donald Trump is defeated in November," Schumer said.

Biden admin to resume shipping 500-pound bombs to Israel: Official

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WASHINGTON/JERUSALEM: President Joe Biden's administration will resume shipping 500-pound bombs to Israel but will continue to hold back on supplying 2,000-pound bombs over concerns about their use in densely populated Gaza, a US official said on Wednesday.

The US in May paused a shipment of 2,000-pound and 500-pound bombs due to concern over the impact they could have in Gaza during the war that began with Hamas' deadly October 7 cross-border raid.

The administration's particular concern had been use of such large bombs in Rafah, where over one million Palestinians had taken refuge. "We've been clear that our concern has been on the end-use of



Smoke billows from the site of an Israeli airstrike in the southern Lebanese village of Jibbain on Thursday.

the 2,000-lb bombs, particularly for Israel's Rafah campaign which they have announced they are concluding," a US official said. One 2,000-pound bomb can

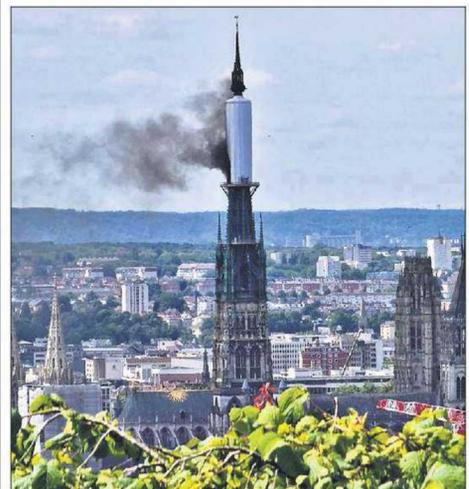
rip through thick concrete and metal, creating a wide blast radius.

The US official said the 500-pound bombs were put together in the same shipment with the larger ones that were paused and therefore got held up.

"Our main concern had been and remains the potential use of 2,000-lb bombs in Rafah and elsewhere in Gaza... Because our concern was not about the 500-lb bombs, those are moving forward as part of the usual process," the official added.

Drones from Lebanon fall inside Israel
Several drones from Lebanon fell inside Israel on Thursday, the Israeli military said, while the head of the local municipality told Israel's Channel 12 that one person was critically injured.

French cathedral fire doused



A fire that broke out on Thursday in the spire of the cathedral in northern French city Rouen is "under control", local fire services said, just hours after the city's mayor shared a photo of a column of smoke rising from the Gothic landmark.

MUSK SAYS SECOND NEURALINK BRAIN IMPLANT ABOUT A WEEK AWAY

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WASHINGTON: Brain-computer startup Neuralink Corp. aims to implant its device into a second human patient in a week or so, founder Elon Musk said during a video update on Wednesday, and hopes to have devices in patients numbering "in the high single digits" by the end of the year.

In a wide-ranging discussion broadcast on Musk's social platform X, the billionaire and several key Neuralink staffers described the current device's capabilities and future possibilities, such as repairing paralysis and memory loss.

They also outlined steps the team would take in future surgeries to avoid some setbacks that occurred in the wake of the first implantation, on Arizona man Noland Arbaugh.

The long-term goal "is to mitigate the longer civilisational risk of AI", or artificial intelligence, Musk said. Neuralink can help with that by creating "a closer symbiosis between human intelligence and digital intelligence". The idea, Musk said, "is to give people super powers".

Shelley Duvall, star of 'The Shining', 'Nashville', dies aged 75 in Texas

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TEXAS: Shelley Duvall, the intrepid, Texas-born movie star whose wide-eyed, winsome presence was a mainstay in the films of Robert Altman and who co-starred in Stanley Kubrick's "The Shining", has died. She was 75.

Duvall died on Thursday in her sleep at her home in Blanco, Texas, her long-time partner, Dan Gilroy, announced. The cause was complications of diabetes, said her friend, the publicist Gary Springer.

"My dear, sweet, wonderful life, partner, and friend left us last night," Gilroy said in a statement. "Too much suffering lately, now she's free. Fly away beautiful Shelley."



Shelley Duvall

Duvall was attending junior college in Texas when Altman's crew members, preparing to film "Brewster McCloud", encountered her as at a party in Houston in 1970. They introduced her to the director, who cast her "Brewster McCloud"

and made her his protege. Duvall would go on to appear in Altman films including "Thieves Like Us", "Nashville", "Popeye", "Three Women" and "McCabe & Ms. Miller".

"He offers me... good roles," Duvall told The New York Times in 1977. "None of them have been alike. He has a great confidence in me, and a trust and respect for me, and he doesn't put any restrictions on me or intimidate me, and I love him. I remember the first advice he ever gave me: 'Don't take yourself seriously.'"

Duvall, gaunt and gawky, was no conventional Hollywood starlet. But she had a beguiling frank manner and exuded a singular naturalism. The film critic Pauline Kael called her the "female Buster Keaton".

Russian 'plot' to kill CEO of German arms supplier foiled

BERLIN: US and German security services foiled a Russian "plot" to assassinate Armin Papperger, the chief executive officer of Rheinmetall AG, a German arms manufacturer that has been producing ammunition and military vehicles for Ukraine. US intelligence officials who uncovered the plot informed German security services, which thwarted it. BLOOMBERG

Plans afoot to double airports to 300 by 2047

This will include developing existing airstrips to airports, building new ones

Anu Sharma

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NEW DELHI: India plans to more than double its airport count to 300 by 2047 on the back of an eightfold increase in passenger traffic, a draft plan made by the country's airport authority showed.

This will involve developing existing airstrips to full-scale airports and building new ones from scratch.

A draft plan prepared by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) showed that around 70 airstrips can be developed into full-fledged airports which can handle narrow-body aircraft such as A320 or B737, and nearly 40 airstrips can be developed to handle smaller aircraft. Greenfield or new airports will be planned if an airstrip cannot be developed for any reason, or there is no civilian airport within a radius of 50 km. Currently, 138 airports are opera-



The estimates are from AAI's draft National Airports Development Plan.

tional in India.

Two officials aware of AAI's plans confirmed the development. "This is likely to include a mix of greenfield airports and also development of existing civil enclaves into full-fledged operational airports," one of the two officials said on the condition of anonymity.

The estimates are from AAI's draft National Airports Development Plan, which projects annual passenger traffic to grow from 376 million to 3-3.5 billion by 2047. Of this, 10-12% may be international traffic.

The plan, which is being dis-

cussed in the civil aviation ministry and the Airports Authority of India, will form part of Vision 2047. Airports count domestic passengers twice—at arrivals and departures—while calculating domestic traffic, while international passengers are counted once.

"These estimates are based on various assumptions and dynamic factors. This is a preliminary assessment and the numbers can change later if the scenario changes due to any reason," a second official said.

At Mandavi in Gujarat, Sultanpur in Uttar Pradesh, Tura in

Meghalaya and Chhindwara in Madhya Pradesh, existing airstrips can be converted to airports for small aircraft operations, the draft said, citing a preliminary assessment. Greenfield airports could come up at Kota in Rajasthan, Parandur in Tamil Nadu, Kottayam in Kerala, Puri in Odisha, Purandar in Maharashtra, and Car Nicobar and Minicoy in Andaman and Nicobar islands.

Queries sent to an AAI spokesperson remained unanswered until press time.

The plan to increase operational airports to 300 by 2047 looks ambitious, but the focus on improving connectivity to tier-II and -III cities through schemes such as UDAN (Ude desh ka aam nagrik) and making major Indian airports international hubs may support the plan, said Vinay Kumar G., vice-president and sector head corporate ratings.

"The under-penetration of air travel in India, rising income levels and improving connectivity to new destinations in the domestic and international segments will be key growth drivers for the industry," Kumar said.

DoT releases draft Right of Way rules for feedback

Aditi Agrawal

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NEW DELHI: The Department of Telecommunication on Wednesday released draft Right of Way rules under the Telecommunications Act, 2023, for public feedback over thirty days. The Right of Way (RoW) rules prescribe how telecommunication infrastructure, including mobile towers, poles, common ducts and conduits to hold cabling, small cells, street furniture and the like, can be installed over public and private property.

These rules have been proposed under Sections 11, 12, 15 and 56 of the Telecom Act. These sections came into effect on June 26. Section 11 prescribes how Right of Way would work for telecom network in public property while section 12 defined how RoW would work for telecom network on property not given in section 11 and includes private property. Section 15 empowers the centre to notify infrastructure projects or class of infrastructure projects—irrespective of whether they are being developed by a public entity, a private entity, or through a public private partnership—as requiring common ducts, conduits or cable corridors for installation of telecom network.

"The draft rules have built on



The rules are expected to make installations easier for telcos. HT

the framework already notified under the parent act. This detailed prescription of permission and compensation especially for private property, was envisaged in the parent act. The rules for RoW on public property are almost the same as the old RoW rules," Aprajita Rana, partner at AZB & Partners, said.

In a significant change from the Indian Telegraph Right of Way Rules that were notified under the Telegraph Act (which has been replaced by the Telecom Act), the draft RoW rules allow "any facility provider" to apply for RoW. A facility provider also includes contractors and sub-contractors. Earlier, only the licensees could apply for RoW.

"Allowing any facility provider, meaning entities who work for licensed entities, will make it administratively easier

for telcos to install telecom infrastructure," Rana said.

All applications, notifications, clarifications, permissions, objections or rejections under the draft rules will be processed through a mobile or web portal to the extent possible. This, Rana said, is the essentially the formalisation of the single window clearance that was introduced through the Gati Shakti portal. "This is a welcome move as the government will have to share all clarifications within 30 days in one go, and give reasons for rejecting your application. Having one portal will help entities and ease operations," she said.

For private property, section 12 of the act allowed the facility provider and the owner of private property to come to a mutual agreement about RoW. The rules propose that such agreement need not be registered under the Registration Act, 1908. The rules detail the elements the agreement must have.

"Earlier, there was no compensation for RoW on private property. Now the regime is pretty extensive. The removal of or interference to telecom infrastructure cannot be done without first informing the telco, and detailed guidelines will apply. While this is prescriptive for the private owner, the rules provided by the rules is going to be beneficial for both," Rana said.

SHIFT IN JOBS INTO CONSTRUCTION, SERVICES, MFG CAN BOOST GDP: IMF

Rhik Kundu

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NEW DELHI: A shift in employment into construction, services and manufacturing can boost India's GDP growth by as much as 0.2 to 0.5 percentage points, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said.

In a new report titled Advancing India's Structural Transformation and Catch-up to the Technology Frontier, the IMF said the country needs to create 143-324 million jobs by 2050 to enable its workers to shift towards more dynamic sectors and thus boost its economic growth.

The report said structural reforms can also help India create high-quality jobs and accelerate growth.

"India's structural transformation still has some way to go. While the role of agriculture in terms of aggregate output has declined in India from over 40% in 1980 to 15% in 2019, it remains large in terms of employment, accounting for 42% of workers in 2019," the report said.

"This has resulted in depressed labour productivity in the sector. In its place, economic activity in India has shifted over time mainly to services. Construction has also become an important employer, but as in agriculture, productivity in the sector is low and has not increased much since 1980," it added.

Recently, Citigroup Inc. said India will struggle to create enough jobs for its growing workforce over the next decade even if the economy grows at a rapid pace of 7%, suggesting the country will need more concerted efforts to boost employment and skills.

Citi estimates India will need to create about 12 million jobs a year over the next decade to absorb the number of new entrants to the labour market because, based on a growth rate of 7%, India can only generate 8-9 million jobs a year.

However, in a rebuttal, the ministry of labour & employment said the report failed to account for the "comprehensive and positive employment data".

Hyundai IPO may spur multinationals firms to list in India

Priyamvada C.

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BENGALURU: South Korean automaker Hyundai Motor Co.'s plans for a \$3-3.5 billion initial public offering by its Indian subsidiary, which would be the country's second-biggest public share sale, could spark a revival in international companies looking to list their subsidiaries in India.



Hyundai Motor India is likely to reach \$20 bn valuation after the listing of shares.

Hyundai Motor India Ltd is expected to reach a valuation of close to \$20 billion after the public listing of its shares, offering cues for other multinational companies (MNCs) on the benefits of India's resilient public markets, robust economic prospects, and a growing consumer base, experts said.

"Hyundai listing its India unit with such a large issue size is definitely a strong indication of increasing depth and appetite of Indian capital markets with global business groups increasing focus on the country as a market," said Gaurav Sood, managing director of equity capital markets at Avendus Capital.

Sood said the trend of more MNCs potentially considering listing will continue, driven by factors including a greater ease of doing business and untapped consumption potential in the world's most populous nation.

Mint spoke to lawyers and investment bankers who also alluded to the rise in MNCs evaluating such options. Besides South Korea's Hyundai, which is preparing for a record ₹25,000 crore initial public offering, LG Electronics and Italy's component maker Carraro are looking at similar moves, according to media reports.

However, this is not the first time an MNC has listed in the country. Previous examples include Japanese automaker Suzuki Motor Corporation (unit Maruti Suzuki India Ltd), British consumer goods company Unilever (Hindustan Unilever Ltd),

Swiss food and beverage maker Nestle (Nestle India Ltd), and Colgate-Palmolive (India) Ltd, the unit of US oral hygiene company Colgate-Palmolive.

A strong brand recall with Indian consumers, lower cost of capital as opposed to transferring funds from overseas markets, and lower taxes on capital gains after listing for future monetization are crucial benefits for foreign companies to consider listing in the country, said Siddharth Shah, a senior partner at Khaitan & Co.

The Indian markets offer much better valuation than other overseas markets, Shah said. Avendus Capital's Sood also alluded to the uptick in valuations. "We have seen Indian-listed subsidiaries of foreign parents generally trading at almost three times the valuation of the parent," he said, adding that this has encouraged global groups to unlock value in India and ride the "growth story."

Essentially, different markets have varying dynamics and growth drivers. At times, subsidiary valuations may not get fully reflected in the parent valuation and listing would help unlock this, said BNP Paribas Ganeshan Murugaiyan. This could also be a useful currency for funding growth capex or as an acquisition tool in the domestic market, he said.

Covid-era employment surge baffles economists

Shayan Ghosh & Rhik Kundu

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MUMBAI/NEW DELHI: A recent dataset on employment has thrown a curveball at economists tracking India's economy, with several of them trying to wrap their heads around how the country managed to add a large number of jobs over the past few years despite the covid-19 shock.

India is estimated to have created 108.9 million jobs between fiscal years 2019-20 and 2023-24, significantly higher than the 76.8 million

jobs added between FY06 and FY20, as per provisional data released by the Reserve Bank of India on July 8.

In 2023-24 alone, India is estimated to have added 46.7 million jobs.

To be sure, RBI emphasized in a statement accompanying the data that it had attempted "a provisional estimate of productivity" for the first time for FY24 based on available information.

"The data shows there was growth in employment even during the two pandemic years, as per the KLEMS data. It is a bit hard to reconcile," said Madan

Sabnavis, chief economist, Bank of Baroda. "But I understand from the methodology that RBI has used the PLFS (Periodic Labour Force Survey) data for extrapolations."

The addition of jobs also does not match recent government data showing weak consumption growth, he added. "The only explanation could be that because of inflation, people were only spending on food and the real consumption part has declined."

RBI released its employment data days after Citi Research said in a 4 July report that given

India's demographic dividend, even a 7% GDP growth might not be enough to meet the country's job requirement over the next decade, under reasonable assumptions.

India issued a rebuttal on 8 July, on the same day the RBI report was released, stating that the Citi report had failed to account for the "comprehensive and positive employment data available from official sources such as the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) and the Reserve Bank of India's KLEMS data".

KLEMS refers to the RBI

database that measures capital (K), labour, energy, material, and services to gauge productivity at the industry level.

Despite the apparent surge in employment, economists are not too enthused with the quality of jobs being created, given that employment in lower-pay brackets such as agriculture and trade has seen better growth. Sabnavis pointed out that growth in India's real gross domestic product (GDP) had declined in recent years—from about ₹43 lakh crore during FY2014-19 to about ₹33 lakh crore between FY19 and FY24.

TCS rides big BSNL order to 1.9% higher June qtr revenue

Shouvik Das & Jas Bardia

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NEW DELHI/BENGALURU: Tata Consultancy Services Ltd kicked-started the first quarterly earnings season of 2024-25 on a buoyant note, growing faster than its average pace in the previous five financial years.

Growth in the April-June period, however, was considerably driven by a one-off deal in its home turf—an unconventional growth geography—leading to questions on whether the quarterly figures are an accurate representation of organic growth for India's biggest IT services outsourcing.

At least half of TCS's \$142 million sequential revenue growth came from India. This is unusual. Until the June quarter of last year, over 85% of TCS revenue came from the Americas, Europe and the UK, while India contributed less than 5%.

This quarter, a \$1.83-billion 4G network deployment deal won in May last year from state-run telecom operator, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd (BSNL), bolstered TCS' India business to 7.5% of its quarterly revenue, even as the contribution of its key geographies declined by 2.4



Quarterly revenue for TCS grew 1.9% over the March quarter to \$7.5 billion.

percentage points.

"We are very happy to announce a good start to the new financial year, supported by all-round growth across markets and industry verticals," said K. Krithivasan, who took over as chief executive officer of TCS in June last year, even as he maintained caution on uncertainties in its largest geographies, including US, Europe, and the UK.

"There is strong growth outside of our BSNL business, relative to what we have seen in previous quarters. It's not a one-trick pony," Krithivasan said. "But at the same time, the reason why we are hesitant to call out sustained growth is that we still find market conditions to be quite volatile. Customers do take decisions at a very short notice

based on what they perceive of the market conditions and other sentiments."

Quarterly revenue for TCS grew 1.9% over the March quarter to \$7.5 billion. Excluding the June quarter of FY21—which was impacted by worldwide lockdowns as a consequence of covid-19—TCS grew at an average of 1.6% sequentially in each of the past five June quarters.

TCS also beat a Bloomberg poll of 28 analysts that projected revenue of \$7.44 billion this quarter. The company announced a dividend of ₹10 per share. Despite faring better than expected, Krithivasan maintained prevalent macroeconomic conditions as the key factor behind the uncertain demand environment for technology services and projects.

Generative artificial intelligence, on this note, still remains a bit-part contributor at best—with the TCS chief stating that the company's generative AI pipeline was now at \$1.5 billion in annual revenue run-rate.

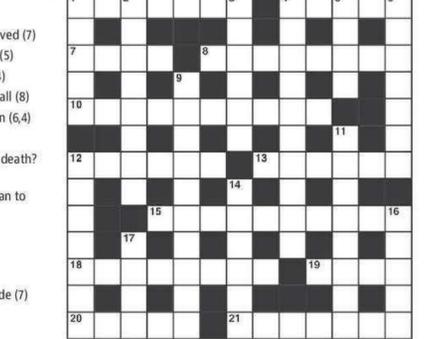
Signs of weakness, however, were aplenty through TCS' quarterly results. The company clocked its slowest year-on-year revenue growth in the five years barring the pandemic-hit June quarter of 2020-21.

{ THE CROSSWORDS }

CRYPTIC CLUES

- ACROSS**
- In such agreement cash too is involved? (7)
 - Kind of ribbon used for decoration (5)
 - Tom is pleased by the sound of it (4)
 - Its population was literally very small (8)
 - Used to complete minute revolution (6,4)
 - Tied up and whipped (6)
 - All the difference between life and death? (6)
 - In charge at the zoo he's not the man to panic (4,6)
 - Doing nothing but fighting? (8)
 - Illustrate one way to get lots (4)
 - Blush when attacked (5)
 - One should be in entering a new trade (7)
- DOWN**
- Outstanding features of space (5)
 - The opposite of soft currency? (4,4)
 - Trifling affront (6)
 - Stayed well away from work (10)
 - Only a fool gives information (4)
 - Tear all to pieces sideways (7)
 - Though concerned, possibly resented it (10)
 - Young female accompanist (8)
 - Falling behind in providing winter insulation? (7)
 - Expert takes different road to it (6)
 - Had an argument but we stick out (5)
 - Just a trade show (4)

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QUICK CLUES

- ACROSS**
- Repair temporarily (5,2)
 - Ancient Greek fabulist (5)
 - Responsibility (4)
 - Mentally alert (3,5)
 - Make an indiscreet remark (4,1,5)
 - Wretchedness (6)
 - Serene (6)
 - Uncanny moneymaking ability (5,5)
 - Exaggerated (8)
 - An attempt (4)
 - Warm and damp (5)
 - Fall rapidly (7)
- DOWN**
- Haughty (5)
 - City in southwest France (8)
 - Trifling (6)
 - Speaking fluently (10)
 - To stanch (4)
 - Drunk (3-4)
 - Just (4-6)
 - Make used to (8)
 - Huge extinct elephant (7)
 - Short sleep (6)
 - Additive practice (5)
 - Position of control (4)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS (16909)



QUICK



{ SUDOKU } DIFFICULTY LEVEL ★★★★★



Fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, column and each of the 9x9 squares contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

Europe's focus on health drives India's bicycle exports

Dhirendra Kumar

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NEW DELHI: Europe's growing health and environmental focus has seen demand for India-made bicycles surge in the UK, Germany and the world's bicycle capital, the Netherlands. Bicycle orders are also flowing from developing countries such as Mozambique and Chad.



India's bicycle exports were up from \$46.5 million in FY23 to \$54.38 million in FY24.

According to commerce ministry data, in FY2023, Mozambique emerged as India's top export destination for bicycles, valued at \$8.84 million. This increased to \$10.41 million in FY2024, marking a growth of 17.82%.

The UK followed as the second-largest destination, with exports rising from \$3.85 million in FY2023 to \$8.85 million in

FY2024, a jump of 130%. Exports to the Netherlands surged 169.38% from \$1.29 million to \$3.47 million.

Overall, India's bicycle exports were up from \$46.5 million in FY2023 to \$54.38 million in FY2024, a growth of 16.95%, commerce ministry data showed.

"India's emergence as a preferred destination for bicycles in the UK, Netherlands, Chad, and other developed countries is a result of a combination of high-quality production, cost-effectiveness, diverse offerings, supportive trade policies, environmental consciousness, efficient supply chains, strong brand rep-

utation, and market adaptability. These factors collectively make Indian bicycles an attractive choice for international buyers," said Abhas Kumar, a trade analyst and assistant professor, economics, Delhi University.

"The China Plus One policy is working in favour of India. The disruptive policies of China have forced countries to look for alternatives, and due to its better ecosystem, India is proving to be a viable option to meet the global demand for various goods," said Ashwani Mahajan, National Co-Convenor of Swadeshi Jagaran Manch (SJM), an RSS-affiliated organisation that deals with economic issues.

"The quality of India-made bicycles is much better than that of Chinese bicycles. Even though Chinese goods are cheaper, consumers prefer not to buy sub-

standard products that may lead to additional expenses for their disposal," Mahajan added.

"There is a push for production through various Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes. This support is significantly aiding the manufacturing sector," he said. Health experts see increasing health consciousness among people as another reason for the growth in bicycle exports in developed economies.

"Cycling is beneficial for heart health as it serves as an excellent aerobic exercise. Additionally, the reduction in pollution due to increased bicycle use is another factor contributing to its growing popularity in developed and developing countries," said Dr Ravi Wankhedkar, former treasurer, World Medical Association, which represents physicians worldwide.

{ WEATHER }

TEMPERATURE HIGH = LOW



ALMANAC

Today is 12th July 2024
• 5: Muharram, 1446
• 21 Ashadha, Shukla
Paksha, 06
• Samat 2081
Sunset: Friday at 07:21 pm
Sunrise: Saturday at 05:22 am
Moonset: Friday at 11:18 pm
Moonrise: Friday at 11:06 am

TEMPERATURE IN FOUR METROS





EURO 2024

A journey from the brink, off the bench

The Three Lions haven't been the most exhilarating team, but their persistence has helped them reach summit clash

Ashish Magotra
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NEW DELHI: If you ask the supporters of any team whether they would like their team to play beautiful football or win the big trophies, a huge majority will probably choose the trophies. You can play all the attacking football you want and the fans will love you for that but if it doesn't lead to wins, will it matter as much?

Tournament football isn't about demolishing teams, it is about finding ways to win even when the chips are down. Throughout Euro 2024, that is exactly what England have done. They did it against Slovakia in the Round of 16, they did it against Switzerland in the quarters and then, with a place in the final on the line, they did it against the Netherlands too.

The 2-1 victory against the Dutch wasn't like the other knockout matches. Rather, it saw Gareth Southgate's team turn in their best, most fluent performance to come out on top. Xavi Simons gave Netherlands the early lead with a stunner before a contentious penalty allowed Harry Kane to equalise. The game stayed even until a last-minute strike from substitute Ollie Watkins sealed victory.

This isn't rope-a-dope but, in footballing terms, it is possibly as close as it can get to that. Muhammad Ali took all the blows that George Foreman could throw during the famous 'Rumble in the Jungle' before finally landing the knockout blow. England were on the ropes in the Round of 16 against Slovakia, against Switzerland in the quarters and against the Netherlands too.

But each time, they have found a way to win. Against Slovakia, a Bellingham stunner (90'+5) was the equaliser and Kane (91') got the winner. Bukayo Saka found the equaliser against Switzerland in the 80th minute while Watkins's strike showed that squeaky bum time is when this team truly comes to life.

England are the first side in UEFA European Championship history to reach the final despite trailing in both the quarter-final and semi-final. It speaks volumes about the kind of mindset that is driving this team forward. They don't give up until the final whistle.

This isn't an exciting team but Southgate has them doing the

England and late goals

England haven't been prolific in front of goal, but they have still got the job done in the knockout games thanks to some last-gasp goals. Here's a look at the late goals against Slovakia, Switzerland and the Netherlands

90'+5 Minute

Bellingham vs Slovakia
England had one foot out of the door when Jude Bellingham came up with a stunning equaliser in the dying seconds of their Round of 16 clash against Slovakia. They had been lacklustre up until then, but out of nowhere, the young midfielder produced an overhead volley that thudded into the back of the net to keep England alive and kicking.

91' Minute

Kane vs Slovakia
Spurred by Bellingham's equaliser, England went 2-1 up just 52 seconds into extra time. It was Harry Kane who broke Slovakian hearts, pouncing on a header from close range to beat Martin Dubravka in goal. It was Kane's second goal of the tournament.

80' Minute

Saka vs Switzerland
It was in the penalty shootout that England prevailed, but the tiebreaker wouldn't have been possible had Saka not unleashed a thunderbolt with his left foot from outside the box in the 80th minute of their quarter-final. Having gone behind in the 75th minute, England were on the brink of elimination, but Saka did what he does best — cut in from the right and curled in a shot past Yann Sommer.

90' Minute

Watkins vs Netherlands
If the late goals earlier in the tournament had largely helped England fight back, Ollie Watkins's 90th-minute goal against Netherlands helped them clinch the contest. Watkins had been on the pitch for barely 10 minutes, having come on as a substitute for Harry Kane in the 80th minute, when he took a touch off a pass from Cole Palmer before sending in a fierce shot into the far corner.

1 England are the first team in the European Championships to reach the final despite trailing in both the quarter-final and semi-final

30 Number of goals that have been scored after the 75th minute in this tournament (including extra time goals)

'We cannot play football properly, that's due to VAR'

Agencies
sportsdesk@hindustantimes.com

DORTMUND: Netherlands coach Ronald Koeman admitted his team's 2-1 Euro 2024 semi-final defeat against England on Wednesday was "hard to accept" after a controversial penalty decision and then a last-gasp Ollie Watkins goal left his team floored.

"I am disappointed about the final result in a match which started really good for us," Koeman told reporters at the Westfalenstadion in Dortmund, where the Dutch had taken an early lead on the night through a brilliant goal by Xavi Simons.

Harry Kane quickly equalised from the penalty in question, but the match was seemingly heading for extra time before substitute Watkins struck in the 91st minute to send England through to a final against Spain.

England's penalty came just after the quarter-hour mark when Kane sent a shot over the bar and was caught on the follow-through by Denzel Dumfries. Contact was minimal and seemingly innocuous, but German referee Felix Zwayer pointed to the spot after coming over to the VAR monitor.

"What can you do as a defender? In my opinion this shouldn't have been a penalty," Koeman complained. "We cannot play football properly and that is due to VAR. It breaks football."

Koeman felt his team had been in control after the 35th-minute introduction of midfielder Joey Veerman for the injured Memphis Depay, which allowed them to stem the tide of England attacks. "We had some difficulties in the midfield to stop the good players like (Jude) Bellingham and (Phil) Foden between the lines," he said.

"We didn't control the game. We made some changes to get control back and the feeling was that in the last 20 minutes we were the better team and attacking more. But then came the knockout on 90 minutes. A great goal, and then it's over, and that is difficult to accept."

Koeman, 61, returned for a second spell as Netherlands coach following the 2022 World Cup, when Louis van Gaal took the team to the last eight in Qatar.

Their run in Germany is their best performance at a European



Ronald Koeman. AFP

Championship since 2004, when they also went out in the semi-finals. "We should be proud, we've achieved many things in these weeks," insisted Koeman, whose team notably missed injured Barcelona player Frenkie de Jong at the tournament.

"This team is able to do more. And moreover, there are also players who will join us in the future. Some were not able to play because they were not fit, so there's a future for us. We have to improve some aspects, but we were close to the final."

The Dutch had been hoping to go to Berlin for a final against Spain that would have been a repeat of the denouement of the 2010 World Cup.

Instead they go home to their next assignment: a double-header of UEFA Nations League games in September against Bosnia and Herzegovina and Germany.

Koeman meanwhile believes England can compete with Spain in the final on Sunday. "I think England showed great football in the first half after going 1-0 down," he said of their performance in Dortmund.

"England are in the final and they have possibilities to win it. Spain are playing on a high level, but England can stop them, why not?"

KICKING AROUND



Spanish players during a training session on Thursday. AFP

FRANCE'S LETEXIER TO REFEREE SPAIN VS ENGLAND EURO FINAL
Frenchman Francois Letexier will referee Sunday's Euro final between Spain and England in Berlin, UEFA said on Thursday. Letexier, 35, has refereed 65 UEFA matches since 2017, including three Euro 2024 group stage matches between Spain and Georgia, Denmark and Serbia and Croatia and Albania. He was also the fourth official at this year's Champions League final in which Real Madrid beat Borussia Dortmund. "Letexier will be joined by French assistants Cyril Mugnier and Mehdi Rahmouni, while Szymon Marciniak (Poland) will be fourth official," UEFA said in a statement. "The video assistant referee (VAR) role has been assigned to Jerome Brisard (France), assisted by Willy Delajod (France) and supported by Massimiliano Irrati (Italy). Tomasz Listkiewicz (Poland) is the assistant reserve referee."



Referee Francois Letexier. REUTERS

VAN DIJK TO CONSIDER FUTURE IN FOOTBALL
Netherlands captain Virgil van Dijk will consider his future for both club and country over the next few weeks as he processes the disappointment of semi-final elimination at the Euro, he said. Van Dijk, who turned 33 on Monday, said he would spend the next weeks figuring out his next career steps after nine years, and 75 caps, in the Netherlands team, plus with a single season left on his contract at Liverpool. "I haven't the slightest idea right now. I will think carefully what I want at club level and as an international player. Then we'll go for it again, but first recover from this," Van Dijk told reporters after England beat the Dutch 2-1 to advance to Sunday's final against Spain. "After a season like this, where all kinds of things have happened, it gets emotional at the end because you know it's over," said Van Dijk. "Especially in the second half I had the feeling the outcome would fall our way. But (Ollie) Watkins was perhaps given a little too much space and he finished well," he added of the goal seconds into stoppage time.



England's decade of development has rewards in 2nd successive final

Agencies
sportsdesk@hindustantimes.com

BERLIN: England's progression to a first ever major tournament final on foreign soil at Euro 2024 is the fruit of a decade of work on a player development programme that has turned perennial underachievers into serial contenders.

Ending a 58-year wait to win a major trophy at senior men's international level is the final hurdle left to clear for Gareth Southgate as he leads England's men in Sunday's final against Spain after serial success at youth level and in the women's game. Just months after the Three Lions had crashed out of 2014 World Cup with one game to spare of the group stage, Southgate — then in his role as under-21 boss — appeared alongside the English Football Association's technical director Dan Ashworth.

They presented a plan termed "England DNA" that had the goal of blending the passion English football was famous for with better technique and a stronger mentality to handle the pressures of major tournament football. "One of the mantras we have is 'The only thing that changes is the size of the shirt'," said Ashworth, who was recently appointed Manchester United's sporting director after successful spells at Brighton and Newcastle.

"So as they come through that player pathway, from an under-15 boy or girl, all the way through to the seniors, we have some consistent messages around them. If everyone is on the same page and everyone buys into and believes



(From L) England's John Stones, Cole Palmer, Lewis Dunk, Kieran Trippier and Anthony Gordon celebrate with team mates during their march to the Euro 2024 final. AFP

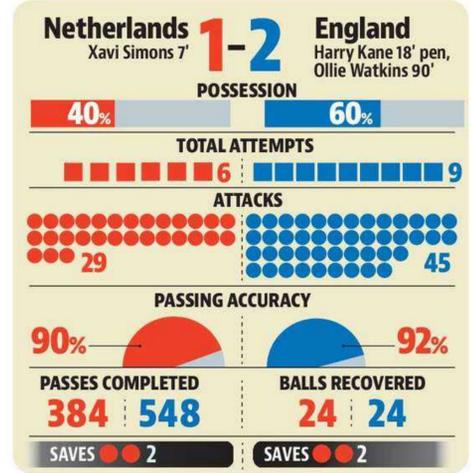
what you are trying to do it can become so much more powerful." The results since speak for themselves at every level. Many of Southgate's squad in Germany have already experienced winning tournaments at youth level.

Anthony Gordon and Cole Palmer were part of the side that beat Spain in the final to win England's first under-21 Euros for 39 years 12 months ago. Ezri Konsa won the Under-20 World Cup in 2017, while the same year Phil Foden won player of the tournament alongside Marc Guehi and Conor Gallagher in winning the under-17 World Cup.

England's women won their first major tournament on home soil at the Euros in 2022 and fol-

lowed that up by reaching the World Cup final last year. "As a football nation we have long been characterised by our passion, fighting spirit and effort," Ashworth said at the time. "Although there are aspects of these characteristics we wish to retain, we do not wish to be solely defined by them."

The blend of an old fashioned never-say-die attitude with players of a higher technical standard has carried England on a rollercoaster to the Euro 2024 final. Hyped before the tournament as one of the favourites, Southgate admitted the expectation weighed heavy as his side stumbled through the group stage, scoring just two goals in three games.



They then needed late fight-backs and individual moments of brilliance from Jude Bellingham and Bukayo Saka to keep them alive in sneaking past lower ranked opposition in Slovakia and Switzerland to make the last four.

But in Dortmund against the Dutch, England's decade of planning had its reward in a famous 2-1 semi-final win. "It will be I would imagine a long time, if ever an English side had 60 percent possession of the ball against a side from the Netherlands. So it shows the more modern England way," said a beaming Southgate afterwards. The ultimate test lies ahead against a Spain side that have swept all before them, including Germany and France on the

tougher side of the draw.

England have previously suffered a series of near misses under Southgate. They defied expectations to reach the semi-finals at the 2018 World Cup before missing out on penalties to Italy in the Euro 2020 final on home soil.

More heartbreak came in Qatar two years ago when Harry Kane ballooned over a late penalty against France in a 2-1 quarter-final defeat. But that experience has put them in a better place than ever before to become champions of Europe for the first time.

"We're more calm going into the knockout games because the first time we did it in Russia, we hadn't won a knockout game for 10 years," added Southgate.

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NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

Type of tender/TE no.	Open tender/STO-2077
Name & complete address of office	The Chief Engineer/TS, 3rd Floor, Shakti giving tender
Scope of work	SPECIFICATION FOR DESIGN, MANUFACTURE, TEST & SUPPLY 150W LED LIGHTING FIXTURES: 1100 Nos
Starting date of downloading	Date of publication
Last date of downloading	12.08.2024 upto 11:00 hrs.
Last date/time for bid submission	12.08.2024 upto 11:00 hrs.
Date/Time for opening of bids	14.08.2024 upto 11:00 hrs.

Detailed NIT/Specification may be downloaded from PSTCL E-Tendering website <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in/nicapp/app>. Corrigendum if any, will not be published in newspapers. As such the website may be visited regularly for updates.

Sd/- Dy. CE/TS (Design), PSTCL, Patiala
35570

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

Regd Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001
Corporate Identity Number: U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in
(Contact No. 96461-20640)

Tender Enquiry No. 1682/CHP/CS&HMM/C/O&M/PC-2561 Dated: 10.07.2024

Chief Engineer/O&M (P&P Cell-1), GHTP, Lehra Mohabbat, invites E-tender for the Procurement of Conveyor Belts, Quantity as per NIT. For detailed NIT & tender Specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 10.07.2024 at 17:00 Hrs. onwards.

Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

GHTP-53/24 35569

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SCO 111-113, Sector-17-B, Chandigarh-160017
Ph. 0172-2701682, 2706422

Hartron/ICTET/2024-25/02
Requirement of Computer Professionals on job work basis

Hartron invites online applications for updation of panel of following Computer Professionals on Job Work Basis as per State Reservation Policy.

#	Location	No.
1	Panipat	10
2	Sonepat	10
3	Yamuna Nagar	10
4	Nuh (Local resident)*	15

*Only candidates having valid resident proof of Nuh can apply for post in Nuh and the same will be checked before appearing in the test, otherwise his/her candidature will be cancelled.

For more details and updates, please visit our website hartron.org.in. Interested candidates can apply online from 16.07.2024 to 31.07.2024 on Hartron's website. The test will be held at HMSDC, Gurugram & Ambala centre. The panel shall be valid for a period of two years from the date of publishing of result on Hartron's website. Hartron reserves the right to extend the panel, if required.

Merely clearing the test & making it to the panel, doesn't guarantee deployment. The Candidate shall be deployed on receipt of confirmed requirement from indenting organization. Candidates may download the admit card from the website from 07.08.2024 onwards and test shall be commenced from 12.08.2024 (tentatively) onwards. No communication will be sent to individuals separately.

MD, HARTRON reserves the right to vary/cancel any or all the positions based on the requirement, without assigning any reason.

RO NO. 1056/11/58/2025/27714/C/19/7 Managing Director

Government of India
Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India
3rd Floor, Udaan Bhawan, Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi-110003

Invitation of applications for Engagement of Office Support Professional (Secretarial Personal Assistant) on contract basis in Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India

Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India proposes to hire one (01) Office Support Professional (Secretarial Personal Assistant) on contract basis. The number of vacancies may vary as per the requirement. Candidate with requisite qualification and experience as prescribed would be hired as Office Support Professional. The interested candidates must indicate the post for which they applied.

2. Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India invites applications from eligible candidates as Office Support Professional. The details including eligibility criteria, Terms & Conditions etc. are available on the AERA's website: www.aera.gov.in. Last date of receipt of application is 01.08.2024 upto 5.30 P.M. Applications received after due date and time will not be considered.

Deputy Chief
Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India,
3rd Floor, Udaan Bhawan,
Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi - 110003
CBC 03112/12/0002/2425

OFFICE OF THE EXCISE COMMISSIONER, CHHATTISGARH, RAIPUR
GST BHAWAN, NORTH BLOCK SECTOR-19, NAWA RAIPUR, ATAL NAGAR, CHHATTISGARH
E-mail id : excise.comm@cg.nic.in | Contact No.: 0771-2512612

Sr. No. _____ Despatch No. _____ Date _____
To, _____

NOTICE INVITING OFFERS FOR REGISTRATION AND SUPPLY OF FOREIGN LIQUOR IN THE STATE OF CHHATTISGARH

NO. RATE OFFER/2024-25/4463 Dated: 11.07.2024

1. Sealed offers are invited from Person/Firm/Company or Corporation lawfully engaged in manufacturing of IMFL/ Malt (hereafter referred to as supplier) for registration and entering into rate contract with the Department of Excise, Chhattisgarh for supply of IMFL/FMFL/Malt for the FY 2024-25 i.e. 01.09.2024 to 31.03.2025.

2. Offers for FMFL are invited from manufacturers owning a Distillery/Brewery/Blending unit situated outside India. Such offers on behalf of the Foreign Manufacturers may be submitted through a firm/ company registered in India (hereafter referred to as supplier).

3. The last date for receipt of rate offers in the Office of the Excise Commissioner at Raipur (Chhattisgarh) is 26.07.2024 by 17:30 hrs. which shall be opened on 29.07.2024 at 11:00 hrs. The participating firms shall deposit a non-refundable fee of Rs. 59,000/- (50,000 + 18% GST) (Rupees Fifty-Nine Thousand only) towards registration by account payee Bank Draft of any Nationalised Bank/ Scheduled Commercial Bank payable at Raipur in favour of Excise Commissioner.

Application form along with the terms and conditions governing the offers and other documents can be obtained from the office of Excise Commissioner, GST Bhawan, North Block, Sector-19, Nawa Raipur, Atal Nagar, Chhattisgarh on payment of non-refundable fee of Rs. 23,600/- (20,000 + 18% GST) (Rupees Twenty-Three Thousand Six Hundred only) by demand draft of any Nationalised / Scheduled Commercial Bank drawn in favour of Excise Commissioner payable at Raipur.

R. SHANGEETHA
EXCISE COMMISSIONER
CHHATTISGARH
G-242501043/4

भारत कृ. अनु. प. - राष्ट्रीय कृषि आर्थिकी एवं नीति अनुसंधान संस्थान (निराए)
देव प्रकाश शास्त्री मार्ग, पुसा, नई दिल्ली - 110012

ICAR - National Institute of Agricultural Economics & Policy Research
Dev Prakash Shastri Marg, Pusa, New Delhi - 110012

No. 29(76)/2022-Proj. (NIAP) Dated: 10.07.2024

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

Walk-in-Interview will be conducted at designated places for filling-up the positions of Field Investigators under Schedule Caste Sub Plan Scheme. Details are mentioned below:

S. No.	Temporary Post	No. of Post (tentative)	Salary (Per month) (consolidated)	Date of Walk-in-Interview	Place of Interview
1.	Field Investigator	01	Rs. 15000/- per month (consolidated)	29.07.2024 at 11.30 AM	Community Hal, V&P, Basahra, Samalkha, Panipat, Haryana
2.	Field Investigator	01	Rs. 15000/- per month (consolidated)	30.07.2024 at 11.30 AM	Ambedkar Bhawan, Dhamravali, Bulandshahr, UP
3.	Field Investigator	01	Rs. 15000/- per month (consolidated)	31.07.2024 at 11.30 AM	Assistant Agriculture Office, Chomu, Jaipur

The vacancies shown above may increase or decrease. For further details regarding Educational Qualifications, emoluments, age limit, etc. candidates may visit this institute website i.e. www.niap.icar.gov.in

(Assistant Administrative Officer)

भारतीय अन्तर्देशीय जलमार्ग प्राधिकरण
INLAND WATERWAYS AUTHORITY OF INDIA
(Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Gov. of India)
Head Office : A-13, Sector - 1, Noida - 201 301 Phone: 0120-2827667, Fax: 0120-2822969, ic.wai@nic.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Bank to Bank Detailed Hydrographic Survey on National Waterway No. 2 (Bangladesh Border to Neamati)

e-Bids are invited from interested bidders for "Bank to Bank Detailed Hydrographic Survey on National Waterway No. 2 (Bangladesh Border to Neamati)". The Tender Documents and other relevant details are available at IWA website www.iwai.nic.in and e-procurement site <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>.

Date 09.07.2024 HYDROGRAPHIC CHIEF IWA, NOIDA

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 CrPC

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person Satpal, S/o: Lt. Rampal, R/o: H.No. D-227, Seemapuri, Delhi, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in FIR No. 355/14, U/s 379 IPC, P.S. Mahendra Park, Delhi, and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Satpal cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Satpal has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant);

Proclamation is hereby made that Satpal the said accused of FIR No. 355/14, U/s 379 IPC, P.S. Mahendra Park, Delhi, is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 21.08.2024.

By Order
Ms. Niharika Kumar Sharma
DP/8903/NW/2024 Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (Court Matter) (North) Room No.-117, Rohini Courts, Delhi

अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान भोपाल
ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES BHOPAL
(An Autonomous Institute under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare Government of India)
साकेत नगर, भोपाल (म.प्र.)-462020, www.aiimsbhopal.edu.in

No. ADM-24(2024)AIMS/IBPL/Rec. CELL/CP Contractual/5823 Date: 11/07/2024

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW FOR ENGAGEMENT OF ASSISTANT PROFESSORS AT AIIMS, BHOPAL ON CONTRACTUAL BASIS

All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Bhopal will hold an Interview for engagement of Assistant Professors in various departments on a fixed monthly remuneration purely on contractual basis. For details of essential eligibility criteria, terms and conditions of engagement, application form, application procedure etc. the detailed advertisement may be referred on the Institute's website-www.aiimsbhopal.edu.in. Candidates fulfilling the eligibility criteria and aspiring to attend the walk-in-interview may submit their application in the prescribed format within 15 days of the publication of this advertisement on recruitment@aiimsbhopal.edu.in. The date of interview and document verification shall be notified separately on Institute's website.

Sd/-
Dy. Director (Admin.), AIIMS, Bhopal

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person Saroj W/o Sh. Kishan Chauhan R/o Jhuggi No. 1750/2, Sanjay Basti, Timarpur, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence case FIR No. 227/2022 u/s 33 D. Ex. Act dated 01.07.2022 at P.S. Timarpur, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said Saroj cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Saroj has absconded (or is concealing herself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proceeding u/s 82 Cr.P.C. has been initiated in the case. Proclamation is hereby made that the said Saroj accused of FIR No. 227/2022 u/s 33 D. Ex. Act dated 01.07.2022 at P.S. Timarpur, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on 20.08.2024.

By Order: Sh. Apoorv Gupta,
Metropolitan Magistrate-02 (Central),
Room No. 26,
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

DP/8894/N/2024

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority
Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida G.B Nagar, (U.P.)
Website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited from eligible contractors / firms for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened / downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website : www.noidaauthorityonline.com & <https://etender.up.nic.in>. Please ensure to see these website for any changes / amendments & corrigendum etc.

Sr. No.	Job Number	Name of Work	Amount (Rs)	Publishing
(1)	09/SPE/PE(PH-I)/E-7/2024-25	Supply of Labour for Fogging and Antilarwa Work, Noida	78,53,527.44	1st Time

The above tenders can be uploaded From dated 12.07.2024 to 25.07.2024 upto 5.00 PM. The Pre-Qualification shall be opened / downloaded on dated 26.07.2024 at 11.00 AM.

Dy. GM/Sr. Project Engineer (Public Health) Noida.

CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

BUREAU OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY
(A Statutory body under Ministry of Power, Government of India)
4th Floor, Sewa Bhawan, R. K. Puram, New Delhi-110066
Website: www.beeindia.gov.in, Ph: 011-26766700

EMPANELMENT/RE-EMPANELMENT OF ESCOS

Applications are invited from eligible organizations for empanelment/re-empanelment as Energy Service Company (ESCO) with Bureau of Energy Efficiency with effect from the date of publication of this advertisement.

Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) is promoting energy efficiency initiatives in the country under the Energy Conservation Act, 2001, including promotion of energy conservation measures in existing facilities through ESCO model. ESCO is an organization engaged in a performance-based contract with a client firm to implement measures which reduce energy consumption and costs in a technically viable manner. BEE intends to prepare and maintain a list of empaneled Energy Service Companies with validity of two years.

In order to get empaneled/re-empaneled as ESCO with BEE, all ESCOs have to submit complete application forms to the Grading Agencies CRISIL Ltd/CARE Analytics and Advisory Private Limited/Fitch Solutions India Advisory Private Limited/SMERA Ratings Private Limited.

The advertisement and contact details of SEBI accredited agencies and process for empanelment can be downloaded from www.beeindia.gov.in. The application form for the grading process can be obtained from respective grading agencies. The last date for receipt of complete application forms to the above-mentioned grading agencies is within 30 days from the date of publication of this advertisement. Incomplete applications and those received after due date would be rejected.

CBC 34106/12/0006/2425 Secretary

J&K SPORTS COUNCIL
M.A Stadium Jammu/Bakhshi Stadium Srinagar
Email Id: jkstatesportsCouncil@gmail.com

e-NIT No.: 10 of 2024-25
DATED: 09.07.2024

For and on behalf of the Secretary, J&K Sports Council, e-tender are invited on percentage basis from the reputed manufacturers or their authorized distributors/dealers or registered suppliers/agencies for Procurement of equipments for 17 No. Open Air Gym at various location in J&K UT:-

S. No.	Particulars	Adv. Cost	Cost of Earnest Money	Cost of Tender Document
1.	Procurement of equipments for 17 No. Open Air Gym at various location in J&K UT	Rs. 2,96,68,000/-	Rs. 5,95,000/-	Rs. 5000/-

Date of Publishing of tender 09.07.2024 from 06.30 P.M
Period of Downloading of documents 10.07.2024 from 10.00 A.M to 16.07.2024 upto 4.00 P.M
Bid submission start date 11.07.2024 from 10.00 A.M
Bid submission end date (online documents) 16.07.2024 upto 4.00 P.M
Date & (time of Opening of Bids online) 16.07.2024 after 05.00 PM or subsequent date in the office of Secretary, J&K Sports Council, Bakhshi, Stadium Srinagar

The tender documents along with other Terms and Conditions of the NIT and relevant documents can be downloaded from the website <https://jktenders.gov.in>. The Tender shall be uploaded in electronic format on the website <https://jktenders.gov.in>. The bidders shall have to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents like CDR/PAN/GST Number/Demand Draft/(Tender fee)/registration certificate duly renewed. The cost of tender documents shall be deposited in the J&K Bank bearing Account No.: 0067040100006185, IFSC Code: JAKA0Street, Branch: H.S.H. Street. The cost of tender document is non refundable.

No.: SC/E-01/4276/3453-57 Sd/-
Dated: 09.07.2024 SECRETARY
DIP-J-1057-P-24 J&K Sports Council

FORM No. STK -- 6
PUBLIC NOTICE

[Pursuant to sub-section (2) and sub-section (4) of section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 and rule 7 of the Companies (Removal of Names of Companies from the Register of Companies) Rules, 2016]

Public Notice: ROC/C-PACE/STK-2/248(2)/2024-25/380 Date:- 26.06.2024

Reference:

(1) In the matter of striking off or removal of names of (32) companies in the state of Delhi under section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 in respect of:

S. No.	Work Item	CIN	Company Name
1	AA8517509	U74999DL2019PTC344052	CFC SPORTS PRIVATE LIMITED
2	AA8203794	U80301DL2019PTC345078	EDUATM EDUCATION UNIVERSE PRIVATE LIMITED
3	AA8464687	U85221DL2023PTC420051	BINODINI ANIMA BRIGHTEN AND ECLIPSE PRIVATE LIMITED
4	AA8442498	U64990DL2023PTC413748	DEEYIA FINANCIAL SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED
5	AA8548839	U55209DL2022PTC408657	FOLKHUB HOSPITALITY AND EVENTS PRIVATE LIMITED
6	AA7790658	U77309DL2023PTC410870	ALPHANU ENERGIES PRIVATE LIMITED
7	AA8511640	U72200DL2022PTC396790	IFX TRADE SOLUTION PRIVATE LIMITED
8	AA8513127	U37200DL2022PTC395300	CAPILLARY WASTE SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED
9	AA8282992	U74999DL2021PTC388726	PAUFMAN VENTURES PRIVATE LIMITED
10	AA8302430	U92490DL2021PTC379276	MUDDY ROUTES PRIVATE LIMITED
11	AA8395419	U36999DL2020PTC374371	INTERIORITY PRIVATE LIMITED
12	AA8209490	U74999DL2020PTC367588	ONM SPECIALISTS PRIVATE LIMITED
13	AA8403907	U62200DL2020PTC369313	STB AVIATIONS PRIVATE LIMITED
14	AA8295723	U22219DL2020PTC370890	AHH MEDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
15	AA8176512	U35999DL2019PTC352908	TNS ELECTRIC MOBILITY VENTURES PRIVATE LIMITED
16	AA8327177	U74999DL2006PTC152901	UPSCALE GOURMET HOSPITALITY SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED
17	AA8479472	U74899DL1983PTC015251	B R PIPES PRIVATE LIMITED
18	AA8565717	U74899DL1991PTC046419	JYOTIRKADITYA SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED
19	AA8568615	U74140DL2004PTC125661	MGR CONSULTANCY SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED
20	AA8348222	U74999DL2018PTC339373	DYWIDAG SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
21	AA8535115	U29100DL2017PTC319051	LRS MACHINERY WORKS PRIVATE LIMITED
22	AA8246200	U74999DL2016PTC307929	NRVESTIN GLOBAL SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED
23	AA8195078	U74999DL2017OPC318029	SRIJAANI DESIGGNS (OPC) PRIVATE LIMITED
24	AA8519290	U72200DL2017PTC311097	MSURESFT SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED
25	AA8562885	U72900DL2013PTC251522	EICE INFOTECH PRIVATE LIMITED
26	AA8309228	U51909DL2016PTC309361	INKOEX PRIVATE LIMITED
27	AA8549226	U74140DL2015PTC282131	VIGRAH IMPEX PRIVATE LIMITED
28	AA7814953	U74999DL2013PTC261764	SARO BEAUTY AND WELLNESS SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED
29	AA8011503	U65923DL2011PTC225197	PRABHATAM CREDITS AND HOLDINGS PRIVATE LIMITED
30	AA8224105	U22130DL2012PTC235629	SUPERFAST MEDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
31	AA8246467	U15400DL2010PTC199063	SYS COMMODITIES PRIVATE LIMITED
32	AA8072314	U85191DL2009PTC197517	MIND & SOUL FITNESS PRIVATE LIMITED

(2) Notice is hereby given that the Registrar of Companies had received applications from the above-mentioned companies under section 248(2) of the Companies Act, 2013 for removal of its/their name (s) from the register of companies either on the ground that they have failed to commence business within one year of their incorporation or on the ground that the company(ies) is/are not carrying on any business or operation for a period of two immediately preceding financial years and has/have not made any application (s) within such period for obtaining the status of a dormant company under section 455 of the Companies Act, 2013 or the company(ies) have obtained the status of dormant company/ subscribers to the memorandum have not paid the subscription which they had undertaken to pay at the time of incorporation of a company and a declaration to this effect has not been filed within one hundred and eighty days of its incorporation under subsection (1) of section 10A/ have not been carrying on any business or operations, as revealed after the physical verification carried out under sub-section (9) of section 12, but it/they do not wish to continue its/their registration as companies and have, therefore, requested for removal/strike off of its/their names from the register of companies.

(3) Accordingly, the Registrar of Companies proposes to remove or strike off the names of the above-mentioned companies from the Register of Companies.

(4) Any person objecting to the proposed removal or striking off name of the companies from the register of companies may send his or her objection to the office address mentioned here above within thirty days from the date of publication of this notice.

Harihara Sahoo
Registrar
CBC 07123/11/0205/2425 Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE						
Sr. No.	Name of Board/Corp./Auth	Name of Work/Notice Tender	Opening Date/Closing Date (Time)	Amount/EMD (Approx.) in Rupees	Website of the Board/Corp./Auth	Nodal Officer/Contact Details/Email
1	HARYANA SCHOOL CHEMISTRY BIOLOGY LAB AT SHIKSHA GSSSS KHORE BASAI AND 2 PARIYOJANA PARISAD GSSS REWASAN, DISTT. NUH. + 6 WORKS	CONSTRUCTION OF PHYSICS CHEMISTRY BIOLOGY LAB AT SHIKSHA GSSSS KHORE BASAI AND 2 PARIYOJANA PARISAD GSSS REWASAN, DISTT. NUH. + 6 WORKS	08.07.2024 16.07.2024	3.44 CRORES	www.hsspp.in	9041397095 civilbranchesa3@gmail.com

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaprocmnt.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in
RO No. 13/2025/40/27732/19/7

ODISHA MINING CORPORATION LIMITED	
OMC House, Bhubaneswar-751001, Odisha CIN:U13100OR1956SGC00313, www.omcltd.in	
E-procurement notice Bid document No.: OMCIE-PROC/C&P/09/2024-25, Dtd. 11/07/2024 (International Competitive Bidding)	
1. Work name	Selection of agency for conducting Fixed wing Airborne (Magnetic Gradiometer & Radiometric) Surveys over the parts of Odisha state, India
2. Availability of the tender documents	Date: 15.07.2024
3. Bid Due Date	Date: 20.08.2024, Time: 3:00 PM
4. Opening of Techno-Commercial Bid	Date: 20.08.2024, Time: 5:00 PM
5. Opening of Price Bid	To be informed to the Technically Qualified Bidders

All other details can be seen from the Tender Document available on the e-procurement portal of the Government of Odisha (www.tendersodisha.gov.in) and on the website of OMC (www.omcltd.in). OMC reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-
Head (C&P)
OIPR - 3005/11/0048/2425

Govt. of Bihar	
Bihar Medical Services & Infrastructure Corporation Limited 2 nd & 3 rd Floor, Swasthya Bhawan, Behind IGIMS, Sheikhpura, Adjacent to State Health Society, Patna- 800014, Bihar Phone/Fax: +91612 2283287, + 91612 2283289	
(Notice Inviting E-Bids)	
Tender for the Procurement, Rate Contract and Supply & Installation of Medical Equipment for different Govt. Health Institutions of Bihar.	
Notice Inviting Tender No.-BMSICL/2024-25/ME-366 (Only through E- Tender on website:- https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in)	
The Bihar Medical Services and Infrastructure Corporation Limited, Patna invites e-bids from interested parties for Procurement, Rate Contract, Supply & Installation of Ultrasound Machine with Colour Doppler (High End) for different Government Health Institutions of Bihar	
Tender Schedule	
Tender Reference No.	BMSICL/2024-25/ME-366
Date of Pre-Bid Meeting	18 th July 2024 at 15:00 Hrs in Conference hall of BMSICL, 3 rd Floor, Swasthya Bhawan, Behind IGIMS, Sheikhpura, Adjacent to State Health Society, Bihar. All pre-bid queries (as per form-16, Section -IV of bid document) to be submitted through e-mail on bmsicltenderequipment@gmail.com upto 19 th July 2024 till 15:00 Hrs
Last date and time of submission of online bids	08 th August 2024 upto 17:00 Hrs.
Last date and time for submission of original document of EMD	09 th August 2024 till 14:00 Hrs.
Date, Time and Place of opening of Technical Bid	09 th August 2024 (at 15:00 Hrs.) on the website of https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in in the office of BMSICL
Date and time of opening of financial Bids	To be announced later on https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in
Validity of Tender	180 Days
Cost of the tender document	Rs.11,800/- (Eleven Thousand Eight Hundred only) Non-refundable.
Bid Processing Fee	Rs 590/- (on the website of https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in)
1. Any queries and questions regarding the tender should be addressed to MD BMSICL (either through letter or through e-mail- md-bmsicl-bih@nic.in and/or bmsicl.equipment@gmail.com or contact no. 0612-2219634/35) up to 7 days before of closing of online bid registration.	
For further details please visit website state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar	
PR- 003780 (B & C) 2024-25	GM (Procurement) BMSICL, Patna
नरो की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार!	

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE						
Sr. No.	Name of Board/Corp./Auth	Name of Work/Notice Tender	Opening Date/Closing Date (Time)	Amount/EMD (Approx.) in Rupees	Website of the Board/Corp./Auth	Nodal Officer/Contact Details/Email
1	DIRECTOR GENERAL PUBLIC RELATIONS AND LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT HARYANA	SHORT E-TENDER NOTICE FOR INVITATION OF BIDS FOR ENGAGEMENT OF VENDORS FOR MOBILE PERFORMING VANS FOR DISSEMINATING INFORMATION ABOUT HARYANA GOVERNMENT SCHMES, PROGRAMME, ETC.	12.07.2024 29.07.2024	EMD 1 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9872663109 diprexchibition@gmail.com

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaprocmnt.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in
RO No. 11/2025/40/27732/19/7

Maharashtra Rural Road Development Association	
Superintending Engineer, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar Region, Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar	
e-Tender Notice 08/2024-25	
The Superintending Engineer, PMGSY, Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar Region, Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar on behalf of Government of Maharashtra invites the rate bids in electronic tendering system published on http://mahatenders.gov.in for construction & five year maintenance of STA-PAR-III-06 civil road work under Mukhya Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the Gangakhed Block districts of PARBHANI. Date of Sale & Submission start from 10-07-2024 11:00 am to 24-07-2024 till 05:00 pm. Further notification & Clarification will be published on website.	
Sd/- (K. T. Wagh) Executive Engineer Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana MRRDA District - Parbhani DGIPR/2024-25/ROC 777	Sd/- (V. H. More) Superintending Engineer Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana Chh. Sambhajnagar Region, Chh. Sambhajnagar

LIFE	
"जीव देवी पर्यावरण भवन" उत्तराखण्ड प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड 46 ^{थी} , आई.टी. पार्क, सहस्त्रधारा रोड, देहरादून E-mail: msukpcb@yahoo.com , फोन: 0135-2607092	
पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति हेतु लोक सुनवाई के लिये सूचना	
श्री त्रिलोक सिंह मगराल, पुत्र स्व. श्री नारायण सिंह मगराल, दमुवाड़ा, जवाहर ज्योति, हल्द्वानी, जिला नैनीताल द्वारा ग्राम मान्याधी, तहसील गंगोलीहाट, (गणेश गंगोली), जिला पिथौरागढ़ में प्रस्तावित सोपस्टोन माईनिंग (क्षेत्रफल-4.049 हे०) की पूर्व पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति हेतु लोक सुनवाई का प्रस्ताव उत्तराखण्ड प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड, देहरादून के समक्ष प्रस्तुत किया गया है। प्रस्ताव के लिये राज्य स्तरीय पर्यावरण समाघात निवारण प्राधिकरण (SEIAA) द्वारा Terms of Reference निर्धारित किये गये हैं, जिनके अन्तर्गत प्रस्तावक के द्वारा ड्राफ्ट पर्यावरण प्रभाव मूल्यांकन रिपोर्ट एवं पर्यावरण प्रबन्धन योजना तैयार कर प्रस्तुत की गयी है। पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार द्वारा जारी ई-आई.ए. अधिसूचना 14.09.2006 (यथासंशोधित) के अनुसार उक्त प्रकार की परियोजनाओं के क्रियान्वयन से पूर्व लोक सुनवाई का प्रावधान है, जिस हेतु 30 दिनों का नोटिस समाचार पत्रों के माध्यम से जन साधारण के संज्ञानार्थ दिया जाना आवश्यक है। लोक सुनवाई हेतु "पैनल" की संरचना उक्त अधिसूचना के अनुरूप निम्नवत् है:-	
1. जिलाधिकारी, जनपद पिथौरागढ़ या उनके द्वारा नामित/अधिकृत प्रतिनिधि जो जिला स्तरीय अधिकारी हो लोक सुनवाई के अध्यक्ष।	
2. उत्तराखण्ड प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड के प्रतिनिधि।	
प्रस्ताव से सम्बन्धित जमा समस्त अमिलेख (i) क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, 25-सुभाष रोड, देहरादून (ii) मुख्यालय, उत्तराखण्ड प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड, गौरा देवी पर्यावरण भवन, 46-बी, आई.टी. पार्क, सहस्त्रधारा रोड, देहरादून (iii) क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, उत्तराखण्ड प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड, आवास विकास कालोनी, हल्द्वानी, जनपद नैनीताल (iv) कार्यालय जिलाधिकारी, पिथौरागढ़ (v) कार्यालय, जिला पंचायत, पिथौरागढ़ (vi) जिला उद्योग केंद्र, पिथौरागढ़ में उपलब्ध हैं, जिनका कोई भी इच्छुक संस्था/व्यक्ति अवलोकन कर सकता है। ड्राफ्ट पर्यावरण प्रभाव मूल्यांकन रिपोर्ट एवं सारांश की प्रति www.ueppcb.uk.gov.in पर भी उपलब्ध हैं।	
श्री त्रिलोक सिंह मगराल, पुत्र स्व. श्री नारायण सिंह मगराल, दमुवाड़ा, जवाहर ज्योति, हल्द्वानी, जिला नैनीताल द्वारा ग्राम मान्याधी, तहसील गंगोलीहाट, (गणेश गंगोली), जिला पिथौरागढ़ में प्रस्तावित सोपस्टोन माईनिंग (क्षेत्रफल-4.049 हे०) की पूर्व पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति हेतु लोक सुनवाई दिनांक 14.08.2024 को प्रातः 11:00 बजे से परियोजना स्थल में तत्समय कोविड-19 के संदर्भ में विद्यमान SoP के अधीन सोशल डिस्टेंसिंग, आवश्यक रूप से मास्क का प्रयोग, थर्मल स्क्रीनिंग एवं हैंडवॉश व सनेटाइजर तथा अन्य सुरक्षात्मक उपायों के साथ निर्धारित की जाती है।	
अतः सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि सम्बन्धित परियोजना के प्रस्ताव के सम्बन्ध में अपने मौखिक, लिखित, सुझाव, टीका टिप्पणियों एवं आपत्तियों इस कार्यालय अथवा बोर्ड के क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, उत्तराखण्ड प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड, आवास विकास कालोनी, हल्द्वानी में इस सूचना से सम्बन्धित विज्ञापन प्रकाशन की तिथि से 30 दिनों के अन्दर प्रेषित कर सकते हैं अथवा लोक सुनवाई के समय भी प्रस्तुत कर सकते हैं।	
सदस्य सचिव उत्तराखण्ड प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड	

Prayagraj Nagar Nigam			
1, Sarojini Naidu Marg, Prayagraj-211001, Uttar Pradesh			
Nit No/ 240	ENV/2024-25	Date: 10/07/2024	
E-TENDER NOTICE, 2 nd call			
This is to inform to all prospective bidders having the required qualification mentioned in the RFP document that Municipal Corporation Prayagraj invites Selection of Agency of Development and Maintenance of Miyawaki Forest in Prayagraj Municipal Corporation (Year 2024-25).			
Schedule for Tender			
S. No.	Activity	Date	Time
1	Tender Document Availability	11/07/2024	14:00 hrs onwards
2	Last Date of Bid submission	22/07/2024	up to 15:00 hrs
3	Technical Bid Opening Date	22/07/2024	16:00 hrs onwards
For more details, please visit the website at http://www.etender.up.nic.in			
Uttam Kumar Verma Environment Engineer Prayagraj Nagar Nigam			
पत्रांक : सं.जी.-3108जसम्प/अभि/2024 दिनांक 11.07.2024			

Bihar State Power Generation Company Limited			
5 th Floor, Vidyut Bhawan, Bailey Road, Patna – 800 021			
Website: https://bspvgl.bihar.gov.in			
Email ID: chiefengineerbspvgl@gmail.com			
CIN:U40102BR2012SGC018888			
Notice Inviting Tender NIT No. 04/PR/BSPGCL/2024			
Description of work	EMD	Tender Document Cost (inc.GST)	Bid Processing Fee
PROCUREMENT OF SOLAR POWER THROUGH TARIFF-BASED COMPETITIVE BIDDING FROM GRID-CONNECTED CANAL – BANK SOLAR PV POWER PROJECT OF 20MW(AC) CUMULATIVE CAPACITY TO BE CONSTRUCTED UNDER RESCO MODE AT 5 DIFFERENT LOCATIONS IN BIHAR	Rs.10,00,000/- per MW (Rupees Ten Lakhs/MW)	Rs. 25,000/- + GST @ 18% (non-refundable)	As per Eproc2.
Start Date of Online Sale of Tender Documents	02.08.2024(14:00 Hrs.) onwards		
Pre-Bid Meeting Date (Physical & Online)	At 11.00 Hrs on 12.08.2024, Venue: Conference Hall, 5 th floor VidyutBhawan, Patna-800021		
Last Date of Online Sale of Tender document:	Upto 14:00 Hrs. of 23.08.2024		
Last Date of Online Submission of Tender	Upto 16:00 Hrs. of 23.08.2024		
Last Date of Submission of Original EMD	Upto 16:00 Hrs. of 23.08.2024		
Date of Opening of Techno-Commercial Part (Part-I)	17:00 Hrs. onwards on 23.08.2024		
Date of Opening of Financial Part (Part-II)	To be intimated to the eligible Bidders through e-mail.		
Online E-Reverse Auction Request Schedule	E-Reverse Auction schedule will be communicated after completion of evaluation of Financial Bid (Part-II). The qualified bidders will be informed accordingly.		
Any other information including corrigendum/addendum, if any, shall be uploaded on e-procurement website and the bidders are advised to follow and keep track of BSPGCL/e-procurement website for updated information if any. BSPGCL is not obligated to send/communicate separate information in this regard. However for any enquiry bidders may contact on following:-			
(i) Contact No. 7763813863.			
(ii) E-mail Id- chiefengineerbspvgl@gmail.com			
Chief Engineer, BSPGCL			
For further details please visit : www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar			
e-Procurement Help Desk			
Toll Free Number: 1800 572 6571, Email Id: eproc2support@bihar.gov.in			
Working Hours: 8AM to 7PM			
(All days in week except Sunday and few selected state holidays),			
PR-003740 (B & C) 2024-25			
नरो से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, वृद्ध संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।			

पावर ट्रांसमिशन कारपोरेशन ऑफ उत्तराखण्ड लि	
अधीक्षक अभियन्ता (जानपद) परियोजना/कार्यालय, विद्युत भवन, नजदीक-आई.टी.पार्क/डी.पी.पार्क, सहस्त्रधारा रोड, माजरा, देहरादून-248002, दूरभाष सं. 7088117360	
निविदा विस्तारित सूचना – 01/SE(C)O&M/E-Tender/PTCUL/D.Dun/2024-25	
निविदा सं. 01/SE(C)O&M/E-Tender/PTCUL/D.Dun/2024-25 की डाउनलोडिंग, प्राप्ति एवं चुकने की तिथि क्रमशः दिनांक 24.07.2024 तथा 25.07.2024 तक विस्तारित की जाती है। निविदाएं दिनांक 24.07.2024 समय 5:00 बजे तक अधीक्षक अभियन्ता (जानपद), परियोजना/कार्यालय, विद्युत भवन, माजरा, देहरादून के कार्यालय में प्राप्त की जाएगी। तथा निविदा के तकनीकी भाग को उन्नीस दिनांक 25.07.2024 समय 3:00 बजे फॉर्म के समक्ष खोला जायेगा।	
निविदा सम्बन्धित अन्य विस्तृत विवरण ई-निविदा वेबसाइट www.uktenders.gov.in एवं ई-निविदा सूचना पिटकुल वेबसाइट www.ptcul.org से डाउनलोड किये जा सकते हैं।	
ई-निविदा से सम्बन्धित जानकारी हेतु अथवा किसी भी सहायता के लिए PH.No- 91-8999890000, +0120-4200462, 0120-4001002, 0120-4001005, 0120-6277787 से सम्पर्क स्थापित करें।	
पत्रांक- 273/अधीक्षक(जानपद)/परि/एच/अनु/पिटकुल/दे/दु/टी-1	अधीक्षक अभियन्ता (जानपद) परि एवं अनु0
दिनांक- 09.07.2024	
"राष्ट्रहित में बिजली बचाये"	

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, MECHANICAL CIRCLE, UTTARAKHAND PEY JAL NIGAM, HALDWANI	
Bid Notification No.: 722/G-7/14 Date : 09-07-2024	
E-TENDER NOTICE	
1- Name of the work :- E Tender for Electrical & Mechanical works of Kanth Gaon Pumping W/S scheme in District Pithoragarh under Jal Jeevan Mission Programme (As per tender document).	
2- Estimated Cost :- ₹ 69.50 Lakh+GST Extra	
3- Period of completion :- 03 month.	
4- Date & time of availability of bid documents in the portal :- From 15-07-2024 Upto 17:00 Hrs	
5- Last Date/Time for uploading of bids in the portal :- 29-07-2024 Upto 17:00 Hrs	
6- Pre bid meeting details Date & Place :- 20-07-2024 15:00 Hrs	
Place: Office of the E.E., Mechanical Division, UKPNJ, Almora.	
7- Offline submission of documents Date :- 30-07-2024 Upto 17:00 Hrs	
8- Technical Bid Opening Date & Place :- 31-07-2024 14:00 Hrs	
Place : Office of the Superintending Engineer, Mechanical Circle, U.K. Peyjal Nigam, Haldwani	
For more details log in: www.uktenders.gov.in	
Superintending Engineer	

Chief Engineer, Uttarakhand Rural Roads Development Agency,	
First Floor, Directorate of Panchayatiraj, Opp-IT Park, Sahastadhara Road, Dehradun.	
Ref. No. 576/11-02(xix)-2/ITCO/URRDA/24	Dated :-10.07.2024
PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY) e-Procurement Notice-04/(P-III/Bal. Work)/2024-25	
The Chief Engineer, URRDA on behalf of Governor of Uttarakhand invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of works under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the Districts of Pithoragarh & Uttarkashi for 02 number of packages with estimated cost totalling to Rs. 15.88 Crore including their maintenance for five years from the eligible contractors(Class-A and above) registered with PWD/CPWD or equivalent".	
Date of release of invitation for Bids through e-procurement: 12.07.2024.	
Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid documents are available online and should be submitted online in www.pmgstendersuk.gov.in . The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities.	
The bidders are required to submit original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4 B (ii) of ITB with the CONCERNED CIRCLE OFFICES, mentioned in SBD/MBD, only up to or before the time and date of the submission of the Bids (for World Bank funded works) and on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the bid (for Regular PMGSY Works), either by registered post or by hand, failing which the bids shall be declared non-responsive. No Physical documents will be accepted after the closing date and time of submission of bids.	
Last Date/Time for receipt of bids through e-Procurement: 12.07.2024 01:00 PM	
For further details please log on to www.pmgstendersuk.gov.in .	
Chief Engineer, URRDA, Dehradun	
* Non Registered bidders may submit bids, however, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.	
Note : For e-Procurement for any sort of queries 0135-2608125 number may be contacted 10:00 AM to 05:00 PM.	

UJVN Limited	
H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006 Telephones: 0135-2763808, Fax: 0135-2763508 CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvn.com	
RO No. 585	Tender Notice Dated : 10/07/2024
Office of the Executive Engineer (Generation), Khodri Power Station, Dakpathar (Dehradun), invites sealed tenders from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below: Tender No: 03/EE(Gen)/Khodri/2024-25: Heavy Duty Hydrophobic Water & Moisture Displacer Protective Coating in 33 KV Panel along with other related work in 33KV breaker panel at Khodri Power Station. Tender No: 04/EE(Gen)/Khodri/2024-25: Re-tubing of Generator Air coolers (05 Nos.) of Unit #2 at Khodri Power Station Estimated cost Rs. 14,50,000/- & Rs. 23,41,998/- G.S.T extra Date of availability of bid document on website: 11.07.2024, 10:00 hrs. Last date for submission of tender: 01.08.2024 up to 16:00 hrs. For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Nigam's website " www.ujvn.com "	
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity" Executive Engineer (Generation)	

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 location (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.irps.gov.in , 12/02/24 FA			
North central railways @CPDRNC @northcentralrailway www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in			

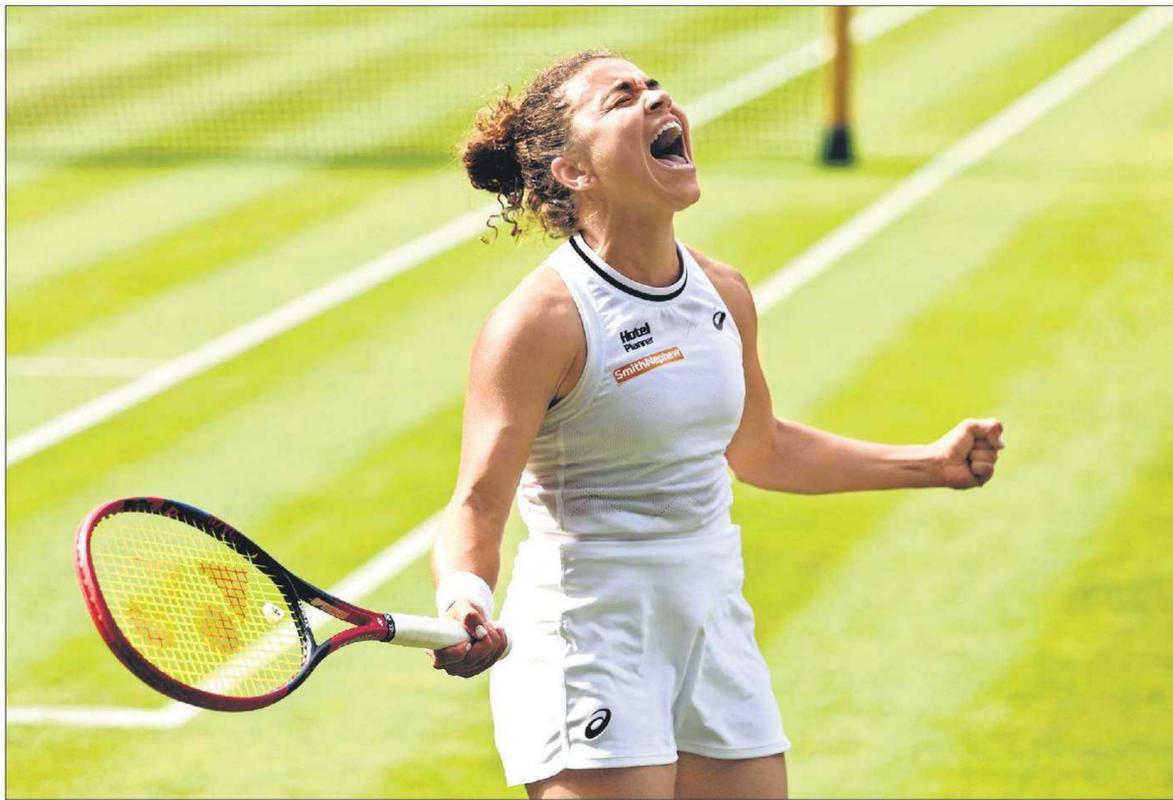
UJVN LIMITED	
H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006 Telephones: 0135-2763808, Fax: 0135-2763508 CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvn.com	
Letter No: 593	Tender Notice Dated: 11/07/2024
Office of the Executive Engineer (E&M), Vyasi Dam, Juddo, Dakpathar UJVN Ltd, invites sealed tender from interested parties. Summary of tender is given below: Tender No.05/EE(E&M)/Vyasi Dam/2024-25 Name of work/supply/services etc: Annual Running & Maintenance of 05 KLD sewage Treatment Plant (STP), MBBR Based Technology at Vyasi Dam, Juddo Dist-Dehradun. Estimated cost - Rs. 5,36,000.00 only (Rs. Five lacs Thirty-Six Thousand only) plus applicable GST Date of availability of bid document on website: 12.07.2024 at 16:00 Hrs Last date for submission of tender: 01.08.2024 up to 16:00 Hrs. For fuller & further details, kindly visit www.ujvn.com	
Executive Engineer (E&M)	
"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"	

M.P. ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION	
5th Floor, "Metro Plaza", E-5 Arera Colony, Bittan Market Bhopal-462016, Phone No. : 0755-2463585, 2430154 Fax No. : 4004137, E-mail : secretary@mperc.nic.in , Website : www.mperc.in No. MPERC/SEC/IT/2024/1705 Bhopal, Dated : 11.07.2024	
PUBLIC NOTICE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST	
Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission, Bhopal requests/ invites Expressions of Interest (EoI) for Design/Development of Regulatory Analytics tool. The detailed The EoI (Expression of Interest) document is present on the Commission's website www.mperc.in (and its amendments, if any).	
All the institutions/organizations are requested to go through the details of EoI document available on the Commission's website before responding to this public notice.	
M.P. Madhyam/115364/2024 SECRETARY	

UJVN Limited	
H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006 Telephones: 0135-2763808, Fax: 0135-2763508 CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvn.com	
R.O. No. 589	e-TENDER NOTICE Dated 10.07.2024
The Office of Executive Engineer (Generation), Vyasi Power Station, Dakpathar invites online bids from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below: Tender No.: NIT-02/EE(Gen)/Vyasi/24-25 Name of Work/Supply/Services: Development & Maintenance of Garden and Operation of Canteen at Vyasi Power House. Estimated cost: Rs. 35,94,362.00 only + GST extra. Date of availability of bid document on website: 11.07.2024 from 16:00 Hrs. Last date for submission of bids on website: 26.07.2024 upto 16:00 Hrs. For fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal http://uktenders.gov.in	
Executive Engineer (Generation)	
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"	

NEW OKHLA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	
Main Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida, G.B. Nagar (U.P.) Website :	

SPORT



Italy's Jasmine Paolini celebrates after beating Croatian Donna Vekic in the Wimbledon semi-final in London on Thursday.

GETTY IMAGES

Paolini scripts miraculous run to earn a shot at glory

The Italian had not won a main draw match at Wimbledon before this year. She is now up against Krejickova in the final

Aditya Chaturvedi
aditya.chaturvedi@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: As the clock struck two hours and fifty minutes and it became the longest-ever women's singles semi-final at Wimbledon, Jasmine Paolini exulted having set up match point. Moments later, she was rejoicing once again after completing an astonishing 2-6, 6-4, 7-6(8) victory against Croatia's Donna Vekic on Centre Court.

It was another extraordinary result for the 28-year-old, who had never gone past the third round of a Grand Slam until Roland Garros this year. The Italian seventh seed became the first woman since Serena Williams in 2016 to reach the French Open and Wimbledon finals in the same season. She will now face Czech Republic's Barbora Krejickova, who completed a turnaround of her own to beat fourth seed Elena Rybakina 3-6, 6-3, 6-4, for the title on Saturday.

Paolini was nearly taken out in the round of 16 by Madison Keys. In the quarter-finals, she played some of her best tennis to dominate Emma Navarro, who

had made light work of Coco Gauff, one of the tournament favourites, in the previous round. But it was on Saturday when Paolini produced her most impressive performance to bounce back from a set down against the resurgent Vekic.

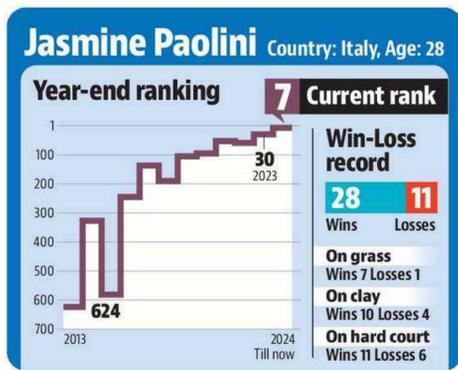
There aren't really any striking weapons in Paolini's game. Neither are her groundstrokes the most powerful nor her serve the most lethal. But along with her speed and incredible consistency from the baseline, what's worked wonders for her over these dreamy past couple of months is her courage and composure under pressure.

She looked all over the place in the opening set against Vekic. Her first serve was at just 47% and she got broken twice as her opponent brought the heat from the back of the court. From there, however, it was a different story altogether and the real battle begun.

Paolini's first serve percentage jumped to 72 in the second set and she found her range from the baseline as well. It was a testament to her temperament that she put the initial setback behind her quickly.

In the decider, too, she was under the pump as Vekic showed remarkable grit to break early in the set and then again to lead 4-3.

But each time, Paolini simply refused to go away. With her opponent continuing to be the aggressor, she relied on her



defence and remained patient for her moments. In the match tie-breaker, it was this resilience that got her over the line as Vekic, despite leading 8-7, committed three consecutive errors to lose the contest.

For Vekic, who had reached a career-high ranking of 19 in 2019 after reaching the US Open quarter-finals, it will remain a day to remember nonetheless. The 28-year-old had nearly quit tennis after a knee surgery in 2021 led to a string of disappointing results. Since reaching the Australian Open quarter-finals last year, though, her career has moved in the right direction. And by reaching the semi-finals of a Grand Slam for the first time now, having been knocked out in the first round from Majors a

staggering 20 times since making her debut in 2013, she'll take immense confidence going forward.

The day, however, belonged to Paolini. She was blown away in the French Open final by world No.1 Iga Swiatek, but there's reason to believe she can go all the way if she matches the tenacity she showed against Vekic.

"It was really tough today, she (Vekic) played unbelievably," said Paolini on court after her win. "She was hitting winners everywhere and I was struggling at the beginning, but I kept repeating to myself that I should fight for every ball and keep improving. I was serving really badly but I'm so happy with the win. I'll remember this match forever. I was just trying to find

solutions point by point. There's no place better than here to put up a fight. I think these last two months have been crazy for me. I'm just trying to focus on court because I love playing tennis. I used to watch Wimbledon finals as a kid and it's a dream to be playing here."

In the second semi-final, 2021 French Open champion Krejickova delivered a memorable performance to reach a Grand Slam final in singles for the second time in her career. The 28-year-old, who has won 10 Majors across women's doubles and mixed doubles, looked down and out trailing 0-4 in the opening set, but showed character to turn things around.

With top seed Swiatek getting knocked out in the third round, Gauff not making it past the round of 16 and world No.3 Aryna Sabalenka withdrawing before the start of the tournament due to injury, Rybakina was being looked at as the firm favourite this week at the All England Club. But the 25-year-old Russian-born Kazakh, who had emerged as Wimbledon champion in 2022, paid the price for being erratic on both flanks.

Krejickova tightened her game and despite needing six set points, she managed to draw level in the match. With the momentum having swung decidedly in her favour, she broke twice in the decider to complete a third win in as many matches against Rybakina.

'Do not bet against Novak's greatness'

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MUMBAI: There came a time through his career that touched many highs for Indian tennis, says Vijay Amritraj, when he knew that he could beat the likes of Bjorn Borg, John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors. They, more importantly, knew it too. These were giants of that generation and greats of the sport, each of whom the former world No.18 Indian had defeated at least once, including at Grand Slams through the mid-1970s and 80s. "When I played with Borg, Connors, McEnroe, the best of my generation, I believed that on my good day, no one could beat me. I was going to beat them," Amritraj said. "I knew that, they knew it, and I knew that they knew it."

It's exactly the mindset the challengers of this generation, that flashy Spaniard and the classy Italian, now carry fronting up with the statistical Serbian GOAT. Both Carlos Alcaraz and Jannik Sinner have defeated Novak Djokovic in a Slam final and semi-final, respectively, over the last year. And should the defending champion and seven-time champion book a repeat show of the 2023 title clash at Wimbledon this weekend, Alcaraz—as well as Djokovic—will be aware of that fresh outlook.

"Now in their mind, they (Alcaraz and Sinner) know how to win against him (Djokovic) as well. Djokovic knows that, Alcaraz knows that, and Djokovic knows that Alcaraz knows that," Amritraj said from the All England Club in an interview facilitated by Star Sports.

Not too long ago, it wasn't the case. Alcaraz, 21, surrendered to Djokovic in the 2023 French Open semis before slamming the door on him in last year's Wimbledon final. Sinner, 22, twice lost to Djokovic at Wimbledon in 2022 (quarters) and 2023 (semis) before getting one over him at this year's Australian Open semis to go all the way. These youngsters grew up watching Djokovic, Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal go about doing their barely believable things. Observing them from outside the court, however, and turning up to face them on it can be two starkly different lessons, felt Amritraj from his own experience. "There's a momentum switch that you can feel, also in terms of body language," Amritraj, a four-time Slam quarterfinalist, said. "You had to really read your opponent. That's why Borg was so tough, because you couldn't read anything. In McEnroe's case you knew you could upset him, same with Connors. But with these greats, at 30-40, 3-4, you knew they were going to do something special. And you needed to be ready for it."

In those high-pressure 30-40 moments, guys like Alcaraz and Sinner have started to figure out a way to crack Djokovic, which, earlier, seemed a near insurmountable task against the Serb.

"The important thing for Sinner and Alcaraz was what they learnt from the early times they played Novak. The thing that younger players tend to do against a great champion is when push comes to shove, they tend to force the issue. They don't take a step back and say — you know what, I'm fitter than

Battle for the final

CARLOS ALCARAZ	DANIIL MEDVEDEV
ESP	RUS
3	5
3	5
4	2
21	28
26/6	28-9
2	0
3	1
CHAMPION (2023)	BEST AT WIMBLEDON
	SEMIS (2023, 2024)

LORENZO MUSSETTI	NOVAK DJOKOVIC
ITA	SRB
25	2
25	2
1	5
22	37
18/17	18/6
0	0
0	24
SEMIS (2024)	BEST AT WIMBLEDON
	CHAMPION (2011, 2014, 2015, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022)

Djokovic knows how to handle his body. He wasn't going to play this tournament to win one or two matches; he's in it to win 7.

VIJAY AMRITRAJ, Indian tennis great

he is, I can stay with him longer over the course of a point, so I don't have to force the issue and overdo stuff. Which is what would happen in the early matches. And that's why Sinner was able to win in Australia and Alcaraz was able to win last year (at Wimbledon)," Amritraj said.

That defeat, along with the one in the 2021 US Open final that denied Djokovic the Calendar Grand Slam, would have "hurt him the most". Should they meet again in this year's Wimbledon final—Alcaraz plays Daniil Medvedev and Djokovic takes on Lorenzo Musetti in the semis—on Sunday, "I think they're even", reckoned the International Tennis Hall of Famer. "It'll really come down to Djokovic's fitness," Amritraj said.

Which, a month ago as he withdrew from his French Open quarter-final and underwent a knee

surgery, was a big unknown. Once Djokovic entered the Wimbledon draw, though, "he was the frontrunner" for Amritraj.

"Look, when everyone says, 'Novak is done, he's just had knee surgery, he's wearing a brace, he's not moving as well he used to', the first thing I tell them is, do not bet against greatness," he said. "That's always going to be in Djokovic's DNA. He knows how to handle his body. He wasn't going to play this tournament to win one or two matches; he's in it to win seven."

And the Serb continues to take on the crowd, feeding off even the slightest bit of negative energy from the British fans. "I mean, he blows hot and cold. He's one of the nicest guys you could meet. What he's done for Serbia and European tennis is spectacular. He's literally the golden boy of his country. Public opinion is a tough one," Amritraj said.

Nunez, Uruguay players brawl with fans after semi-final loss

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CHARLOTTE: Liverpool star Darwin Nunez and other Uruguay players were involved in a brawl with Colombian fans which erupted after their 1-0 Copa America semi-final defeat on Wednesday.

Uruguay striker Nunez unleashed a flurry of punches at Colombian supporters after jumping into the spectator seating at Charlotte's Bank of America Stadium following an ill-tempered loss to Colombia.

Uruguay central defender Jose Maria Gimenez said players had leapt into the melee out of concern for the safety of family members and loved ones watching the game. "This is a disaster. Our family was in danger. We had to go to the stands to take out our loved ones, with tiny newborn babies," the Atletico Madrid player said.

"There was not a single police officer... I hope those who are organising this are a little more careful with the families."

"Every game it's been happening because there are people who don't know how to handle a couple of drinks."

The overwhelming majority of the spectators in the crowd were



The Uruguay-Colombia semi-final saw an ugly end.

supporting Colombia but there was no segregation between them and their Uruguayan counterparts.

Several Uruguay players climbed into the crowd, seemingly to protect fans, with Nunez prominent. The fighting continued for several minutes until police finally intervened. A group of around 80-100 Uruguayan fans remained in the stadium, on the pitch, long after the rest of the fans had left with Uruguay players returning to the field to meet them. Ugly scenes also broke out on the field after the final whistle, with players and staff from both teams involved in a mass melee in

the centre-circle following Colombia's victory.

CONMEBOL, the South American football confederation which organises the Copa America, issued a statement condemning the incidents. "CONMEBOL strongly condemns any acts of violence that affects football. Our work is based on the conviction that soccer connects and unites us through its positive values."

"There is no place for intolerance and violence on and off the pitch. We invite everyone in the remaining days to pour all their passion into cheering on their national teams and having an unforgettable party."

India to play 3 ODIs, T20Is vs SL

NEW DELHI: India will play three T20 Internationals and as many ODIs during their tour of Sri Lanka across July and August, and the matches will be played at Pallekele and Colombo, the BCCI announced on Thursday.

The white-ball tour will kick off with the T20Is (July 26, 27, 29) at the Pallekele International Cricket Stadium and the series will then move to Colombo where the one-dayers (August 1, 4, 7) will be played.

Mclroy opens with 5-under 65
NORTH BERWICK: Rory Mclroy took his first step toward moving on from his US Open collapse and felt just as good about the state of his game. He opened with a 5-under 65 on Thursday and was in the mix on a cool, breezy day at the Scottish Open. Mclroy took a week away from his golf clubs after the US Open.

Anderson and Atkinson take two each, England on the verge of innings victory

Agence France-Presse
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LONDON: James Anderson led the way in his farewell international match as England closed in on a crushing innings win over the West Indies in the first Test at Lord's on Thursday.

West Indies had slumped to 79/6 in their second innings at stumps on the second day, still a mammoth 171 runs behind England's first-innings total of 371, with Anderson having taken a miserly 2/11 in 10 overs. Anderson came into his 188th and last Test before international retirement having already taken 700 wickets—the most by any fast bowler in the 147-year history of the format. Yet the 41-year-old had to wait until dismissing last man Jayden Seales in the first innings to extend that tally to 701.

But it was a different story on Thursday as Anderson reduced the tourists to 12/1 by bowling West Indies captain Kraigg Brathwaite with a ball that nipped back off the seam.

England captain Ben Stokes then had Kirk McKenzie lbw for a duck as he became only the third man, after West Indies great Garry Sobers and South



James Anderson celebrates the wicket of Kraigg Brathwaite at Lord's on Thursday.

Africa's Jacques Kallis, to take both 200 wickets and score 6,000 runs in Tests.

Mikyle Louis, who had already marked his Test debut by top-scoring with 27 in the West Indies' meagre first-innings total of 121, was then caught behind off Stokes for 14

as England strengthened their grip on the first of this three-match series.

The cascade of wickets continued when Kavem Hodge played on to debutant fast bowler Gus Atkinson, who had done the damage in the first innings with a spectacular

return of 7/45.

Alick Athanaze offered a measure of resistance while making 22 before he fell to Anderson.

Brief scores: WI 121 & 79/6 (J Anderson 2/11), England 371 (Z Crawley 76; J Seales 4/77) at stumps on Day 2.

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